

The LYCEUM BANNER

A SPIRITUALIST MAGAZINE FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

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

VOL. XVII. No. 201.

OCTOBER, 1907.

ONE PENNY

After Many Days:

OR

James Henderson's Conversion to Spiritualism.

By ALFRED KITSON.

CHAPTER X. (continued.)

"What do you mean, Florence?"

"Just what I have said. Here," holding the precious volume up before him, "are contained facts—undeniable facts of what I have said. What is more, the line of saviours dates back thousands of years prior to this Christna, to the first one who appears to be the archetype of each succeeding one; while a list of thirty-two crucified saviours is given of various nations, who have——"

"Hold, stop!" he burst out. "Am I never to have done with these revelations, these frauds in religious history? Is there no solid ground on which to rest my weary feet? Bit by bit the ground on which I had thought myself safe, the rock of supposed eternal truth, is gradually crumbling under me, and I must either take a fresh stand, seek new ground, or perish."

"It is very hard, dear James, to be thus rudely awakened from our cherished beliefs, but it is much better to know the truth now than to cherish an idol all our lives, only to have it shattered when we enter the great beyond, and then find we have wasted the opportunities of our days in chasing and worshipping a phantom."

"Dear Florence, your intuitive perceptions enable you to grasp new truths much more readily than I possibly can, and so you are saved from much disappointment which I have to endure before I am able to assimilate new ideas and facts. In religious matters I am conservative to a degree; every foot of ground I have yielded is only because of the force of facts. But I must have a copy of this book so that I can peruse and study it at leisure, and I pray God to help me to find the truth."

"Cheer up, James, there are better days in store for you. You will be as equally tenacious of the real truth when once you find it as you have been of tradition and superstition, and, having once gained the truth, your position will be unassailable, and no amount of discoveries will be able to invalidate it, but will tend to enhance its value."

"Bless you for those words of encouragement. I will try to keep a brave heart and persevere. Now I must see your father, and have a little chat with him. Poor old friend, how he has suffered for the truth's sake!" he added. These few words of sympathy brought the tears to his companion's eyes and caused her to add, "Yes, poor father is not far from the end of his days on earth. But I am pleased to learn that he is now at peace with one who helped to encompass his ruin. I wish he could discover that lost document. It seems to prey on his mind so much."

"It would be very useful to you in your present straitened circumstances. But it is really very singular what

has become of it. And who would have imagined that such an old friend as Mr. Sharp would take such a mean advantage of your father. It is downright dishonesty. It is robbery, and betrayal of the confidence of old friendships besides," replied Mr. Henderson, who was greatly distressed to see Miss White toiling and slaving day and night to maintain her parents, while the party in question was living in ease and affluence. Evidently he would have been delighted to have the missing proof of the loan discovered, not only on account of its value, and the much-needed relief it would bring, but to see such rascality confounded.

He was beginning to give indications of a highly impressionable form of mediumship, and had proved capable of giving psychometric delineations at a party he had attended where that science was experimented with as a form of entertainment. Being, in a sense, fascinated by his newly discovered power, he had amused himself by subjecting letters, pencilcases, handkerchiefs, etc., to the test of soul-reading, until he became a most excellent delineator. In all this he was greatly assisted by his late minister and spiritual adviser.

CHAPTER XI.

On one of his accustomed visits to Mr. White, some four or five weeks subsequent to the foregoing incidents, he chanced to pick up his friend's pocket-handkerchief, and, in doing so, felt a nervous twitch come over the hand that held it, and a degree of psychometric lucidity he had never before experienced. Holding up the handkerchief, he said, "Mr. White, I am impelled to state the impressions I feel arising from this article. If you will accord me your attention, perhaps it will help to divert your attention, and prove a source of entertainment."

"Very well: I shall be very pleased to hear what you have to say, and will speak as to the facts of what you say—though I do not think it will serve any wise end, as I am not long for this world."

"Oh, father!" exclaimed his daughter, as she flung her arms fondly around his neck and imprinted a most affectionate kiss on his pale cheeks. "Oh! father dear, do not say so; have faith that you will yet be restored to health and strength. Whatever would dear mother and I do without you?"

"Dry your tears, my loving daughter. There is no death, no separation—only that of the body. I have no fear. Spiritualism has given me knowledge instead of faith. It has robbed death of its sting; and the grave of its victory! But hush, we are interrupting Mr. Henderson," he said, to stop all further conversation on so sad a topic. Mr. Henderson was visibly agitated, not with the remarks that were being made, but by the unaccountable influence which had fallen upon him.

When quiet had been restored, he said, "I sense you as a little boy of nine or ten years. You are bathing, and have gone beyond your depth; you are in distress through

fear of being drowned. You are eventually rescued by an elderly man."

"You are right," Mr. White answered.

"I next sense you at about fourteen years of age; you are working among machinery. You are greatly agitated. Something serious has taken place which appears to affect you very much. It is an accident, which is very serious—yes, it is fatal."

That is also correct, as I well remember one of my workmates was caught in the shafting and battered to pieces. Poor Joe!" he added, at the remembrance of the sad event. "We had been laughing and cracking jokes only a short time before."

"I next see you in company with three or four companions, strolling leisurely by the side of a canal. All nature seems bright and joyous; there are flowers in abundance, which entice some children too near the water's edge to pull them. You perceive their danger, and warn them, and pass on. Before you have gone far one of the little ones is in the water, struggling frantically. You run back and jump in and save it from a watery grave."

"Right again," he answered.

"I see you in the mill again. You are in the fourth story. I see you open the door looking down into the yard. There is a bale of wool being drawn up, and you are waiting to land it. You have hold of a piece of iron with the left hand, which is fixed by the side of the door for support; your right hand is stretched forth to catch hold of the bale; a second more and you will have seized it. There is a snap in the chain; it is broken, and the bale of wool goes down with an awful thud, and leaves you standing with pale face at your narrow escape."

"That incident is burnt, as it were, into my memory," he remarked, on its being so graphically described to him.

"It was the turning point in my life; by it I realised that in full life and vigour we stood on the brink of the grave, and I at once became joined to the church as a member, which fellowship I maintained until I found something better and grander in Spiritualism."

"Yes, that is not the only change that took place, for I sense you had a change for the better in your work; if I am not mistaken you were promoted. I pass over a number of years in which fortune seems to smile on you, and come to another critical period in your life. I see one of your friends seeking help. He is not poor. He is about to commence business. It is Mr. Sharp!" he cried excitedly; while Mr. White leaned forward in his arm-chair, oblivious to all pain and weakness in his eagerness to catch something that would act as a clue to help him to regain his lost money; the same intensity of feeling was shared by his wife and daughter. "I see you," continued Mr. Henderson, "hand him a number of bank notes and some gold. He gives you a paper in return, which you carefully fold and place in your coat inner breast-pocket. I next see you at home in the parlour; you are sitting at the table reading. It is a big book; it is not the Bible. The note lies on the table beside you. You are interrupted by the entrance of someone—a stranger I should say. You close the book in order to receive the visitor, and in your hurry and confusion, you use the note as a bookmarker. I—"

"Hold! Mr. Henderson, for goodness sake, hold! until we have searched for this long lost note. I have laboured under the idea that I had placed it securely in the secret drawer in my private desk. Will you please go and search all the large books that you can find, either in

the bookcase or elsewhere! Oh! if you can find it, it will be the happiest moment of my life."

