

THE Lyceum Banner

(Founded 1890)

A MONTHLY RECORD

OF LYCEUM WORK AND PROGRESS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. A PAPER FOR THE
LYCEUM, SOCIETY, AND THE HOME.

Official Organ of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

Issued for the Second Sunday in the Month.

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APRIL, 1901.

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CONTENTS.

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The LYCEUM BANNER.

A SPIRITUALIST MAGAZINE FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

VOL. XI.

APRIL, 1901.

NO. 124.

Lyceum Recitations.

If you could dabble in a creek,
And let your feet hang idly down
Until your toes were soaking wet,
What greater pleasure could you seek
And hope to find in any town,
Where all you do is toil and fret?

If you could live among the bees
And pluck red berries from a vine
And watch the corn and peaches grow,
Could anything your spirit please
So very much, or seem so fine,
Or give you such a ruddy glow?

If you could watch the lambs at play
And see the chickens go to roost
And hear the birds at morning sing,
Would these not bring you back a day
Long dead, and give your heart a roost
Like that it used to feel in spring?

If you could lie around at noon
And have somebody fan the flies
From off your intellectual dome,
Would you desert that haven soon,
And seek for joy 'neath other skies,
Or would you call it home, sweet home?

St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

THE HOLIDAY VISIT.

By VIRGO.

CHAPTER IV.

In the bustle of dressing and breakfast the dream was forgotten and no mention of it was made—Mr Stevens proposed that as it was Bertha's last day they should have a picnic in S—Park, start at once and have a long day. As Mr. Stevens had engaged a boat, all were eager to get in. The younger ones and Mrs. Stevens sat round

the railed part of the boat. Mr. Stevens took one oar and Percy the other, Bertha and Lucy sat behind them.

It was a small light boat in which they rowed away, as happy and free from care as the birds; first one sang then another, now rowing now floating, when Percy suddenly said, "We have not sat for table rapping, and Bertha is going to-morrow." Immediately a series of tiny raps were heard in the boat, and Percy called out,

"Is that you, Edith?" three raps came in answer.— "Have you anything to say?" again three raps distinct and clear, which meant yes. The oars were resting now, and Percy repeated the alphabet, until raps came at each right letter, which Lucy wrote down until it spelled out "Mrs Ingham is here."

No one knew Mrs. Ingham except Bertha, but she was too dumbfounded to speak.

"Have you anything else to say, Ethel?" One rap, meaning no.

Mrs. Stevens started a duet, in which her husband joined. Lucy looked round her, they had been floating along, the scenery continually changing, something struck her in the scene as familiar, immediately she associated it with her dream, instinctively she looked at Bertha, whispering, "My dream," and in the same direction as her eyes were now turned she saw the boat of her dream rushing at headlong speed right at the one in which they were so contentedly sitting, while an exultant laugh preceded it. She had only time to wildly cry—pointing in the direction she had turned her head—"Hold their boat tight Bertha with both hands and don't loose it."—so silently had all this taken place that until Lucy spoke no one had seen the danger, when bang went their boat against the part where Bertha was silently sitting. When it came she was prepared to hold on to it, and thereby the boats were kept near each other. There was a dead silence for a moment, the boat dipped, the water entered, sousing Bertha.

"Get steadily into their boat, Bertha, as it again dips," quietly yet firmly called Mr. Stevens. He put one leg across the seat as he spoke, and held the boat as she entered, avoiding the water as it rushed in. Percy steadied with his oar as well as he could, while his sister followed Bertha. While this was going on many boats were rushing towards them. Mr. Stevens seeing the risk they would run if the waters were agitated as well as the boat, called for them all to keep away, except one, containing a solitary gentleman whom he asked to let his boat float towards them. Into this Mr. Stevens put the two children and his wife, then followed himself, and at the fifth rock of the boat Percy joined his sister and Bertha. As they were rowed to the landing stage they watched the boat rock and dip, rock and dip, till at last the weight of water was too

much, and over it turned, taking with it umbrellas, baskets, &c. Bertha's dress was soon dried for she was the only one wetted to any extent, and soon every one was happily partaking of tea just as if nothing had happened.

But the dream, and the rapped out message, "Mrs. Ingram is here," occupied Bertha's thoughts; of course, Lucy told her dream over the tea table, and Mrs. Stevens said, "only another proof of the watchful care of our ministering angels and the blessings we derive from always being ready to receive and welcome them. But I can't remember a Mrs. Ingram which has passed over, Bertha, did you ever know anyone of that name."

"It was my grandma's name," timidly murmured Bertha.

The fragmentary recital of Lucy's dream was now given in more detail.

Mrs. Stevens remarked that no one ought to have any care and anxiety in this world, that if a trusting dependance was placed in our Father God, it was easy for the angels he allowed to watch over us, to arrest our attention at the right time and in the right place.

"But," said Bertha, "those were not angels, one was a little girl and the other an old lady."

"Yes; your grandma and my little daughter, Ethel. Where do you suppose your grandma is?"

"Well, in heaven I hope. And as none but angels enter heaven, it follows that she must be an angel."

"But father says there is no sorrow in heaven, and Lucy saw the old lady—I can't call her grandma—full of trouble."

"What do you suppose the angels do in heaven?"

"I suppose the same as they do in church, sing and pray."

"And do good people do nothing but sing and pray?"

"Of course not, they do all sorts of things."

"And depend up it, they will do all sorts of things in heaven. If we had nothing but our common sense to teach us what heaven was like, we should know it was not a monstrous place for prayer and praise only, every faculty requires exercise, and spirits tell us there is as much work and enjoyment in heaven, as there is here, indeed much more."

"Then how is it if all have angels, that all are not good, for there seems to be many bad people in the world?"

The very worst people are good sometimes, i.e., when their ministering angels can make themselves heard; but those who never allow themselves time from the affairs of life often lose their spiritual guidance, because they do not invite them to a close communion."

"Then, papa," said Percy, "do you look upon prayer as inviting angels to a near communion?"

"Yes, prayer and contemplation are telephonic wires over which pass messages for us, if we set up no telephone of our own we are dependent upon someone else's, and are never sure whether they are sent or received correctly or not."

Mrs. Stevens speaking to Bertha said, "we like our children to learn to commune with their sister Ethel, while they are children, those who leave the world while young make brighter and holier angels for ministering to our spiritual wants."

Time was silently fleeting and the little ones were beginning to get tired. Mrs. S. thought it was time to gather

together the belongings which were not at the bottom of the water, and catch the next train.

In a few moments all was bustle and excitement again, Bertha was very thoughtful during the return journey, but the only reference she made to the conversation was to Lucy when they were alone.

"If Grandma is alive and watching over me, it's very strange mother does not know it. Some one ought to have told her of it long before now."

"Perhaps she does know it," suggested Lucy?

"Oh! dear no, she thinks it is wicked to even want to know anything about the future of those whom we have buried."

When they had retired Bertha said, "I wonder what mother will say about your dream?"

Next day there was much to be done and said, for Bertha was to go at 12 o'clock. She had to say good-bye to everyone, and Percy sadly wanted a game at cricket, for Bertha had become quite an acquisition in the boy's games, as well as in Lucy's more quiet amusements. The game over there was no time to spare, and amidst the goodbyes of the family Bertha took her place in the train which was to convey her to the house of her parents again, after having spent, as she put it, "the happiest holiday she ever had in her life."

THE END.



OUR BLUEBELLS' PAGE

CONDUCTED BY

FLORA BELLE.

MY DEAR BLUEBELLS,

Are not brothers tiresome sometimes! When the BANNER came last month Ted read the list of names, and then said, "I say Cissy, let me see your list so that I can check the names." Of course I got it out, for I keep a copy of such things, and then we went over it name by name, and at last he said, "Well, you are a good one, a mistake in your first list"! Where, said I, "why here," he replied, "you have forgot to put in the name of Clifford Heywood, from your Hillsboro' list," and he chuckled over it as if it was a good joke. But I felt ever so mortified, and at once wrote to the friends and apologised and said the name should go into the paper next time. But as soon as Ted saw that I was really hurt he came over and kissed me, saying, "never mind Cis, I didn't mean to hurt your feelings, I am sorry I did, dear," so I could not feel cross any longer.

But I have something to make me pleased, though. For some of those who had their cards have written me to say how pretty they are, and how pleased they were with them. Several are having them framed to hang up at home, which I think is very nice, don't you? The printer sent me one or two done in gold, and they did look nice! But it cost so much more that I really could not afford to have them all done that way, though I should have liked them very much. Still, what we have are quite nice, and will look well framed.

This month I have only three new members to report. My good friend, Mr. Percy Ambrose Nield, of Knowsley Street Lyceum, Bolton, sends them, and I will put them at the end of my letter. He tells me that they hope to have a Guild soon. He will be good, and I should like to attend it sometime! Ted says, "don't," and when I asked why? he replied, "you will have to make a speech if you do," but gracious I could not do that! I do not know how, and besides I should be so scared that I am sure the words would all stick in my throat if I tried to do so. If I was a trance medium I might be a speaker, but I don't want to be one, for I am sure it must be dreadful hard work to go out in all weathers and meet all sorts of people. We have the mediums to stay with us now and then, and I am always sorry for them when after a hard day's work they have to go many miles to their homes. For they often look so tired and worn out. I am sure Father is right when he says we owe them so much for the good they do us all. Ted says "don't preach, folks don't like it, tell them something to amuse them." But I know he likes preaching, as he calls it, for no one is more attentive at our meetings than he is, so there, Master Ted!

