

# The LYCEUM BANNER.

A SPIRITUALIST MAGAZINE FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

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

Vol. XIII.

AUGUST, 1903.

No. 151.

## LYCEUM NOTES AND COMMENTS.

By ALFRED KITSON.

WHEN a man dies, they who survive him ask, 'What property has he left behind? The angel who bends over the dying man, asks, 'What good deeds has he sent before him.'—*Mahomet*.

Our President writes to point out that the word "animation," in the last line but six in her "Greetings," should read "admiration."

The propaganda meetings at Sowerby Bridge were unique. The Treasurer, the President, and Mrs Greenwood a past President, and who also is a member of the E. C., all belong to the Sowerby Bridge Lyceum. It is also the oldest Lyceum in England (not the first,) and was further honoured by having Mrs. Selina Smedley's generous donation to the Union announced at its evening's meetings.

### NOTICE.

The Executive Council duly appointed Miss Thorpe (President;) Mrs. Jessie Greenwood, and the general Sec. as a sub-Committee to collect any errors: printer's, grammatical, etc., to be found in the LYCEUM MANUAL. Any Lyceum Officer having evidence of such, will oblige by sending a list of the same to the Union's Secretary, Mr. Alfred Kitson, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury.

The booklet, "The Lyceum: What it is," containing a portrait of Mr. Andrew Jackson Davis, has proved so helpful to Lyceums that a second and larger edition has been decided on at reduced prices. 1000 copies for 4/6, carriage free. Any Lyceum ordering 1000 copies before we go to press with them can have its name, and time of session printed on the front cover free of charge. Order at once to save disappointment.

No Lyceum Reports next month. Secretaries please note.

### AS YOU GO THROUGH LIFE.

Don't look for the flaws as you go through life;  
And even when you find them,  
It is wise and kind to be somewhat blind  
And look for the virtues behind them

From the cloudiest night has a hint of light  
Somewhere in its shadows hiding;  
It is better by far to hunt for a star,  
Than the spots on the sun abiding.

The current of life runs ever away  
To the bosom of God's great ocean.  
Don't set your force 'gainst the river's course  
And think to alter its motion.  
Don't waste a curse on the universe—  
Remember it lived before you.  
Don't butt at the storm with your puny form—  
But bend and let it go o'er you.

The world will never adjust itself  
To suit your whims to the letter.  
Some things must go wrongs your whole life long  
And the sooner you know it the better.  
It is folly to fight with the Infinite,  
And go under at last in the wrestle,  
The wiser man shapes into God's plan  
As the water shapes into a vessel.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

### IMPORTANT TO OUR READERS.

#### *The Smedley Special Number.*

The September No. of THE LYCEUM BANNER will be compiled, designed, and printed in great recognition of Mrs. Smedley's recent donation of £150 to the Lyceum Union's Funds. A superior quality of paper will be used, each copy will be doubly wired and cut, and contain the portraits of Mr. and Mrs Smedley printed on art paper suitable for framing, and also a picture of the late Mr. H. U. Smedley, with sketches of their lives.

10½d. per doz. by post and 9½d. per doz by rail. All orders must reach us not later than Aug 17th., as a limited number will be printed and it is necessary that you order early to save disappointment. Now is the time to introduce the LYCEUM BANNER to your friends.

The Rochdale Demonstration, on July 11th, was a splendid success. Thousands of people lined the thoroughfares to admire the children's smart appearance, and splendid order, and admirable steps. It was quite easy to tell which were Lyceumists, and which the admiring parents and friends who were not ashamed to show their colours by joining the ranks, by the difference of their step. The Lyceumists marched, even the little tots of girls and boys kept measured time, from start to finish of the long procession. The judges' criticism was one of unstinted admiration. Great credit was due to Mr. J. B. Tetlow, and his splendid staff of officers for the success of their efforts.



**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 have not much time to write you this month, for you know it is the holidays, and we are all getting ready. Oh! what a bustle it is. I shall be glad when we are all off on the journey. I have asked where we are going, but mother and father say it is a secret yet. So I am not going to tease, because I always like their secrets when they come out. I hope to tell you all about it next month. And some of you will write and tell me of your holidays, for I do so like to know.

I have had a nice little story sent to me with the request to use it if I thought it suitable. I showed it to Ted, and he said, "Why, it is just the very thing."

Now I do hope that none of my dear Bluebells are like Polly. If so, I trust they will profit by her lesson, which is as follows:—

#### POLLY'S LESSON.

"Polly! Get up! Its going on 7 o'clock!" But sleepy Polly just turned over to take another nap. Ten minutes later. "Polly! I wish you would get up. The chickens are hungry and I've so much to do." A drawling y-e-s was the only reply. "What makes folks so sleepy when they have to get up?" was her mental inquiry, and she closed her eyes to think.

Suddenly she saw an old woman carrying a heavy basket. Her form was bent and her steps feeble. There were people going her way, yet not one offered assistance. So she set her basket down in the road. Polly approached her, saying: "Why don't your children carry your basket?" The old woman raised her head. She seemed strangely familiar to Polly.

"Bless your heart, dear," she said, "my children are all grown up." "Then why don't they carry your basket?" persisted Polly. "I should think that your girl would be ashamed," she went on.

"Little one," said the old woman, "did you ever know of a little girl who would not get up when her mother called? When told to do anything always said, 'Wait a minute?' Or if she had buttons to

fasten, mending of any sort to do, waited until tomorrow, which never came, letting her mother do it all? My little girl was like that. She didn't think how hard I had to work then, and she doesn't now that she's a woman. You don't do so, do you dear?"

Did Polly? She felt a guilty flush. "I'm 'fraid I do that way, some," gasped Polly. "Oh, I'm so sorry. I will do better. Please let me help you. I'll carry your basket."

It wasn't necessary. On saying she didn't always do right and was sorry, the basket disappeared and the old woman straightened. When she said "I will do better," the old woman's face changed; when she begged to help her, Polly discovered it to be her mother with a bunch of flowers. She cried: "Oh, mamma! was it you?" The clock striking 7 awakened her. Jumping out of bed she dressed more quickly than ever before. On landing at the bottom of the stairs, not at a bound, but by sliding down the bannister, she ran to her mother. Throwing her arms round her mother she held her so tightly. "What is it, Polly?" asked her mother. "Oh, mamma, I'll get right up when you call me." Then she related her dream. Was it a passing promise of a moment's enthusiasm? No, it was a lesson to Polly—one she never forgot.

\* \* \*

I have also to thank Miss Ada Turner for a copy of her poem which I was unfortunate to misplace last month. And so to make sure of it, I insert it just here. It is called

#### ONCE IN A WHILE.

Once in a while the sun shines out,  
And the arching skies are a perfect blue  
Once in a while, 'mid clouds of doubt,  
Faith's fairest stars come peeping through;  
Our paths lead down by the meadows fair,  
While the sweetest blossoms nod and smile,  
And we lay aside our cross of care,  
Once in a while.

Once in a while within our own,  
 We feel the hand of a steadfast friend ;  
 Once in a while we feel the tone  
 Of love, with the heart's own voice to blend ;  
 And the dearest of all our hopes come true,  
 And on life's way is a golden smile  
 Each thirsting flower is kissed with dew  
 Once in a while.  
 Once in a while in the desert sand  
 We find a spot of fairest green ;  
 Once in a while from where we stand  
 The hills of Paradise are seen.  
 And a perfect joy in our hearts we hold,  
 A joy that the world cannot defile,  
 We trade earth's dross for the purest gold  
 Once in a while.

ADA TURNER (Gateshead Lyceum).

I am sure my Bluebells will make good use of these sweet lines in their Lyceums, and will join me in hoping that Miss Turner will write again for our Guild "Once in a while!"

My sincere thanks are due to Mr. R. Billsborough, of Wood-st. Lyceum, Bolton, for his splendid list of new members for our Guild. I hope they will like their card, and will try and remember that the object is to promote good behaviour. I'm sure there are quite a sufficient number of Bluebells in Bolton to have a picnic. I shall be pleased to have full particulars of such. I wish all my Bluebells a pleasant holiday time.

Your loving sister,  
 FLORA BELLE.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE BLUEBELLS' GUILD.

BOLTON (Bradford Street Lyceum).