And he despatched wife, daughter, and friend to assist in the search. And never a more willing and diligent party set out to find a lost treasure. Every large book they came at was attacked; they seized hold of the covers and shook it vigorously. At last Mr. Henderson came upon "Rollin's Ancient History," and felt instinctively it looked very much like the one he had just had the pleasure of describing. He took it down tenderly, placed it on the table, and deliberately commenced to turn the leaves over singly, scanning each page minutely as he did so. At last, when he had got nearly through, his labours were rewarded. An exclamation of delight escaped him, which was the signal for the others to drop their books and run to his side to look at it, and assure themselves that no mistake had been made. Then off they marched to Mr. White, and, as soon as Mr. Henderson entered the doorway he flourished it over his head in the exuberance of his joy, shouting, "It is found, it is found!"

Mr. White grasped it with a nervous hand, which shook violently, as he eagerly read its contents. Surely, we may pardon him if he hugged it to him in childish delight, as a miser would hug a bag of gold. It meant very much to him; it would raise them above penury, enable his daughter to take a much-needed rest; above all, it would clear his honourable name of the foul charge of seeking to defraud Mr. Sharp by false pretences.

When the excitement of the hour had subsided, Miss White was again controlled by the Rev. Mr. Dale, and with features beaming with pleasure she walked up to his old friend, grasped his hand and congratulated him on his good fortune, and hoped he would accept this little act in part atonement for the injury he had done him.

"Am I to understand," asked Mr. White, "that I owe this discovery to your agency?"

"That is so," he answered, "Believing that you had been robbed and swindled, and perceiving that my young and esteemed friend here"—turning to Mr. Henderson, "possessed rare psychometric powers, and being acquainted with the value of such, I have laboured most diligently to develop them, that I might use him to this end, which has succeeded so well."

"Oh! my good friend, when I forgave you, I held you under no obligation to assist me. I forgave in full. I feel indebted to you for this timely help. Accept my grateful thanks."

"You have no need to thank me; it is myself who owe the gratitude. And this is an earnest token of it. I have not done yet, I hope. You have forgiven me, but the greatest task is to forgive myself. I desire to pay back the uttermost farthing."

"You said you were acquainted with psychometry?" here interposed Mr. Henderson, who had been an interested listener. "Did I understand you rightly?"

"Yes, my young friend. I made its acquaintance during my periodical visits to London, where I could study these things without any one being the wiser. I investigated Spiritualism there at the same time, but rejected it on account of its teachings; and, for that reason, warned you against having anything to do with it. I must now leave you, and I pray the great and just God to bless your declining days with joy and prosperity." As he uttered this heartfelt prayer, he turned to Mr. White, and all joined in a fervent "Amen."

(To be continued.)

Mrs. Ellen Green's Missionary Tour in South Africa.—VIII.

On Sunday, February 11th, 1906 I went with Mrs. Horne for the last time to the Lyceum; we spent a most happy time with the children, the session being an excellent one; marching and calisthenics performed in perfect order. A Lyceum scholar recited some touching lines of farewell to me. I delivered my last lecture in Johannesburg the same evening, and the Hall was packed. Many thousands attended my series of lectures and some of these people must have received the glad tidings of immortality. I have felt very happy in the blest assurance that good has been done for our beloved cause.

Tuesday, February 14th. A farewell social was held and the evening spent in singing and dancing. The friends presented me with a testimonial in acknowledgement of my work in Johannesburg. On Saturday, February 17th, I left for Pretoria. Mrs. Horne very kindly accompanied me. We arrived there at 6-30 and received a hearty welcome from kind friends assembled on the station platform. Sunday, we held the first Spiritualist meeting ever held in this city, hundreds were in the street unable to gain admittance in the Town Hall, which was packed—people standing in the aisles, sitting on the window sills, and looking in through the windows. The biggest portion of the audience were Dutch. During the lecture some of them tried to upset the meeting, but I was afterwards told, that each time this was so, the controls waited until all was quiet and then continued. At the conclusion, crowds surrounded me asking for information of their dear ones gone before. Mr. Horne presided, and remarked what a wonderful meeting it was. A minister in the city likened me to the woman of Endor. Thus ended my first Sunday in Pretoria. The city is very fine and the climate is delightful. February 19th, I was taken to visit President Kruger's house, kept sacred to his memory; at the entrance are two white lions, splendidly carved—one asleep, the other awake. The house has a wide verandah, and the place is shown where the old President sat every morning as early as six o'clock. The Dutch love his memory. The windows are covered with thin black gauze, tables, chairs, and walls are covered with wreaths and floral tokens sent from all parts of the world. At the East end of the room is a wonderful painting by an eminent lady artist. The subject is a great crowd of Dutch people looking upwards towards a mass of white clouds, out of which, the figure of the President, transfigured, is ascending to heaven. The whole is painted in a most realistic manner. I entered my name in the visitor's book, and we silently withdrew. Then we visited his grave, an immense vault. Near his, lie the bodies of his wife, his son, and grandson. Opposite his grave is a large stone pedestal, whereon his statue will be placed as soon as it is finished; this pedestal has been moved from the market place where it was first placed. On Tuesday morning I had a strange experience, some-

thing awoke me as the early morning light was stealing in through the windows. As soon as my eyes opened I was conscious that I was not alone; the room was filled with a soft light and I saw two men standing by the window. Their backs were towards me, but I saw that the elder one wore a long coat and held a tall hat in his hand; round his body was a broad ribbon sash, with green stripe in the centre and narrow border of red, white, and purple, and coat of arms. I had plenty of time to notice all this. I also saw that his hair was almost white and very thin in front; he wore hair round his face and under the chin. He was very solemn and stood looking into the street. He slowly turned and gazed at me, then I knew that my visitant was none other than President Kruger. He tried to speak, but his voice sounded gruff and deep like a roar, and I could not understand what he wished to say. I asked him for his message, and then his companion spoke for him in a clear voice. This was the message:—"Tell my people, their interests are still mine, a dark cloud still hangs over my country, and Boer and Briton must work shoulder to shoulder in this great crisis." I felt a strange nervous feeling steal over me as Kruger gave me a commanding look with his strange eyes, deep set and searching, and then faded from sight. I slept no more. I would much rather he had delivered this message to someone else. I had no intention of telling anyone of his visit, but all day the voice kept repeating in my ears, "Tell my people! tell my people!" So in order to obtain a little rest I told Mr. Oliver and he said the President must be obeyed, and sent it to the papers, and in that way it was given to the people. I have seen him on two occasions since. During my stay in Pretoria we drove out to see a marvellous tree called the "wonderboom." It grows to a great height, then the branches droop, taking fresh root as they touch the ground; in this way, it is, of course, of never ending growth, and the branches form arches of luxuriant foliage, a real "nature's cathedral." Twelve span of oxen and twelve waggons can stand underneath its branches—it is indeed a "wondertree." We had to cross a river named the Apis river, because large numbers of monkeys make it their drinking place. In fine weather the river is very low, but in a storm it is a torrent. Kipling says Africa has rivers without water, birds without sound, and flowers without perfume.

