

The LYCEUM BANNER.

A SPIRITUALIST MAGAZINE FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

"In things Essential, Unity—In things Doubtful, Liberty—In all things, Charity."

VOL. XIII.

MAY, 1903.

NO. 148.

LYCEUM NOTES AND COMMENTS.

BY ALFRED KITSON.

The forthcoming Conference at Blackburn is the all-absorbing topic just now. Copies of the Agenda have been supplied to all Lyceums in the Union, as per *Constitution*. Lyceums who are sending more than one delegate have been supplied with a copy for each one. These should be handed to the delegates after the officers have discussed the motions, and instructed them how to vote.

The number of delegates this year promises to be a record one, nearly one hundred, all told, will meet to transact the business of the Union. The attendance would have been still better if Tipping-street, and Princess-street, Lyceums, Manchester; and Padiham and Colne Lyceums had made their applications for credentials earlier. These applied three weeks after the time specified in the *Constitution*, and so were out of order.

Delegates will be informed where they will be entertained, at the close of the Saturday evening's Session.

The Secretary of the Union has kindly promised to have a supply of copies of the *Constitution*, and scribbling *Tablets*, perforated and ruled, on sale at 1d. each, in order to facilitate business.

NOTE: The President respectfully suggests that nominations be taken for the election of Officers, and five members of the Executive Council, at 12-30 p.m. the list to be closed when the Conference adjourns for dinner, and the ballot to be taken at the close of all other business (as per *Constitution*).

As a result of the Manchester D. V's. interview, on April 19th, Hulme Lyceum decided to join the Union, and, as a mark of good faith, handed their first contribution to Miss Burton to be duly forwarded to the Union's Secretary. The Lyceum at Openshaw only remains outside the Union in this important centre of Lyceum work. We hope to have them join hands with us soon.

The Penn-street, Lyceum, Rochdale, is making excellent progress. There are over 70 names on its register. It also

has decided to join the Union, and sent on its contributions accordingly.

Middlesborough Lyceum has made itself financial on the Union's Register.

York has got another Lyceum, and talks of joining the Union at an early date.

Our Midland D.V. writes to say he attended Melton-Mowbray to open a Lyceum on April 19th. We are very sorry to learn we are soon to lose his valuable services owing to an appointment (promotion) to Brecon, South Wales. While we deeply regret to lose him, we sincerely congratulate him on his promotion.

Harpurhey Spiritual Church held a Grand Children's Effort and Opening of their Library on April 25th. Any Lady or Gentlemen who can spare them a few copies for the above Library will win the grateful thanks of the Officers in general, and Librarian in particular, whose address is: MR. E. W. SPARKES, 4, Lathbury-road, Queen's Park, Manchester.

Mr. J. J. Morse writes from Wellington, New Zealand, March 4th, where he arrived from Melbourne on January 5th, to say that he has met with gratifying success at each of his meetings, the local press giving favourable reports. He has held three meetings in Invercargill; 12 in Dunedin; and 4 at Wellington, with 4 more to follow. He is busy publishing a pamphlet of 25,000 words, in answer to a parson who denounced Spiritualism as being of the devil etc., etc., etc.

He returns to Melbourne at the end of March, for a month. Then they all journey to Sydney; and from there they go to Brisbane. They will sail in July for the United States.

Cigarettes prohibited in Canada! A motion declaring for prohibition of the importation, manufacture, and sale of cigarettes has just been carried in the Commons in Ottawa by 103, against 43. This is a notable victory for the Canadian women.

"JOSEPH BARKER."

Note.—We are in receipt of another supply, thanks to the generosity of Alfred Smedley, Esq., Belper, of the pamphlet containing the missing chapter from the Autobiography of the late Joseph Barker. Lyceums and Societies can have a parcel by sending 1/- for carriage. Address—Alfred Kitson, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury.

The Garden of the Heart.

A TALE FOR LYCEUM MEMBERS.

BY ALFRED KITSON.

CHAPTER XII. (continued)

ELLEN could not speak, her heart was too full of gratitude at such evidence of genuine sympathy; she could only grasp her friend's hand in silence. But her eyes spoke a greater volume of thanks than her tongue could ever do. Just then a bell rang, and further conversation was cut off for the present.

When school closed Annie waited for her new-made friend, and, bidding her companions a "good-day" accompanied her nearly all the way home, chatting pleasantly and freely, so that they grew quite intimate and confidential, during which Annie learned a great deal about Ellen's home-life, and realised what a great task she had before her if she was to succeed in reforming her father.

Annie's companions were greatly surprised to see her go off with Ellen, and questioned her, the following morning, why she had forsaken them for such an ill-tempered girl as Ellen Woodward?

Annie felt her temper rising at a quick rate to hear Ellen spoken of thus. But she said, as calmly and quietly as she could, "You are wrong in supposing I have forsaken any of you. I walked home with Miss Woodward because she was in great trouble, and I thought I could help to bear part of it at least. And it is unkind of you to call her names on account of her poor dress. It is her misfortune, and not her fault, that she is poor. Her faded dress does not prevent her from feeling the hardness of her lot, and the cruelty of scornful looks of those who are more fortunate than her, and have comfortable homes and pretty dresses. Surely it is hard enough to bear without any of us adding to her burden. Should we not think so if we were in her place, and her in ours?"

During the expression of these worthy sentiments, Annie was conscious of spirit aid. The words came without any effort, and her whole being was thrilled with a new energy and power.

At these remarks all but one felt ashamed of their uncharitable sentiments; but that one said, "Oh, hearken what a fine sermon she is preaching. I suppose she is practising as a missionary amongst gipsies and will pose as a saint next," and then walked off in a huff.

Annie felt deeply wounded by these remarks, and was about to retort very hotly, but a voice whispered to her, "Peace, be still. Pity her, for she has done herself the most injury."

Then Annie remembered what her guardian said concerning those who injure us: that, seeing all have to reap what they sow, so they who sin most do so against themselves, and are to be pitied.

Several of her companions cried shame on the one in question; but she was soon beyond hearing. Just then the subject of conversation made her appearance, which cut short all further remarks.

As Ellen drew near, she felt sure she had been the theme of conversation, which was evident from the shy

looks and furtive glances that were occasionally cast at her.

But Annie met her with a genial smile, and a kindly "Good-morning," which greatly tended to drive away her fears, and reassure her that whatever had been said had not altered her friendship.

CHAPTER XIII

The week thus passed on; Ellen's confidence gradually growing stonger day by day with the interest and kindness Annie displayed towards her.

Annie missed her friend on the Monday, and on calling on her in the evening, found her severely ill. She noticed that their home was almost bare of furniture, but the little they had was clean, arranged to the best advantage.

She visited her very frequently during her illness, never failing to carry some little dainty, provided by her mother, to tempt the invalid's appetite. She would sit and chat pleasantly with her, which made her visits eagerly looked forward to by Ellen.

On one occasion Annie ventured to inform her friend of her visits to the GARDEN OF THE HEART, and how full of thorns and weeds she had found it; how she had been instructed to plant it with flowers. Ellen listened with almost breathless interest to the wonderful things related. When her story was concluded she was surprised to find that Ellen had tears in her eyes.

"Why your tears?" she asked, "Have I wounded your feelings, or vexed you?"

"Oh, no," Ellen replied, "I was thinking that if your Garden was in such a state, how very bad mine must be; and that made me cry."

Annie tried to comfort her friend by holding out the hope of future improvement. Then she had not had the same opportunity of being good as she had. That the poverty of her home, which caused uncharitable people to make remarks about her, helped to call forth words and actions that spring from a wounded heart. And, if these can be altered, she would not have half as much to vex and annoy her.

Ellen's face was lit up with anticipated pleasure at the idea of a reformed home, and she exclaimed, "Oh, Annie, if father would only give up drink, what a nice home we might have." Annie again expressed her determination to reform him, but how was a question she was unable to answer.

On a subsequent visit she told her of the Children's Progressive Lyceum, of its Musical Readings, its Silver and Golden Chain Recitations, select readings, songs, recitations, marching and calisthenics, of their Groups and lessons.

