



NINETY-NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY 1974



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

MAY 1975

Price Rs. 8

May 1975

CONTENTS

PAGE

I. Annual Convention:

The Presidential Address	1
The Treasurer's Report (See Annexe for Annual Accounts for 1973-74)	13

II. Reports of the General Secretaries

The Theosophical Society in the United States of America	17
" " England	40
" " India	41
" " Australia	47
" " Sweden	57
" " New Zealand	58
" " Netherlands	62
" " France	63
" " Italy	64
" " Germany	64
" " Cuba	65
" " Hungary	No report
" " Finland	66
" " Russia	Dissolved
" " Czechoslovakia	No report
" " Southern Africa	67
" " Scotland	68
" " Switzerland	69
" " Belgium	70
" " Indonesia	Suspended
" " Burma	71
" " Austria	73
" " Norway	74
" " Egypt (Lodges only)	No report
" " Denmark	74
" " Ireland	76
" " Mexico	No report
" " Canada	77
" " Argentina	77
" " Chile	No report
" " Brazil	78
" " Bulgaria	No report
" " Iceland	80

	PAGE
The Theosophical Society in Spain . . .	No report
" " Portugal . . .	. 81
" " Wales . . .	. 83
" " Poland . . .	No report
" " Uruguay . . .	. 84
" " Puerto Rico . . .	. 85
" " Rumania . . .	No report
" " Yugoslavia . . .	. 86
" " Sri Lanka . . .	. 87
" " Greece . . .	. 89
" " Central America . . .	. 89
" " Paraguay . . .	Dissolved
" " Philippines . . .	. 90
" " Colombia . . .	. 97
" " East Africa . . .	. 98
" " Pakistan . . .	. 100
" " Malaysia Federation . . .	. 102
" " Northern Ireland Federation . . .	. 102
" " Viet Nam . . .	. 103
" " Venezuela . . .	No report
" " West African Federation . . .	No report
" " Bolivia . . .	. 105
" " Canadian Federation . . .	. 106
" " European Federation . . .	. 106
" " Inter-American Federation . . .	. 107
" " Lodges Attached Direct to Adyar:	
" " Peru . . .	. 108
" " Hong Kong . . .	No report
" " Israel . . .	. 108
" " Singapore . . .	. 111
" " Japan . . .	. 112
" " Bangladesh . . .	. 113
" " World Federation of Young Theosophists . . .	. 113
III. Headquarters, 1973-74 . . .	. 118
The Theosophical Publishing House . . .	. 119
The Adyar Library and Research Centre . . .	. 120
IV. Memorandum of Association . . .	. 124
Rules and Regulations (January 1975) . . .	. 127
Directory for 1975 . . .	. 139
Minutes of the General Council: Summary . . .	. 142
Summary of Statistical Details, 1974 . . .	. 150
V. Annexe—Annual Accounts for 1973-74 . . .	. 151

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

TO THE 99TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

Varanasi, December 26, 1974

BY JOHN B. S. COATS, *President*

IT is with a sense of real happiness that I welcome you all to this 99th Convention of the Theosophical Society, held this year in Varanasi. In the days ahead I hope we may deepen our sense of brotherhood, one with another; and that there may be awakened within us a more profound realization of that One Essence of Being which unites us.

The number of delegates here from South India is particularly noteworthy. We have a convention in which attendance from Northern and Southern India is far more balanced than is usual when Convention is held at Adyar. With the addition of members from Western lands, we can together offer ourselves and our work as a channel for those at whose behest the Society was sent upon its way.

(Rise)

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)

It is a number of years since the International Convention was held in holy

Kashi; and I, on behalf of us all, should like to express our gratitude to the Indian Section for making it possible this year that the tempo of preparations for the next year's 100th Anniversary of the Society at Adyar can be stepped up undisturbed.

A number of projects envisaged last year have already begun to take shape. The Seminar conducted by Miss Joy Mills has already and most successfully run half its course. The Olcott School has been moved to Besant Gardens. Under its new headmaster, it is progressing very satisfactorily. Other magazines which might complement *The Theosophist* are being considered. Plans for various buildings needed for the Centenary Celebrations at Adyar next year have not only been drawn up, but have reached the stage of implementation.

Everything we do, however, has to be looked at relative to the work we are here to do; for it is the final effect upon the lives of our fellowmen that should characterize our efforts.

In this, the home of the largest section of our Society, we can look out over the world with its thousand problems that surround us and begin to lay our plans—as we enter our 100th year—for bringing

to our fellowmen an even richer store of that fair wisdom, eternal and universal, which we call Theosophy.

When we survey the world scene, we can hardly escape the conclusion that the experts in many fields are very concerned about what may happen to us.

When we read of that great Elder Brother of whom it is said that the future lies before His gaze as an open book, we may wonder how far it is possible for us to gain a glimpse of that future, applying ourselves wisely towards those actions, those ways of thought and living which can most easily help to bring about the pattern of tomorrow.

Do we, however, in this Society, view the present situation in the perspective of this great evolutionary plan? Is this a period of great difficulty which we might describe as intentional in order that the humanity of our planet may be deliberately forced to come together for its own future survival?

Man is still divided by so many of those very things which the Society was brought into being 100 years ago to alleviate and counteract. Who knows but that the oil crisis which is at present causing so many economic difficulties may not in fact be part of some wise plan, whereby certain realizations are being forced upon us—not least of these being the fact that the world has indeed become one and that we apparently either sink or swim together?

We must not, however, become too influenced by the difficulties around us. As members of the Society, it is our duty both to maintain and promote an optimistic point of view. However necessary to be aware of the problems which surround us, the knowledge of such things is useful only in so far as it can help us to deal constructively with them. The future is not entirely dark. There is so much in human nature that is resilient

and buoyant and which has always been able to rise above all disasters and continue bravely into a new future.

To paraphrase a statement of Dr. Besant, we may well say today, “were this dilemma an ordinary one, it would not rend us apart,” but in this dilemma the conflict is not of men, but of principles of good and evil. In a spiritual organization men cannot remain in the safe and pleasant fields of neutrality without being forced to recognize their fundamental verities. It is up to us to act more strongly than ever to maintain the highest principles in the eyes of the world. It is the function of the heart to pump healthy blood around the body and when it has been purified on its return, to send it out again. We may look at what was said by H. H. Bharati Krishna Teertha, “India’s function is to create and manufacture right knowledge, pour it forth into various parts of the universe and when, by contact with those other parts, knowledge becomes impure and comes back to India in another social or intellectual system, not to accept it as right knowledge but to purify it and send it back to the other parts.”

It is the work of our Theosophical centres that we should concern ourselves continually, not only with sending out what we feel to be the pure waters of Theosophy, but also with maintaining our contact with the sometimes quite adulterated manifestations of that “purity”. By our intelligent interest and effort, we can try to bring back a certain standard into those areas where it has fallen below the level of excellence.

We need to be well organized in a world which demands it. But sometimes people ask whether we are becoming too organized and oriented towards the materialistic and commercialized society in which we live. We may feel that all spiritual organizations, amongst which we may be happy to include the Theosophical

Society, have always accepted the idea that the purity of any teaching is to some extent lost and the power to channel truth defiled by too much contact with very material things. Our work is that of spiritualizing society and seeking to raise matter and all about us to a higher level.

It is easy to forget the need for a deep purity in our interest to make Theosophy known. Is it not true to say that however much we welcome needed funds, without which it would be difficult to proceed, the strength of such a society as ours depends in the long run more on the quality and sacrifice of our members than it does on our bank accounts? Whilst it is impossible to stand outside the many methods which are accepted by the world around us, such as mass media advertising and so on, we should be careful not to gear ourselves too closely to the current commercial trend.

In this world, the development and distribution of food supplies, the provision of health and help, especially after periods of national disaster, child and animal welfare, and in the plant world, the desperate need for more trees, all depend on man's care. The danger of nuclear power, even the production of it for peaceful purposes, involves us in a quite appalling problem of disposal of nuclear waste, and one hardly realizes sometimes what we are doing to nature about us. We have to be concerned and active and yet remain pure and inviolate in our deepest concern.

I think everyone will be interested to know that, for our World Congress in New York next year, we have invited a number of individuals and groups with aims that are similar to our own, and who might also be said to belong fundamentally to the Blavatsky tradition. There are those who press for unification of all Theosophical groups once again into one united Society.

Whilst this could be regarded in some ways as a very fine achievement, and a worthy offering on the occasion of our Centenary, I think that since freedom has always been one of the main features of the Theosophical way of life, other groups and societies, based on similar principles to our own, but differing in administration, must reach many people whom we in our Society have not been able to reach so far.

The precious truths of the wisdom are so immense that a thousand societies would not be able to do full justice to their diffusion amongst men. The aims of all Theosophical groups are basically the same and, in a deep sense, we are all united by a common desire to serve humanity by making Theosophy available.

Let us not be particularly concerned with uniformity which produces only a certain deadness, but rather be concerned more immediately with the creation of what in some other fields is called a "standing committee" where the representatives of different groups meet together quite freely and without any feeling of constraint to discuss mutual problems and exchange news and views. We could all probably benefit in this manner; and if such co-operation should lead one day to a closer working together, this could only be welcomed by all true students of the Wisdom.

Can one be mistaken in feeling that the blessing of the Elder Brothers must rest on all who serve them faithfully and worthily, irrespective of which part of the vast field they may happen to be working in?

Theosophists awake! there can be a burning zeal in the heart of each, which, if given a fair chance to express itself, can achieve far more than we normally realize. Since we are in our deepest nature Divine, we can effect far more than we ever dreamt of if we have sufficient faith in the Law and enough courage to let go our conditioning and try. Let us determine in the

year ahead to lay firmly the foundations upon which the workers of the next hundred years can safely build.

America.—The major event in the American Section during the past year was the change in office of the General Secretary, or National President as it is called in that Section. On September 1, Miss Joy Mills who had served as the Section's National President since 1966 resigned office in order to take up her official duties as International Vice-President; Mrs. Ann Wylie, the National Vice-President of the American Section, became National President to fill the unexpired term. Miss Mills, in her final report as head of the Section, comments on the continued growth in the activities in the United States, particularly as a result of the assistance given by the Kern Foundation. Quest Books, with over 100 titles now available in the series, continues to prove extremely popular, so that a new sales record was again set by the Theosophical Publishing House at Wheaton. This year a less expensive paperback for mass distribution was introduced, to be known as ReQuest Books; the series will include more popular titles of wider appeal to the general public. Recognizing the importance of continued communication among the various Theosophical Publishing Houses, the Wheaton Publishing House was host to an International Publishing Conference, in mid-September, with Mr. K. N. Ramanathan of T.P.H. Adyar, Mr. K. Ramanathan of the Vasanta Press, and Mr. Michael Maxwell of T.P.H. London joining their American colleagues at the Section's Headquarters, Olcott. During the year, as Miss Mills reports, a third Quest Books Film was completed; entitled "Theosophy: The Universal Flame," the film is keyed especially to the centenary observations. The annual convention and summer school was held as usual in

July, with Mrs. Gool Minwalla and Mrs. Radha Burnier as guest speakers. Workshops, seminars and other study programmes continue to be one of the unique features of the work in the U.S., with a National Theosophical Education Committee now co-ordinating many of these programmes as well as developing new educational activities. Membership in the American Section now stands at 5881.

From *England* the General Secretary, Miss Ianthe Hoskins, reports increased interest in some areas but no great change in the total membership which now stands at 2233. During the year a number of members from Uganda, now resident in England, have transferred to the English Section.

At the beginning of the year *The Journal* took on a new look and the bi-monthly Olcott Letter sent to unattached members provided a personal communication from the General Secretary.

The Annual Convention, held at Headquarters had as its theme, "Concerning the Spiritual in Art, Philosophy and Science." The Blavatsky Lecture, "Life, Death and Dreams," was given by Mr. Geoffrey Farthing. The summer school, held at Durham under the auspices of the English Speaking Region of the T.S. in Europe with the theme "The Resources of the Heart," had as Guest Speaker Mr. Sigvaldi Hjalmarsen, General Secretary of Iceland. I was happy to attend and take an active part in the proceedings together with delegates from fifteen different countries.

Tekels Park, the theosophical estate near London, was the scene of a number of residential weekends, including the Research Centre Conference and the August Bank Holiday House Party.

Five members of the Section, three of whom are members of the General Council, attended the International Convention at Adyar.

This has been a good year for the Theosophical Publishing House, London. Mr. M. Maxwell, the Managing Director, made fruitful contact with the publishing houses of Adyar, and U.S.A. at Wheaton in September.

Indian Section.—Mrs. Radha Burnier, General Secretary, reports steady increase in membership for several years. Membership now stands at 8168. Many more study and training camps were organized than usual. A workers' training camp was held at Adyar and a summer camp at Bhowali, besides several camps in the Northern and Western regions. The General Secretary and the Joint General Secretary undertook extensive lecture tours visiting altogether seventy lodges. In pursuance of the Expansion Programme, the Lodges in the N.W. Region were visited by Dr. Mullik. This programme has been carried on with the ever-ready help of Miss Joan Morris. Monthly letters are being sent to all new members and guide-lines for study and programmes to new lodges. Almost all the Federations and a number of lodges have formed Centenary Celebration Committees.

Among the publications brought out were: a revised version in Hindi of Dr. Besant's *The Ancient Wisdom*, two Kannada books, a Marathi translation and several booklets in Gujarati and Oriya.

Australia.—Membership now stands at 1833, a decrease of 94. Three members have completed 60 years' membership—Messrs. Ellistone Campbell, Fred. Hynes and Will Ross.

Convention was held for the second time at Sorrento, Victoria where I was Guest of Honour. Owing to pressure of my new duties, I had to curtail my tour of the Section, but visited most of the principal lodges and while in Sydney dedicated the new building in North Sydney and paid a

visit to the Manor where a reception of Sydney members was held.

Tours have been made by Mr. Will Ross, National Lecturer, and by Mrs. E. Murdoch, the General Secretary, who, together with several members, was able to attend the International Convention at Adyar and visit some lodges in the South East Asian area.

The weekly Sunday evening radio broadcasts have proved popular resulting in frequent inquiries which show that this is one of the modern media by which we can bring our ideas to the public.

The Section has resolved to hold its Centenary Celebrations from Jan. 10-17, 1976, in the Kosciuszko National Park at Thredbo in the Snowy Mountains, N.S.W. when it is hoped that members returning from Adyar on a round-the-world ticket can attend.

New Zealand.—The General Secretary, Mr. Brian Dunningham, reports an increase of 48 giving a total membership of 1212.

The lodges have operated successfully and are using radio, TV and news media more fully. The Section was invited to join in the David Frost show on "God," and Mr. Dunningham was interviewed on the radio.

Mr. Geoffrey Hodson returned to live in Auckland and has conducted highly successful seminars. Lady Dowding, a member of the Society from England, spoke in Auckland and received extensive radio and TV coverage.

The magazine, *Theosophy in New Zealand*, increased its circulation considerably, going both to all members and to other subscribers.

France.—The total number of members stands at 1312, an increase of 91. The General Secretary, M. Lancri, reports the founding of two new lodges. The Summer School for the Pays Latins organized by the French Section was held at Vittel,

France, which I attended with my wife. Miss Joy Mills, newly elected Vice-President and Mrs. Madeleine Leslie-Smith, Chairman of the European Federation, were also there.

French translations of five books have been published, among these being Vol. 4 of *The Secret Doctrine* and *The Science of Yoga* by I. K. Taimni. The magazine *Le Lotu Bleu* has appeared 10 times during the year.

Germany. The General Secretary, Mrs. A. Stephan reports increased membership to 310. The highlight of the year was the German Summer School at Hustedt with myself as Guest of Honour. The General Secretary attended the International Convention at Adyar for 1973-4 and the English Speaking Summer School at Durham, England. Some members are translating the Century Book into German.

Cuba.—The number of members has increased from 390 to 401 and there has been general activity throughout the lodges, reports the General Secretary, Señor Juan Rodrigues. The magazine *Revista Teosofia Cubana* is circulated to all members at irregular intervals.

Finland. The membership of the Section stands at 462, an increase of 12. The General Secretary, Miss Sirrka Kivilinna reports increased information service and participation in symposia on other platforms. She attended the English Summer School at Durham. The magazine *Teosofi*, is published ten times a year. H. P. B.'s *Practica Occultism*, and Wallace Slater's books on yoga are being translated and published.

Southern Africa.—This year Mr. Geoffrey Farthing was Guest of Honour at the Convention held in Pretoria after which he toured the Section. The new premises were officially opened by the General Secretary, Mrs. Bischoff, in November. Membership now stands at 406.

Scotland.—The work of the lodges has been carried on under difficulties due to fuel shortage but meetings have continued. The news letter which is published irregularly helps to keep the very scattered membership in touch. The membership now stands at 96.

Switzerland. The General Secretary, Mr. G. Tripet, reports few changes in the activities of the Section. The membership has increased by 3 to 233. An important event was the opening of new premises for the lodges in Basel. The General Secretary attended the International Convention at Adyar and the Pays Latins Summer School at Vittel. The Meyer Fund continues to contribute financially to the publication of books, brochures and leaflets in French, German and Italian. Convention was held at Macolin, near Bienne attended by about 45 members.

Burma.—Membership has increased from 56 to 63. In October the 61st Convention was held in Rangoon attended by over 50 members and their families and friends.

Austria.—The General Secretary, Dr. Norbert Lauppert reports that work on similar lines to those of last year has continued. The membership shows a slight decrease to 237 but subscribers to the regional quarterly *Adyar* have increased.

Norway. This has been a quiet year with varied programmes. Membership stands at 141. The magazine, *Teosofi i Norden*, has continued in co-operation with Denmark and Sweden. For the first time one of the highest grade schools has requested a speaker to inform the pupils about Theosophy. Real interest was shown.

Denmark.—The General Secretary, Mr. Preben Sørensen, reports 35 new members this year which brings the total membership to 304. On 17th November was the official opening of the new centre in the

heart of Copenhagen. This day was chosen so that the 80th anniversary of the Society in Denmark could be celebrated. I attended the Danish Summer School in July accompanied by my wife. A large number of plastic cups, saucers and plates have been made ready for shipment to Adyar as a gift for the Centenary in 1975. *The Key to Theosophy* is being published in Danish as a paperback and is the first of a series called "Tau-Books." The Section is planning to publish the Centenary book *The Universal Flame* in Swedish, Danish and Norwegian. Altogether a busy year.

Ireland.—In this small Section the membership stands at 58, an increase of six. The tragic bomb outrages in Dublin and a ten weeks' bus strike practically immobilized the lodges. There have been many inquiries showing more interest.

Argentina.—Señor Juan Viñas, General Secretary reports a satisfactory increase in membership of 43 to a figure of 801. This is a very active Section which was greatly helped and inspired by the visit of Mrs. Radha Burnier to Buenos Aires, Rosario and Mendoza. Her public lectures were well attended.

Brazil. The General Secretary, Dr. Murillo Nunes de Azevedo, writes of the encouraging increase in membership of 96 giving a total of 936. The National Section Headquarters has transferred to Rio de Janeiro. Many theosophical books were translated into Portuguese and published including *The Secret Doctrine*, *The Voice of the Silence* and *The Key to Theosophy*. Others are in preparation. The official magazine, *O Teosofista*, is published three times a year.

Iceland. A welcome increase of 40 in membership, mostly young people, reports Mr. Sigvaldi Hjalmarsen, General Secretary. The activities of the Section have also increased partly due to the popularity of the magazine, *Gangleri*, which is widely

read inside and outside the Society. *Mundilfari*, the news letter, continues to be well received with news about members. Two conferences have been held which have proved of great value. The standard of talks, courses and articles is high but not too difficult or theoretical.

Portugal.—This Section had an increase of 13 members making a total membership of 199.

Dr. Maria Nobre Santos, General Secretary, reports an interesting year with public lectures at the Headquarters every week. Seven members attended the Pays Latins Summer School at Vittel.

Wales.—The Section moved to new premises. The membership stands at 79 and there are plans for new centres and increased activity and publicity. The 51st Convention was held at Colwyn Bay with Mr. J. Mitchell, General Secretary for Scotland, as Guest Speaker.

Uruguay.—The membership increased to 413 with 45 new members. The magazine *Teosofia* has appeared twice. Special celebrations for the 50th Anniversary of the Society in Uruguay are being planned.

Puerto Rico.—The General Secretary, Señor Lopez, reports an increase in interest in theosophical knowledge and a membership of 68, an increase of 9. The magazine, *Heraldo Teosófico*, is published bi-monthly and the Section also publishes a review in Spanish in which valuable articles translated from various English theosophical magazines appear.

Yugoslavia.—Mrs. Mila Grubacevic, the General Secretary, reports a membership of 76 and writes that many books and booklets were translated for members' study. The library has books in English, French, German and Italian. The General Secretary visited all lodges during the year.

Greece.—There is a decrease of 14 in this Section. The total membership now

stands at 227. *Talks on the Path of Occultism* has been published in Greek.

Central America.—This Section has had a difficult year caused largely by Hurricane Fifi. Of their own accord the members very generously increased their annual dues to Adyar this year to 25% instead of 15% to help improve the situation of the workers there. Membership now stands at 163 an increase of 48.

East Africa.—Owing to members leaving the country, there has been a decline in membership which now stands at 1644. Both Mrs. Neelakantan and Mr. G. Farthing who toured the Section were interviewed on TV.

Pakistan.—The Presidential Agent of the Theosophical Society in Pakistan reports that there are only four Lodges in the region and except for Karachi, membership is small and activities limited due to conditions prevailing in the country. Membership of Karachi Lodge stands at 116 and there are approximately 50 in other lodges but no statistics are available. The T.O.S. is very active in Karachi Lodge in the fields of family relief, education and work for the blind. The lodge is considering appropriate measures to celebrate the Centenary Year of the Society which include the translation into Urdu of a number of articles from theosophical magazines.

N. Ireland.—Owing to the many disturbances and petrol shortage the proposed visit of Mr. E. Burton as guest of honour for the convention was cancelled but the Organizing Secretary attended the English Summer School at Durham. He reports a decrease in membership of one.

Vietnam.—Miss Luu-Thi-Dau, General Secretary, sends report of an encouraging increase of 222 with the membership standing at 1338. Most members read English or French theosophical books. Saigon has edited a bulletin which is sent to all members. The U.S.A. has sent generous

donations for publishing in Vietnamese *The Key to Theosophy* and *An Abridgement of the Secret Doctrine*. There is a training course of teachers every week. The orphanage is being changed to a day nursery owing to the decline in the number of orphans.

Canadian Federation.—Mrs. Stephen writes of another busy year and planning going ahead for the Centenary year.

European Federation.—Many regional summer schools were held and the Annual Council meetings took place at the English Speaking Region Summer School, where I was Guest of Honour together with the General Secretary of Iceland, Mr. Sigvaldi Hjalmarsen.

Inter-American Theosophical Federation.—Señor Luis Spairani reports the translation and publication in Spanish of several theosophical classics and some guides to lodge study. The Inter-American Journal, *America Teosofica*, is sent to members of all the Latin Sections as a means of spreading Theosophy and communicating among the Sections.

Seventy Years' Membership.—One English member, Mr. Pontefract, celebrated his 100th birthday this year and 70 years' membership. His diploma was signed by Bertram Keightley as General Secretary and Col. Olcott as President.

Deaths.—Among the members who have passed on during the year were Mr. Kwao Brakatu Ateko, the "Father of the Theosophical Society" in West Africa. It was he who was instrumental in forming the West African Federation in 1956 when he became the Organizing Secretary. He joined the Society in 1910 as an unattached member of the English Section.

In June Professor Dorab who joined the Society in 1940 and was an active member of the Indian Section up to the time of his death, passed on. He was Recording Secretary at the International Headquarters from 1961-64.

Another member who will be greatly missed is Dr. Laurence Bendit who joined the Society in 1912. He was well-known throughout the theosophical world for his books written jointly with his late wife Phoebe (Payne). His many contributions also to *The Theosophist* will have been read by many members. He was General Secretary of the English Section from 1958-61.

International Tour.—During the year I visited 8 countries and attended various summer schools and conventions. Included in these was the Annual Convention of the Australian Section at Easter. Miss Joy Mills, the International Vice-President visited Australia, New Zealand and Singapore on her way to take up her duties at Adyar. Mrs. Radha Burnier toured Central and South America, and parts of the United States and spoke at the American Convention at Wheaton when the Guest of Honour was Mrs. Gool Minwalla of Pakistan who also visited some of the summer camps. Mrs. Rukmini Devi Arundale visited Huizen and other places in Europe. Mr. Geoffrey Farthing toured the South African Section. Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan was Guest of Honour at the East African Convention at Nairobi. During her visit she spoke at all the lodges in this section. Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Hodson spent a month in the Philippines where Mr. Hodson gave several very successful public lectures and members' talks.

Adyar Library and Research Centre.—The Librarian reports that the publication programme of the Research Section has gone on steadily, in spite of the shortage of staff in this section. Some of the works which will be soon completed are: vol. 2 of *Amarakosha*, a classic lexicon with rare and hitherto unpublished South Indian commentaries; an English translation of the *Samnyāsa Upanishads* on the path of renunciation; and a reprint of a

classic work on Mimāmsa philosophy, *Mānameyodaya*, which is of great value to students of Sanskrit. The Library has also brought out a special volume of its journal *Brahmavidyā* devoted to Jaina studies to commemorate the 2500th Para Nirvanā of Mahāvira, the founder of Jainism.

The microfilm section continues its work of microfilming the valuable materials in the Theosophical Society Archives besides supplying copies of MSS. and books to research scholars for their studies.

The Library's rich collections continued to be used by research fellows in and outside India besides a number of western students interested in Indian philosophies and yoga. Out of the 3400 books received during the year, 93 were purchased, 40 were exchanged and the rest were gifts. The Library would like to get more books and journals published outside India on comparative religion and philosophies and western literature besides latest titles on scientific research, etc., and wishes to appeal to Sections and individual members to help in acquiring these.

Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar.—Publications of the T. P. H. are now available through more booksellers in India and an increasing number of book-shops are ordering them. The T.P.H. has made a modest beginning in stocking Quest Books and hopes to expand this activity. Thirty-three books were printed this year, three new, 30 reprints. With the equipping of the Vasanta Press with an offset press, Adyar should be able to reprint books in languages other than English. The T.P.H. publications were represented at a number of book-fairs overseas through the National Book Trust of India, and the T.P.H. participated in a Bargain Book Fair arranged in Madras. A session of the International Theosophical Publishing Conference was held in January at Adyar,

attended by representatives of the three publishing houses and a number of Theosophists associated with them. Lines of expansion and co-ordination were examined and agreed upon at these meetings.

The Vasanta Press.—Much progress has been made this year in modernizing the Vasanta Press to meet the increasing demand for our literature. A large extension at the rear of the present building to meet the expansion programme was completed this year and the main typesetting department was transferred there. Another Mono composing unit with Sanskrit equipment and one original Heidelberg automatic cylinder press were commissioned in the beginning of this year. One original Heidelberg fully automatic single colour high speed sheetfed rotary offset model and an automatic high speed platen press with embossing equipment which have been shipped from West Germany, will be installed in March 1975. This addition will complete the first phase of the modernization programme of the Press approved at the Publishing Conference held in January 1974.

Changes of Staff.—At Adyar there have been many staff changes during this year. In May, Miss Joy Mills was elected International Vice-President, replacing Mr. James Perkins, who had held the office since 1962. Most of us will remember Mr. Perkins' presence at our Conventions over a number of years. Mrs. Perkins, too, has always been a gracious figure on such occasions. The Society is more than grateful for all the splendid work they have done and we wish them every success and happiness in their new home at the Manor, Sydney, Australia. Mrs. Ruth Espin who had worked in the Archives for a year returned to England in March. Mr. C. R. N. Swamy was appointed to replace her. Mr. K. B. Gosatkar retired

from the position of Superintendent of the Bhojanasala in January and left Adyar to work at the Indian Section Headquarters at Varanasi. His place was taken on February 1 by Mrs. Jayagowri Shah. In March, I dissolved the Estate Administration Committee and formed an Estate Management Committee appointing Mr. C. Seshadri as Officer-in-Charge of Estate Management, Mrs. Norma Sastry, Secretary of the Committee, and Lt. Col. R. Gopalaratnam as a member of the Committee. I appointed Lt. Col. R. Gopalaratnam as my personal assistant in March 1974. Lt. Col. R. Gopalaratnam relinquished the position of Superintendent of the Laundry and Mr. V. Desikan was appointed to act in his place in April. In the Movable Properties Department, Mr. P. V. N. Iyer retired from the position of Custodian in May. As a temporary measure, the Department has since been supervised by the Manager of the Maintenance Department. The Assistant Editorship of *The Theosophist* was relinquished by Mrs. B. Paget in March and Miss Jeanne Dumas held the position for five months until the arrival of Miss Marion Caws to resume the post after an interval of three and a half years.

Treasurer.—As has been already decided and resolved in the General Council meeting held on 31.12.73 the fiscal year of the Theosophical Society International Headquarters at Adyar has been since altered from the 30th September to the 31st March and the Accounts for the year 1973-74 were accordingly closed on the 31st March '74. Annual dues payable to the Headquarters may therefore have to be remitted by all the Sections, relating to the year 1974-75 as well as of the earlier periods, if any, before the end of 31st March '75.

Young Theosophists.—The Young Theosophists have been active in the work of the T. S. Lodges as well as in their youth

groups. Last January, I inaugurated a new youth activity at Adyar called "The Fire Garden," where young and old could meet for serious study, discussions and social enjoyment. There have been a number of Young Theosophists' Camps in Europe and U.S.A. In April the Inter-American Federation of Y.T.'s held their first congress during the summer school of the Argentine Section. A new addition to the Y.T. publication is their Information Bulletin which is issued in both English and Spanish. The Young Theosophists have many plans and much enthusiasm for the coming centennial celebrations and are working at organizing fine youth programmes for these events.

Theosophical Order of Service.—The work of the Theosophical Order of Service

has continued throughout many Sections. In those Sections I have visited there has been a request to re-activate the International Centre and I am hoping to appoint a co-ordinating secretary at Adyar to do this work.

Islamic Association.—The Association continued its activities with the usual regularity. The membership shows a slight increase and now stands at 50 including 8 life members. Meetings are held regularly once or twice a month. The International President of the Theosophical Society is the Patron of the Association. I am desirous of getting literature translated into Arabic and other Islamic languages for the promulgation of Theosophy in the Muslim countries of the Middle East.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

INTRODUCTORY:

The General Council resolved, at its meeting held on 31st December 1973, that the fiscal year of the Society be changed to coincide with the fiscal year of the Government of India, which commences from the 1st of April and ends on 31st of March. In compliance with this decision, the accounts of the Society have been closed as on the 31st of March 1974, and the financial statements now presented cover only the half-year commencing on the 1st October 1973 and ending on the 31st March 1974.

As our income and expenditure in the various Departments are by no means uniform throughout the year, it is not possible to make any definite comparison of the figures for the half-year with those of the previous full year, which figures, however, have been furnished as usual.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT:

The excess of expenditure over income for the half-year was Rs. 63,485/- against the previous whole year's Rs. 8,706/-. Apart from the departmental results analysed below, the main reason for the increased deficit are expenditure under the heads "Boundary Expenses", "Convention 1973" and "International Offices".

1. Adyar Library: The publication account shows a deficit of Rs. 8,925/- for the half-year against an excess of income over expenditure of Rs. 9,031/- of the previous year, sale of publications for the half-year being only Rs. 8,767/- as against the previous year's Rs. 34,537/-. This, together with increase in salaries, wages and allowances mainly account for the rise of the overall deficit for the half-year to Rs. 42,140/- as against the previous full year's Rs. 54,966/-.

2. Bhojanasala: The deficit of Rs. 2,553/- for the half-year, as against the previous full year's deficit of Rs. 5,430/- must be considered low in view of the steep increase in the cost of milk, provisions, vegetables, etc.

3. Garden Department: Though the gross return on cocoanuts showed appreciable increase, this was more than off-set by the increase in the cost of cultivation on this account. The gross return from cultivation for the half-year was Rs. 21,068/- against the previous year's Rs. 36,195/-; but there was considerable increase in expenditure on ornamental gardening. The net excess of expenditure over income was Rs. 13,009/- for the half-year, compared with the previous full year's Rs. 15,707/-.

4. Laundry Department: The excess of expenditure over income for the half-year was Rs. 3,542/- against the previous year's Rs. 4,095/-, the higher deficit being due mainly to increase in salaries and wages and cost of washing materials.

5. Leadbeater Chambers: There was an excess of income over expenditure of Rs. 1,674/- during the half-year. This was because of the substantial increase in receipts of mess income (Rs. 29,724/- for the half-year, as compared with Rs. 39,130/- of the previous full year) on account of the annual Convention held during the half-year. Expenditure on milk, provisions and vegetables for the half-year was Rs. 19,285/- against the previous year's Rs. 25,829/-.

6. Maintenance Department: The excess of expenditure over income for the half-year was Rs. 38,974/- as against the previous full year's Rs. 40,122/-. Expenditure under "Electricity", "Labour" and "Materials Consumed" all showed considerable increase. Expenditure in this Department being highly fluctuating, it is not possible to compare the half-year's results with the previous full year's.

7. The Theosophical Publishing House: The turnover of business was higher proportionately than last year. But expenses under Establishment have risen owing to the revision of salary scales. The net results are comparable to those of 1972-73.

8. Vasanta Press: The half-year's working showed a surplus of Rs. 686/-. Increased expenditure on salaries, and wages and a steep rise in the cost of materials make it difficult to keep production cost low.

BALANCE SHEET

1. A. B. C. Fund: Income for the half-year ending 31st March 1974 amounted to Rs. 12,817/- and the balance as on that date was Rs. 2,133,179/-. As pointed out in previous reports, only donations to the corpus of the Fund are exempt from Income-tax and therefore the donations must be clearly marked as donations made to the corpus of the A. B. C. Fund.

2. Century Fund: Income for the half-year under review amounted to Rs. 23,280/-. This included Adyar Day collections, amounting to Rs. 8,468/-, received up to 31.3.1974.

3. General Fund: Besides bequests amounting to Rs. 3,627/- and fees and dues amounting to Rs. 28,045/- received during the half-year, proceeds of the disposal of the rice fields amounting to Rs. 649,172/- and compensation of Rs. 20,320/- received from the Maharaja of Travancore for encroachment on a small portion of our land, have also been credited to this Fund. The balance of the Fund as on 31st March 1974 was Rs. 4,999,181/-.

C. R. N. SWAMY,
Hon. Treasurer.

ADYAR

7th September 1974

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

As we review the past year's activities in the American Section, it is fitting that we place the events which have occurred in the orbit of our immediate concern within the larger pattern of the world Society. The major event of the past year was the election and installation of John B. S. Coats, as sixth President of The Theosophical Society.

Adyar and the General Council.—Recognizing the importance of the impending election and the significance of this Section's representation at the General Council meetings over which the new President would preside for the first time, the National Board of Directors authorized, in July, the trip to Adyar which Mrs. Ann Wylie as an Additional Member of the General Council and I as a member of the Council by virtue of office as General Secretary of the Section, undertook in December.

Convention-Summer School 1973: Visit of John B. S. Coats.—In any consideration of our role in forwarding the work of the Society whether in this Section or in the world at large, our preparation for the task at hand must weigh heavily. Appropriately, therefore, the Convention-Summer School which inaugurated this year's activities concentrated on the theme, "The Study of Theosophy: Experiment, Experience, and Authority." We were fortunate indeed that Mr. John Coats had accepted our invitation to be the featured speaker at these Sessions; his several talks as well as his active participation in all our discussions considerably enriched our programme. Unexpectedly, but most happily, Mrs. Gool Minwalla, Presidential Agent for the Society in

Pakistan, found it possible to attend our 1973 Convention-Summer School, and her thoughtful contributions added greatly to our understandings of the Summer Sessions' theme.

Arriving in this country in early June, after extensive travels in South and Central America, Mr. Coats participated in programmes at the four theosophical summer camps and toured a major part of the Section before the announcement of his election as President made it necessary for him to leave the United States at the end of October to assume his new responsibilities at Adyar. Significantly enough, the theme of the several workshop/seminar programmes at the summer camps at which Mr. Coats served as guest leader was "Preparing for Tomorrow"; questions relevant to the Society's tasks, the needs and interests of members, the role of youth, the utilization of various media in the communication of Theosophy, and related topics were explored in the relaxed settings which our four camps—Ozark, Far Horizons, Indralaya, and Pumpkin Hollow—so beautifully provide. In addition to the week-long programmes at each of the camps, Mr. Coats was presented to both members and public by the branches in New York City, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Washington, Charleston, Tampa, St. Petersburg, Orlando, Atlanta, Columbus, Detroit, and Milwaukee. While we could not regret the cause for Mr. Coats' departure from our country before the completion of a tour that had been planned to include many more branches, we were sorry that his visits to a number of western cities had to be cancelled.

The National President's Travel—

Throughout my tenure in office, I have sought to travel as frequently as possible among the branches and study centres, but the growth of our activities, with a consequent increase in administrative duties and responsibilities, has often dictated the curtailment of lecture tours which might be undertaken by the National President. Thought might well be given to the need for providing new administrative patterns that will enable the Society's officers to come into frequent contact with the members through personal visits to branches and study centres.

In late August, I participated in the first conference of the National Education Committee held at Camp Indralaya on Orcas Island; later in this report, I shall elaborate on the significance of that conference. The visit to Camp Indralaya, however, provided opportunity for a brief stop in Seattle, where a dinner meeting at the lodge home enabled me to meet with members from Seattle, Tacoma, and Everett to discuss topics of mutual concern. In mid-September, I had the unique opportunity to conduct a weekend retreat on *The Voice of the Silence* in the beautiful setting of Lake Junaluska in the North Carolina Smoky Mountain area; hosted by the Mid-South Federation, the retreat drew members from adjacent federations as well. With the election of Mr. Coats to the presidency and the consequent cancellation of his visit to some branches, I substituted for him in those cities where initial advertising and other arrangements had already been set in motion; early November, therefore, included trips to Minneapolis, St. Paul and Casper, for both members and public talks. It had also been earlier agreed that should Mr. Coats be unable to keep his engagement as speaker for the 1973 West Coast Conference, I would assume that responsibility; so, at Thanksgiving

time, I was in San Francisco for that annual gathering when members of the three west coast federations—Northwest, Northern California, and Southern California—came together. Unfortunately, the Conference was shadowed this year by disturbances in the Northern California Federation, where misunderstandings arose over the function of a federation and the interpretation of the Society's longstanding policy on nonassociation. Following the West Coast Conference, I conducted a week's seminar at the Krotona School of Theosophy in Ojai, California. This seminar, on the subject of "Man in Transformation," continued what has become an annual commitment, representing a happy liaison between the Society's administrative centre at Olcott and the theosophical educational enterprise of the Krotona School. Before returning to Olcott in early December, the Southern California Federation took advantage of my availability in the area to present me in a public lecture in Long Beach.

My travels during the spring months were necessarily curtailed by increased administrative obligations as I began preparations for relinquishing official responsibilities in this Section to take up international duties, to which I shall refer later in this report. However, I was able to keep a long-standing engagement to speak at the annual Bi-Lingual Conference at which members of the Southern California Federation meet with fellow-Theosophists from nearby centres in Mexico; the conference this year was held in San Diego in mid-March, and attendance there made possible inclusion of a visit to Los Angeles in order to hold significant discussions with our colleague, Boris de Zirkoff.

A meeting of the Occult Studies Curriculum Committee in Port Chester, New York, in late March, was combined with a visit to the New York Theosophical

Society for public and members' talks. I was accompanied on this occasion by the National Vice-President, who has also been serving as chairman of the Centennial Activities Committee; during our stay in New York City, Mrs. Wylie and I had several useful conferences at the Statler-Hilton Hotel, site of the Centenary World Congress, not only with the hotel management but with others who may be actively concerned with various aspects of the congress programme.

Although I have, in the course of the year, visited centres on both the west and east coasts and moved also from points in the south to one or two in the north, the number of groups included in the year's itinerary has indeed been minimal. I hope that, as in previous years since assuming office, the monthly letter known as CONTACT, sent to every branch and study centre, has been considered a means of communication through which I could speak directly to members in our far-flung groups. Since the first of the year, CONTACT has been sent out only bi-monthly for several reasons, not the least of which is the increased postage rate. The reports submitted annually by the majority of branches and study centres also aid in keeping the administration informed on developments, including problems, throughout the Section. I have already alluded to certain difficulties which arose during the past year in the Northern California Federation; while these are now well on the way to harmonious resolution, they did point up the need to clarify and perhaps redefine the structure and function of federations within our national organization. The National Board of Directors has already begun to give consideration to this question, and the National Judiciary Committee has been invited to comment on the matter from the point of view of the By-Laws now

in effect. I mention this particular instance of a question which has led to some debate in order to indicate that while personal visits to branches, study centres, and federations by members of the administration, including the National President, may seem all too few, we are neither unaware of nor insensitive to the concerns of the membership, especially in these days of changing interests and patterns of operation at the local or regional levels.

Lecture Tours and Field Work. - Again this year, the principal emphasis of the nationally sponsored field programmes has been on follow-up work with smaller and/or recently formed groups. The itineraries of our three field workers, Mrs. Mattie Louise Gephardt and Mr. and Mrs. Peter J. McNiece were arranged so as to provide as wide a coverage of the Section as was possible within the limitations of the time and energies of these three indefatigable workers. During the fall months, Mrs. Gephardt toured the Central Atlantic states. The spring months saw Mrs. Gephardt, first, in the Southern California area where a series of classes for the Orange County Study Centre resulted in a dramatic increase of their membership; programmes in San Diego and visits to most of the Los Angeles area branches were also beneficial to the groups concerned. From the Southern California area, Mrs. Gephardt next turned attention to the Arizona cities of Tucson and Phoenix, with a visit to Sun City where a group of members has now applied for Official Study Centre status. As a fitting conclusion to her spring programme, Mrs. Gephardt visited Albuquerque, where an already dynamic group featured her in a public lecture that attracted an excellent audience.