1379 Ernest Pilkington	1398 Lizzie Howard
1380 J. Warburton	1399 — Chadwick
1381 T. Wilson	1400 Cissy Maycraft
1382 Robert Wilson	1401 Edward Garnett
1383 Stanley Wilson	1402 Mabel Holmond
1384 A. Wilson	1403 Samuel Atkinson
1385 R. Billsborough	1404 Mary Atkinson
1386 —Greenhalgh	1405 Florrie McGreaves
1387 Edward Greenhalgh	1406 Annie McGreaves
1388 Willie Preston	1407 Ethel Schofield
1389 Harry Preston	1408 Ada Bellamy
1390 John Preston	1409 — Webster
1391 Hilda Preston	1410 — Webster
1392 Zelia Preston	1411 Frank Beardshall
1393 Lilly Settle	1412 Berty Platt
1394 Elsie Settle	1413 Thomas Platt
1395 Stephen Settle	1414 Ernest Duckworth
1396 T. Gibbons	1415 Robert Rostron
1397 Joseph Shaw	1416 Rose Watkins
	1417 Louisa Irvin

LEICESTER, QUEEN ST.—July 18th, annual excursion to Woodhouse Eaves, and Hanging Stone Rocks, which was most enjoyable. After tea, we all had our photographs taken by one of our own members. The following Sunday morning, our Conductor related the history of the Lyceum which was very interesting. In the evening the Lyceum scholars gave a Service of Song entitled, "An Angel in Disguise," to a very good audience. A. BOULTON, Sec.

## Summary of District Visitors' Quarterly Report.

NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE.—Mr. George Howarth reports having visited the Lyceum, at China Street, Accrington. They have some very intelligent workers, and if they will take a lesson from past experience it will serve as a good guide for the future. He found the Lyceum at Every Street, Nelson, in a very healthy condition. There is a good number of elderly people attached to it, which gives a great encouragement to the leaders and officers in general. He visited Hammerton Street Lyceum on the occasion of their Flower Service, and was highly pleased with Mr. F. Hepworth's address to the boys and girls. He suggests classes for soul culture, and thinks the time is now ripe for a Teachers' Guild, and is willing to visit any Lyceum in his District to give lessons or papers on soul culture.

LEEDS DISTRICT.—Mr. James Kitson reports eight Lyceums in this District Council, four of which he has visited, viz., Wakefield, Armley, Rothwell and Dewsbury. He reports that, the first Lyceum to be in a poor district, there seems to be little or no interest taken in it by members of the Society, and thinks a propaganda meeting there would do good. He found an average attendance at Rothwell; order and conduct good. More interest in its welfare by the Society would have a good effect. The Lyceum at Armley is strong and active, and doing good work. He is pleased to report a deeper interest is manifested in the Dewsbury Lyceum than has been the case for some time past.

THE MIDLAND DISTRICT.—Mr. J. Bolton reports having visited Melton Mowbray to open a Lyceum, and reports every prospect of a good Lyceum. He speaks favourably of the work done by the Lyceum at Derby, and deeply regrets that this is the last report owing to his removal to Brecon, South Wales. He desires to thank all for the helpful sympathy he has received during his term of office as the Midland D.V. [We sincerely wish Bro. Bolton success in his new sphere of labour, and hope to hear from him occasionally.—Ed., L.B.]

STOCKPORT DISTRICT.—Mr. Thomas Edwards reports seven Lyceums in his District, and two Societies who have no Lyceum, viz., Dukinfield (Co-Operative Hall) and Glossop. He has sought an interview with the former, with the result that they are considering the advisability of forming a Lyceum. He remarks that the Lyceum at Ashton, Hyde and Stockport are going on fairly well. Dukinfield, owing to the removal of workers who took a large share of the management, the Lyceum sank to a low ebb. Through the energy of a few Society members it has greatly improved. Regarding Stalybridge, he says that the late lamentable state of affairs there did not furnish congenial conditions, but Mr. Croasdale took a hopeful view of the situation, and expected smooth sailing in the near future. The D.V. is glad to report the new series of Calisthenics, and in some cases the marches are being practised.

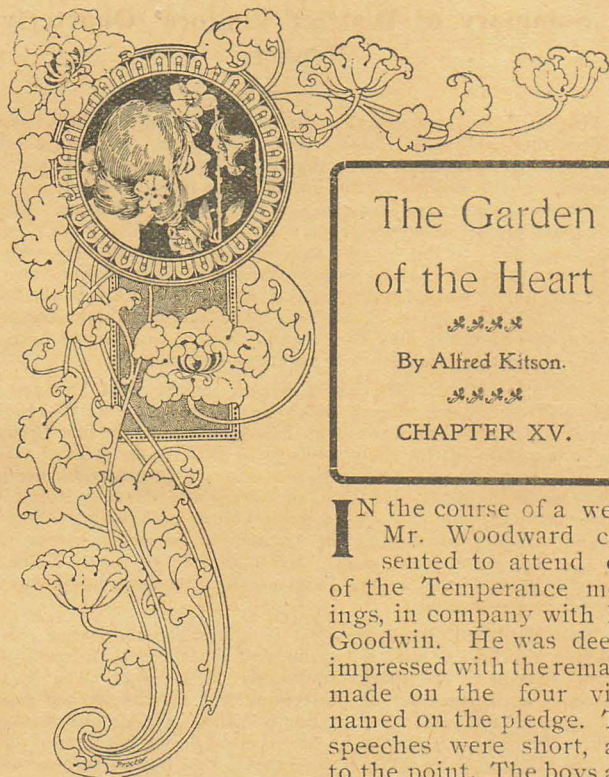
MANCHESTER DISTRICT.—Miss Burton reports twelve visits during the quarter, eight of which are outside her district. She deplora a great falling off in the attendance at Pendleton (Cook Street). The Lyceum at Manchester (Grey Street) and Lancaster would be benefited if their parent societies manifested a little more interest in them. The Birkdale Lyceum is newly opened, but well conducted, and promises well for the future. The Lyceums at Batley Carr, Bolton (Wood Street), Bury, Hollinwood and Hulme, are in a good condition, several of which she was engaged for their anniversary.

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT.—Mr. Keeling reports six Lyceums in his District, three of which he has visited, viz., Birkenhead, Daulby Hall and Bootle. He remarks that none of these Lyceums are in a very satisfactory condition as regards numbers—Bootle being by far the best. It is well officered and conducted, but they lack in spirit and enthusiasm. The friends at Birkenhead are doing fairly well under rather adverse circumstances. The Lyceum at Daulby Hall is in a very poor condition. All reading, singing, and exercises are done in a most dilatory manner. He hopes to obtain an interview with the Society to see if some improvement cannot be brought about. He adds, there seems to be a slight feeling in favour of forming a District Council.

Travelling expenses are as follows:—Mr. J. Bolton, 3/0½d.; Miss Burton, 4/2d.; Mr. T. Edwards, 3/11d.

No reports are to hand from the Bradford, Halifax and Tyneside Districts.

ALFRED KITSON, Gen. and Fin. Sec. B.S.L. Union,



## The Garden of the Heart

By Alfred Kitson.

CHAPTER XV.

**I**N the course of a week, Mr. Woodward consented to attend one of the Temperance meetings, in company with Mr. Goodwin. He was deeply impressed with the remarks made on the four vices named on the pledge. The speeches were short, and to the point. The boys and girls helped to enliven the proceedings with songs, solos, and recitations. The chorus to one of the songs touched him very much. It was "Lift thy fallen brother up,"—and he realised that he was being lifted up—that in his case, at least, it had been put into practice.

At the close the chairman urged all those who had not signed the pledge, to do so, or take a step nearer its consummation. In answer to this a few became full members. Others took a step in advance; and a number of new members were enrolled.

When all was brought to a close, Mr. Woodward found himself congratulated on every hand. He soon became a regular visitor at Mr. Goodwin's, where he was ever welcome.

Day by day, when he returned home, his eyes rested on his card, still hung on the wall, and the lines awaiting his signature reminded him he had only won half the battle. The more he contemplated it, the more he felt urged to make a bold stand for the whole. Annie never failed to examine it whenever she visited them, and would remark, "I trust to see that filled up soon." He felt strangely influenced by her presence, and any remarks she made concerning him had a peculiar effect he could not shake off, which greatly perplexed him. And when he did sign, it was mainly to please her.

The struggle was a hard one. Often when vexed did he find his old habit of giving vent to his anger in oaths, hard to resist. But, with each resistance, he found it easier to conquer. When giving up using tobacco, he grasped his pipe and pouch in his hand, and said, "I'll no longer be your slave!" and then cast them into the fire. His difficulty to resist the temptation to gamble, whenever a great race was on, was equally hard, made more so by the taunts and jeers of his shop-mates. But these he ultimately conquered, and soon he had the satisfaction of seeing several of his mates follow his example.