When she had heard of the varied and wonderful programme, with its joyous features, and compared it to the little she remembered of the Sunday School, she expressed a wish to become a member, but felt conscious that, even if she was well, her dress was unfit to attend in.

Annie thought a way out of the difficulty, viz., the benevolent meetings, but not wishing to raise hopes within her friend's heart which she was not sure of being able to realize, she kept her ideas to herself, merely adding, "Be quick and get better, and hope for the best."

(To be continued.)

THE GIRLS' OWN CORNER

BY MRS. JESSY GREENWOOD.

"The nobleness of life depends on its consistency, cleanness of purpose, quiet and ceaseless energy." — (*Ruskin.*)

I WISH to introduce to my girl readers a little lady who sends me the following sweet thoughts, Miss Gertrude Green, of Manchester. I hope other girls will be induced to do the same; the exercise will be helpful to themselves and others:—

Dear Mrs Greenwood,

I have been much interested in the discussion on "What constitutes a lady," but have been rather disappointed to find so few take part. I think the girls want shaking up a little, as regards literary efforts, and the boys far more so.—but I hope they're not listening.

I was in the tram car some time ago, and I saw seated opposite me an old lady with silvery hair; next to her a boy of about ten. His face was rosy and his eyes bright. The contrast was so great that I could not help remarking it; the following is the result of my thoughts:—

YOUTH AND OLD AGE.

What more pleasant to gaze upon than the mother with her infant? See how she tenderly fondles it to her loving breast, all her world is centred in her child. All that love and thoughtful care can do to make her little one happy, is done. Nothing and no one can possibly be too good for the little soul. Ah! such a sight is indeed beautiful to look upon. How the mother watches her child as it grows and develops in life. Her tender eyes watch its faltering feet as it takes the first step; her joy knows no bounds when the little one can run to her with childish glee, and her ear catches the first sound of "Mother" uttered in uncertain accents.

As the years pass by and the baby grows to manhood or womanhood, the tiny dresses, shoes and toys are laid aside for other attire and amusements. When the loved and dear one is far away, no one but the angels see the mother in the solitude of her own room, take out the worn garments and look at them with reverent eyes. She takes them one by one and gently touches them as though they were too sacred to bear the touch of human fingers. Then with a sigh and perhaps a tear she replaces them in their lonely corner, only to look at them again and again. Ah! a mother's love! What can compare to it? It is saintlike; the embodiment of all that is unselfish, good, pure, and unalloyed; a divine love that never fails, but lasts through all temptation, trial or sorrow; an exquisite love that loves for love's own sake, without ever expecting any reward but love in return.

How little we value or realize the dear mother's care. We become so accustomed to it that we only fully realize it when we have it no more. Then we regret; when it is too late, all our past unkindness, and wish we might have

the dear presence with us, that we might atone the smallest particle. But there it is, it is too late, and all we can do is to hope that in the next world we may redeem all.

Youth: how beautiful is youth, the springtime of life. When we feel the young blood coursing through our veins, and our hearts singing for very gladness that we live in this lovely world. Youth is the time when we can realize that we do live in a lovely world. We forget it as we grow old, our minds are taken up with new worries, sorrows and other trials, and we are apt too often to say despondently, "It's a wicked world," or "What a dreary world," when all the time it is ourselves that have changed and we look at the world through distorted vision.

Old age to me is like unto the ripe fruit ready for plucking. How few of us understand how to grow old as God intended we should. By the way people grow old, so can you discern to a great extent how they have lived. A man or woman who has lived a virtuous and good life, temperate in all things especially, such an one will live to an honoured old age, beloved and respected by all; their reward is sure in the other world. Why should old age be represented to us by imbecile old men and women? It is because we have not learned how to live. Throughout all nature other than man, I see perfect order and harmony; the very beasts of the earth seem to know the proper laws to follow and obey. But man allows his passions and desires to rule his will, and therefore has to suffer for having violated nature's divine laws.—GERTRUDE GREEN.

BURY SPIRITUALISTS' SOCIETY AND PROGRESSIVE LYCEUM.

SPECIAL LYCEUM SERVICES

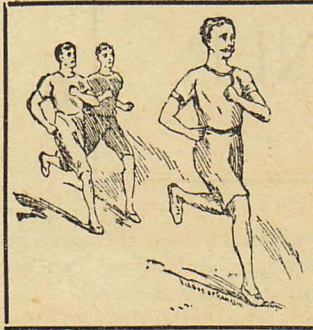
On Sunday, May 24th, 1903,

We shall be favoured with a visit from

Mr. ALFRED KITSON,

Secretary, B.S.L.U., and Editor of the "Lyceum Banner."

All Lyceumists are heartily invited to pay us a visit on this special occasion.



Our Boy's Special



MAY-DAY! What a sweet, hopeful, bright, and cheering influence seems to be contained in that little hyphenated word; it seems to bring us on to the very threshold of summer. It is quite an age since I had a word with my nephews. THEN there was snow and wind, and rain and cold; with heavy boots and closely buttoned overcoats, we plodded along to watch the football match. Now we are getting out the flannels and spiked shoes ready for the old English national game of cricket. And I do hope that all you robust boys will spend many delightful hours in this harmless and healthy exercise before the season closes, always remembering first of all to perform the little tasks which fall to your share on mother's call. Your recreation will be all the sweeter for the knowledge that you have done the work expected. You see, boys, I was crowded out of the pages of the BANNER last month, to make room for more important business than Uncle Ben's gossip, but I had my revenge,—no, don't let us call it *revenge*—say satisfaction, I crept in when the printer wasn't looking, and used up two whole pages of his valuable number. Ha! Ha! Ha!

I have received three valuable essays on the subject of "Honesty." They are very good in general tone, but Roland should exercise just a little more care in clear expression, some words he has left out altogether (a very common fault with boys in a hurry), but I thank him for his brave attempt. There are a great many boys in our Lyceums who have left out many more words than Roland, FOR THEY HAVE NOT WRITTEN AT ALL.

I print the essays which have come to hand. Now for next month's effort I desire to submit a word which is of special interest to spiritualists, and upon which Mrs. Jessy Greenwood built a very beautiful address on March 29th. Just let me see how many of you know anything about it, boys. The word is

"INFLUENCE."

P.S.—I have not heard from "Neddy" lately, I wonder if he has gone to the sea-side to get ready for the penny rides.

Yours lovingly,

UNCLE BENJAMIN.

HONESTY.

As our young lives unfold, let the beauty of honesty colour the flower of our minds. As we admire a beautiful flower, so we admire honesty of purpose in human nature. And as each one, individually, is possessed of this to a greater or lesser degree, so do they charm us with their beautiful characters. When we come to look at the lives of some of the great men and women who have influenced the world by their beautiful and precious lives, and their lofty thoughts have led us into a realm of new thought

and loftier aspiration. So does their honesty of purpose in overcoming the difficulties of life, help us to mould our lives with a determination to be honest and true. If we desire to become like unto them, we must, in our youth, know the value of honesty, and the part it plays in working out a noble and successful career in life. We can only live our lives and fashion our characters here and now while we are in time, every moment lost, every opportunity let slip means so much less in the development of our characters: so many good deeds left undone, so many kind thoughts unexpressed, that would have cheered the sorrowing in their time of trouble. Let us always have honesty as our motto, honest in action, honest in words, honest in religion, honest to ourselves and our fellow man, fired with an enthusiasm for knowledge that is practical, and with an admiration for nature, that our lives may become bright with usefulness and the silver lining may then appear to every dark cloud. Are we not all characters in the play of life, let us learn well our part, and when the curtain rises let us be ready to play the part of youth and manhood, honestly and well.—FRANK COCKS, Slaithwaite.

Heeley Lyceum, Sheffield.

UNCLE BEN.—Being a member of the above Lyceum, I would like to say a few words about

HONESTY.