Mr. and Mrs. McNiece, who have become increasingly well known and appreciated for their unique manner of

stimulating small groups to undertake shared responsibility in theosophical study, visited groups in Quincy, Illinois; Omaha, Nebraska; and Casper, Wyoming, en route last fall to their main assignment in the Montana cities of Billings, Butte, Helena, Missoula, and Great Falls. During the spring months, Mr. and Mrs. McNiece carried their follow-up programmes to the groups in the Gulf Coast area, New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Gulfport, Biloxi, and Mobile. In addition, they met on a number of occasions with the newly certified Study Centre in Pensacola, Florida, developed by Dr. Ruth Carter. Mr. and Mrs. McNiece concluded their work in the Gulf Coast branches with a workshop at Biloxi as the feature of a federation gathering there. Before their return to Headquarters, the McNieces visited a number of cities in North Carolina and Virginia, preparatory to work that may be undertaken in that area during the new fiscal year.

Following the example set by the Northwest Federation, the Texas Federation this year developed a proposal known as the Texas "Grass-Roots" programme, utilizing the outstanding capabilities of Mr. and Mrs. Doss McDavid to undertake class and follow-up work in a number of Texas cities. The National Board of Directors authorized a major grant to assist primarily with the advertising essential for the success of such a project, and so outstanding were the results of the programme last fall in the cities of Corpus Christi, Austin, and Fort Worth, that an additional grant was authorized for the continuation of the programme during the spring months.

Taking advantage of his presence at the Port Chester meeting of the Occult Studies Curriculum Committee of which he is chairman, we invited Mr. F. T. Escudero, president of the Northwest Federation and founder-director of the

Northwest Theosophical Institute, to visit a number of groups in the northeast. Engagements in the Boston, Springfield, and Hartford branches were followed by a weekend seminar on *The Secret Doctrine* conducted by Mr. Escudero for the New York Theosophical Society.

Long known as one of the Society's most capable young workers, Mrs. Diane Burckes, who assumed office as National Secretary in mid-August, entered the arena of national lecture work as guest speaker at the Texas Federation conference in May. The enthusiastic response of the members to her style of presentation indicates that in addition to her administrative talents, Mrs. Burckes has much to contribute in our nationally sponsored lecture programmes. Although technically not within the scope of a report of the past fiscal year, mention might be made here that in June, the first month of the new year, Mrs. Burckes was the guest speaker for the Ohio Federation convention and visited the branch in Fort Wayne for both members and public meetings en route home from the Ohio gathering.

No survey of our national lecture and field programme would be complete without acknowledgment, at least, of the many devoted and tireless workers in branches and study centres throughout the Section who, throughout the year, present lectures or classes for the public, study programmes for the members, and at the local level carry the responsibility for activities that bring Theosophy to the attention of the public in their areas. It is really upon them that falls the burden of follow-up work after the visits of nationally sponsored personnel. While their names are seldom known outside the orbit of their immediate activity, except for occasional references in the "Branch Activities" section of *The American Theosophist*, we certainly recognize that the strength of our total effort inevitably

rests on their endeavors, for even the most brilliantly executed national programme cannot have long-range benefit without a local worker or workers continuing the challenging (and often grueling) task of keeping open our theosophical doorways to those who are inquiring.

Membership.—I could wish, quite naturally, that in this final report which I shall submit to you as your National President, there might be recorded an increase in membership so dramatic as to cause us all to feel our work is going forward without any clouds upon the horizon. Such is not the case, and for the second year, I report to you a net loss in membership, brought about undoubtedly by a number of factors not all of which are easily identifiable. On May 31, 1974, the Section membership stood at 5,881, a net loss of 163 from the previous year. On June 1, 1973, 848 names were placed in inactive status, while 74 resignations were recorded for the year; death accounted for the removal of another 79 names from our lists. On a happier note, we welcomed 748 new members into the Society during the past year.

A rather cursory analysis of membership statistics during my tenure in office reveals that in my report for the year ended May 31, 1966, we recorded 4053 members on our rolls. An annual gain brought us to a record figure of 6119 in 1972, with net losses, as indicated, recorded for the past two years. Overall, then, there has been a 45% growth in membership for the years of this administration. At the same time, there has been a gradual increase in the number becoming inactive each year, and it is really this figure that should be, I believe, our deepest concern as we contemplate the effectiveness of national, regional, and local programmes. The percentage of the membership becoming inactive each year has actually doubled in the past 4-5 years.

Among the deaths recorded this year, special mention should be made of Dr. Alfred Taylor, whose passing on August 6, 1973, concluded an incarnation of exemplary service. Long active in the Austin Branch and the Texas Federation, during his years as a research scientist with the University of Texas, Dr. Taylor had retired some years ago to Ojai, California, where, with his wife Nell, he took a leading role in the development of the Krotona School of Theosophy; as its Director of Studies for some years, Dr. Taylor established an enviable record for the School as an institution in what might be called post-graduate Theosophy. He was well known throughout the theosophical world for his perceptive articles published in various journals; in 1959 he was invited to give the Honorary American Theosophical Lecture, subsequently published in booklet form under the title "Understanding Through the Ancient Wisdom and Modern Science." The Krotona School of Theosophy published two monographs by Dr. Taylor, both based on his classes on *The Secret Doctrine*.

A membership survey must also include, quite naturally, a review of the organized groups active throughout the Section. As mentioned in recent years, the trend in this Section has definitely been in the direction of greater informality of organization, resulting in an increase each year in the number of Official Study Centres, with a corresponding decrease in the number of branches or lodges. On May 31, 52 study centres and 96 branches were in operation. While the number of officially recognized groups remains fairly constant from year to year, the cyclic nature of activity in most areas is evidenced by the fact that each year some groups are dissolved (this year, the dissolution of five lodges and three study centres was recorded), other groups of members apply for official status (four

study centres were authorized during the year).

The work of the Membership Department continues to devolve upon the capable and efficient team who share responsibility for carrying on the numerous details of that department, Mrs. Margery Parks and Miss Constance Schulz. In May, shortly before the end of the fiscal year, we were able to add another worker to the department, when Miss Carin Citroen joined our staff, coming here after some two years' service at Adyar.

Workshops, Seminar, and National Education Programmes.—For many years now, workshop programmes for membership training and seminars for both member and non-member exploration of aspects of theosophical philosophy have been regular features of our national activity. A variety of facilities exists within the Section for the conduct of such programmes. Prominent among these facilities must be mentioned the four summer camps, to which I have already referred in connection with Mr. Coats' programme last summer.

In addition to the weekend retreat sponsored by the Mid-South Federation and the week-long seminar at the Krotona School, to which I have already referred, two programmes conducted at Headquarters during the past year deserve special comment. The first was a weekend seminar, held in early December, when 28 participants explored "New Methods of Communicating Theosophy." Jointly sponsored by the Department of Education under its new chairman, Jerry Rosser, and the American Federation of Young Theosophists, this seminar attracted considerable interest; leaders for the several programmes included staff members Jim Person, William Quinn, and Diane Burckes in addition to Mr. Rosser and, from the Young Theosophists, Brian Ziegler, president of the Y.T.s, Sandra Gizzo, and Rosemary Clark.

In April, the traditional spring workshop at Headquarters concentrated this year on leadership training. With the assistance of Mr. Rosser and F. T. (Bing) Escudero, I conducted these sessions which were attended by thirteen members from various parts of the country and by four members of the Headquarters' staff.

During the past year, a number of invitational conferences have brought together some of the Society's teacher-members to discuss the development of specific educational programmes. The National Theosophical Education Committee, with Mr. and Mrs. John Abbenhouse as coordinators, held its first formal meeting last August at Camp Indralaya; a statement of objectives and aims was formulated. Since the full statement was later published in the November issue of *The American Theosophist*, I will quote here only the general purpose visualized by the committee for a theosophical education programme: "to provide a broad spectrum of learning situations wherein Theosophy furnishes the unifying context within which all aspects of contemporary thought and experience are integrated with insights of Eastern and Western traditions. . . Its aim is to further the individual search for a unified vision of man and nature. . ." In keeping with the committee's determination to be continually responsive to the needs and interests of those who may be served by theosophical educational programmes, it was agreed that a survey might well be undertaken to assess the general state of affairs within the Section. Miss Linda Jo Pym of Seattle conducted a survey for the National Education Committee, and visited groups both large and small from the east coast through several southern states to the west coast. Her report, based on questionnaires completed by members and her own observations, revealed both strengths and weaknesses

in our work and provided the basis on which a number of new programmes may be initiated during the coming year.

Mr. and Mrs. Abbenhouse took up residence at Headquarters for the two months of January and February, during which they devoted themselves to intensive work in the Department of Education and to the development of new educational programme plans. They arranged and coordinated an education conference in early February to which 25 members, including the Society's field workers, were invited. Some 18 proposals resulted from this conference, many of them now in various stages of implementation.

Originally appointed at the instigation of the National Board of Directors and now continuing under the broad umbrella of the National Education Committee's responsibility, an Occult Studies Curriculum Committee has been at work during the past year in the development of a curriculum guide that might be offered to colleges and universities interested in general studies programmes in parapsychology, aspects of occultism, etc. A committee meeting was held at Olcott in early November to discuss specifics of content and approach for such a curriculum guide; under the chairmanship of Capel McCutcheon, the group of seven members concurred on a general definition of occultism and the direction the study guide should take. Mr. McCutcheon asked to be relieved of the committee chairmanship, and the Board of Directors subsequently invited Mr. Escudero to assume this responsibility.

These national programmes focusing on one or another aspect of theosophical education are supplemented by fellowship programmes which continue to be offered to qualified members. During the past year, there were no applications, however, for the Worker Training Assistance Programme, while two members were granted

scholarship assistance for the Olcott Library and Research Centre Programme for Research and Study. Both of these programmes were designed to encourage individual members to come to Headquarters for specific training and/or research.

Special mention should be made of an extremely successful experiment initiated in the Northwest Federation. Under the sponsorship of the Seattle Branch and its dynamic leadership, a Northwest Theosophical Institute has been established, with Mr. Escudero as its principal seminar leader. The announcement brochure states that the objective of the Institute "is to provide a resource for the understanding and application of the Three Objects of The Theosophical Society" and that in pursuit of that objective, the Institute "will provide instruction in the experience of living Theosophy by qualified leaders at reasonable tuition to all those questing for knowledge and wisdom." While the majority of the seminars are held in the Seattle Lodge building, some include special weekend programmes at Camp Indralaya, thus utilizing two outstanding facilities in the northwest. One major result of the Institute programme, as will be noted in some detail later in this report, is that the Quest Bookshop of Seattle has experienced such a notable increase in sales that it has now become self-sufficient, no longer dependent upon any financial assistance from a Kern Foundation grant.

Department of Education.—For the first months of the past fiscal year, Mrs. Virginia Hanson served as acting chairman of the Department of Education. In September Mr. Jerry Rosser, long active in the work in Kansas City and in educational programmes at the Ozark Camp, joined our Headquarters staff to assume the chairmanship of this vital department, whose primary function has always been

to serve the members and branches with study aids and materials. Under Mr. Rosser's competent management, reorganization of the department was begun in coordination with the National Education Committee's objectives and programmes. A basic study of member needs for educational materials was initiated by Mr. Rosser through questionnaires sent, first, to all branches and study centres and, second, to all members-at-large. A summary of all responses, compiled by Mr. Rosser, was reviewed by the National Board of Directors during a one-day seminar preceding the Board's midyear meeting in January, with the result that Mr. Escudero was invited to undertake a management study and analysis of the various Headquarters' departments, with particular reference to the Department of Education.

Ever since the establishment of the Department of Education some years ago, a basic service offered to branches and members has been that of loaning audio-visual materials. The department's secretary, Miss Marie Minor, reports that during the past year, material for 740 programmes was sent on loan to 70 branches and study centres, five unofficial groups, and an increasing number of members-at-large. While there was some decrease in the use of the two Quest Books films, tape-visuals, and slide programmes, the use of tape recordings, particularly the cassettes now available, increased by 25%. In line with our efforts to serve more fully the needs of members-at-large, the listings of tapes available for loan to this segment of our membership was greatly expanded, and it is noteworthy that the circulation of the materials among members-at-large increased threefold during the past year.

As part of the reorganization programme instituted by Mr. Rosser, a complete review and evaluation of the tape library was undertaken. At the conclusion of

the year, 177 titles were available on both reel-to-reel and cassette tapes.

Two new study guides were prepared during the year, both to be used as adjuncts in the study of the Quest books, *The Basic Ideas of Occult Wisdom* by Anna Kennedy Winner and *The Mystery Teachings in the World Religions* by Florice Tanner. These study guides, with bibliographies for further reading and questions for consideration, will also form part of the correspondence course programme, which has been greatly expanded during the past year. Mr. Felix Layton accepted our invitation to serve the Society full time as a correspondence course advisor, working out of his home in San Francisco. Previous correspondence advisors—Mr. George Linton, Mrs. Alicia Ripple, Mrs. Diane Burckes, and Mr. Clarence Pedersen—have continued this service, while Mrs. Delilah Branning and Miss Winifred Oliver, together with Mr. Rosser and Mr. James Person of our staff, have been added to our list of advisors during the year. Ninety-two students enrolled in correspondence courses this past year, more than double the number for the previous year. An indication of the popularity of this form of study, as well as of the interest evinced in gaining a knowledge of Theosophy, will be apparent when it is noted that there was a 12% response to the applications for correspondence course work sent out by the Department of Information to non-member inquirers.

A major project initiated by Mr. Rosser and now nearing conclusion is the preparation of a resource materials catalogue, listing and describing all the offerings of the department for the information of branches, study centres, and members-at-large. Other programmes and projects of the department have included co-operation with the Young Theosophists in the preparation of a new tape-slide show, "The Unifying Factor," which

will have its first viewing at the 1974 Convention-Summer School; arrangement for the sale of cassette tapes of theosophical talks through the Theosophical Publishing House, the pilot tape in this series being a talk by Geoffrey Hodson on "Through the Gateway of Death"; cooperation with Dr. A. Kannan of Adyar in the planning of a Theosophy-Science Conference and Seminar to be held during the 1975 Convention at Adyar; and development of a Quest Radio Series. The two latter projects have been especially coordinated by Mr. William W. Quinn, Jr., working closely with the Department of Education; in the work on the Quest Radio Series, a committee was formed under Mr. Quinn's chairmanship, with Brian Ziegler, Jerry Rosser, and Jim Person assisting, for the production and distribution of the tapes, with announcement of release now planned for the fall of 1974.

The Department of Education has continued to make available for sale to members and branches the Children's Kits, the Brotherhood Now Study and Meditation Series, and a variety of manuals on group study, group methods and public relations.

For a dozen years now, one of the most vital educational programmes we have undertaken and one which continues to bring enthusiastic response is the new members' letters programme, under the direction of Mrs. Virginia Hanson. An average of nearly 1400 letters a month, for a total of 16,400 letters for the year, have been mailed, each one personally signed by Mrs. Hanson. In addition to appreciative comments and constructive suggestions frequently received from the newer members to whom this programme is directed, these letters serve as a vital link in our network of theosophical education; often, of course, they generate a number of questions on the part of

new members, and these are dealt with beautifully and competently by Mrs. Hanson.

During the past year, it has been possible to assign Mr. James Person to nearly full-time work for the department, while still asking him to continue his responsibilities in the multilith department; his assistance in editing and copying tapes, maintaining the audio-visual libraries, and developing the new Quest Radio series has been extended to include preparation of one of the new study correspondence courses and work on the departmental catalogue. We continue to owe special appreciation to Mrs. Magdelene Pierro for her invaluable clerical assistance to Mrs. Hanson, in the work of the new members' letters programme. In addition, particular mention must be made of the very helpful assistance given so tirelessly by Mr. Anthony Gizzo in folding, stuffing, and sealing the new members' letters, in cleaning the tape mailer boxes, and in numerous other often tedious and time-consuming tasks, all of which are essential even though less glamorous or dramatic than the programmes which take up so much of this report. Mrs. Carole Kettering has also given generously of her time on a number of occasions through the year in volunteer office work in the department.

Quest Books Films.—Released in 1970, the first of these films, "How Many Lifetimes," continues to be in demand for telecasts as well as for showings to schools, community groups; fraternal, service, and religious organizations; resorts, etc. Distribution of the second film, "Reincarnation," began in mid-1972, and its record is equally impressive, even though there is general consensus that it is weak in content and presentation.

Modern Talking Picture Service, the largest distributor of sponsored films in the United States, continues to be responsible

for the circulation of both Quest Books films. Their monthly reports indicate that during the past year "How Many Lifetimes" was listed in 15 promotions, totaling 208,400 impressions, and "Reincarnation" was listed in 18 promotional pieces totaling 203,150 impressions. With a total of 73 prints in circulation, the film "How Many Lifetimes" was shown on 239 telecasts for an estimated viewing audience of 4,266,600 and it enjoyed 2,996 showings for community groups, schools, etc., for an estimated viewing audience of 111,005. The film, "Reincarnation," with 76 prints in circulation, was telecast 158 times to audiences estimated to total 3,394,700; group showings were 3,300 with audience estimate totaling 114,440. Since the inception of the film distribution programme, it is now estimated that 18 million people have seen "How Many Lifetimes" and over 7 million have viewed "Reincarnation." Of particular interest is the fact that approximately 50% of the bookings reported by Modern Talking Picture Service are with high schools, so that of the total number of viewers it is estimated that 73% are young people. The Kern Foundation continues to provide the substantial grant assistance which makes possible the distribution of our films.

Production of the third Quest Books film has proceeded rapidly during the past year, and while release is not scheduled before 1975, as part of the centennial public relations programme, there is every indication that the film will be completed well in advance of our original schedule. To be titled, "Theosophy: The Universal Flame," the film has been the creative achievement of Hartley Productions, Inc., of Cos Cob, Connecticut. Mrs. Elda Hartley and her camera assistant spent some time at Adyar in early January, during a trip to India on another film project, and a number of scenes in the

film reveal the beauty and diverse activities of our international centre. In addition, the film contains unusually pertinent comments by the Society's new President, Mr. Coats, although those sequences were filmed during his visit to Pumpkin Hollow Farm last summer at a time when no one could have accurately forecast the outcome of the presidential election.

Major grants from the Kern Foundation, of course, have made possible both the production and the distribution of the Quest Books films, and we cannot express adequately our appreciation to the Trustees of that Foundation for their willing support and encouragement of this project which, while monetarily a very heavy commitment on their part, does represent the kind of educational thrust envisioned by the Foundation's charter to disseminate the theosophical philosophy as widely as possible.

Radio Theosophy.—The activity as a whole has decreased considerably during the past few years, but some groups still find 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 met by members in branches or federations sponsoring the broadcasts. Mrs. Diane Burckes now serves as secretary of the National Radio Committee, coordinating requests for financial assistance from the branches and maintaining liaison with the Foundation for Radio Theosophy through its newly appointed secretary, Mr. E. H. Heintz. During the past year, Radio Theosophy was aired on 5 stations sponsored by the branches in Atlanta, Houston, Orlando, Tampa, and the Ojai Valley. In addition to the financial support given to the Foundation for Radio Theosophy for its work in maintaining and handling all the tapes used in the broadcasts, the National

Radio Fund was called on for \$ 3,690.25 in subsidy support for the branch-sponsored broadcasts.

As already mentioned in connection with the work of the Department of Education, a new radio series, to be known as Quest Radio, is in process of development under the chairmanship of its originator, Mr. William Quinn. Some financial assistance from the National Radio Fund has been allocated to this series which will consist primarily of one-half hour recordings of quotations from religious and occult texts interspersed with musical selections of an inspirational nature; each tape has a central theme, designed particularly for appeal to younger audiences. Distribution, it is anticipated, will be especially directed to selected FM stations throughout the country.

"The American Theosophist" and *"Discovery"*.—While Mrs. Virginia Hanson remains as editor of *The American Theosophist*, in addition to her duties as Senior Editor for the Publishing House and her responsibilities in our educational programmes, Mr. William W. Quinn, Jr., as assistant editor of the magazine, has assumed ever increasing editorial responsibility for many departments of the journal. As in past reports, I must again comment on the unique good fortune that has been ours during my tenure of office in having an editor so uniquely qualified, both through her professional background and through her theosophical studentship, to give to our magazine the consistently high standard in content and appearance which has brought it an enviable reputation in the theosophical world. Mr. Quinn's special talents, also greatly appreciated, are reflected in many sections of the magazine's contents, most particularly. I think, in the department introduced this year, "Issues and Comments," which has drawn unusually large response. Subjects so far

discussed in this popular new department have ranged from the role of the Society in the current occult explosion to the theosophical contribution to a study of astrology and to questions of social relevance.

Theme of the Fall 1973 special issue was "Man, Myth, and Symbol," while the Spring 1974 special issue was devoted to the provocative question, "Why Search for Truth?" Increasingly these special issues are not only popular at the time of their issuance in magazine format, but they are providing the bases for future Quest Books. Scheduled for release in the fall of 1974, for example, is a Quest Book developed from the two special issues on "Mysticism," and some of the other special issues will ultimately be adapted for more permanent publication in book form.

An editorial committee, appointed by the Board of Directors, assists Mrs. Hanson and Mr. Quinn in the conscientious evaluation of original manuscripts, and we are indebted to Mr. Richard Ihle, Mr. Stephen E. Kellogg, Mr. Felix Layton, and Mrs. Edith Schlosser for their helpful service on this committee.

Mr. Quinn has concluded his first year as editor of the publication, *Discovery*, issued monthly from September through May and used primarily by branches and study centres to reach the public with news of local activities. Articles and excerpts are selected for *Discovery* with special attention to presenting ideas which are inspirational and specifically related to the ancient wisdom and spiritual development.

Responsibility for the distribution of *Discovery* still rests with the Membership Department, where Miss Schulz handles this phase of the activity. Her report indicates that during the past year 92,739 copies were distributed to 73 branches and study centres, to the Canadian

Federation, the Puerto Rican Section, all members-at-large, and some individual subscribers. While this represents a decrease of slightly more than 14,000 from the previous year, there are undoubtedly many factors accounting for the reduced use of the leaflet. A major reason may well be the increase in postal rates which has caused a number of branches to either discontinue its use or reduce the quantity ordered monthly. A Kern Foundation grant continues to make it possible for branches, study centres, and members ordering *Discovery* in quantities above 10 to receive a 50% subsidy, thus providing substantial assistance to those groups and members recognizing the value of this publication in the work of disseminating the theosophical philosophy at the local level.

Olcott Library and Research Centre.—Maintaining its important place in the Society's central task of making known the theosophical philosophy is the Olcott Library and Research Centre, which continues to have the exceptional services of Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Loenholdt and Mrs. Josephine Lee. For about three months, Mrs. Jean Zurek gave part-time assistance to the library. From time to time through the year, Mrs. Marian Bateman has been able to give occasional service in the vital area of book classification, as new titles are accessioned for the shelves. The uniquely rich collection of books on Theosophy, comparative religion, Eastern and Western philosophies, and general subjects consonant with the Society's Three Objects, comprises one of our most valuable resources for use by both members and non-members. During the past year, 768 titles were added to the collection, a number of these in the Oriental Section for which Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan, Librarian of the Adyar Library and Research Centre, continues to be responsible for the pre-

paration of catalogue cards. Additional titles were placed in the Spanish Section of the library and approximately 60 works in Polish were donated to form the nucleus of a section in that language.

A total of 5,316 books were circulated during the year, approximately 50% of which were from the theosophical collection. Once again, the library recorded a significant gain in the number of books circulated to local borrowers, more than 58% of the circulation being to individuals who visit the library in person. Although a number of new library borrowers have taken advantage of the services offered by this department, a thorough review of the library records was undertaken this year, with the result that many names were removed because of inactivity; as a consequence, the number of library borrowers now in the active files comprises 1260, a decrease of 509 from last year. However, the percentage of members of the Society utilizing this service has now risen from 10% to 12%.

The library staff continues to improve and update the services available through the library, including the preparation of author and subject listings to assist especially those who borrow books by mail. There are now available 29 author listings and 40 subject listings, with additional ones in preparation. The library also assembles what might be called "nuclear libraries," small collections which provide each newly organized study centre with a nucleus of books for members study; during the past year, 560 books were sent to study centres whose official status had been authorized by the Board of Directors.

The assistance of a Kern Foundation grant has been extremely helpful both in supporting the expansion of the library holdings through the acquisition of significantly valuable works and also in aiding the general library operation.

Department of Information.—Under the competent direction of Miss Frieda Yordy, the Department of Information continues its principal function of maintaining contact with inquirers. Form letters about Theosophy and the Society are sent in response to all general 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 6700 such letters were sent, an increase of more than a thousand over the previous year. Naturally a great deal of correspondence is generated as a result of these letters and as a consequence of such correspondence, 142 individuals joined the Society during the past year. One interesting statistic that may be noted is that of the more than 3900 purchasers of theosophical books referred to the department by the Publishing House and to whom form letters were sent, more than 16% responded requesting further information and literature.

As so frequently occurs in a number of the departments at Headquarters, Miss Yordy's duties cover a wide range of activities. She serves as the official hostess at Olcott, answering the telephone during office hours, welcoming the many visitors who come in daily to use the library or to inquire about the Society, and taking care of the free literature table in the Headquarters' reception hall. During the past year, more than 37,500 leaflets were distributed by the Department of Information to inquirers, some 8200 of that number taken from the table at Headquarters. Miss Yordy is also responsible for mailing announcements regarding the public lectures and class programmes conducted at Olcott; as this was the year for updating the mailing list by retiring all names of those who did not respond to the return mail request, lecture announcements were sent to an average of only 800-900 a month.

The Theosophical Publishing House.—Continuing its record of phenomenal growth and expansion, The Theosophical Publishing House under the competent management of Mr. Floyd Kettering reports a 16.8% increase in sales during the past year, for a record total in excess of \$ 423,179.00. This sales record was accomplished without a significant increase in operating expenses, which constituted about 31% of total sales, with net income approximately 14% of sales. The efficient growth has been possible through a continual refinement of procedures, enabling increased workloads to be handled without substantial additions to staff personnel.

Since 1967, when I submitted my first Annual Report following election as your National President, there has been a tenfold increase in sales in the Publishing House, while the average increase for the last seven years has been over \$ 51,000, per year. Sales for the month of April 1974, totalled \$ 43,391, whereas sales for the entire fiscal year of 1964-65 totalled only \$ 42,985. As I must emphasize, this could not have been achieved without the major grants so generously given by and so appreciatively received from the Kern Foundation, grants made possible, of course, by the far-seeing vision of Herbert A. Kern, who, during his lifetime, as many of us recall, exhibited the most vital interest in and support for the distribution of theosophical literature.

Comparison of sales by customer category indicates a significant increase in distribution to foreign Sections and branches of the Society. This has been largely brought about by new agreements with the Theosophical Publishing House of London, the Quest Book Agency of Australia, and the Theosophical Society in the Philippines, to assume distributorship for our books in, respectively, the

Common Market countries, Israel, and Africa; Australia, New Zealand, and parts of southeast Asia; and the Philippines. Foreign sales have actually increased 20.8% during the past year, accounting for more than 7% of our total sales. Meanwhile, on the home market, dealer sales have increased 17%, while direct mail order sales have increased 26%. Perhaps the most dramatic of all is the increase of sales through our Quest Bookshop of Wheaton, under the dynamic direction of Mrs. Zella Balch. For a few months of staff residency, Mrs. Jean Zurek was available to assist Mrs. Balch on a part-time basis. A sales record of nearly \$ 41,000 for the year, marking a 15% increase over the previous year, means that the Quest Bookshop here at our Headquarters ranks third in customer category, just behind dealer sales and direct mail order sales, and ahead of total sales to all the branches, study centres, and the other Quest Bookshops in this Section.

Such a splendid record could not have been accomplished, even with the superb financial support of the Kern Foundation, without the dedicated efforts of a wonderful team of workers.

One of the important services performed by the Publishing House is the handling of the Society's publicity leaflets, when these are ordered in quantity by groups and individuals. The complete inventory of these is now held by the Publications Department of the Publishing House as will be reported directly, but here it may properly be mentioned that during the past year 77,629 leaflets were sold by the Publishing House; the continuation of a Kern Foundation grant enables branches to receive a 50% subsidy on quantity orders, certainly a helpful contribution to the work at the local level where these pamphlets should be utilized to supplement and support public presentations.

Publications and Advertising.—In the departmental reorganization which followed the death of Miss Helen Zahara in February 1973, and in an effort to refine our programme accounting procedures, a new department specifically responsible for Publications, Sales Promotion and Advertising was established under the able management of Mr. Clarence Pedersen, whose familiarity with the total operation of the Publishing House as its manager for three years, as well as his special talent in the field of sales promotion, uniquely qualified him to take on this assignment. Working very closely with the Senior Editor for Publications, Mrs. Virginia Hanson, and with an editorial committee responsible for evaluating manuscripts and books proposed for inclusion in our publishing programme, Mr. Pedersen has given dynamic impetus to the publishing and advertising programmes that are the bases on which the sales record of the Publishing House must rest. Mrs. Jane Evans of New York continues to be our principal illustrator, a service she performs at virtually cost of production.

The term "Quest Books," introduced in 1966 to designate high quality paperback works issued by the Theosophical Publishing House with the generous assistance of major grants from the Kern Foundation, has now become so familiar throughout the theosophical world especially and so recognized by book dealers, librarians, and distributors, that it may have lost something of its dramatic impact on our consciousness. Eighty-four paperbacks, including ten miniatures, now bear the Quest colophon; in addition under this general programme, eight titles have appeared in hard-cover, some already and some to be released in paperback, and eight additional titles have appeared as Quest Books for younger readers. This year, a new programme in our publishing effort

was introduced: we launched the "Re-Quest Books" with the publication of *I was A Monk* by John Tettemer. With the addition of this title, a total of 101 books have been issued since our stepped-up publications effort began in 1966, and with the sale of nearly 200,000 Quest Books during the past year, we can now record that more than 900,000 Quest Books have been distributed in the years since the programme began.

Eight new titles were released in the Quest paperback series during the past year: *The Astral Body* by A. E. Powell; *Eating for Life* by Nathaniel Altman; *The Mystery Teachings in World Religions* by Florice Tanner; *Guide to Horoscope Interpretation* by Marc Edmond Jones; *The Future Evolution of Man* by Sri Aurobindo; *Integral Yoga* by Haridas Chaudhuri; *The Candle of Vision* by AE (George W. Russell); and Vol. III of *Hidden Wisdom in the Holy Bible* by Geoffrey Hodson. In addition, three books were brought out in clothbound editions: *Wisdom of the Vedas* by J. C. Chatterji; *Evolution Toward Divinity* by Beatrice Bruteau, an original manuscript prepared under a writer's fellowship grant; and Vol. XI in the series of *Collected Writings of H. P. Blavatsky* under the general editorship of Boris de Zirkoff. The latter work was actually financed by the H. P. Blavatsky Publications Reserve Fund, and a substantial loan from the Canadian Section to that fund greatly assisted with the publication cost. The first ReQuest title already mentioned, *I was A Monk*, was released as the first in an experimental joint publication programme with Pyramid Publications, Inc. Further activity in the Publications Department included the reprinting of 8 Quest titles during the year, and the issuance of 1,000 copies of a clothbound edition of Norman Pearson's *Space, Time and Self* for library placement

through the Theosophical Book Gift Institute.

As our publications programme has continued its active advance in release of new and significant works, with the sales record of the Publishing House making it possible to return capital to the Publications Account, we have been able to reduce considerably the grants from the Kern Foundation allocated to the publishing work. This has permitted a steadily increased grant authorized for advertising and promotional efforts, an area where the Society's own resources would not be sufficient to sustain such a large-scale project. We are grateful, therefore, to the Kern Foundation Trustees and especially to the Advising Trustee, Mr. John C. Kern, for the continued recognition that without such major support of a national advertising programme, the publications and sales programmes could not be achieved. The major portion of the advertising budget continues to be directed toward announcements in the trade journals and in journals of mass circulation. Wolf & Krautter, Inc., of Chicago, continue to be retained for design, production, and placement of Quest Book and related advertising. In addition to the regular advertisements appearing in *Publishers Weekly*, our advertising has appeared on a regular basis in the *Journal of the American Library Association*, the *New York Times* (Book, Review Section), *Saturday Review/World*, *National Observer*, *Harpers*, *Atlantic*, *Psychic*, and *Intellectual Digest*. Two major journals were added to our listings this year, *The New Yorker* and the *Smithsonian*, and the two Quest Books on astrology were advertised in *Horoscope* magazine.

The Adyar Library Series of Oriental Texts and the book lending services of the Olcott Library and Research Centre were again advertised in such professional

journals as *Philosophy East and West*, *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Review of Metaphysics* and the *Journal of Indian Philosophy*. This year, again, it was possible to exhibit at the Annual Conference of the Association for Asian Studies; for the exhibit at that conference, held in Boston, Mr. Pedersen was assisted by Dr. Charles White of Washington, D.C.

A vital aspect of our total sales promotional efforts has been the utilization of professional sales representatives; 12 individual salesmen represent us throughout the United States, with the exception of Alaska, and National Publishing Company of Ontario handles distribution throughout Canada. The success of such national sales representation is indicated by the fact that book dealers in this country continue to rank first in customer category of sales, accounting for over 53% of all sales from the Publishing House. I have already referred to the representation abroad, more of which is now being handled by members of the Society; one interesting statistic in this regard concerns the increase of sales to the Quest Book Agency of Australia, a major customer from the very inception of our programme. During the year just past, the sales to the Quest Book Agency of Australia increased approximately 77%.

Routine sales promotional programmes also go forward steadily, with eight direct order mailings going out this past year. The percentage of response continues to average between 2% and 3%, but total sales for the year resulting from this programme approximated \$ 16,290.00, an increase of more than \$8,000, over the previous year. The Publishing House continues to supply specially imprinted mailing pieces to the Quest Bookshop of Seattle, the Krotona Bookshop, and to the newly opened Quest Bookshop of Los Angeles; in addition, Mr. Pedersen offered all branches and

study centres an opportunity to receive the Quest Book leaflet in quantity for use with their mailing lists, and 31 groups have taken advantage of this promotional programme. A special programme directed to the membership announced a time-payment plan for the purchase of *The Secret Doctrine* and *Isis Unveiled*. Among the features introduced this year was the concept of book autograph parties; the New York Quest Bookshop presented Nathaniel Altman in this manner at the time of the release of his book, *Eating for Life*, and at Olcott we presented Dr. Haridas Chaudhuri in a public lecture followed by an autograph party honoring the release of the Quest edition of his book, *Integral Yoga*.

As mentioned earlier, the "Theosophy in Brief" leaflets, designed for free distribution by branches and members, are now part of the Publications Department inventory.

Quest Bookshops and Quest Book Consignment Programme.—The concept of Quest Bookshops in major centres of the United States developed into actuality in early 1968, when the New York Theosophical Society opened the New York Quest Bookshop with substantial assistance from the Kern Foundation. A year later, a special grant aided the Seattle Branch to open a Quest Bookshop on its premises. Now a third Quest Bookshop has officially joined the ranks of branch-operated book stores; in the spring of 1974, the Los Angeles Theosophical Society opened the Quest Bookshop of that city, and its manager, Mr. Irving Greisman, spent a week at Headquarters familiarizing himself with operational procedures in our Publishing House and especially in our Quest Bookshop.

In New York, the Quest Bookshop has always been dependent upon a salaried management, although several members in

that city also contribute many hours of service on a voluntary basis. Sales would seem to have reached a plateau of approximately \$ 18,000 annually, but as the new fiscal year opens plans are developing for a greatly expanded advertising programme and an increased inventory in an effort to move forward from that plateau. Following on the resignation of Mr. James Mahan as the bookshop manager, the New York Theosophical Society anticipates the appointment of a new manager in the early months of the new year.

The story of the Seattle Quest Bookshop is a remarkable success tale based on the presence of uniquely favorable circumstances. Conducted almost solely with a volunteer staff from the membership of the Branch, the bookstore is well located with adequate shelf and display space. The inauguration of the Northwest Theosophical Institute in the Seattle Branch quarters brought increasing numbers of students and inquirers to the bookstore, so that word quickly spread of the availability of this excellent resource not far from the University of Washington campus; in addition, relatively inexpensive advertising in community newspapers proved especially productive in increased sales. After receiving modest grants from the Kern Foundation for a period of some five years, the management of the Seattle Quest Bookshop this year informed us that the grant already authorized for the year would not be required and that, indeed, no further grant assistance was being requested. Sales for the past year of \$ 20,045.28 (an increase of more than \$5500 from the previous year) seem to have brought the bookshop to a position of self-sufficiency.

In late 1971, a programme of providing a Quest Book consignment at no charge to branches with adequate facilities to maintain a book sales department was initiated with the assistance of a grant from the

Kern Foundation. This project was intended to stimulate what might be called mini-Quest Bookshops in groups which could not support a major bookshop effort. A small grant during the past year enabled us to include three further groups in the programme, bringing to 36 the number of branches and study centres now enrolled in the consignment programme.

Headquarters.—Whenever one travels to other parts of the theosophical world, one is sharply reminded of the tremendous asset we enjoy in this Section in the form of the facilities provided by our national centre, Olcott. To Mr. Fritz Loenholdt, head of the Grounds Department, and his staff assistants, Mr. Robert Gephardt and Mr. Charles Sass, as well as his several part- or full-time non-resident team members, we are greatly indebted for the loving care and supervision constantly given to the large estate.

In the housekeeping department, Mrs. Robertina Pumyea continues to set an example of spit-and-polish cleanliness throughout the building. Happily, in November, Mrs. Paula Albert joined the staff to assume a greater share in the management of the housekeeping department, working closely with Mrs. Pumyea in anticipation of the latter's retirement early in the new fiscal year. For a few brief months, Mr. Robert Foster assisted with custodial duties, later taken on by Mr. Frank Capatch who joined the resident staff in October; on his departure in February, Mrs. Zurek assisted briefly until a nonresident member, Mr. Ramon Repp, assumed those responsibilities. In June, a longstanding dream was realized when Anthony and Rosemary Gizzo joined the resident staff, and Mrs. Gizzo assumed duties as head of the dining department; her special touch in the creation of beauty immediately became apparent as the kitchen, dining, and staff recreation areas in the Headquarters' basement were

transformed in ways too numerous to mention. Mrs. Gizzo's arrival relieved Mrs. Edith Schlosser, who had taken on the management of the dining department on a temporary basis, but who stayed at Olcott for some months to assist Mrs. Gizzo especially through the period of the 1973 Summer Sessions as well as to complete some assignments in the Department of Education, leaving our staff in September to return to her California home. Mrs. Marie Dastrup continues to head the list of our superb cooks whose achievements in the culinary arts keep the Olcott staff so well fed; assisting Mrs. Dastrup this year has been Mrs. Jeannine Luchs, replacing Mrs. Virgie Ness, with occasional assistance during the summer months from Mrs. Ethel Halas. Special appreciation goes to Mr. Charles Sass who continues to rise early each morning to prepare breakfast for the staff, before taking up his other duties each day in the section shipping and grounds departments. Mrs. Luchs' daughter Sarah has succeeded her older brothers in taking on the essential task of dishwashing. In the building maintenance department, various staff members, including Mr. Gephardt and Mr. Loenholdt, have taken on responsibilities until a full-time maintenance man could be found; in January Mr. Frank Morales began work in that department as a non-resident member, and in May he with his wife and baby became resident at Olcott.

Olcott continues to be the scene of a number of public events throughout the year, with attendance steadily increasing as more and more people in the Chicago area discover the excellent facilities offered at our national centre. There are many occasions when those facilities, especially for accommodating audiences at our public lectures and classes, are so strained that I could wish our dream of an auditorium, with seminar and classrooms, were already an accomplished reality.

In addition to the regular monthly Olcott Sunday lectures, held from October through May, we again featured this past year two discussion series, both attracting excellent audiences. The one in the fall was devoted to "Explorations into Mysticism," with some of the talks taped for later distribution through the Department of Education, while the spring series examined "Forms and Techniques of Meditation." The Wednesday evening rap sessions, under the dual leadership of Jim Person and Jerry Rosser, continue to be very popular among young people particularly. During the Washington birthday weekend in February, a special programme for staff members only featured a retreat on *The Voice of the Silence*.

The Olcott Staff.—Throughout this report, as part of the departmental summaries, mention has been made of a number of comings and goings on the resident staff at Olcott. Such changes seem inevitable each year, members coming for varying periods of service in one or another aspect of the work at our national centre. A major change in the administrative offices occurred early in the last fiscal year, when the National Board of Directors at its annual meeting in July accepted the resignation of Miss Elithe Nisewanger as National Secretary and appointed Mrs. Diane Burckes to that office. Mrs. Burckes assumed office on August 15, exactly three years after joining our resident staff, during which time she had served successively as secretary to Miss Zahara, assistant to the manager of publications, and secretary to the National President. Miss Nisewanger retired from the Olcott staff in September, after a theosophical career that spanned more than three decades and included service as secretary to three International Presidents at Adyar—Dr. George Arundale, Mr. C. Jinarajadasa, and Mr. N. Sri Ram—as well as to two

National Presidents in the American Section, Mr. James S. Perkins and Miss Joy Mills. Her concluding service to the work of this Section as our National Secretary seemed an appropriate climax to such a magnificent example of dedicated effort.

After more than twelve years of service at Olcott, Miss Anne Storrs retired last June to return to her home in Schenectady where she has taken active part in the Study Centre. Miss Storrs had been secretary to the National President from the day I took office, and I shall always treasure her friendship.

I have already referred to Mrs. Schlosser's departure in September, after more than seven years' service at Olcott, principally in the Department of Education. Edith left the indelible mark of her unique spirit, a beautiful *joie de vivre*, on our family life. Another long time worker who will be sorely missed not only, in this case, by the human staff at Olcott but by all the furred, feathered, and finned creatures who make Olcott their home is Miss Marion Peterson, who concluded a total of over 17 years of service on May 31. During the past two years, Miss Peterson had given full time to the work of the Theosophical Book Gift Institute.

The National Secretary reports that on May 31, the close of the past fiscal year, there were 34 permanent staff members and 32 nonresident workers employed at Olcott. During the year, 17 members of the Society joined the resident staff, 7 of these leaving within the year while 6 others whose tenure of service had been longer also found it necessary to leave. In addition to those already mentioned, we should note that Mr. Michael Weddell after two and a half years in our financial department returned to his native Texas last July; Mr. Douglas Shiell left after some two years of service on the grounds and in the Publishing House in order to resume his college studies; Mrs. Lola

Foster, after only four months at Olcott assisting with secretarial work, found it necessary for personal reasons to leave the staff. On a happier note, in addition to those whose coming we have already mentioned, we welcomed Mrs. Bridget Paget, who arrived from Adyar in May to serve as secretary to the National President and to assist with both secretarial and editorial work for the Senior Editor of Publications.