Mrs. Woodward was pleased beyond words at the strange character of her husband. She naturally attributed it all

to our heroine. There is no wonder that she looked upon her as a veritable angel, clad in flesh—an angel who had brought 'glad tidings of great joy' to their home, such joy as they had for a long time been strangers to.

Ellen echoed the sentiments of her mother, for she had learned to love Annie second to none. Often when downcast with grief had Annie cheered and comforted her and encouraged her to try again, until her efforts had been crowned with success.

Ellen's Father declared that she was too good for this world; while Annie, with a modesty truly becoming her, thought they magnified her good qualities, and overlooked her faults, of which she was only too conscious.

Among all this her father and mother were deeply interested in their daughter and the good work she was engaged in. They tried hard to fulfil a parent's part towards her, so that no obstacle should be raised to her enthusiasm in her good work. While they accepted the injunction, 'Children, obey your parents,' they did not overlook the equally important complement, 'Parents, do not provoke your children to anger'—an injunction, we are sorry to say, which is overlooked by too many fathers and mothers.

Annie had long ago confided in her mother about her visits to the spirit-world, and what she had seen there; about having seen Amy, and the little ragged boy, and how happy and well cared for they appeared. As a matter of course, Mrs. Goodwin had informed her husband of those strange visits, and they both came to the conclusion that she was a natural clairvoyant and clairaudient (seeing and hearing spiritual things,) and ought to be admitted as a member of the circle, which they held twice each week.

Under the loving influence of her parents, and two esteemed friends, she gradually developed the gift of speaking while entranced, and through her many excellent communications were made concerning the spirit-world—its homes, peoples, and associations. Her controls would also describe her spirit friends surrounding the circle, a vivid impression of which was made on her memory at the close. This was a source of comfort and encouragement; as very often she would see groups of children bearing wreaths of flowers, which, being placed on the heads of those sitters who were weary and heart-sick with the daily cares of life, they would derive much benefit from them; their hopes and aspirations would revive, causing them to feel more spiritually strong, it made all realize that it was good to be there.

She would also be taken in spirit to see distant relations of her parents, who were yet on earth, and those of the circle, describing their homes and surroundings, and how they were occupied.

Occasionally, while at the circle, Annie would see symbolic pictures with certain of the sitters, foreshadowing the trials and triumphs of their daily lives. By this means they were often prepared for coming events, which truly did 'cast their shadows before them.'

But Annie was fortunate in having parents whose natural aspirations were for the moral and spiritual, who looked on the circle as the portal to the Summer-land; a ladder, whereon angels descend to cheer, bless, comfort and uplift, all who wish to come up higher and partake of their heavenly manna. Her gifts received no rude treatment, and were never degraded to the level of the gambler in stocks or 'corners,' the finding of buried treasure, or the winner of the Derby. The worldly wise or the wonder-monger received no encouragement at her hands; while those in search of spiritual light and truth were ever assisted to the best of her abilities.



This is the month of holidays, men and women, boys and girls, assume attire light, gay-coloured and easy by the application of art, striving to out-do the gorgeous mantle which nature wears at this lovely season of the year.

Board schools are closed (Hurrah!) Trunks and boxes are packed, a raid is made on the "penny bank" and off we go for a little while, into the country or to the sea-side, to spend our little savings like miniature millionaires, thereby helping to enrich the irrepressible ice-cream vendor, and the owner of 'Jerusalem motors.'

As a consequence of these innovations on our regular routine order of industrial life, our Lyceums are thinned, at home, but I am pleased to know that we are compensated for our loss by the fact that there is a noticeable swelling of the attendance at all such Lyceums as are located in the holiday-making places.

This, to me, is one of the grandest features in our movement, for it denotes a general interest amongst our Lyceumists in our Sunday School work, which even the exciting whirl of a fitful pleasure excursion cannot undermine.

Even your "Uncle" has caught the contagion of pleasure-seeking, and has been hurrying around to avoid missing all the great doings that have been transpiring lately in Yorkshire. The great Jubilee rejoicings in Keighley, have taken place, tea parties, grand processions, brass bands, and magnificent mass meetings were the order of the day. Friends with experiences in Spiritualism varying from 50 weeks to 50 years were present, and helped to emphasize the historical incident of Greater Britain's first Society's Jubilee. I also called round at Bradford, just in time for Mr. J. Burchell's 50th birthday party. The Lyceum scholars were present, and made their "guardian" a handsome birthday gift, which took the form of a beautiful photo frame, containing the portraits of the members of the Liberty and Excelsior groups, 42 in number, in addition to the photos of Mr. and Mrs. Burchell, and Miss Julia Burchell. Then the River and Shore groups,—dear little things,—not to be out-done, presented Mrs. Burchell with a pretty electro-silver flower stand, in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Burchell's silver wedding.

All sorts of nice things were said about the host and hostess, and they made one think something like this; now boys, there will come a time when most of you will be 50 years old; why not strive so to live, so to work, that when you have reached that particular milestone along the road of this life, you may rest for a moment, while you receive some token of the esteem your Labours have won for you,—just as your cousins Mr. and Mrs. Burchell have. What is it that has prompted such a beautiful gift. I have been thinking it out, and can only come to the conclusion that it is a loving token

of gratitude for kindness shown. This just brings us to the subject of last month's "essay-word" KINDNESS.

How rich in its blessings is the spirit of kindness; wherever we may see the principle actively employed we can always distinguish its presence by a radiant happiness which possesses those who indulge in it. It is the twin sister of the spirit of mercy, which Shakespeare so beautifully describes in the "Merchant of Venice."—Kindness involves two acts,—the act of fore-thought, and the act of expression. It does not cost us great effort to effect a great deal of happiness, by the exercise of these two acts; neither does it depend upon your being rich in this world's goods, as to whether you can benefit mankind by kindness. Even the poorest of us can help to increase the happiness of those around us by the expression of kindly thoughts and actions. Seeing that so much real joy and pleasure can be gained by such small effort, it is amazing to realise that in a country of boasted Christian intelligence—like ours—the spirit of kindness should be so shamefully neglected, that it should be found necessary to establish societies for the prevention of cruelty, both to children and animals.

In the face of these deplorable facts, are we not justified in trying to arouse those around us to a sense of the power of kindness. We must, of course, try and reform the unit ere we can hope for re-organisation in the mass. Hence it is, boys, that I appeal to you to try and improve the conditions by shedding a ray of light upon the dark places where kindness is not. The calls upon your kindness are very extensive. They do not cease with the home; they are not confined to the school-room or even the workshop, they reach far out into the world and into all the kingdoms of nature.

Now we have had quite a long talk about kindness, and I hope you have enjoyed it. Let us hope we may all profit by it, for we have each plenty of room to improve in this direction.

I have received an essay from Nephew Frank, of Slaithwaite, but, while it is a wonderfully intelligent description of a "ramble," adorned with useful information on Botany, it is hardly suited to this month's issue. Frank is getting to be a regular contributor, and I am glad to know he takes such a lively interest in his "Banner."

The subject which comes in alphabetical order for next month's is one which differs in character from any we have yet had. Now let me see how many of you know anything of the subject, its influence, its evils, its consequences, or any of its powerful characteristics. The essay is to be upon "LAZINESS."

Write on one side of the paper only, and post to the Editor, for Uncle Benjamin, not later than August 20th.

Yours heartily, UNCLE BENJAMIN.

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## THE LYCEUM BANNER:

ALFRED KITSON, Editor.

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# THE LYCEUM BANNER.

AUGUST, 1903.

## GROUP LESSONS.

THE question of Group lessons is one demanding our serious attention, as without them, our Lyceums are carrying out a part of their programme only.

When a Lyceum is newly formed, and its method and programme are new, more time is naturally required to carry out its several parts which otherwise might be devoted to lessons. Yet they should not be lost sight of, and an effort should be made to so arrange each part of the session, so as to allow a short time for Group lessons.

Some Lyceum Sessions are too short to allow the full programme to be carried out. Those who are unable to remedy this, on account of their hall being required for other purposes, are to be pitied. But where such restrictions do not exist, there can be no excuse for not having those lessons, except that of indifference or ignorance. And perhaps it will be well to explain here, for the benefit of the reader, what is meant by such terms as "Group," "Leader," and "Member."