Wednesday, February 22nd. Our second public meeting was held, and hundreds turned away. I know the good work will go on. Pretoria has a good public library with twenty-five thousand volumes. There is a fine Zoological Garden where every animal seems to have a little forest to itself. One day we paid a visit to the Zulu chief, Toga. His *Kraal* is a round hut made from wattle trees covered with a plaster of earth and straw; the door is a small round hole just large enough to creep in. As soon as we arrived all the tribe came running out; the mothers had their babies on their backs. A chief is allowed about fourteen wives, and each one is bought for ten or twelve oxen.

(To be continued.)

Bible Studies, No. 8.

BIBLICAL SPIRITUALISM.

We have now arrived at that stage of our studies when we can consider those passages which may be termed Biblical Spiritualism, meaning by that those incidents which come from the spirit side of life.

But before so doing I wish to make it quite clear to all that the term angel simply means a messenger, and not as is generally supposed, a superior order of spiritual beings with wings, who were specially created to attend the throne of God, and for heavenly service generally.

The Rev. T. Timpson says the "term angel is from the Greek word *angelos*; the Hebrew word for angel is malack. Both of these have the same signification, each of them having that of messenger. . . . Angels are therefore so called, not to indicate their nature, but simply as designating their official character." "They are always spirits," says another Christian authority, "but when they are sent on errands they are angels."

Bishop Hutchinson says "the word *angel* from *angelo* in itself signifies only a messenger, apostle, nuncio, preacher. . . . So the ministers or bishops of the seven Churches in the Book of Revelations are called the angels of those Churches."

Prof. Sullivan, L.L.D., T.C.D., etc., says "this word properly means a messenger, in which sense it occurs in the 'Taming of the Shrew,' Act iv., Scene 2."

These facts are of great value to the Biblical student, as they clearly indicate the nature of all those numerous instances recorded in the Old and New Testaments referred to as angels of the Lord, as being spirit messengers, working by and through certain psychic laws. And as God's laws are unchangeable they exist to-day, and if complied with, spirit messages for the guidance and comfort of humanity can be received.

How much better it would have been if the translators of the Bible had rendered the terms *angelo* and malack into their English equivalents. Had the heavenly messengers been called spirits or spiritual beings and the earthly ones by their proper names, it would have saved a vast amount of misunderstanding and prejudice against similar manifestations which are occurring to-day.

Abraham entertained three angels who were so well materialised that they were able to wash their feet, and partook of milk, bread, butter, and meat. Gen. xviii., 1-8. Evidently he mistook them for ordinary travellers. Had they possessed wings he would not have made this mistake.

Were a Spiritualist of to-day to relate that while at a seance he had seen three spirits perform similar feats of materiality, how many Christians would believe him? Can they consistently accept the one and reject the other? This is not the only incident of its kind, for are we not told that Lot entertained two angels unawares, and served them with refreshments? Gen. xix., 1-11.

An angel appeared unto Abraham when he was about to slay his son Isaac and offer him as a burnt offering unto the Lord Yahveh. Gen. xxii., 10-16. This was commanded, it is said, to test Abraham's faith and devotion. But were a Spiritualist to-day to receive such a command to test his faith in his

spirit guide, would it not be condemned as being inhuman and unworthy of any but a spirit of evil?

Jacob, we are told, wrestled with a man (the spirit Yahveh) during the night, and when the day began to dawn the spirit begged of Jacob to let him go, but he would not till he had received a blessing. In consequence his name was changed from Jacob to Israel. Gen. xxxii., 24-28. Here we have the pitiable spectacle of Yahveh, who is represented in the Second Chapter of Genesis as being the creator of the earth and heaven, begging one of his creatures to release him after wrestling for the mastery. What would people say of such an incident if related by a Spiritualist of good standing and well-known veracity? Would he not be looked upon with pity? But apart from the credibility of the incident, it indicates that the writer was fully aware that daylight is inimical to spirit manifestations. Hence the plea to be released when the day began to dawn.

Darkness has often been objected to as being requisite to certain spirit manifestations. Yet we know that Nature demands it in many of her operations, and we have either to comply with her demands or fail in obtaining the desired results.

We should also bear in mind that it was in the night when the manna, "the bread from heaven," fell. Exodus xvi., 13. It was in the night when the miracles were wrought on Gideon's fleece. Judges vi., 37-40. It was in the night when the angel of the Lord slew 185,000 Assyrian soldiers. 2nd Kings, xx., 55. It was in the night when God promised Solomon such extraordinary wisdom. 2nd Chron., i., 17. It was in the night when Moses and Elias appeared unto Jesus. The former had been dead over 1,400 years, and Elias over 700. Luke ix., 28. It was in the night when Jesus walked on the sea. Mark vi., 47 and 48. And it was in the night when Peter was delivered from prison, the chains made to fall off his wrists and ankles, and the heavy prison doors to open, his guards sleeping all the time. Acts xii., 6. Yet no one objects to them.

An angel appeared unto Moses on Mount Horeb, and the bush was not burned by the fire which he saw. Exodus iii., 1-5.

An angel led the children of Israel from Egyptian bondage. It went before them in the form of a pillar of cloud by day, and at night it went behind their camp and gave them light, but it appeared as a cloud of darkness unto the Egyptians, and thus barred their way. Ex. xiv., 19-20.

The angels who are manifesting their presence to-day are doing so in order to lead us out of spiritual darkness and ecclesiastical bondage. Surely this is as worthy an object as that of old, and will have far greater results, as their services are not confined to a chosen few, or race, but to all who have courage to follow. Our old bondmasters may pursue us for fear of losing our services, and perhaps the appearance of the guardian angels may be as a cloud of darkness to them, but to us they are assuredly a guiding star of light illumining our pathway through the desert of forms and creeds into the promised land of spiritual truth and freedom. Lead on, Oh! divine angels, until the weary children of earth reach the promised land!

(To be continued.)

Temperance Page.

THE REFORM PLEDGE

Is against the use of (1) Intoxicants, (2) Tobacco,
(3) Gambling, (4) Profane Language.

ALCOHOL AND HEALTH.

(b) DOES IT STIMULATE? (concluded.)

When we come to treat of the effects which alcohol is definitely understood to produce when administered to healthy persons, we shall perhaps see more clearly how it comes about that this substance so completely fails when used for healthy stimulation. I shall close this section with a brief discussion of the use of alcohol in training and then proceed at once to the important question of nutrition.

Dr. Woodhead has published a very interesting essay on the subject of *Alcohol in Training* and has collated a considerable amount of valuable evidence from British and foreign sources. There is always a pleasure in reading the views held by great athletes as to the best way, in their opinion, to become and keep "fit," and although there is much bickering over details and now and again difference of judgment even in essentials, it is no difficult matter to weigh the evidence and decide upon the course of diet and exercise which will be most likely to give health, vigour and joy, the charms of youth.