Our gratitude must extend beyond those whose names have been recorded as part of the Olcott staff to include every member throughout the Section who has given selflessly and faithfully to the Society's efforts. Quite naturally, of course, I think first of my colleagues at Olcott, who, through the years, have set for us all such an example of tireless service. Among those already named and yet to be mentioned in this report, none stands taller as an example of unequalled service than our National Vice-President, my administrative assistant, Mrs. Ann Wylie, to whom I shall shortly be turning over full administrative responsibility as your National President to complete my unexpired term of office. Her superb good judgment, her complete grasp of all aspects of our Section's business gained out of nearly four decades of uninterrupted full time service to the Society, her unfailing understanding of and ready sympathy for the problems which arise in a community such as Olcott, combine to make her the nearly indispensable worker at Olcott, and I am more grateful than words can express that during the years of my administration I have had her generous and always willing assistance and the benefit of her wise counsel.

Twenty-five of my own 34 years of membership in the Society have been spent at our national centre; the roots of this incarnation have gone deep into the soil of life at Olcott, and it is not easy now to

transplant those roots into other soil, even though it be the soil of our world centre at Adyar. But life at Olcott will go on; the work will still be accomplished, and a faithful staff will always be present to guide, direct and inspire that work. And one of the most precious lessons learned at Olcott is that no one works alone, our achievements arise out of mutual endeavor, and we are all dependent upon one another.

Finances and the Kern Foundation.—Throughout this report, as in all the reports submitted to the membership during the years of my presidency, reference has constantly been made to grants received from the Kern Foundation in support of numerous programmes and activities. While it is true that without the major assistance given the Society by that Foundation, many projects could not have been undertaken, it is equally true that without the support given by members the essential work of the Society could not have gone forward. One of the basic requirements of the Kern Foundation for the allocation of grants is contained in the Trust Agreement's clause that consideration will be given those organizations whose members show a willingness to support the work of the organization. For the Society, this has often meant a strain on our own financial reserves; yet always the members have measured up to the challenge and the response to appeals has been both gratifying and reassuring. As a consequence the Kern Foundation Trustees have frequently commended the Society for the responsible manner in which the members have accepted their obligations and for the disciplines we have exercised in the disbursements of grants given partially or wholly to support so many of our activities. We can report that over \$ 29,300.00 was received from the Kern Foundation during the past year, in partial support of nearly 20 separate

programmes carried on under national sponsorship.

A Kern Foundation Programmes Committee continues to review proposals submitted for its consideration as projects to be undertaken, recommending to the National Board of Directors such programmes, with accompanying budgetary requirements, as in its judgment will further the general objectives for which the Foundation exists, the dissemination of the theosophical philosophy as widely as possible. Appointed to that committee by the National Board of Directors last July were Mr. John C. Kern, Advising Trustee of the Foundation as well as an active member of the Society, Mrs. Diane Burckes, and Mrs. Virginia Hanson, with the National President serving as chairman. We are particularly fortunate in having available not only the helpful counsel of John Kern, but also the advisory services of Mr. Paul Williams, Vice-President of the Northern Trust Company which is the Corporate Trustee; indeed, without their continued encouragement and assistance, our record would certainly be less impressive.

As indicated, however, it is the membership support that gives the Society its real basis of financial security. We may note that during the past year, further appeals for assistance with the TPH Building Fund, specifically to aid in the retirement of loan obligations, resulted in contributions in excess of \$26,900.00. The Board of Directors authorized loan repayments slightly in excess of \$30,000.00, leaving now only a balance of approximately \$5,000.00 in loan obligations to be repaid in the new fiscal year. We were unusually fortunate this past year in receiving well over \$18,000 in general donations from the membership and nearly \$54,000.00 in bequests, the principal one coming from the first distribution of the Anita Huckaby estate.

These statistics, including those yet to be published as part of the audited financial statements, represent many long hours of devoted service given by our financial staff: Miss Clarice Richie, our extremely efficient cashier bookkeeper who doubles as our remarkable green-thumbed vegetable gardener; Mr. Edwin Lord, controller and financial advisor; Mrs. Elizabeth Teal, a nonmember employee whose increasing familiarity with our accounting procedures has imposed on her greater responsibility in the bookkeeping department; and our National Treasurer, Mr. Richard Neuman. I should also mention here the valuable assistance given the financial department by Mrs. Marcella Lord who, in addition to several other duties, continues to be our Purchasing Agent.

The Theosophical Investment Trust, designated by the National By-Laws as the Section's principal financial arm, now holds funds in excess of \$786,000.00 in six capital accounts. Among the major fund accounts is the Membership Endowment Fund, whose steady growth augurs well for the Society's future, for it is this fund that represents a permanent endowment for the Section's existence. There are now 336 active members on the list of those who have endowed their membership; 51 who held endowment membership are now deceased and that portion of the fund is now free from dues allocation so that the interest realized may be applied to the general support of the Society's work. At the conclusion of the fiscal year, the endowment fund was in excess of \$120,600.00.

Also administered by the Investment Trust is the ABC-America Fund, now approximately \$170,000.00, held on behalf of the international work of the Society and this year drawn upon to provide the new offset printing equipment 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 programme, whereby members may deposit money or securities, receiving a life income therefrom with the principal reverting to the benefit of the Society under the Trust's investment programme, deserves more support than it has received and ways are being sought for encouraging more members to enter this programme.

Members of the Investment Trust include, in addition to its chairman, Mr. John Sellon, and the Society's three officers—National President, National Vice-President, and National Treasurer—who serve ex officio, three other devoted members of the Society—Mr. John C. Kern, Dr. Paul H. Dunakin and, elected last June to his first term on the Trust, Mr. Floyd Kettering. Mr. Edwin Lord serves as secretary to the Trust, maintaining responsibility for its books. To all of these diligent Trustees we owe special appreciation.

Allied Activities.—While time and space always preclude comprehensive reports on the many activities which engage the interests and energies of members throughout the Section, I cannot omit reference at least to the several organized groups who carry on programmes of specific theosophical service. We refer especially to the splendid activities of the Theosophical Book Gift Institute which, this past year, donated over 11,000 books to 690 public, college, prison, hospital, and religious libraries throughout the United States; the Theosophical Book Association for the Blind, whose superb work in distributing talking books and works in Braille brings Theosophy to many who otherwise would be denied access to our literature; the Theosophical Order of Service with its several active departments engaged in extremely practical

theosophical service projects; and the Parents Theosophical Research Group whose publications focus on theosophical principles of special relevance to teachers and parents. In addition, the American Federation of Young Theosophists has been unusually active this past year, sponsoring last July a "Metaphysical Festival" at Olcott and, in August, a week-long workshop programme at Pumpkin Hollow when Mr. John Coats led discussions on "The Karma of Happiness." The Young Theosophists, while continuing publication of *Sophia*, have issued a number of briefer newsletters through the year, with notes and comments of particular interest to young people. We should also mention the continued role played in our total educational programme by the Krotona School of Theosophy, which this year has centred its attention more on a variety of seminar sessions of varying lengths rather than the term-length classes of previous years. The Taormina Theosophical Community has also continued as an active experiment in community living, with the addition of new residents and further homesites planned. All who contribute to one or another of these allied groups are giving practical expression to the theosophical philosophy and deserve appreciation for efforts made in cooperative service.

International Aspects and Centenary World Congress.—Annually, on Adyar Day, we give special recognition to our world centre through programmes keyed to an awareness of the significance of that center and through financial contributions toward its maintenance. This year, the Adyar Day Fund received \$6,251.32 in contributions from members in this Section. One way in which we can keep in close touch with Adyar and the international work is through subscribing to *The Theosophist*, the journal published at our world centre

under the editorship of the President. In this Section, subscriptions are handled by our Publishing House, but unfortunately they remain at an absurdly small proportion of our membership.

At the 1973 meeting of the General Council, the New York meetings planned for November 14-20, 1975, were officially designated a World Congress, investing the event with an official status which permits the holding of General Council sessions in conjunction with the programme of talks and discussions. That status also means that the congress in New York will be presided over by the President, Mr. Coats, although he has requested me to continue as general chairman in coordinating arrangements and programmes. In this Section, Mrs. Wylie has continued to serve as chairman of the Centennial Activities Committee; she and I, together with Mrs. Emily Sellon of New York, have had a number of conferences with the management of the Statler-Hilton Hotel where the congress is to be held, and with individuals and firms who may be involved in various aspects of our arrangements.

The impact of our world commitment was felt most sharply perhaps in the closing months of our fiscal year, when no hearing aid was necessary to head the clear call of duty which reached me from Adyar. Nominated by the President following discussions during my sojourn at Adyar in January, and subsequently confirmed by the General Council in accordance with the International Rules, I assumed office as International Vice-President on May 1, while still remaining in office in the American Section not only to conclude the work of the past fiscal year but to provide for a smooth transition in the early months of the new fiscal year as Mrs. Wylie assumes the presidential responsibility of the Section. In the normal course of events, the triennial election of

officers will take place in our Section in the early months of 1975.

Conclusion.—The conclusion of this annual report of my stewardship as your National President marks also the close of another administration in the annals of the American Section. If the history of our Section is ever written, undoubtedly this period will be recorded as one of unusual growth and expansion due principally to the unprecedented opportunities afforded us by the availability of the Kern Foundation resources. Beyond that however, I hope the record may reveal that while learning from our mistakes we have in mutual concert of purpose steadily advanced the Society's objectives and the cause of human enlightenment. Amid the rose gifts of affection that have given courage, there have been inevitably some thorns, and among the joys of office there has been occasional heartache. Well loved colleagues have stepped out of our ranks into the wider service beyond physical incarnation; none whose memory is more deeply cherished than Helen Zahara, and none whose serene wisdom was more deeply treasured than N. Sri Ram. But the work goes on; the task is far from finished, the race far from won. The challenge before us all was never greater, even on that day 99 years ago when the decision was reached to establish this Society. More than two decades ago, our late President, Mr. Sri Ram, wrote of the "humble task—humble but tremendously strenuous—of preparing for the greater events to come." And he added: "There is every hope, if each one of us rises to his best in the uncertain present, of making the forces of progress, apparently still in the balance, decisive in their effect, and thus enabling humanity, led by its vanguard—the crest-wave flowing through channels of intellect into spirituality—to clear the obstacles that lie on every side of it."

SUPPLEMENT TO NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

June—September 1974

Following the established custom of many years, the American Section held its Annual Convention and Summer School at its Headquarters, Olcott, in mid-July. Guest speakers for the 1974 Convention were Mrs. Radha Burnier, General Secretary of the Indian Section, and Mrs. Gool Minwalla, Presidential Agent for the Society in Pakistan. The theme of the Summer Sessions, "Are We Prepared?", lent itself to an examination of the inner preparation necessary for each member as the Society enters its second century as well as a survey of the outer preparation required for the Section in hosting the World Congress in 1975.

Both Mrs. Burnier and Mrs. Minwalla were able to tour among a number of the branches in the Section, before and after the Summer Sessions at Olcott. Mrs. Minwalla was also the guest speaker at the Section's four summer camps: the Ozark Camp in Arkansas, Far Horizons Camp in California, Camp Indralaya in Washington, and Pumpkin Hollow in New York State. In addition, the National President, Miss Joy Mills, conducted a training workshop at the Far Horizons Camp and led a retreat on *The Voice of the Silence* at the Camp Indralaya. Each of the summer camps also offered a variety of programmes during the weeks from mid-June to early September; particularly popular was the youth week, conducted by the American Federation of Young Theosophists, held at Far Horizons Camp in late August.

On September 1, the resignation of Miss Mills as National President, submitted to the Section's Board of Directors in July, became effective. In accordance with the provisions of the Section's By-Laws, Mrs. Ann Wylie, National Vice-President,

assumed office as National President to fill the unexpired term of office, pending new elections in early 1975.

In mid-September, the Section was host to the International Publishing Conference, under the chairmanship of the International Vice-President, Miss Mills. Attending the Conference, in addition to council members of the Publishing House of Wheaton, were Mr. Michael Maxwell of the Theosophical Publishing House, London, Mr. K. N. Ramanathan, Manager of the Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar, and Mr. K. Ramanathan, Manager of the Vasanta Press, Adyar. The Conference was

extremely successful in forwarding the work of cooperation in publishing and allied programmes among the three major Theosophical Publishing Houses, and in reaching agreements on procedures affecting publication and distribution of theosophical books.

While activities of the Section continued during the summer months, with the issuance of three new titles in the Quest Books series and the completion of the third Quest Books Film, membership in the Section remained approximately the same.

JOY MILLS,
General Secretary.

ENGLAND

The year under review has seen the general activities of the Section maintained, with increased interest in some areas. In London a new Centre was authorized, meeting at Headquarters, to provide opportunity for younger people to meet one another. As we already have a Blavatsky Lodge and an H.P.B. Lodge, the new Centre is known by the name of the President-Founder, the Olcott Centre. In the North-West, always a lively Federation, two new Centres have been authorized. One Centre in the North received its Charter during the year. Two Centres that had been quiescent for some time were dissolved.

There has been no great change in the total membership, the new admissions being slightly exceeded by the number of outgoing members. During the year a number of members from Uganda who have made their home in England transferred their membership to the English Section. An afternoon get-together was specially arranged for them, to meet

one another and to meet the Headquarters staff.

At the beginning of 1974, *The Theosophical Journal* took on a new appearance. The *Olcott Letter*, a bi-monthly circular to the unattached members—who constitute almost one-third of the total membership—continues to be sent out as a personal communication from the General Secretary, and is appreciated as a link between these members and the Headquarters.

The Annual Convention in May was held at the Headquarters, and in spite of—or perhaps because of!—the limited room, members were very pleased to meet at “home” instead of elsewhere. The theme of the Convention, “Concerning the Spiritual in Art, Philosophy and Science”, provided scope for a varied programme, which included an exhibition of Collages Diaphanes by a gifted artist member, a beautiful slide-show of Nature photography, and a lecture-demonstration of Chinese meditational

movement. The Blavatsky Lecture, under the title "Life, Death and Dreams", was given by Mr. Geoffrey Farthing.

The theme of the Summer School, held at Durham under the auspices of the English-Speaking Region, was "The Resources of the Heart." The International President, Mr. John Coats, took an active part in the proceedings. The Guest Speaker, Mr. Sigvaldi Hjalmarsson, General Secretary of Iceland, was warmly welcomed, and as the Council of the European Federation was holding its meetings during this Summer School, we were particularly fortunate in having members from fifteen different countries.

Tekels Park was, as usual, the scene of a number of residential weekends, including the annual Easter Conference, the Research Centre Conference, and the August Bank Holiday House Party.

Five members of the Section, of whom three were members of the General Council, attended the International Convention at Adyar in December 1973.

Another member, Mr. Ernest Pontefract, celebrated his 100th birthday – and 70 years of membership—during the year. His diploma is signed by Bertram Keightly as General Secretary and by Colonel Olcott as President.

The London Headquarters is constantly visited by members from overseas, as also is the Bookshop, which records another good year of trading. The Managing Director, Mr. Michael Maxwell, followed his 1973 business trip to Europe by a similar trip to the U.S.A. where he made fruitful contact with the publishing concerns of the Adyar and other theosophical groups.

IANTHE H. HOSKINS,
General Secretary.

INDIA

Presenting my report on the eve of the Centenary year of the Theosophical Society, I am happy to report that in many areas of the Indian Section, work has been carried on more energetically and persistently and this is reflected by a rise in membership. At the end of the last year our membership stood at 7721 and on 1st October 1974 it had risen to 8168, showing an increase of 447 members. This is the first time in the history of the Section that the 8000 mark has been crossed. All Federations except Bengal and Uttar Pradesh have shown an increase. I am also glad to say that this is not a sudden spurt in membership, resulting from a temporary effort to rope in as many new recruits as possible for a kind of festive display during the Centenary. There has been a steady, if not spectacular,

increase for several years. If the figures are taken for the last five years the trend is apparent. The strength was 7294 in 1969. Year by year it rose, being 7469 in 1970, 7710 in 1971, and 7869 in 1972. Last year there was a slight decline down to 7721. However the total increase in the five years from 1969 has been 874.

Personally I am of the view that a steady influx of members consisting of persons who join the Society with some understanding of its Objects and character, is what all the Federations and Lodges should aim at. I had pointed out in my report for 1963-64 that there was a wrong impression that in the old days, the Society was a flourishing organization and that there had been a considerable decline later on. This is not true, at least as far as the numerical side of the

membership is concerned. Even at the time when the Society in India enjoyed great prestige and appreciation because of Dr. Besant's peerless qualities and services to the country, the membership of the Indian Section was not higher than 7051, while it is now 8168.

This is not to say that all is well or that there is reason for complacency or self-congratulation. Every year sees a large toll of members, numbering about 700 or 800 who drop out because of non-payment of dues. This is partly due to the fact that new members do not everywhere receive the warmth and help necessary from those who have been sufficiently long in the Society and who are in a position to communicate with them personally. From the Headquarters of the Section, letters and literature are regularly being sent to new members, but these cannot be a substitute for direct contacts and attention. The large yearly lapses have yet to be seriously tackled and arrested by individual members and Lodges.

There is also a great deal of work to be done to create a solid cadre of members who are well versed in Theosophical literature, and who by their intellectual equipment, earnestness, and example can act as a constant leaven to tone up the quality of work done. In India and perhaps all over the world, there is a noticeable decline in public life and in the number of figures of eminence whose moral tone and intellectual calibre are such as to inspire others and give them guidance. There has also been a steep fall in the standard of education and culture in our country. It would be very unfortunate indeed if there is a reflection in some form of these tendencies within our membership.

The type of new members who are attracted to our Society depends very much on the present membership of the Society. We need a live nucleus within

the organization who are well educated (not necessarily in the academic or formal sense, but in a theosophical sense), who have made the intellectual effort to penetrate into higher truths and knowledge, and whose life and character reflect their aspirations, in order to draw more and more into the Society men and women who are capable of bringing about the right kind of change in the world. A large number of vaguely well-meaning but confused people cannot mould themselves into an effective instrument for the high purposes of the Society. It is therefore necessary that members should undertake intensive training and study, and industrious application of faculties and talents, in a concerted effort to raise the calibre of membership. To be in the Society should mean to become progressively better educated, in the broad sense previously mentioned, and to acquire a true culture arising out of an understanding of the best values of life. From such a foundation, work can be done towards greater ends. If the foundation is weak, we cannot hope to raise a worthy superstructure.

The number of Lodges on 1st October 1974 was 328 and the number of Centres 28. There are also 147 Lodges with less than 7 members and 13 Centres with less than 3 members. A number of Lodges and Centres have been dissolved since they have lost all strength. Among the Lodges started during the year were two Youth Lodges in Hyderabad and Indore.

Many new members have come into the Society and we welcome them with joy. We also record with inevitable regret the departure of faithful, active and long-standing members. The Indian Section Headquarters has suffered a particularly heavy loss during the year because of the passing away of three residents, among whom the one who had

spent the longest number of years on the compound was Smt. Sati Phansalkar. She joined the Society in 1926 and gave her support and help to the work in Varanasi in many ways. Sri Ram Shankar Pandya, who passed away in May 1974 was Treasurer of the Indian Section from 1968 to 1971, after which he continued to serve the Section in other capacities. Smt. Shanti Devi Agarwal (Mrs. Badri Narayan) was resident at Headquarters ever since Sri Badri Narayan gave up his employment in Ujjain in 1961 in answer to an appeal for workers. All three were wholeheartedly devoted and will be missed by those who knew them. Sri M.V. Gopalakrishna Iyer, a veteran member and worker at Adyar for several decades and an indefatigable student of Theosophical literature passed away in April, 1974. The Telugu Federation lost two of its strong pillars. Sri K. Satyanarayana joined the Society in 1914 and till his passing ceaselessly travelled and worked in spite of a frail body. Sri Boda Venkataratnam was one who gave constant thought to Theosophical work and strengthened it in every way he could. Both these brothers have earned the gratitude and appreciation of many. An unusually long record of uninterrupted enthusiasm and service was that of Sri V. G. Barpute of Indore in Madhya Pradesh. He became a member of the Society in 1909 and was a familiar figure at numerous Conventions, setting an example of loyalty to the Society's ideals. The Karnataka Federation saw the passing of Sri S. Gurumurthy, who also had a long record of faithful service since 1916, and Sri S. P. Venkatesh, who was the Treasurer of the Federation, and well known to members from all over India because of the responsibilities he undertook at International Conventions. Among others who passed away during the year were Sri J. B. Dorab, Recording Secretary

of the Theosophical Society from 1961 to 1964, Sri R. E. Ani of Bombay, who joined in 1926, and Sri K. B. Joshi of Balasinor who joined in 1918.

Many more study and training camps were organized during the year than usual. There was the yearly Workers' Training Camp in Adyar during the summer vacation, attracting as usual members from different Federations. The camp was organized by Sri M. Krishnamacharyulu with the help of Sri K. V. K. Nehru. Another summer camp at Bhowali has also become a yearly feature. This year it was directed by Sri Ramjivan Sinha with *Self-Culture* by Dr. I. K. Taimni as the basis of study. While this camp was in session, some public lectures were also organized and a comparative study of religions was made.

I am particularly glad to report that there were several camps in the Northern and Western regions, as an effort is being made to establish Lodges and Centres in the States where there are none or few. A camp was held in Kasauli for three weeks, directed by Sri M. S. Pannu, and there was a two week camp at Srinagar, conducted by Dr. B. R. Mullik. Dr. Mullik also conducted camps at Kurukshetra, Saproon and Dehra Dun.

In the Karnataka Federation eight camps were held, with attendance ranging from 20 to 200. In the Rayalaseema Federation also eight camps were held which have helped to create an impetus in the Federation. Gujarat organized five camps, there were four in Uttar Pradesh, three in Kerala, two in Bihar, and one each in the Tamil Districts, Telugu and Marathi Federations. It is needless for me to say that each of these camps is much more than an item of statistics. They are occasions when earnest students live together in an atmosphere dedicated to the search for knowledge and wisdom, where the mutual

discussion and shared aspiration draw the mind to a different level than the ordinary.

In addition to the camps mentioned above, every Federation has also had the usual annual conference, not only to transact necessary business, but to act as a source of inspiration to the members. Several regional conferences and inter-Lodge gatherings have also been held in various parts of the Section.

Sri M. Krishnamacharyulu, Joint General Secretary, made extensive lecture tours as in previous years and visited Lodges in Bengal, Bihar, Delhi, Karnataka, Rayalaseema, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, Telugu, U. P., Utkal, Maharashtra and Madras Federations, the total number of lodges visited being about 70. He also presided over the U. P. Conference in Agra and conducted several study camps.

Miss Jeanne Dumas made an extended tour in Maharashtra, in which Federation work was also done by another National Lecturer, Mr. B. N. Swarup. Sri Swarup also visited and lectured in Bombay and various places in the U.P. Sri S. Krishnamurthy also spoke to members in the Bombay Lodges and visited 12 places in the Tamil Districts Federation. Sri S. G. Venkataramanan, who was National Lecturer for a number of years, visited 13 Lodges in the Tamil Federation in spite of being more than four score years of age. Dr. C. V. Agarwal, Assistant General Secretary, after conducting a study camp at Begusarai in Bihar, gave public lectures in the neighbouring Thermal Power Station, the Refinery Township and F. C. I. Township. All the other lecturers also made use of every opportunity to carry the message of Theosophy outside the Lodge premises and circle of members, by speaking in schools, colleges, Rotary Clubs and other places.

During the year the International President, Mr. John B. S. Coats, found time to preside over the Rayalaseema Federation Conference in Madanapalle and the Telugu Conference at Payakaraopet. He also visited Hyderabad, Anakapalle and Chodavaram in the Telugu area and several places in Karnataka.

I presided over the Annual South Indian Conference at Adyar, the Madhya Pradesh-Rajasthan Federation conference at Kota and the Karnataka Federation conference at Bangalore, besides visiting some important centres such as Bombay and Delhi. With the permission of the Indian Section Council, I spent three and a half months on Theosophical work in the U. S. A., South and Central America.

In pursuance of the Expansion Programme in the North-West region, Dr. B. R. Mullik visited the Lodges at Delhi, Dehra Dun and Rohtak and also spoke at Hapur, Ghaziabad, Karnal, Hoshiarpur, Phagwara and Rishikesh. He reports that there is a possibility of starting new Lodges in some of these places. As a result of his visits and the camp held at Kurukshetra, one Lodge has been chartered there.

The Expansion Programme has been carried on with the ever-ready help of Miss Joan Morris. Much correspondence has been carried on with the 134 Lodges and 6 Centres which had less than the required number of members and with others concerned. The help of regional workers is necessary to build up these Lodges and Centres. Monthly letters are being sent to all the new members, and guidelines for study and programmes to new Lodges. There was an increased demand for information leaflets. During the Centenary year it is proposed to publish a revised Handbook of the Indian Section. The manuscript of this and three 32-page booklets on Theosophy

in relation to religion, science and the concept of evolution have been prepared.

Almost all Federations and a number of Lodges have formed Centenary Celebration Committees and our Headquarters has carried on a considerable correspondence to stimulate this work. Federations need to finalize their programmes and secure the help of lecturers well in advance. In several centres, the Centenary celebrations have been inaugurated by men of eminence such as by Ex-Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Sri K. Subba Rao, in Bangalore; the Governor of Tamil Nadu, Sri K. K. Shah, in Madras; Sri Tushar Kanti Ghosh in Calcutta and Chief Justice Sri Gopala Rao Ekbote in Machilipattanam. The Bombay Federation is planning a special gathering in the first part of December, 1975 which will be followed by another one in Delhi, so that overseas members who wish to visit these cities can participate on their way to Adyar. It is not possible to detail all the plans made everywhere. However, the plans include publication of suitable articles and material in newspapers and magazines and arrangements for the broadcasting of a series of radio programmes from October to December, 1975.

Members will be glad to know that the Government of India has decided to issue a postage stamp to commemorate the Centenary. Another happy decision of the Government has been to give railway fare concessions to members attending international Theosophical Conventions.

Publications brought out during the year under report were a revised Hindi translation of Dr. Besant's *The Ancient Wisdom*, the first volume of a Marathi translation of *The Inner Life* by C. W. Leadbeater, two Kannada books, one on *The Synthetic Study of Seven Religions*, and the other on *The Purpose of Life* by Sri S. Krishnamurthy, Gujarati trans-

lations of *Thought Power* and *Life after Death* and two pamphlets in Gujarati, and two booklets in Oriya, one being a translation of *Death and After* and the other a booklet on *What is Theosophy* by Dr. R. C. Rath.

Besides the books and leaflets published in the regional languages, monthly bulletins have also been brought out by several Federations as in previous years. It is my view that almost all the Federations need to think of making Theosophy available to the members and the public in their area by publishing bulletins or magazines in the regional language, rather than adding to the English material available. This does not of course apply to certain city Federations.

The allied organizations have continued to be active. The proceedings of the Seminar conducted by the late Mr. Fritz Kunz have been published with the title *Deductive Exact Science and Metaphysics* and have been reviewed in *The Theosophical Review* (July 1974). Such studies of the perspectives offered by modern science, linking scientific knowledge with metaphysical truths and the data of spiritual intuition are of great importance to students of Theosophy. More support needs to be given by members to the Theosophy-Science Study group which has been steadily carrying on its work with Dr. A. Kannan as its Secretary. Suitable contributions and subscriptions to the journal of the group will be welcome. In this context, mention may be made of a study camp on the subject of Theosophy and Science conducted by Dr. Kannan in Madurai, in continuation of which he also visited other Lodges in the Tamil area.

The Theosophical Order of Service and the Theosophical Islamic Association have also been carrying on their work. Reports have been received from the Bombay and Bangalore groups of the

Order of Service as well as from the Headquarters in Patna. The Bombay branch has sponsored a number of poor children and acted as a channel for the Save the Children Fund. It has also given educational help and medical relief to the needy. The Karnataka branch has so far arranged to supply artificial limbs to 74 people, enabling them to become self-reliant. It has also published a booklet in Kannada called *You are the Architects of Future India* and arranged for its distribution. In Bihar, the Order of Service has collected and distributed several thousand rupees worth of grain and clothes to the victims of the flooded districts of Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Motihari and Saran. A branch has been started in Hyderabad and is making progress. Free homeopathic dispensaries are being run in many places and other work besides what has been mentioned above is being carried on, all of which cannot be described in my brief report.

The Theosophical Islamic Association has been mainly organizing lectures in Adyar. Its work needs to be carried to other centres and areas and an effort must be made throughout India to make Islam understood in the light of Theosophy.

The various activities at Varanasi have gone on as usual, shouldered by the few devoted members resident there. I regret to say that repeated appeals have evoked little response from the members of the Section and there are hardly any ready to share the responsibilities and work at the Section Headquarters.

The year under report has ended with a deficit of Rs. 11,092 in spite of careful use of the funds. Rising costs and the necessity to pay increased wages account for the alteration in our budgetary balance. Unless further donations are forthcoming, the financial position of the Section may not be satisfactory.

Earmarked donations have been received from the generous donors to all of whom I express grateful thanks. Srimati Malati Pandya has donated Rs 21,000 to form the R.S. Pandya Fund in memory of the late Sri Ram Shankar Pandya, for the publication of literature. Sri M. Ram-Mohan Rao has donated Rs 3,300 for the M. V. Nageshwar Rao Memorial Fund to be used for the distribution of Theosophical literature to Lodges and members who need books. Sri Dabhoiwala and Dr. C. V. Agarwal have added to the funds already created by them. Sri S. T. Kaliappan has donated Rs 1,500 for the maintenance of the Sellappampalayam Lodge which I hope will be an incentive to others to collect or donate endowments for the maintenance of Lodge premises. No contributions to the Reserve Fund were made except for a sum of Rs. 1000 from Sri S. S. Verma. A donation of Rs. 10,000 to be used for the publication of translations of Theosophical books has been received from a well-wisher.

In a time of economic uncertainty, though many individuals will be concerned with their own personal problems and position, the responsibility of maintaining the Headquarters and organization has to be shared by all. Donations big and small will be needed to carry on with reasonable effectiveness.

Many years ago, Dr. Besant pointed out in one of her lectures that when work needs to be done there are those who see the need and say, "Someone should do it" and there are others who respond by moving forward to do it. Between these two ways of responding she said there are incarnations of difference. There may be equally a difference between those who succumb to the forces of ignorance and selfishness in a time of stress and strain and those whose nature remains untarnished, like that of gold when tested by fire or friction.

These are days when an extraordinary number of unprecedented and seemingly unsurmountable problems are facing humanity and the conditions, moral and other wise, in the over-populated and economically handicapped countries like India are so acute that the horizon appears totally dark. What shape the trial or test takes for each individual, one cannot say. But to every student of Theosophy, it must be clear that karmic conditions

of an exceptional nature have converged together. It is a time when each has to prove his mettle and maintain intact his intrinsic nature and also lend his hand to the task of holding back the tide of darkness and chaos. The future of the Society may depend on how many of the members are in the advance guard.

RADHA BURNIER,
General Secretary.

AUSTRALIA

As part of the larger parent International Society, the Australian Section has been revived by the election of a new International President. Inevitably each new president sounds his own keynote which brings a fresh impetus to the work, a spirit of renewal and rededication.

Mr. John B. S. Coats was declared elected sixth President of The Theosophical Society on October 10th, 1973 and immediately upon receiving advice of this, a congratulatory telegram was despatched, assuring him of our loyal support. The Inaugural Ceremony took place in the Great Hall at Adyar on 17th November 1973 (Foundation Day), several Australian members being among the large crowd present.

Mr. John Coats has served the Society diligently since he joined it in 1932, filling such offices as General Secretary of the English Section, Chairman of the European Federation, and lecturer, travelling extensively and using his knowledge of several languages to reach diverse peoples. This has made him very aware of the great need to bridge the gap from the past into the future. This was clearly seen in his Inaugural Speech when he stressed that "although the principles of the Wisdom must remain inviolate and unchanging,

the manner in which they are presented and the level at which they are understood must and should vary not only in each generation but probably also in each succeeding generation". This need to change was stressed during his Australian tour and, with it, was seen the necessity to open out so that the Theosophical Society is more inclusive in its attitudes.

In late January we were happy to welcome back Mr. James Perkins, who had acted as President pro tem after the death of Mr. N. Sri Ram. He was accompanied by his wife, Kathrine.

It was a popular choice when Miss Joy Mills was appointed as the new Vice-President of the Society. Since joining in 1940, she has worked tirelessly for it in various capacities including those of National President (General Secretary) of The Theosophical Society in America, lecturer and author. She will visit Australia briefly in October en route to India to take up her new office and to direct the first of a series of Seminar Studies to replace the School of the Wisdom at Adyar.

Headquarters Building.—In keeping with the mood of change, the Blavatsky Lodge and the National Headquarters moved from the city to the new 14-storey office

building at 121 Walker Street, North Sydney, on 20th July, 1974, although the building was not quite completed and the staff had to contend with a number of petty irritations as a consequence. Unfortunately it was not possible for the International President to officially open the building, but he *was* able to perform the Dedication Ceremony on Sunday, 19th May. This simple but moving little ceremony was followed by a social at The Manor during which Mr. Coats gave a very fine address. The Opening Day was held on Saturday, 28th September when a happy gathering of members and friends, including a number of inter and intrastate members, assembled to celebrate the occasion.

Convention.—This year Convention was held for the second time at the delightful seaside resort of Sorrento, Victoria, from 11th to 18th April. Members numbering 127 attended, some coming from as far distant as New Zealand and the Netherlands, while a number of others came down for a day here and there. In view of the change in International President as well as the new forces upthrusting in society as a whole, the theme "Change" was most appropriate. On the opening night tribute was paid to the late David Esplin of the Section Office staff who was remembered with affection. We were most fortunate to have with us the new International President, Mr. John Coats, who set the keynote for Convention not only in his two talks, and his valuable contributions to the discussions following various sessions, but by his open approach, his outgoing personality and his warmth of manner. This more than anything else contributed to the great success of the Convention. Special mention should be made of the excellent talk given by the newly re-appointed National Lecturer, Mr. Will Ross ("At What Level Do I Exist?"); Miss Helen George's beautiful

audio-visual programme "The Cosmic Pulse"; Mrs. Maree Parry's lively participation programme "Unlocking and Communicating Our Potential"; Mr. Brian Parry's "R.I.P." (Release into Perfection) session; the symposium "Ologies and Isms in a Changing World" given by Messrs. J. A. Farquharson, Ron Davies and Phil Harris; the complementary programme "Temples of Japan" and "Introduction to Meditation" given by Messrs. John Fairbrass and Allen Calvert respectively; and the regular convention programmes; two Theosophical Research Sessions, the Round Table group, the Theosophical Order of Service, the two fine "New Age Project" sessions preceding and leading into the group discussions and the "New Ideas in Our Work" which was so vital it enthused members especially those involved in the running of Lodges. The weather held perfectly for the boat trip to Queenscliff, the sea glistened, the sky was blue, the company sparkled.

As invariably is the case at Conventions, it is not only the speakers who make it the outstanding event of the theosophical year, but those who work hard behind the scenes and the spirit animating each one present. Perhaps because John Coats was with us, everyone felt a remarkable sense of freedom and expectancy for the future. The unexpressed hope was that this time we would return and enthuse those workers at home so that they too would feel the compulsion to set in motion a new way of looking at timeless principles.

Guest Speaker.—Mr. John Coats spent a hectic six weeks in Australia, attending Convention, visiting lodges in Brisbane, Canberra, Hobart, Launceston, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney, and giving both public and members' talks in most places. Unfortunately his duties at Adyar meant the tour was considerably curtailed

and, consequently, not all the lodges were visited; two lodges, Newcastle and Toowoomba, overcame this problem by arranging for a large party to travel to Sydney and Brisbane respectively, to hear him speak. In Sydney he gave radio talks as part of the regular Sunday night programme on Station 2GB, and on 19th May performed the Dedication Ceremony for the new North Sydney building. Although his visit was brief, its impact was substantial; he was able to find time to make a number of personal contacts with members, and left the Australian membership revitalised and confident about the future.

National Lecturer—At Convention, Mr. Will Ross was reappointed as National Lecturer and once again has travelled widely throughout the Section. Apart from speaking at Convention and in his home-city, Melbourne, he has visited lodges in Adelaide, Brisbane and Sydney where he gave seminars on Yoga, as well as lecturing to Albury Group and Cairns, Canberra, Hobart, Launceston, Newcastle, Tathagata, Toowoomba and Townsville lodges. In most of these places he gave both public and members' talks; in Launceston he was "on air" for almost an hour during which questions were telephoned in and answered. His 1973 visit to Perth and the projected 1974 one are both outside the period of this report. We are indeed fortunate in having this fluent and capable speaker as our National Lecturer and thank him for the excellent work he is doing.

Other Visits.—There are always individual members who find it possible to visit (and sometimes talk) to other lodges when on vacation or business trips. Miss Marion Caws, a member of the Council, visited and spoke to the members of Perth Lodge on her way to Adyar. In March and May, Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Hodson passed briefly through Australia

en route to and from the Philippines. Although giving no lectures, they were able to contact a number of members.

The General Secretary has visited Albury and Canberra, Perth (briefly en route to Adyar), Newcastle, Brisbane, Cairns, Toowoomba and Townsville. These visits give a more comprehensive picture of the work in Australia and serve a dual purpose—new ideas flow back into the Section Office and it, in turn, may suggest possible ways of improving methods of presenting Theosophy in individual lodges.

General Secretary's Visit to Adyar.—Because it was thought desirable that the General Secretary, who is a member of the General Council by virtue of her office, should attend the first meetings of that Council over which the new President would preside, she had the inestimable privilege of visiting Adyar for the International Convention in December, 1973. The time spent there was most worthwhile and she came away with a much clearer picture of the international work, especially the administration. The beautiful Adyar Estate of 247 acres houses the Adyar Library and Research Centre, the Vasanta Press and the Theosophical Publishing House. It is the administrative head and the heart of theosophical work and ideas both beam in and radiate out to Lodges throughout the theosophical world. At Convention one has the opportunity of mingling with members from many countries, of exchanging ideas with them and of discussing policy at the General Council Meetings. It is at these that methods for improving the work are brought forward and changes formulated. These visits are invaluable for the insights they give and it is to be hoped that the time will come when the Australian Section will be sufficiently affluent to send the General Secretary each year as the American Section does.

En route to India, the General Secretary called at Perth and attended the Christmas festivities of the Lodge as well as meeting the Lodge Executive. She also embraced the opportunity to visit and speak to lodges in Jakarta, Penang, Kuala Lumpur, Colombo and Singapore. These personal contacts do more than anything else to strengthen the link between members of our international family and create goodwill.

Lodges.—We all benefit from the stimulus of new faces and new ideas. Especially is this true of the smaller lodges and whenever possible members of both the Section Office and larger lodges endeavour to visit them. Twice a group from Headquarters has visited Canberra Lodge; Blavatsky sends a speaker once a month to Newcastle; Gosnells has had ten speakers from Perth this year; there is an interchange between Toowoomba and Brisbane Lodges, and individual members often visit when business or pleasure takes them to cities where there are Lodges. There are 15 lodges on the roll; since my last report Peace and Isis have been dissolved, the majority of members in both cases transferring to other lodges or to unattached membership. Prior to disbanding, Isis Lodge made generous donations to certain bodies including \$ 500.00 to the Olcott Schools, \$ 500.00 to the Helen Zahara Memorial Appeal and to Blavatsky Lodge an amount sufficient to purchase an upright piano for the auditorium in the North Sydney building. These gifts have been very greatly appreciated although we are saddened to see the Lodge disband. All lodges are dependent on a handful of loyal members who are capable of assuming responsibility; there are few enough in the larger lodges and, in the smaller ones, often only one or two. When these are no longer active, the situation becomes critical. This poses

several pertinent questions: How can we help the smaller lodges? Can we send them books for a library, speakers once a month? What are we doing in all lodges to train people to assume responsibility? There are frequently people in a lodge who only need encouragement to become competent lodge officers but they need wholehearted support until they find their feet. Have we speaker training classes where members can learn such elementary skills as chairing a meeting, learning to throw their voices, how to conduct a business meeting? It might even be useful to pay an expert to give a short course each year or arrange for members to attend an outside class as a group. Adelaide Lodge has purchased a new movie projector this year and several busy members attended an evening technical class to learn how to use it to advantage. If Theosophy is worth presenting, then surely it is worth presenting well. Are we encouraging our younger members, making them feel a vital and integral part of the lodge or are we repelling them by making them feel they have no useful contribution to make?

In the previous year, Mr. James Perkins gave a series of successful seminars and this year Mr. Will Ross has conducted an equally popular series on Yoga. Lodges which have conducted their own seminars like the Adelaide Lodge October holiday weekend ones or Tathagata's poolside one last December, have found them most stimulating. In this field there seem to be endless possibilities. In particular I feel we could occasionally mount seminars (weekend ones preferably) where speakers from the Society and other organizations are invited to participate, each giving his particular approach to a given topic. Not only would this give a more comprehensive understanding of the subject but by inviting other speakers

the Theosophical Society would be seen to be an open organization. When so many bodies seeking Truth are willing to share their platform, I find it alarming that we are sometimes dismissed as "that closed Society".

There are a number of other alternatives to lectures including participation and discussion groups, audio-visual programmes, etc., and it may be worthwhile to explore the possibilities and seek expert advice how to get the most out of them. To give a personal illustration: when I was doing a diploma in education course, the lecturers urged students to experiment with various encounter-type groups but never gave a practical demonstration. Although well informed theoretically we were incapable of conducting such groups ourselves. There are excellent alternative methods of presenting Theosophy but in some cases, unless these are presented skilfully, they are not only useless but resistance is built up to them.