The term "Group" is to the Lyceum what the term "Class" is to the Sunday School: the term "Leader" is to the Lyceum, what "Teacher" is to the Sunday School: and in like manner the term "Member" takes the place of Scholar. So that in place of Sunday School Class, Teacher and Scholar, we have Lyceum, Leader, and Member.

The two systems are radically different. The Teacher of theology assumes that "the little foibles and peevish freaks of the infant, are the early workings and manifestations of depraved human nature;" that a child is by birth a corrupt and lost soul, and must be led by grace to accept

the atonement of Jesus, as the only means of its redemption, and so secure its salvation from the awful wrath of God. We deny that the infant nature inclines to everything that is evil and wicked. We affirm on the contrary, that the soul-nature of every child is divine and pure in its essence, no matter what its parentage or nativity may be, and however much its nature has been warped, twisted, and embittered by its surroundings. Moreover, the child being divine it is full of possibilities, and it is the Leader's duty or mission to lead forth, or draw out manifestations of its divine nature and abilities. How is it to be done? Mr. A. J. Davis says, "the plan, as a general rule, requires the Leader of each Group, to select a line, a couplet, a verse, a prose maxim, or a brief question which is to be given to each member for the next Sunday's lesson, immediately after the consideration of the last lesson is concluded. The Leaders, to save time, write out on separate slips of paper, (one slip for each member) the lesson for the succeeding Sunday, and thus each child can take the lesson home. "But to vary the method, the Conductor or Guardian can give a question, or topic, for the consideration of the entire school, which, for a few Sundays in succession, will greatly interest all—Officers, Leaders, members and spectators in different parts of the hall. . . . Just here let the Leaders bear in mind that they are expected to confer with their members, are to question them, are to extract, so to speak, their most private confidences, and ascertain their little thinkings, before the Conductor begins to interrogate the school on the subject. From ten to fifteen minutes should be first given to these private conferences between Leaders and members, then the Conductor may, with much hope of success, begin to question the whole school on the method already described. "On the following Sunday the same method of drawing out the children is adopted with increasing interest and more success. Sometimes the children dare not rise and give an answer, being a little shy at first, to speaking in the presence of a large number, in which case the Leaders will give the replies of their members, as near as possible, in the precise words used by the children. The simplicity and natural play of the child's fancy (awakening intuition) must not be trifled with, nor stilted into the high phrases of adult definitions. It is easier to correct extravagant imagination in childhood, when you treat them with gentle sympathy and respect, as you would, and doubtless do, treat with kindly spirit the religious errors of the otherwise agreeable family in the adjoining house. Never ridicule nor abuse the simple longings, utterances, and spontaneous imaginations of the infant spirit. Therefore, at the risk of awakening a smile throughout the school, let the Leaders give very nearly the child's own words in response to questions." We will further consider this important question in our next issue.

### In Memoriam.

Passed to the higher life on July 3rd, Albert Bromley, aged 19. He was a member of the Brook Street Lyceum, Huddersfield, and rarely missed a session. He bore his illness with fortitude. The interment was attended by officers and members. Numerous floral tributes were sent, including a beautiful wreath from the Lyceum. Our united sympathy go out to his parents in their hour of trouble. It is evening here, but morning beyond the veil.

HARRY L. WESTERBY, Sec.

## Gleanings by Uncle Amos.

### THE PRICE OF A WIFE.

In Uganda a good wife sells for four bullocks, a box of cartridges and six needles. A Kaffir woman according to social rank, is worth from two to ten cows. In Tartary the father-in-law demands butter before he will part with a daughter. Among the Fijians you must be able to give the tooth of a Sperm Whale in order to get a wife.

### APPROPRIATE NAMES.

For a glutton or drunkard—Phil-ip.  
 For a jerry builder—Jere-miah.  
 For a hewer of stone—Hugh, or Matt-hew.  
 For a keeper of lions—Den-is, or Lion-el.  
 For a jockey—Ho-race.  
 For a Frenchman—Fran-cis.  
 For a college don—Don-ald.  
 For a burglar—Rob-ert, or Rob-in.  
 For a debtor—Owen (but not Robert Owen.)  
 For a bilious subject—O-liver.  
 For a jam maker—Jam-es.

### RESULTS OF A LEGACY.

Out of a legacy of £100, no less than £50 was spent in five weeks on brandy and gin by a woman at Kensington, who was in bed with a broken leg, and at the end of that time died from alcoholic poisoning.

Soul and self-sacrifice help the spiritual evolution of mankind; hate and selfishness hinder it.

*Teddy Ashton.*

God's kings and queens are crowned with thorns, walking the earth with bleeding feet, and comprehending not the work they are performing.

*Harriet Beecher Stowe.*

When Daniel Webster was asked what was the greatest thought that ever took possession of his mind, he at once answered, that it was the thought of his personal accountability to God.

It has been said that—"British society can overlook murder, or swindling—it never forgives the preaching of a new gospel."

An UNCERTAINTY, the clerics know full well, is the only hold they have upon the masses.

*J. M. Stuart Young.*

Every good act is charity; smiling in a brother's face; putting a wanderer in the right road; giving water to the thirsty, is charity; exhortation to another to do right is charity. A man's true wealth hereafter is the good he has done in this world to his fellow-men.

*Mohammed.*

IF ANY PLACE IS HEAVEN, it is heaven only by the fact that it is occupied by beings who are heavenly in themselves.

The Divine being will be "behind hand" with none of His creatures. The more we are in the work of God the more of the work of God will be in us.

*Rev. James Everett.*

It is better, it is said, that death should find us scaling a mountain than sinking in the mire. I am most happy when most busy. Employment keeps away nervous feeling, and is essential to health and peace.

*Rev. J. Everett.*

Every law that finds expression in life is founded in wisdom, and conduces to man's happiness.

*N. B. Wolf.*

### THE PERMANENT SECRETARY FUND.

The following list of contributions to the above fund are from the conference to present date (July 23rd). Each month I intend to give a list so that the readers may know how the fund is progressing. Many friends have promised subscriptions, and circulars to Lyceum Conductors and Committees, and to interested friends of the children's movement have been issued, to which I wish to draw attention. Thanking all donors most cordially, I am fraternally yours,

JESSY GREENWOOD.

Ashleigh, Fairfield, Hebden Bridge.

### LIST OF CONTRIBUTIONS.

Barrow Lyceum 5/-, Mrs. Greenwood's services at Barrow, Blackburn, and Bradford Alliance 15/-; Mr. Alfred Kitson's services at Bury, Belper, Dearnley and Royton, 25s; Bury Lyceum 2s; Mr. Johnson, 10s; Mr. Yates, 6d; Mrs. Wade, 10s 6d; Mr. Booth, 1s; Mr. George, 10s; Mr. and Mrs. J. Wadsworth, 10s 6d; Walsall Lyceum, 10s; J. C., 2s 6d; Mr. J. J. Bennett, 5s; Mr. Frank Chiswell, 5; Mrs. Airey, 3s; Mr. J. H. Smith, 10s 6d; Mr. Hall, 2s; Mrs. Scholfield, 2s; Mr. G. Howarth, 1s; Mr. Ernest A. Keeling, 2s 6d; Mr. and Mrs. Holden, 5s; Mr. Tompkins, 5s; Mr. Insley, 5s; Mr. P. Birkett, 2s 6d; Mr. W. Ward, 1s; Mr. H. Ward, 1s; Mr. Noorey, 1s; Mr. Nield, 1s; Mr. William Chisnall, 1s; Mr. Weldon, 1s; Mr. Woods, 5s. Total, £8 1s. 6d.

JESSY GREENWOOD.

**We are deeply grateful to all who responded to our appeal to help us reduce the cost of postage on the "Lyceum Banner," by having their parcels at Newspaper Rates. The plan enables us to supply the "Lyceum Banner" at 9½d. per doz. Our next issue will be ready on Sept. 6th. Will Secretaries please note and call for their parcels, and report to us not later than the following Monday, if they fail to receive them.**

## The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

### Report of the Quarterly and Propaganda Meetings.

**A**LL the members of the Executive Council were at the meeting held at Ashleigh, Fairfield, Hebden Bridge, the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood, on July 18th, with the exception of Mr. Jonah Clarke, who regretted his absence. Mr. A. Wilkinson kindly photographed the members, which will duly appear in the "Lyceum Banner."