Just as I had finished the last sentence Mother came into the room, carrying a paper in her hand, and she said, "Flora, dear, I have brought you *The Messenger*, an Australian Spiritual paper, and I think you can find something in it that will do for your letter?" I took the paper and looked it through and I thought a little story in it was just the thing, and Mother smiled when I pointed it out to her, and said "That is the one piece I thought you would select." So I will send it with my letter for you all to read. The story is called

THE TWO SACKS.

There is an ancient legend which tells of an old man, who was in the habit of travelling from place to place with a sack hanging behind his back and another in front of him. What do you think these sacks were for? Well, I will tell you. In the one behind him he tossed all the kind deeds of his friends, where they were quite hidden from view, and he soon forgot all about them. In the one hanging round his neck, under his chin, he popped all the sins which the people he knew committed; and these he was in the habit of turning over and looking at as he walked along, day by day.

One day, to his surprise, he met a man wearing, just like himself, a sack in front and one behind. He went up to him and began feeling his sack.

"What have you got there, my friend?" he asked, giving the sack in front a good poke.

"Stop, don't do that!" cried the other; "you'll spoil my good things."

"What things?" asked Number One.

"Why, my good deeds," answered Number Two. "I keep them all in front of me, where I can always see them, and take them out and air them. See, here is the half-crown I put in the plate last Sunday, and the shawl I gave to the beggar girl, and the mittens I gave to the crippled boy, and the penny I gave to the organ-grinder, and here is even the benevolent smile I bestowed on the crossing-sweeper at my door, and—"

"And what's in the sack behind you?" asked the first traveller, who thought his companion's good deeds would never come to an end.

"Tut, tut," said Number Two; "there is nothing I care to look at in there. That sack holds what I call my little mistakes."

"It seems to me that your sack of mistakes is fuller than the other," said number One.

Number Two frowned. He had never thought that, though he had put what he called his "mistakes" out of sight, everyone else could see them still. An angry reply was on his lips, when happily a third traveller—also carrying two sacks, as they were—overtook them.

The first two men pounced on the stranger.

"What cargo do you carry in your sacks?" cried one.

"Let's see your goods," said the other.

"With all my heart," quoth the stranger; "for I have a goodly assortment, and I like to show them. This sack," said he, pointing to the one hanging in front of him, "is full of the good deeds of others."

"It must be a heavy weight to carry," observed Number One.

"There you are mistaken," replied the stranger; "the weight is only such as sails are to a ship or wings are to an eagle. It helps me onward"

"Well your sack behind can be of little good to you," said Number Two, "for it appears to be empty, and I see it has a great hole in the bottom of it."

"I did it on purpose," said the stranger, "for all the evil I hear of people I put in there, and it falls through and is lost. So you see, I have no weight to drag me down or backward."

I think it is a capital story, and a nice one for my dear Bluebells' to read.

Ted, who has been looking over my shoulder all the time I have been writing, says I had better stop now, and on asking him why, he replied, "because you have written enough!" And upon looking over all I have done I think my page is full, so I will take his hint. Trust a brother to tell you just what he thinks! They think girls do not know much, I do believe. Well I must really leave off, so, no more this time, from your loving sister,

FLORA BELLE.

Members of the Guild.

HILLSBORO, SHEFFIELD.

71 Clifford Heywood

BOLTON, KNOWSLEY STREET.)

72 May Walkden

74 Lilly Rostron

73 Harry Bickerstaffe

Marriage Bells: A Wedding at Belper.

The Ceremony performed by a Lady.

Provincial Spiritualism is hearty, enthusiastic, and progressive in character. It enters largely into the every day life of the people, and is made manifest at Birth, Marriage and transition, in each instance superceding the old fashioned orthodox methods of our childhood's days.

It would be difficult to find a town wherein the above is more the case than the pretty little township of Belper, there the Lyceum and the Society has become consolidated in their membership by many who have grown up and been trained in the one prior to entering as full members into the other. Thus the Spiritualists of Belper are to a much larger extent than usual, really a family, bound together by the ties of parentage, birth and marriage. The latter fact was emphasised on Easter Monday, when another wedding was celebrated in the Jubilee Hall, one of the neatest, cleanly and most comfortable meeting places the cause possesses. There are weddings and weddings, and the one in question stands unique in some particulars. Lyceumists have, of course, been united in marriage at other places, but so far as we know, the ceremony has been performed by a man. But this marriage was conducted by a lady! which is a record for this country as it is the first occasion such has been the case among British Spiritualists! who better could enter into the spirit of such an affair than a woman, who is herself a happy wife, a good mother, and an earnest worker in the Lyceum cause? And when my readers learn that the lady was Mrs. Jessie Greenwood, of Hebden Bridge, a past president of the B.S.L.U., they will agree that no more fitting selection could have been made.

The principals were Mr. Edward Augustine Lowe and Miss Lydia Holland, each members of the Lyceum. The hall was filled by friends and sympathisers, among whom was the Editor of the *Derbyshire Telephone*, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Smedley, Mr. Alfred Kitson, Secretary B.S.L.U., Mr. Wilkinson and others. In a full clear voice, with evident feeling, Mrs. Greenwood conducted the ceremony, and made a deep impression on the minds of all present. Arrayed in a tasteful white gown, and carrying some beautiful flowers, she formed the ideal picture of a minister on such an occasion, and captivated all hearts by her sweet and genial manner. The beautiful organ swelled out its rich tones of music suited to the event, and the multitude of flowers were an added grace to the appearance of the hall and platform. The "Knot" was duly tied in presence of the Registrar, and all ended most auspiciously for the newly wedded ones. The entire affair was a revelation to the friends present, and all were loud in praise of a ceremony the like of which they had never seen before.

At the conclusion of the proceedings Mr. Alfred Smedley presented the bridegroom with a special copy of the *Lyceum Manual*, and the bride with a copy of the *Spiritual Songster*, prefacing the presentations with a few felicitous observations. The happy pair on departing from the hall received the customary shower of rice, and left later on their honeymoon with the heartiest congratulations of their numerous friends.

To mark the importance of the event Mrs. Greenwood as prevailed upon to permit herself to be photographed

in her costume, and the *Telephone* will, we understand, contain a block made from the photograph and a full account of the proceedings. If possible we shall reproduce the picture in the next issue of the LYCEUM BANNER.

Copies of the photo will be presented to the members of the E.C. of the B.S.L.U. who were present, being generously given for that purpose by Mr. Albert Wilkinson. The wedding was a fitting termination to the visit of the Executive on the occasion of its quarterly meeting, which was held in the same building on Saturday and Sunday.

All Lyceumists will join the BANNER in wishing long life and happiness to Mr. and Mrs. Lowe, and hope that they will both long remain members of the society and help on its work in the future as they have done in the past.

LYCEUM NOTES AND COMMENTS.

No. LXXXVI.

By ALFRED KITSON.

The Lyceum Conference will soon be here, and quite a number of Lyceums have sent in no advice as to who has been elected as their delegate, or delegates, to deal with the important matters affecting the interests of the Lyceum cause. It is to be sincerely hoped that friends will not delay their elections until the last few weeks, as the local Lyceums and societies require time to provide suitable accommodation for those requiring the same.

Over forty Lyceums have made no returns as to the number of officers and members on their register, and their average attendances. Considering that the forms were issued in the first week in the new year, there has been ample time for all to return them so as to give the secretary of the union time to tabulate them, and present a complete report to the Conference. Unfortunately, I have never had the pleasure of presenting a full report. Are we to commence the new century as we have finished the old? Or are we to improve on past efforts!

The Demonstration on the Conference Saturday, May 11th, promises to be a big affair, with large silk banners flying, the first Lyceum Brass Band playing, officers and children in their gayest humour, with jubilee medals glittering on their breasts. No doubt thousands of spectators will line the thoroughfares to watch the procession, and the camera fiend (beg pardon, I mean friend), will be taking snap shots of the imposing procession. Those friends who want to secure a Jubilee Medal will have to look sharp about it, as there are only a few in stock, the dies are completely destroyed, so that it is impossible to obtain a further supply. They can be purchased from the Union's Secretary for one shilling each, post free. There are two bronze medals, 5s. each. And six cases lined with velvet and satin, 1s. each. First come, first served.

Mr. William Chisnall, of Oldham, and formerly of Royton, sailed for Boston, U.S.A., on March 14th, in the steamship New England. All who knew him, wish him every success in his new venture.

Middleton Lyceum is making good progress. The hall is well lighted, and clean. The officers are in earnest, from Mr. Hartley, the Conductor, to the doorkeeper. My reception was hearty, and the remarks of the D.V., Miss Burton, on the Lyceum, its aims and objects, well received. Miss Burton assisted with clairvoyance, and made an earnest appeal to the parents to send their children to their own Sunday school, the Lyceum, instead of sending them to the orthodox.

The Lyceum at Hyde continues to flourish. It is quite evident that a larger hall is required for its fuller expansion, which I hope to hear of in the near future.

Cleckheaton Lyceum is doing well again. Three months ago they reported a total of 20 members. I was pleased to find their number nearly doubled. They are sorely crippled for want of a larger room.