Now this is a matter which concerns every one of us. Let it not be thought that because not one in ten men is in the habit of taking violent exercise or breaking athletic records, that the question of a training-diet is one without interest or importance. We owe it as a duty to ourselves, to our nation, and to our Creator, that we should keep ourselves as healthy in mind and body as lies in our power, and we are guilty of wrong-doing if we persist in a course of action or a system of diet which tends to do us bodily harm and reduce our efficiency. A distinguished athlete has set it down that "a man, to be fit, must have every part of his body and brain thoroughly well nourished and working under the most favourable conditions, and this thorough nourishment and these most favourable (normal) conditions I was soon convinced can never be present in those who use alcohol, even in comparatively small quantities. . . . Further, I maintain that what holds good as to training is equally true in regard to our general staying power—a power so essential to success in life's race" Professor Hueppe, of Prague, published in 1903 the result of an investigation as to the views of noted mountain-climbers, which shewed that over 60 per cent. were of the opinion that total abstinence was absolutely essential, a view most heartily shared by the Professor, who himself is a great athlete. It is unnecessary to multiply instances. I would only recall the declaration which Montague Holbein, one of our finest all-round athletes, made four years ago in a popular magazine:—"Before a big swim I try to get my muscles into the pink of condition. . . . I

make only a very slight change in my diet, eat less vegetables and more meat than usual, and I never drink or smoke."

If we wish to be healthy and able to exert ourselves with advantage, there must be tone throughout the system, all that is superfluous and useless must be cleared away, there must be briskness of heart and depth of lung power. And how shall we attain this health which is our heritage if we continue to take that which impairs digestion, hampers the best activity of the tissues and constantly sets up new barriers to the cleansing and purifying of the system? Wherever it goes it poisons, impedes and clogs, and must be removed before its harmful effects can be overcome. With its insidious and enslaving vileness it destroys health, happiness and love; strong men become weaklings to be scoffed at at street corners; intelligent and clever men grovel in the vice it ever brings; there are moans and curses and blood in the froth of a beer-pot and the ruby glow of a wine-cup. We thank God that there are men of high intelligence and station who are convinced that there is no good gained from "moderate" indulgence in alcohol, and we pray that these men will always realise the command they have over public opinion and morals, and hasten the day when Europe shall be freed from the bondage and dread of intemperance.

(c) DIET AND NUTRITION.

A short time after alcohol has been taken the consumer is colder than before the dose; a careful physiological investigation shows at the same time symptoms of incipient starvation. We shall therefore be prepared for the statement that alcohol is not only lacking in the essential qualities of a food, but is moreover an anti-food destroying the conditions brought about by real foods.

The first of these articles was devoted to the demonstration of what should be understood by the term *food*, and it was then pointed out that foods containing carbon, hydrogen and oxygen but no nitrogen, such for instance as sugar and starch, fulfilled three main purposes. In the first place they were assimilated and assisted in the production of fat; they also served, by their oxidation in the body-cells, in the provision of warmth to the body, while finally they found a subsidiary use as *tissue-savers*, i.e., they helped to reduce loss of flesh and muscle and sinew by themselves providing fuel for the bodily fire. Now alcohol contains the same elements as starch and sugar but in different relative proportions, and one might naturally expect to find the same manner of food-value in both but a difference in degree. But here one would be very mistaken. The poisonous ptomaines, which are formed by putrefaction of flesh, are made up of the same elements as wholesome food, and the relation which holds between physiological properties and chemical constitution has not been very exhaustively studied. But even if alcohol could be completely used for producing heat in the body, it has been computed that 15 per cent. of the energy of cane-sugar is lost in making alcohol from it, that is to say, sugar is a better food by that amount than alcohol could be if it acted solely as a heat-producer. Hutchinson in his book, "Food and the Principles of

Dietetics,' also points out that even if alcohol had this value as a food it would nevertheless be most costly, since "even in Bavaria, the land of cheap beer, it has been calculated that alcohol in that, its least expensive form, is eight times dearer than bread, from the point of view of the amount of heat yielded."

This alone should stand as a sufficient argument against the use of alcohol as a food, but much more can be said in answer to those who, too ashamed to admit that they drink for a luxury, claim good and beneficial dietetic effects from the use of strong drink. I am aware that certain physiologists in the past claimed that although alcohol was admittedly poisonous, its harmful effect was more than neutralised by the power it possessed of preserving the tissues from too rapid destruction and by its valuable energising properties. There is nothing left for this argument now but a flat denial on the strength of the work of several English and German physiologists, and notably of Rosemann, Miura and Hopkins. The first named in 1901 published a paper at Bonn in which he shows abnormal loss of nitrogen during assimilation of alcohol, which can only mean *poisoning of the tissues*, while already nine years before, Miura had completely disposed of the food argument by showing that there was a steady breakdown of the tissues and excessive loss of nitrogen all the while that alcohol was administered, even when sugar and starch were being taken at the same time, and that on discontinuing the doses of alcohol the excreted nitrogen went back to its normal amount.

(To be continued.)

ROCHDALE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The Rochdale District Council held their annual meeting at Bury on Saturday, 21st September, 1907. There was a good attendance of delegates. The balance of the Demonstration (£1 8s. 7d., was handed over to the general fund. The prize fund now stands at 15/6. The District Visitor, having given his report, the election of officers took place and resulted as follows:—President, Mr. F. Hepworth; secretary, Mr. G. F. Knott; treasurer, Mr. J. J. Taylor; district visitor, Mr. J. Brown; auditors, Mr. B. Butterworth and Mr. Jas. Nurse. Miss Amy Isherwood, of Regent Hall Lyceum was awarded a prize of 2/6 for her efforts in essay writing. A prize of 2/6 is offered to Lyceumists in the district, under 16 years of age, for the best essay on the subject, "Why should I behave myself in the Lyceum?" A prize of 2/6 is offered for the best essay (confined to Lyceumists over 16 and under 21 years of age) on the subject, "How can we best improve our Lyceums?" Essays to be sent to the Council's secretary not later than the 7th December. Arrangements are being made to enhance the funds of the Council by a concert, to be held in Rochdale. To facilitate the business of the Council, it was decided that "notices of motions be sent to the secretary three weeks prior to the quarterly meetings. The secretary to send an agenda two weeks prior to the meeting to each affiliated Lyceum. Any special business to have the vote of the meeting before being discussed. Lyceums desiring the 1908 demonstration

should make application at the next meeting, which will be held at Crompton Lyceum on Saturday, 14th December. The meeting concluded with votes of thanks to retiring officers and local Lyceum and Society.—G. F. KNOTT, hon. sec., 30, Whitehall Street, Rochdale.

THE BRADFORD LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

We held our quarterly meeting at Westgate New Hall, Bradford. The business meeting was held in the morning, when Mr. Latham (Burnley) gave us valuable advice on "How to work a successful Lyceum District Council, and the duties of its officers, etc." In the afternoon we held an open session, conducted by Mr. Latham. "Open the door for the children" was heartily sung, after which the conductor offered the invocation. Miss Pollard, of Keighley (treasurer of the Council), led the silver chain recitation entitled, "The world would be the better for it." Several Lyceumists took part in the musical reading, "Rest for the weary." Mr. Rau, president of the Council, led the golden chain recitation, "Self-abnegation," and also in the marchings and calisthenics. Mr. Latham then gave a few remarks, and after the singing of "The Lyceum" announced the closing benediction. In the evening addresses were delivered by Messrs. Burchell, Hargreaves, Rau, and Holmes. Miss Pollard ably rendered "The dream of Paradise." The Bradford and District Lyceums have, up to the present time, been in a drowsy state, but now they are waking up to a realisation of their powers, by the use of which I hope for good results in the near future.—H. BIRDSALL, secretary, 62, Dover Street, Bradford.

