



of Bahá'u'lláh. After the lecture, several of the students of the school of journalism asked questions and the speaker told them what 'Abdu'l-Bahá had said about newspapers when He had visited Philadelphia. 'Abdu'l-Bahá's own words[2] were:

"Newspapers are the mirrors that reflect the progression or the retrogression of the community. We may ascertain the progress or retrogression of a nation by its journalism. If journalists should abide by their duties, they would be the promoters of many virtues among the community. Truth and the virtues would be fostered. This would be so if they carried out the duties incumbent upon them. Journalists must serve truth. Newspapers must investigate the means for the progress of humanity, and publish them. Journalists must write significant articles, articles that shall foster the public welfare. If they do so they will be the highest promoters for the development of the community."

Miss Root's lecture had been announced in the Temple University News Wednesday, October 28, 1931 as "a representative of the Bahá'í Movement, an organization designed to promote ideals of peace. "As she was shown through the university of the temple afterward, a number of questions were asked about the Bahá'í teachings. She commented that Dr. Conwell's great project was somewhat like the plan for the Mashriqu'l Adhkar of the Bahá'ís in the fact that it was not only an institution of theory but an institution of practice. In the center is the Church (the Temple) and connected with it is the great people's university where several thousand students are enrolled in the year 1931, and connected with Temple Church three great hospitals have been built, and Dr. Conwell also has done much work for children.

The words of Dr. Conwell about 'Abdu'l-Bahá and the Bahá'í teachings are significant because he was one of the very greatest humanitarians of America, and though his last days were spent while theological controversy was rife, he never descended to it. He did not attempt to define Christ but to live like Him.

Notes:

[1] Bahá'í Magazine was later renamed Star of the West

[2] Published in the Philadelphia Ledger, June 10, 1912

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