It is encouraging to see some lodges willing to try new ideas as well as making the atmosphere of meetings more relaxed and home-like, and some of the smaller lodges are thriving. Tathagata is increasing its membership and concentrating on study, discussion and Raja Yoga groups, with one public meeting a month; Canberra has a flexible and lively programme in line with current thought; Newcastle has structured the programme to enable all members to participate in a more personal way; Cairns has taken a new lease of life following a windfall in the form of a small legacy as reported last year. As this lodge is not incorporated, the property has been left to The Australian Section Theosophical Trust and will be administered on its behalf. As both the property and the industrial area where it is situated are unsuited to lodge activity, it is planned to sell the

property, the money being invested in the hope that a more desirable one will be bought for the Lodge in the near future. In the meantime and with this impetus, the Lodge is building up a very pleasant group of members and friends meeting regularly in the Oddfellows Hall. Toowoomba Lodge, which has been meeting in the Canberra Hotel since selling its old property, is contemplating purchasing a more suitable one; Blavatsky Lodge has moved into attractive new quarters at North Sydney, while Melbourne (still in temporary premises) hopes to move into the building it is renovating in Russell Street, early in the new year. It is understood that its lodge premises are something "special". Launceston is now able to open its library for 3 hours each Wednesday thanks to the generosity and devotion of one of its members. Townsville Lodge has several active members who are handicapped because they cannot meet the high cost of renting premises and are finding it difficult to attract new members through lectures when the University offers excellent ones on a variety of topics regularly.

The Albury and St. George groups meet regularly and have continued the practice of listening to tapes, reading and discussing study books, and participation in group activity. Unfortunately the Darwin group has been unable to continue because of members leaving for overseas or southern States. The population is a floating one and the few busy remaining members are willing to help re-form a group once they can find someone with the time to organize it. There is a rumour that another group may be starting outside Perth and occasionally we have enquiries from country members regarding ways of starting a group in their area. Study groups or centres are a feature of the American Section,

where 52 existed this current year, and might be tried with advantage in Australia, especially in the larger country towns. They have the advantage of being loosely structured, need little organization, are usually a homogeneous group who develop a wonderful camaraderie and often do a lot of solid study.

In January, Brisbane suffered severely from flooding and several members had their homes submerged. Donations from members and lodges brought a response of \$989.00, while individual Brisbane Lodge members gave freely of their services in helping people clean up their homes.

Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Hobart, Melbourne, Perth and Tathagata all publish regularly a small magazine or newsletter. These are informative and interesting and serve to keep lodges throughout Australia in touch with each other. More detailed information concerning the lodges of the Australian Section will be contained in the February 1975 issue of *Theosophy in Australia*.

Services to Lodges.—The third Quest film "The Universal Flame" has been ordered (and has since arrived) and is intended for release in 1975, the Centenary Year. It has been produced under a grant from the Kern Foundation by The Theosophical Society in America and made by Hartley Productions. This 16 mm colour and sound film, running 29 minutes, tries to show that "Theosophy is a blending of the East and West and that the worlds of both have always been united at heart, only man has divided them and in so doing himself. But the ancient knowledge of the divine wisdom, kept secret for so long, is now spreading, and will continue to spread, thanks to the labours of dedicated and patient students of the wisdom . . . until each individual everywhere has at last joined the fragments of his being into a larger

self". This and the two previous films "Reincarnation" and "How Many Lifetimes" are available from the Section Office together with special programmes, study courses, tapes and cassettes. This year 44 tapes were borrowed against 99 last year. This drop is attributable to the period of the move when they were unavailable and to the long-felt need to add to and improve the tape library. In September a most generous gift of \$1000.06 from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous, has enabled us to purchase a new reel-to-reel recorder to replace a very troublesome one, and a cassette recorder, and, as soon as time permits, we hope to add new tapes to the library.

The quarterly *Adyar Newsletter* keeps lodges in touch with the International Headquarters; this is sent regularly to lodges by courtesy of The Theosophical Society in Australia. Members are kept informed of events at home and abroad through the General Secretary's monthly "Contact" letters sent to all lodge presidents and the secretaries of the major lodges. Similar "Contact" letters to unattached members go out approximately each three months and have proved popular, a number of appreciative letters having been received.

Headquarters Staff.—The Headquarters Office functions efficiently largely because the staff work together harmoniously as a team. It comprises: Mrs. Gladys MacCartie (Assistant General Secretary), Miss Judith Fyfe, Mrs. Gerda Vanags (to replace Miss Marion Caws who left soon after Easter, and to assist the Secretary of The Theosophical Foundation Pty. Ltd.), Mr. Albert Piper (Secretary of The Theosophical Foundation Pty. Ltd.), and Miss Audrey Godding, Manager of the Quest Book Agency. To these as well as to Mr. Norman Hankin, Chairman of The Theosophical

Foundation Pty. Ltd., and Dr. Hugh Murdoch, the National Treasurer, we owe heartfelt thanks. Included in these, are those occasional voluntary helpers who assist so ably in times of pressure such as wrapping the magazine and getting it out on time.

Membership.—Membership now stands at 1833, a decrease of 94 over last year. There have been 265 incoming members (227 new members, 32 readmissions and 6 transfers from other Sections). Against this there have been 359 outgoing ones (72 resignations, 248 lapsings, 30 deaths and 9 transfers to other Sections).

Through death we have lost several outstanding workers including Mesdames Marjorie Alderman, Phyllis Campbell, Mable Francis, M. Orlo-Smith, Connie Wundersitz, and Messrs. David Esplin, Fred Houstone and John Bennett.

Three members, Messrs. Elliston Campbell, Fred Hynes and Will Ross, have completed 60 years membership.

Without excusing it, the downward trend of membership is worldwide and may be one of those cyclic patterns of rise and fall in membership. In some ways, too, the current membership figures are more realistic as some lodges have finally lapsed members they have been carrying for years. Nor can progress be measured by numbers alone. Nevertheless it behoves us to take a good hard look at ourselves, probe for possible causes and then do something about it.

A monthly average of 358 letters has been sent to new members; this service is provided for the first eighteen months of membership and letters of appreciation are frequent, just as many express regret when the last letter reaches them. Our sincere thanks go to Mr. W. P. McKenzie for beautifully inscribing each new diploma. *Theosophy in Australia* has been published every alternate month and articles have been contributed by Australian members

or are transcripts of talks given by visiting lecturers or the National Lecturer. Thanks go to the entire Headquarters Staff for their composite effort in proof-reading and getting the magazine out on time as well as to Miss Marion Caws whose help with the editing was invaluable for the first four issues of this financial year.

It is disappointing that while material and ideas are available, money to improve and enlarge the magazine is not.

Advertising and Publicity.—Regular advertisements in *The Australian*, *The Bulletin*, and *The Australian Journal of Advanced Education*, and one in *Safety First on the Roads* have resulted in 115 mail enquiries for information; 50 enquirers have subsequently subscribed to the 12-part correspondence course based on Felix and Eunice Layton's book *Theosophy, Key to Understanding* as well as the booklet *At the Feet of the Master*.

Mr. Will Ross has had some valuable publicity from radio and press interviews; in Launceston he was "on air" for almost an hour for a talk-in session and in Cairns recorded three broadcasts, one of which was non-theosophical.

Indirect publicity has also accrued from publicity connected with leasing the building. This has included the Art and Craft Exhibition, the Children's Painting Competition, the showing of films in the auditorium and the sale of UNICEF greeting cards in the front shop. These have attracted much favourable comment from the public and elicited enquiries concerning Theosophy.

Broadcasting.—The regular 15-minute theosophical broadcasts have continued on Station 2GB each Sunday evening and bring requests for scripts and information concerning Theosophy. We are grateful to those who read the talks, and to our Guest Speakers, especially John Coats and Will Ross.

Bookshops.—There is a widely expressed opinion throughout the Section that bookshops, not public platforms, are our main link with the public, the most effective way of getting our ideas across, and there should be more of them. They are an integral part of the major lodges in Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney, and a steady source of income to them. In Sydney, Blavatsky Lodge is opening its second bookshop in the new North Sydney building, the first being in the city centre. All are of a high standard, provide an outlet for books not easily obtainable elsewhere and a personalised service non-existent in major bookshops. Smaller lodges would like to operate bookshops also if the money were available; instead they compromise by selling books of theosophical interest at their meetings and find there is a steady demand for them. Many enquiries regarding Theosophy as well as some of our members come via the bookshops.

Quest Book Agency.—Thanks to the efficient management of Miss Audrey Godding, there was a minimum disruption to customer service following the move to North Sydney and the subsequent period of reorganization. Sales have continued to rise slowly but steadily. In addition to books from T.P.H. London, the Agency plans to stock most of the books published by T.P.H. Wheaton apart from those few hard-back covers already held from them. New titles, plus two original manuscripts, are to be available from Quest Books in 1975 and the new bright 3-colour covers now being used are attracting interest and sales. We think they are a vast improvement. Watkins (previously Robinson and Watkins) have issued and are issuing reprints of previous best sellers plus four new titles; these are expensive but in steady demand by deeper students. Advertisements are placed regularly in *The Sydney*

Morning Herald, The Post, Review, Cosmos, and English in New Zealand. These bring requests for catalogues resulting in sales especially from country areas. Books were sold to 123 trade customers throughout Australia and New Zealand as well as to theosophical lodges and groups. A total of 8102 books were sold, comprising 5036 Quest books, 1747 Watkins books and 1319 from T.P.H. London.

Volunteers are badly needed in capital cities and country towns to approach bookshops in their area with a view to stocking Quest Books. Anyone willing to act as a local agent should contact Miss Godding.

The Theosophical Order of Service.—The highlight of the year for The Theosophical Order of Service has been the visit of its World President, Mr. John Coats, who has always realized the importance of its role as an opportunity for Theosophists and their friends to carry the ideals of the Society out into the world in many practical fields including social service, work for the United Nations and its agencies, work in many areas affecting the human environment, and work for all other forms of life, including animals, who are so dependent on human attitudes.

In Australia, the Theosophical Order of Service groups in all states carry on their work quietly and autonomously, according to whatever needs they can fulfil; other work is done for overseas projects—particularly relating to refugees and education. The Order of Service has continued to receive 1% of the AUSTCARE funds (Australian Care for Refugees), and this has gone to the Kotagiri special fund for Tibetan refugees, providing them with warm clothing, and to the Free School and Orphanage in Viet-Nam, as previously. Because of the present situation in Bangladesh and the need for emergency operations, the Order

of Service is also assisting a Buddhist orphanage which is greatly in need of immediate help.

Our deepest thanks go to all who work unobtrusively and selflessly in the service of suffering humanity, not least to the National Director, Mrs. Lorraine Moseley.

International.—The Society is an international body and while the domestic scene occupies much of our time and energy, we have endeavoured to see ourselves at all times against this international backdrop and to realise that in a shrinking and close-linked world, what affects one affects all. Accordingly we have kept in constant touch by correspondence with the International Headquarters in India and with Sections and members all over the world.

The Adyar-Australia Fund stood at \$21,521.28 on the 30th September, 1974 and its income during the year amounted to \$ 1406.27 which is held in safe-keeping for the upkeep of the Adyar Estate. Collections and donations for Adyar Day, the Olcott Schools and the Rice Bowl Appeal have been transmitted to Adyar.

Thanks to generous donations from lodges and members (especially at Convention where one painting was raffled and another auctioned) the Helen Zahara Memorial Appeal stands at \$ 2683.31 as at 30th September. Money from this Appeal is to be used for two projects particularly dear to Helen Zahara, namely the Non-English Publications Loan Fund and the Helen Zahara Commemorative Indo-Pacific Fund. The proportions for each has not yet been decided upon. The former Fund makes possible the translation of theosophical books from English into other languages. Not all members may realise how handicapped fellow-members in some countries are by the severe lack of these books in their native tongue. With the Centenary approaching, the Fund in the United

States of America is speeding up its drive for money to make the Centenary books available in languages other than English and the Australian Section will be contributing to this. The latter Fund is used to assist lodges in the Indo-Pacific region in a variety of ways from sending books for libraries to defraying part of the accommodation cost at Australian Conventions for visitors from the region. This year books have been sent to the Tokyo Lodge President who is translating books into Japanese for publication, to Sri Lanka where the present difficult economy makes it impossible to import books, and to Singapore.

Following a suggestion from the International President, we are presently exploring the possibility of forming an Indo-Pacific Federation. Already a European and an Inter-American Federation exist and all countries approached like the idea. One of the prime benefits from such a Federation would be that congresses could be held regularly, each country hosting it in turn. Those countries which feel isolated from the main stream of theosophical work and whose members have never attended a convention, would benefit greatly from the impetus of such a congress held in their country.

Administration.—During Convention at Sorrento, four 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 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 given to me personally.

Finance.—At Convention in April, Dr. H. S. Murdoch was again elected as National Treasurer and we are most grateful to him for the time and effort he gives to this task. In this work he has been ably assisted by Mrs. Gerda Vanags.

The Theosophical Foundation Pty. Ltd.—Once again Mr. Norman Hankin has filled the office of Chairman and, until the time of his death on 15-11-73, Mr. David Esplin that of Secretary. His passing left a considerable gap in our work. As Secretary of the Foundation, Assistant Treasurer and valued co-worker, he carried a very heavy work load which he performed meticulously and with great integrity, reliability and humour. We are indeed fortunate that Mr. Albert Piper, an experienced businessman, has been able to replace him in office. The Directors of the Company are all members of the Society.

As noted elsewhere in this report, the building in North Sydney which is held in trust for the Society and Blavatsky Lodge, is virtually completed and was occupied by these two bodies on 20th July last.

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

Centenary Celebrations.—The Australian Section has resolved to hold its Centenary Celebrations from 10th-17th January, 1976 in the Kosciuszko National Park at Thredbo in the Snowy Mountains of N.S.W. The reason for the change from Easter is to enable members on a round-

the-world ticket who may be returning from Adyar to their homeland and who may be passing through Australia en route, to attend. It has been most difficult to find a suitable venue during the January peak holiday period and Thredbo was almost our last resort. As a consequence the cost will be higher than usual which we feel is justifiable for a once-in-a-lifetime experience. To enable members to start saving, a Savings Scheme has been introduced to which some members are contributing.

Conclusion.—In appraising the work of the past twelve months, and bearing in mind that we are entering our hundredth year of theosophical endeavour, it is encouraging to find a mood of reappraisal, of questioning, of stocktaking. There is a growing awareness, as was evidenced at Convention, of the new forces at work in society, the breaking down of old forms and the upthrust of new energies. Present values and life styles are being seriously questioned and alternate ones tried with varying success.

In this mood of reappraisal it is good to examine what has gone before, where we have succeeded and where we have failed, and be alert for possible trends. But at this stage it is impossible to see what the future holds, to say with any confidence that *this* is what the Society will do in its second century. What we can and should do, is resolve to hold ourselves flexible and sensitive to the needs of the times, willing to discard what is no longer useful. If we can do this, then we need have no fear for the future.

ELAINE MURDOCH
General Secretary.

SWEDEN

The theosophical life in Stockholm, the capital, has been characterized by increased activities. The new premises are kept open for the public four days of the week, there are meetings and study circles about five days a week, the book-selling and the lending from the library have increased. The library has been totally renovated and rearranged to make it more accessible, and it is more used now, especially by the public, than formerly.

Study circles are a new issue in the Section in the sense that we have started cooperation with a study organization recognized for governmental grants, and this has made it possible for the Theosophical Society and its lodges (so far the lodges of Stockholm, Malmö and Örebro) to get economic support from the State to a certain extent.

Two such study circles have dealt with topics concerning the basic understanding of man in relation to modern society and its values, and three circles have dealt with topics in the field of the meaning of life and yoga and meditation. One of the latter circles was led by young people and participants were under the age of 25. Some of the young members issued a cyclostyled periodical during the spring.

The topics of the study circles are very much the outcome of what is felt to be the task of theosophists in the present world: to study the situation as to rich and poor people, the values which govern western life, the technological mentality in the West (what can be done technologically must be done irrespective of to what extent resources are consumed), the uneven distribution of food and other necessities, etc. But there is also the other side to be studied: to what extent are we, in our minds, part and parcel of that same mentality, how do we discover

it in ourselves, how do we find a pro-founder basis from which we can look at the world as *one*, and from which we can better understand what man is, what is the goal and meaning of his life? So we have tried to take a few steps towards making these two sides go hand in hand in the direction of a universal feeling and understanding. It has been stressed that the outcome is in the individual life as well as in the supporting of any movement working to promote a universal outlook and action based on it.

We had the great pleasure of receiving our new International President, Mr. John Coats, in Stockholm and Gothenburg in the beginning of September. He gave a public lecture in each place, and in the capital we had a whole day with him discussing the present and the future work of The Theosophical Society. We appreciated his visit very much.

During the second week of July the Swedish Section arranged a summer school at Stensund on the coast of the Baltic south of Stockholm, the key-note for the school being "To Lie—in Cosmos and on Earth". The Icelandic General Secretary, Mr. Sigvaldi Hjálmarsson was our guest speaker and we deeply appreciated his many contributions during the week. About fifty persons, members and sympathizers participated.

Lecture tours during the year have included four Swedish theosophical speakers, who have lectured on 15 different occasions, in some cases in Denmark and Finland.

Theosophy was represented in a radio programme, which also included some other similar movements, in the early spring.

During the year two pamphlets have been printed, consisting of short articles by N. Sri Ram, *Life and Death* and *Is*

Theosophy Hinduism? Further, one information sheet, called "Theosophy" has been issued.

The cooperation between the Danish, Norwegian and Swedish Sections in the joint magazine *Teosofi i Norden* will come to an end at the close of 1974 as the Danes have wanted to issue a magazine of their own. The Norwegian and the Swedish Sections will continue the magazine *Teosofi i Norden*, issuing it four times a year (instead of six times up to now). The Swedish Section will supplement the magazine by issuing a paper of sectional and international news, etc., to members

four times a year. *Teosofi i Norden* is planned to be edited a bit more in the vein of taking up current issues of importance in the world and applying theosophical principles to them.

The Danish, Norwegian and Swedish Sections are cooperating in the issuing of a Scandinavian edition of the jubilee work *The Universal Flame*.

The membership of the Swedish Section has had a net decrease of 5 members and now stands at 343.

CURT BERG,
General Secretary.

NEW ZEALAND

Highlights of 1973-74.—Overseas visitors included International President, John Coats, whose ten day visit to Auckland and Rotorua was all too short. However he inspired us to re-assess and to enthusiastically undertake the work in preparation for the Society's next 100 years. He brought fresh news from Adyar and other countries, and his photogenic appearance and easy, honest style appealed to his audiences, including those on television. His voice was lifted from the television recordings and played over most radio stations in New Zealand.

Lady Dowding, wife of the late Air Chief Marshall Dowding, and her son David, spoke for our Lodges on two occasions in Auckland and in Rotorua. Television and radio gave them both extensive coverage. Lady Dowding's talk "What I Believe and Why" was most impressive. Her mother and late husband, Lord Dowding, were members of our Society, and Lady Dowding who joined at 17 years of age, was Lecture Secretary for 14 years at Tunbridge Wells Lodge in England.

Miss Joy Mills, our International Vice-President, spent 14 days here on her way to Adyar via Australia. She thrilled and inspired audiences of members and public on every occasion and certainly emphasized to us the importance of our world-wide Society, particularly today. She reminded us that the Theosophical Society was Adept founded. We are established in some 60 countries and are poised to lead the "occult" search and expansion of today into the right channels. The next 100 years will mark the beginning of a wonderful new cycle in the history of the Theosophical Society. We who have even only glimpsed the wonders and transforming power of the Ageless Wisdom are obligated to proclaim it widely and wisely to fill that vacuum of yearning in the hearts and minds of mankind today. We are indeed a blessed Society to have such capable world leaders and ones truly filled with the original fire of our early Founders.

Miss Mills spoke at most of the larger centres in North and South Islands and was taken to heart by every audience.

We greatly benefitted from her visit and her radio and television appearances. She also introduced at her public lectures the U.S.A. Triple Award winning film, "Reincarnation".

Members' work most effective.—Executives and members are taking advantage of the increased respect in which the Society is being held in New Zealand and are using radio and the news media more fully. We were invited by the N.Z.B.C. to join in the David Frost Show on "God". Mrs. D. Conacher represented us admirably in the short time available. Your General Secretary was interviewed on Gisborne Radio. Some local newspapers are giving reports of visiting lecturers, especially Wanganui. Members have also distributed to the public at lectures leaflets inviting subscriptions to *Theosophy in New Zealand* and for requesting notification of coming lectures, etc. A splendid and important work.

Lodges.—Generally speaking, the Lodges have operated successfully this year, attracting young sincere students, especially in the University cities.

The willing and dedicated service of our faithful officers and members is expanding the work, helping an ever increasing number of searchers for truth and providing the Elder Brethren with much needed channels for the higher forces.

Seminars—Helped by Geoffrey Hodson and other capable leaders, the H P. B. Lodge has conducted highly successful seminars and public lectures this year. Attendance at these gatherings would be at an all time high for recent years in the Lodge.

Travelling Lecturers.—We are grateful to our National Lecturer, Walter Tanner, for his visits to Lodges and his inspiring talks, also to Dudley Gower, Daphne Darroch, Jack Patterson, Cecilia Pollard, Mrs. D. Conacher and others who have visited and addressed Lodges.

The General Secretary in visiting Lodges dealt particularly with "Self-Regeneration and Healing Through Yoga and Meditation", on other occasions with the "Occult Explosion" and our Society's opportunity today. Visits to Australia and to its new Headquarters in North Sydney were described to members.

Advertising—This covered most daily newspapers, Sunday and weekly journals in both Islands, and the *Reader's Digest*. Design work was done by Lionel Taylor, and our presentation was modern and topical. This resulted in over 400 new subscribers this year to *Theosophy in New Zealand*. 5000 copies of *Questions and Answers* were printed and widely distributed free of charge, as also reprints of the *I Believe* National Network Broadcast and Kern Foundation leaflets.

Talking Books.—In the voice of Geoffrey Hodson, these are now selling well in many overseas countries as well as in New Zealand. Perfectly recorded on cassette tapes by Frank Wilson, they are appealing to members everywhere. Currently available are:

The Supreme Splendour, 4 cassettes, \$11.00 posted; *A Yoga of Light*, 1 cassette \$2.50 posted; *The Pathway to Perfection*, 3 cassettes \$8.50 posted.

All in the voice of the author, Geoffrey Hodson, with appropriate introductions, and in *A Yoga of Light* an actual meditation for both group and single use.

The colour film "Meditations on Nature" produced by Frank and Elsie Wilson, selling for \$90.00 posted, has sold in America and Africa.

Theosophy in New Zealand.—This excellent magazine has now reached an annual circulation of over 12,000 copies, and continues to bring new subscribers, many of whom subsequently join the Society. The magazine goes to over 50 countries. We are grateful to Editor Dudley Gower, M.A.

Section Library continues to serve country members, and is kept up-to-date by Librarian Mrs. Joan Patterson. Over 200 books had been borrowed.

Tape Library is functioning well. Catalogues of tapes are available.

The Theosophical Cassette Centre is expanding its influence and coverage through New Zealand and overseas. Frank Wilson of 13 Balmain Road, Birkenhead, Auckland 10, is handling the "Talking Book Cassettes" and cassette tapes, of which he has produced a wide variety, including talks by Geoffrey Hodson, John Coats, Lady Dowding and Joy Mills. Our special thanks to Frank, Elsie and son Athol for hours of efficient service each week in this essential work.

Youth's Part.—The openmindedness of youth today, their deep yearning for something fine and noble and their scientific training in many cases, are requiring our speakers to "be on their mettle" as never before. They enjoy the Society because of its search for truth and lack of dogma.

T.O.S. Activities can move forward at Orewa again as we have at last obtained Council approval to partition off the old historical building on the site which allows us to plan expansion without this zoning hindrance. Home units for members are now under consideration again, and extensive clearing of the land has been effected.

Flats for aged workers have come more closely under the control of the T.S. Section Executive through changes in the Iona Flats Constitution. Our grateful thanks go to too many people to mention all, but these include Bill and Eileen Finch, Leslie and Mavis Hardy, Mervyn Dibble, Frank and Elsie Wilson and Phyllis Gardner, and of course the original prime mover Adrian Orr.

Animal Welfare Work has continued in Dunedin and been greatly expanded in

Auckland by the visit of Lady Dowding and David Whiting and the work of the "Beauty Without Cruelty" movement.

Finances.—The spontaneous donations sent in even by non-members who have become subscribers to *Theosophy in New Zealand* and by members themselves, has shown a spirit of self-sacrifice in a Cause which it is realized has not only personal long term benefits, but national and universal effects of a fundamental nature. Until people generally live as members of the one great human family on this planet, permanent peace, health and happiness are impossible.

The generous and regular contributors to our Voluntary Fund have sent in \$1053 as against a budget of \$800, thus enabling further expansion of the Work. Our grateful thanks.

Our capital funds are wisely invested and properties well administered by the Properties Trust Board.

Section Treasurer.—Our Section Treasurer, Neill Edgar, A.C.A., continues to keep a tight rein on all expenditure to see that every gift received from members is expended in the most effective way. He also advises on advertising, on constitutional matters on the Executive and Trust Board and is a general tower of strength. Neill is impersonal, capable and dedicated in the work.

Legacies:

Bishop Harry Banks	\$ 1090.03
Mrs. I. M. Lett (part)	\$ 2800.00
Mr. Eric Brown	\$ 956.74

Donations:

Adyar Day Fund	\$ 348.88
Non-English Publications	\$ 38.50
Olcott Harijan Free Schools	\$ 150.00

Century Fund:

Balance at 31.10.73	\$ 4238.51
Donations	310.00

\$ 4548.51

Interest only sent to Adyar

Membership:

Admissions	128	Resignations	20
Re-admissions	6	Deaths	18
transfers in	2	Lapsed	50
		Transfers out	0
	<hr/> 136		<hr/> 88

Increase for the year 48

Total Membership 1212

Called to Higher Service.—Eighteen members passed away during the year. Ian Scollay, B.E., B.Sc., Principal of the Dunedin Technical Institute, passed away on 9th June 1974. He was a great help to our Section and delivered the John Ross Thomson Lecture fairly recently. Our sincere sympathy to Ian's family.

The report would not be complete without some reference to Harry Banks, who had served the Society for many years and would be missed not only in New Zealand but throughout the world. He was Chief Knight for the Round Table and Chief Link in the Golden Chain and besides this work with the young people he had been National Lecturer for New Zealand for many years. His lecture tours had taken him to many countries overseas.

The Mason Foundation continues to provide very worthwhile support to our publicity and advertising campaigns—this year \$718.94. Similar in general principle to the Kern Foundation of America, this Fund is for extensions to the Society's important work without becoming tied up in building projects, salaries or overheads. Contributions and legacies mentioning the Fund, which is administered by the N. Z. Insurance Company's Trust Department, would be deeply appreciated and help us in time to equal the Kern Fund on a per capita basis. Our gratitude to the Hon. H.G.R. Mason, Q.C., the Founder.

Gratitude.—Adyar, U.S.A., England and Australia H.Q.'s in particular have helped our Section in many ways during the year, and a truly co-operative and brotherly relationship has been maintained.

Our own Section and Lodge Officers and personnel and many unseen workers have again demonstrated their selfless dedication towards the N. Z. Section in helping "to popularize a knowledge of Theosophy" as desired by the Inner Founders. Our expansion of Their work is dependant upon the efficiency and impersonality of each individual member, and my thanks go out to each one personally for their cheerful co-operation at all times and in all places.

Assistant General Secretary.—Space does not permit naming the many lodges, officers and members who have made visits, lectures and gatherings so successful and who have generously provided accommodation and loving care. However, especial mention must be made of our Assistant General Secretary, Cecilia Pollard, for her willing, capable help and support on all occasions. The increased circulation of the magazine, *Theosophy in New Zealand*, the growing membership, more advertising, extra overseas visitors and the expanding public interest in Theosophy all add to her work and to that of the many helpers who assist her at Section H.Q. Many thanks.

1975 Onwards.—1975 will see our Lodges supplied with extra aids to publicity with general appeal. Astronaut Edgar Mitchell's inspiring film "The Ultimate Mystery" will be available for Lodges. Dr. Mitchell, a scientist, is in regular touch with our Section and is supplying us with details of all experiments in phenomena at universities, research centres, etc. We have arranged for this film to appear on N.Z.B.C. colour television in 1975.

Mrs. Elda Hartley of Hartley Film Productions has given permission for us to offer for sale all their films dealing with our aims and objects. The film "The Universal Flame" produced by them for our Centennial Celebrations will be available for Lodges in 1975. Therein is

depicted the world influence of the Society during the last 100 years and something of what we can achieve during the next 100 years.

BRIAN DUNNINGHAM,
General Secretary.

THE NETHERLANDS

Mrs. Nel van der Schoot, who was General Secretary for 8 years, did not wish to stand again for re-election. Mr. H. M. Brandt was elected as the new General Secretary. As this election took place on 25th May 1974, this report has been prepared mainly by Mrs. Nel van der Schoot.

Our membership is still just a little more than 1,000—to be exact, 1,034 (last year 1,066). Amongst the 27 members who passed away this year is Mr. Hans Poortman who was a very active member of our board and the chief editor of our monthly (now bi-monthly) journal *Theosophia*. Other well-known members of the Dutch Section who passed away were Mr. Joris Brandt (who died at Madras at the age of 38), Mrs. Jet Bastert (over 100 years old) and Dr. Eric van Win.

An outstanding event this year was a short visit of the Dalai Lama to the Netherlands as part of his European tour, in October 1973. The organization of his visit to our country was in the hands of the Buddhist Association, assisted by the Theosophical Society and the Sufi Movement. His Holiness stayed for three days in St. Michael's House in the International Theosophical Centre at Huizen. He gave a public lecture at Amsterdam, at which many Tibetans living in the Netherlands were present and took the opportunity to pay their respects to him.

During his stay he paid visits to Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, and to the leaders of various religious groups to discuss social and religious problems.

The Dutch Summer School was held at Huizen this year. The subject was "Health of Body and Soul", with lectures by several of our members, and also by guests from other societies (a psychologist, an Anthroposophist, and a Sufi). Unfortunately the attendance was not as good as the year before, probably due to the early date (middle of June).

Our library enjoys increasing interest from the universities. A noticeable fact is that there are more readers from outside the T. S., than from among our own members.

Our Publishing House rejoiced in an increase of sales, thanks to the efforts of our new manager Miss Co Post. English books were much in demand, and consequently we stocked more books from the T.P.H., Adyar, London and Wheaton. Our Publishing House has been registered as such in the Netherlands, and we hope to work in close cooperation with the T.P.H. The only new book we published during this year was a translation of *The Divine Plan* by Bar-borka, which had to be printed in two volumes, since the translation from English into Dutch requires 25% more pages than the original.

The interest in Theosophy, and especially in occultism, mysticism, meditation and yoga, is very great in the Netherlands; the main problem for our Society is however that most lodges and members seem to miss the capacity to inspire those who come to us, to join our ranks and

work for the great cause. So our first task will be to establish a thorough training of our members, and to make our Society more attractive for those who really belong there.

H. M. BRANDT,
General Secretary.

FRANCE

The French Section of our Society has continued its work steadily. As usual, its principal activities have taken place at our Headquarters, in Paris, where lectures and courses have been attended by large audiences.

During our National Convention, which occurred on the 20th and 21st of April, I have been re-elected General Secretary for three years.

The task of organizing the Latin Countries Summer School this year was incumbent on the French Section. This School was held from 27th August to 3rd September 1974 at Vittel (France) and was a great success. A great number of members mainly belonging to our Section, attended it. We were favoured with the presence of our world President, Mr. John Coats, his wife, Mrs. Betsan Coats, Mrs. Madeleine Leslie-Smith, Chairman of the Theosophical Society in Europe and, for a few days, Miss Joy Mills, world Vice-President of our Society.

The French Young Theosophists have demonstrated a great dynamism, chiefly in Paris, and participated in considerable numbers in gatherings of young members of our Society at Sanary (France), Melun (France) and Evolène (Switzerland).

The cost of paper and print having grown exceedingly, the *Editions Adyar* has been compelled to slow down its publications. Only five books have been published by our Publishing House during the year ending on 30th September 1974. They are French translations of *The Science of Yoga* by I. K. Taimni, *Many Mansions* by Gina Cerminara, *The Secret Doctrine*, 4th volume, by H. P. Blavatsky, *Isis Unveiled*, 3rd volume, by H. P. Blavatsky and a new edition in one volume of two works of a French author, Georges Barbarin, entitled *Le Secret de la Grande Pyramide* and *L'Enigme du Grand Sphinx*.

The Belgian, Swiss and French Sections continued to publish jointly the magazine *Le Lotus Bleu* which is issued ten times a year.

Two new Lodges have been founded and, consequently, the number of our Lodges has risen from 40 to 42. The number of our members has continued to rise this year. The membership of our Section has reached 1312 on the 30th September 1974, an increase of 91 members.

SALOMON LANCRI,
General Secretary.

ITALY

The Theosophical Society in Italy during the year under report was working fairly well.

The 60th National Convention took place in June at Castrocaro, a famous thermal station near Bologna. The theme of the Convention was "The Theosophical Work," discussed in a symposium by ten speakers before 90 members. The Convention was announced by the press and radio. The National President of the Mazzini's Association sent his warm greetings with a delegate.

Mr. Edoardo Bratina has been re-elected General Secretary of the Italian Section for a second three-year term, being the only candidate.

On 15th June the General Secretary spoke on "Theosophy: Integral Psychology in the Present Crisis" in the town-hall auditorium of Forlì, kindly granted by the Mayor, before an audience of about 300 persons.

The activity of the Lodges went on regularly, as usual, in two main directions: classical theosophical literature and side arguments. The number of Lodges is now 25 with a new one and one dissolved.

The number of members increased by 34 and amounts in this year to 619. During the year there were 69 new admissions, 8 resignations, 8 deaths and 19 lapsed. Among the deceased are the well known Dr. Dezi from Rome, who entered the T.S. in the year 1908, Dr. Allioni from Turin and Mrs. Curti also from Turin.

The Italian Theosophical magazine *Rivista Italiana di Teosofia* was issued regularly during the year and has now 585 subscribers with an increase of 19 in the last months.

In the perspective of the centenary celebrations there is a noteworthy expectation of a new impetus in the theosophical work. There is a greater interest in psychology related to Theosophy and Religion, thus making Theosophy more available. The outer circles are very much interested in phenomena of any kind, yoga and "flying saucers", which our members also propose to discuss.

EDOARDO BRATINA,
General Secretary.

GERMANY

Our membership has increased to 310. However, we still have no headquarters building. Lodge work in some places is not as efficient as it might be because of inadequate accommodation and we cannot afford to rent or buy rooms for work.

The Young Theosophists have become active again through the efforts of Michael Schulze of Berlin.

The highlight of the year was the Summer School at Hustedt (27th July-3rd August 1974). Guest of honour was

our International President, Mr. John Coats, who arrived with his wife, Bestan, and Mr. Gopalaratnam of Adyar. Seventy-seven members and nine children were happy to learn from the lectures—among them those of Mr. Zoltàn de Àlgya Pap from Holland on the "Meditation Diagram of H. P. B.", and four study groups, all with the keynote "Theosophy—a Key to Freedom".

Mrs. Dr. Hermine Sabetay from France was invited for a lecture tour of German

Lodges. The General Secretary was able to attend the meetings of the International Council at Adyar 1973-74 and take part in the work with the newly elected President. Also she and some German members attended the European Council meetings at Durham University, England.

Some members are translating the Century Book into German and it will be published by the T. P. H. London in 1975.

ANNELIESE STEPHAN,
General Secretary.

CUBA

69th National Convention and Annual Business Meeting.—This year according to the Rules and Regulations of the Cuban Section, the election for President and Vice-President of the Section took place, for the triennium 1974-76. The 69th National Convention held its meetings on January 18, 19 and 20 at the Havana Headquarters Building. On the 20th, last day of the Convention, during the work-meeting of the morning, the election returns were taken and the votes counted, National President Brother Juan Bautista Rodriguez Oliva and Vice-President Brother Dr. Dana Cruz-Bustillo Artigas being elected, and they immediately took charge of their offices.

During the Convention in the work-meeting of the afternoon of 20th, the National President appointed for one year:

National Secretary (lawyer), Brother Dr. Luis Manuel Coloma Delgado; *Assistant Secretary (lawyer)*: Dr. Mario Soto Bermudez; *Recording Secretary*, Brother Alfredo Cabrera Martinez; *Assistant Editor of "Revista Teosofica Cubana"* Brother Dr. Dana Cruz-Bustillo Artigas; *Manager of "Revista Teosofica Cubana"* Sister Dra. Lelia Fernandez Pagola. The Board of Directors, the same day, appointed, for one year:

Treasurer, Brother C. P. Adolfo Aizpùrua Aizcorbe; *Assistant Treasurer*, Brother Armando Santana Bravo; *Librarian*, Sister Dra. Lelia Fernandez

Pagola; *Auditor*, Brother C. P. Roberto Latour Piedra.

A great gathering of members from Havana and in the country came to the Convention. A big fraternal lunch was served to all on the 20th. Harmony and fraternity prevailed during the Convention.

Lodges and Members.—This year ended with 19 active lodges, the same as in the year before. The number of members has increased, compared to last year's report, from 390 to 401, as of September 30, 1974. The entries were 29, of which 28 were new members and one re-entry and the decreases 18, of which, 12 deceased, 3 resignations, 1 dropped for lack of payment and 2 transfers to another Section (leaving the country).

Theosophical Festivities.—Foundation Day, Adyar Day, the Wesak Full Moon, White Lotus Day and Asala Full Moon were all celebrated suitably.

Joint Meetings of Members.—These continued as usual in the different Lodges which meet at the Headquarters Building in Havana.

Revista Teosofica Cubana.—*Revista Teosofica Cubana*, official organ of the Section, has maintained its publication with some difficulties. It is being sent to all members free of charge. Its publication passed from every two months to quarterly.

Minor Repairs in the Headquarters Building.—With the purpose of renovation,

the minor repairs of embellishment and betterment are being worked out in our Headquarters Building with a view to the Centenary.

The Section's Economy.—National Bank regulations do not allow at present the export of dollars, and like in the year before, it has not been possible for us to comply with our financial obligations to

Adyar. However, a total of \$ 1,184.40 has been received in the annual period October 1st, 1973 to September 30th, 1974. We have made reserve of funds in our financial records of \$ 177.66, or 15% of the total income for members' fees.

JUAN BAUTISTA RODRIGUES OLIVA,
General Secretary.

HUNGARY

No Report

FINLAND

Our information service has somewhat increased to benefit students of the universities, religio-scientific institutions and those of the secondary schools, and we have been invited to participate in symposia on other platforms. Such events show that we are not ignored in the cultural life of our country though we do not make very loud propaganda about ourselves.

Blavatsky Lodge in Helsinki has continued to publish a magazine of its own, the *Wheel of Life*, twice a year, and also has a lending library and bookshop open twice a week outside the headquarters which means better service to the public interested in reading the theosophical literature. We are also regularly getting more books on Theosophy. Dr. Besant's *The Ancient Wisdom* came out and Mr. Leadbeater's *The Occult Life*, too, both in reprint. One of the lodges has published H. P. Blavatsky's *Practical Occultism* and Wallace Slater's Yoga books are being published by another lodge. The magazine *Teosofi* continues in 10 issues a year. The editorship of long standing by Sylvi Horstio was taken

over by Raili Kekkinen in the summer. The exchange of lecturers in southwestern lodges and in the North-West has been lively. In many parts of the country public meetings are held every month, in Helsinki every Sunday. They are well attended everywhere.

The members and friends have gathered at Kreivilä summer home at the Summer School of 9 days and at a late summer weekend seminar, etc. The Section has acquired additional shares in the summer home estate company. In a few years, we hope to get the sole ownership of the place. Now we have already started purely vegetarian catering during the whole summer season.

It is to be noted that no international lecturers came to Finland. Only Manfred Mey from Hamburg with his tent came to Kreivilä again. The General Secretary had the chance to go to the English Summer School and the European Council in Durham and one member took part in the Danish Summer School.

We sorely feel the need for spreading Theosophy in Eastern and North-Eastern

Finland. The theosophical map of the country has not changed for a long time, there are too many blank spots on it. One of our dormant lodges in the South has been revived.

The present economical difficulties in the world are impinging on us too. However we have been able and probably will be able to carry on the traditional

unassuming activities of our Section. There is need and reason for silent deeper study and preparation and growing for possible future opportunities and tasks in advancing our common cause.

SIRKKA KIVILINNA,
General Secretary.

RUSSIA

Dissolved

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

No Report

SOUTHERN AFRICA

This year we had the great pleasure to welcome Mr. Geoffrey Farthing as our Guest of Honour at Convention held in Pretoria during Easter. He first toured the Section and gave public lectures and talks to members in most lodges, stressing the works of H. P. B. He introduced the studies at the Summer School and gave the Convention lecture on "Life More Life".

The Quest Book film "Reincarnation", bought from the American Section, was shown at Convention to members and the public, resulting in lively discussion on how to present this subject more effectively. Pretoria as the host Lodge presented us a play "Outward Bound" by Sutton Vane, which was a radiant success.

The Section lost through death one of our oldest members, Miss Petra Cillié,

one of the faithful ones who has done so much for our Section.

On Foundation Day, 17th November, the new premises of the Johannesburg Lodge in Auckland Park were officially opened by the General Secretary, Mrs. Anna Bischoff. The President of the Lodge, Mr. A. G. Stern, in his remarks referred to the beginning of the Theosophical Movement in South Africa and read from *Lucifer* (a Theosophical Magazine designed to "Bring to Light the Hidden Things of Darkness") vol. XLV of March-August 1894 as follows: "A meeting has been called by Mr. Lewis Ritch of all who are interested in Theosophy to lay the foundation stone of a Theosophical group in South Africa. Ways and means were discussed by those who met together and a room was engaged

for three evenings a week. Since the preliminary meeting four or five other enquirers have written for information. All enquirers were cordially invited to attend the meetings by Mr. Ritch, who is the torch-bearer of Theosophy in Johannesburg."

Mrs. Bischoff stressed the international character and the practical application of the First Object of our Society. She enjoined the members to practice good will and friendship, radiate peace and harmony and be always aware of the fact that our Society is guided by the Great Ones. She reminded the members of Mr. John Coats who, as the new elected International President, was giving his inaugural address in Adyar also on Foundation Day. The General Secretary closed with the Dedication given by Miss Clara Codd at a previous occasion in 1952:

"To the Eternal Life, and to the Masters of that Life and Wisdom,

who blessed our Movement at its inception and bless it still, we dedicate this house.