HALIFAX & HUDDERSFIELD LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The above Council will hold its quarterly meeting at Sowerby Bridge, on Sunday, October 20th, at 10-30 a.m. prompt. Nominations for the office of secretary may be handed in previous to the time of meeting.—GEO. E. BAKER.

THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

Propaganda meetings will be held at the Spiritualists' Hall, Ford Lane, Pendleton, on Sunday, October 13th, 1907, at 3 and 6-30 p.m., when the following members of the Executive Council are expected to address the meetings:—Mr. E. A. Keeling, president; Mr. R. Latham, vice-president; Councillor J. Venables, treasurer; Mesdames Jessie Greenwood, Annie E. Bentley, and Lizzie Nurse; and Messrs. H. A. Kersey, Wm. Johnson, Albert Wilkinson, F. B. Smedley, and J. J. Bennett. Lyceum Sessions will be held at 10-30 and 1-45 in the above hall on the same date. Lyceum hymn sheet, No. 2, will be supplied free of charge. Collections at all meetings to defray expenses.—ALFRED KITSON, general secretary, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury.

The Bluebell Guild.

MY DEAR BLUEBELLS,

I feel very happy in writing to you this month, for, besides my holidays, I have received three letters, each one containing a nice list of names, all desiring to be enrolled members of our Guild. I have been very busy enrolling those 98 new members and making out their membership cards. I do hope all applicants will be as happy in receiving their cards as I have been in preparing them. Oh! it is grand to have so many in one month applying to join our Guild.

But I must not forget my promise to tell you about my holiday. I am pleased to say we had very beautiful weather which felt so nice after our long spell of rain and strong winds.

I helped mother all I could on Friday night to pack up the things that would be required for our visit to the Isle of Man. We were all ready in good time on Saturday morning. Ted didn't ask for an extra half hour in bed, he was up first, bustling about and knocking things over in his haste to be in time. I believe both of us were too full of excitement in anticipation of our journey to eat much breakfast. Mother smiled and put a little extra lunch up for us. Dear, knowing Mother, how thoughtful you were for our comfort.

Of course, Ted occupied a corner seat in the railway carriage and feasted his eyes on the passing scenery till we reached Liverpool. He kept us all alive with his comments on the things he saw.

When we reached the landing stage the boat was waiting and we were soon safely on board and off across the blue waters, watching the receding headlands and admiring the seagulls as they gracefully skimmed the waves, dipping here and there as they saw a bit of food. I do think it is a pity and real cruel to shoot them as some unthinking men do. We were also delighted to watch the passing vessels, with their well-filled sails, gently gliding over the waters, some laden with valuable cargoes of food, timber, mineral and cotton, and some filled with passengers returning from their holiday.

Our journey came to an end at last and I left the boat with a sigh of regret, it had been so delightful sailing on it.

On the Tuesday we got an invitation to visit some friends who had a large farm. They gave Ted and I full permission to go where we liked, and to look at anything we desired. They had cows, horses, sheep, etc. I was most interested in their pet lamb. It would not go with the others, it wanted to be with the dog, and even shared its kennel at nights. It had done a lot of damage to the garden. I was sorry to learn this. We saw the cows milked, and the potatoes dug up and prepared for the market.

I told our kind hostess about our Bluebell Guild, explained its objects, and how many boys and girls had joined it. She was very interested, and hoped many more would do so. She sent her loving greetings to you all, for which I thanked her, as I knew you would be pleased.

That beautiful little spot, resting among the hills, with the sea gently ebbing and flowing at their feet,

made me think how nice it would be to have a Lyceum Home, or a Lyceum Camp there. It could not fail to do all good who had the good fortune to reside in it for a few days or weeks. But the scenery all round this beautiful island make delightful spots for camping. Oh! if I had heaps and heaps of money, how I should like to use it to build and endow a Lyceum Home here by the sea shore, just sufficiently sheltered among the hills and trees to make it always nice and healthy. Oh! if wealthy people only realised what good they could do, what happiness they could give to poor, needy children, I feel sure they would help us.

In closing, I wish to thank Mr. F. Hepworth, of Bury; Miss Nellie Dean, of Pendleton; Mr. H. Bowmer, of Attercliffe, and Miss Alice Mason, of Darnall, Sheffield, for their great interest in our Guild.

Your loving sister,

FLORA BELLE.

LEAF SQUARE, PENDLETON.

2202 Gladys Daniels	2214 Nellie Dean
2203 Doris Dean	2215 Ted Green
2204 Madge Dean	2216 Richad Butler
2205 Edith Daniels	2217 Joe Englehard
2206 Elsie Ohiel	2218 Arthur Boulderstone
2207 Ethel Daniels	2219 Herbert Satterthwaite
2208 Alice Maud Daniels	2220 Stanley Butler
2209 Nellie Burrow	2221 Gilbert Butler
2210 Amy Dean	2222 Albert Farra
2211 Grace Daniels	2223 James Farra
2212 Jessie Lewis	2224 Robert Lewis
2213 Maggie Green	2225 Thomas Lewis

ATTERCLIFFE, SHEFFIELD.

2226 J. K. Jones	2245 William Butler
2227 H. J. Webster	2246 Leonard Grayson
2228 Alfred Green	2247 Harold Grayson
2229 Ernest Green	2248 Blanche Taylor
2230 Florry Green	2249 Samuel Taylor
2231 Harry Stokes	2250 Mary Walker
2232 Fanny Stokes	2251 Thomas Walker
2233 Elsie May Remmington	2252 Anthony Walker
2234 Margaret Wilks	2253 Minnie E. Bowmer
2235 Frank Whiteley	2254 Rosetta Bowmer
2236 Stephen Fulwood	2255 William H. Bowmer
2237 Mabel Webster	2256 Hugh Bowmer
2238 Claris Webster	2257 Reggie Bowmer
2239 Captain Martin	2258 Florence Williams
2240 Minnie Martin	2259 Frederick Williams
2241 Alice Jarvis	2260 James Hurd
2242 Violet Jarvis	2261 Sidney Smith
2243 Arthur Jarvis	2262 George Leslie Lakin
2244 Sydney Jarvis	

DARNALL, SHEFFIELD.

2263 Norah Gibbons	2282 William Elliott
2264 Lizzie Shannon	2283 Robima Elliott
2265 Lizzie Carr	2284 Charles Quantulle
2266 Emily Gledhill	2285 William Quantulle
2267 Gladys Gadd	2286 Clara Hawkins
2268 Alice Gadd	2287 Mabel Hawkins
2269 Alice Mason	2288 Leonard King
2270 Florrie Mason	2289 Charles Suxelby
2271 Violet Stokes	2290 Mabel Symonds
2272 Emma Rhylls	2291 Winifred Symonds
2273 Bertha Burrell	2292 Stanley Adams
2274 Emma Burrell	2293 Grace Adams
2275 Georgie Burrell	2294 Edith Adams
2276 Jessie Heath	2295 Beatrice Adams
2277 Thomas Wilcox	2296 Evelyn Stevens
2278 Horace Salmon	2297 Dora Brown
2279 Enid Salmon	2298 Bertram Gibbons
2280 Edward Salmon	2299 Eva Gibbons
2281 Thomas Elliott	2300 Amy Gibbons

FOUNDED NOVEMBER, 1890, BY J. J. MORSE

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

Transferred to the above Union, as a Free Gift by the Founder, May, 1902.