Honesty means being fair in our dealings, and being truthful. Friendship might be gained by honesty. A honest person is the person who will be trusted. A honest person will come to help his friend. The following story is told to illustrate honesty:—

A shop assistant was serving a lady with some silk, as he was supplying her he noticed a flaw in it, being honest, he told her, and she told him not to bother, and walked out. He told his master about it, the master said he would stop him if he did that. The boy told his father about it, so the father went to the master and told him his son would not be allowed to work with a dishonest man.

Yours truly, ROLAND OLIVER.

P.S.—There is another meaning to honesty: To be honest in our thoughts towards others.

HONESTY.

To be honest, seems upon first consideration, to be no difficult task for many men to accomplish, but upon closer examination it is found that this is by no means the case, examination, always interesting, is ever revealing facts which would otherwise remain undiscovered; a leaf under the microscope is a revelation to those to whom such examination is new, but nothing perhaps when under accurate observation, brings to light so many truths as the human character. It is when subject to these conditions

only, that anything approaching the proper gauge can be obtained. Beauty, so often confounded with the inferior quality, gracefulness, is in its true sense infinitely superior to the standard which many ascribe to it. Mere comeliness of face and limbs, the physical endowments of human beings, though certainly not to be despised, emphatically do not represent beauty. Beauty is not a gift to the physical nature but to the spiritual, and the seemingly most ugly, or more correctly speaking, the least graceful, may yet be, in actuality, the most beautiful. Beauty is to be desired before grace. Under the same gauge it is possible to examine honesty. Indeed, it is most essential, for what, under ordinary conditions, appears to be unqualified honesty, is when tested, not seldom proved to be the reverse. How many, indeed, consider themselves honest who are far from being so, and how many are thankful for the old and worn-out so-called adage, "Honesty is the best policy." These very words, although they are correct enough, show the utmost dishonesty. Of what use is advice which beckons men to be honest because it is the best policy or because they will gain by it? The fact that there is a ulterior and selfish motive, in following this advice, is surely sufficient to prove that it is not honesty, but indeed more loathsome than most forms of dishonesty. The best policy! has man, then, to become honest because it "pays" to be so, surely it is a loftier motive to be honest because it is right, not because it is "policy." Thus it is that an honest man is never thought to be so, but many who call themselves honest are lauded to the skies by their comrades, because outwardly they appear the essence of honesty. Many there are who consider honesty as exclusively pertaining to finance, but there are other modes, and higher, in which this quality can be expressed. The tongue can be honest as well as the hand, for slander is one of the worst forms of dishonesty. Honesty there can be in ties of friendship, and in bonds of even stronger material, by ever being open in words and action. Truth loves the light, and honesty also, for truth cannot survive without its companion. Man, if he wishes to tread the path of progress, must watch the twin beacon lights, truth and honesty, and make these the goal to which he aspires. Though the path is rugged and thorny, and difficult to traverse, he will not experience the more rugged path of falsehood and dishonesty, in which he suffers that greatest of pains, the sting of his own conscience. He will not indeed be free from it, if he practices 'honesty' because it is his best policy, to satisfy this stern master of his, he must in all his dealings, *because he knows it to be right*, be honest.—A. C. ROBSON.

Newcastle Progressive Lyceum, 17th March, 1903.

THE LYCEUM CONFERENCE.

SOME POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION.

THE Lyceums' Parliament will assemble at Blackburn on the 9th inst. It promises to be a record attendance. Delegates from East, West, North and South will meet and greet each other as co-workers in this heaven-inspired cause. We wish the gathering had

included representatives from as far north as Dundee, and south as London; as far east as Grimsby, and west and south-west as Cardiff and Plymouth. Perhaps the near future may see the realisation of this very desirable gathering. We hope it will.

Perhaps the following brief summary *re* the origin, aims, and objects of District Councils may be helpful in dealing with the questions when they come up for discussion.

In the early days of the Union it was noticed that a number of Lyceums lapsed every year for lack of attention, and some one to lend a helping hand, and infuse hope and courage into their fainting hearts. For this cause Lyceums were grouped into Districts ten years ago, and capable District Visitors were appointed to visit all Lyceums in their respective Districts whether they were members of the Union or not. Reports were rendered quarterly to the General Secretary, who was thus enabled to keep a watchful eye on the whole movement, and direct the District Visitors when a Lyceum was about to be opened to help in the same. In this way much valuable work was done.

Then District Councils were formed in those districts who desired the same 'Home Rule' was granted them, they took over the election of their District Visitors and other officers, and paid their own expenses.

In course of time new difficulties arose. Petty jealousies crept into some of them, and disintegration commenced, where formerly their had been active work done for the cause. No reports were made, no visits were paid, and the Lyceums were allowed to languish. In one instance a District Visitor replied, in answer to the Union Secretary's enquiries, that he had made no visits for 14 months, and did not know whether his District Council were in existence or not.

In another instance we are told there are two Lyceums, financial members of the Union, who are not visited because they have not joined their District Council. If District Councils are unable to bear the cost of sending their Visitor to those outside their council what is to become of the weak and helpless ones, and the interviewing of societies who have no Lyceums? On page 11 of the Constitution we are informed that "the duties of the District Visitors shall be to visit Lyceums in their district, and encourage and help them by suggestions of improvement when such are necessary, render assistance in opening new Lyceums, and help to revive those that have lapsed. And also seek interviews with societies in their districts who have no Lyceums, to discuss the advisability and necessity of such being opened, and render assistance in the formation of the same."

Are we to take it for granted that District Councils have a heavier burden placed upon them than they are able to bear? It appears to us that there are three pertinent questions for the conference to consider. 1st, are the District Councils able to carry on the work assigned to them? 2nd, if so, why this neglect? And 3rd, if not, what is the best course to adopt to render them effective?

We leave the solution of these problems to the collective wisdom of the Delegates, trusting that in thus placing the facts before them their decision will be a wise one, guided by the motto, "The greatest good of the greatest number."

SPECIAL REDUCED TERMS.

Special reduced terms of 9½d. per doz. offered to those who promise to call for their parcels at the railway station on the Saturday preceding the first Sunday in each month.

Send all orders as early as possible.

Annual subscription, post free to all parts of the World, 1s. 6d. To the United States, 40 cents. U.S. currency or postage stamps taken.

Office--Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, near Dewsbury.

THE LYCEUM BANNER.

MAY, 1903.

WILL IT PAY.

IN this age of utility and commercial industry, every enterprise is placed in the crucible of "Will it Pay?" And if the prospects are not of a glowing nature, giving promise of a good dividend, the investor is unwilling to put his money into it.

While this cautious spirit may be necessary and commendable in regard to this world's affairs, is it wise or advisable that it should enter into that which appertains to man's moral and spiritual nature? We venture to assert that were our Societies and Lyceums run on these lines, and no higher or nobler considerations were entertained than £. s. d., that nine-tenths of them would have to close.

To dispel the errors of the past and promulgate the teachings of Spiritualism is the common aim and object of Spiritualists. And in like manner the task of imparting the teachings of spiritualism, and a knowledge of the naturalism of spirit communion to the rising generation, is the common aim and object of those engaged in the C.P.L. Neither the Lyceumists, nor those Spiritualists who give no thought for children's welfare stop to ask, "Will it pay?" They have facts and teachings second to none, and they are impelled with an almost irresistible power to spread the truth on every hand. In this noble work they are fully conscious that they are acting the reformers' part, and their lot is a hard one. Their reward will not be in this life. Instead of praise they will receive scorn; in place of gain they will sustain financial loss, so that reviewed from a monetary standpoint *it will not pay*, but on the contrary it will be a debtor to cash, as they will be called upon to support the cause they espouse. Like one of old, they dare to stand alone, they have a truth, and they dare to make it known.

But strange as it may seem there is a section, a small one it is true, of those brave-hearted, and courageous workers who, when appealed to to join the BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION will immediately ask the question "will it pay?" "what benefits shall we get?" These good, well-meaning Lyceumists lose sight of the fact that the Union is doing, on a national scale, for the children's cause, what they are doing on a local one. Every Lyceum which is federated with the Nation Union is earnestly labouring in their own town, village, or city, and also bearing their share of the care and expense of the National Organisation. Had they stopped to

ask "will it pay?" there would have been no Union, no *Lyceum Manual*, no *Spiritual Songster*, no *Reminiscences*, no *Outlines of Spiritualism*. It is a cold, selfish question, altogether out of place in a Lyceum where we are teaching and practising self-sacrifice.