The Society at Padiham, near Burnley, have decided to open a Lyceum. Mr. Wm. Mason, D.V., has promised to assist them. The Lyceum at Spennymoor has had to close on account of the Society lapsing. Exeter reports the closing of their Lyceum, owing to lack of interest. I am confident that these good people will not rest until help is secured, and the work is recommenced. It is a great pity they are so isolated from the two northern counties, so that it is very difficult to render assistance.

£28 11s. 7d. has been received in aid of the Children's Home. Will the Secretaries of those Lyceums who have monies for the above home, please send on the amounts in hand as early as possible, so that they can be included in the Report to the conference?

THE

LIBERTY GROUP

[Under the above heading it is proposed to publish each month a special article or essay for the use of the Liberty Groups in Lyceums. Original articles are invited. It is hoped our young men and young women will contribute to the Group, or participate in any discussion that may arise out of articles published in it.—EDITOR.]

Thoughts for the New Century.

BY G. HEARON.

WHEN we look down the pages of history, from the early years of the last century, and compare the social position of the working classes with the one so strongly held to-day, and the great social advancement now so obvious, we see what enormous strides have simultaneously been made in the sciences as well as the widespread commercial interest connecting our country with all the civilised parts of the world.

We do not fully realise what is the extent of the innumerable blessings accruing to us from the patient researches and scientific discoveries of the last hundred years. The issue of incessant labours spent in the chemical and physical laboratories, where from the results of chemical compounds we get the generation of physical force, electricity, by means of which remote parts of the earth are brought quite near.

Now in all these fields of patient labour, we see standing out the names of men whose lives were dominated by an idea of what unknown possibilities may really lie behind great and continuous struggles in the field of research, urged on by the faint shimmerings of meagre conquests in their early stages.

A nation's greatness does not consist in the extent of empire, or of army, or the wealth of property, so much as in the possession of well bred and serious thinking men and women. The true history of a nation is composed of the deeds of its great men, that greatness which is made up of noble acts and well meaning motives, which lives through all time, and act and react as powerful incentives to future generations, to work steadfastly for the well being of their fellows.

As we journey on through our daily life, we are more and more impressed with the fact, that in many of our modern movements which aim at bettering the condition of the people both physically, mentally and spiritually, there is a want of mastery, and foresight in the use of the means to bring about a more beneficial and lasting success. There is the material side of daily life, which as earthly beings we cannot very well dispense with so long as we have bodies, yet it behoves all men to ever subdue the practical to the ideal or the spiritual. Now, unless men can thoroughly understand both sides of life, they will continue slaves to their environment, their aspirations for good and noble acts will be displaced by sensual impulses to the degradation of their minds, a retrogression bringing them down to the level of the animal. In the scurry and turbidity of our modern life there is a marked depreciation of the profound interest once displayed in the moral tone of the people. The spirit of apathy, which tends so strongly to make things of real moment appear so superficial in their bearings, upon manhood generally. This spirit of indifference to the subjects of vital interest is in a great measure due to the pursuit of pleasures, pleasing for the time being, but the momentary gratifications which leave a discontented feeling in the mind, and if continued their influence taints the nature, producing results which cannot be entirely eradicated from our being.

It is a prominent feature in the lives of most great men, whose biographies furnish us with instances of an inward controlling power directing their actions into channels which aided their success, holding their minds transcendently above the common place interests of shallower natures, that no alluring glare of a transformation scene distracted their minds from the pursuit which they regarded in the end, was fulfilling their life's mission, and any debasing thoughts met a bold affront, and were thwarted with disgust, such is the strength of true nobility.

The benefits we enjoy to-day are the result of the labours of the past, let this suffice to persuade us to work to-day and throughout our lives for the improvement of our present condition, and the ennobling of life.

FOUNDED NOVEMBER, 1890

Adopted as the Official Organ of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union, May, 1891.

The LYCEUM BANNER:*Price 1d., post free 1½d.**J. J. MORSE, Editor**FLORENCE MORSE, Associate Editor**Assisted by Lyceum Workers in all parts of the world.***Office--Florence House, Osnaburgh Street, Euston Road, N.W.**

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 P. O. on EUSTON ROAD, N.W.

THE LYCEUM BANNER

APRIL, 1901.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO SECRETARIES.

Owing to the extra space required next month for the announcements of the annual Conference of the British Spiritualists Lyceum Union, we shall not be able to insert any Lyceum Reports in next number of the "Banner."

To enable all concerned to receive the Conference notices in time the next issue of the "Banner" will appear for the first Sunday in May.

☞ Due attention to the above Notices is respectfully requested.

OUR MONTHLY CHAT.**A Lost Opportunity.**

THE fifty-third Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism has come and gone, and the Spiritualists of Great Britain have allowed it to pass into history without any national or marked observance of one of the most stupendous facts in modern times. In the metropolis no special effort was made in the above direction, and in the provinces the only attempt was in the way of the usual Good-Friday tea-party in Manchester. The National Federation, or Union was silent, our own Union did nothing, and so far as we know no Lyceum took it up! Yet there is plenty of talk about "our glorious cause," and "our wonderful movement," and so forth, but it does not lead to much more than talk when the

anniversary of Hydesville recurs! Have we no one sufficiently interested in the event to stir themselves to see it properly and more generally celebrated? This year an opportunity has been lost. The BANNER has a suggestion to offer. It is this—seeing that our adult societies fail to commemorate the day let the Lyceum Union take up the matter and arrange for a National Lyceum celebration, in some central locality, and so show that the children of our cause desire to manifest their gratitude to the angel world for the blessings their coming brought us. If some of our Leaders, Editors, and Eminent Workers, could visit the United States and witness the large and enthusiastic gatherings of Spiritualists in the leading cities there, they would learn how enthusiastically the 31st of March is celebrated by our Transatlantic brethren. We are in danger of keeping the Spirits too much out of our public work, let us recognise them more, and particularly on the date mentioned. A little more real old-fashioned Spiritualism, please.

A Noble Heart. THE Editor of the BANNER desires to add his tribute of affectionate esteem to the memory of his dear friend and comrade, James Swindlehurst, who has so recently passed to the Higher Life. No man or woman could exhibit more devotion, faithfulness, or zeal in our cause, than our dear friend who has left us. Modest to almost a fault, generous in nature, and full of a rugged honesty of speech he was a power in our ranks, and there will be no little difficulty in finding another to do the work he so ably accomplished. Our National Propaganda Committee will miss him greatly, and his successor will be hard to find. But the saddest thing of all is that his family now feel the loss of the father and bread-winner keenly. So much so that help is needed by them. Surely our readers will be willing to do something in the matter, and to all who are able and inclined we urge them to send any help they can to Mr J. J. Parr, the hon. sec. of the Propaganda Fund, at 227, Stanley Road, Liverpool. If every lyceum would send but half-a-crown a nice little help would be raised, and comfort brought to those in sorrow. Our brother in arms had a noble heart, true as steel, a character that endeared him to all who knew him, let us show how much we loved him by readily helping those left behind.

May 11th and 12th. SATURDAY and SUNDAY, May 11th, and 12th, will soon be here! Then the children's Parliament will assemble. On the Saturday marchings, music, demonstrations, a tea-party and an entertainment, will mark the occasion. An unique feature will be the presence of the first Lyceum Brass Band, the pioneer one in this country! The Bandboys—hem! we apologise, the Bandsmen, will wear their uniforms for the first time, and head the procession through Manchester and Salford, as well as providing the music for the calisthenics and marching in Peel Park. The day promises to be one of the best commencements we have yet had. On Sunday morning and afternoon the Conference will assemble for despatch of business. Motions, amend-

ments and such like things will float about, and the President, happy man! will have to sit it all through smilingly, as no doubt he will! Then the Election of Officers! The discussion of the new Constitution! Work enough for us all. At night a Big Demonstration meeting, the singing, the speechifying, and most necessary of all the collection! What a day it will be. The Borough of Salford never saw such a day before. Why, Manchester will be envious of the happy children and their Parliament meeting next door! But, Manchester lyceums will be with us, so we shall be all a Happy Family for once. Of course you will be there?

ITEMETTES.

April showers bring forth May flowers.

Try to make the Lyceum bright and happy.

Avoid envy, jealousy and all uncharitableness.

Do not aspire to hold office unless you are sure you can do so creditably.

May brings the annual Conference of the Union. Many will see Pendleton for the first time next month.

Aid the workers, do not hinder them with carping criticism, or jealous faultfindings. Envy is the vice of little minds.

The Ardwick Lyceum wish to state that their correct address is The New Ardwick Spiritual Hall, 65, Pin Mill Brow, Ardwick, Manchester.

The members of the Liberty Group of the Freckleton Street Lyceum, Blackburn, have promised to contribute £14 towards the building fund of the new hall in that town. Excellent.

Have you sent in your annual returns to the Union Secretary? If not, why not? Do not let there be so many blanks this year as there have been in the past. If you have not yet joined the Union do so at once, and reap the solid advantages it has to offer.

Next month the BANNER will give you the full programme of the Conference, and all things pertaining to the various matters connected with it. No Lyceum reports will be published next month, the BANNER will need all its space for Conference matters.

Read Mr. Bagnall's letter in this issue. The Demonstration promises to be a big thing this year. Peel Park is a splendid place for the marching and other exercises. Cottonopolis will open its eyes when it sees our procession. Manchester will surely make a good show on this occasion. Every Lyceum in the city will be represented, of course.