THE LYCEUM BANNER:

ALFRED KITSON, Editor.

Terms to Lyceums and Societies:

Twelve copies, 10½d.; 18 copies, 1/4; 24 copies, 1/9; 36 copies, 2/7½; 42 copies, 3/-; 48 copies, 3/4. All orders for four dozen copies and upwards are supplied at 10d. per dozen. All parcels sent post free. Accounts due quarterly: March, June, September, and December.

Send your orders not later than the 23rd of each month.

Annual subscription, post free, 1s. 6d. To Canada and the United States, 40c. U.S. currency or postage stamps taken.

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

OCTOBER, 1907.

Lyceum Notes and Comments.

As the Executive Council meeting to be held on October 12th, as per official announcement on another page, will be the last held this year, it is important that those Lyceums who are contemplating applying for membership should do so before the above date, otherwise it seems as if their application must stand over till the next year.

Applications for membership are already to hand from the following Lyceums: Hull (Clarendon-street); Glasgow (New City-road); Hamilton (Burnbank); Rotherham, and Brownhills near Walsall. All the above, but Hull, are newly opened Lyceums.

It is cheering to see such evidence of awakening interest in the Lyceum movement. Spiritualism is something more than phenomena, grand as such is to the mourner, it is educational and reformatory.

I am anticipating some enthusiastic meetings at Ford Lane, Pendleton, on October 13th. A full attendance of the Union's E.C. is expected. Mr. F. B. Smedley is to be presented with a picture containing the portraits of the E.C., to take with him to New Zealand, for where he, along with his wife and family, sails on October 17th.

The educational aspect of our movement is raised this month by two correspondents, to which I beg to call the reader's attention. It may be well to note here the appearance of two young clairvoyants on the public platform. The first is Miss Annie Broadley, of Padiham, whose services on the Hawkshead Hall platform was highly spoken of in the "Ormskirk Advertiser" of August 22nd. The other is Miss Ethel Sidebottom, of Stockton-on-Tees, (see their report.)

The Ulverston Spiritualist Society has decided to open a Lyceum on October 6th. A supply of *Lyceum Manuals*, etc., have been obtained in readiness.

I learn with pleasure that the London, Fulham Spiritualist Society is desirous of starting a Lyceum. Miss Morris, the esteemed conductor of the Battersea Lyceum, kindly took her scholars to Fulham Society on September 15th, to show the people what a Lyceum session is like. Let us sincerely hope that the Fulham friends have fully made up their minds to start a Lyceum without further delay.

The members of the Portsmouth Temple of Spiritualism are desirous of forming a Lyceum. Full instructions have been supplied, let us hope that they too will "open the door for the children," and gently gather them into the Lyceum.

In letters received from Mr. F. Beardsell, and Mr. Wm. Jenkinson, late of Bolton, Bradford-street, but now of Holyoke, Mass., U.S.A., we are pleased to learn they all enjoy good health and eagerly read the LYCEUM BANNER and note with pleasure how the Lyceum cause continues to make headway in England. I shall be glad to learn of their making a start, at an early date, in Holyoke. A "Home Lyceum" for a start might lead to grand results.

The report from Toronto, Canada, shows what can be done by friends going out to foreign countries from our Lyceums. Ever remember "the workers win."

Mr. J. Jones, the energetic conductor of the Southport, Nevill-street Lyceum, has had to remove to Lancaster. Southport's loss is Lancaster's gain, for Mr. Jones is an ardent worker no matter where he may reside.

Another Society and Lyceum has been started in Rotherham, to be known as the Hand-in-Hand Spiritual Evidence Society.

We are very sorry that the Glossop Lyceum has had to close through lack of workers and support. Miss C. Hollingworth has made a brave effort to revive the drooping interest by canvassing the local Spiritualists, but her labours were in vain. It appears the parents have lost confidence in the stability of the Society, which is in a poor condition. So, until there is a revival amongst the Glossop Spiritualists, Miss Hollingworth has decided to attend the Lyceum at Hadfield rather than be deprived of its helpful lessons.

The following "par" on forgiveness will commend itself to our readers. We hope the day is not far distant when such clear and definite teaching will be freely given in both Sunday and week-day schools. Its effect for reformation would be marvellous in ten years' time.

"I do not believe in forgiveness as preached by the church. We do not need the forgiveness of God, but we do need the forgiveness of each other. If I rob a man or a society, and I ask God to forgive me, how does that help those I have robbed? If I, by slander, cover some one with shame and rob them of their good character, which would perhaps be their ruin, and I ask God to forgive me, how does that help those I have injured? Justice demands that we must ask the forgiveness of, and make atonement to those we have wronged, before we ask forgiveness of God. There is no bankruptcy court in heaven in which we may have a portion of our moral debts cancelled. We shall have to pay the full amount. There is no such thing as Jesus having paid our moral debts to allow you and I to go free. As we sow, so shall we reap. Such is God's eternal law of Justice."

MANCHESTER, COLLYHURST. PRESENTATION.

Manchester, Collyhurst. On Sunday afternoon, Sept. 22nd, Mr. Horrocks (Lyceum Conductor) performed the pleasurable duty of presenting Miss E. Rogerson with a ladies' dressing case from the members of this Lyceum, in recognition of her 16 years' valued services as Lyceumist and teacher, Miss Rogerson being obliged to resign her position to attend to home duties. The Conductor, and some of the elder scholars, expressed their regret at losing the presence of such an ardent and constant worker in the Lyceum. "Esther," as she was better known by all our Lyceumists, will be greatly missed by her class of little girls, who looked forward to her coming Sunday after Sunday, and clung round her to show their appreciation of her presence. Miss Rogerson, in accepting the present, said it was a pleasant surprise to her, and sincerely thanked the Lyceumists for their kindness and sympathy which had been shown towards her. She said, "I will keep it and treasure it, and always remember the happy times I have spent with my class and the Lyceumists of Collyhurst, and as soon as opportunity occurs, I shall be pleased to return to my old place." Lyceumists and friends expressed their satisfaction with her promise by a good round of applause.—H. F. BOOTH.

MR. E. A. KEELING IN GLASGOW.

Bath Street, on Sunday, Sept., 15th, held their Lyceum Anniversary Services. The hall was tastefully decorated with flowers. The platform was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Keeling, Messrs. Geo. Young, Stewart, and Campbell. There was an excellent attendance of scholars and friends. The vocal and elocutionary part was well sustained by the scholars. Excellent addresses were delivered by Mr. Geo. Young and Mr. Keeling, which were fully appreciated. There was a fine display of marching and calisthenics under the leadership of Mr. Suddall, jun. Mr. Keeling expressed his great satisfaction with the proficiency that had been attained in the work of the Lyceum. A farewell duet was sung very nicely by Alice and Lizzie Suddall, this being the last occasion on which the Suddall family would be present previous to their departure for America, the occasion was fully taken

advantage of by the various speakers to express their deep appreciation of the wholehearted interest they had taken in the work of the Lyceum, and wished them God speed in their new home. In connection with their departure, a social was held on the 19th inst., when an illuminated address was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Suddall by the association, also an illuminated address to Mr. Robert, Misses Alice and Lizzie Suddall, and also handsome umbrellas. Mrs. Suddall and Mr. Robert Suddall, jun., in expressing their appreciation of the gifts, said they could never forget the happy times spent in the work in Glasgow. The singing of "Auld Lang Syne" brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.—W. G. McPherson, sec.