May Their Blessings rest on all who come here, on all who live here, on all the work that shall be done here in Their Names and for the service of men.

May the Light of Their Star illumine our Path and the Wings of Their Love enfold us for ever."

Bulawayo Lodge reported a great loss. The Chairman of Bulawayo Lodge, Mr. Roy Charsley, was killed in a car accident. He was a very active member, several times deputy General Secretary and once acting as General Secretary. We miss him as an ardent worker in our Section.

The membership of the Section stands at 406.

ANNA BISCHOFF,
General Secretary.

SCOTLAND

The three main lodges continue with their public work, along with two smaller centres.

Work in Edinburgh Lodge was handicapped by the illnesses of two long-established members, including our past General Secretary, who was no longer able to continue in residence at the Lodge. Nonetheless the full session of public work was carried out. A great increase in the use of the library there, on the part of non-members, has been reported, and these users do come to the members with questions. It is to be hoped that a seed will have been sown.

At Glasgow, the programme of work was carried out, including a visit from Mrs. Joan Bowers of the English Section.

In Aberdeen our work was somewhat dislocated by our fuel shortage in the middle of the session: our already cold meeting-place became even colder leading to a shrinking of our audience! In fact, this meeting-place was no longer available to us shortly after this, and our lodge meetings are now being held in rather warmer surroundings. Meetings there are still carried on with heavy reliance on taped lectures, due to our distance from theosophical speakers, and last session we successfully worked a system of having a number of tapes on one subject (e.g. Devas) in order to get the influence of a number of minds.

Dunfermline Centre continued to hold monthly members' meetings at the house

of one of the members, while the newly formed Dundee centre held public meetings with the same frequency. The T.S. also had a stand at a local vegetarian open day, at which a number of enquiries were made.

Our Section news-letter, whose first copy was produced in January 1973, continues to be produced as and when the General Secretary finds time to write and print it. We are now at the eighth issue, and as well as serving to keep our scattered Section in touch, it serves as the vehicle for discussing our study

book of the year. This is a system we are adopting for keeping members in touch on the mental plane: we study one book—this session it was Aldous Huxley's *The Perennial Philosophy*—reading the same chapter at particular times in the week.

At our annual convention in June, Miss Jeanine Miller from the English Section gave us a most interesting insight into the esoteric meaning in the Vedas.

JAMES G. MITCHELL,
General Secretary.

SWITZERLAND

There are few changes to report in the activity of the Swiss Section as compared with last year's Report.

The number of members increased by three and now stands at 233. The number of lodges remains the same.

A very important event in 1973-74 was the opening in Basle of very fine premises for the local lodges. Increased public lectures and other activities have already been organised and the library, which contains about 6,000 volumes, should also attract the public.

Catalogues have now been printed for the Geneva library.

The last Convention was held in Macolin, near Bienne, and was attended by about 45 members.

A weekend organised by the General Secretary was held in the same place, about 20 members being present. The aim of the gathering was the study and practice of meditation. A projector, diagrams, photographs, illustrated books and even beautiful objects greatly contributed to the success of the meetings. Music played an important part, as well as commentaries on the occult effects

of music. Meditation with exercises in observation, visualisation, relaxation, breathing and particularly the study of certain koans used in Zen meditation aroused much interest.

At the end of 1973 to beginning of 1974 the General Secretary went to Adyar, where he attended meetings of the General Council of the Society. He went as well to Huizen and to the Pays Latins Summer School at Vittel during 1974.

Various lecturers from abroad were invited to Switzerland, and some Swiss members also took part in the Summer Schools in Pichl (German Regional Summer School) and Vittel, as far as was possible for them.

Some members continue to pay small sums into the savings account created with a view to enabling them to take part in the trip to Adyar which will be organised for the Centenary celebrations in 1975.

The Meyer Fund continues to contribute financially to the working of the Section and the publication of books, brochures, etc.

GEORGES TRIPET,
General Secretary

BELGIUM

Membership in the central group in Brussels stood at 141 at the close of the 1974 season. Its major activity was public lectures that were delivered every Saturday with an average attendance of 35. Lodges and study groups met every week at the Society's premises with a very small attendance (from 5 to 12).

With the exception of the Branch Unité, there is an average of 8 to 9 members per branch in Brussels. That one has more people at its meetings, and at Wesak there were 29. Branch Arundale is presided over in turns by one of its members and its meetings are closed to the public to maintain the concentration and continuity in the work; a new member is admitted only with the agreement of all members of the Branch. The Branch of Mr. Welvaert has regular meetings dedicated to the inner life, the knowledge of the self and Yoga, aiming to bring about the awakening of the right view and the liberation from dogmatic organisations in order to evoke the inner life and the sense of unity. Another branch is studying astrology. The Branch Lotuskring is actually not working.

The Branch Unité developed a wider field of activity: Raja-Yoga and meditation; such activities leading frequently to the study of symbolism, the astral plane and the Hierarchy. By way of experiment, its meetings were alternately open and closed; its members are admitted in a simple ritual.

As regards the branches in the provinces, they are working in a more general line with public lectures on a vast number of subjects. Particular mention should be made of the "School of Wisdom" at the Antwerp Lodge, held once a month with an average participation of 48 people, as well as four sessions of meditation at the Liège branch, and the eight great

theosophical conferences "extra muros" for the public of yoga groups, for the branch "Vrede" in Gand and in the Flemish provinces.

Library report.—The sale of books amounted to 242.427 fr. and the expenses to 21.450 fr. From this profit and the income from lending books from the library, sixty books were handed over to the latter. Mrs. Lallemand and Mrs. Van Gils must be thanked for obtaining such a good output.

The report of the Order of Service managed by Mrs. Ipe proves that the Order is in good hands; 13 big car loads of clothes and shoes could be delivered to two Centres of Assistance as well as to the Empain Home taking care of 110 abandoned children. 1300 fr. have been collected. A small group of members is visiting the sick and the old people without families. Another small group is practising esoteric healing and daily meditation for peace in the world and for the spiritual development of mankind.

On 30th June 1974 membership was as follows: Antwerp, 45; Gand, 35; Liège, 38; Brussels, 141; a total of 259.

The General Secretary congratulated the Antwerp Lodge on its strong radiation: the previous year 9 new members joined, and during the year under report 8 more members. The 6 Brussels branches admitted 20 new members, Gand 3, and Liège was reduced by one.

In its last meeting the Administrative Council took an important decision regarding particularly Brussels: a committee consisting of the presidents of the Brussels branches and some members of the Council has been formed to take care of the organisation of public lectures and of theosophical festivals.

Mrs. Van der Hecht and Mr. Barreiro will help Mrs. Ipe to regulate the

situation of the Order of Service, which is an independent ASBL of the Belgian T. S. A committee has been charged to revise the rules and regulations of the B.T.S.; it is presided over by the General Secretary and will report to the Administrative Council.

The General Secretary, Mr. Jean Barreiro, was also President of the Branch Unité. During the year, Unité moved out of the Headquarters Building into other premises, where the General Secretary was also conducting a school of Yoga. A number of prominent members

of the Section disagreed strongly with the General Secretary over his policies so that the year was marked by dissension. Mr. Barreiro resigned as General Secretary shortly after the period covered by this report, and therefore has not submitted a report for publication.

(Report compiled by the Recording Secretary from proceedings of the Annual General Meeting of the Belgian Section held on 23rd June 1974 and information supplied by the Assistant General Secretary (later General Secretary) M. Ch. Lallemand).

INDONESIA

Suspended

BURMA

The Theosophical Society, Burma Section, is made up of seven Lodges, namely (1) The Olcott, (2) The Youth, (3) The Lotus, (4) The Blavatsky, (5) The Taungwingyi, (6) The Magwe and (7) The Bodhi (Masonic) Lodges.

The Olcott Lodge at Rangoon, and the Lotus Lodge at Mandalay are the only fully active Lodges among them. The Taungwingyi Lodge and the Magwe Lodge, act as nuclei for the Upper Burma Regions. The Youth Lodge, the Bodhi Lodge and the Blavatsky Lodge are not at present able to function as before.

Membership.—The total number of members at the close of the year was 63, as compared with 56 in the previous year.

The Olcott Lodge, Rangoon.—Registers seven more members over last year, with one life membership of a very earnest

and long standing brother, Willie Kyaw Thaung. Towards the close of the year two more important Bros., U Tun Yin and U Nyi Nyi, who belong to a research group known as "The Open Mind", were admitted to our Lodge.

Also a group of research minded youths of the "Ma-Naw-Thu-Tay-Thana-Ah Phwe" (Psychical Research Group) occasionally attend our Sunday gatherings and inform us of their methods of research on thought transference and other ESP experiences.

The Lodge's Sunday morning gatherings continued to attract more and more people of wider intellectual outlook.

Study classes were held on "The Dhammapada" and "Yoga" and lectures were also given on "Chakras", "Significance of Om", "Reincarnation", "The Church of the Universe", and on many other aspects of Theosophy.

The Lotus, Taungdwingyi and Magwe Lodges continued to carry out their regular activities.

Theosophical Order of Service.—The work of translating *The Key to Theosophy* into Burmese is in progress under the guidance of a sub-committee, participated in also by the members of the district lodges. The Sub-Committee finds it quite a difficult task to select appropriate Burmese words for some Theosophical terms, in view of certain differences in the two philosophies. Last but not least, the question of funds has to be considered. We would earnestly welcome interested donors to come forward with any amount which they may like to contribute towards this noble cause.

Sixty-first Annual Convention.—It was held on 21st Oct. 1973 at the Olcott Lodge, Rangoon. Over 50 members with their families and friends attended. The meeting commenced with the prayers of the seven religions by the members, and the General Secretary declaring the Convention open, followed by his short address to the Convention.

Greetings received from Adyar, U.S.A., and district Lodges in Burma were read by the General Secretary.

Rev. Ahshin Rewata of the Webu Hills, Kyaukse, a member of the Lotus Lodge, Mandalay, delivered the opening Convention lecture, "The Message of Buddha, the Universal Peace for Mankind".

The business meetings of the Section, and the General Council were then conducted. A delicious Indian-style vegetarian meal was served to those present.

Symposium.—The subject of the symposium was "Religion". The General Secretary read a short paper on the subject which was followed by a talk by Bro. A. Peters.

Finance.—The Audited Abstract of Receipts and Payments Account for the

year ended 30th September, 1974 shows an Opening Balance of K. 4,176-95 and Closing Balance of K. 3,877-82, with a deficit of K. 299-13 as against a deficit of K. 205-24 of the previous year.

Thingangyun Land.—The appeal lodged before the Supreme Court against the transfer of the title of land to one Daw Aye Kyi (a squatter on the land) is still in the course of hearing. The matter is being taken care of by our Lawyers (U Than E and U Sein Maung).

Maymyo Blavatsky Lodge.—During the last part of April 1974, our Section's Hon. Treasurer, Bro. Daw Aye Myint, visited Maymyo. She contacted Bro. D. P. Sarup, the Secretary of the Lodge there. As he is quite advanced in age, the task of reviving the Lodge still remains an unaccomplished fact. She paid up the Municipal Taxes for the year 1973-74 and 1974-75 and the Land Tax for 1973-74 due on the Lodge.

She also contacted a prospective buyer for the land, and requested the authorities concerned to expedite the renewal of the lease of the land. The problem of the squatters on the land still remained unsolved. The President of the "Youth Physical Culture Association" claims that the building was built with the permission of the then Secretary of the Lodge, Mr. Shafee. There is nothing in our Lodge records to substantiate their claim. We have, therefore, sent a letter on 12-8-74 denying their claim and have asked the President of the Association to vacate the place within a month from the date of our letter, i.e. 12-8-74.

The Burma Educational Trust.—Since the previous year necessary actions have been taken in the matters of (1) the Acquisitioned Trust Building and Land and (2) the Frozen Current Bank Account of K. 35,566-17 through our Lawyers. In response to the Government's announcement calling for claims against

Nationalised Assets, applications have been submitted under prescribed forms for (1) the Nationalized B.E.T.'s Co-Educational School Building and (2) the Trust Frozen Current Bank Account for K. 35,566-17 to the proper authorities concerned in March 1974.

Conclusion.—It is from a very great distance one looks at the star, admires

and appreciates its scintillation and beauty. In the same way we can have a vision of the star of Truth, even from a distance, provided we look in the right direction and are sincere and earnest in our desire to find it.

THAN KYAING,
General Secretary.

AUSTRIA

There are no events of especial importance to be reported.

Work went on on similar lines as last year. Activities had a further increase at Graz, and lessened further in the other places. Membership shows a slight decrease, owing to less new admissions and more resignations; it stands now at 237, against 246 last year.

In September 1974 we had the visit of Mrs. Madeleine Leslie-Smith who lectured at Graz and Vienna. The undersigned was invited in March 1974 to give lectures at Munich, Germany, and Basle, Switzerland.

The outstanding sign of this year's Regional Summer School at Pichl was the presence of the President, Mr. John B. S. Coats. The School was attended by 80 members from 6 countries. The main theme was: "What is Theosophy?"

The work of the publishing institution "Adyar-Verlag" was again growing;

the number of non-members subscribing to the regional quarterly *Adyar* has again increased.

The elections of the Executive Committee of the Section for the term 1974-76 had the following result:

General Secretary (to be elected by a majority vote of all members of the Section): Dr. Norbert Lauppert (189 Yes, 1 No-vote).

The other officers were elected by an unanimous vote of the Central Council of the Section. There was little change—the main officers were re-elected: Vice-President: Dr. Margarethe Hansmann, Vienna; Secretary: Dr. Erwin Lauppert, Graz; Treasurer: Mrs. Margaret Hönig, Graz; further Committee members: Franz Durkowitsch, Linz; Rudolf Hammer, Vienna; Dipl. Ing. Julius Fleischer, Graz.

NORBERT LAUPPERT,
General Secretary.

NORWAY

The Norwegian Section had a quiet year with interesting and varied programmes. At the Annual Convention in September 1974 we were happy to welcome two guests from Aarhus, Denmark: Mr. and Mrs. Jens Möller. Mr. Jens Möller gave a very interesting and appreciated lecture on "The Will Aspect of Man".

At the beginning of the year one of our highest grade schools asked if we could send a theosophical lecturer to inform the pupils about Theosophy, and one of our younger members who is a student himself went to the school and spoke to them. The pupils were really interested, and this was a great encouragement to us.

Our magazine *Teosofi i Norden* has also this year continued along the same lines in cooperation with Denmark and Sweden. For the next year there will be a change, as Denmark starts its own magazine from 1975. But Norway and Sweden are going to continue the co-operation, and we all believe that this will turn out well.

Membership on 30th September was 141. Our Lodges have had well-attended meetings, and usually attract a number of interested people.

RUTH WESSEL NIELSEN,
General Secretary.

 EGYPT

(Lodges only)

No Report

DENMARK

One of the great events during the past year and a milestone in the Danish Section was the official opening of our newly established Centre in the heart of Copenhagen. This took place on the 17th November. On this very special day we could also celebrate the 80th anniversary of The Theosophical Society in Denmark. In the afternoon we had a reception and many members as well as friends and representatives from related movements brought flowers, gifts, greetings, and congratulations. In the evening there was a members' meeting during which many members expressed how happy and joyous they were finally to see realized such a beautiful and suitable

headquarters of the Danish Section which could hold a lecture hall, a library, an office, two guest rooms, and our publishing firm.

This opening was at the same time the launching of a very extensive activity covering a wide field of subjects. Each Tuesday and Saturday evening we have public meetings, and now and then we invite lecturers from related movements to come and talk about their philosophies. After the lectures we serve a refreshment after which the audience can ask questions related to the talk given or make short comments. In this way we get a fine interchange with the assembly. At least once a month we invite members from

lodges outside Copenhagen to come and speak at the Centre, so that we can draw lodges from afar into the work of the Centre, and we also send lecturers to these lodges if they are interested in such visits.

Besides the above-mentioned two weekly public meetings we have five study-groups running during the week, one for beginners in Astrology and one for those who are more experienced, then we have two classes in Hatha Yoga, one for new people within this field and one for more advanced. The last study group deals with Depth Psychology and Transpersonal Psychology from a theosophical point of view, and I am in charge of this group myself. The other teachers are also members of the T.S., and we find these courses a fine opportunity to introduce Theosophical principles. In fact, these study groups put us in contact with people who might not have attended our public lectures, and some of them have become so interested in Theosophy that they have joined the Section. All over the city scores of courses are offered within these fields and often by dubious teachers, so we feel it is our task to present these popular subjects too, and seen in a greater perspective as well as together with an ancient, but still up to date philosophy, namely Theosophy. As an example it is sad to notice that most yoga teachers teach asanas without the related philosophy which is just as important as the exercise.

The Danish Summer School took place from July 20th-27th and was a joyous and informal gathering. We were happy to welcome our international president, Mr. John Coats, and his charming wife Betsan a few days before the beginning of the School so that a talk could be arranged in our new Centre in Copenhagen. Mr. John Coats gave here a penetrating talk of current interest dealing with the

world problems of today seen from a theosophical point of view.

The key-note of the Summer School was "To Live in the Present," and many of the inspiring talks by our international president, Mr. John Coats, Mrs. Betsan Coats, Mr. Gopalaratnam, Mr. & Mrs. Curt Berg, and Mrs. Birgitte Valvanne only to mention a few well-known participants, threw light on this vital theme. Meditation, discussion groups, questions and answers, films and a fun night were also appreciated aspects which made this Summer School such an open and hearty one.

Mr. Gopalaratnam informed us about the special activities at Adyar and also mentioned the newly opened hostel for boys which resulted in a spontaneous collection for the running of this home amounting to a sum equal to \$ 230.00.

To ease the work of those in charge of the kitchen we used one-time-service plastic crockery and cutlery, but when Mr. Coats suggested that it could be of much use at Adyar during the Centenary in 1975 several people started dish-washing the huge bulk of cups, saucers, plates, etc., which are now being made ready for shipment.

In the provinces, lodge work has continued in a steady way. In Copenhagen the different lodges have been busy taking part in the many arrangements at the Centre, but many lodges have still weekly, fortnightly or monthly lodge meetings.

As to books and other theosophical literature we are trying to find out the best way of distribution. Around the New Year *The Key to Theosophy* will appear in Danish in an attractive paperback. This book will also be the first in a coming series of paper-back books called "Tau-books". In the near future we plan to contact all the libraries in Denmark and to offer them our books giving a short introduction to each.

Another coming event is the publication of a new and up-to-date national magazine starting from January 1975. This magazine which we hope will soon get a national-wide circulation is going to replace *Teosofi i Norden* which for years has been published by us together with Norway and Sweden and sent out every other month. The new magazine called *Teosofia* will also replace the monthly magazine *Nu* which has got such a wide circulation that we are not longer able to handle it ourselves in a manual way. As far as we know Norway and Sweden will continue to issue *Teosofi i Norden* every other month, but due to our many monthly meetings we need a monthly magazine. Languages have also troubled many members as especially Swedish and Danish are not as close as many

foreigners think. Although this co-operation among the three Scandinavian countries stops we shall still co-operate within many fields in the future. For the time being we are planning the Centenary book *The Universal Flame* in the three languages and a joint charter flight to Adyar in 1975 is also being prepared.

We hope the coming year 1975, which is such a special one, will be an even more expansive year for the Danish Section in which we may be allowed to share Theosophy with still more people.

A relatively large number joined the Section this year, namely 35. Five passed away, and nine resigned or dropped out, which makes a total membership of 304.

PREBEN SÖRENSEN,
General Secretary.

IRELAND

After a quiet winter we had a very upset spring session. The tragic bomb outrages in the city and a ten weeks' bus strike practically immobilised most of us.

We had only two overseas visitors, Mrs. Jocy Beavis from California and Mr. Winston Sparrow from Cornwall.

At the moment we are preparing for a busy winter session as there have been

a great many enquiries and more people are joining.

Two of our older members were called to Higher Service, Miss Daisy Pilkington, a member for many years, and the Reverend Raymond Windsor-Garnett. We will miss them greatly.

DOROTHY M. EMERSON,
General Secretary.

MEXICO

No Report

CANADA

In its long existence the Theosophical Society has weathered a number of external crises including wars and depressions. During the year under review the world went through a period of severe economic stress, and although compared to many countries Canada has been fortunate in adjusting to its effects, these are certainly adversely affecting individuals and groups. Like all others, the Canadian Section of the T.S. has been hurt by inflation. This problem is doubly serious for organizations like ours, whose expenditures are carefully regulated at all times, and whose sources of income are limited.

Finances apart, it is a pleasure to report a year of quiet progress. A new Lodge has been chartered and steady activity is evident in most of our centres. As we move towards the Society's Centenary, it is hoped and expected there will be

renewed enthusiasm for the work of the T.S. in all regions. Membership tends to be steady, with a slight increase recorded for the year; the number of magazine subscriptions likewise rose slowly. Once again, it is interesting to observe an increase in members-at-large both in absolute numbers and also relative to the general membership.

For many years a major programme of the Canadian Section has been to place the works of H. P. Blavatsky in Canadian university libraries. This programme was reactivated during the year thanks to the publication of Vol. XI of *H. P. Blavatsky Collected Writings* and also the availability of a new edition of the long out-of-print *Letters of H. P. Blavatsky to A. P. Sinnett*.

TED G. DAVY,
General Secretary.

ARGENTINA

The outstanding events were the Annual Convention, at Easter, followed by the 12th Summer School, with the attendance of 150 members, including people from Brazil, Uruguay and Bolivia. The administrative affairs were considered at the Convention, while study teams in the morning and general debates in the afternoon were some of the features of our Summer School. The activities began with a morning meditation and were closed by a "show" made up of songs, poetry, etc., after dinner.

Another important event was the election of a General Secretary. Brother Juan Viñas was elected to this office. The former General Secretary, Brother Manuel Farinich, ended his

term of office on August 17th; up to this moment he had made several trips to deliver theosophical lectures in different parts of the country.

Soon after this Convention, Mrs. Radha Burnier arrived in the country for a tour through three cities: Buenos Aires, Rosario and Mendoza. From August 19th to 28th Mrs. Burnier had meetings with members and delivered lectures to the public. Her presence was a real help and inspiration to the work. Her talks to the members were followed with true interest and she answered many questions in each place. The public lectures had a large attendance and many people could get in touch with very deep Theosophical ideas.

The present General Secretary accompanied Mrs. Burnier on her tour. Later, he visited most of the Lodges in the Section and made several trips to give theosophical lectures in several towns. In October, November and December

several courses on Theosophy will be delivered in Cordoba, San Juan, Mendoza and Bahia Blanca by members from different towns.

JUAN VIÑAS,
General Secretary.

CHILE

No Report

BRAZIL

During the year ended September 30th, 1974, the Theosophical Movement in Brazil was marked by a great increase in our membership reflecting the acceptance of the theosophical ideas by many people at large, as can be demonstrated by the number of new members registered until September 30th this year showing a raise of 20% over last year.

	1973	1974
Number of Members registered by September 30th	840	1039
	—	—

Transference of the National Section.—In accordance with our Statute, during the elections held last year the new President and Vice-President of the Brazilian National Section were elected: Dr. Murillo Nunes de Azevedo and Dr. Milton Lavrador, respectively, who took office on October 6th, 1973, in São Paulo. However, since both of them live in Rio de Janeiro the National Section had to be transferred from São Paulo, where it was functioning since 1946, and returned to Rio, where The Theosophical Society in Brazil was founded back in 1919. The National Section is now seated in our present

address: Rua Imperatriz Leopoldina, 8—17°/18° andares, Rio de Janeiro, GB.

The new General Secretary, Brother Murillo Nunes de Azevedo, with the approval of the National Council, appointed the following Brothers for the new Directory: Recording Secretary, Manoel Pinto Moreira Filho; 2nd Secretary, Lygia Lustosa; 3rd Secretary, Sylvia Corrêa Pinto Moreira; 1st Treasurer, Jacy Montenegro; 2nd Treasurer, Maria Idalina F. Azevedo; Administrator, Maria Claudina Vilela Santos; Publicity Director, José Hermógenes de Andrade; Books Section Director, Erasmo Terra; Theosophical Order of Service Director, Dolôres Nascimento Bracet.

Books Section.—Many Theosophical books were published this year, some of them in collaboration with our best publishing houses, including the following:

1. *The Secret Doctrine* (H.P.B.) in 6 volumes, published by Civilização Brasileira in a very good translation made by our Brother Raymundo Mendes Sobral, of the Rio de Janeiro Lodge, who offered his excellent work to the National Section free of any expenses.

2. The first two *Stanzas of Dzyan*, (H.P.B.), which received in Portuguese the

title Sabedoria Eterna (Eternal Wisdom) translated by Brother M. P. Moreira Filho.

3. *A Voz do Silencio (The Voice of Silence)*, (H.P.B.), translated some years ago by the Portuguese poet Fernando Pessoa and now published once more by Civilização Brasileira.

4. *O Homem, Como e de Onde Veiu e Para Onde Vai (Man, Whence, How and Whither)*, by A. Besant and C. W. Leadbeater, published by Editora Cultrix.

5. *Aperfeiçoamento Humano (The Perfecting of Man)*, by Annie Besant, published by Editora Cultrix.

6. *A Conquista do Eterno*, by Felix Bermudes, former General Secretary of the Portuguese National Section, published by Civilização Brasileira.

7. *A Chave da Teosofia (The Key to Theosophy)*, by H.P.B., published by Civilização Brasileira.

8. *O Olho do Furacão*, by Murillo Nunes de Azevedo, published by Civilização Brasileira.

By now we are preparing the editions of these other books:

Teosofia—Chave da Compreensão (Theosophy—The Key to Understanding), by Felix Layton; *A Sabedoria Antiga (The Ancient Wisdom)*, by Annie Besant, to be published by Editora O Pensamento; and *O Lado Ocul to das Coisas (The Hidden Side of Things)*, by C. W. Leadbeater, to be published by Editora O Pensamento.

O Teosofista.—Our official magazine, *O Teosofista*, is being published anew three times a year, after being out of print for some time. We will send to Adyar the four issues for 1974.

Visitors.—Our meetings were often stimulated by the presence of some

illustrious visitors such as: Professor Raymond Paniker, internationally known as author of many philosophical works and who was the representative of India at the International Philosophy Congress held last year, who visited our National Section and gave an excellent lecture; Mr. Prithi Singh, the Ambassador of India in Brazil, who many times visited our Lodges in Rio and São Paulo, including the Pythagoras Institution; Sister Radha Burnier, General Secretary of the Indian Section, who gave some interesting lectures here and in São Paulo during her fifteen days' visit to Brazil; Brother Juan Viñas, the Vice-President of The Inter-American Theosophical Federation and newly elected General Secretary of the Argentinian Section, who also gave many lectures in Rio and São Paulo and, besides, directed the work at the Winter School held in Centro Raja last June; and Brother Luis Spairani, the President of The Inter-American Theosophical Federation, newly elected as a Member of the General Council of The Theosophical Society, who spent a week with us during the period of the Winter School, at São Paulo.

Winter School.—The Winter School was held at Centro Raja, Itapecerica da Serra, São Paulo, with the attendance of some 100 Theosophists including many Brothers from Argentina and Uruguay. The work was directed by Brother Juan Viñas then staying among us as he generally does each year. The School, a real success, was also attended by a great number of youngsters from Rio and São Paulo.

MURILLO NUNES DE AZEVEDO,
General Secretary.

BULGARIA

No Report

ICELAND

The membership of the Theosophical Society in Iceland has increased during the year. It was 643 in the beginning of the year, but is now 683 so the net gain is 40. The new members are mostly young people, at least not old, and the main interest of the newcomers seems to be some kind of yoga or mystical training, rather more practical than theoretical.

The Society's activities have also been increasing. Public lectures are on Friday-evenings from October to May. But most dissemination of Theosophical views is due to the popularity of the magazine *Gangleri* which continues to be one of the most widely distributed magazines in the country. It has been so for nine years.

Every Wednesday there are instructions in meditation for the general public in the Theosophical House in Reykjavík. Those meetings are popular and have been so all the time since early in the year 1970 when they were started.

On Wednesdays there are also so-called club-meetings, when the members as well as interested non-members come to the sitting room in the Theosophical House and chat together over a cup of coffee.

On Saturday afternoons there are different kinds of meetings for the members only: a hatha yoga course, easy hatha yoga exercises blended with simple meditation and instructions in how to relax; lectures on esoteric sciences, regular courses for those with deep interest; and meditation meetings for those who are not exactly beginners. The hatha yoga

course became so popular that we had to start another one, the one is meant for younger and physically more vigorous people, the other one for the older people.

The lodges had their special programmes and one of the lodges, Systkina-bandid, Akureyri, in the North, was especially active, having many kinds of meetings and courses. Also another lodge, Leit, in Hveragerdi, was very active having both lecture-meetings and study-meetings.

Four "summer schools" or gatherings were held: two in Akureyri, one at Flúdir, a summer hotel some 120 km. from Reykjavík, and the fourth one in Reykjavík which was a course of five meetings introducing to the general public what the members of the Section are really studying, extremely well attended.

Mundilfari is the name of a newsletter or a members' paper which the Section publishes for its members. It is very small but compact, space is used as well as possible.

Conferences regarding the Society's work and working methods were held twice. Those meetings are not very formal, but everything possible is done to get new ideas. These meetings were started in 1960, and have proved to be of immense value.

On the whole the Icelandic Section attempts to use the time well. Very few meetings are wasted in talking about ourselves, all the possible time is used to introduce to the public the main points

of the Theosophical attitude of life and to give the members rich opportunities for study. On the whole the Section is trying to make its voice heard all over the country.

Because the Section's work in that way becomes fairly well known its standard has to be high. Therefore we have been attempting for many years to raise the standard of our talks, our courses and

articles, without making them more difficult or too theoretical.

The Section is not lacking in workers and lecturers, and most of them are young men.

We look forward to the future and its fresh and unexpected challenges.

SIGVALDI HJÁLMARSSON,
General Secretary.

SPAIN

No Report

PORTUGAL

The year under report was an interesting year for the work in the Portuguese Section.

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

Among the chief lectures, we must refer to the following: Prof. Délio N. Santos gave an interesting lecture about "The Spirit of Theosophy in the Present Time" ("O Espírito da Teosofia de hoje"); Dr. Cesina Bermudes lectured about "The Summer School of Tremezzo" ("A Escola de Verão de Tremezzo"); our Brother Col. Rocha de Abreu gave a series of lectures about—1. "The Yoga of our Ashram" ("O Yoga do Nosso Ashram"), 2. "The New Era" ("A Nova Era"), 3. "The Peace of the Masters" ("A Paz dos Mestres"); our Sister Dr. Lia Carmo gave a lecture about "Adyar" on "Adyar Day" and another about "The First Object of the Theosophical Society".

Concerning lectures, there was another important contribution given by Dr. Elsa Bermudes Pessoa Ferreira da Costa and Dr. Negrão Prado, qualified doctors in medicine, the latter being President of the Society of Medical Hypnology of Brazil. They have participated in international Congresses in Europe and in America (North and South) and, as they are sympathizers with our ideals, wanted to honour the Portuguese Theosophical Society with their collaboration. They gave a series of lectures (a true course) (from December to September) about "Sophrology or Medical Hypnology in Contemporary Medicine."

There were also some symposia, among which, one was directed by Dr. Maria Beatriz Serpa Branco on "Group Work" and other directed by the General Secretary on "Theosophy and the Theosophical Society".

Dr. Cesina Bermudes, in the meetings of her Lodge ("Annie Besant") presented in a Portuguese translation all the lectures given at the Summer School of Tremezzo, which were commented upon by Prof.

Délio Nobre Santos, Dr. Maria da Glória Firmino and other members. This work was a very important contribution, giving to the members who were unable to attend the Summer School, the possibility to appreciate the lectures in Portuguese.

During the Christmas Festival, we had again a beautiful party offered by the Lodge of Evora (the President of which is our Vice-President, Dr. Maria Beatriz Serpa Branco), consisting of music, a puppet-show, and so on. This line of work is one of the interesting aspects of the Lodge of Evora, working now with many young members.

During this period, in December, our Section had the pleasure of receiving the visit of our Brothers Bruce and Phyl Hosken from Australia, who were kind enough to participate in a symposium, speaking about the theosophical activities in their country. Our Australian Brothers had the opportunity to visit some beautiful and historical places of Portugal, some of them with a very strong theosophical meaning.

In Spring we received another important visit from our Sister Mme. Pearson-Laroute of the French Section. She gave three interesting lectures at our Headquarters: 1. "Templars—Some Esoteric Aspects of their Doctrines" ("Templários—Aspectos Esotéricos das Suas Doutrinas"); 2. "Telepathy and its Extension to Biology" ("Telepatia e seus Prolongamentos na Biologia"); 3. "Georges Sand".

Mme. Pearson-Laroute was sent by her Section to participate in the commemoration of the centenary of our former General Secretary, Mr. Félix Bermudes, who was till now the most remarkable Portuguese Theosophist, not only in the Theosophical Society, but also in the community, as he was the President of the *Fédération Internationale des Gens de Lettres*, with headquarters in Paris.

Concerning the lodges, we must inform that our Section kept the same number (13) as in the last report, but two lodges of the North of Portugal (Krishnamurti and Alcione) are dormant and awaiting reorganization. Lodge Isis, which was dormant (as announced in our last report), is now working with two other lodges, which are growing at present: Lotus Blanco and Koot-Hoomi. I must make clear that these lodges were very strong in past years, but, because of the death or absence of some of their members, decided to work together. I think, nevertheless, that in a short time they will work independently again. Though we had these little difficulties, the Portuguese Section had 9 lodges working in full activity during all the year and the members of those which are dormant intend to begin their activities soon.

The President of Lodge "Koot-Hoomi", Prof. Délio Santos, spoke for the members of the three lodges, during the meetings, about "The Masters and the Theosophical Society".

The President of Lodge "Annie Besant" organized some Theosophical meetings in the country, as usual, in order to develop theosophical feelings among the members and to increase the interest in theosophical doctrines.

Concerning the Summer Schools, seven of our members could attend the meetings at Vittel (France). Among them, we must refer to the President of General Conventions, Prof. Délio Santos; the Council Secretary, Dr. Maria da Glória Firmino, and Dr. Cesina Bermudes.

In March, during our General Convention, we had elections for Directive Members. According to the Portuguese Law, the President of the Directive Council (General Secretary) cannot be the President of the General Convention. So, our Directive Board is the following:

General Convention.—President, Prof. Délio Nobre Santos; Vice-President, Eng. José Maria Nobre Santos; Secretary, Mrs. Maria Helena Horta Coelho; Asst. Secretary, Eng. Fernando de Almeida Nogueira Coelho; 1st Substitute, Mrs. Clara Bermudes Pessoa; 2nd Substitute, Miss Maria Lúcia Andorinho Carmelo.

Directive Council.—President (General Secretary), Dr. Maria Guilhermina Mota Carmo Nobre Santos; Vice-President, Dr. Maria Beatriz Serpa Branco; Treasurer Mr. Ardachir Rostom; Secretary, Dr. Maria da Glória Pires Firmino; Asst. Secretary, Dr. Lia Maia Carmo; Voting Members, Capt. Rui Carlos de Oliveira, Miss Elisabeth Valdez, Miss Susette Bragança dos Santos, Mr. Victor Manuel Martini dos Santos Quelhas; Substitute, Miss Alice Maria Fonseca Oliveira, Mrs. Carolina Eugénia Lopes.

Fiscal Council.—President, Eng. Alexandre Nobre dos Santos; 1st Voting Member, Mr. Salvador da Silva Machado; 2nd Voting Member, Eng. Manuel António Valventos; Substitute, Col. José Sérgio Pessoa, Mr. António Manuel Lino Pastorinho.

This time, as in the past, the elections permitted that an appreciable percentage of young members were called to assume directive responsibilities in our Society. This method of collaboration of young and old theosophists permits a symbiosis between young and old people, which, for many years, appears very useful and fraternal in the Portuguese Section.

After summer holidays, our Section will begin the new theosophical year on the 19th October and, as usually, we plan to have public meetings every fortnight.

Concerning membership, we had 186 on the 1st October 1973 and at 30th September 1974 we have 198 (23 new members; 6 deaths; 4 lapsings).

Assuming my new functions, it is my intention to do my best to help the theosophical work in my country and to increase the relations with the other Sections. I hope that the theosophical work will be more and more fruitful.

(DR.) MARIA GUILHERMINA
MOTA CARMO NOBRE SANTOS,
General Secretary.

WALES

It may truthfully be said that the year under review has been momentous for the Theosophical Society in Wales.

Following the sale of our old Headquarters, the Section moved to 206, Newport Road, Cardiff, and finally received planning permission in November 1973. It is now fully operative and furthermore, is possessed of a degree of security which it has not previously enjoyed. All this has come in time for the last quarter of the century and we are well aware that having the tools, our responsibility is to throw all our energies

into the work of the Society, and this we intend to do by means of talks, study groups, an improved National Library, and closer contact within our numerically small and geographically widespread Section.

At the end of September 1973, the Fifty-first Annual Convention was held at Colwyn Bay, North Wales, presided over by the former General Secretary, Mr. Harry Edgar. The Guest of Honour was Mr. James Mitchell, General Secretary of the Scottish Section, and the Convention was very successful and well

attended, a large contingent from South Wales taking part.

On March 31st 1974, Mr. Harry Edgar retired as General Secretary after eight years of devoted service. Some of those years were difficult and worrying—indeed his term of office began with a serious fire at Headquarters—but through it all his cheerfulness and devotion to the work continued even when the problems were greatest. The Section is deeply grateful to him for the work which he put in.

During the years, the overall membership has not changed but is interesting. We have the nucleus of a possible Centre on the Isle of Anglesey, and a member with organising ability in Tenby in the far west of Wales. The General Secretary has visited Anglesey for a meeting, and plans are in hand for a visit to Tenby. At the same time it is hoped to arrange talks at Swansea and Newport where at one time lodges were in being. In addition some public relations work is envisaged,

although in the very early and preliminary stages, so that during the Centenary Year means will be found whereby the Society and what it teaches can be publicised in the national newspapers of Wales. This, however, is at present in the idea stage and will depend largely upon the possibilities available and the cost.

Full programmes of study and talks are planned for the winter months in both North and South Wales, and the year under review closes with our Headquarters being placed at the disposal of the General Secretary of the English Section for a Yoga Saturday School for Hatha-Yoga Teachers on the subject of the Upanishads. This may, in the end, bring us points of contact with a different type of student of the Ancient Wisdom, to our mutual advantage.

We face the future with enthusiasm and confidence!

CHARLES E. M. JAMES,
General Secretary.

POLAND

No Report

URUGUAY

The Theosophical Society in Uruguay worked actively and steadily throughout 1973 till 30th September 1974.

Elections.—According to our regulations the new General Council was elected during the Annual Convention held on 10th August, 1974 in our headquarters. Mr. Justo V. de la Vega was re-elected General Secretary for the following three years. The attendance at the election meeting was of 80 per cent of membership.

Visitors.—In the middle of August 1974 we had the privilege to have the visit of Mrs. Radha Burnier for a few days during which she gave two extremely interesting addresses to members and public. After her departure we could still feel her lovely presence amongst us for a long time.

Lodges.—The eleven lodges of our Section have worked regularly during this period. Ten lodges are in Montevideo, one lodge is in the town Las Piedras about 30 kms. from Montevideo, where

this lodge "Djwhal Khul" has its weekly meetings. We have a good Library Hall in Ave. 18 de Julio 1333 where some lodges have their meetings. Other lodges meet in our Headquarters in J. Barrios Amorin 1085 once a week. During the year our lodges studied books by Pavri, Annie Besant, Krishnamurti, Clara Codd, Leadbeater, also the Upanishads, Yoga, the Mahatma Letters, Karma, Reincarnation, Universal Brotherhood, Theosophy in Daily Life and many other theosophical books. We made a deep study of *The Secret Doctrine*. A course on basic theosophy for public and members was given by Mr. Mario Dobal, member of Lodge "D. K." with a good attendance. Members and new comers attended the round table conducted by the General Secretary with discussion on the subject "Physiological and Psychological Effects of the Practice of Meditation", three meetings once a week last February. Also, fellow members gave talks on the early days of the Society, and biographies on the theosophical leaders to new members.

It has become evident that there has been a steady increase in profound spiritual studies and occultism amongst the new people who approach our headquarters every day and they have found in the teachings of Theosophy an answer to their thirst for knowledge. Many people are interested in theosophical books

these days. All the meetings and lectures are open to the public.

Membership.—Up to 30th September the membership increased to 213. Forty-five new members entered and five members were re-admitted to our Section in this period.

Three old members passed on this year, Mr. Pedro Sprimberg, his wife, Mrs. Catalina Sprimberg, and Mr. Mario Caimi, all of them old and active members of our Society for years.

The official dates of the Society have been commemorated with gatherings in our Headquarters, 17th February (Adyar Day), 8th May (White Lotus Day) 17th November, (anniversary of the Society). Also, on January 7th we had a meeting in our headquarters to celebrate the 49th anniversary of the foundation of the Society in Uruguay.

Magazine.—Numbers 6 and 7 of the journal *Teosofia en Uruguay* were brought out. It is published by the General Secretary. Copies of these issues will be sent to the Recording Secretary in Adyar, in due course.

At this moment, we are making special arrangements to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the foundation of The Theosophical Society in Uruguay.

JUSTO V. DE LA VEGA,
General Secretary.

PUERTO RICO

The group meeting at our Central Office in San Juan is working with much enthusiasm. The group discussion method is well accepted, and has made possible an increase in interest on the part of the members for theosophical knowledge and work, and public acceptance of this method has been noticed.

The radio talks once a week on Sunday mornings have brought a great number of inquiries. We are giving special attention to this activity. A special committee was created to be in charge of the radio programmes.

The *Heraldo Teosofico* is published bi-monthly and sent to all members of our

Section and to other non-members who are interested in theosophical writings, as well as to many members in South America, without charge. In the Section Review we publish, in Spanish, valuable articles that appear in various English theosophical magazines.

On April 14, 1974, we held our Annual Convention, with very good attendance. The principal work of the Convention was the election of the General Secretary. Mr. Seymour D. Ballard, who during two three-year terms had done very satisfactory work as General Secretary, completed the maximum time in that position, in accordance with the By-laws. The undersigned was elected.