Mr. A. Kersey did not ask "will it pay?" "What benefits shall I gain?" when first appealed to, to publish the *Lyceum Manual*, for which the Lyceum movement was languishing, and no firm in the trade would undertake because "it would not pay!" He did not ask "what benefits shall I gain?" when he saw and learned that a book of music was urgently needed. To wit: Mr. J. Pemberton, conductor of the Blackburn Lyceum, declared in the first Lyceum Conference held at Halifax, that he was using 30s. worth of music books from which to select suitable tunes for the *Lyceum Manual*. On learning that Mr. Kersey decided to publish the *Spiritual Songster*, which meant a further outlay of £200. Both these books have since been donated to the Union for the benefit of the children, and *not* for himself.

The same remarks apply to the production of *Outlines of Spiritualism*, and *Reminiscences*. In neither case did the authors ask "will it pay?" "what benefits shall we receive?" Their only desires were to spread the truths of Spiritualism, and help on the good work by strengthening the B.S.L. Union.

For over 20 years the Secretary to the B.S.L.U. has devoted himself to the Lyceum cause, turning his nights into days in order to keep up with the voluminous correspondence; travelling early and late to plead the children's cause. Often has he found himself at Huddersfield station at 1-50 a.m., having to face a 10 miles journey in order to reach his work at 6 a.m. after being busily engaged all the Sunday. Had he stopped to ask "will it pay?" the strain of platform work, weary head, and tired limbs would all have been saved. Propaganda work of the moral and spiritual type never did pay, and never will. Reformation implies sacrifice; and those who are unable to lead a life of self-abnegation are lacking in that moral grit of which reformers and martyrs are made.

"Will it pay?" If answered from a moral point of view our answer is YES! with heavy sheaves of a spiritual harvest. Every home that has been brightened; every sad heart that has been lightened; every life that has been improved and led to do right because it is right is ample payment.

Friends, to hesitate joining the B.S.L.U. on the question of "will it pay?" is unworthy of the noble soul-saving work you are engaged in. We want you to stand shoulder to shoulder with us in this national work. We want your presence in our Conferences to help in their deliberations. We want your financial support to help us to carry on this good work to which the Union is pledged. Don't stand indifferently by watching your fellow Lyceumists' bear all the burden, and financial responsibility. Such an attitude is unworthy of you. Your interest in your local Lyceum shows you are capable of still nobler, wider, and grander work. You believe in and teach the Brotherhood of Man! then join the Union which is labouring to *realise* your *betief*. Come, friends, stand shoulder to shoulder with your comrades and bear your share of the burden, as others have borne it for you.

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union

WILL HOLD ITS

Fourteenth Annual Conference

On Saturday and Sunday, May 9th and 10th, 1903,

In the ST. PETER STREET SPIRITUAL TEMPLE, BLACKBURN.

A Public Demonstration

Will be held at 6-30, when the President will be supported by Members of the Executive Council and other prominent workers, when brief and spirited addresses will be made.

REFRESHMENTS: Saturday—A Public Tea at 4 p.m. 8d. each.

Sunday—Dinner: Beef, Mutton, etc., with Tea, 1/- each. Tea, 6d. each.

Lyceum Session on the Sunday at 9 a.m.

CONFERENCE.—President: MR. JONAH CLARKE, Nottingham, in the Chair.

Saturday, Opening Session at 6 p.m. Sunday Session at 10 a.m.

AGENDA.

1. Opening Exercises.
2. *Pro Tem* Appointments.
3. Minutes of Last Conference.
4. Correspondence.
5. Reports.
6. Unfinished Business on the Agenda.
7. Motions:
 - (a) Notice to amend the Constitution.
 - (b) Notice to amend the District Council Constitution.
 - (c) Notice to amend the Bye-laws.
 - (d) Notice of General Motions.
8. Notices of Motions for next Conference.
9. Elect place of next Conference.
10. Elect Officers: President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary.
11. Elect Executive Council.
12. Elect Auditors (Two).
13. Votes of thanks to retiring officers, Executive Council, and Auditors.
14. Votes of thanks to local Society and Lyceum.
15. Closing Exercises.

LIST OF MOTIONS.

1st—That District Councils be allowed an additional representative at all Conferences held by the B.S.L.U.

2nd—That the travelling expenses of all District Visitors elected by the District Councils be paid out of the General fund of the B.S.L.U.

Moved by the N. E. L. L. D. C., per Mr. Reuben Leatham, Hon. Sec.

3rd—That the B.S.L.U. adopt, and stock, an appropriate Lyceum Badge, as a means of mutual recognition.

From the Executive Council.

4th—That it be an instruction to the Executive Council to compile a list of books suitable for the middle and higher Groups, and stock the same as far as practicable.

From the Huddersfield, Brook St., Lyceum, per Mr. Harry L. Westerby, Hon. Sec.





Our
Bluebells' Page.

Conducted by **FLORA BELLE.**

*
The Object of the Guild is to promote Gentleness, Kindness, and Good Behaviour.
Membership is open to Children of Spiritualists all over the World.

MY DEAR BLUEBELLS,—

I told you last month that in my next letter I would announce another competition.

Well, when Ted read it he said that the younger Bluebells had the last competition, and that this one should be for the older ones. So this competition is for the Bluebells over 14 years of age.

Then we set to work and tried to think what would be the best. Ted told me to put on my "studying cap," and then I should be sure to find something that would do. I told him that I had not got a studying cap, and so I could not put it on. When I said that he burst out laughing and went off to tell mother what I had said, saying he would be back in a minute. That was several hours ago and I have not seen him since. I think he must have gone to clean out his rabbit hutch, or else taken Bob, our dog, for a walk.

Well, when father came in I told him about my difficulty and also how rude Ted had been. He explained what is meant by "studying cap" and said he was sure Ted did not mean to be rude.

Father made several suggestions and then he said: "How would it do to have a competition on the Objects of the Guild."

"How could we do that, father" said I, "the Bluebells already know them, they can't guess them." "No, but I will tell you what I mean. Let them write an essay on 'The best methods to promote and carry out the Objects of the Guild.'" When father said this I jumped up and clapped my hands, and said it was just the very thing, as I was nearly sure that all the Bluebells who were old enough would try for it.

I have only received two letters from my Bluebells this month. I suppose you have all been too busy enjoying yourselves to write letters. I am sure I was quite surprised when our dear Editor sent word for me to send him my letter during the following week.

One letter has come from Sheffield and contains some more names for our Guild. The other is a letter from Clara Newell, of the Northgate Lyceum, Blackburn, and reads as follows:

DEAR FLORA BELLE,—

Just a few lines hoping to find you in good health. I write to inform you that on Good Friday we had a splendid picnic. We had with us a group from St. Peter-street Lyceum. We had a jolly day. During the afternoon we played games and tug-of-war. One of our young men sprained his thumb and had to go home. It then came to me to ask the leader of St. Peter-street if any of them were in the Blue Belle Guild. She said she did not know what it was, so I told her all about it. She then asked her group if they would like to join. They consented, so I send you their names. They asked me to do so. I hope you will have some more names soon.

Your loving Bluebell,

Clara Newell.

Thanks, Clara, very much. I am always pleased to hear from my Bluebells, and especially when they send me such a nice letter as yours, and such a list of names too.

Before I close my letter I must tell you that Ted has not come back yet, so he won't see the letter this month until he gets his 'Banner,' for it only wants fifteen minutes' to post time. Don't forget the Competition, and that the date for closing is May 23rd.

With love to all my Bluebells,

FLORA BELLE.

BLACKBURN, ST. PETER STREET.