The business transacted was of an important and varied nature, amongst which were the cordial welcome to the new President, Miss Mary Thorpe; the various reports which we can only briefly summarise; and last, but not least, a munificent donation of £150 from Mrs. Selina Smedley of Belper. Of which more anon. The Secretary reported that Lyceums had been re-opened at Patricroft; Salford; and Spennymoor; and that Lyceums had been opened at Wolverhampton and York. The last two were applying for Membership with the Union.

The following six Lyceums were in arrears with their contribution: Horwich, Pendleton (Cook-st.) Stalybridge, Sheffield (Langsett-rd.) Wombwell; and Yeadon. Contributions received £29 4 5.

The Midland District was vacant, owing to the removal of Mr. J. Bolton to South Wales. There was one or two District Visitors needed for London, and also one for the Sheffield District.

Further correspondence with the "Two Worlds Co.," RE the Union's announcements had taken place, with the result that their previous resolutions had been re-affirmed. SALES.—1201 Copies of the "Lyceum Manual" had been sold; 88 "Outlines of Spiritualism;" 332 "Physical Exercises;" 46 "Jubilee Medals;" 346 "Spiritual Songsters" 42 copies of Mr. Smedley's "Reminiscences" etc., etc., Cash receipts £106 4 10.

The half-yearly report of the Lyceum Banner showed that 13,400 copies had been printed. All non-subscribing Lyceums had had free copies sent them of the April and June issues, which contained important reports. There was a credit balance of £6 7 1½ for the half-year ending June.

THE PERMANENT SECRETARY FUND: Mrs. Greenwood, Fin. Sec., reported the receipt of £7 19 1 up-to-date (July 18.) Circulars had been printed for distribution to Lyceums and subscribers. It was proposed to enclose one in each parcel of the LYCEUM BANNER and in addition to send one direct to each Lyceum Conductor. All subscriptions and donations to be acknowledged monthly in the Lyceum Banner.

Messrs. S. S. Chiswell and A. Wilkinson reported their visit to the Openshaw Lyceum, as per resolution of the Conference, as having been made on Sunday July 12. They were agreeably surprised to find a very orderly and harmonious session. They were received most courteously and invited to address the Lyceum, which they cordially accepted. At the close Mr. Tabener, the conductor, thanked them for their attendance and remarks, and hoped they would visit them again.

It was decided to issue a second edition of the booklet, "The Lyceum: What it is." at reduced prices. Any Lyceum ordering 1,000 copies (4/6), to have its name and time of session printed on the cover without extra

charge. But all Lyceums desiring this must give their orders at once, as they cannot be accepted after this second edition has been printed.

The Sunday Services and Open Session were all well attended. Miss Marion Greenwood gave to all the members of the Executive a hearty welcome, on behalf of the Lyceum; which was suitably responded to by Miss Thorpe the President. Mr. S. S. Chiswell was invited to fill the office of conductor, which he did most admirably. The usual chain recitations and exercises were well done, winning applause. Messrs E. A. Keeling, Councillor J. Venables, and A. Wilkinson briefly addressed the Lyceum, whose session was all too short for the good things crowded into it.

The afternoon's Service was presided over by Mr. Lees, President of the Society. Recitations were given by Miss Butterworth, and Miss Florrie Lees, a duet by Misses Dora and Ivy Rushforth, a song by Miss Marion Greenwood, and an anthem by the choir, conducted by Mr. Harry Thorpe.

Councillor J. Venables said that within a child 'are infinite possibilities,' and in meeting in that Hall as members of the B.S.L.U., they had come to try and strengthen the hands of those good friends who are endeavouring to bring out those latent powers of our young people, to teach the truths we have found within the ranks of Spiritualism, to try and do our best while here, and when the time comes for us to go up yonder the angels will say to us, "Come up here and complete the work you commenced on earth."

Mr. Chiswell said he could not get away from the thought that he wanted to speak to the children about angels and heaven. When he was young he had some strange ideas of angels and heaven. When he used to look up at the stars he thought they were the eyes of the angels looking down on him. He thought the Sun must be God, because it looked so great, so beautiful and so bright. As Spiritualists we teach our children very differently in our Lyceums about angels that they are our fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers, who have passed through the change called death. They are not dead, but come as angels to minister to, and guide us on our earthly way. Our Lyceum children had a great advantage over those of the orthodox Sunday Schools, by not being taught to fear God, but love Him, and being able to know something about the future life.

Mr. Lees presided over the evening service, and the choir rendered an anthem.

Mr. Keeling said he could not understand why people were so ready to ridicule the cause when they had never investigated the matter. He quoted an instance of a remark being made that there was no philosophy in Spiritualism, and ventured to say if they would refer to the "Lyceum Manual," they would find a great deal of good, moral, and spiritual teachings both for children and adults.

Mr. Wilkinson said that was a memorable day, they were bubbling over with good news; and they were represented by a second lady president, and Sowerby Bridge was the only Lyceum that had supplied a lady president. All their dealings had been carried through with feelings of love and kindness, because they could not afford anything else in their ranks.

Councillor J. Venables remarked it was very strange that Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Chiswell were both brought up

Baptists and he also was a Baptist, and that all three should be on the same platform teaching the doctrines of Spiritualism. After many encouraging remarks he concluded by saying that he hoped the work they set themselves to perform would sooner or later be the means of bringing hundreds and thousands into their ranks to work for the Lyceum movement.

Mr. Chiswell made reference to the excellent way in which the Secretary of the Union had served them at a great sacrifice to himself and family. He also referred to the valuable assistance Mr. H. A. Kersey had rendered in presenting the Union with the "Lyceum Manual, and Spiritual Songster," when they were without friends. He also referred to Mr. Alfred Smedley's munificent donations of literature, all of which had been provided and forthcoming at the time when it was most needed. He made feeling reference to the late Mr. Joseph Sutcliffe. In conclusion he begged of all to take to heart the message he had given, namely, "Let Brotherly love continue."

Mrs. Greenwood said she was perfectly content that day; it was one of the happiest moments of her life. There had been many in connection with the Union, and she was happy because she was in her own town, amongst own people, with some of her best friends around her, and their lady President was elected from their Lyceum. So she would be ungrateful indeed if she were not happy.

We withhold the Secretary's remarks owing to want of space. Let it suffice to say that he read a letter which he had received from Mrs. Selina Smedley of Belper, in which was enclosed a cheque for £150, £100 of which was for the General Fund, and £50 for assisting to support a Lyceum Sick Children's Home. The cheque was duly endorsed and handed to the Treasurer, Mr. Albert E. Sutcliffe.

### Gigantic Lyceum Demonstration at Rochdale.

The Lyceum Demonstration (being the second organised by the Rochdale District Council) on Saturday, July 11th, 1903, was a great success; in fact, it was said by some of the oldest workers in the Lyceum movement to be the finest conducted Spiritualist demonstration they had ever witnessed. Thousands of the Rochdale public turned out to witness the proceedings. Out of 14 Lyceums in the Council 12 were well represented, numbering nearly 1,000. The place of assemblage was the Town Hall Square, where a hymn was sung, and a few explanatory remarks were given by Mr. Tetlow (President of the Council and Chief Marshall for the day). Shortly after 3-30 the Lyceums formed into procession. Two bands were in attendance—"The 2nd Lancashire Fusiliers" and "Whitworth Vale and Healey." The order of the procession was as follows, the colours worn and Conductors' names also being given:—

Chief Marshals; Mr. J. B. Tetlow, and Miss Pollit, carrying Banner of EXCELLENCE.

2nd Lancashire Fusilier Band.

1. Rochdale, Regent Hall, (Lavender) Mrs. Nurse and Miss Schofield.
2. Rochdale, Penn-street, (Royal Blue) Messrs. Rothwell & Eastwood.
3. Heywood, (Pink) Mr. Mather and Miss Entwistle.
4. Bury, (Violet) Mr. H. Jackson and Miss Annie Clough.
5. Higher Broughton, (Tartan) Messrs. Smith and Stafford.
6. Middleton, (Pale Blue) Messrs. C. Dooley and William Marcroft.
7. Oldham, Coronation-st., (Coronation Red) Messrs. C. Brierley and Barlow.
8. Hollinwood, Bower Lane, (Red White and Blue) Miss A. Entwistle and Mr. W. Barlow.