The Mayor of Salford has granted permission for the use of Peel Park, and arranged for the "gentlemen in blue" to watch over us during the exercise. There is "legal status" for you! Nobody sneers at Lyceums now, even the old fogeys in the movement have woke up at last to their importance! Our noble army of workers have aroused every one to our importance to the future of Spiritualism in this country.

The Banner's Letter Box.

THE CONFERENCE: IMPORTANT NEWS FROM PENDLETON.

DEAR EDITORS.—Arrangements are about complete for the Pendleton Demonstration and Conference that is to be held on May 11th and 12th. It is arranged that we assemble at 2-30 p.m. in the Albert Square, Manchester, and headed by the "Britten Memorial Brass Band," proceed by John Dalton Street, Bridge Street, and Chapel Street to Peel Park, where a halt will be made to enable us to go through the marching and calisthenics, also for a few short addresses from the leaders of the movement. From thence we proceed along Broad Street to the Pendleton Town Hall, where Tea will be provided for both children and friends. After tea a grand entertainment will be given by the Lyceumists who have taken part in the demonstration. We invite all Lyceums who can possibly do so to join us, whether they are members of the Union or not. Also will any friends, who would like to entertain the delegates attending the Conference, please send me their names and addresses. Yours faithfully,
J. S. BAGNALL, Sec.
20, Brook-street, Pendleton.

ANOTHER DONATION TO THE B.S.L.U.

DEAR EDITORS.—Will you accord me a little of your valuable space in which to acknowledge the receipt of a donation of £4 10s. 4d. to be equally divided between the B.S.L.U. and the Children's Home, by the late Spiritual Progressive Church, Middlesboro', per Mr. Thomas Beynon? And also to tender thanks for the same on behalf of the Executive Committee, and the needy children?—Yours fraternally, ALFRED KITSON, Secretary, Bromley-road, Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury.

More good news! Mr. A. H. Rocke, the energetic Conductor of the Lyceum of the Salford Spiritual Church writes that Mr. Albert Wilkinson the Excelsior lanternist of Colne, has consented to take a film photograph of the Band, the Delegates and the Executive, for his cinematograph. This will be done at the noon interval on Sunday.

The Albion Street, Accrington friends, write to say that they have opened a Lyceum. It meets at 10-30 a.m., and 1-45 p.m. The secretary is Miss Alice Ann Edwards, of 76, Ormerod Street, Accrington.

Are you ill? Have you got influenza? If so, or you are suffering from any of "the ills that flesh is heir to," then read the new advertisement of Mrs. Burchell on our last page. We can honestly commend our friends as intelligent and upright practitioners who will deal straightforwardly with any one who consults with them. They are each staunch Spiritualists, too. Let us support those of our own household,

THE GOLDEN GROUP

FOUNDED 1890.

CONDUCTED BY AUNT EDITHA.

MOTTO :—LOVE, TEMPERANCE, PURITY.

Membership.—Membership in the Golden Group is open to all who belong to a Spiritualist Progressive Lyceum.

Special Notices.—Aunt Editha will be glad to receive short letters from members of the Golden Group upon anything they think would interest the Group.

Rules.—I. That I will endeavour to be kind and loving to all human beings, and even living things. II. That I will try to be temperate in all things, and strive to abstain from using intoxicants and tobacco. III. That I will not use profane or vulgar language.

Certificates.—A Certificate of membership will be issued free of charge to all who join. Give your name to the Conductor, or Secretary, of your Lyceum and request that it be sent to AUNT EDITHA, c/o Editor of the "Lyceum Banner," and you will be duly enrolled a member, and the certificate sent you in the next month's Banner sent to your Lyceum. All names of members will be published in the Lyceum Banner every month.

HOW WE CELEBRATED THE 53RD ANNIVERSARY.

MY DEAR NEPHEWS AND NIECES,

In my last letter I promised to tell you how the GOLDEN GROUP celebrated the Fifty-third Anniversary of the advent of Modern Spiritualism, so I now set about keeping my promise.

To begin with, let me say our meeting room had been beautifully decorated. The dais was a perfect bower of flowers and plants, and at the back were two flags, the Union Jack and the Stars and Stripes, which fell in graceful folds behind our large picture of Andrew Jackson Davis, our beloved Founder. Over the picture was a tablet framed in smilax and lillies of the valley, and on the white silk background was inscribed, in violets, the following sentence: "The Golden Group. We now number 1445 members," which shows that we have grown at the rate of over 100 members per year! On the right of the back of the dais was another tablet, headed "Our Union and its Presidents," and then followed the names of those who had occupied the presidency since the Union was formed. On the left hand side was the portrait of good Alfred Kitson, our beloved secretary, and underneath was the words, worked in flowers, "He is a true worker." While suspended over the dais was the motto: "May the Golden Group ever have the blessing of the Angel world." Various flags were placed round the room, and the Lyceum colours, red, white and blue, were in full evidence everywhere. While numerous mottoes, such as: "Progress is our watchword," "Virtue is the path of happiness," "Abstain from all evil," were also displayed, and along the front of the dais was our motto, "Love, Temperance, Purity." Everyone was delighted at the pretty effects the Committee on arrangements had provided for us.

As I mentioned last month, the celebration occupied two evenings, the first one being devoted to the little ones, the attendance being confined to all under twelve years of age, some fifty being present, with a few elders to witness the proceedings. It was my delight to welcome them all and right merrily they enjoyed themselves. We had a little concert first, at which a number of songs, recitations and musical items were given by the children themselves, terminating with a capital ventriloquial and conjuring entertainment, given by a dear friend of the GROUP. His dolls caused shrieks of laughter from the youngsters. One doll got up exactly like our dear editor of the BANNER was received with rounds of applause, and when another doll dressed as Master Johnny appeared, and the two held a funny dialogue about Lyceums and Editors the fun waxed fast and furious! The hits made by these two figures were exceedingly enjoyed by us all.

After the entertainment was over refreshments were served, consisting of fruit, cakes, milk, tea and coffee. Bon-Bons were distributed to each child, and upon opening them was found some article of attire, caps, capes, crowns, jackets, etc., in which the little ones at once dressed themselves. Then came the dancing, how they enjoyed it too! The time passed all too swiftly, and at ten o'clock, when the last dance came on they were all sorry the evening had passed so quickly. More refreshments were then served, and half-an-hour later the little ones reluctantly departed, after one of the most pleasant and successful gatherings of the kind that I ever attended.

The next evening was devoted to the elders of the GROUP, and again we had a large muster. The decorations were the same as on the previous night, but the proceedings were varied somewhat. First came an address from the Grand Conductor, referring to the occasion of the gathering, in which she gave a brief outline of the rise of Modern Spiritualism in the land of its origin, and in this country as well. It also included a sketch of the progress of Lyceum work, and as the various prominent workers were mentioned they were each greeted with hearty cheers, our venerable president, Mr. Alfred Smedley, and his dear wife calling out quite an ovation when their names were referred to. The good work of the LYCEUM BANNER also was warmly applauded when it was mentioned. The GOLDEN GROUP was cheered to the echo, and its officers came in for abundant applause.

Then came the other portions of the programme, consisting of the usual items, which included an original poem on the Anniversary, by Mildred Morrison, which I hope to give you sometime in print. At the urgent request of the members who had heard such reports of the previous night's fun with the dolls our friend again presented us his entertainment with them, and it was, as before, immensely enjoyed. It was arranged that there should be dancing, and precisely at half-past eight the strains of the band floated forth and the dancers took possession of the floor. At half-past ten supper was served, on a somewhat more elaborate scale than on the previous evening, and it was a pretty sight to see all the happy faces at the tables. The young ladies in their pretty frocks, and a large number of young men in evening dress. The good things having had justice done them, as the reporters say, dancing was resumed until the early hours, when, after a most happy evening's enjoyment, we all separated with many a wish for

Anniversary day to come round again. The taking of two evenings for the affair was a splendid idea, as it met the cases of both old and young, and it is a plan we shall certainly follow next year. The committee on arrangements worked hard and so created the possibility of the splendid success their efforts assured us, and many congratulations were offered them on their excellent work.

The celebrations took the place of our monthly Assembly this month, so their was no session held for April, but the Grand Secretary reports the receipt of two letters and some more names for the roll, and, not to keep our new members waiting, I include their names in this letter, and their certificates will be sent to them in due course. The first came from Bolton so I will put it here.

A LETTER FROM THE KNOWSLEY STREET LYCEUM,
BOLTON.

DEAR AUNT EDITHA.—I have great pleasure in forwarding to you three more names for the GOLDEN GROUP, and they also desire to join the Bluebells Guild as well, so will you please send their names to Flora Belle for me? (With very great pleasure, Aunt E). I hope good sessions are the order of the day? Our Hall is to be beautified, after which, we, the Lyceumists, are to have the use of it one night per week all to ourselves! So perhaps we shall be having Golden Group meetings and Guild meetings ourselves. (I hope so, A.E.) We shall see.—I remain yours, with best wishes,
AMBROSE PERCY NIELD.

44, Bullock-street, Bolton.

The next letter came from Hollinwood, and included twelve more names for the Roll. Up to the time I wrote this Flora's letter had not reached me, so it must stand over until next month now as, if it comes, it will be too late for this time.

FROM THE BYRON STREET LYCEUM, HOLLINWOOD.