1232 Kate Smith	1239 Susy Eddlestone	1246 Lizzie Bramall
1233 Edith Ferdinand	1240 Hilda Farrow	1247 Emily Holden
1234 Clara Ferdinand	1241 Elsie Farrow	1248 Maggie Harrison
1235 Alfred Ferdinand	1242 Ethel E. Farrow	1249 Lily Callon
1236 Violet Edge	1243 Clara Whitehead	1250 Maggie Slater
1237 Alice Edge	1244 Amelia Whitehead	1251 Florence Dibden
1238 Olive Edge	1245 Maud Moss	1252 Susy Dibden

SHEFFIELD UPPER THORPE LYCEUM.

1253 Joseph Newton	1258 Nellie Wilkinson	1263 Byron Ledger
1254 Adeline B Rayner	1259 Rollen Jepson	1264 Horace Shaw
1255 Lottie Chaplin	1260 Gordon Jepson	1265 Edwin Loach
1256 Florence Loach	1261 Ernest Laycock	
1257 Gladys Loach	1262 Charles Mitchell	

OUR TEMPERANCE PAGE

Conducted by **HERBERT E. CLARKE.**

INTEREST in our Fourfold Pledge is, I am glad to say, very manifest in some quarters, and as I once again take on my monthly duty of saying something for this page, I feel very grateful to the Editor and other dear friends who are endeavouring with me to bring forth some good results from this small section of our organ.

This month I have two lists to add to those already published, and numerous kind letters have reached me, for which I would express thanks. Up to the present, however, my readers have not afforded me an opportunity of publishing their essays upon total abstinence, and I can only request them again to seriously think over the matter, and then—to write on one side only of the paper, please.

Here is a cheering note which has been sent on to me by our Editor, regarding the Tipping Street, Manchester, Lyceum Band of Hope. I must apologise to Mr. Vernon for its late appearance, on the ground that when I received it I put it in a note book, which I came across only the other day.

MR. KITSON—DEAR SIR, I am pleased to report that we have formed a Band of Hope in connection with our Lyceum and up to the present (February 20th), have enrolled 25 members. We held our first meeting on Monday, Feb. 16th, when we had hymns, recitations, and also a few words regarding the objects of a Band of Hope. We intend to hold our meetings on Monday evenings fortnightly, and should be glad to acquire the services of anyone interested in the above movement. Yours respectfully, G. VERNON, JUNR.

It is very cheering to hear such good news, and I shall be delighted if Mr. Vernon will write me saying that the Band of Hope continues to make good progress.

Then their is a letter from Mr. L. Hawcroft, of Rotherham, and with it a nice batch of names, which will be found below. In a later note from the same gentleman he says:—"I am also pleased to say I have got the Band of Hope into fair working order. We have become affiliated with the local Band of Hope Union, and Mr. A. Bailey, secretary of the Union, gave an interesting address on Band of Hope work, on Wednesday evening, April 1st.

Our Rotherham friends have done the next best thing to the very best, in joining hands with the local Union. Our *beau ideal* of course is a grand union of all the bands in our movement, and I feel that the Fourfold Pledge will be a useful step to this consummation.

I am also much indebted to Mr. H. Bower, of West Bowling, Bradford, for his ready compliance with our Editor's request for a list of signatures. Mr. Bower writes:—

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 19th March, I enclose you a correct report from the Pledge Book, which is duly signed by myself as being quite correct. You will notice that our Pledge Book is a Fourfold one.

The Pledge Books referred to by Mr. Bower may be obtained from the LYCEUM BANNER office, and are

arranged specially for the Fourfold Pledge. The price, carriage paid is 7½d. The numbers given in these books should be referred to the numbers given in the lists which will be published through this column, so that all members of the united roll may know their number in the register in my possession. Following on what I said last month regarding the use of tobacco, an extract from the London "University Correspondent" of April 1st, is well worthy of mention here:—"That cigarette smoking is injurious to young boys," it says, "hardly needs scientific demonstration. In America, where they are fond of investigating everything, says the "Globe," the effect of cigarettes on schoolboys is held to be responsible for a low moral, as well as an impaired physical condition; but the question of health may well stand alone. In Yale University, records have been kept for eight years, and as compared with the smokers, the non-smokers gained 24 % in weight, 37 % in height, 42 % in girth, and 8.36 cubic inches in lung expansion."

In increasing the pledge book roll, I would therefore particularly ask our younger lyceumists to help, not only by signing themselves, but by endeavouring to persuade their friends and parents to do likewise. We do not wish to see our Lyceum boys grow up with the bad habits of swearing and smoking; and our girls (who, we hope, will be less tempted to gamble, swear, or smoke), we want to sign always to refrain from taking alcoholic liquors as beverages, and to try always to discountenance their use by those with whom our Lyceum girls come into contact. Lyceumists, let us join together in the fight for sobriety and progression! Mr. Hawcroft sets the example in signing the pledge with his Lyceum and heading the list.

I have just been reading a report of a debate in the House of Lords on gambling, and find that most of the noble lords deplore its increase; yet many are unscrupulous turf men, and gamble most of their spare time. The debate took place on May 20th, 1901, and since then the evil has only been on the increase! My friends, let us not be guilty of hypocrisy or idleness in this matter! Let us show a combined front against these four great evils, and always bear in mind the call of conscience and honour. We are working with a noble aim, do not let us sully that nobility by backslidings and inconstant conduct. Remember always that "the worker wins."

NOTTINGHAM. 87 Percy Smith 1 2 3 4

WEST BOWLING.

88 Mary Barraclough	1 2 3 4	96 Mary A. Winder	... 1 2 3 4
89 Maria Priestley	... 1 2 3 4	97 Eva Bond	... 1 2 3 4
90 Charles Wright	... 1 3 4	98 Fred Yeadon	... 1 2 3 4
91 Clara Waddington	1 2 3 4	99 James Bulman	... 1 2 3 4
92 Annie Smit	... 1 2 3 4	100 Tom Barraclough	... 1 2 3 4
93 Ada Gibson	... 1 2 3 4	101 Irvine Goodwin	... 1 3 4
94 Squire Barraclough	1 2 3 4	102 Simeon Smith	... 1 2 3 4
95 Beatrice Crofts	... 1 2 3 4	103 Walter Benson	... 2 3 4

ROTHERHAM.

104 Leonard Hawcroft	1 2 3 4	115 Ralph Smith	... 1 2 3 4
105 J. W. Biddlestone	1 2 3 4	116 Leslie Greetham	... 1 2 3 4
106 Florence Biddlestone	1 2 3 4	117 Earnest Ellis	... 1 2 3 4
107 Lydia Foster	... 1 2 3 4	118 Eliza Vernon	... 1 2 3 4
108 Esther Foster	... 1 2 3 4	119 Gladys Watkinson	1 2 3 4
109 Eliza Murfin	... 1 2 3 4	120 Thomas Ellis	... 1 2 3 4
110 Lizzie Hawcroft	... 1 2 3 4	121 George Williams	... 1 2 3 4
111 Fred Hawcroft	... 1 2 3 4	122 Elsie Williams	... 1 2 3 4
112 Alice Biddlestone	1 2 3 4	123 Drummand Frogatt	1 2 3 4
113 Sarah A. Biddlestone	1 2 3 4	124 Rosaline Frogatt	... 1 2 3 4
114 Dorothy Vernon	... 1 2 3 4		

No. 1 is against Intoxicants. No. 3 is against Gambling.
No. 2 is against Tobacco. No. 4 is against Swearing.

Gleanings by Uncle Amos.

HYMN TO MAY.

Hail, holy May! sweet virgin pure and fair,
Who like a Vestal from the throne of God,
With mystic eyes, and azure streaming hair,
Walks't o'er the world as if an Angel trod;
Beneath whose rosy feet, the waiting sod,
Long yearning for the shadowy embraces,
In odoriferous throes, that pain the vital clod,
Givest forth its violet births, and starry races
Of flowers that gladden earth and human faces.