9. Bacup, (Strawberry) Mrs. M. A. Hurst and Polly Hall.

10. Harpurhey, (Pink and Orange) Mr. A. Slinn.

11. Hollinwood, Byron-st., (White) Miss Chadwick and Mr. Bate.

12. Royton, (Blue and White) Mr. David Greaves and Miss A. Ogden.

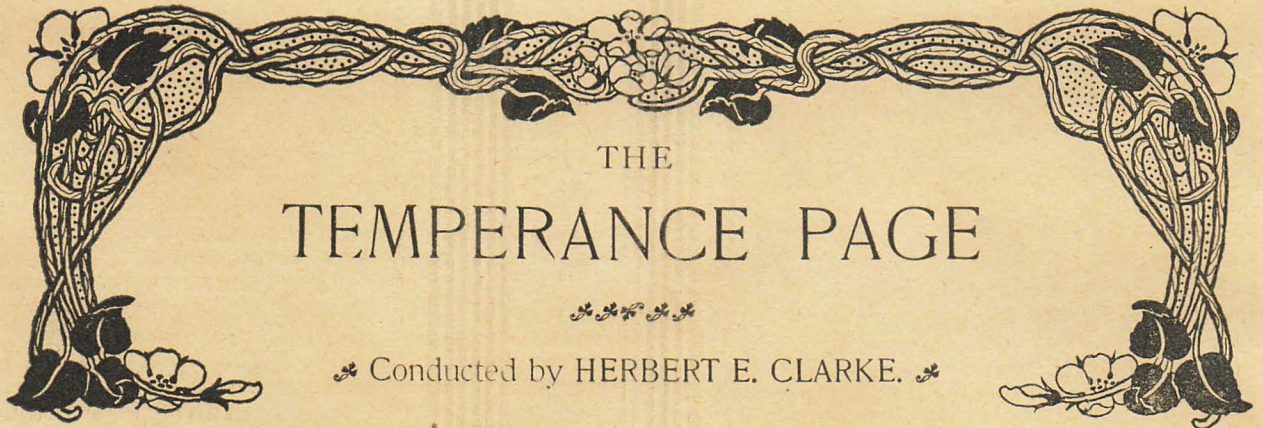
The procession drew many comments from the thousands of people who lined the route, which was by way of Yorkshire Street and Whitworth Road to Cronkeyshaw Common, where about 2,000 people had assembled to watch the proceedings. It was here where a grand sight was presented. The Lyceums took up their positions (which had been marked out for them) in excellent order, and when all had arrived the scene presented the shape of a huge triangle, two sides being occupied by Lyceums and one side by the public. The centre was taken up by the Judges (Miss Thorpe, Mr. Alfred Kitson and Mr. Albert Wilkinson), Chief Marshall, Mr. Tetlow, and Leader of Singing (Mr. Rocke), whose work was rendered much easier by the excellent position afforded them. Mr. Rocke then excellently conducted the singing of the hymn, "Heart Flowers," to the accompaniment of the Whitworth Vale Band. The Lyceums afterwards went through the Marching and Calisthenic Exercises to music by the 2nd Lancashire Fusilier Band. Fifteen minutes was allowed for Marching and ten minutes for Calisthenics. The procession was then reformed and proceeded by Heights Lane to the Pioneers' Stone Assembly Room, Toad Lane, where tea was provided. After tea a mass meeting was held, which was commenced about 7-30 o'clock. Mr. Tetlow presided. The Chairman, in a few brief remarks, referred to the great success of the demonstration. He then called upon Miss Thorpe (President of the B.S.L. Union), who was received with loud cheers, to announce the judges' decision in the Banner Competition. All waited in breathless interest to hear the decision, but were kept some little time in "animated suspense" by the speaker. She stated that owing to the general excellence of the displays the judges had had a formidable task in adjudicating.

To do full justice they felt they needed at least six banners. After careful consideration they had decided to award the banner to Bacup. Miss Thorpe then called upon the Bacup conductor (Miss M. A. Hurst) and presented her with the Banner on behalf of the Bacup Lyceum. Miss Hurst briefly returned thanks. The decision appeared to give great satisfaction, as was shown by the loud cheering that followed the announcement.

Mr. Kitson (Secretary of the B.S.L.U.) expressed his admiration of the display which had been given, and predicted that the Lyceum movement would revolutionise the Sunday School teaching.

Mr. Wilkinson (Nelson) said that a grand lesson had been provided for the orthodox Sunday Schools in Rochdale. They did not want to be automatic machines. In the hearts and minds of their children were infinite possibilities, and they wanted to give the children a chance to develop. Everyone could take heart at the "grand revelation" which had been made in Rochdale that day. Mr. Smith, of Higher Broughton, also spoke. The speeches were interspersed with songs and recitations by the Rochdale Lyceumists, which were excellently rendered.

H. JACKSON, Secretary,  
286, Hollins Lane, Whitfield,  
Nr. Manchester.



THE  
TEMPERANCE PAGE

Conducted by HERBERT E. CLARKE.

BEFORE I address the readers of this page this month I would like to thank the Editor very much for his kind encouragement on behalf of the Fourfold Pledge for which I had no names last month. I sincerely trust that friends of total abstinence will do their best to augment the roll, recognising as they must do the worthiness of the pledge and the benefits it is calculated to confer. We have now about 130 names on the book, the greater number offering the whole four parts. This is not such slow progress for the first six months of the pledge, but I am hoping that our numbers will be more than doubled before the end of the year. Will my readers kindly offer their aid in order that our anticipations may be fully realised. We are bound to be successful if our young Lyceumists, as well as old, shew that their hearts are in the sacred work of social reform. I am sure it will not be necessary to plead any further with you, as you must all feel it your duty to join us, if not in all parts, at least in one or two. Let the elder portion of my readers recognise that their conduct, be it good or bad, is observed and copied by the young, and inculcate in the minds of the children the love of temperance and moral purity, for the furtherance of which our pledge has been established. No child is too young to join us, for there should be no age fixed at which these good lessons should be learnt. In signing the Fourfold Pledge in extreme youth you are not binding yourselves to a promise which will be in antithesis to your highest conception of right when you reach to manhood's or womanhood's estate.

Since I had the privilege of last addressing you the question of Compensation to Publicans has been well investigated, not only in the Commons but in the Lords, and I think I may venture to assert that a large number of our best statesmen have at last "a fixed conviction" on this matter. A large mass meeting was held in London about the middle of July, and by the report I find as speakers and interested parties, clergymen, lawyers, and members of the House of Commons. Sir H. Campbell Bannerman trusts that neither the bill of Sir W. Hart-Dyke nor that of Mr. Butcher will ever become law. We also are glad to say that these bills have not appeared on the agenda of business for some three weeks, and this indicates either the uninterested demeanour of the House or the disgust of the promoters of the bills.

The Americans are ever crying like the ancient Greeks for some new thing. The latest, and perhaps in some ways the most disgusting, is the announcement of some forthcoming experiments on the effects of tobacco on the human body. A large number of America's noble sons have volunteered to sacrifice their lives, I was going to say, for

the satisfaction of a foul craving, but that would be unfair, so I will rather say, for the advancement of science. These gentlemen will refrain from smoking for one month, at the end of which time their physical condition will be carefully examined. They will then be supplied with an unlimited supply of tobacco, snuff, etc., and will smoke and take snuff in large quantities for several months, and in their disinterested zeal for humanity's welfare, will offer up themselves before the shrine of "my lady Nicotine." Some time next year they will be again examined, and will be refused tobacco for another month, for the purpose of discovering how far the beneficial effects of the tobacco can be destroyed by good food and fresh air. I almost fear, however, though many may differ from me, that some of these noble fellows will not survive the month without the supporting hand of their patron goddess, and will feel themselves inwardly prompted to beware of any air in which they can't smell tobacco smoke.

The idea of course is ridiculous in the extreme, as there is every reason to believe that the majority of the applicants will be men who have been smokers for years and years, on whom six months' experiments will have practically no effect, except perhaps to lessen their chances of living to old age. Moreover there is no guarantee than any competitor may not fall ill from causes other than tobacco smoking during the time of experiment. The ill-effects of tobacco smoking would be clearly shewn if subjects were taken whose bodies are not already permeated with the drug, who have a regular kind of life, and are cleanly and temperate in eating and drinking. We are prepared to affirm that such a subject would be poorer physically, morally and spiritually in a month's time than he is to-day. I am acquainted with many youths at school, some of whom smoke occasionally. As an invariable rule I find those youths to be the weaklings in sport, the bottom boys of their form, and least likely to be the companions of the fellows who have some self-respect and decency! There are subjects ready to hand without inventing any such impossible plan as the above.