A complete reorganization of our Section is being carried out. We are making a complete revision to our By-laws, and shortly a copy will be going to Adyar to be revised and/or approved.

Mr. Seymour Ballard was appointed Director of our Section publication *Heraldo Teosofico*. New appointments have been made for the different committees.

A new study group was organized in Ponce (our second city) during the month of May, and fourteen new members received the Membership Certificates on June 7, 1974.

A new committee was organized to be in charge of the book store and library. It has already made a purchase order for Spanish translations of theosophical books from the Inter-American Theosophical Federation. They are doing a very important task with the translations, and I think more attention should be given to that phase of theosophical work.

ARAMIS LOPEZ TIRADO,
General Secretary.

RUMANIA

No Report

YUGOSLAVIA

The Yugoslav Section held its Annual Convention on 6th October 1973 in Ljubljana with 43 members present or substituted. In commemoration of our late President of the European Federation, Mr. van Dissel, Mr. Djuro Robotic, President of our Lodge Harmony, and other members of our Section, we spent a few minutes in silence. Then the minutes of the last Annual Convention were read, approved and adopted. As some of the Executive Committee's members were no longer able to continue with their functions, Dr. Leon Krevel as Secretary,

Anica Cuderman as Treasurer, and Dr. Cveta Staric, Manager, were proposed and unanimously accepted. We also suggested a representative for the Young Theosophists. Br. Emilio Trampuz, student, was proposed and accepted as a member of the Executive Committee to represent the Young Theosophists in our country.

The Presidents including the General Secretary then read the annual reports. All lodges hold their meetings twice or four times a month; the membership had in total an increase of one. All

Lodges register a greater inflow of visitors who are interested in Theosophy, probably susceptible to the influences of the coming year 1975! It was also reported that many lectures, booklets and even books were translated for members only, as they would need revision before going out to the public. Our library has many books written in English, German, French and Italian, and our Librarian is very busy in sending books to those who ask for them.

The General Secretary visited all lodges in November 1973, and four lodges in June-July 1974. She gave talks on the Objects of our Society, and had also an interview with the editor of an illustrated paper in which appeared an article with

absurd data against the Theosophical Society and H. P. Blavatsky. According to the suggestion of the editor I wrote an article of eight pages with well documented information on the work of the Theosophical Society, its founders and co-workers. The article has not yet appeared in the paper called "AS", but since then nothing has been written about our Society.

From 19th to 21st September two members of our Section attended the Summer School in Pichl, and the General Secretary attended also the International Week at Huizen for three days.

MILA GRUBACEVIC,
General Secretary.

SRI LANKA

The Society has co-operated with other movements for promoting brotherhood and religious unity. The year has been a spiritually active year.

Meditation and study circles have been fostered in homes among small groups particularly by some members of Besant, Shanthi Marga and Lotus Lodge. An esoteric study of the Bible was organised by the National Secretary and keen interest sustained for eight months for suburban and city members respectively at 32 bi-monthly meetings. Lack of funds held up the publishing of the fruits of this research. Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists and Christians of all denominations participated and identified the oneness of religion. The study group celebrated the last meeting at a lakeside retreat.

Library.—A sadly neglected, valuable library was thoroughly cleaned up and reorganised by a strenuous shramadana act of devotion organised by Besant Lodge. About 35% of 750 books need

very urgent intensive treatment. A Library Fund has been organised to meet the high cost of preservatives, cataloguing and binding. A gift of 250 francs from an English theosophist, Bro. Rex Henry, and a local donation from Dr. Felix Fernando have been allocated as a nucleus for the Library Fund. Donations of books from well-wishers and sister organisations will be deeply appreciated. Due to strict foreign exchange regulations, imports of books and subscriptions for foreign bulletins are at a standstill. Mrs. Elaine Murdoch's gift of books from the Australian Section is eagerly awaited by members. Bro. F. H. P. Joseph, National President from Nov. 1973-Sep. 1974, on the eve of his migration to Australia gifted a cabinet of 70 books thus adding to valuable books gifted by the late Bros. N. K. Choksy and Dr. Waidyasekera.

Expansion.—Following introductory talks on "Comparative Religion" by Bro. T. R. Rustomjee, our new National

President, in the hill city of Kandy and by the National Secretary on "Christogenesis, Theosophy and Society" at a Catholic Ashram, the Santhana Lodge was formed. Meetings and discussion groups are held in homes and Jesuit Retreat House, a most beautiful place by the river.

Seminar and Camp.—The National T.S., Besant Lodge and Santhana Lodge jointly organized an inter-religious week-end study camp in November at Fatima Retreat House, Lewella, Kandy. The theme was "Man Be Thy Own Creator." Ten speakers, Brothers T. R. Rustomjee, F. Rustomjee, A. P. Sugathadasa, Ven. K. Aryawansa, Rev. Fr. Cattalano, Swami Sathchithananda, Bros. Mohamed Cassim, Felix Fernando, and Theja Gunawardena led the varied points of religious views on the theme. All the major religions were represented and lively discussions followed. Both Mahayana and Hinayana views were included from the Buddhist and Theosophist points of view. There was also a discussion on relating the theme to society, community and the world led by Professor P. de Silva of the University. The summing up by Bro. G. Samarasinghe appealed for expansion of work among the youth and involvement in national shramadana projects. The most outstanding contribution was by Fr. Catalano on Teilhard de Chardin's teachings on evolution and the role of man in the present age. He was largely responsible for the organization of the camp. Sixty-five participants who benefited by this camp appealed for two camps in the year.

Visitors.—Bros. Elaine Murdoch of Australia and Gool Minwalla of Pakistan spoke at the National and Besant Lodge annual meeting.

Activities.—The Society in cooperation with the Ramakrishna Mission held an inter-religious celebration of the Buddhist event of Wesak. Jointly the two institu-

tions organised a series of meetings on "Yoga and Spiritual Development," the speakers being Bros. Unni Nair and K. M. W. Kuruppu. The National Secretary participated in the Navarathri celebrations symposium organized by the Tamil Literary Association of the Audit Department. A talk on Creative Intelligence by D. Weiner was organised.

Bulletin.—A quarterly bulletin known as *Sri Lanka Theosophist* was started this year and has promoted more interest among the lodge members, publicized T. S. work and brought in new members to the movement.

Adyar Day was observed on February 17th with a talk by Dr. Kewal Motwani. Outstanding work was done by Besant and Shanthi Marga Lodge of the Southern Province which under the leadership of Bro. A. P. Sugathadasa is collaborating to print a book co-ordinating Theosophy and Buddhism with the help of Bro. W. M. O. Perera of Matara.

Besant Lodge selected two themes for intensive study. Six speakers from quite a cross section and varied view points handled the theme "Life is for Living". The speakers were Bros. T. R. Rustomjee, Rev. Fr. Michael Rodrigo, Her Holiness Saraswathy Mathaji, Mohamed Cassim of Lotus Lodge, Rev. Fr. Oswald Firth and Theja Gunawardhana. The next theme was "The Occult Hierarchy". Bro. Motwani spoke on Master Morya and Bro. Theja Gunawardhana on Masters Kuthumi and Comte de St. Germain. The meetings this year were held in the homes of members instead of hired halls, the bonds of fellowship being strengthened thereby. The present membership of Besant Lodge is 44. Members hope to organise small esoteric study groups of all religions in homes besides Lodge monthly meetings.

Centenary Programme.—As Sri Lanka's programme and target for the Centenary

celebrations, the committee has decided to sell part of the property and renovate the building and liquidate its heavy debts to the Tri Ratna Masonic Lodge, if the entire property cannot be sold for the purchase of new quarters where we can have better Library and Reading Room

facilities, an international guest house, board and meditation room and the Co-Masonic Temple. 1974 has offered much in the way of spiritual companionship to many international visitors.

T. R. RUSTOMJEE,
General Secretary.

GREECE

During the past year 1973/1974 our Section has been working regularly as in the past.

Our Section has now obtained a new book, the translation in Greek of the book of Annie Besant and C. W. Leadbeater:

Talks on the Path of Occultism. The book has just been published.

The membership in the year under report amounts to 227.

C. MELISSAROPOULOS,
General Secretary.

CENTRAL AMERICA

Guatemala.—In spite of all our endeavours we could not succeed in reconciling the brothers of the Lodge Gnosis, some of whom preferred to withdraw; but there are still the three lodges which are certainly doing good work.

El Salvador.—They are all working very well; the Lodge Teotl especially is quite active.

Nicaragua.—After the earthquake of 1972 nearly all the brothers of the Lodge Prathiba were obliged to move, so that the Lodge is inactive, but not yet dissolved. Some of the members have moved to the Blavatsky Lodge which is working regularly.

Honduras.—Recently our brothers there had to undergo a hard trial, the hurricane Fifi having caused disastrous damages and deaths. In the midst of this catastrophe brotherhood became active, everyone came forward to help the country. The lodges of Costa Rica sent a donation to

the Lodge Subirana, which remitted this to the Red Cross of Honduras.

Panama.—In spite of the difficulties in that country the Lodge Luz could hold on; and we hope it will make progress, since that country is badly in need of Theosophy.

Costa Rica.—The lodges of Costa Rica celebrated the theosophical festivals at their Headquarters with an average of 60 participants from the whole country. The summer school was held at Easter by all lodges with the subject: "Fraternity, the Dharma of the T.S." with about 30 participants. In order to get a closer contact among the lodges, we arranged meetings with short, but interesting talks and afterwards a light supper. The result was most successful, the brothers of the different lodges having thus the opportunity to become more acquainted with each other.

Last February we celebrated the foundation of Lodge Dharma in San José and

Lodge K. H. in Alajuela and both are working with great dedication.

As it was impossible to celebrate the 1974 Convention in Guatemala or El Salvador, it was unanimously decided to keep for the two following years, i.e., until November 1976, the Headquarters of the General Secretary at Costa Rica.

One of our brothers, the late Prof. Roberto Brenes Mesén, was honoured by our Government which conferred on him the title of "Worthy Citizen of the Country" for his high moral and social virtues, which was a great joy for us all.

We are grateful for the publicity work of the Inter-American Federation, especially for the excellent material published in the review *América Teósófica* and for the books published and re-published, which are received with great satisfaction.

With immense joy we received the support of the blessed Masters, who sent

us Sister Radha Burnier, who arrived accompanied by the Brothers Ballesteros from Colombia. She stayed with us only a few, but very fruitful days, and we had the pleasure to appreciate her clear and profound talks, translated by Br. Ballesteros, the sympathy of his wife Julita as well as the company of brothers from Panamá and Nicaragua, who had come for this special occasion.

All the lodges of the Section agreed to cooperate in the purchase of the offset press with a total amount of \$ 200.00 in consecutive annual shares of \$ 50.00, the first of which has already been remitted.

In the same spirit we decided for this year to increase the quota of our annual fees to be sent to Adyar to 25% instead of 15% in order to help improve the situation of the workers at Adyar.

PILAR MADRIGAL NIETO,
General Secretary.

PARAGUAY

Dissolved

PHILIPPINES

An important event when viewed in retrospect, it seems, has its mounting thrust to perpendicular heights, a general levelling-off at a summit, a settling down to more realistic levels and after a period of time the more tangible results generated in terms of outer and inner growth. Two such events could be graphed literally as important high curves in the year under report.

The Hodson Visit.—One was the month-long visit of Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Hodson from March 23 to April 20 this

year. Months before the event the excitement of preparation was in the air. Since the country was in the midst of the economic crunch, and even much compounded by the world-wide inflation, the difficulties of arranging the visit mounted day by day. We have discovered by experience, however, that money is among the less important factors involved, so long as the willingness to work hard and the right motive were there. As always unexpected help surfaces and the impossible becomes realizable. Then

unforeseen circumstances stepped in like a bolt from the blue and made untenable the proposed accommodation for our august guests, and sent the General Secretary in a frantic last-minute "look-see" for suitable quarters, when a kind friend stepped forward and offered her beautiful home for free! The Section has to be very thankful to Mrs. Nina Puyat for the month-long use of her well-appointed home for our visitors. With the kind help of some stalwarts whose time and energy were placed at my disposal, and the ever-generous help of our National Treasurer, the visit became a reality. For four glorious weeks, we had eight members' meetings, four public lectures and two socials. Two of the well-received public lectures were given at the T.S.P. headquarters, the next one at the Plaridel Masonic Temple in San Marcelino, and the last one at the prestigious San Miguel Auditorium in Makati. The beautiful results of the visit were the formation of two new lodges and the coming forward of more and better workers. Five months is too early to assess the real fruits of this important event, but there is reason to look forward to more. We are still enjoying the time-maturing effects of Mr. Hodson's other visits with us.

The Annual Convention.—The other event was the forty-first Annual Convention held on June 22 and 23. Conventions, however interesting, tend to slough-off as peripheral events in the work of the Theosophical Society, possibly because of their annual occurrences. Among the best, this one quickly became integral to the aims of the Movement, but also generated enough "steam" to keep a number of members wanting to do double and triple time to qualify in the community of the coming Sixth Root-Race.

We wanted something different to start with. With the help of the members

of the Youth Group, we arranged for T-sessions—quite a success and a revelation for the older members in particular. This was held in the Angono Farms and Garden Resort of a lady member, Mrs. Goring Gopiao. In this same lovely place, many weeks before, the Theosophical Youth Movement held their two-days live-in seminar. By hired bus and private cars the members arrived and congregated under the picturesque native huts of bamboo and sawali. The lively "balitaan" hour seemed inexhaustible and was followed by the T-Group sessions. So engrossed was everyone in this novel "interaction" that some numbers in the programme had to be shelved. Only the thought of the heavy schedule of the next day prevented many from staying up much later that evening. The next day was ushered in with a big discount sale on books. Greetings from abroad lent an international flavour to the whole proceedings. The theme of the Convention was "Preparing for the New Age". It was broken down into four sub-topics, which were delineated by four speakers. Two were given in the morning and two in the afternoon. "What is the New Age" and "The Hour of Decision is Now" were given in the morning by Mr. D. S. Argente and Dra. Pineda respectively. In the early afternoon, they were followed by Dra. Esther Doval Santos with "Theosophy in Education from The Group Standpoint" and "Current Events in the Light of Theosophy" by Mr. Angel Reyes. The Convention lecture given by the National President, Mrs. Gregorio, was a direct treatment of the Convention theme itself. It was entitled, "Living Tomorrow's World Today." The musical hour was a contribution of the young people's group, made of well-rehearsed numbers. The candle-light ceremony fittingly brought to a close the inspiring activities of the

two-day Convention. One of the important numbers of Convention, however, which sparked off a number of activities was the Workshop held in the afternoon. We will come to this much later on.

We cannot leave off this brief report on the Convention without mentioning the many workers without whose help and support the beautiful preparations and the very warm atmosphere of conviviality and camaraderie would not have been possible. The hall was fittingly spruced up and tastefully decorated with illustrative diagrams of theosophical teachings and the walls were gay with palm leaves and the stage with potted plants and individual lodge-banners in colorful materials, while the tables were gay with vases of fresh flowers. All of which were the work of the Decoration Committee headed by Mr. Ruben Cruz Cabigting and Mr. Benny Arguelles. To Miss Dolly Abitona and her co-workers we are most grateful for the delicious lunch, dinner and meriendas of the two-day festivities. There was the yeoman job of the Programme Committee under its chairman, Mario Zapata. There was the efficient handling of transport and the Invitation and Reception Committee, under Mrs. Estella A. Cruz and Mrs. Jean Tayao. The participants in the musical numbers must have worked hard as well as the others too numerous to mention. If co-operation, camaraderie and dedication can be graphed, then this year's Convention certainly takes the high curves. Attendance was a little smaller than was last year's. This was primarily so because the big group of members which comes from the North, those of Cabanatuan and Muñoz lodges, were unable to make it. Their vehicles broke down on the way and they had to turn back home.

The General Meeting and Workshop of July 21 was memorable for the many constructive suggestions in connection

with theosophical work. The participants were divided into three groups: Group A on "Administrative and Financial Policies," Group B on "Lodge Vitalization" and Group C on "Programme of Studies." Some of these suggestions seemed to have apprehended projects already being implemented quietly on an experimental basis and therefore these gave quite a moral boost for those who thought of them even before they were suggested in the Workshop. One of these was the Intensive Study Course already going on for a few weeks. It was intended to train potential lecturers and leaders in the Society. We will come to this a little later on.

To encourage collection of dues, lodges were allowed to retain ten per cent of their collections. Also to do with improvement of dues, were the new discounts and incentives offered for groups, for family and relations. The life-membership also was proving quite attractive and encouraging for many. A good idea we hope to try soon is the suggestion to make lodge visitations a group activity. This means that on the day a lodge is going to be visited by the National President, as many members as can make it will be encouraged to come along, thus promoting camaraderie and more "interaction" among members. Our work, we find, benefits very much from personal contact and the more the merrier. So animated and fruitful was this Workshop, we hope to make a repeat performance.

The Intensive Study Course.—One of the projects was the Intensive Study Course already going on for a few weeks before the Workshop. It was intended to train potential lecturers and leaders of the Society. After the Workshop, it was decided to expand this to include both basic and advanced studies in Theosophy. The beautiful thing about

it all is that for everyone concerned, it was a question of learning by doing. Also it brought forward a few good artists and creative workers in the group.

The Biennial Elections.—Last May 12, as provided in the By-laws, election of the national officials was held. The new Board is composed of the present National President, Mrs. Cleo Z. Gregorio; Atty. Mario Zapata, the new Vice President, and who was the former National Secretary; Mr. Angel Reyes, re-elected National Treasurer; Mr. Vicente Hao Chin, the new National Secretary; Mr. Tony Francisco, retained as National Librarian; and the two Trustees: Mrs. Eugenia Tayao and Mrs. Estela Ampil Cruz, both of whom, like Mr. Hao Chin are new faces on the present Board. To our former National Vice-president, Dra. Juliana Pineda, who refused to run for re-election, to Mr. Vicente Reyes and Mrs. Punay Fernandez, we extend our deep gratitude for long and loyal services and welcome most warmly the three new members of our present Board. Even before their election, they have already been among the most active, zealous and devoted workers of the Society.

Local New Books: Self-Discovery Through Meditation—a compilation of original articles solicited from different theosophical authors here and abroad to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the founding of The Theosophical Society in the Philippines was edited by our present National Secretary and concurrently editor of *The Philippine Theosophist*, Mr. Vic Hao Chin. Meditation being a timely and intriguing subject for many, the book merited an important review by one of our big weekly magazines, *The Panorama*. The review also called attention to the important work being done by the Society in the Philippines. Another book, *Land of all Day*,

by Dra. Juliana Pineda, is an absorbing presentation of the inner world couched in story medium intended for children, but just as interesting for parents, too. Dra. Pineda was a public school teacher for many years and former supervisor of Public Schools in Manila. The book has been approved by the Bureau of Public Schools for supplementary reading.

Two New Lodges.—As mentioned, two local groups have applied to Adyar already for recognition as Lodges of the Section and are now just awaiting their charters. The first is the former Pandacan Study Group. It has one of the best conducted study series under the direction of Atty. Mauricio Carlos, a former pre-war member of the Manila Lodge. The group sought the blessings of Mr. Hodson when he was here. The other is the splinter group of the Soliman Lodge, which meets at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Angel Florentin in Connecticut, Greenhills. It has applied for charter as the Rajah Lodge. This group may be said to be a direct offshoot of the visit of Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Hodson, for with the projected visit of our guests the entire Florentin family joined *en masse*, together with Mr. Edmund Lopez, Dr. Santiago Benedicto, Ambassador Leticia Shehani and Dr. Israel Bocobo as the new members of the Lodge.

Lodge Visits, Lodges and Study Groups.—It was possible even with the prohibitive cost of gasoline and the rationing system enforced then, to resume some out-of-town lodge visits. The first one was in February to the Lodges of Muñoz and Cabanatuan up in the North. My group was composed of Atty. Mario Zapata, Mr. Vicente Hao Chin and Mr. Romy Arellano, who also drove his car for us. It was quite an experience to be with that big and enthusiastic group, some fifty of them, from early morning to evening. A marathon session with warm-hearted

theosophical brothers, it was accented in the early afternoon by an induction of new officials and members.

Just as interesting were nearby visits to lodges closer to home base. There were the occasional sorties to Buhay and Hamsa Lodges, to the Ilaw Lodge and once to Balintawak lodge, which at that time was bravely trying to stave off the big erosion of disappearing members. Then there were the visits to Pandacan Study Group and the Rajah, as well as the invitation to meet with another Study Group in Makat, Rizal. Another Study Group was visited by the National Vice-president, Mario Zapata, in company with Mr. Domingo Argente and Mr. Romeo Velarde. A new Study Group was formed at the Y. M. C. A. centre in Concepcion, Manila, by former Trustee, Vicente Reyes. This one meets every Tuesday evening at seven.

The Cebu Lodge down in the Visayas makes very good showing as reported by its president, Mrs. Fely Abear. Not only has the membership increased, but a step towards better study facilities was started with the expansion of its library facilities at its centre in Juna Luna in the heart of Cebu City itself. The Cabanatuan and Muñoz lodges, sister lodges up north, show a marked gain in membership, too. Rizaliana, one of the biggest lodges to date, has enjoyed always good increase in membership, possibly due to its accessibility, since it meets at the Headquarters. It has elected a new set of officials headed by Dr. Miguel Viola. Buhay Lodge, a family lodge, has been granted a re-issue of its charter, after it was badly damaged by the last typhoon. Manila Lodge, one of the oldest, being the first lodge of the Section, is under the headship of Professor Federico Doval Santos. Studies in this Lodge are mostly handled by the younger members, who are the most active. Ilaw and the lodges up north usually

conduct their meetings in the national language. Pag-ibig Lodge, under Mr. Jose Cabrera, now meets at Headquarters on Sunday mornings and benefits from the presence of Headquarters habitués. The Hamsa Lodge is also planning to look for another meeting place, as their Rizal Avenue place is being vacated by the owners. It has a small but conscientious group that meets regularly.

Membership.—A fairly good increase in membership with a very much reduced loss in the inactive list, as compared to last year's, has given us a net gain of twenty-four (24) this year. Total membership stands at 277. Considering that we have increased our dues by doubling them, and the entrance fee by more than ten times its original rate, this gain in membership is quite encouraging. With the new incentives promulgated by the Board in the collection and distribution of annual dues, there is reason to hope for an even better showing next time.

Donations.—Aside from the cash donations given mostly for the Hodson visit, the Section is also the recipient of 270 sq. meters of land situated in Angono, Rizal. Our generous donor is the owner of Angono Farms and Garden Resort, Mrs. Gregoria Gopiao, in whose place, as mentioned, this year's first day of Convention was held. The lot donated is part of the Farms and Garden Resort which is along the highway, but also reaches down to Laguna Lake, in Laguna. Months before Convention, Mrs. Gopiao has already indicated that these lots which are within the Angono Farms and Garden Resort are being set aside for use of the Society. She envisions the place as a summer retreat for members of the Society, and so has also turned the other lots she was reserving for her children, into a park and garden area for the recreational and retreat place envisioned. Our generous member runs the Farm herself, together

with her children who all live there, too. A second-hand refrigerator was donated to Headquarters by the Carles family of Pandacan. As the old one at Headquarters badly needed a replacement, this very timely gift is deeply appreciated.

The Library and Bookshop.—Our report on the Library and the Bookshop is an extract of that prepared by our worthy and hard-working Librarian, Mr. Tony Francisco.

There is a big increase in the list of borrowers from both members and non-members this year. More than 100 books have been added to the lending and reserved sections of the Library. Donations of five boxes of used books were received from Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jordan, of Krotona, Ojai. These books were distributed to the lodge libraries of Cebu, Cabanatuan and Manila. The Library had undergone another re-arrangement this year. The reserved and research sections had been completely separated from the general circulation section.

The Bookshop has an even bigger increase in sales than last year. The mail-order section of the Bookshop has also increased in sales. The request for sole distributorship of the Quest Books in the Philippines has been granted by The Theosophical Publishing House in Wheaton, so we look forward to an even better increase in sales this year.

The Theosophical Youth Movement.—From the president of the TYM, Mr. Edmund Lopez, we take extracts of his report of the Theosophical Youth Movement. One of its most interesting activities was the T-sessions held on May 4-5 at the Farms and Garden Resort of Mrs. Gopiao in Angono, Rizal. It served to foster closer ties and understanding within the group through soul searching and personality revealing exercises. This was followed by a social get-together of

TYM members at the Florentin residence in Greenhills. A brainstorming session was held later on to elicit suggestions on activities to be undertaken in the future. A planning committee was formed, headed by Angel Florentin Jr. and Gil Quito. This committee drew up the plans for the TYM activities which was illustrated in a diagram and calendar of group activities. These were categorized into four main groups: study, meditation, service and group activities.

Under study are three sub-groups: study or discussion group; formal lectures and a formal course on theosophy.

Included under service are: dissemination of Theosophy, which included the opening of a University of the Philippines Chapter and a book sale within the campus; and service to an orphanage, prisoners and to the neighborhood through a vocational workshop. Under meditation, is group-conducted meditation and study of the course of concentration and meditation offered by the Section. Group activities include the Drama and Glee Club; T Group and Group Dynamics; TYM Newsletter; vocational workshop; and lodge visitations.

Out of this range of activities several were selected on a priority basis to form the short range activity scheme. A Glee Club was formed under the direction of Mrs. Herminia Reyes. For several weeks a group of young people conscientiously rehearsed some Filipino folksongs which they presented during the T.S. convention last June. During the month of July, T-Group sessions were held and study groups were formed to discuss topics which were relevant to theosophical teachings.

Contributions to flood victims were solicited by members, as part of their service activity. A formal course on Theosophy was started during the first week of August and was handled by

Dra. Juliana Pineda. Sessions of the group are currently held in a specially prepared nook downstairs which gave their sessions a sense of privacy. A forthcoming study session is a course on comparative religion to be handled by Mrs. Eugenia Tayao.

The success of the Hodson visit was much helped by efficient service rendered by the young members of the TYM as usherettes and ushers.

Headquarters Programmes.—The traditional Foundation Day Programme at Headquarters had Mrs. Rosie Acu as the principal speaker. Christmas Programme brought out a big turnout of members with even a 'Balikbayan' member, Conrado de Leon, a Manila Lodge member away for some three years, as an important guest. The first part of the year was characterized by a series of committee meetings in preparation for the Hodson visit. A scheduled three-day retreat was called off by our guest and was substituted by closed members' meetings. We were fortunate to have Mr. Hodson for Holy Week and his talk to members was entitled "The Serpent Fire". The month of May was taken over by the National President with talks on "Meditation", "Initiation" and "The Consecrated Life". A much appreciated lecture was given by Dr. Esther Doval Santos on "The Group Standpoint" and a talk on "Karma Yoga" was given by Mr. Romy Arellano. The month of July was notable not only for the first Workshop of the year, but for the well-presented talks on: "The Real and the Unreal" by Mr. Ramon Socco, followed by a tagalog lecture on "Psychism and Spirituality" by Mr. Romeo Velarde. The last Sunday of July, had for guest speaker, Mr. Eric Menthia, former Vice-Consul for Switzerland on: "A Pedestrian Goes East" which touched on transcendental meditation as he saw it and its effects, as registered in the bio-feedback

machine. Talks were given on "The Great White Brotherhood," by the National President and "The Art of Healing," by Dr. Magdalo Francisco, and an illustrated lecture on "Transmutation of the Serpent Power," by Mr. Ruben Cabigting. Some talks given outside were some of the other public lectures given in the name of the Society by the National President: "Reincarnation" to a group in Greenhills, "Practical Theosophy" to a Study Group in Makati and another on "What is Spirituality?"

Acknowledgment.—If the Theosophical Society in the Philippines is doing well, we have the many zealous workers and generous members to be thankful for. The small group of unflagging members often mentioned in past reports have now been augmented by new ones who have new and creative ideas that have helped to maximize our little resources in terms of funds and personnel and minimize the many complicated details of organizational work. To each and all, I would like to take this opportunity to express here my deep gratitude.

Conclusion.—The Society enters its one hundred years of existence next year, and even in a comparatively small and young Section like ours, it is not difficult to see considerable interest in the objectives and teachings of the Theosophical Society. The strenuousness of the times seem to be acting as a catalytic factor in drawing a great number of people to look for a deeper knowledge of the meaning and purpose of life and dedicate themselves to the search. Not only is materialism "wearing thin," it will soon be "*passé*" and to the opposite pole of spirituality will flow the crowd of "truth seekers." As one new member of ours said: "If there is one thing that has attracted me very much to the study of Theosophy, it is its motto, 'There is no Religion Higher than Truth,' for I seek Truth above all."

What a glorious opportunity therefore is there for each and all to band together in a "common search and aspiration for Truth"! What is more glorious then, than to strike even harder now "while

the iron is hot" and bring to quick realization a wondrous future ahead for humanity.

CLEO Z. GREGORIO,
General Secretary.

COLOMBIA

In general the work carried on by the old lodges was satisfactory; some were more active than others. The centre of activity is in the Bogotá headquarters.

The Managing Council meets once each month and plans the work of the year. Last year a minimum of working programmes was established, an estimate of income and expenditure was made in order to work methodically.

The main activities of the year were the following:

Monthly public lectures; publication of the review *Selección Teosófica* (quarterly); national Convention once a year; publication of an informative leaflet sent to each active member monthly; circulation of monthly letters to each new member; study courses for sympathizers and new members in Raja Yoga, meditation and talks on Theosophy; sale of theosophical texts edited by the Inter-American Theosophical Federation and other editors; translation of English theosophical texts into Spanish (Walter Ballesteros); production of a catalogue of theosophical books which can be consulted at the Library organized for members and the public.

The annual fees have not been increased, since some members are rather poor. However, a fund for the spreading of Theosophy was constituted by money deposits, which together with monthly donations are the basis for our normal expenses.

The relations with the Inter-American Theosophical Federation are cordial and cooperative. The review *América Teosófica* edited in Argentine is much appreciated. The publication of theosophical texts is an excellent contribution to make Theosophy known. We congratulate the Federation for its useful work.

We keep constant communication with Adyar. *The Theosophist* arrives regularly. Our best wishes and thoughts are constantly with the international President and Vice-President.

The visit of Sister Radha Burnier proved most useful to improve our activity and strengthen our minds. She gave public lectures, took part in meetings with members and aroused great enthusiasm among the young by her knowledge, her experiences and advice.

The impulse given by old and new members to the Movimiento Teosófico Infantil deserves to be mentioned. Thanks to their efforts, children find in the Society the possibility to study and understand theosophical teachings, so that from an early age they are able to train their minds to strive for a life enlightened by Theosophy. Some of them are taking part in the Round Table and have started theatre plays with theosophical subjects, which they played to children in hospitals and reform institutes. The leaders of these groups of children succeeded, thanks to their great patience and sympathy in forming study groups of children

showing sincerity, understanding and responsibility for their actions. They took part in the annual Convention with study groups, from which arose the nucleus "John Coats", patronized by the Colombian Federation of Young Theosophists.

The formation of this Federation is also worthwhile mentioning; the young people are working methodically, analyzing the human problems on the basis of Theosophy. They take part in the annual conventions, public lectures and

are supported by our members in their working camps. They visited other towns in the country in order to promote the spreading of Theosophy. They are working together with the groups of children and have organized courses in Raja Yoga, meditation, comparative studies of the religions and are working with admirable enthusiasm.

ALFONSO E. ORTIZ G.,
General Secretary.

EAST AFRICA

It gives me great pleasure in reporting the activities of the East African Section for the year ended 31st October 1974.

Office Bearers.—(1) General Secretary (National Chairman) Mr. H. M. Chhaya, Nairobi; (2) Asst. General Secretary, (National Vice-Chairman) Mr. H. D. Shah, Dar-es-Salaam; (3) National Secretary Mr. I. N. Menon, (now in U. K.); (4) National Treasurer Mr. K. H. Patel, Nairobi.

Section Headquarters.—The East African Section is comprised of the four sovereign and independent countries of Kenya, Uganda (at present no Lodge is functioning there), Tanzania and Zambia. Since each country has its own currency and exchange control regulations, we find difficulty in collecting annual dues, etc., in time. However we intend to explore possibilities of forming a separate Section for each country and have an overall supervision and guidance through a body equivalent to the Federation of the National Societies in Europe. Since the Lodges in Zambia are comparatively new and are very weak, it will take some time before a Section can be formed on its own for Zambia.

Membership.—Although many more members have left these countries for settlement elsewhere, our membership stands at 1044 as against 1078 last year. We have had 129 admissions during the year.

24th Annual Convention.—It was held at Nakuru, Kenya, during Easter, when the Nakuru Lodge was the host to more than 225 delegates from Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia, and it was a joy to see three delegates from Uganda as well. Our Guest of Honour was Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan, who very kindly consented to pay us a visit at very short notice. We are very grateful to the International President, Bro. John Coats, on whose advice she agreed to undertake a ten-week strenuous tour of our Section, for which we are grateful to her also. Delegates from Zambia travelled almost 200 miles in a chartered bus, and Dar-es-Salaam delegates also travelled a long distance of about 800 miles in a bus. This Convention was again a unique one, as many more African members than before participated in discussions and the proceedings of the Convention. Convention bulletins were issued on the following day, and

Mrs. Neelakantan's lectures were duplicated and distributed to the audience after the lectures. As usual, the Nakuru Lodge bore all the expenses for accommodation and meals of all delegates. The only change which was made for the first time in East Africa was the levy of a delegates' fee of Sh 5/- which was paid to the host Lodge.

Mr. G. A. Farthing's visit.—On the advice of the International President, Mr. Farthing paid us a visit last February while on his way to South Africa where he was invited as a Guest Speaker at the Southern African Convention. He visited almost all Lodges in Kenya, when Mr. R. S. Tak accompanied him, Tanzania and Zambia. He was interviewed on T. V. in Kenya and Zambia, besides giving public lectures and talks to members which were very well attended.

Mrs. Seetha Neelakantan's visit.—Mrs. Neelakantan visited all Lodges in Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia, after being our Guest Speaker at the Nakuru Convention. She was accompanied by myself in Kenya, and by the National Vice-Chairman, Bro. H. D. Shah, to Dodoma and Lindi in Tanzania. Besides addressing the general public, schools and members, she conducted study seminars on comparative religion, at Nairobi and Dar-es-Salaam. Her suggestions for improvement of the Section work have received prompt attention, and appreciation.

Visit of Lodges:—I visited Lodges at Kisumu, Kericho, Kakamega, Nakuru and Mombasa.

As already reported last year, Bro. A. B. Patel visited all Lodges in Zambia.

Bro. H. D. Shah, the National Vice-Chairman, visited all the Lodges in Zambia in September '74, and addressed members as well as the public, but the main object of his visit was to strengthen the Lodges and improve their administration.

Foundation Day celebrations.—17-11-73 was celebrated by almost all Lodges, but Nairobi Lodge in conjunction with the Section, celebrated it publicly. A special supplement was published in the local newspapers with the help of donations from three firms whose directors are members of the Society. The film "Reincarnation" was shown and discussions were held on it.

Other celebrations.—One major celebration was the Adyar Day, when members' donations for the Headquarters at Adyar were remitted through the bank.

T. V. Interviews.—1. Bro. Farthing, accompanied by myself and Bro. Rawal, was interviewed on T. V. in Nairobi. (2) Mrs. Neelakantan, accompanied by myself, was interviewed on T. V. in Nairobi, and she was also interviewed on T. V. in Zambia.

A prelude to the centenary celebrations.—Nairobi Lodge hired a stand at the Nairobi Agricultural and Trade show, one of the largest in Africa, and attracted about 8000 to 9000 visitors from 1st to 5th Oct. 1974, sold books worth about Sh 370/-, distributed free literature by the thousands and held a competition through a questionnaire to which 65 entrants sent their replies by the closing date of 9th Oct. Three best answers were given prizes of Sh 100, Sh 75 and Sh 50 in cash respectively, and a copy of H. P. B.'s book *The Key to Theosophy*. Other entrants were also given a booklet *Theosophy the Divine Wisdom* by the late President Bro. Sri Ram. The show stand brought the Theosophical Society into the lime-light.

Sale of Books.—During the last year we sold books worth Sh 8745/- or £ 450. One of the leading book sellers in Nairobi has started selling our books and we hope the general public will thus have one more avenue to be introduced to Theosophy. Books worth Sh 2000/- have been stocked by m/s Prestige Booksellers of Nairobi.

Allied activities:—The Theosophical Order of Service.—As usual, services to the poor and the needy were rendered by the Order at Nairobi, Nakuru, Kericho, Mufulira, Dar-es-Salaam, Tabora and at most Lodges in a smaller or a bigger way.

Bharat Samaj Puja.—Regularly every Sunday at Dar-es-Salaam and occasionally at Nairobi, this devotional worship was carried on by interested members and sympathisers.

Healing group.—This ceremony is being performed by members of the Dar-es-Salaam Lodge once every month.

Conclusion.—In conclusion, I am glad to report that in spite of the fact that many of our devoted members have left the country, the work of the Society goes on in this Section. The emphasis throughout the last year was on widening its scope so as to interest the indigenous people in its work, which I am glad to say, has succeeded to some extent, and we hope to do more in the centenary year. Our visitors play a great part in it, as we have

an opportunity to invite the general public to their lectures, etc. It is our earnest hope that the next year, the centenary year, will focus more attention of the public on our work as we shall have (1) Mr. Farthing from England as Guest Speaker at the centenary celebrations in Nairobi and Kenya (25th Nov. to 20th Dec. 1974) (2) Our International President Bro. Coats at the Silver Jubilee Convention and the centenary celebrations at Lusaka in Zambia (28th to 31st March 1975) and (3) Mr. and Mrs. Rohit Mehta, who have agreed to pay us a visit next year.

Any member who may be visiting African countries may write to us well in advance if they can extend their tour to any of our countries and give addresses on any Theosophical topic to members and the public. We can assure them of our warm welcome and hospitality at one of our members' residences, if they need it.

H. M. CHHAYA,
General Secretary.

PAKISTAN

The work of the Theosophical Society in Pakistan has continued without much change during the last year. There are now only four lodges in the region—at Karachi, Hyderabad, Lahore and Quetta. Except for Karachi, the membership in the other lodges is small and the activities limited. Due to conditions prevailing in the country, it has not been possible to activate the smaller lodges at present.

The Karachi Lodge has completed 78 years of its existence and has kept up its tempo of activities unabated. Its regular programme consists of one or two public lectures a month, weekly study classes and

a members' meeting per month. A number of members meet twice a month to study the writings of Mr. J. Krishnamurti. The lodge celebrates special days and anniversaries of importance to the Theosophical Society and also observes the anniversaries of the Founders of Religions. Its free and public library has over 12,000 books with many new additions during the year. A Special Library Endowment Fund has been started in order to bring the library up-to-date and modernise its services.

The Theosophical Order of Service is also very active in the field of family relief, scholarships to students, running of a large Montessori School with over

150 children and other activities related to animal welfare, health and healing. With the help from the Save the Children Fund in London, over 300 students and families are being helped every month. The Theosophical Order of Service also runs a club for the adult blind and has organised an orchestra of blind adults with a view to helping their rehabilitation and providing them with a useful occupation.

During the year under report, ten new members joined the Karachi Lodge while two members were lost due to resignation, four due to transfers out of Pakistan, two by death and one whose name was struck off due to continued non-payment. The membership of the lodge therefore, stood at 116 on 30th September 1974. Proper statistics have not been received from the other lodges but it is estimated that their number would total not more than 50.

The Karachi Lodge brings out a small publication called *Theosophy in Pakistan*. This gives the monthly programme of the lodges together with 2 to 4 pages of short articles and news of activities and other happenings in the theosophical world.

During the year under report the Presidential Agent in Pakistan, Mrs. Minwalla, was able to visit Colombo on a Social Work Conference and took the opportunity to meet members there and gave a public lecture on "The Power of Thought". In January she also visited Adyar for about ten days and was able to have discussions with the President, Mr. John B. S. Coats, about theosophical work in general. In June Mrs. Minwalla was able to visit the United States of America for nine weeks as the Guest Speaker at the 88th American Convention and as a visiting lecturer at the various theosophical camps in that country. She also gave some public lectures during

that time. On her way back, Mrs. Minwalla visited Huizen, the theosophical centre in Holland and was happy to meet the President, Mr. Coats, and Shrimati Rukmini Devi there.

The election of the International President of the Theosophical Society was carried out among members in Pakistan as in other Sections of the Society. A telegram of congratulations was sent to Mr. John B. S. Coats on his election as the sixth International President of the Society.

During the year under report, the members of the Karachi Lodge met to consider appropriate measures to celebrate the Centenary of the Theosophical Society and have elected a Committee to look into this matter. The celebration plan includes the publication of the abridged version of *The Secret Doctrine* to be translated into Urdu; making a collection of important articles on Theosophy and Islam so far published in theosophical magazines, into an anthology under the caption *Islam in the Light of Theosophy*; and organizing a special Centenary National Convention. In the next report, more details would be given in this connection.

There have been no theosophical visitors to the country during the year but we hope to receive in the coming year, visits from the International President and Vice-President and other theosophical workers.

The need for help from the International Headquarters in terms of theosophical lecturers, new theosophical publications and financial support towards the publication of theosophical books in the local vernacular is very great. It is hoped that this help will be forthcoming during the current year.

GOOL K. MINWALLA,
Presidential Agent.

MALAYSIAN FEDERATION

There are two active Lodges in Malaysia, viz., Penang and Seremban. The total membership is 60. Weekly meetings are held for members and others interested. Occasionally, public lectures are organised whenever a T. S. lecturer passes through the country. Annual retreats are also organised for concentrated study.

The Seremban Lodge runs a Montessori School with five trained teachers and an enrolment of 100 children between the ages of 3 and 6. This experiment in child education has been a great success. The School provides an opportunity for children of all races to grow up in an environment of love and creativity which is the Lodge's investment for the future.

Active consideration is being given to organising an Indo-Pacific Convention immediately following the centenary celebrations in Adyar in December 1975. This Convention may be held in mid-January 1976 if sufficient support is forthcoming from countries in the regions and also from members in Europe and America who may be passing through after the centenary celebrations in Adyar.

Malaysian Lodges are also preparing to send a contingent to the Adyar celebrations.