All hail! thou rosy bosomed! whom the birds
In their wild woodland minstrelsy do praise—
Whom all the meadows and the tranquil herds
(Although unconscious of thy wondrous warp),
Love for the beauty of thy sunny days;
Whilst on the mountain tops the breezes sing
Their solemn anthems in the dreamy haze,
And in the valley children's voices sing
To see the golden cowslips blossoming.

All hail! for thou hast brought us back once more
New life, and joy, and trustful hope for man.
I long have watched thy coming at the door,
And down my garden o'er the hills have ran
To listen in the dusky dells of Pan
If I might hear the rustling, joyous sound
Of thy rich kirtle—in its dainty span—
Trailing, like music, the enchanted ground,
'Mid murmuring brooks and insects buzzing sound.

And now I see and hear thee all day long,
And claim thee for my own, my spirit's bride!
And love thee with a passion, deep and strong
As heaven's own love in all its rushing tide,
Embracing worlds and universes wide.
For thou to me art Nature's symbol pure
Of man triumphant over sin and pride;
And in thy wondrous eyes, which mine allure,
I see that happy future mirrored there and sure.

G. S. P.

God is not in the thunder or lightning, but in the
still small voice.'

Maxims.

Cause and Effect in men's affairs, is still of truths the
truth. Deed ever recompenses deed, without remorse or
ruth.

* * *
With 'Learn to die' you've no affair,
For 'Learn to live's your proper care.

* * *
Between reader and his book should be a certain
measure of equality.

Who doth God's will, in faith and love,
Of all doctrine shall he know,
Whether it comes from Heaven above,
Or springs in earth below.

* * *

Many years ago, a Canadian gentleman paid a visit to a
Chief of a tribe of Mohawk Indians to ask him to allow a
friend of his, a Missionary, to come and dwell among them.
"What you preach? Preach Christ?" Asked the chief,
"Yes," replied the gentlemen, "Don't want Christ! No
Christ!" answered the chief earnestly. The gentleman
persevered with his request. At length the chief got warm,
and towering to his full height, with a volcanic fire in his
eye, broke out—

"Once we were powerful; we were a great nation; our
young men were many; our lodges were full of children;
our enemies feared us; but *Christ came*, and *brought the
fire-water*! Now we are very few; we are weak; nobody
fears us; our lodges are empty; our hunting grounds are
deserted; our council fires are gone out. No, *we don't
want Christ!* Go!"

How sad it is that the name of the pure and gentle
Nazarene should ever have been so dishonoured by his
professed followers.

We are now in the twentieth century but beer and bible
still go hand in hand. An Education Bill, saturated with
Ecclesiastical virus, has been *thrust* upon the British
people. The powers that be—but which are not of God,
are again scheming to take from the pockets of the people,
money, to give as a sop to the very authors of more than
half the calamities and miseries from which the nation is
suffering. Mein Gott in Himmel!!

Is it not time that the people woke up to a sense of the
danger with which the Nation is threatened? Form into
line, oh men and women of England, and look after your
rights, your homes, and your children, and see that justice
rules for all.

* * *

HE WAS INNOCENT,

The heat of Sunday-school was Tropical, the interest of
the boys below zero; but the patient teacher toiled on.

"Now, surely some of you can tell me who carried off
the gates of Gaza. Speak up, William."

"I never touched 'em!" said the indignant William,
wrathfully. "I never had anything to do with it; I didn't
even know they was took"

* * *

WOULD SOON DRY THERE.

Preacher (arriving drenched): "What shall I do Mrs.
McGregor; I am wet through and through and through?"

Old Scotchwoman: "Get into the pulpit as soon as ye
can; ye'll be dry eno' there."

* * *

NOT THE KIND HE MEANT.

A well known Vicar gives a curious experience. It was
his custom to point his sermons with either, "Dearly
beloved brethren," or "Now my brother," until a lady
member of his congregation took exception to this and
asked him why he always preached to the gentlemen and
never to the ladies?

"My dear lady," said the beaming Vicar. "One
embraces the other." "But not in church," was the reply
of the astonished lady.

District Visitor's Quarterly Reports.

THE MIDLAND DISTRICT.

There are 14 Lyceums in this District, 7 of which have been visited during the quarter ending March 31st. Concerning these the D.V. reports as follows:—

I am pleased to report that the whole of the Lyceums in my district are now connected with the Union. Last Sunday I made a special journey (after visiting the Queen-street Lyceum, Leicester), to Crafton-street, and heard they were obliged to give up their Lyceum. I had a long talk with them publicly, and informed them of their mistake in not becoming associated with the Union, and I trusted that on my next visit the Lyceum would be reformed on the lines indicated, and if not, then to allow their children to join the Queen-street Lyceum, which was promised me. All the Lyceums visited this quarter, with this exception, are getting on fairly well, and fully appreciate my humble efforts to help and stimulate them. I am thankful and exceptionally pleased to report progress in the Midlands. 7s. 0½d. expenses.

JOSEPH BOLTON, D.V.

MANCHESTER DISTRICT.

Five visits have been paid in this district during the quarter, and two interviews held with favourable results. It will be seen from the following abridged report that the D.V. has been able to assist seven Lyceums outside her district, and strange to say the Manchester District has been divided, on the plea that it was too big for one district.

STOCKPORT.—I visited this Lyceum on January 4th for the opening ceremonies of their new hall. I am pleased to say they have considerably more room, and better convenience for their Lyceum work. Everything went well, and both Lyceum session and Society's services were well attended.

I paid an unexpected visit to Tipping-street on January 11th, arriving a few minutes before 10-30, and found only two or three small children present. When 10-30 arrived only one or two were absent from their places. I must congratulate them on their punctuality; and also for the way they always appreciate any little help given. From there I went to Nile-street, Oldham, by special request. I found a slight increase since visiting them two years' ago. I would advise them to adopt the new series of Calisthenics, as it makes it so difficult for friends from other Lyceums who have left the old series so far behind.

On Sunday, February 1st, I paid my first visit to the Armley Lyceum for their anniversary. Everything went well and everybody tried to do their best. I had the honour of distributing the prizes, and I was delighted to see so many of the married people recipients of such good books.

On February 8th, having an engagement with the Morecambe Society, I visited the Lyceum, and found them struggling on with about 20 children.

In response to an invitations from Oldham, Coronation-street Lyceum, I visited them on February 15th. I am pleased to say that my efforts to help them were fully appreciated.

On the following Sunday I visited Collyhurst, with the result that they promised to rejoin the Union, which, I am pleased to learn, has been done. In the afternoon I went

on to Patricroft, and as a result of my day's labours, I am pleased to report that the Collyhurst and Patricroft people are about to arrange for the re-opening of the latter society's Lyceum, Collyhurst friends having promised to assist them for a few months.

On March 1st, I attended the Hyde Lyceum Anniversary; the day was wet. I would advise that all Anniversaries be made a "Children's Day," and so make it attractive and pleasant to them. As D.V. it has given me great pleasure to learn from the Conductor how highly my services were appreciated.

On March 8th I visited Macclesfield. This was a special Children's Day, which was duly appreciated by them. I had the honour of distributing their prizes. This is a very orderly Lyceum.

On March 15th I spoke for the Lyceum Anniversary, China-street, Accrington. This Lyceum should certainly do with a much larger hall. The parents would do well to take more interest in the children's work.

On March 22nd I visited Dundee, and Glasgow on the 29th, by special arrangement. (See special reports from these two Lyceums.—Ed.)

Travelling expenses for the quarter, 1/6, and postage 6d; total 2/-.—MISS ANNIE E. BURTON, D.V.

BRADFORD DISTRICT.

There are 14 Lyceums in this district, three of these have been visited, and the D.V. reports as follows:—

January 25th I visited Boynton-street, West Bowling, Open Session in the morning, which was well attended. Afternoon I gave a short address and reviewed the Lyceum movement, also distributed the prizes for good attendance, and was pleased to see both old and young were recipients. The books were a good selection. In the evening I had a good meeting, the room being full. I was ably assisted by a lady friend who used to be one of our Lyceumists in the past. A most enjoyable day was spent.