MANCHESTER & SALFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The above Council held their quarterly meeting on Saturday, September 14th, at Higher Broughton (Hilton Street), Mr. Tinker, president, in the chair. The following Lyceums were represented:—Hilton Street, Cheetham, Collyhurst, Leaf Square, Ford Lane, Harpurhey, and South Manchester. The usual routine of business was gone through, followed by a social; song by Miss Cummings, glees by the Cheetham Hill Lyceumists, and violin solo by Mr. Gamble were all well received, making a most enjoyable evening.—J. C. Chappell, hon. sec., 45, Barrett Street, Old Trafford.

A REAL SOLDIER.

I MEAN to be a soldier grand,
But not with gun or sword in hand;
I'm going to fight 'gainst wicked thought
And angry words so dearly bought.

I do not want a coat of red,
And fight, a comrade's blood to shed,
I'm going to fight temptation strong,
Then I shall sing the victor's song.

I'm going to fight for all that's good,
To fight for *truth* to be understood;
Fight to show unto the world,
The *Lyceum Banner*, free, unfurled.

I'm going to fight each day and hour,
Not wait for bugle, but ask God's power
To help me fight with might and main
All wickedness, all sorrow and pain.

For 'tis the brave and true of heart,
That in life's battles take a part;
Soldiers brave are those that stand
Firm for the truth and the angel-land.

MRS. MOULT, Stockport.

DARWEN.—On Sunday, we held our harvest festival, Mr. Cole, of Middlesbrough, being the speaker, assisted by Mr. Tyrell, of Blackburn, with excellent clairvoyance. The choir rendered special anthems for the occasion. All the items were well rendered. During the evening Mr. M. Harwood presented Mr. J. Nightingale, on behalf of a few of the Lyceum and Society members, with a writing desk as a marriage present, in recognition of his valuable services to the Lyceum and Society. Mr. Nightingale responded, duly thanking his many friends for their kind thoughts towards him.—L. Hewitt, asst. sec.

Correspondence.

DISTRICT VISITORS' REPORTS.

To the Editor of the LYCEUM BANNER.

Dear Sir,—In answer to Mr. A. P. Anyon's letter re District Visitors' Reports, I should like to point out, that what may be a failing on the part of some visitors, does not necessarily follow to be the case with all. Speaking in my own defence as one of those criticised, may I say that, personally, I have never yet held an officer up to ridicule, nor have I in any way ventured to comment in such manner that would have a detrimental effect upon their influence over the members. This statement, I feel sure, will be echoed by others in the same official capacity as myself, and who will, no doubt, be equally anxious to refute the charges that Mr. Anyon has been pleased to suggest to the readers of the BANNER, to be general with us all. I might say that when, on visiting any Lyceum, I find criticism necessary, I always convey it to the officer responsible in private at the close of the session. This mode of procedure, I am sure, if followed out, not in a dictatorial way, but rather in the form of carefully-put suggestion, would meet with general satisfaction. That Mr. Anyon has had every reason for his remarks I do not doubt, and others placed in a similar position would be forced to feel just as indignant. Still I cannot pass over the fact that our critic might have modified his remarks by confining them to those individuals directly responsible instead of treating it as a common practice. I feel sure that visitors generally would not openly parade the failings of any Lyceum officer, and I certainly have yet to see where such criticism on official ability has been made public matter in the BANNER. We are all endeavouring to do our little best in our own respective positions, and this being so, it behoves us to work together just as harmoniously as possible. If criticism be necessary, then let it be tempered with common sense and careful consideration. If visitors would endeavour to make themselves popular with the Lyceums it is their duty to call upon, then it is necessary for them to temper all observation and criticism with the utmost delicacy. To encourage whenever possible, and avoid at all times remarks likely to cause friction and illfeeling. In acting thus, I feel sure our visits, instead of being dreaded, would be looked forward to with pleasure. In conclusion, I should like to add that if there are visitors who are not over particular about hurting the feelings of those officiating where they happen to be visiting, that the time is ripe now to deal with them instead of waiting for the next conference to settle a wrong that calls for immediate attention.

September 18th, 1907.

W. COULTON, D.V.

TRAINING OF LYCEUMISTS.

To the Editor of the LYCEUM BANNER.

In reviewing the Lyceum movement over a period of a quarter of a century, I have of late often asked myself the question, "Has it no other object in view than that of giving a liberal and harmonious education and the physical and mental development, or the

teaching that there is no death?" If so, is this sufficient knowledge for our children of the movement to be able as they grow older to say, "This is why I am a Spiritualist?" I, for one, think not, and before they are able to see that the philosophy as taught in our Lyceums is a fact, they will begin to ask for proof, and will be justified in asking for it. Now, what are our Lyceum conductors and leaders doing in this matter? Are they trying to instil in the minds of the Lyceumists the desire to prove all things (including Spiritualism) for themselves? Do they ever think that the Lyceum should not only be a training school for the physical and mental gifts, but that it should also be essential for us to instil in their minds the need of training and developing their spiritual gifts, or psychic forces, which are better known under the name of "Mediumship?" That it is their duty to try and be of some service to the cause in which the Lyceum stands as the child to the greater movement of Spiritualism? I think they ought at times to try to arrange a series of circles, with one like Mr. J. Taylor (table-medium), for all leaders and the members of the liberty groups. There they will have something by which they may become inspired by the desire to form a liberty group circle, which I consider is something that ought to be a part of every Lyceum's work, a duty not only to themselves, but to the cause. This would be a means whereby the younger ones of our movement may develop into exponents and demonstrators. I have been trying to find out how many Lyceums there are that adopt this liberty group circle, and I can only find two, one of which, I think, has engaged one of the best men in our cause as its leader. The other goes on in its own sweet way as of old, yet we know it has done more for the movement in bringing out speakers than any other Lyceum in the country. If these are the only two in existence they have just cause to be proud of themselves. They are setting an example which others may follow, and which shows there is something wanted. That something is a more fraternal spirit between society and Lyceum, and a better working basis, a desire for one to help the other more than there is at present. There is far too much, "You are only a Lyceumist," or, "You are only a member of the Society," and, "Let each of us go our own way." Rather let it be a cementing of the two in one with the desire to bring out of all the best in all. Let the older ones take a greater interest in the younger, and by giving them the best instruction they can, lead them through a course of lessons, say on mediumship and the spiritual gifts such as we read about in the Lyceum Manual, Nos. 140 and 141, which each one, we are told, possesses in some degree, and so be the means whereby they may in the future become a valuable asset to the movement of spiritualism in the form of speakers. There never was a time in our history when this was more needed than at present for if a society is disappointed through its speaker having been suddenly taken ill the committee and secretary are at their wits end as to who can be got to fill the position. This is not as it should be, they ought to be able to say, well, we are sorry that our speaker has been taken ill, but it will give a few of our Lyceumists an opportunity which may be a blessing in disguise, for

we know they are capable of fulfilling it not only with credit to themselves, but to the movement. This is as it should be, and can be very easily if the conductors, leaders, and committee would unite in their efforts for the general good of the cause. This is easily attainable by a little attention being given to the study of mediumship. This is a question which ought to be foremost in the minds of all leaders in both the Lyceum and Society. Let us therefore, whether as committee or otherwise, try to form at once in every Lyceum in the country a Liberty Group developing circle, each with its own leader making a study of the best means whereby the best results can be obtained, and which may be accomplished. Surely this is not too much to be expected from those who claim to have the best interests of the Lyceum and the movement of Spiritualism at heart.