S. NARAYANAN,
Presidential Agent.

NORTHERN IRELAND

The singular nature of our Theosophical enterprise makes it impossible to give an exact evaluation of a year's work. Through the year we had an interesting programme of lectures and discussions provided in the main by our local talent. However, we still seem to fail to attract new members, and it would be far too easy to content oneself by saying that the cause of this is simply due to our present troubles and the world's general material outlook, and leave it at that. Our membership, as it stands at the moment—thin and widely scattered throughout the Province—is little more than half the membership we had in 1949, when the Theosophical Society in Northern Ireland was established. In our report to Adyar on 30th September last year, our membership stood at 39. Since then, we have lost a very active and valuable member of Bangor Lodge, Miss Muriel Hamilton, who passed peacefully into greater light

on 13th January 1974. Bangor Lodge itself has "gone into Pralaya" for the time being, although plans are being contemplated for bringing it into manifestation once again.

Our Annual Convention took place in May at our new premises; and for the second consecutive year, it took the form of a business meeting only. We had intended to have with us the Rt. Rev. E. J. Burton, as guest speaker, but in the end, due to the "delicate" state of affairs prevailing in the Province—petrol shortages and other disturbing factors—we felt compelled to persuade Bishop Burton not to make the trip to Belfast.

During the first week in August, four of our members—including myself—attended the English Speaking Region Summer School at Durham which provided the setting for a very beautiful experience.

We are passing through a very critical period and it is probably a truism to say that things are difficult, that times are difficult; but, aren't they always? One cannot help but to wonder about "the times" allotted to the pioneers of the Theosophical Movement, to H. P. B., Colonel Olcott and the rest of the courageous souls that followed. Were their times easy? Not by any standards! During the past few months, at our Wednesday meetings—poorly attended, no doubt, on account of present difficulties—we have been reading those *Old Diary Leaves* so charmingly put together by Colonel Olcott as a memory of the early days of the Society, and the impression one gets is that things were certainly far from easy then, that perhaps they were even harder than they are now. It would be true to say that times are different now, and that it may be necessary to reappraise our work honestly and feel entirely free to question and to reinterpret the theosophical ideals in the light of one's personal experience and also according to the lights of the present Age. A task of such a nature necessarily implies that

one be prepared to work meaningfully, not only in one's individual way, but also as a group. The success of the Society as a vehicle of Wisdom very much depends on its ability to function as a group, and I personally think that much more could be achieved by means of stimulating a real interest in group study. The key-word, as always, seems to be "Dedication"; if one can give expression to that word, all the rest shall follow.

I would like to include in this report a word of sincere appreciation towards all those "workers" who, generously, dedicated and continue dedicating time and effort in the furtherance of Theosophy. And by "workers" I mean not simply those of our members who seem privileged, or fortunate to appear in the limelight of the public platform, or who "occupy high places", but also those who, perhaps less noticed, continuously help in the "little things"; for, after all, in a sense there is only One Work, and what really matters is that The Work be done.

ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ,
Organizing Secretary.

VIET-NAM

Our Executive Committee is constituted of 12 members: President (General Secretary): Miss Luu Thi Dau, retired teacher; First Vice-President: Mr. Nguyen van Huan, landowner; Second Vice-President: Mr. Francois Mylne, radio-telegraphist; Secretary: Mr. Pham dang Lan; Pharmaceutist; First Assistant Secretary: Mr. Le van Hai, Civil Servant; Second Assistant Secretary: Mr. Le Toan Trung, Engineer; Treasurer: Mrs. Vo thi Mai, House-wife; Assistant Treasurer: Miss Tran thi Hoanh, retired teacher; Counsellors: Mr. Ha To Thuan, retired,

Engineer; Mr. Truong van Vi, clerk; Mr. Duong ngoc Dau, Oriental physician, Mr. Tran van Dieu, military man.

Number of Members	.. 1338
Increase	222

Number of Lodges: 19, 8 in Saigon, 11 in the Provinces.

Our Work: Members.—The generality of our members are intellectual people. They can read English or French theosophical books and we have helped them to buy books from India, France, London or Wheaton.

All our Lodges have organized study courses, at the homes of the Lodge Presidents or at the Headquarters of the T.S. every week, particularly on Sunday. The most important Lodge in Saigon, Kiem Ai Lodge, has given every Sunday evening a public lecture on Theosophy or religious subjects, yoga, meditations, etc.,—with audiences of more than a hundred. Its study courses on the ethic works such as *At the Feet of the Master* or *The Light on the Path* every Wednesday evening draw about 50 people to share the joy in a harmonious gathering. This Lodge has edited three times a year a magazine entitled *Anh Dao* (The Light of Truth). After the public lecture on every first Sunday, Kiem Ai Lodge organizes an inexpensive vegetarian meal which costs about 30 US cents, to help people get used to vegetarian food.

We have been trying to popularize our theosophical teaching by editing booklets which are easy to read, to understand the truth then apply it in daily life. This year, Brother Pham ngoc Da, our first General Secretary in Viet-Nam, has published for sale these books: *How to practice our Self Culture, Psychic Powers and Occultism in Buddhism, I study at the Feet of the Master*; and a series of theosophical booklets for children. Mr. and Mrs. Nguyen van Luong have distributed gratis many hundreds of books entitled *I Study the Truth at the Feet of the Master* and *The Three Ways to Perfection*. Even, in a remote province, Bac Ai Lodge has printed by hand and stencils theosophical books for children.

With the aid of some donors, our Secretary Mr. Pham dang Lan has recorded lectures on tapes and sent them to the lodges in the provinces. Saigon Lodge has also edited a bulletin to be given to its members for spreading theosophical teachings.

The Non-English Publications Loan Fund had given us US \$1,200 for publishing in a Vietnamese translation, *The Key to Theosophy* and *An Abridgement of the Secret Doctrine*. Phung-Su Lodge is composed of young men and women, most of them University students. They are very enthusiastic in their work. They have organized morning meditation gatherings, study courses on Theosophy, and a Sunday School for children. Lately, they had a week's meditation Camp at Pure Heart Centre, Vung-Tau, with about 19 people. In this same place was held the Summer School of the T.S. in Viet-Nam from 21st to 28th July 1974. The scheme of study and discussions was: Theosophy in Daily Life. About 90 participants attended the School, and they were served with vegetarian meals. There were also the Round Table Ceremony, an excursion and entertainment.

At our Headquarters, we have a training course for lecturers on each Saturday afternoon: on every Sunday Morning, from 10 to 11 a.m. we give lectures and discussions about general subjects, commentaries on *Light on the Path* and "How to Perfect our Whole Life" by Mr. Nguyen van Huan, Madam Nguyen thi Hai's husband.

General Secretary's tour.—We have visited "Dinh-Tuong" and "Go-Cong" Lodges to attend the commemorative day of their foundation. Each one of the delegates spoke about Theosophy, the T.S., the Three Objects, the three great Principles, etc. We also visited "Huynh-De" Lodge at Can-Tho (169 km from Saigon) to inaugurate the opening and "Y-Chi" Lodge at An-Xuyen, Camau (344 km) to see them for the first time.

We are planning to go to visit our lodges in the Western provinces at the end of November.

Our Plan.—The first Viet-Nam Theosophical Bulletin will appear on November 17th. It will be the link between the Society and the lodges and also the Mother Society at Adyar.

We are making a programme to explain our teachings to the new members.

Our orphanage has not so many real orphans as in the years before. So we wish to change it into a day nursery

helping needy families where the fathers and mothers work all day.

Too much work to do in a war torn country like ours but we always trust in a good future, in Divine Justice and we continue to work and to serve our Masters in spite of difficulties and troubles on our way to Perfection.

LUU-THI-DAU,
General Secretary.

VENEZUELA

No Report

WEST AFRICAN FEDERATION

No Report

BOLIVIA

The different branches established in the country have been taking shape more and more and we hope that in the near future we will have the necessary seven branches to establish the Bolivian Theosophical Society. With this hope, the Presidential Agent has visited the country centres encouraging them and helping form new spiritual groups in such cities as Potosi, Tarija and Santa Cruz. We are glad to report that the effort has been successful, especially in Santa Cruz where a new branch should be established soon, following another visit from the Presidential Agent.

Each lodge has a specific work plan, watched over and approved by the Agency, with the object of maintaining the tone of the theosophical philosophy.

In chronological order, we can briefly state that:

Peace Branch, founded in 1914 as the Branch of Peace, has worked uninterruptedly until now.

The Urus Branch, founded in 1935, was inactive for a few years, but was reorganized in 1974. It is now vigorously growing and we have many hopes for it.

The Inti Branch, founded in 1941, and for many years inactive, was revitalized and reorganized in 1968. From this date, it is working indefatigably for the spiritual growth of its members.

Rafael Echazu Branch, founded in 1973, is growing vigorously. The brothers who compose it are highly qualified, showing always an anxiety to surpass themselves.

Tunari Branch has been founded in 1971 and works normally, but with a few philosophic deviations which we hope will soon disappear.

From what has been given one can see that we have five working branches and two in formation, one in Santa Cruz and one in Potosi.

Themes of study during the period under review were: Theosophy and the Theosophical Society, cosmogenesis, evolution of the solar system, the Triple Logos, evolution of life and form in all the kingdoms, the constitution of man and of nature, forces, reincarnation, karma, meditation and concentration, seven great religions.

Works of Jinarājādāsa, H. P. Blavatsky, Mable Collins, Annie Besant, Rudolph Steiner and J. Krishnamurti have been

read and have filled our evenings with true spiritual peace. Exchange of lecturers has been promoted and several qualified Argentinian orators have given instruction. Also there have been excursions and periods of recreation in the country.

The festivals of our Society have been given special importance: White Lotus Day, Adyar Day, Wesak, and Foundation Day.

Normally, members' meetings are held once a week and public meetings monthly.

ELVIRA CABRERA DE SANABRIA,
Presidential Agent.

CANADIAN FEDERATION

The Canadian Federation has just completed another busy year, bringing to a close its fiftieth birthday. A suitable small celebration was held in the hall at Hermes Lodge, with an interesting account of the early days of its inception, recalling memories of those hard working members, of whom there are very few left.

We are planning our own celebration of the Centennial. As many members are planning to go to New York in November, we are planning a "mini"

celebration in May, the date of our annual meeting.

We were happy to have Mrs. Gool Minwalla visit us, giving a public lecture and a talk to members. Our regret was that we were not able to share her with all the Lodges in the Federation.

All Lodges report activity, with all members working well together.

IDA FRANCES STEPHEN,
Federation Secretary.

EUROPEAN FEDERATION

Activity has been continued in the various Sections of the Federation as reported by the General Secretaries.

The Federation held its annual Council Meetings as guest of the English-Speaking Region at their Summer School at Grey College of the University of Durham. A very welcome guest was our international President, Mr. John Coats. The other guest speaker was the General

Secretary of the Icelandic Section, Mr. Sigvaldi Hjalmarsson.

Summer Schools have been held in many Sections, often as Regional Schools, as in Scandinavia, France and Austria. There was also a gathering of young Theosophists in Switzerland where many nationalities were represented. Several of these younger members also attended the Pays Latins Summer School in Vittel,

France, and added their joyful vitality to that gathering. It is much to be hoped that distinctions of age and the obsession with the "generation gap" will soon be set aside, and that all our meetings will be well-mixed confections of members of all ages. Our future health and efficiency as a Society demands that this should be so.

Taking a wide view, the impression given is of a stirring of vitality among members and Sections and this must lead to a strengthening of the Society and a more positive reaching out to thinking people in the contemporary world.

MADELEINE LESLIE-SMITH,
Chairman.

INTER-AMERICAN FEDERATION

Most of the plans for this year have been fulfilled. Printing of *Self-realisation through Yoga and Mysticism* by J. Ransom, and *The Basic Ideas of Occult Wisdom* by A. Kennedy Winner was completed. Both were included in last year's programme. After two years of hard labour, *An Abridgement of the Secret Doctrine*, by E. Preston and C. Humphreys, was finished. Then, *Karma and Reincarnation*, by A. Besant, a most important text, expressing the foundations of the theosophical pattern.

Being printed.—*The Wisdom of the Upanishads*, by A. Besant; *Meditation, a Practical Study* by A. Gardner (the impossibility to get the necessary permission for its translation and publication in Spanish delayed this text for two years); *Man, his Origins and Evolution*, by N. Sri Ram (second edition in Spanish). We hope to have all these ready by the end of the year.

Some guides for lodge study have been translated and printed, plus a two-colour leaflet including the main theosophical ideas for public distribution. All these have been sent to the Sections together with some plans for lodge work. At present, new material is being translated.

Meetings and tours.—On July 7th to 14th, the President and almost the whole of the I.T.F. Executive Committee attend-

ed the II Winter School of the Brazilian Section, held in Centro Raja, San Pablo. This event was very successful, due to the good attendance of the people from Brazil and Argentina (more than 35 persons from the latter), and to the quality and depth of the studies. The School was presided over by Brother Juan Viñas, the I. T. F. Vice-President, who made a two-month tour through several Brazilian towns—Rio de Janeiro, Porto Alegre, San Pablo and Curitiba—delivering lectures and courses on Theosophy.

The Federation had an active participation in the organization—in the southern part of South America—of Mrs. Burnier's tour through Latin America, a most successful event which the Latin Theosophists hope can be repeated in the near future.

Another thing to be mentioned is the Inter-American journal, *America Teosofica*. The members from all the Latin American Sections consider it not only a means of spreading Theosophy but also a way of communication among the Sections. Including articles from members all over world, the journal is the spiritual link among all the members in Latin America.

LUIS SPAIRANI,
President.

THE REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

LODGES ATTACHED DIRECT TO ADYAR

PERU

Lodge H. P. B. "A"

There were some changes in the Directing Council. The President remains Sr. Augusto Alba Bardales; the Vice-President is Sr. Eberhard Rotmann Scott and the Secretary Sr. Manuel Fajardo Mora. There are twenty-nine active members, seven inactive, two resigned and one deceased.

The work has consisted of 12 public lectures, 10 lodge study meetings, 16 meetings of the Directive Council and 28 outings. There has been some restriction in public lectures while the new quarters of the Lodge were being prepared in Avenida Nicolas de Pierola 1014-208.

AUGUSTO ALBA BARDALES,
President.

HONG KONG

No Report

ISRAEL

Lodge Covenant:

The Lodge Covenant has now 30 members—four new members, among them Mr. Benjamin Wesley transferred from Adyar.

Activities.—In the frame of the Lodge Covenant's work, special mention is to be made of: the work of the young theosophists—two of them joined the camp in Evolène, the birth of the sister Lodge, Blavatsky Lodge, composed of new immigrants from Russia, and the large correspondence to get books from around the world so that H. P. B. Lodge has now a little library. There was also much correspondence for the young theosophists. Besides, members of the Covenant Lodge actively cooperated in the workshop of the weekend in Amirim, Galilee.

Since the war in Israel began only a few days after 1st October, some of our normal Lodge meetings could not take

place for lack of transportation; notwithstanding this, we had weekly meetings with the English Group, discussions about Theosophy, exchange of books, etc. We did the same with the study group of Russian members, since Covenant is the host for them. We sent books all over the country to members who couldn't come—some of them were in the battlefield—or to people interested in Theosophy. However, we celebrated White Lotus Day with 25 members and also Adyar Day.

Mrs. Hertha Barber is the Treasurer and the undersigned is the President, Secretary, Librarian, Hostess, etc. Sometimes we cannot change the situation.

The Library of the Covenant Lodge has books in 6 languages, thanks to the generosity of members from abroad.

BERTHE AL. DOMINIC,
President.

Lodge Blavatsky:

We were 11 members, but 3 of them left the country, so we are for the time being only 9 members. We are very hopeful that soon our number of members will increase.

Since the Blavatsky Lodge has existed for only one year, we cannot report many activities, but interested Russians are coming once a week to change books, to discuss about Theosophy, etc.

Four months ago we began to study the *Bhagavad Gita*, in our own language, thanks to Mrs. Dominic who provided us with a Russian library. It is a little one, but we hope very much that Theosophists from abroad will have the good will to send us more Russian books.

The undersigned is President, and Mr. Isidore Goldenberg is Secretary.

LIUBA ASSARNY,
President.

Lodge Harmony:

Owing to the Yom-Kippur war and its serious consequences, no new Fellows could be added to our membership list this year. Furthermore, two members of our Lodge very regrettably had to resign during 1973-74 for reasons of ill-health as well as old age, which reduced our membership to 25. Our Lodge Meetings were, however, continued as usual—twice monthly—with a number of “faithful” visitors regularly attending.

Invitations to lecture in various organizations and co-operative settlements (kibbuzim), extended to our Lodge President, Mr. Hans Zeuger, were markedly reduced as compared with previous years, as a result, no doubt, of the fact that a large part of our population, male and female, had to serve in our defence forces for rather long periods. Nevertheless, there were again repeated interviews with Mr. Zeuger both in our local English

and Hebrew press as well as with journalists from abroad, concerning his politico-astrological forecasts which appeared in various European papers, as for instance Germany, France, Switzerland, Belgium and others. In addition, Mr. Zeuger lectured over our Government-owned broadcasting station on “Theosophy—Parapsychology—Spiritism” and addressed wounded soldiers in one of our beautiful convalescent homes near Jerusalem.

During our summer recess, we were particularly pleased to meet and welcome two very charming Sisters of our French Section, Mrs. Georgette Kalt-Tissot and her daughter, Miss Marie Claire Tissot, who visited Israel in last July.

Attempts, inaugurated by Mr. Zeuger, our Lodge President, to re-unite both members as well as Lodges here in Israel after a ten year period of regretful separation, have made satisfactory progress so far, and it is now to be expected that this initiative might lead to fruitful co-operation between all the parties concerned in the not too distant future.

HANS ZEUGER,
President.

Lodge Emmanuel:

I am sorry to report that the work does not develop as successfully as we wish. It is rather slow, partly due to the circumstances in the country. However, we keep in contact with members of other like-minded spiritual groups.

The President is active in the Freemason movement and there are good relations between the two organizations.

It is unfortunate that few theosophical visitors from other countries come to bring fresh vibrations to the movement.

All the members of the Lodge are earnest theosophists. There has been much study of recent theosophical books, journals, reports of summer schools,

etc. The Lodge work takes the form of discussions rather than lectures, as this makes life in the circle more dynamic. There is no change in the number of members.

HEINRICH SREBROW,
President.

Lodge Besorat Hagalil:

The year from October 1973 till September 1974 was eventful for all Israelis and remarkable in more than one sense.

In September, 1973, just at the end of the year, a successful convention was held in the peaceful hills of Galilee with a guest speaker. And a few days later the Israelis celebrated their New Year in the usual very festive way, and were then surprised by the sudden unwanted outbreak of war. For the next weeks this event impressed itself on every thought and activity of all Israelis, the F.T.S. included.

The younger members were in the Army for many months. The others tried, anxious as they were for their fellow members, their families and friends, through invocations and meditations and practical assistance to help to overcome fear and anxiety.

In spite of these overwhelming difficulties the periodical *Theosophia* was published by its editor Varda Ben-Yizchak every three months.

The first Lodge meeting was held on November 17, just in time to celebrate the Inauguration of our new President John Coats.

Further Lodge meetings were from then on held regularly every two weeks up to July in spite of transport difficulties. A number of members came from the Army outposts. Our thoughts and feelings were occupied by the events of war, border accidents, slaughter of children especially in the Galilee and our town

Zefat, and the general tension in connection with the negotiations concerning the future of our country and people.

Themes discussed at the meetings were: death and its meaning, war and fighting, the book *Gods in Exile* by J. J. van der Leeuw. Because of the war some of our members were stationed in kibbutzim (collective settlements) and could interest young people to come to our meetings.

One other activity was hampered but not halted by the war and its aftermath: the translation, editing and printing of *Light on the Path* by M. C., with which Mrs. Anava Kantor, the translator, and Mrs. Chanah Mor were busy. The printing was partly financed by the N.E.P.L.F. Other translations are in progress and we hope to publish them in due course.

It was a source of great satisfaction for all members and friends, who came to the Convention at Amirim from 13-15 June 1974, that after all it could be held as had been decided at the Convention the year before. Now as then, the Besorat Hagalil Lodge was host to the lodges from Haifa and Tel-Aviv, to which the new one of Russian immigrants had been added. Lecturers came from the Covenant and Besorat Hagalil Lodges and were accepted with great interest. As the translation of *Light on the Path* was published shortly before, it served as a kind of motto and the Ariadne thread throughout the lectures. There were a number of artistic activities too: piano recitals by Sisters B. Masha Dominic and Anava Kantor, reading by Sister Alisa Nanor of some of her poetry, an exhibition of pictures by Sister Alisa Hahor and Jafa Tal.

It was decided to publish all lectures as a special issue of the periodical *Theosophia*.

The other resolve was to hold a convention in June of every year. Besorat Hagalil Lodge took on itself the organisation of the next one in 1975.

Membership stands the same as the year before at 15 members.

PINCHAS MOR,
President.

Lodge Lotus:

This was surely an unusual year for the Israel Lodges because of last year's October war. Due to this war and even "military reserve duty," the meetings of this Lodge could not be held regularly as scheduled. On the average one meeting a month was held from the month of February 1974 onward.

The present strength of this lodge is 9 (nine) members. One member Mr. Shlomo Gross left the lodge and one new member Mr. Alexander Srebrnik was admitted. Following are the names of the office bearers of this Lodge: President, Mr. Carmel Dubossarsky; Treasurer, Mr. Shlomo Rofe; Secretary, Mr. Nathan Samuel.

In the meetings of this Lodge discussion on various topics was held. One of the topics was "Transformation called Death," another was "Jewish Mysticism, Hassidism". One special but very timely

topic was "Looking at the War from the Theosophical Point of View!" The younger members showed much interest in "Practical Theosophy or how one can apply theosophical principles to daily life," hence more than half the number of meetings were held on this topic.

This Lodge always works in close co-operation with two other lodges in this country, namely, Covenant Lodge, Tel-Aviv and B'sorat Hagalil Lodge, Safed. In fact in the Convention held in the Amirim village members of all these lodges participated. Hence thanks should be given to Mrs. B. M. Dominic of Covenant Lodge and Mr. and Mrs. Mor of B'Sorat Hagalil Lodge in this matter.

Finally this report cannot be closed without mentioning the name of Mrs. Varda Ben-yizchak a member of 'Safed' lodge. In fact she has done a neat work of organizing meetings for Lotus Lodge. She also gave valuable advise as to the administration of this Lodge. Hence this Lodge is very grateful to her.

NATHAN SAMUEL,
Secretary.

SINGAPORE

Lodge Activities.—The more significant events this year were the Society days of remembrance on November 17th, May 8th and February 17th, which were celebrated with much fervour.

Adyar Day, White Lotus Day and Foundation Day were commemorated with a programme comprising a short meditation, prayers of the various religions and the Theosophical Invocation, which came after the usual tributes to Society leaders. Climaxing each programme was a vegetarian meal.

Early in the year, the Lodge Rooms were given a new coat of paint, this only being possible through the dedicated and tireless work and the financial generosity of a few members.

Some amendments were made to the existing constitution of the Lodge, and these have since been approved officially by the Registrar of Societies, Singapore.

The study of theosophical literature during the year under review took the form of readings and discussions on C. Jinarajadasa's *First Principles of Theosophy*

and taped lectures by Ianthe Hoskins of the English Section, on "Fundamentals of Theosophy". Both texts have now been completed and we have just begun the study of H. P. Blavatsky's *Key to Theosophy*.

Singapore Lodge was very happy to receive Bro. John B. S. Coats, our World President, Miss Joy Mills, International Vice-President, Miss Annie Tjioe, the International Treasurer, Australia's Elaine Murdoch and Marion Caws, all of whom made short but memorable visits here. Our members gained much inspiration from their exemplary dedication to T. S. ideals.

We were also fortunate in obtaining some illuminating talks from the Venerable Ananda Mangala, Soami Sariputra, Swami Nitya, Mr. Tan Ee Liong, Dr. Ray Nyce and Mr. Alex Langhof.

We regret that Bro. Ho Seng Hee, one of our staunchest members, passed away peacefully during the year.

Once more we place on record our grateful thanks to the following: Singapore Lodge members and 3 members of Adelaide Lodge, S. A., for their kind donations of books to our Library; our guest speakers for their services; the *Straits Times* and *New Nation* for publicising our talks, and all others who have helped the Lodge in one way or another. We look ahead to another year of dedication from our members, to those ideals based on the Society motto "There is no Religion higher than Truth".

LIM KHAY GUAN,
President.

JAPAN

Nippon Lodge, Tokyo:

Meeting.—Our meetings are held every Saturday evening. Usually 15-16 members gather.

Study.—We are still studying *The Abridgement of The Secret Doctrine* every third Saturday in a room of a city ward hall. We have received the permission to translate and publish this book from the Theosophical Publishing House, London. We began to make haste with this translation. Other Saturday evenings we are studying *Space, Time and Self* with newcomers at my place.

Work.—I reported last year that I was translating *Invisible Helpers* in my monthly magazine. This is not yet finished. One of my members began to translate *Kundalini* by G. S. Arundale for the monthly magazine.

I am planning to publish *At the Feet of the Master* and *Light on the Path* in

Japanese, by the end of this year at the latest.

New members.—We have had 6 new members.

Foreign Friends.—In early April, Mrs. Josephine Lee came from the U.S. She is one of the Librarians of Wheaton. We had dinner with some young members of our Nippon Lodge. She is studying "Yamabushis," esoteric Buddhists in the medieval period in Japan. I have heard that H. P. B. also had come to Japan to learn about "Yamabushis".

Mr. Pederson in Wheaton introduced me to a young Indonesian boy named F. M. Usman who is studying Japanese. He is really a nice young man. I'd like him to come to our meetings and study with us.

EMIKO TANAKA,
President.

BANGLADESH

Comilla Lodge:

The Lodge has not been able to regain possession of its property which was occupied during the war of liberation of 1971. Meetings continue to be held in the home of one of the members.

Meetings have been held fairly regularly throughout the year. The main theo-

sophical festivals have been commemorated. Study of the *Bhagavad Gita*, of articles written by the Lodge President and others, and of literature from Adyar, etc., were carried out.

The Lodge membership is now 22.

RASHMOHAN CHAKRABORTY,
President.

WORLD FEDERATION OF YOUNG THEOSOPHISTS

During an International Camp organised by the European Federation of Young Theosophists held in Evolène, Switzerland, from August 17-31, a number of informal W.F.Y.T. discussions were held together with Committee Meetings of the European Federation of Young Theosophists. Many of the Y.T.'s attending the camp later travelled to Vittel, France, to attend the French speaking Summer School of the T. S. in Europe where on September 2, an official Council Meeting of the W.F.Y.T. was convened with Mr. John Coats, President of the W.F.Y.T., taking the chair. The official W.F.Y.T. representatives present were Mr. Nathaniel Altman, (U.S.A.), Miss Angeles Torra Buron (Spain), Mr. Daniel Caracostea (France), Mr. Charles Chesrow (U.S.A.) Mrs. Danielle Lyner (Switzerland) and Mr. Antonio Tosco (Italy). The discussions centred about plans for youth programmes to be held during the coming Centennial Celebrations of the T.S. We also discussed whether or not the W.F.Y.T. should remain as a separate organisation from the T.S. with its own constitution and membership which had the tendency in some countries to create a division between it and young members of the T.S., who were not also members of the W.F.Y.T. We decided that a new and

simplified W.F.Y.T. Constitution should be drafted, which could later be amended and ratified during the coming Centennial Celebrations. We hoped that in the future the W.F.Y.T. might become more integrated into the work and structure of the T. S.

During the Council Meeting, elections were held for the offices of President as well as General Secretary of the W.F.Y.T. Mr. John Coats was re-elected as the President, while Mr. Charles Chesrow was re-elected as the General Secretary. As President of the T.S., Mr. Coats is "ex-officio", Honorary President of the W.F.Y.T. The Constitution of the W.F.Y.T. does provide for the offices of President and Honorary President of the W.F.Y.T. being filled by the same individual.

The treasurer and additional members of the Executive Committee were all elected in a previous year and as such the following Y.T.'s still fill these positions: Mr. Arend Heybroek (Treasurer, Holland), Mr. Nathaniel Altman (U.S.A.), Mr. Ngo-thanh-Ha (South Vietnam), Mrs. Danielle Lyner (Switzerland) and Miss Silvia Pastore (Argentina).

Having been at Adyar during the Winter of 1973-74, Mr. Charles Chesrow, the General Secretary, returned to Adyar in October

to continue the work of the W.F.Y.T. from our international headquarters. At this time, Mr. Peter Glasson of Sydney, Australia also came to Adyar to begin making plans for issuing an international theosophical youth magazine.

In order to help co-ordinate more youth oriented programmes and activities within the framework of the T.S., and at the same time to help facilitate communication between the T.S. and other New Age groups and organizations throughout the world which are youth oriented, it was decided that a new youth centre to be called the "International Theosophical Youth Centre" be established at Adyar as a department of the T.S. A "Youth Fund" shall be established as well so that interested Theosophists around the world can contribute financially to this important work.

The World Federation of Young Theosophists shall continue to exist in the manner in which it has been working during its many years of existence—that is as a loosely knit organization to help promote fraternity and brotherhood among young Theosophists.

Inter-American Federation of Young Theosophists.—Miss Silvia L. Pastore, writes in her annual report that the Inter-American Federation of Young Theosophists was created on January 27, 1973 in Porto Alegre, Brazil, and is made up of groups from the following countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Uruguay, and the U.S.A.

In April 1974, the II Inter-American Y.T. Congress was held in the town of Embalse de Rio Tercero, near Cordoba, Argentina, and was attended by representatives from Costa Rica, Brazil, Bolivia, Uruguay, Colombia, and Argentina. During this Congress the statutes of the I.F.Y.T. were approved, and among other important decisions, it was resolved

that a magazine will be published twice a year. This magazine would contain articles written by Y.T.'s as well as general information about activities of both Y.T. groups and federations.

During this II Congress the new Executive Committee was elected for the period April 1974-November 1975:

President: Silva L. Pastore (Argentina); Vice President: Marcus F. de los Santos (Brazil); Secretary: Alba. O. de Valdettaro (Argentina); Treasurer: Maria Cristina Cesano (Argentina); Publications Director: Graciela Ricci (Argentina); English Language Representative: Nathaniel Altman (USA); Portuguese Language Rep: Arnaldo Sisson Filho (Brazil).

The affiliated groups and federations held Y. T. encampments with good attendance and enthusiastic participation during 1974. The attendance was varied, and included people from the member country, as well as visitors from other nations. Brazil held two encampments—one in January and another in July; Argentina held one in January; Colombia in March; Uruguay in October and the U.S.A. in August. These important get-togethers bring all of us closer together and facilitate an important, positive exchange of ideas which tends to make the work of our groups more dynamic.

In March 1974, the first edition of the Informative Bulletin was published in Spanish and English, and in September the first edition of the Y.T. magazine was published, in Spanish and Portuguese.

In July the President of the I.F.Y.T. undertook an official tour around Brazil, and visited Y.T. groups and T.S. lodges. She was also able to participate in the II National Brazilian Y.T. Convention, which took place in Sao Paulo.

Among the plans for 1975 is the holding of our III Inter-American Congress, paralleling the commemorative activities

of the Centenary of the Theosophical Society, in New York City.

Argentina.—Mrs. Maria Rosa M. de Garcia, President of the Argentine Federation of Young Theosophists, writes in her annual report that since April 1974, the Argentine Federation of Y. T. has new officers for the period 1974-1976. They are:

President: Maria Rosa M. de Garcia;
Vice-President: Maria Cristina Herrera;
Secretary: Margarita Eva Salinas;
Treasurer: Diana R. de Moliterno.

The new mail address is: Avellaneda 490. San Rafael (Mza).

From January 20-26, the Argentine Federation of Young Theosophists held its annual camp with about 40 Y.T.'s attending including a Y.T. from Brazil. Some very wonderful days were spent at the beach in Claromeco where many walks were taken along the seaside before and after their morning and afternoon sessions of study. In the evenings there was much entertainment and singing.

In April, during the 12th Summer School organised by the T.S. Section held in Cordoba, the annual meetings of the Argentine Federation of Y.T. was held and the new officers mentioned assumed their posts.

In May, the Y.T.'s organised with the co-operation of the T. S. Lodge "Elevation" a series of lectures at Tucuman given by Mr. Juan Viñas, and also participated in a youth symposium at this time.

Y.T.'s from Argentina were present at the 2nd Winter School of the Brazilian T.S. Section held from July 7-14 at the Raja Centre in Sao Paulo experiencing great happiness and brotherhood during these days.

The Argentine Federation of Y.T.'s has translated the books *A Simplified Course of Hatha Yoga* by Mr. Wallace

Slater and *A Practical Course on Concentration* into Spanish. A mini-Theosophical glossary for new members is being prepared, and all of the youth groups in this Federation are working diligently and holding extra meetings especially to prepare a commentary on the book *At the Feet of the Master*. Some of these publications shall be handed over to the Inter-American Federation of Y.T.'s for distribution throughout the Latin-American countries and possibly other countries as well.

All of the groups are working ceaselessly at their various activities and contribute to the Argentine Y.T. Newsletter which is now issued only twice yearly, since it is the same group of Y.T.'s who now edit the Inter-American Y.T. Newsletter which is also issued twice each year.

The Y.T.'s in this country are doing their best both individually and as a group to acquire a deep knowledge and understanding of Theosophy and to manifest the wisdom-teachings in their lives.

Brazil.—The Brazilian Federation of Young Theosophists held its 6th National Meeting at the "Curitiba" Lodge in Parana from January 3-6, 1974 with the attendance of 60 young Theosophists.

During the 2nd Winter School organised by the T.S. Section from July 7-14 at the Raja Centre in Sao Paulo, further meetings of the B.F.Y.T. were held with many Y.T.'s attending from Argentina as well as Brazil.

Mrs. Marilia Varallo, President of the B.F.Y.T., Mr. Marcus Flavius de Los Santos and Mr. Arnaldo Sisson Filho travelled to Cordoba, Argentina, in April to represent the B.F.Y.T. at the 12th Summer School of the T.S. held there.

In October, a new Y.T. group called "Lotus Branco" was formed in Rio de Janeiro.

The various groups which comprise this Federation continue their intensive programmes of study, service and recreation.

England.—There is a new youth centre called the “Olcott Centre” located at the National Headquarters of the T.S. in London, England. A very fine bi-weekly lecture programme on the various aspects of esoteric philosophy is held, with a study class which meets each alternate week. A weekly meditation session dedicated towards world peace and brotherhood is held as well, and members in the group wish to correspond with other Y.T.’s who take an active interest in world problems and their solutions. The Secretary of this new and vital group is Mr. Achilles Achilleos.

Europe.—The major event of the European Federation of Young Theosophists was the summer camp which was held from August 17-31 at Evolene, Switzerland. Special guest of honour was Mr. John Coats, our International President, and happily Mrs. Betsan Coats was also able to be present adding much warmth and life to the gathering. About 80 Y.T.’s from 12 countries together with some other older Theosophists made this gathering a very wonderful and special occasion.

Mrs. Danielle Lyner, President of the European Federation of Young Theosophists, continues to edit the magazine *Unité* which although in the French language has been very effective in helping the Y.T.’s throughout Europe to achieve a strong sense of unity and brotherhood.

India.—Last January, Mr. John Coats inaugurated a new youth centre activity at Adyar called “The Fire Garden” where young and old could come and meet for serious study, discussion and social enjoyment including musical entertainment. Classes on meditation and

yoga, health and diet, Theosophy, astrology and modern dance were held. A very fine health foods kitchen was run as well. In May, the centre closed down for the summer and it is hoped that in the future similar activities may flourish at our international headquarters.

At Adyar, the Vasanta Youth Lodge meets twice a month during which time a deep study of Theosophy is undertaken. In October, the Youth Lodge celebrated its Golden Jubilee. A special weekend gathering was held with the participation of many students from the surrounding colleges and universities.

In Bangalore, there is a new youth group which is connected to the T.S. Lodge in this city.

South Vietnam.—Mr. Le thien Duyen, who is the link officer for the Youth Lodge “Service” in Saigon, writes that in 1974, the Youth Lodge completed its seven year programme on the theme “To Develop the Higher Self”. Their study on Theosophy has been mainly on the subject of the seven rays, while their meditation has been on developing atma in order to realize a clear perception of unity.

The Youth Lodge has co-operated with the National Society in a workers’ training programme visiting and lecturing at the various lodges in the country.

On White Lotus Day, the Youth Lodge organised an exhibition of Madame Blavatsky’s complete works which attracted many members.

The Youth Lodge continues its very fine programme for children, teaching Theosophy through stories and good conduct through meditation. Every month during the year, symposia were held on the subject “Theosophical Education” with the participation of many lodges.

In October, the Youth Lodge organised a camp at the Pure Heart Centre at Vung

Tau with the aim to help Young Theosophists look inward.

The Youth Lodge has received through the Theosophical Publishing House (Adyar) a gift of books to the value of Rs. 300 which has been a very great help to enrich the Youth Library with the result that they have been able to attract a larger number of members.

The Lodge President for 1974 was Mr. Te Van Hiep and the newly elected President for 1975 is Mr. Pham Viet Van.

U.S.A.—Most of the activities of the American Federation of Young Theosophists centred about the National Headquarters of the T.S. in America located in Wheaton, Illinois, where during the year many gatherings are held.

A news bulletin entitled "Coming Together" was issued during the year while at the same time there was one issue of the magazine *Sophia*—a special issue devoted to the subject of drugs in the light of Theosophy. A very fine audio-visual programme called "The Unifying Factor" was prepared during the year and presented during the annual summer Convention of the T.S. During the Convention, the yearly Y.T. elections were held and the new President of the

A.F.Y.T. is Mr. Robert Thibodeau of Ferndale, Michigan.

There is a new youth group centring about the T.S. headquarters called the "Phoenix" group which issues a magazine by the same name.

The yearly Y.T. summer camp was held during the last week of August at the Far Horizons Theosophical Camp located in California.

The A.F.Y.T. is planning to arrange inexpensive accommodation for Y.T.'s who shall be travelling to New York City to attend the World Congress in November 1975.

Yugoslavia.—Under the direction of Mr. Emilio Trampuz, the Y.T.'s have become more organised and active in the three main cities of Belgrade, Zagreb and Ljubljana. The groups consisting of members and non-members meet weekly for talks and discussions. With the co-operation and help from older members, a quarterly publication called *The Young Theosophist* was started. As the T.S. in this country does not have a section journal, it turns out that the new magazine shall be of great use and benefit to the Section.

CHARLES CHESROW
General Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS

ADYAR, MADRAS 600020

OFFICERS

1 October 1974

Executive Committee:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| (1) THE PRESIDENT | } | <i>Ex-o fficio</i> |
| (2) THE VICE-PRESIDENT | | |
| (3) THE RECORDING SECRETARY | | |
| (4) THE TREASURER | | |
| (5) MRS. RADHA BURNIER | | |
| (6) LT. COL. R. GOPALARATNAM | | |
| (7) MR. K. N. RAMANATHAN | | |
| (8) MR. K. SANKARA MENON | | |
| (9) MRS. NORMA Y. SASTRY | | |
| (10) MR C. R. N. SWAMY | | |

Adyar Library: DIRECTOR: MRS. RADHA BURNIER.

LIBRARIAN: MRS. SEETHA NEELAKANTAN.

Archives: MR. C. R. N. SWAMY

Bhojanasala: SUPERINTENDENT: MRS. JAYAGOWRI SHAH.

Estate Management Committee: OFFICER-IN-CHARGE: MR. C. SESHADRI.

Garden Department: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. T. JAYEWARDENE.

Information Department: PROFESSOR H. E. HAKIM.

Laundry: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. V. DESIKAN

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. N. S. NARASIMHACHARI.

Public Relations Officer: PROFESSOR H. E. HAKIM.

The Theosophical Publishing House: MANAGER: MR. K. N. RAMANATHAN.

The Theosophist: ASST. EDITOR: MISS MARION CAWS.

The Vasanta Press: MANAGER: MR. K. RAMANATHAN.

Watch and Ward Department: SUPERINTENDENT: SUBEDAR. G. SAMBASIVAN.

THE THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE

Mr. John B. S. Coats, International President of The Theosophical Society, was elected Chairman of the Council of the Theosophical Publishing House on 11th October, 1973.

The Members of the Council during the year were: Miss Joy Mills, Dr. Jean Raymond, Miss Annie Tjioe Siang Nio, Mrs. Radha Burnier, Mr. K. Ramanathan and Mr. K. N. Ramanathan.

Two meetings of the Council were held during the year.

Publishing Conference.—Two sessions of the International Publishing Conference were held during the year, one at Adyar in January 1974 and the other at Wheaton, in September. The January session was attended by representatives of the three publishing houses and a number of leading Theosophists. At the Wheaton session, the Theosophical Publishing House, Wheaton, were the hosts. Mr. K. Ramanathan and Mr. K. N. Ramanathan represented the Adyar Publishing House, and the Theosophical Publishing House, London was represented by Mr. F. M. Maxwell. Lines of expansion and co-ordination were examined and agreed upon at these meetings.

Mr. K. Ramanathan and Mr. K. N. Ramanathan were enabled to visit two presses in U.S.A. at which printing work of the Theosophical Publishing House, Wheaton is being carried out, and to familiarise themselves with recent developments in book production technique. They also visited filmsetter factories near Boston and London (England), as well as the Heidelberg Druckmaschinen Factory at Heidelberg, Germany.

General.—The publications of the Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar, are now available through more booksellers in India, and the number of overseas booksellers ordering Adyar books has also increased. About 300 booksellers in India are listed among the customers of the Theosophical Publishing House, and a number of them place fairly large and frequent orders, notably from Delhi, Varanasi, Calcutta and Bombay. Overseas, business has developed with Southern Africa, West Africa and Scandinavian countries, and the trade with Australia has increased.

Theosophical Publishing House publications were represented at a number of book fairs overseas through the National Book Trust of India, which sent selections of Indian publications to these fairs. The Theosophical Publishing House participated in a Bargain Book Fair arranged in Madras by the Booksellers Association of Southern India, and had books on display and sale at several of the Inter-Lodge Conferences held in Madras. It was able to import and sell more Wheaton and London publications.