DEAR AUNT EDITHA.—We received the membership cards all right and we were all very pleased with them, and think them very nice. I have asked the members to place them in their homes where everyone could see them and read the rules. I have great pleasure in sending you twelve more names. Also, I have asked Flora Richards to send you a letter, which I hope you may receive in time. Wishing you every success in your efforts among the children, I remain, yours fraternally,
C. DRIVER.

2, Union-street, Hollinwood.

Well, as all my space is now filled, dears, I must close so, with much love you all, I am, affectionately yours,
AUNT EDITHA.

List of Members for April.

BOLTON (Knowsley-street).

1446 May Walkden. 1447 Harry Bickerstaffe.
1448 Lily Rostron.

HOLLINWOOD (Byron-street).

1449 William Mullen 1450 Joseph Mullen.
1451 Jane Chadwick. 1452 Sarah Chadwick.
1453 Ivy Chadwick. 1454 Clara King.
1455 Annie King. 1456 Amy King.
1457 Florrie Nuttall. 1458 Emeline Fielding.
1459 Ethel Jagger 1460 Clement Fitton.

OUR LEADERS' DEPARTMENT.

Outline Scheme for Lyceum Lessons.

Compiled by the Editor.

For Sundays April 14, 21 and 28, and May 5, 1901.

NOTE—In compiling these Lessons the only desire is that they may prove of Service to Conductors in furnishing them with suggestions for General Lyceum Lessons.
—COMPILER.

FIRST SUNDAY.

INVOCATION.—Eternal Father and Infinite Spirit of Life, we come before Thee this day, our hearts filled with thankfulness for all the blessings Thou hast bestowed upon us. We rejoice that Thy wondrous laws enable us to hold sweet communion with our arisen friends, and that they are thereby able to return to us, and minister to our hearts and minds, to help us on our upward way, and to teach us the sweet lessons of love, brotherhood and truth. Be with us, dear loved ones, guide us in our work, and lead us in the Spirit of Love closer to each other, and nearer to our God.

SUBJECT—"The New Testament" How many books does it contain.—Who are the principal writers.—What proofs have you that Jesus, John, Peter, Paul, James, and the rest, ever existed. What similarity is there between the 'miracles' in this book and the manifestations of modern Spiritualism.—What central, moral, and spiritual truth is stated in the New Testament.—Is it original, or has it been taught before, if so, where, and by whom.—Should the New Testament be used in our Lyceums.—State reasons for and against its use

SECOND SUNDAY.

INVOCATION.—Dearly beloved friends of the Higher Life we ask you to join with us in our duties to-day. Help us to see that the gates are ajar, and that Thy dear face are shining upon us from on high. Inspire our souls with Thy Love, quicken our minds with Thy Wisdom, help us to realise more clearly than ever Thy nearness and presence. Incline us towards mercy towards those who injure us, truer love to those dearest to us, and justice towards all. Help us to come nearer to the Divine, by living truly, thinking purely, and doing wisely.

SUBJECT—"The Consequence of Wrong-doing" Spiritualism teaches that we must all bear the consequences of our own liver.—The true moral law is, there is no escape for any. In this live the liar, the cheat, the slanderer, the thief, the drunkard, the evil liver, when they are known, forfeit the esteem of their friends and the confidence of their fellows.—Evil living entails sickness, disease and premature death of the physical body.—In the hereafter, sorrow, remorse, spiritual darkness. The moral teachings of Spiritualism, if lived up to by Spiritualists, will help to purify society, and make men and women pure and holy in thought and life.

THIRD SUNDAY.

INVOCATION.—Let us unite in beseeching that the purest inspirations from on high may attend our session to-day. That we may feel the divine life of the angel-world thrill us through with its sweetness. Let us consecrate ourselves anew to all that is highest and best, so that we may be better fitted to receive the angels when they come. Thus we shall all unfold in spiritual goodness, personal purity, and moral power, and be better able to do our duty day by day.

SUBJECT.—“How To Help Each Other.” Kindly words are an inspiration to urge us onward.—Sympathy with those who fear they fail.—Avoid sneering, unkind criticism, or mocking the efforts of others.—Never consent to do or say anything that will be a bad example to others.—Help all weaker than yourself.—Never make amusement out of the errors, wrongdoings or misfortunes of others.—A true Spiritualist is loving, forbearing, and always helpful to those in distress.

FOURTH SUNDAY.

INVOCATION.—Oh, Father God, and Mother Nature, how can we express our gratitude to Thee for life, and all that is? For the beauty of the flowers, the flaming glories of the skies, for the treasures of earth, air, and sea, that Thou hast accorded us. For the powers of mind, for the beauty of love, for the sweet companionships that our lives enjoy. We will try, by our own efforts aided by the loving Spirit-friends, to be more and more worthy of all the gifts that surround us, and so help ourselves to be better fitted for the life of the sweet Summerland, when we leave this world behind us.

SUBJECT.—“Life In The Light Of Spiritualism.” To the Spiritualist life is of supreme importance.—This is not a world of sorrow and travail.—We are here to live our best.—To develop body, mind, soul, affection, to their healthiest, clearest, noblest and purest.—The world is full of the wonders of God.—Each bird, beast, fish or insect is a miracle in itself.—Flowers, fruit, trees, and grasses are Divine revelations.—Rocks, soils, minerals, gasses, waters, and the atmosphere contain unnumbered marvels.—Human life is a holy thing, and birth, living and dying are each parts in a well ordered scheme of Divine purposes.—Life, in the light of Spiritualism is a Divine unfoldment for the growth and glory of the human race.

Mrs. C. Robinson, of Rochdale, has our best thanks for undertaking to supply the Penn Street Lyceum with BANNERS for this year, and she generously gives the proceeds to the Lyceum funds. In the words of old, “it is more blessed to give than to receive.”

Once again we have to thank our honoured Founder, Andrew Jackson Davis, for another \$ bill towards the support of the BANNER. While another good friend in the Isle of Wight sends us 3s. towards the same end. We cordially thank them both.

Our Keighley friends have held a series of three most successful “At Homes,” and they succeeded in securing the services of an Alderman and a Councillor to act as chairman at two of the gatherings. Twenty years ago a gang of rowdies kicked over our collection plates at a Sunday meeting in this town. Now,—well things have changed, haven't they?

IN MEMORIAM.

LYDIA MARY CAIRNS—AGED 19 YEARS,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

AFTER many weeks of patient suffering there passed from our presence on March the 5th, in the person of Miss Lydia Cairns, a dear and valuable co-worker in the Lyceum movement. It has been a deep and heavy loss to our Lyceum, as from childhood we had her in our midst working and striving to make the surroundings harmonious, mirthful and bright. Miss Cairns was a leader of the Bluebell Group. When owing to her failing health she could no longer attend to her duties in the Lyceum, she laid for many weeks in sickness, ultimately passing on at the age of 18 years, fully conscious of a brighter and grander existence in the other life.

There were many relatives, friends, and Lyceumists present (including conductor, assistant conductor, and guardian), at the funeral service, which was conducted by our local platform worker, Mr. J. H. Lashbrooke. The service was impressive, Misses Lily and Jennie Sewell singing as a duet, “On the other side.” Many marked their respect for her whose body was being interred, by the gifts of flowers deposited on the shrine, which will always remain sacred to her memory.

On Sunday, March 10th, instead of our usual afternoon session a memorial service was conducted in honour of the one who had so recently passed on to the higher life. The musical and golden chain recitations were selected for the occasion. A vote of sympathy and condolence, expressing our deepest and sincerest feelings, was passed by the members of our Lyceum and conveyed to the family who mourn her loss.—GERALD M. MARTIN.

WILLIE BREARLEY—AGED 17 YEARS,
OLDHAM.

On Friday, March 15th, one of our Lyceumists, Willie Brearley, passed peacefully away after long suffering. He was a regular attender at the Lyceum and also a member of the GOLDEN GROUP. The funeral took place on March 20th, when upwards of 100 Lyceumists walked to the Cemetery. Mr Standish, of Oldham, conducted the service in the Chapel, and Mr Entwistle, of Heywood, officiated at the graveside.—FRANK MELLOR.

IS THAT SOMEBODY YOU?

Somebody did a golden deed;
Somebody proved a friend in need;
Somebody sang a beautiful song;
Somebody smiled the whole day long;
Somebody thought, “Tis sweet to live”;
Somebody said, “I'm glad to give”;
Somebody helped a burden to bear;
Somebody lightened another's care,

WAS THAT SOMEBODY YOU?

THE LYCEUM AND HOW TO IMPROVE IT.

By EFFIE BAGNALL, AGED 13.

The Lyceum is a school-house where we children, its members, are taught truth, purity, and personal responsibilities, where we are each taught to think and reason for ourselves, and to accept nothing without bringing common sense to bear upon it. Purity to live, to think and to speak; to act in a pure manner and think or do evil to none. I once read in the *Two Worlds* a portion of a lecture, I think it was by Mr. Schutt, he said, "let our lives be like a pure running brook, let them be full of music, the key note be natural, personal responsibility by living our own lives and not depending on anyone else, not placing any trust in the blood of Jesus, or the Lamb, that we make our own heaven or hell, and as we sow so shall we reap, whether it be good or bad." And my teacher tells me that all our actions here on earth, if they be good ones, go on to help to build up that home in spirit life which we shall occupy, of course the wicked deeds and actions show up quite as much as the good ones. Then we are taught kindness and to be good behaved; and last Sunday, I must say that our teacher had quite a new subject, I don't think he gave it any particular name, but it was all about being reverent during prayer, and about the use of prayer, and why we should pray. And we are taught to cultivate the physical, that is done by the Calisthenics, by which every portion and limb of our bodies can be put into exercise. And we are told to be bright and happy, that it is better to sing and laugh than to cry and find faults.