February 1st I visited Ivy Rooms in the afternoon, when a good number of prizes were distributed for good attendance. A very nice company present.

JOHN HY. SMITH, D.V.

BURY.—Our monthly Open Session was held on Sunday, April 5th. We were favoured with solos by Miss Agnes Kershaw and Miss Clara Chadwick. Miss Ogden and Miss Ellis sweetly sang a duet, and Mr. Barnes read Mr. Ormerod's article on "Rescue the children." On Sunday, April 12th we had our half-yearly election of officers, when the following were elected:—

Conductor, Mr. H. Jackson; Assistant Conductor, Miss Annie Clough; Secretary, Mr. E. J. Barnes; Musical Director, Miss M. E. Clough.

Leaders of Groups:

Fountain Group	—Miss A. Warrington and Miss Ogden.
Stream	„ Messrs. Birkett and Metcalfe.
River	„ Messrs. Jackson and A. Kershaw.
Sea	„ Miss M. E. Clough and Miss Ellis.
Excelsior	„ Mrs. Kershaw and Mr. Barnes.
Liberty	„ Mr. Knight.

Guards:—Mrs. Chadwick and Mr. Birkett. Librarian, Mr. Barnes. Committee:—Messrs. Knight, R. Smith, Whyte, Jackson, and Barnes.

E. J. BARNES, Lyceum Secretary.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Re the N. E. L. L. D. C. (Choir Contest.)

SIR,—May I crave a little space in your columns, to correct a mistake that appears to be prevalent in the Lyceums and Societies in the North-East Lancashire District. I find a report is in circulation, and appears to be largely accepted, that I am or have been at some time a pupil of Dr. Tindall, of London (who was the judge at the recent Choir Contest at Blackburn), and that it is in consequence of his association with him, that the choir with which I am connected as conductor was awarded first prize on that occasion, also at Blackpool in 1901, December 7th.

I wish you to grant me this opportunity to make it known that I have never at any time been connected either with Dr. Tindall or his college, in any other capacity except that of prize winner. Whoever originated the statement must have done so with the knowledge that it was untrue. That the report is spreading to that effect: I know it to be so, on the authority of Mr. William Harrison (Secretary of the Spiritualists' National Union), in whose hearing the matter was talked over by two persons connected with the St. Peter's Street Society, Blackburn, on Sunday, April 5th last.

Thanking you in anticipation,
Yours sincerely,

ARTHUR SMITH,
90, Barkerhouse Road,
Nelson.

Conductor, North Street Choir, Burnley.

What our Lyceums are Doing.

MANCHESTER, Tipping-street.—On March 22nd we held our Open Session, when we were favoured with recitations by the following Lyceumists: Misses P. Treherne, G. Treherne, D. Treherne, Masters W. Treherne, A. Sims, F. Butts. A mandoline solo by Miss L. Vernon; also a pianoforte solo by Miss L. Marklew. Several of the above also gave recitations and solos at the evening service. Mr. Jones gave an eloquent address, and Miss A. Cheetwood gave good clairvoyance. On April 5th we held our half-yearly meeting and election of officers, when the following were elected: Mr. Braham, Conductor; Mr. Jones, Treasurer; Mr. G. Vernon, junr., Secretary. I am pleased to report that our Lyceum is in a very flourishing condition, having a good balance in hand, as well as a good attendance of scholars.—GEO. VERNON, Secretary.

BIRKDALE, Old Drill Hall.—On Monday, March 30th, a social was held inaugurated by the Lyceumists, when a large number of adults and children attended. The entertainment opened with the beautiful hymn, "Sing for the Angels." Recitations were given by the following: Misses Nellie Houldcroft, Charlotte Moon, Hilda Pearson, and Masters Geo. Lloyd, and Charlie Lloyd. A song by Miss Houldcroft (The Toon o' Arbroath); reading by Mrs. Kay; zither selection by Miss C. Hickling; a dialogue by five little girls, "The Five Senses: Sight, Hearing, Touch, Taste and Smell." Selection on the banjo by Mr. Riding. The children went through their marching and calisthenics, conducted by Mrs. Roberts to the delight of all. A happy evening was brought to a close with light refreshments.

J. NEWTON, Sec.

ARMLEY.—I paid a visit to this Lyceum on Sunday, March 29th, and found a good Lyceum, but late in commencing. My impression was, they are short of workers. In the afternoon there was a good attendance of both children and adults, a total of 108. Mr. Robert Yates, of Bradford, gave an excellent address to the children, describing two pictures, a girl who had been gathering flowers and lost her way, and a boy chasing a butterfly, and showed how they were both saved by their guardian angels.—L. M. YEADON, Bradford.

RAWTENSTALL.—On April 5th we held our usual Open Session, conducted by Mr. A. Haworth. The musical reading, silver and golden chain recitations were well responded to. Songs were rendered by Misses Eva Mansfield, Elsie Dees, and Thomasine Jennings, and a recitation by Annie Hoyle; also a capital reading by Mr. E. Coupe. On Good Friday we had a tea-party, social and sale of work, which was well patronised. The sale was opened by Miss B. A. Barnes. Mr. W. Palmer, chairman.

MISS B. BARNES, Sec.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—On April 5th we held our Open Session, when Miss Beatrice Cotterill recited "The Arcadian Land." The special song by the Lyceum was "Sweet Golden Age." Our conductor appealed to all Lyceumists to take the LYCEUM BANNER regularly. We are arranging to have a procession through the town on Whit-Friday, headed by a brass band, the cost to be defrayed by special social evenings. We are greatly indebted to Miss Platt, organist and pianist, for her kindly services in the Lyceum.—WM. DRANSFIELD, Sec.

HOLLINGWOOD, Labour Hall.—On April 5th we held our open Session in the afternoon, when solos were given by Mrs. and Miss M. E. Hurst, Godfrey and M. A. Wilkinson, and recitations by Misses A. Hobson, H. Webster, and Master A. Couston. Marching and calisthenics were an interesting feature. In the evening, under the presidency of Miss Entwistle, Mrs. Eccleston and Mr. J. Clare sang "The Children's Home," and "The Raft," and the choir rendered the anthem, "Glorious is Thy Name." Miss Burton, of Bury, gave an address which was highly appreciated by the congregation.

JOHN WALTERS, Sec.

MEXBOROUGH.—On Easter Monday, April 13th, we held a public tea and entertainment consisting of songs, readings, and recitations, Master Earl Winpenny presiding. Songs by Misses Alice Smedley and G. Whitehouse; recitations by Misses Barber, Whitehouse, Smedley, Parker, Share, House, Birch, and Blunt; readings by Miss House and J. Smedley. Mr. Joseph Chattell, late secretary, now removed to York, was with us, and delighted the children with a good selection of pieces on his Gramophone. He also brought with him a box of Easter Eggs for the children, for which he has the hearty thanks and good wishes of all.—R. WINPENNY.

SHEFFIELD, UPPERTHORPE.—On April 19th we held our first Open Session, over 60 of our members taking part. Solos were given by Miss Raynor and Mr. C. Baines; recitations by Florrie Lockey, Lottie Chaplin, Edith Ledger, and Byron Ledger. The Conductor commented on the willingness of the officers and members to give their assistance wherever it was required. The marching and Calisthenics were much enjoyed. Mr. Newton gave an address on "Why I became a Lyceumist." Mrs. Wallis' Service of Song, "An Angel in Disguise," was well rendered in the evening. Mr. H. Woodcock,

choir master; and Mr. L. Foster, reader. The audience seemed deeply touched with the story.—L. FOSTER, Conductor, J. NEWTON, Secretary.

BRADFORD, IVY ROOMS.—On April 5th we held our usual monthly Open Session, and spent a very pleasant Sunday morning. Recitations by Misses Dorothy South, Gladys Grey, Elsie Burchell and Master A. Beardsworth; solos by Mrs. Boden, Annie Brotherton, and Mr. F. Naylor. Pianoforte selection by Master H. L. Bates; and pianoforte solo by Master Harry Smith. Good attendance, over 60 being present.—W. SUTCLIFFE, Sec.