I would like to take this opportunity of tendering my felicitations to two members of our Fourfold Pledge who were united together in matrimony on Monday, July 20th. They are Miss E. M. Dexter (No. 44) and Mr. E. Lucas (No. 45), of Nottingham. The ceremony took place at the High Pavement Unitarian Chapel. Miss Dexter will be remembered by many readers of the "Banner" as a gifted reciter and essay-writer, and her father, Mr. Thos. Dexter, was very well known, before his passing on, as a representative of one of the Nottingham Lyceums, also as one of the auditors to the B.S.L.U.

## REPORTS.

THE LEEDS LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL held its Quarterly meeting at Rothwell on the 11th of July, 1903. I am sorry to have to report a poor attendance, as there was no one to represent either Heckmondwike, Leeds, or Wakefield. From the reports given the Lyceums at Armley, Batley Carr, Dewsbury, and Morley, seem to be flourishing, while Wakefield, Heckmondwike, and Rothwell, seem to be on the decline, Leeds being in a very bad state. Owing to the above, the Council have decided to commence propaganda work, visiting the Lyceums monthly with the view of reaching the parents of the children. Hoping we shall meet with success and that I shall be able to give a good report all round after the next meeting at Armley on the 24th, and 25th, of October, 1903.—A. PINDER, Junr., Sec.

BLACKBURN, (Northgate Lyceum).—On Sunday, June 28th, the Lyceum held its annual Flower Service, Mrs. Greenwood being the speaker. Mrs. Greenwood's addresses were exceptionally good and highly appreciated. The children occupied the Rostrum and led the singing in a very creditable manner. A baby was named at the morning service, which brought to light a very remarkable coincidence, the name given to the baby being exactly the same as that of Mrs. Greenwood's father. Mrs. Greenwood was visibly touched by it, and performed the ceremony in a most beautiful manner.

PRESTON (Weavers' Hall).—On Sunday, July 19th, I paid a visit to the above Lyceum, about 30 scholars being present. Excellent order prevailed. Reading and responses very good. Great credit is due to a scholar, Miss Fisher, for the way in which she conducted the session throughout. I was very sorry to learn they did not take the LYCEUM BANNER. I advised them to take it, and left them mine for July. They promised to attend to the matter. May success attend their efforts.—R. WILSON.

[We are much obliged to Mr. Wilson for recommending the LYCEUM BANNER. If friends will let us know when they are going to visit such Lyceums, we will send them 'specimen copies' for free distribution, as we find those sent to certain secretaries do not reach the Lyceum scholars, and so they are kept in ignorance of the contents of the LYCEUM BANNER.—ED. L.B.]

ST. SAVIOURGATE LYCEUM, YORK.—On July 19th, we held our first Lyceum Anniversary. We had Silver and Golden Chain Recitations, Musical Reading, Calisthenics, and Lyceum Songs. Masters James Dickinson and Duncan Usher, and the Misses Usher, Dickinson, L. Apdale, B. and G. Middleton, L. Dickinson, S. Taylor, gave some splendid Recitations. Miss Olive Usher sang "Sweet Golden Age very creditably, and Miss Mandifield and Miss C. Usher gave a dialogue, "The Lyceum." Mr. Baldwin gave a stirring address on Lyceum work. In the evening the choir gave a Service of Song, entitled: "A Terrible Lesson." Both services were crowded, and a record collection was taken.—J. CHAPMAN, Sec.

BLACKBURN NORTHGATE LYCEUM.—An interesting marriage ceremony (the first ever held in the Church) was held on Saturday, June 28th, the contracting parties being Mr. Wm. Derbyshire and Miss Ethel Sargeant. Mrs. Pedley officiated, and was supported by Mrs. Griffin, of Burnley, who offered up a beautiful invocation. Mrs. Pedley joined the happy pair in the holy bonds of matrimony, and a very interesting service it proved to be. Mrs.

Griffin presented the bride with a handsome bouquet, and expressed the wish "that her pathway through life might be strewn with flowers." A social evening was held in the Church, at which Mr. McKnight presented to the happy pair a marble clock, a wedding gift from the members of the Society and Lyceum.—T. E. HOLLINHEAD, Sec.

BELPER (Jubilee Hall).—On Sunday, June 28th, we held our 17th Lyceum Anniversary. At 8.30 a.m., we, with a goodly number of friends, started from the Hall to perambulate the town, singing our invitation hymns at nine different places, previous to our morning service. Mr. Bibbings, who was our speaker, was unable to march round with us in consequence of an accident to his foot. The marching, calisthenics, reciting, and especially the music and singing, were much admired by large audiences, who also manifested their high appreciation of the eloquent addresses given by Mr. Bibbings. The afternoon and evening services were held in the large public hall, which was full on each occasion. The anniversary was a decided success, more than £17 were collected.

BURY LYCEUM.—Lyceum Open Sessions were held on Sunday, July 12th. Duets were given by Misses Clough and Ellis, and Misses Ogden and Challoner. Miss A. Frain favoured us with a recitation, and Mr. W. Fletcher contributed a solo. Short addresses were made by Messrs. Knight, McKeever, Chadwick, and Barnes; the Secretary being pleased to state that he had enrolled twenty-one new scholars since Whitsuntide. At six o'clock the choir rendered a Service of Song, entitled "The Fox Family: a true story of the commencement of Modern Spiritualism." The Service of Song was arranged by our conductor, Mr. Jackson, who obtained the reading portion from "Outlines of Spiritualism." After the service of song, Miss Chadwick gave clairvoyant descriptions. Miss M. E. Clough again proved herself an efficient accompanist, and received valuable assistance from Mr. G. Kershaw (violin). We are endeavouring to have the largest number of scholars when the annual returns are made, and one who hopes we shall succeed is E. J. Barnes, Secretary.

NOTTINGHAM, (Cobden Hall).—Our Anniversary Services were held on Sunday, June 28th, when we were assisted by the members of the Gladstone Hall, Lyceum. A cantata was admirably rendered by the children, entitled, "The Three Graces," the principle soloists being Faith, (Miss G. Simpson); Hope, (Miss Edith Dickenson); and Charity, (Miss A. Dexter). The chief feature was the crowning of Charity as the Queen of Graces. Mr. T. Bakewell ably officiated at the organ, and the services were conducted before very appreciative audiences by Mr. Thomas Stubbs.—MISS C. E. AMOS, Sec.

OLDHAM (Elliot Street).—On Sunday, June 28th, it was the election of officers, after the marching and calisthenics. A twelve months' report was read, and the six following officers were elected:—Mr. Horsman re-elected conductor; Miss Calvary and Mr. F. Shaw, assistants; H. Clayton, W. Shaw, and Mesdames Monks and Bleasdale, guardians; Mr. J. Frost and Miss Calvary, calisthenic conductors; and Hiram Monks re-elected secretary. On Sunday, July 12th, we had our Open Sessions, after the marching and calisthenics. Mr. G. H. Smith gave an interesting address to a nice audience.

BARROW LYCEUM.—Our Open Session was held June 28th, Miss Nickolls, our conductor, presided. It was her first Sunday in office. Master J. Collinson gave us a song. Miss H. Baillie a recitation. Robbie Larkin a song. Recitation by Miss V. Robinson. Master W. Hall a recitation. Mr. Clarke a recitation. Master J. Collinson a song. Miss M. Hopson a recitation. Mr. Owen, our conductor, gave us an address, which was followed by a recitation by H. Hogg. Professor Denton gave us an address through Mr. Proctor. Our programme was then brought to a close after a very pleasant afternoon.

### Bury Spiritualists' Society and Progressive Lyceum. OPENING OF LIBRARY.

### A TEA-PARTY AND SOCIAL EVENING

WILL BE HELD IN THE

Spiritualists' Hall, Georgiana Street, Bury,

On SATURDAY, AUGUST 22nd, 1903.

MISS THORPE (President B.S.L.U.) will open the Library.

Tea on the tables at 4 o'clock prompt. Admission to Tea and Social, Adults, 6d. each; Children under 12, 4d.  
Books will be thankfully received. Everybody welcome.

HOLLINWOOD, (Labour Hall, Bower Lane).—On Sunday, July 5th, we held our first Lyceum Anniversary, Mr. Ernest Marklew was the speaker. In the afternoon we had an Open Sission, consisting of songs, solos, and exercises; followed by an address on "The child, the wise man and the priest." The evening subject was "Spiritualism and the New Theology," in which Mr. Marklew excelled himself. On the following Monday evening Mr. Marklew lectured on "The Doctrine of the Demons, its perils and its powers," discussion being invited at the close, but all appeared satisfied, and had no questions to ask.—JOHN WALTERS, Sec.