Now comes how to improve the Lyceum. To me that seems a very hard question as I am never so happy as when present. We have singing, marching, calisthenics, recitations, readings and groups or classes, and we write short essays on easy subjects each Sunday, there does not seem much left to be wished for, yet there is one thing that I think would be an improvement, that is keeping time. Did you ever read that letter that was written by a man in prison, to a friend of his outside on the value of time, and being punctual, we had it for a subject in our group, and I will for one always try and be in time both morning and afternoon. Then we can add by each girl or boy taking a part either by singing, reciting or reading, and to be ready when called upon, and go with a smile and show that you are both able and willing. My father says that one volunteer is worth 20 pressed men. We could arrange to take part in some good dialogues or sketches, in fact any reasonable thing that would brighten and make us all feel merry and happy. We could improve it by adding to the number by looking up old members who stay away, or come but now and then, we could invite our play-fellows, especially if they don't belong to any other place. So let all work together pleasantly, seeking only for good both for ourselves and others, never giving way to faultfinding, but be punctual, observant, and willing children, thoughtful and attentive to others, then our Lyceum will be one that we shall be proud of, and a credit to its officers and a ornament to the church.

British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

President—

Mr. ALFRED SMEDLEY, Park Mount, Belper.

Past President—

Mr. J. J. MORSE, Florence House, Osnaburgh St, London, N, W.

Treasurer—

Mr. ALBERT E. SUTCLIFFE, Sowerby Street, Sowerby Bridge

Secretary—

Mr. ALFRED KITSON, Bromley Rd., Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury,

Executive:

Mrs. JESSY GREENWOOD, Ash Leigh, Hebden Bridge.

Mr. S. S. CHISWELL, 11 and 13, Renshaw Street, Liverpool

Mr. J. VENABLES, Hydesville, Foden Road, Walsall

Mr. ALBERT WILKINSON, 10, Percy Street, Nelson

The Plans, Purposes and Objects of the Union will, in part, be better understood by the following short extracts from its Constitution—

OBJECTS

The objects of this Lyceum Union are to promote the welfare of the Lyceum Movement, by (a) An Annual Movable Conference; (b) District Assemblages, when and where necessary; (c) Extending the work in new directions; (d) Bringing Lyceums into closer sympathy, and promoting greater uniformity in the manner of working them; (e) Encouraging the publication of suitable literature; and (f) Such other methods as may be found necessary.

UNION

The Union shall be a Federal Union of the Progressive Lyceums of the United Kingdom. Any Progressive Lyceum can join this Union by instructing the Secretary to place its name on the roll; such instruction shall imply assent to this Constitution. The Union charges no fee for entrance. The rate of subscription²⁸ from each Lyceum enrolled is one penny for every name on the Lyceum register, to be paid in advance. When this is paid the Lyceum is entitled to full benefits.

ADVANTAGES OF MEMBERSHIP

The Union offers distinctive advantages to its Members in the form of special cheap terms for books, such as Outlines of Spiritualism; The Spiritual Songster; and The Lyceum Manual,

REPRESENTATION AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Representatives to the Annual Conference shall be duly appointed by the various Lyceums joining the Union. Those Lyceums which have under 50 members on their register shall be entitled to send one delegate, those over 50 but under 100, shall be entitled to send two delegates; and those who have over 100 shall be entitled to send three delegates; which number shall be the limit of representation allowed to any one Lyceum.

The Lyceum Union's District Councils

Bradford District—Secretary, Mr. C. E. Rigby, 23, Southampton Street, Otley Road, Bradford. District Visitor, Mr. Fred Priestley, 33, Nuttall Road, Otley Road, Bradford.

Halifax and Huddersfield—Secretary, Mr. G. E. Baker, Cross Hill, Greetland, near Halifax. District Visitor, no information.

Leeds—Secretary, Mr Esaw Robinson, Branch End, Gildersome, near Leeds. District Visitor, Mr James Kitson, Collier Row, Leeds Road, Dewsbury.

London—Forest Gate and Dalston. District Visitors, Mr and Mrs M. Clegg, 29, Ramsey Road, Forest Gate, E.

Manchester District—Secretary, No Information.

Midland District—Visitor, Mr J. Bolton, 60, Sutherland Road, Derby.

North-East-Lancashire—Secretary, Mr Reuben Latham, 31, Waterbarn Street, Burnley. District Visitor, Mr William Mason, Burnley

Rochdale District—District Visitor, Miss Burton, 53, Stanley Street Bury

Sheffield District—Secretary Mr W. E. Bennett, 75, Westbury St. Attercliffe, Sheffield. District Visitor, Mr F. Haywood, 135, Langsett Road, Hillsborough, Sheffield

Teeside District—Visitor, No Information

Tyneside.—District Visitor, Mr G. W. Secker, 64, Bensham Avenue, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

All Corrections for this List to be sent to the Lyceum Union Secretary.

THE MONTHLY RECORD.

ACCRINGTON—Bridge Street. On Sunday, March 3rd, we elected our officers for the ensuing year.—Sunday, March 10th, we held our first Anniversary. In the morning we had an open session, the scholars gave golden and silver recitations, etc., in good style. In the afternoon and evening Miss Case, of Clayton-le-Moors, spoke very well on "Lyceum work." We had a very successful day.—J.J.L.

ACCRINGTON—China Street.—On Sunday, March 17th, we held our Anniversary Services. The Lyceum Session, at 10 a.m. was crowded. Silver and Golden chain recitations and Musical Readings were gone through. Our speaker for the day, Mr. G. H. Edwards, of Blackburn, gave a short speech. A vote of condolence was passed for Mrs. Swindlehurst and family in their bereavement. At 2-30 and 6 the services commenced in earnest. Lyceum songs were given from the "Manual" and "The Spiritual Songster," and tunes chosen from the Service of Song entitled "A Terrible Lesson." Mr. Edwards gave two splendid addresses on Lyceum Work and the duty of Parents. About 30 Lyceumists assembled on the platform and formed the choir. Mr. Tomlinson's Orchestral Band accompanied the singing. Our Lyceum Conductor, Mr. Holmes, conducted the singing in a very creditable manner. A real pleasant day. Mr. Fish presided.—W.F.

BOLTON—Knowsley Street.—Sunday, March 10th, was our Lyceum Anniversary. We had with us Mrs. Greenwood, of Hebden Bridge, who spoke very encouragingly. Misses Burton and Barrett gave good clairvoyance. On the 9th, the children were presented with prizes for regular attendance and reciting. A good muster to tea, after which a capital entertainment was gone through, two pieces by the children being very well received.

BRIGHOUSE—The leaders of the above held their Third Annual Leaders Party on Tuesday, March 12th. The schoolroom had been decorated, and presented a smart appearance. About 70 Leaders and Friends put in an appearance and indulged in dancing to music supplied by Birkey's Band. Supper was served by Mesdames Thornton, Briggs, Sykes and Sheard. The choir contributed glees. Altogether a very entertaining evening was spent.—G.C.

BRADFORD—St. Paul's.—A very enjoyable open session was held on March 3rd. Appropriate remarks were made by Miss Pearson, one of the B.L.D.C. visitors. Suitable recitations were rendered by Misses E. Osborne, A. Faton, E. Bowes, Ethel Bowes, and F. Whitehead; and by Masters F. Lightowler, and Charles Faton. A solo was ably rendered by Miss A. Whitehead.—ROBERT LEWIS.

BLOOMSBURY LYCEUM, BIRMINGHAM.—On Mar. 16 and 17, the Cantata, "Prince Ferdinand," was played by the Lyceum at the Oddfellows' Hall. Miss Alice Green was 'Princess' to the 'Prince' of Mr. J. Foulkes. Miss Kathleen Allender made an excellent Titania. Miss E. Rudder was witch, and Mr. J. Lawman the wizard Cabalo. Little Miss Eva Lloyd was 1st violin, assisted by Mr. G. Lloyd, violin, and Mr. N. Westwood, 'cello. The operetta was ably conducted by Mr. Edward Allender. To strengthen the children's performance the elders gave the 'Court Scene' from the 'Merchant of Venice.' Handsome dresses were specially hired, and the play was enthusiastically commended. The laborious work of scene shifting, etc., was under the direction of Mr. H. Reeves, to whom we are deeply obliged.—B.H.

CARDIFF.—We are pleased to report increased attendance, and we also stand in a better financial position than ever. An election of Officers was held at our last annual meeting.—W.B.

DARWEN.—Annual Reception on Saturday, March 9, which proved a great success. Mr. and Mrs. Holgate discharged the duties of host and hostess, and made all feel at home. Nuttall's band gave choice selections of music. The rooms were tastefully decorated with flowers, etc., our hostess presenting each guest with a spray of acacia and lily-of-the-valley. An enjoyable evening was spent by all.—B.H.

MANCHESTER, Collyhurst.—On Mar. 31st we were pleased to have Miss Burton with us. She took the conductorship of the Marching, introducing several new marches, making an agreeable change from our usual routine. She made a few encouraging remarks to both elders and children.—J. H. Horrocks.