New Publications and Reprints.—Four new books were published during the year, namely: *The President's Inauguration*, 1973; *Thoughts For Aspirants*, II Series (N. Sri Ram); and *Science and Occultism* and *The Secret of Self-Realization* (I. K. Taimni). 29 books were reprinted. Reprint orders were generally for larger numbers of copies in view of the increased demand, also to meet anticipated sales in the Centenary year.

Workers.—Mrs. Bridget Paget, Assistant Editor of *The Theosophist*, left during the year to take up an assignment at the Theosophical Society in America, Wheaton. Following this Miss Jeanne Dumas acted as Assistant Editor till the place was filled by Miss Marion Caws. The help of a number of Adyar residents was available during the year, as in years past, for the reading of proofs and the evaluation of manuscripts. We are very thankful to them for their assistance.

“The Theosophist”.—Owing to inflation the cost of production had gone up considerably and there was an excess of expenditure over income in 1972-73, as there had been in the previous year.

The subscription price of the journal was therefore revised upward from January 1974.

Financial Results.—During the year the financial year was changed, to run from April to March instead of from October to September. Results for the new financial year 1973-74 (six months period from October to March) showed a small excess of income over expenditure of Rs. 1,165 against Rs. 1,235 in the previous year. Operations in the period April to September 1974 were generally at the same level as in the previous half-year.

K. N. RAMANATHAN,
Manager.

THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

It is once again my pleasure to present a report of work done in the library. Though the year under report has been rather an uneventful year, work has gone on steadily in spite of lack of qualified personnel in the research section. Miss V. Vijaya is working in the repair and preservation section from June 1974 for a trial period of one year.

We were sorry to lose the services of Mr. E. F. Orfila who left India for Wheaton, Ill., U.S.A. to take up work at the Headquarters of the T. S. in America. He has been associated with the library for more than 20 years, extending his valuable advice and help in the preservation and repair of books and MSS. besides the microfilming section and laboratory. We take this opportunity to extend to him our warm appreciation and thanks for all his contributions.

PUBLICATIONS:

The second volume of the *Amarakośa* with the commentaries of Liṅgayya Sūrin, Mallinātha and Bommagaṇṭi, is now being seen through the press; also the *Descriptive Catalogue* of the Sanskrit MSS. given to the library by the Visvabharati, Santiniketan. The translation of the *Samnyasa Upanishad-s* has been completed by Prof. A. A. Ramanathan and it is now being scrutinized by Dr. E. R. Sreekrishna Sarma, the joint translator. The revised edition of *Laghu-Yoga-Vāsiṣṭha*, brought out in 1971 as No. 3 in the Adyar Library General Series, is in the press for reprinting due to popular demand.

Another work which is being reprinted is *Mānameyodaya*, a Mīmāṃsa work of the Bhaṭṭa school. Edited with an English translation by Dr. C. Kunhan Raja and S. S. Suryanarayana Sastri, it was originally published by the Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar, Madras. Due to its value to Sanskrit students and repeated requests for its reprinting, it is now being brought out as No. 105 in the Adyar Library Series.

THE ADYAR LIBRARY BULLETIN:

The volume for the period under report is a special Jaina number to commemorate the 2500th Paranirvāṇa of Mahavira. Contributions to this issue include papers from scholars who have specialized in Jaina philosophy. The *Bulletin* records 119 exchanges and 156 subscribers.

MANUSCRIPTS REGISTER:

This is now making quick progress and during the year 2300 entries were made in the register. We hope to complete this during the course of the next year.

SERVICES RENDERED:

Microfilms of 8 MSS. and 18 books (including 7 for the Theosophical Society Archives) and photostat copies of 5 books and seven documents were supplied on request. The microfilming of *New India* for the Nehru Memorial Museum Library is progressing and during the year 52 volumes were completed.

Transcripts in Devanagari of 13 MSS. were supplied to various scholars and

research institutions on request, while typed copies of 25 articles from journals were supplied to Mr. S. Durai Raja Singam of Malaysia.

Works Used.—The library records 409 readers, 106 resident readers cum borrowers, 138 borrowers from the city and 25 Braille borrowers.

During the year under report 6000 persons used the library; 10932 books and 5924 MSS. were consulted in the premises; 6159 books and 23 MSS. were borrowed.

Research Scholars.—As in the previous years the rich collections continue to be used by research fellows in and outside India besides a number of western youths interested in Indian philosophies and yoga. Mention may be made here of: Dr. Lionel and Mrs. Caplan, both of the School of Oriental and African Studies, London University, doing research in Sociology; Dr. C. M. S. Mody of Creighton University, gathering material for a second volume on the work of Dr. Besant entitled "The Political Thought of Mrs. Annie Besant: The Indian Years (1893-1933)"; Miss A. McMurtry, University of Toronto; Miss M. Shahdev of Kurukshetra University; and Mr. M. Chhabra, Department of History, Vikram University.

REPAIR AND PRESERVATION:

19 books and 97 volumes of journals were bound in the Vasanta Press. 1116 books were repaired and bound in the library's repair section. 42 books were hand laminated.

ACQUISITION AND CATALOGUING:

Books.—Out of 3400 books received during the year, 93 were purchased, 40 were exchanged and the rest were gifts. Out of 3267 received as gifts, 1300 are still to be catalogued. Our grateful thanks go to: Mrs. Radha Burnier for 1,124 books from the library of the late Mr. N.

Sri Ram; to Mr. Jayananda Hiranandani, U.S.A., for 751 latest titles on Engineering including Computer Programming, Business Management, etc.; 217 through the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, New Delhi; 91, mostly Spanish, from E. F. Orfila; 70 being books reviewed in *The Adyar Library Bulletin*; 54 light American fiction from Miss C. Richie and Mrs. Helen Loenholdt; 44 from the office of the International President of the Theosophical Society; 43 from Miss Jeanne Dumas; 33 from *The Theosophist Office*; 32 German Theosophical Publications through Dr. N. Lauppert, Austria; 23 from Mrs. S. Neelakantan; 21 through the office of the Recording Secretary, Theosophical Society. To all these and to many others who had donated less than 20 books we express our grateful thanks.

We extend our appreciation and thanks to the Theosophical Publishing Houses, Adyar, London and Wheaton for continuing to send all their new publications and reprints. We also thank the Point Loma Publications, Inc., San Diego, U.S.A., for sending their journal and publications regularly.

Our thanks go also to The Theosophical Book Association for the Blind, Calif., U.S.A., for 87 books in Braille; and to Matilda Ziegler Publishing Company, New York, for continuing to send their journal.

Book Cataloguing.—The reclassification of the pamphlets in the Social Science and Language Sections of the Eastern Section were completed during the year and books in the Science Section are now being attended to.

DONATIONS:

The library takes this opportunity to record its thanks to: The Eclectic Society, London, for Rs. 3,660; Mrs. Radha Burnier for a cash donation of Rs. 2,000/- and Rs. 500/- as books; The Theosophical

Society in America for Rs. 400/- as books and journals published in U.S.A.

VISITORS:

Amongst the many visitors to the library mention may be made of: Dr. M. Witzel associated with the Nepal-German MS. Preservation Project, Khatmandu; Mr. J. R. Francisco, University of the Philippines; Dr. A. C. Domahiag, University of Western Australia; Dr. J. Brough, St. John's College, Cambridge; Mr. C. C. Petrantis, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.; Mr. Peter C. M. Alcock, Massey University, New Zealand; Mr. Thomas R. Trantman, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; Mr. K. R. Logan, University of California; Mr. H. Kitagawa, Department of Indian Philosophy, Nagoya, Japan; Mr. B. O. Donovan, Design Council and Crafts Committee, London; Mr. V. R. Nedunchezian, Minister for Education, Tamil Nadu; Mr. F. M. Mohsin, Union Dy. Minister

for Home Affairs, New Delhi; Mr. Vishva Mohan, Asst. Education Officer, Ministry for Education and Social Welfare, New Delhi; Mr. K. V. Ramanathan, Asst. Welfare Officer, Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Madras; and Mr. C. R. Vittobabu, Asst. Director of Collegiate Education, Madras.

CONCLUSION:

We are always happy to extend our grateful thanks to Dr. V. Raghavan and Dr. K. Kunjnni Raja for their continued help in the research and publication section; to Mrs. Parvati Gopalaratnam for looking after the librarian's work during her absence from India and for her part-time help in the cataloguing section; and to the many members of the Theosophical Society and friends for their interest and support in the work.

SEETHA NEELAKANTAN,
Librarian.

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 Founders** 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 **Income and property applied to promotion of objects** Society, whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Society as set forth in this Memorandum of Asso-

ciation, 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 **Members of General Council not answerable** General Council shall be answerable for any loss arising in the administration or application of the said 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 present personally or by proxy

Witnesses to the signatures:

(Sd.) WM. GLENNY KEAGEY ..
 „ ARTHUR RICHARDSON ..
 „ PYARE LAL ..
 „ PEROZE P. MEHERJEE ..

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-

casation 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 Resolutions 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 Who Shall Preside 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 Chairman 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 anytime 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 colour, 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

Lodges and Fellows within the territory of a National Society but attached direct to Adyar or to another National Society

Date membership begins

Lodges and Fellows within the territory of a National Society

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 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.

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

Vesting of property of National Society or Lodge

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

31 (c) (except where the law of the

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 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 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 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.

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.

DIRECTORY

AT

1 JANUARY, 1975

Ex-Officio Members of General Council

President: MR. JOHN B. S. COATS

Vice-President: MISS JOY MILLS

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	... Mrs. Ann Wylie	... P.O. Box 270, Wheaton, Illinois 60187
1888	England	... Miss Ianthe H. Hoskins	... 50 Gloucester Place, London, W1H 3HJ
1891	India	... Mrs. Radha Burnier	... The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221001
1895	Australia	... Mrs. Elaine Murdoch	... Fourth Floor, 121 Walker Street, North Sydney, N.S.W., 2060
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, 3
1897	The Netherlands	... Drs. H. M. Brandt	... Meentweg 11, Naarden, N.H.
1899	France	... Mr. S. Lancri	... 4, Square Rapp, 75007 Paris
1902	Italy	... Sgr. Edoardo Bratina	... 34131 Trieste, Corso Umberto Saba N. 6
1902	Germany	... Mrs. Anneliese Stephan	... Alsterdorfer Str. 338, D-2000 Hamburg 60
1905	Cuba	... Mr. Juan Bautista Rodriguez Oliva	... P.O. Box 6365, Havana
1907	Hungary	...	...
1907	Finland	... Miss Sirkka Kivilinna	... Vironkatu 7c2, 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. Charles Lallemand	... 51, rue du Commerce, 1040 Bruxelles 4
1912	Indonesia	...	...
1912	Burma	... U Kyaw Sein	... 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

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1919	Ireland	... Miss Dorothy Emerson	... Alexandra Guild House, 30 Leinster Road West, Dublin 6
1919	Mexico	... Sr. Luis A. Medina Barrera	... Ignacio Mariscal 126, Mexico 1, D.F.
1919	Canada	... Mr. T. G. Davy	... Box 5051, Postal Station "A," Toronto 1, Ont. M5W IN4
1920	Argentina	... Señor Juan Viñas	... 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, 17 ^o 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. Charles E. M. James	... 206 Newport Rd., Cardiff CF2 IDL
1923	Poland	...	...
1925	Uruguay	... Sr. Justo V. de la Vega	... J. Barrios Amorin 1085 St. Montevideo
1925	Puerto Rico	... Sr. Aramis Lopez Tirado	... Calle Isaura Arnau 1149, Country Club, Rico Piedras 00924
1925	Rumania	...	...
1925	Yugoslavia	... Mrs. Mila Grubacevic	... Lino Mariani, 17, Pula 5200
1926	Sri Lanka	... Mr. T. R. Rustomjee	... 49 Peterson Lane, Colombo 6
1928	Greece	... Mr. C. Melissaropoulos	... Dragatsaniou str. 6, Athens 122
1929	Central America	... Srta. 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	... Sra. Julia B. de Martinez	... 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	... Miss Luu-Thi-Dau	... 462 Vo-di-Nguy Bd., Phu-Nhuan, 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*	... Sra. Elvira Cabrera de Sanabria	... Casilla 1073, Cochabamba

European Federation ... Mrs. M. Leslie-Smith ... 2, Tekels Park, Camberley GU15 2LF, Surrey, England

Canadian Federation ... 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.

* Presidential Agency } Presidential Agents and Organizing Secretaries are not members of the
† Federation } General Council.

Additional Members of the General Council

- MRS. RUKMINI DEVI ARUNDALE, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600020, India (for 1973, 1974 and 1975).
- MR. GEOFFREY HODSON, 17 Belvedere St., Epsom, Auckland 3, New Zealand (for 1974, 1975 and 1976).
- MR. LESLIE H. LESLIE-SMITH, 2 Tekels Park, Camberley GU15 2LF, Surrey, England (for 1973, 1974 and 1975).
- MRS. GOOL K. MINWALLA, 'Q' House, 2nd Floor, 2 Framroze Rd., Bath Island, Karachi 4, Pakistan (for 1974, 1975 and 1976).
- MR. JAMES S. PERKINS, The Manor, 2 Iluka Road, Mosman, N.S.W. 2088, Australia (for 1975, 1976 and 1977).
- MR. K. N. RAMANATHAN, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600020, India (for 1973, 1974 and 1975).
- DR. HUGH SHEARMAN, 36, Cliftonville Road, Belfast BT 14 6 JY, United Kingdom (for 1975, 1976 and 1977).
- MR. CHARLES D. T. SHORES, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600020, India (for 1974, 1975 and 1976).
- MR. V. WALLACE SLATER, 10, Cranmer Court, Wickliffe Avenue, London, N3 3HG, England (for 1975, 1976 and 1977).
- MR. LUIS SPAIRANI, Florencio Balcarce 71, Buenos Aires, Argentina (for 1975, 1976 and 1977).
- MR. C. R. N. SWAMY, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 600020, India (for 1975, 1976 and 1977).
- MRS. ANN WYLIE, P. O. Box 270, Wheaton, Illinois 60187, U. S. A. (for 1974, 1975 and 1976).

SUMMARY

Of the Minutes of the Meetings of the General Council of the Theosophical Society held in Shanti Kunj at the Indian Section Headquarters, Varanasi, on 25th and 31st December 1974 and 1st January 1975.

PRESENT

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| Mr. John B. S. Coats | .. <i>President (in the Chair), and Proxy for the General Secretaries of the Theosophical Society in Italy, Chile and Ireland.</i> |
| Miss Joy Mills | .. <i>Vice-President, and Proxy for the General Secretaries of the Theosophical Society in New Zealand, Germany and Central America and for Mr. K. N. Ramanathan and Mr. C. D. T. Shores, Additional Members.</i> |
| Dr. Jean Raymond | .. <i>Recording Secretary and Proxy for the General Secretaries of the Theosophical Society in Australia, Wales, Yugoslavia, East Africa and Viet-Nam.</i> |
| Miss Tjioe Siang Nio | .. <i>Treasurer.</i> |
| Mrs. Ann Wylie | .. <i>General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in America and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Cuba.</i> |
| Miss Ianthe H. Hoskins | .. <i>General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in England and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in France.</i> |
| Mrs. Radha S. Burnier | .. <i>General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in India and Proxy for the General Secretaries of the Theosophical Society in Sweden, Finland and Columbia and for Mr. L. H. Leslie-Smith and Mr. V. Wallace Slater, Additional Members.</i> |
| Drs. H. M. Brandt | .. <i>General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in the Netherlands. (Absent 1st January 1975).</i> |
| Mr. S. D. Ballard | .. <i>by invitation.</i> |
| Mr. C. R. N. Swamy | .. <i>by invitation (25th and 31st December 1974), Additional Member (1st January 1975).</i> |
| Mr. A. B. Patel | .. <i>by invitation (31st December 1974 and 1st January 1975).</i> |

The Minutes of the Meetings of the General Council held on 25th and 1st December 1973 and 1st, 2nd and 8th January 1974:

These were confirmed and signed.

Amendments to the Rules and Regulations.

(a) *Amendment to Rule 43 (a):*

“ 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*.”

(Alterations in italics)

The results of voting were as follows:

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
(1) “ 31st March ”	47	—	—	47
(2) “ First day of March ”	35	—	—	35

Having received the required number of votes, the Amendment was adopted.

(b) *Amendments to Rule 10:*

The Amendments to Rule 10 as circulated with the Agenda were not adopted and were referred back to the Committee on Structures and Procedures together with an *ad hoc* Committee of those General Council Members residing at Adyar for further consideration.

Confirmation of voting on reappointment of Auditors for the year ending 31st March, 1975:

The results of the voting were as followings:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
47	—	—	47

Having received the required number of votes, the reappointment of M/s N. A. Naganathan & Co., Auditors, for the year ending 31st March, 1975 was confirmed.

Confirmation of voting on election of the Vice-President, Miss Joy Mills:

The results of the voting were as follows:

<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>	<i>Abstaining</i>	<i>Total</i>
45	—	1	46

Having received the required number of votes, the election of the Vice-President was confirmed.

Committee to study structures and procedures of the Theosophical Society:

Miss Joy Mills, Vice-President (Vice-Chairman of the Committee) reported that she had received a number of suggestions for changes to be studied. The work on these had not yet commenced. It was resolved that the same members of the Committee be retained.

Perwathin (The Theosophical Society in Indonesia):

The President reported that in consultation with the President of Perwathin, it had been agreed that some members of the Indonesian Society be attached to The Theosophical Society, Adyar, as Fellows-at-Large and serve as a liaison between Adyar and Perwathin.

Utilization of the Adyar Estate:

(a) *Damodar Gardens*: The President had been informed by the Besant Centenary Trust that it was their intention to move the Besant Theosophical High School from Damodar Gardens by June 1975. The General Council was informed that the school buildings were in poor condition and would require a lot of repair and renovation. It appears that although the lease between the T. S. and the B. C. T. has terminated, the B. C. T. is still required to deliver the buildings up in good order and condition on vacating them. The question of compensation by the B. C. T. to the T. S. for damages to the buildings should be considered.

It was resolved that if Damodar Gardens was vacated in June 1975 it would not be possible to start a new school there in the immediate future to replace the Besant School because of factors which had developed in the past twelve months. It was resolved that repairs and renovations be effected to the premises when vacant possession was obtained so that they could be used for accommodation of delegates during the Centenary celebrations. Subsequent use of the premises would be considered later.

(b) *Besant Gardens and Olcott School, new premises*: It was reported that the Secondary Section of Olcott School had now been moved into the new buildings in the south-east corner of Besant Gardens and that the School had been upgraded to a high school. A new Headmaster and Correspondent had been appointed. A lease could now be drawn up between the Theosophical Society and the School for the use of the premises.

The Council recommended that the Correspondent of the School should be preferably a long-standing member of the Theosophical Society, fully acquainted with its aims and objects.

(c) *Child Welfare Centre*: It was reported that the Society's Child Welfare Centre was functioning and almost 100 children of the Society's employees were being supplied with milk and protein-enriched bread daily. Council members had not been informed of the project prior to its commencement and resolved that the Executive Committee be instructed that no major projects should be started on the Estate without the knowledge of the Council.

(d) *Houses along the sea-front*: It was reported that plans had been drawn up for eight houses within the Society's property along the sea frontage. It had been decided to proceed with three of these immediately.

(e) *Institute of Theosophical Studies*: The Vice-President outlined her proposal for the Institute. It was thought that the headquarters of the Institute should be within the Adyar Estate, possibly housed in new buildings in Besant Gardens which would include seminar rooms, a hostel, provision for audio-visual programmes and so on. It would be international in nature with branches in various parts of the world. The Vice-President

is to draft the proposal and circulate it to Council Members for comments. It will serve as a memorial to Mr. N. Sri Ram.

The proposal to set up an international school based on theosophical educational principles may be co-ordinated with the Institute.

(f) *Preparations for the Centenary Celebrations on H. Q. Estate:* A Structural Committee and a Functional Committee are to be formed. The Vice-President was appointed to take charge of the organization of preparations. Mr. R. Gopalaratnam who is Convener of the Celebrations Committee, will continue to act in this capacity. A Finance Committee, with the Treasurer as Chairman, is to be set up to keep track of and coordinate the expenditure.

History Book:

As Dr. Hugh Shearman will not be able to complete the text of the History Book for issue during the Centenary Year, it was resolved to ask Mr. Leslie H. Leslie-Smith to produce a small booklet for the purpose.

Judiciary Committee to study Rules of National Societies and their compatibility with the International Rules.

The Rules and Regulations of various Sections are being collected. Mr. A. B. Patel who will arrive in Adyar shortly will be asked to review them and make a preliminary report. A judiciary committee will then be nominated.

Centenary Celebrations:

It was resolved to leave the dates of the Adyar Convention unchanged as December 20th to 30th for various reasons, even though this was a busy time for the airlines. It was reported that programme committees had been appointed for both the Adyar Convention and New York Congress and tentative programmes will be issued shortly.

With regard to the Centenary Convention at Adyar, owing to accommodation on the Estate being at a premium, it was recommended that members be informed that they could bring only their spouse with them to the Convention. Non-members could register and attend the Convention but not be accommodated on the Estate.

With respect to the World Congress in New York, the Vice-President reported that attendance was being permitted to members of all the Theosophical Societies, not only the one with its Headquarters at Adyar. The President had issued invitations to these groups.

It was resolved that General Council Meetings would be held in New York as well as Adyar. As it was thought desirable to have as many General Council Members as possible present at the meetings, it was resolved that financial assistance for travel would be given to those General Council Members who were unable to attend either of the meetings if they applied for assistance so that they would be able to attend at least one. Details of the scheme are to be worked out by the Executive Committee together with other General Council Members residing at Adyar.

School of the Wisdom:

The President reported that the School of the Wisdom is being replaced by the Institute of Theosophical Studies which will commence functioning in 1976.

Salaries of employees at the International Headquarters:

It was reported that although during the preceding year employees had received a considerable increase in salary, the rapid rate of inflation in the Indian economy had negated most of this. It was reported that a Consumer Stores had been opened for the use of employees to enable them to buy essential commodities at lower than retail prices. In order to assist in the payment of higher remuneration to the employees several Sections had resolved to increase the percentage of their annual dues remitted to Adyar.

Proposal to alter Rules and Regulations to permit the appointment of a second Vice-President:

It was resolved to refer this proposal to the Committee on Structure and Procedures for study.

Accommodation rates at Adyar:

It was resolved that rates be based on actual costs which should be worked out. Non-members should be charged at cost plus 25% and members of at least six months' standing should receive a 20% rebate on this basic rate. It was recommended that the new charges be commenced from 1st April 1975.

Annual Business Meetings of Sections:

It was resolved that Sections be asked to send a copy of the Minutes of their Annual Business Meetings to the Recording Secretary's Office at Adyar, so that the Headquarters was kept informed of changes in officers, etc.

Century Book:

The Vice-President reported that very few countries had made definite enquiries regarding translation of the Century Book into their own languages.

Lands in Sind (Pakistan):

It was resolved on the recommendation of the President and in accordance with Rule 21 of the Rules and Regulations that the land be transferred to the Theosophical Society in Pakistan.

International Funds:

It was reported that the Constitution of the International Fund in Europe has not yet been finalized as the Trustees were awaiting the results of certain changes in the Civil Law in the Netherlands where the Fund would be domiciled. It was resolved to investigate the possibility of setting up similar Funds in other countries.

Centenary Calendar on Adyar:

It was resolved that this should contain pictures of Adyar only and not other centres. It is hoped that Mr. Francis Brunel can come to Adyar to take the photographs for it.

Report of Executive Committee Decisions:

It was resolved that a report be issued at half-yearly intervals instead of annually to enable the General Council to be kept better informed of the Committee's decisions. The Committee on Structures and Procedures is to be asked to consider revision of the procedures to be followed by the Executive Committee as stated in the International Rules and Regulations.

Enquiry from the English Section whether any change in the First Object of the Theosophical Society would be considered:

It was considered that no change in the First Object would be considered to help the English Section obtain recognition as a charitable organization under English Law, as such a move may prove detrimental to the International Society or to other Sections.

It was recommended that any recommendations for changes in the Objects be sent to the Committee on Structure and Procedures for correlation to be presented at the next General Council meetings in New York and Adyar.

Consideration of the utilization of the Society's properties in the Nilgiri Hills, South India:

It was reported that the Society at present owned two houses, "Gulistan" and "Rose Windows", at Kotagiri in the Nilgiri Hills, approximately 330 miles from Madras. A third house "Sheltwood" would come into the Society's possession on the passing of its owner, Miss Gladys Taylor, who had willed it to the Society. Miss Taylor also owned another house, "High Cliff", which the Society was considering buying as all four houses formed a complex, being immediately adjacent to one another. It is proposed to hold seminars, summer schools and workers' training camps on the properties, possibly with the cooperation of the Indian Section.

The proposal for developing the properties for the stated purpose was approved.

Theosophical Order of Service: International Secretary:

The President reported that he had appointed Miss Gusta Koopman as International Secretary of the T.O.S.

Stamp Collection in England:

The stamp collection which is the property of the Theosophical Society and is being held in England is to be brought to Adyar for safe-keeping and is not to be sold at present.

Railway concession within India for delegates attending the International Convention:

The Indian Railways have granted a substantial concession to persons attending International Conventions of the Society. As this concerned almost entirely the members of the Indian Section, it was resolved to let the Indian Section take charge of the issuing of certificates for receipt of the concession.

Definition of "in good standing":

It was proposed that the definition of "in good standing" passed at the previous year's General Council meetings be revised to read as follows:

“A member is in good standing if his dues to the Society have been paid for the last official year.” This revision will be circulated for voting.

Shrines of Sikh, Jain and Jewish Religions at Adyar:

It was agreed that the construction of these three shrines be proceeded with utilizing donations when they amounted to a sufficient sum.

Olcott School—Old Premises:

These premises having been vacated by the School, it was resolved to use them to accommodate delegates during the Centenary Convention. The question of their subsequent usage or disposal will be considered at the General Council Meetings in December 1975.

Theosophical Magazines:

It was agreed that the layout of THE THEOSOPHIST be revised and an attempt be made to give it a wider appeal. THE ADYAR NEWS-LETTER is to be enlarged to include international news of special activities of Sections.

The President had proposed the starting of a new magazine in addition to THE THEOSOPHIST designed to appeal to the members of the public who were interested in the occult and mystical movements but not necessarily in the Theosophical Society as yet. It was felt by the Council Members present that more information on the proposal was needed before a decision could be taken and the matter should be referred back to the General Council before any action is taken.

The President also reported on the formation of an International Youth Centre at Adyar and the proposal for it to issue a Youth Magazine. The Centre is intended to encourage and coordinate the activities of the young members of the Theosophical Society.

Non-English Publications Loan Fund:

It was resolved to reappoint the Committee members holding office in the previous year. The report of the Committee for the year ending 30th September, 1974 was tabled.

The Treasurer's Report and the Accounts for the six months ending 31st March 1974:

The Treasurer pointed out that it was difficult to draw conclusions for the year from the accounts as they only covered a period of six months. It was resolved that the members of the General Council should in future be given the departmental accounts to consider, in addition to the consolidated accounts. It was also resolved to engage a cost accountant to go into the accounts of all departments and their method of presentation. The present method may need revision to give a truer picture of the financial situation. It was agreed that the quarterly “Financial Statement” in THE THEOSOPHIST be no longer published and a quarterly report of donations and bequests received be published in its stead. The Report and Accounts were adopted.

Management of the Estate:

A Management Consultant has been asked by the President to go into the rules of procedure for each department with a view to improving efficiency and economy. He will also be able to carry out the job of a cost accountant, as he has the qualification.

The Budget for 1974-75:

The Budget was considered and noted. As three-quarters of the financial year had already passed, it was felt that there was no value in adopting it at that stage. It was resolved that in future the Budget for the coming year must be presented to the Council for consideration (not the current year as at present).

Appointment of Auditors for 1975-76:

M/s. N. A. Naganathan & Co., Chartered Accountants, Mylapore, Madras, were reappointed as Auditors for the year 1975-76 on the same terms as in the preceding year.

Appointment of Executive Committee for 1975:

The following were appointed as members of the Executive Committee for 1975:

President	}	<i>Ex-Officio</i>
Vice-President		
Recording Secretary		
Treasurer		
Mrs. Radha S. Burnier	}	<i>Member, General Council</i>
Lt.-Col. R. Gopalaratnam		
Mr. Jack Patterson		
Mr. K. Sankara Menon		
Mrs. Norma Y. Sastry	}	<i>Member, General Council</i>
Mr. C. R. N. Swamy		

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS, 1974

National Sections (Active)	39
Presidential Agencies (Active) ..	4
Federations formed under Rule 35(c) ..	3
Total Lodges ..	1,221
Total Membership 1973 ..	32,169
Total Membership 1974 ..	32,998
Increase	829

	No. of Lodges	No. of Members
1. United States of America ..	96	5,173
2. England ..	72	2,233
3. India ..	469	8,170
4. Australia ..	16	1,833
5. Sweden ..	11	343
6. New Zealand ..	18	1,212
7. The Netherlands ..	30	1,034
8. France ..	42	1,312
9. Italy ..	25	628
10. Germany ..	13	310
11. Cuba ..	19	401
12. Hungary ..	—	—
13. Finland ..	21	462
14. Russia ..	—	—
15. Czechoslovakia ..	—	—
16. Southern Africa ..	10	406
17. Scotland ..	4	96
18. Switzerland ..	9	233
19. Belgium ..	10	259
20. Indonesia ..	—	—
21. Burma ..	6	63
22. Austria ..	8	237
23. Norway ..	8	141
24. Egypt ..	—	—
25. Denmark ..	13	304
26. Ireland ..	3	59
27. Mexico ..	25	272
28. Canada ..	14	313
29. Argentina ..	42	801
30. Chile(No Report)—	—	—
31. Brazil ..	38	938
32. Bulgaria ..	—	—
33. Iceland ..	14	683
34. Spain ..	—	—
35. Portugal ..	13	199
36. Wales ..	2	77
37. Poland ..	—	—

* Presidential Agency.

† Federation

	No. of Lodges	No. of Members
38. Uruguay ..	11	213
39. Puerto Rico ..	6	68
40. Rumania ..	—	—
41. Yugoslavia ..	4	76
42. Sri Lanka ..	8	104
43. Greece ..	5	227
44. Central America ..	14	163
45. Paraguay ..	—	—
46. Peru (see below) ..	—	—
47. The Philippines ..	17	277
48. Colombia ..	9	148
49. East Africa ..	23	1,044
50. Pakistan* ..	4	182
51. Malaysia* ..	2	60
52. Northern Ireland† ..	3	38
53. Israel (see below) ..	—	—
54. Japan (see below) ..	—	—
55. Viet-Nam ..	19	1,338
56. Venezuela* ..	3	40
57. West Africa† ..	11	241 (1973)
58. Bolivia* ..	5	38 (1973)
59. Canadian Federation† ..	10	129
60. Fellows-at-Large ..	—	145
61. Lodges attached directly to Adyar		
Chile ..	1	13 (1972)
Israel ..	6	97
Peru ..	5	77 (1973)
Hong Kong ..	1	10 (1973)
Singapore ..	1	33
Japan ..	1	23
Bangladesh ..	1	22
Total	1,221	32,998

Study Centers:

United States of America ..	101
England ..	18
India ..	23
Australia ..	1
Italy ..	1
Switzerland ..	1
Argentina ..	1
Brazil ..	6
Canadian Federation ..	1

DR. JEAN RAYMOND,
Recording Secretary.

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

ADYAR, MADRAS 600 020, INDIA

Accounts for the half year ended 31st March 1974

A. B. C. FUND INVESTMENTS

<i>No.</i>	<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Amount</i>
		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% Andhra Land Mortgage Bank, Debentures, 1971-76 ..	130,000
5.	4½% Andhra Land Mortgage Bank, Debentures, 1970-75 ..	20,000
6.	7¾% Central Bank of India, Deposit ..	100,000
7.	7¾% Punjab National Bank, Deposit ..	100,000
8.	7% Punjab National Bank, Deposit ..	250,000
9.	7¾% United Commercial Bank, Deposit ..	100,000
10.	7¾% Indian Bank, Deposit ..	480,000
11.	7½% Indian Bank, Deposit ..	50,000
12.	6½% Indian Bank, Deposit ..	150,000
13.	7¾% National & Grindlays Bank, Deposit ..	200,000
14.	7¾% Bank of India, Deposit ..	50,000
15.	7¼% Bank of India, Deposit ..	40,000
16.	12 Years National Defence Certificates ..	10,000
17.	4% Canadian Pacific Railway Co. £ 3,000/- ..	63,000
18.	4½% Kenya Government Loan £ 500/- ..	10,500
		2,129,700

FEES AND DUES RECEIVED DURING THE HALF YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1974

1973-74
(From 1-10-1973
to 31-3-1974)

Rs.

The Theosophical Society in Australia	..	8,479.30
„ Austria	..	1,432.55
„ Belgium	..	1,945.45
„ Bolivia	..	187.20
„ Central America	..	700.80
„ Colombia	..	312.00
„ England	..	2,080.51
„ Finland	..	2,451.53
„ Germany	..	1,665.00
„ Mexico	..	1,044.86
„ Northern Ireland	..	27.08
„ Puerto Rico	..	318.60
„ South Africa	..	2,080.85
„ Switzerland	..	2,002.00
„ Venezuela	..	432.00
Canadian Federation	..	803.86
Lodges Attached to Adyar	..	1,335.08
Fellows-at-large	..	745.88
		<hr/>
		28,044.55

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL

EXPENDITURE	PREVIOUS YEAR ENDING 30-9-1973		Current Half Year Ending 31-3-1974	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Appropriations:				
President's Travelling Fund ...	5,000.00		—	
Vice-President's Travelling Fund...	5,000.00		—	
		10,000.00		—
Departmental Results:				
Adyar Library ...	-54,966.21		-42,148.43	
Bhojanasala ...	-5,430.36		-2,552.78	
Garden Department ...	-15,706.98		-13,009.38	
Laundry Department ...	-4,094.56		-3,541.74	
Leadbeater Chambers ...	-1,595.11		+1,673.97	
Maintenance Department ...	-40,122.44		-38,973.58	
Theosophical Publishing House ...	+1,996.94		+1,165.40	
Vasanta Press ...	+779.58		+685.56	
		119,139.14		96,700.98
Depreciation:				
On Gulistan Property ...	519.75		259.87	
On Immovable Property ...	40,660.88		22,561.72	
On Motor Cars ...	2,901.08		1,160.43	
On Movable Property ...	1,951.10		1,248.50	
		46,032.81		25,230.52
Establishment and other Expenses:				
Bad debts ...	1,628.73		79.75	
Boundary Expenses ...	14,731.74		10,234.85	
Convention 1973 ...	7,951.67		10,874.10	
Dispensary ...	11,681.55		7,898.71	
Fire Insurance ...	763.06		374.76	
Gulistan Maintenance ...	1,474.27		1,420.58	
International Offices ...	11,678.07		12,344.27	
Legal and Audit Expenses ...	6,104.05		2,555.25	
Light & Water ...	5,400.14		6,526.94	
Miscellaneous ...	23,277.00		6,413.39	
Museum and Archives ...	943.56		621.86	
Postage, Telegrams and Telephones ...	8,307.15		4,634.04	
Printing and Stationery ...	2,412.93		1,756.95	
Publications to General Secretaries ...	1,219.82		15.00	
Repairs and Renewals ...	74,817.91		24,672.55	
Retirement Allowances ...	6,857.14		3,914.31	
Salaries and Wages ...	50,852.79		30,290.93	
Sanitation ...	9,353.09		6,295.06	
Taxes ...	17,909.09		8,851.62	
Travelling & Conveyance ...	2,483.96		1,982.31	
Watch and Ward ...	34,874.51		24,272.63	
		294,722.23		166,029.86
Gratuity allocation ...		3,253.50		2,284.25
		473,147.68		290,245.61

ADYAR, MADRAS 600020
17th July 1974

FOR THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY,
C. R. N. SWAMY,
Hony. Treasurer.

Examined and found correct.
N. A. NAGANATHAN & CO.,
R. A. RAMAN, Partner,
Chartered Accountants.

Examined and found correct.
N. A. NAGANATHAN & CO.,
R. A. RAMAN, Partner,
Chartered Accountants.

LIABILITIES	PREVIOUS YEAR ENDING 30-9-1973		Current Half Year Ending 31-3-1974	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
General Fund:				
As per last Balance Sheet ...	4,345,243.90		4,361,502.99	
Add: Receipts during the year:				
Donations ...	110.00		—	
Fees and Dues ...	147,180.33		28,044.55	
Bequests ...	19,329.30		3,627.00	
Increase in the value of Life Policy ...	210.00		—	
Transfer of Grant to Adyar Library from Ford Foundation (India) ...	48,750.00		—	
Surplus on disposal of lands during the year ...	269,093.29		669,491.89	
	4,829,916.82		5,062,666.43	
Less: Headquarters contributions to Non-English Publications Loan Fund a/c Basle, Switzerland ...	456,550.00		—	
	4,373,366.82		5,062,666.43	
Less: Reversals of excess provision of Govt. Grants receivable by Adyar Library for 1971-72 ...	3,158.25		—	
	4,370,208.57		5,062,666.43	
Less: Excess of Expenditure over Income ...	8,705.58		63,485.36	
		4,361,502.99		4,999,181.07
Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund (b)		2,120,361.82		2,133,179.04
Century Fund (a) ...		433,717.24		420,601.86
Exchange Equalisation Fund ...		182,992.47		182,992.47
Other Funds: (see notes below)				
(a) Of The Society: Interest bearing				
Miscellaneous Funds (a) ...	31,309.37		33,693.09	
Miscellaneous Funds (c) ...	401,665.54		401,260.83	
		432,974.91		434,953.92
(b) Of The Society: Non-Interest bearing				
President's Travelling Fund ...	30,444.44		15,906.83	
Miscellaneous Funds ...	219,388.82		201,599.86	
		249,833.26		217,506.69
(c) Of others: Interest bearing ...		92,431.20		73,073.92
(d) Of others: Non-Interest bearing ...		6,402.40		11,230.28
C/o		7,880,216.29		8,472,719.25

SOCIETY, ADYAR, AS AT 31st MARCH 1974

ASSETS	PREVIOUS YEAR ENDING 30-9-1973		Current Half Year Ending 31-3-1974	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Immovable Properties: At Cost	206,902.84		204,470.05	
Less: Land sold during the year ...	2,432.79		3,070.93	
		204,470.05		201,399.12
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 ...	1,364,087.68		1,626,435.33	
Additions ...	262,347.65		96,487.49	
	1,626,435.33		1,722,922.82	
Less: Depreciation to date ...	599,017.96	1,027,417.37	621,579.68	1,101,343.14
Buildings under Construction :				
Olcott School Building ...	120,973.02		144,523.07	
T.S. Well & Water Tank ...	42,101.84		—	
Vasanta Press Building Extension .	159,066.95		204,525.75	
Child Welfare Centre ...	1,612.98		—	
Temporary Sheds for Schools ...	24,780.87	348,535.66	—	349,048.82
"Gulistan", Kotagiri (At Cost)				
As per last Balance Sheet ...	20,790.72		20,790.72	
Less: Depreciation to date ...	8,925.29	11,865.43	9,185.16	11,605.56
Movable Property at Adyar:				
Furniture & Fixtures: (At Cost)				
As per last Balance Sheet ...	106,281.96		108,046.03	
Additions ...	1,764.07		7,410.87	
	108,046.03		115,456.90	
Less: Depreciation to date ...	90,486.17	17,559.86	91,734.67	23,722.23
Motor Cars (At Cost)				
As per last Balance Sheet ...	56,057.50		56,057.50	
Less: Depreciation to date ...	44,453.19	11,604.31	45,613.62	10,443.88
Investments (At Cost)				
Government of India Loans ...	255,051.76		255,051.76	
State Government Loans ...	296,037.00		271,037.00	
Foreign Investments ...	364,110.19		369,223.48	
Surrender Value of Life Policy ...	25,548.00		25,548.00	
Miscellaneous Securities ...	69,584.69		69,584.69	
Fixed Deposits ...	4,820,895.00	5,831,226.64	4,640,895.00	5,631,339.93
Interest Accrued on Investments ...		113,007.51		100,228.64
C/o		7,579,569.23		7,443,013.72

SOCIETY, ADYAR, AS AT 31st MARCH 1974

ASSETS	PREVIOUS YEAR ENDING 30-9-1973		Current Half Year Ending 31-3-1974	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
B/f ...		7,579,569.23		7,443,013.72
Departmental Assets: (As valued and certified by the Management)				
Water Line Meter Installations ...	187.36		177.99	
Electrical Installations ...	44,755.08		39,319.53	
Telephone Installations ...	12,735.19		12,098.43	
Tools, Equipments etc. ...	62,004.22		66,211.22	
Printing Machinery etc. ...	482,606.36		474,617.97	
Amounts Recoverable ...	10,712.13		11,408.93	
Standing Crops and Developments	2,561.15		2,681.15	
Stock on hand ...	152,140.19		237,769.95	
		767,701.68		844,285.17
Adyar Library Assets ...		1,114,731.06		1,085,303.96
T.P.H. Assets:				
Assets ...	496,648.89		513,749.26	
Investments ...	363,300.00		313,300.00	
Cash and Bank Balances ...	25,322.93		79,120.44	
		885,271.82		906,169.70
Sundry Assets ...		1,076.53		1,318.96
Loans and Advances ...		223,365.36		165,954.00
Outstanding Income:				
Fees and Dues ...	1,226.10		—	
Subscriptions ...	1,529.61		1,654.61	
		2,755.71		1,654.61
Security Deposit ...		390.00		4,390.00
Sundry Debtors: (Considered good by Management)		28,427.77		93,450.64
Gratuity Advance ...		3,842.30		—
Prepaid Expenses ...		767.55		1,916.59
Cash:				
In Madras Banks on Current Account ...	91,017.98		58,681.97	
In London Bank Account ...	11,545.42		11,239.89	
On hand ...	6,750.54		17,139.85	
		109,313.94		87,061.71
		10,717,212.95		10,634,519.06

Examined and found correct.
R. A. RAMAN, Partner,
N. A. NAGANATHAN & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

Hony. Treasurer.

PER
T
060
GRTS
1974

0386D

THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY - OLCOTT LIBRARY



3 7482 00117 6053

T
060
GRTS
1974