DEARNLEY.—On Sunday, June 28th, we held our Lyceum Anniversary, when two addresses were delivered to large audiences by Mr. A. Kitson. The scholars led by Mr. G. Cooper, sang very sweetly, Miss M. Holdroyd presided at the organ. A selection was sung by Misses S. A. Quarmby, E. Mills, and L. Edison. It was the best attended anniversary the Lyceum has ever had, and I hope good seed will have been sown.—B. BUTTERWORTH, Sec.

ROYTON.—On Sunday, July 12th, we held our Lyceum Anniversary, Mr. A. Kitson being the speaker, Mr. Greaves, our esteemed conductor presiding. The speaker gave some encouraging remarks to the scholars in the morning. In the afternoon he gave us the history of how the Lyceum movement had been built up; which was very interesting. And in the evening he spoke on "Man a Spiritual being." Mrs. Schofield, of Shaw, gave clairvoyance. Solos were sung by Miss Ada Harvey and Mr. J. Tripper. The collections were good. Wm. Turner, Sec.

NEW HIRST.—On Saturday, July 4th, 44 of our Lyceum children went by train to Hepscoot, and were accompanied by 27 adults. The weather was fine, and we had a glorious day. Various contests were entered into, such as kite flying, running, skipping, etc., in which the adults as well as the young engaged. Splendid first and second prizes were awarded, the unsuccessful ones receiving handsome presents. Thus every one was highly satisfied with the day's outing. First Prizes: (Girls), Lizzie Dawson, L. Fields, I. Eke, M. Peck. (Boys), R. Scott, A. R. Ince, and R. V. Ince. Second prizes: (Girls), Susan Eke, Sarah Eke, O. Fields, and S. Fields. (Boys), A. Eke, A. Smith, and N. V. Ince, and L. Charlton a third. (Want of space forbids a more extended list. Ed., L. B.)—W. INCE, Sec.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—On Saturday, July 18th, the Lyceumists had a picnic, accompanied by a number of parents and friends, at Golbourne Clough. We journeyed by train to Greenfield, and then proceeded to Mr. Shaw's farm, by permission, where all enjoyed themselves most heartily. Various contests were entered into and prizes were given by Messrs. Plenderleith, Dixon, P. Howard, and A. Simpson. The following took first prizes: (Girls), A. Rigby, N. Cropper, J. Plenderleith, and E. A. Murrey. (Boys), J. Rigby, J. Martin, J. Rigby, J. Dransfield, and S. Martin. (Girls) second, M. Dransfield, E. Wilde, M. Dransfield; M. Simpson, and E. Wilde a third. (Boys), J. Martin, J. Dransfield, S. Martin, H. Beech, and J. Jackson.—WM. DRANSFIELD, Sec.

NOTTINGHAM, (Gladstone Hall).—On July 12th, we held our Lyceum Anniversary Services afternoon and evening, before large and appreciative audiences; Mr. Close, of Chesterfield, taking part on both occasions. In the afternoon he gave a good address, and in the evening some startling and accurate clairvoyance. On Thursday, July 16th, Cobden Hall Lyceum joined us in our annual outing to Bexon's farm, Plumtree. Over 120 adults and children took part, and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Through the exceedingly great generosity of President Hewes, and other good warm-hearted friends the committee were enabled to supply ham sandwiches, plum and seed cake, etc. And also a larger and more varied selection of prizes for the running and walking contests. The members of both Lyceums thank all who helped us. Mr. Gibson, a friend of our conductor favoured us with a fine selection on his powerful gramophone, amongst which was the inimitable Dan Leno. And though "Lost Chords" were there there were no tempers lost, but goodwill and harmony reigned.—J. J. ASHWORTH.

MANCHESTER, (Tipping Street).—On Sunday, June 23rd, we held our Open Session, when the following gave recitations, Misses G. Treherne, D. Treherne; Masters W. Treherne, A. Sims, F. Butts, H. Butts. In the evening our old friend Mr. Crutchley gave a bright and stirring address. In connection with the Band of Hope we held a Tea and Concert, between 50 and 60 partook of tea. Songs, recitations, mandoline and pianoforte solos, gramophone selections, and a dialogue entitled "How to cure a drunken husband," made up a most enjoyable evening.—GEO. VERNON, Junr.

BOLTON (Bradford Street).—On Saturday, June 27th, we had our annual outing, when we went to Barrow Bridge. The party numbered 68. After tea we went to the Institute, and the scholars went through various marches conducted by Mr. Billsborough. A gymnastic display was afterwards given by Messrs. Wilson, Beardshall, Greenhalgh, Platt, Billington, and Duckworth, excellently led by Mr. T. Gibbons.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—The members of the above Lyceum, together with the members of the Society, held their annual outing on Saturday, July 4th, going by brakes to Whitwich. A very good tea was provided by the proprietor of Spring Hill Farm, after which the children enjoyed themselves in an adjoining field with games, including cricket etc. Some of the friends visited the Monastery, (Charnwood Forest.) We arrived home about ten o'clock after a most enjoyable outing long to be remembered by all.—C. BARRADELL, Sec.

HULL (Lime Street).—Sunday, the 28th June, was the Open Session day, when calisthenic exercises and pretty intricate marches enabled us to spend a delightful time. The little tiny maiden who advised us all, even when sewing, "to do our best and not let the stitches come so large and crooked," an elder sister stood near the chair to help the tiny reciter in more ways than one; time was all too short, and the musical director only let us have one or two of the gems prepared, and reminded the happy crowd that 2 p.m. was the time for the service of song and the interval all too short. Afternoon, the service of song "Spirit Return" had been very carefully prepared and was effectively rendered, the solos being very pleasing; the young folks forgot for the time that they had big people listening. "The Better Land" was charming, and the choruses were readily and brightly taken up. The patience of teacher and pupils is a credit to all. The decorations were tasteful and not too obtrusive, reflecting credit on the patience and diligence of the kind hands who contributed them to brighten the Children's Day. In the evening the little folks were missing but not forgotten. The collections amounted to about 30/-. Monday evening was Band of Hope, and Sykes Street Band came to show us what they could do, and pleased us, for which we thank them sincerely. The Sunday and Monday will be somewhat of a Red Letter day when the children and some of us forgot the grimy work-a-day world, and got a glimpse of what might be.

GLASGOW LYCEUM (June 28th).—Another red letter day was inscribed on our calendar by Miss Burton's second visit. In the morning she regretted that we had not seen our way to executing the marching and calisthenics; yet congratulated Mr. Cowie, our conductor, upon the admirable manner in which the children acquitted themselves in their solos, quartette, and recitations. She spoke in glowing terms of the praiseworthy efforts of parents and conductor in securing so large an increase since her last visit, and trusted the enthusiasm thus evoked would strike its roots deeper and leave an indelible impression on the lives of the children. In the afternoon she overruled Mr. Cowie's objections, and held an open session. Many of the marching evolutions were quite new to all of us, yet they were executed in a manner which elicited the admiration of the visitors, amongst whom were Mr. Norris, of the Heeley Lyceum, Sheffield. The rubicon is passed, and we shall not in future be diffident of our capabilities, but hold open sessions regularly. The following items were well rendered:—"The Mystic Veil," by Mary Hunter; (Miss Burton complimented this young lady on her charming voice). Recitations: "I can't and I can," Bella Macdonald; "The Nightingale," Master Hill; "Somebody's Mother," Master Arthur Hill. Those recitations were delivered with power and grace. "Will the Crown of Wild Olives be worn by Arthur?" Miss Daisy Rutherford, who never says no when called on, favoured us too. Master Willie Guild and his bright sister Gerty; then a quartette by Mary Hunter, Robert Suddall, and Bella Waterson, "Seeds of Promise." Then "Our Minister," Willie Murray, followed with another recitation. Masters George and David Slater gave a very spirited rendering of the "Publican and Teetotaler," which called forth well-merited applause. Miss Burton missed the beaming countenance of a little girl and enquired why she was absent. None could tell. We must look her up. Attendance 41 Lyceumists. The impression made on us by Miss Burton's visit will dwell with us as a never-to-be-forgotten memory. The transparency of her devotion to the Lyceum work makes us feel how little we have done: how much we could have achieved. We stand self-condemned when we reflect on the golden opportunities lost; the sheaves which can never be garnered; the youthful minds which might have been fortified with a philosophy, so all embracing, as to solve the problems of life here and hereafter.