MANCHESTER.—Onward Lyceum.—On Sunday, March 17th, we held our first open session. Madame Arthur addressed a fairly good audience. Marching and Calisthenics were much appreciated, the new series being dealt with, and considering the short time the Lyceum has been opened, great credit is due to the Conductor and Leaders.—E.M.G.

OLDHAM.—On Sunday, March 10th, we had the farewell of one of our elder Lyceumists, Mr. Chisnall, who

departed on Thursday, March 14. There were speeches by many of the elder Lyceumists, wishing him success both on his journey and in the new country. He was a very able and ardent worker in the cause.—F. Mellor.

PENDLETON.—Cobden Street.—Open sessions on Tuesday, March 17th. The afternoon session was conducted entirely by the Lyceumists. There was a large audience, who warmly congratulated the children. At 6-30 the Lyceumists took part in reciting and singing, and Mrs. Kate Taylor Robinson, addressed the children and friends, her subject being "Lest ye forget." Altogether a bright and happy day.—W. BAGNALL.

SALFORD.—Spiritual Church.—On Sunday, March 31st, a combined Lyceum Session was held in the above church. The participating Lyceums were Pendleton (Hilton Street), and the Salford Lyceum. Mr. A. W. Orr presided, and was supported by Mr. J. J. Morse, the Editor of the BANNER, who was the speaker for the day, and paying his regular visit to the Salford Spiritual Church and Manchester district during the ensuing week. The session was a striking success in every respect.

WARRINGTON.—On Tuesday, March 12th, we held a concert in aid of our funds for the annual outing at mid-summer. Mr. Stout presided. Songs, solos, recitations, etc., were ably given, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

DISTRICT COUNCIL.—Leeds District.—The council held its quarterly meeting on Saturday, March 9th, at Wakefield, and was well attended. A lengthy agenda was submitted which took over two hours to discuss. An excellent tea was provided by the local friends, after which an entertainment was given by the Lyceumists and visitors.—E.R.

THE CHILDREN'S HOME FUND.

SUMS COLLECTED BY LYCEUMS.

	£	s.	d.
Donation, Mrs S Smedley	10	0	0
Armley, per Mr A Pinder	1	5	10
Batley Carr, per Miss Polly Mortimer	1	10	0
Bacup, per Mr D Ridehalgh	0	4	6
Booth, per Mr James Bradshaw	1	5	6
Blackpool, per Mr F G Mewis	0	2	7
Dewsbury, per Mr Aisthorpe	0	0	6
Derby, Midland Road, per Mr W Haywood	0	12	0
Darwen, per Mr H Holgate	1	0	0
Exeter, per Miss Stamp	0	8	0
Elland, per Mrs Fred Smith	0	2	4
Huddersfield, Brook st, per Mr H L Westerley	1	3	5
Hyde, per Miss Lydia Meakin	1	0	0
Hull, per Mr Coghill	0	2	0
Keighley, per Miss M Whitaker	0	4	2
London, Camberwell, per Mr E W Long	0	10	8
Liversedge, per Miss J Hirst	0	0	8
London, Battersea Park, per Mr J Imison	0	18	7
Manchester, Tipping Street, per Mr George Vernon	0	13	8
Millom per Mr J Dixon	0	10	0
Normanton, per Mr E Mosley	0	16	0
Nelson, North Street, per Mr Kirby	1	3	1
Nottingham, Gladstone Hall, per Mr S Sanderson	1	1	0
Newcastle-on-Tyne, per Mr G M Martin... ..	0	9	4
Parkgate, per Miss Storey	0	5	0
Rothwell, per Mr R Ellis	0	10	0
Rochdale, Regent hall, per Mr T R Johnstone	0	12	9
Rishton, per Mr A Mason... ..	0	17	6
Rawtenstall, per Mr J T Walmsley	0	7	0
Smethwick, per Miss Lilian George	0	10	0
Warrington, per Miss A Furness	0	5	6
Total up to date... ..	£28	11	7

Will those Lyceums that have money for the above fund kindly remit the same at once, and oblige.—Yours fraternally,

ALFRED KITSON, Sec.
Bromley-rd., Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury.

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

INSTITUTED AT OLDHAM, MAY, 1890.

OFFICERS, 1900-1901.

President : Mr. Alfred Smedley, Park Mount, Belper. Past President : Mr. J. J. Morse, London.
Treasurer : Mr. A. E. Sutcliffe, 18, Sowerby Street, Sowerby Bridge.
Executive : Mrs. Jessy Greenwood, Mr. A. Wilkinson, Mr. S. S. Chiswell, and Mr. J. Venables.
Secretary : Mr. Alfred Kitson, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, near Dewsbury.

List of Lyceums and Lyceum Secretaries in the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