MILLOM.—On March 29th, we held our monthly Open Session, and there was a good attendance, and a good programme. We had silver and golden chain recitations, musical reading and calisthenics; recitations by Mr. B. Moyle, Mastet T. E. Tyson, Misses M. A. Dixon, Frances Taylor, Lizzie and Jessie Richardson, Elizabeth Dixon, and Lillian E. De Vere; vocal solo by Miss Dixon, and an organ solo by Miss C. Richardson. Mrs. Sellers of Oldham, distributed prizes on April 5th, for good elocution.—J. WEEKS, Sec.

Miss Burton's Successful Visit to Scotland.

DEAR BRO. KITSON,—The first thing I must tell you in this letter is the visit of our good sister, Miss Burton. Words cannot express the delight she gave us the short time she was here. We thought we knew something in Dundee, but after meeting Sister Burton we felt we had better begin and learn it all over again. She has put fresh life into everybody, and I cannot speak too highly of her.

WM. A. JACKSON, Sec., Dundee Lyceum.

GLASGOW.—On March 29th, we were honoured by a visit from Miss Burton, D.V. for Manchester District, which, we trust, will prove not only a red letter day, but that it will infuse fresh vigour, new life, and above all a determination to make our Lyceum one of which we shall feel proud, and place it on a footing of healthy rivalry with the Lyceums across the border. Eloquently did our visitor plead for the success of this Lyceum; strongly did she denounce those who themselves, having received the revelations of Spirit teachings, left the young to feed on the husks of a dead past.

The Jesuites are credited with the saying "Give us the child till it is twelve years old, and you can do what you like with it afterwards." Undoubtedly: for then the memory is as wax to receive, and marble to retain.

Fight on, brave and good heart, on behalf of the children, and a garland of the roses and lillies of Paradise shall adorn thy brow in the glorious Summerland of immortal life.

When you pay us the next visit we will do *our best* to realise the Ideal and convert it into a Reality.

April 5th, attendances 21, and one visitor. Recitations were delivered by Mr. Suddall, Misses Bella Waterson, Bella Macdonald, Mary Black, and Master Guild; and a dialogue between a publican and a teetotaler rendered by the Masters Slater.—MISS A. STRÖMBERG, Secretary, 4, Myrtle-street, Glasgow.

SPEAKERS' CARDS.

Cards inserted under this head, sixpence per issue. Apply—
F. Hepworth, 23, Carly Grove, Keighley.

MR. R. ANNAKIN, 6, Glover Street, Camp Road, Leeds.
Open for Lyceum Anniversaries, Special Days, &c.
Lectures bright. Terms easy.

THE TWO WORLDS. The Peoples' Paper.

THE TWO WORLDS. The Popular Penny Paper.

THE TWO WORLDS. Good Articles, Interesting Stories, Reports of Society Meetings.

THE TWO WORLDS. Children's Corner, Women's Mirror, Answers to Questions, Platform Arrangements.

THE TWO WORLDS. Don't miss it. The only penny Newspaper of the Movement in Great Britain.

Of all Booksellers or Society Bookstalls. ONE PENNY.

Mrs. J. J. Morse's Hotel.

(ORIGINALLY ESTABLISHED, 1883.)

FLORENCE HOUSE, 26, Osnaburgh St., Euston Rd.

LONDON, N.W.



A HOME FROM HOME.



Letters and Telegrams promptly attended to.

Full Tariff sent post free.

The Only Spiritualists' Hotel in London.

A TEST READING OF YOUR HOROSCOPE

For Seven Shams. Send your birth time and this small fee to

GEO. WILDE, 6, Central Street, Halifax.

And he will convince you of the truth of Astrology.

The 'Bazaar' says: 'Mr. Wilde is an Astrologer second to none now living.'

The 'Scotsman' says: 'Wilde's work has a literary interest.'

The 'Morning Post' says: 'Those who want to know what Astrologers can do should study Mr. Wilde's profound work.'

A TEST HOROSCOPE.

See "Review of Reviews," May, 1900.

Mr. Stead says: 'I print Mr. Wilde's horoscope of Mr. Pearson. It will be noticed that in nine cases out of ten Mr. Pearson thinks the astrologist was right. Mr. Wilde predicted financial success, estates, and riches for this unknown gentleman, who writes, "It looks as though this were going to come true."'

Try WILDE'S HEALTH PILLS, 1s. 1½d. per box.
For Indigestion, Liver Disorders, Rheumatism,
And Kidney Troubles.

Please describe the ailment, and Mr. Wilde will send a pill for it.

ALL SHOULD READ.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL
DEVOTED TO

THE SPIRITUALIST.

Occult Research, Spiritual Development, and Human Progress.

The Only Halfpenny Paper in the movement, and the Only Monthly Journal for the Adult Section.
Contains Current Chat: Extracts and Jottings. Gatherings by the BEE. Gleanings and Gossip. Interesting Articles on
Psychic, and kindred subjects.

Powerful Story, "ARASPAS," commences in next issue. BUY IT

16 Large Pages. One Halfpenny.

Yearly Subscription, 1/- post free

THE SPIRITUALIST Publishing Company, 28, Church St., Keighley, and at 150 Folkestone St., Bradford, and Old Bank House, Burnley

**NOW READY
A NEW
SERVICE OF SONG**

entitled :

"THE ABBEY BELLS."

Containing 11 choice musical selections, and a new and interesting story, forming the Connective Readings.

Societies ordering now will get the same at a cheap rate—3/- per doz., 4½d. per copy, post free. The best production in the Movement; well worth 1/- per copy.

THE

'Strolling Minstrel'

Newly-revised Second Edition.

Fresh Hymns.

SOLD AT 2d. each.

To Societies 1/8 per doz. Carriage free.

'Spirit Return'

PRICE ONE PENNY.

To Societies 9d. per doz. Music for Solo and Carriage free.

For Terms, etc., address—

Mrs. L. A. GRIFFIN,

Old Bank House,

BURNLEY, LANCs.



Just Published. Price 1d.

The Origin of Man.

Mrs. Griffin's New Pamphlet.

9d. per dozen. Carriage free.

Also by the same Author.

Wanted a New God.

PRICE ONE PENNY,

To societies 9d. per doz. Carriage free

Now Ready. Price 3d.

Humorous Dialogue :

"Jack's the Lad."

For Seven Males and two Females.

Now Ready!

"A True Briton."

Send 6 Stamps for Sample Copy.

A truly marvellous production.

**MRS. GRIFFIN is open for
Mission Work.**

LYCEUM HYMN SHEETS.

These hymn sheets of four pages are specially adapted for Lyceum Anniversaries, United Gatherings, Open Sessions, etc. Each series contains Silver and Golden Chain Recitations, Musical Reading and several Hymns. The upper half of the front page is left blank for the insertion of local announcements. Series No. 1 and No. 2 now ready, 2/- per hundred, carriage free.

Full announcements of Lyceum Anniversary, Speaker, etc., printed on any quality for 2/6 extra.—Alfred Kitson, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury.

OUTLINES OF SPIRITUALISM,

BY ALFRED KITSON.

**Specially designed for use in the
C.P.L.**

Printed on good paper, strongly bound in cloth, full index.

Single copies 1/3, postage 3d extra. To Lyceums in the Union 11/- per doz. To Lyceums not in the Union 13/- per doz. Not less than six copies supplied at above rates.

Carriage free Terms cash with order.

Published by the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union, and supplied by the secretary, Alfred Kitson, Bromley rd., Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury.

SERVICES OF SONG.

"Marching Onward :"

Price, 2d. Sample copy, 2½d. 50 copies, 6/6.

"A Terrible Lesson :"

Price, 6d. Sample copy, 4½d., 3/6 per doz. 30 copies for 7/-. 50 copies, 10/6 post free.

"An Angel in Disguise :"

Price, 4d. Sample copy 3d. 12 copies for 3/-. 30 copies for 6/-. 50 copies for 8/-. 60 copies for 10/- post free.

Sold by ALFRED KITSON, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, near Dewsbury.