- Accrington**, Albion st., 10-30 a.m., Miss Alice A. Edwards, 76, Omerid st.
" Argyle st., 10-30 a.m., Mr. E. Edwards, 5, Pendle st
" Bridge st., 10-30 a.m., Mr. G. Brooks, 30, Lydia st
" China st., 10-30 a.m., Mr. Wm. Fish, 8, George st., Oswaldtwistle
Armley, Theaker lane, 10 a.m., Mr. W. Brett, 15, Bardon Mount, Whingate road.
Ashington, nr. Morpeth, 10 a.m., Mr. J. J. Douglas, 38, Fifth row
Bacup, Princess street, Miss Butterworth, 129 Plantation st.
Barrow-in-Furness, Lyceum hall, Mr. J. Jones, 4, Mapus st.
Barry Dock, Atlantic hall, Mr. A. E. Taylor, 82, George st.
Batley Carr, Town st., 10 and 2, Mr. H. Holdsworth, 97, Cave buildings, near Dewsbury.
Belper, Jubilee hall, 10 and 2, Mr. J. Hawkins, Marsh lane.
Birmingham, Bloomsbury, Oddfellows' hall, 17 a.m., Mr. T. Browne, 24, Tarry road, Highfield road, Saitley
" B.S.U., Bristol Street Board Schools, 2-45 p.m., Mr. J. Preece, 62, Garnet st.
" Smethwick, Central hall, cape hill, 2-45 p.m., Miss L. George, 28, windmill lane.
Blackburn, Freckleton street, 9-30 and 1-45, Mr. James Hargreaves, 31, whalley new road.
" Northgate, 9-30, Mr. T. E. Hollinhead, 24, Edmundson street.
Blackpool, Albert rd., 9-30., Mr. F. Mewis, 12, Maybell Avenue.
Bolton, Bradford st., 10 a.m. Mr. E. Pilkington, 72, Union st., Tonge Moor.
Bolton, Knowsley st., 10 and 2-30, Miss Maud Spittle, 57, Essington st.
Bootle, Liverpool, Stanley hall, 11 a.m., Miss E. Norton, 4, St. Catherine's road.
Bradford, Rebecca st., 10 a.m., Mr. A. Windle, 9, Tile st., Manningham.
" Otley rd., 10 a.m. Mr. F. Priestley, Nuttall rd.
" Temperance hall, 10 a.m., Mr. H. Downey, 26, Marshland place, Leeds road.
" Sunbridge rd., 10-30, Mr. H. Anderson, 31, Gale st., Princeville.
" St Paul's spiritual church, Laisterdyke, 10 a.m. Mr. R. Lewis, 8, wakefield road.
" Tong st, Dudley hill, 10 a.m., Mr. Fred Wilkinson, 81, Holme lane, Dudley Hill.
" West Bowling, Parkside road, 10 a.m., Mr. J. Lightowler, 13, Chellow st., Manchester rd.
Brighouse, Martin st., 10 a.m., Mr. G. Crowther, 3, Rogerson square, Waring Green.
Burnley, Hammerton st., 10 a.m., Mr. Edward Hall, 9, Read street.
" North st, 9-30, Mr. Thos. E. Chadwick, 104, Cleaver street.
" Guy st, 10-30 a.m., Mr. W. A. Nutter, 41, Hulme st., Padiham rd.
Bury, Georgiana st., 10 a.m., Mr. A. E. Kershaw, 28, South Bank road.
Cardiff, St. John's square, 2-45.
Cleckheaton, walker-st, Northgate, 9-45, Mr. Wm. Jackson, shaw-st, Moor bottom.
Colne, Cloth hall, 10, Mr. Harry Cotterell, 17, Mason street.
Crook, co. Durham, Old Crown rooms, 10-30, Mr. R. Christopher, Emerson st.
Darwen, Church bank-st, 9-30, Mr. W. Pearce, 41, Argyle street.
Derby, Midland-rd, 10-30, Mr. Ernest shepherd, 48, Molineaux-st.
Dewsbury, Bond st, 10 and 1-45, Mr. J. Wallace, Aishorpe, Highfield cottages, Hanging Heaton, near Dewsbury.
Dukinfield, Astley road, 10, Miss E. A. Gartside, 54, Hemetta st., Ashton-Under-Lyne.
Elland, Newcombe st., 10, Mrs Fred Smith, 28, Catherine st.
Gateshead, St Cuthbert's hall, Bensham, 2-30, Mr. J. W. Secker, 94, Bensham avenue.
Glasgow, Assembly Rooms, 136, Bath st., Miss Jeanie Welsh, 228, Main st., Anderston.
Great Harwood, nr., Blackburn, Cambridge st., 10, Miss L. Bell, 75 Clayton st.
Halifax, St. Paul's, Alma st., 10 and 1-15, Mr. T. Woodhams, 31, Crossley terrace, Hanson lane.
" Craven st., 10 and 1-15 (Sec. as above).
Heaton, Spiritual Institute, Mr Shadforth, 33, Tynemouth rd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Heckmondwike, Church st., 10 and 1-30, Miss F. Kershaw, horsfall buildings, Norrissthorpe, Liversedge.
Heywood, Wililan st., 10 a.m., Mr. George E. Taylor, 23, Clay Bank st.
Higher Broughton, Salford, Hilton st, 10-30 and 2, Mr. H Searle, 9, Sycamore st., Hightown, Manchester.
Hollingwood, Byron st., 10-15, Mr. Fred Snape, 91, Chapel rd.
Horwich. nr. Bolton, Beatrice st, 10-30, Mr. A. V. Vinten, 331, Chorley new rd.
Huddersfield, Brook st., 10, Mr. H. L. Westerby, 11, Manchester rd.
" St. Peter st., 10-15, Miss F. Brown, 16, Fieldhouse rd.
Hull, Granville hall, Silvester st., Mr. B. H. Coghill, Frederic's terrace, Barnsley st.
Hyde Mount st, 10, Miss E. Blackshaw, 13 Orchard street.
Keighley, Heber st., 10 and 1-30, Mr. Charles Webber, 26, Corn street, Ingrow.
Lancaster, Athenaeum st. St Leonard's gate 10-30 Mr. H. Townley, 16, Rydall rd.
Leeds, Castle street, 10 a.m., Mr C. Levitt, 74 Geldard-road
Leeds, Psychological hall, Grove house lane, 10, Mr. Dan Nevison, 11, Sedans place, Camp rd.
Leicester, Queen st., 10-30, Mr. W. A. Griffin, 18, Shakespeare st., Aylestone.
Leigh, Newton st, 10-30, Mrs Stirrup, 2, Ellsmere st
Liverpool, John Lamont Lyceum, Eaton hall, Breck rd., Everton. 11 a.m., Mr. Arthur Crowther, 47, Cobden st.
" Daulby hall, Daulby st., 11 a.m., Mr. W. Robinson, 314, Scotland rd.
Liversedge, Carr st., 10, Miss Julia Hirst, Well fold, Littletown.
London, Battersea park, Mr. J. Inson, 8 Glycena rd., Lavender hill, s.w.
" Leyton, 3 p.m. Mr. R. Blanchett's, 2, Osborne road, E.
" Surrey Masonic hall, Camberwell, new rd. 3 p.m. S. D. Smith, 237, Southampton-st., Camberwell
Manchester, Collyhurst st, Oldham rd., 10, Mr J. H. Horrocks, 11 Marsh st., Ancoats.
" Harpurhey, Rochdale rd, 10-30 Mrs. A. Pollard, 172, Rochdale rd.
" New Ardwich, Thompson's Assembly Rooms, 10-30 a.m., Miss Creer, 7, Mornington street Longsight.
" West Gorton Labour Hall, 24, Grey st., 10-30, Mr. P. Humphreys, 108, Henry st.
" Tipping st., Ardwick, 10-30 Mr. G. Vernon, 73, Mytton st., Hulme.
Middlesboro', Newport rd., 10 a.m., Mrs. Jane Nixon, 1, Oliver st., Linthorpe, Middlesboro'.
Middleton, nr. Manchester, Gilmour st., 10-15, Mr. Jas. Ellidge, 23a, Taylor st.
Millom 10 and 2, Mr. J. Dixon, 16, Duke st.
Morley Church st., 10 a.m., Miss E. Thewlis, Webster house, Bank st,
Nelson Every st., 10 a.m. Mr. Fred Allsup, 33, Elizabeth st.
Newcastle Northumberland hall, High Friar st. 2-30, Mr. G. Martin, 205, Clara st., New Benwell N-on-T.
New Hirst, Ashington, Miners Hall, 2 p.m., Mr. R. Johnstone, 11, Clyde st., near Morpeth.
Normanton Queen st, 10 a.m. Mr. E. Mosley, 34 Goodhope row.
Nottingham Gladston hall 2-30, Mr. S. Sanderson, 21, Hollow Stone.
" Cobden hall, 2-30 Mr. J. Thornley, Denmark grove, Alexandra park.
Oldham, Bartlam place, 10, Mr. F. Mellor, 6, neath st.
Parkgate, Temple, Ashworth-rd, 2-30, Miss F. Storey, 165 Rawmarsh-rd, Lime Kilns, Rotherham
Patricroft, 10 a.m., Mr. M. Edwards, 17, Hampson st.
Pendleton, Cobden st., 10-30, Mr. Albert Elder, 31, Withycombe st.
" Milton place, 10-30, Mr. B. Wild, 23, Eimer st, Whit lane.
Rawtenstall Back ormerod st., 10-30, Mr. J. Walmsley, 25, Alma cottages.
Rishton Near Blackburn, 10 a.m., Mr. A. Mason, 36, clarke st,
Rochdale Regent hall, Regent st., 9-45, Mr. J. Firth, 20, Malvern st.
" Penn st, 10, Mr. J. Howarth, 3, Shepard's yard, Summer st, 10, Mr. Charles Addy, 22, Hume st.
Rockferry Union st, 11 a.m., Mr. J. Halliwell, 41, Grove road, Birkenhead.
Rothwell Nr. Leeds 10 a.m., Mr. R. Ward 3, Craven yard., West parade.
Royston, Union st, 10 a.m., Miss S. E. Halliwell, 114, Edge lane, Oldham rd.
Salford, Chapel' st., 10-30, Mr. A. H. Roche, 47, West cloves st, Eccles new rd.
Sheffield Attercliffe, 10-30, Mr. B. Worboys, 67, Attercliffe Common.
" Hillsboro' 10-30, Mr. J. H. Appleton, 11, Hinchcliffe walk.
" Music Hall, Surrey st., 10-30, Mr. J. Caunt, 1, Gower st.
" Langsett rd., 9-30 and 1-45. Mr. W. E. Caswell, 31, Topham st.
Skipton Temperance hall, 10 a.m. Mr. H. Bradley 5, Rowland st. Middletown.
Slaitwhaite Laith lane. 10-30. Mr. Frank Cock, 46, Laith lane, near Huddersfield.
Southport Forester's hall. 10 a.m. Mr. W. Stansfield, 20, Seaband rd.
Sowerby Bridge, The Lyceum, Hallins lane, 10 a.m., Miss Dewhurst, 51, Tuel lane.
Stalybridge, 10-30. Mr. J. Croisdale, 43, Melbourne st.
Stockport Spiritual hall, wellington rd. Mr. J. Marstone, 223, Chestergate.
Todmorden, Sobriety hall, 10 a.m., Mr. O. Sutcliffe, 2, Dover st., Millwood.
Wakefield, Queen street, Mrs. Bruce, Twins place, Thornes lane.
Walsall Central hall, 2-30, Miss Flint, Adam's row
Warrington, Bewsey st., Mr. Wm. Massey, 34, Manchester rd.
West Vale Green lane, 10. Mr. G. E. Baker Cross hill, Greetland, near Halifax.
Wisbech, Ruby st., 2-15, Mr. Wm. Hill, Junr. 3, Queens rd.
Yeadon, Town side, 9-30, Mr. J. H. Hardaker, 20, Town st.
Ashton - under - Lyne, Burlington street, 10, Mr. R. W. Walker, Pelham st.
Dearley near Rochdale, 10-30, Mr. James Holt, 533, Halifax rd., Small Bridge, nr. Rochdale
Derby, 1a Normanton road. 10-30, Mr. J. Roe Burton rd.
Grimsbury Freeman st., Mr. C. Wright.
Leicester Grafton st., 10-30, Miss F. Sibson, 17, Derwent st.
Manchester Bradford, Victoria st., 2-30, Mr. Thornhill, 67, Wellington st., Bradford.
" Hulme, Mr. Wm. Lamb, Junr, 56, Radnor st.
Nelson Pendle st., 10-30, Mr. John Crabtree, Rupert st., Spring Bank.
Openshaw Granville hall, 2 p.m., Mr. John Owen, Chapel grove, Openshaw, Manchester.
Preston Central hall, 9-45, Mr. J. Dawson, 77, Springfield rd.
Plymouth Oddfellows hall, Morley st. Mr. R. Forbes, 5, Stoke road, Ellad.
Quarmany nr Huddersfield, 10-15, Mr Sam Mellor Leymoor Bottom, Lockwood, near Huddersfield.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING THIS LIST SHOULD BE SENT TO THE UNION'S SECRETARY AS ABOVE.

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Undo the ravages of Disease
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Entirely cure victims of Ennui
Lighten the weary load of Life
Lift off the weight of Sickness



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AN APPEAL.

The time has arrived when it is necessary and desirable to give effect to the resolution adopted by the Lyceum Conference, held at Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the 13th of May, 1900, viz. :—" That the Union elect a Permanent Secretary."

The general growth of the Lyceum Movement, with the constantly increasing office work, demands the appointment of a Permanent Secretary, who shall devote the whole of his or her time to the affairs of the Union.

In addition to the Secretarial duties there is the Publishing Department to attend to ; and a wide field is also open for a steady and continuous propaganda work.

That these desirable objects may be achieved, and the Union placed on a sound progressive basis, the Executive has decided to solicit the co-operation of the Officers, Members, and Friends of the 225 Societies and the 125 Lyceums already established in their effort to raise the requisite funds, and have confidence that their appeal will meet with a hearty and generous response.

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