WILL EDWARDS.

THE BIBLE VERSUS LYCEUMS.

Sir,—I have been thinking much of late as to the right attitude which Lyceums should adopt *re* the Hebrew books known as the Bible. Whilst I do not, in the least, desire to pander to orthodoxy by retaining these books in our spiritualist services, yet all will admit that there is a large amount of good ethical teaching, beautiful poetry, sublime conceptions, and many splendid literary gems scattered throughout its pages.

Its quaint cosmogony; its innocent version of how sin was introduced amongst us; its alleged miracles; its history of the religious development of the Hebrew people—the most ethical and religious of ancient times:—all this, sir, it is most essential that we should know. I ask, therefore, is it good policy to keep our children ignorant of these wonderful literary remains and spiritual aspirations of a still more wonderful race? Ought we not to give them this knowledge, not only for their own spiritual and moral welfare, but also from the theological standpoint, so that they may have at their finger ends the bases of both the Jewish and Christian systems of religion? I certainly think so. This, sir, is altogether apart from the rich mine of spiritualistic phenomena these books contain. I bear in mind the excerpts therefrom contained in our *Lyceum Manual*, but are those excerpts sufficient information relative to writings which drew commendation, even, from that arch agnostic of the 19th century—Professor Huxley?

But there, I must not say more, for I feel that this letter is already getting too long for the limited space at your disposal.

I offer these few remarks for the consideration of our Leaders in our Lyceums.

Yours fraternally,

GEORGE H. BAGULEY.

President, Crewe Spiritualists' Society.

Exercise your choicest gift, which is reason; fear no corruption from truth, though new; and expect no good from error, though long delayed.—A, J. Davis.

The moment we fully and vitally realise who and what we are, we begin to build our own world, even as God builds His.

TORONTO, CANADA.

On Sunday, September 1st, the Lyceum connected with the First Spiritual Temple of Toronto, Canada, held its 1st Anniversary Services in the Douglas Hall. In the morning and afternoon open sessions were held, the afternoon session being conducted by Mrs. Ratcliffe; both sessions were well attended and thoroughly enjoyed. In the evening the Lyceumists rendered the service of song "Abbey Bells." The service was quite a success. Mrs. Hill ably rendered the narrative. Mr. H. W. Brett at the piano. Solo parts were taken by Miss Brooks, late of Heeley Lyceum Sheffield, Miss Tout, of Toronto, and Mr. Parsonson, our Society Secretary, late of Tottenham, London. A list of our officers serves to show how indebted our Lyceum here is to what we are pleased to term our *own* Lyceum at Armley. Conductor, H. W. Brett; Assistant, Mrs. Ratcliffe; Captain of Guards, Mr. Hill; Leader of Marching, Mr. Settle; Leader of Calisthenics, Miss Ada Ingle; all of Armley. With Mr. Parsonson, of Tottenham, Guardian, and Mrs. Tout, of Toronto, Secretary, our first Anniversary was a success in every way. H. WILLIAM BRETT.

In Memoriam.

CROMPTON PROGRESSIVE LYCEUM.—It is with deep regret that I report the passing on of one of our co-workers, Mrs. Dronsfield, on Sept. 1st. She was interred at Crompton Cemetery on Sept. 3rd. Several of the members and Lyceumists attended the funeral, the service of which was conducted by Mrs. Hamer, of Shaw. On the Sunday following a Memorial service was held in the church, many strangers were present, who seemed very interested in a very impressive address, which was also given by Mrs. Hamer. Suitable hymns were rendered by the choir. A beautiful artificial wreath was sent with deep sympathy from the Lyceumists and members of the congregation.

J. LEIGH, Secretary.

The Wolverhampton Society's Lyceum has just sustained the physical loss of one of its brightest scholars, Ellen Victoria Everitt, late of Derby. (Nellie) who was called to the higher life on the 19th inst. at the tender age of 11 years. Mr. Robert Owen, the Lyceum conductor, officiated at the funeral which took place on Thursday. The bearers were Misses Jennings, Whitehouse, Dodd and Davis, all Lyceum leaders. Six of Nellie's fellow scholars, dressed in white, and carrying white flowers, attended to show the respect and esteem in which she was held. At the graveside the hymn "There is no death," was sung. The reading of the burial service, from the National Union's hymn book, was listened to by the numerous assembly with marked attention. The whole ceremony was most beautiful and impressive. On Sunday evening a memorial service was incorporated with the usual one. A vote of sympathy with the bereaved family was moved by Mr. Owen, who said how keenly the Lyceum felt the loss of one who had so endeared herself to them all by her sweet disposition, and loveable nature. This was passed by the audience in silence who rose as a mark of respect.

Signed,

ROBERT OWEN, Conductor, Wolverhampton Lyceum,
445, Dudley Road, Wolverhampton.

DURBAN LYCEUM.

MRS. PLACE-VEARY'S "AT HOME."

It needs a considerable amount of tact and wisdom as well as love for the Children's Cause to maintain a keen interest amongst a large body of young people in Lyceum or any other similar work, and 'Our own Mrs. Veary' possesses all these qualifications in an eminent degree. A most happy thought on her part was to invite all the members of the Durban Lyceum to an "At Home" on Tuesday, the 13th August. Nearly one hundred handsome invitation cards, serving as a souvenir of the occasion, were sent out and about ninety guests assembled at the Norwegian Hall bent upon spending a jolly evening. The children were specially catered for, and the greater part of the evening was taken up in dances and games such as blind man's buff, skipping competitions, potato race, tug of war, etc. Mr. Foster kindly sang two comic songs in character, Henry Murray danced the Highland Fling, and E. Ashdown gave an exhibition of club swinging to the accompaniment of a mouth organ by Master Creek. At the close of the first part, much to her surprise, Mrs. Veary was presented with a hand painted fan and illuminated card by the leaders and liberty group as souvenirs of the happy evening spent, the most enjoyable of all the gatherings of the Lyceum that have taken place. Refreshments were liberally provided, and there were several prizes awarded to winners of the various competitions. It is hoped that the members of the Lyceum will be stimulated to attend more regularly and that the tie which binds them will be more closely drawn.

W. KNOX, Conductor.

HEART SUNSHINE.

CATCH the sunshine of God's gladness
As you pass along through life;
Catch the bright and glittering token
And you'll soon forget the strife:
Look for blessings, not for troubles
If you would the victor be;
If you always look for sunshine,
Happy you will surely be.
When a mist obscures its brightness,
Do not doubt, for it will gain
More and more of glorious beauty,
And be brighter for the rain.
Keep your hearts light and your homes bright—
Bright with precious light and love;
You'll have always glorious sunshine,
The true sunshine of God's love.

MRS. E. K. MORGAN, Walsall.

The tender and human passion in the human heart is too precious a quality to allow it to be hardened or effaced by practices such as we often indulge in.

A thought, good or evil; an act, in time a habit, so runs life's law. What you live in your thought world, that sooner or later, you will find objectified in your life.

LYCEUM REPORTS.

NOTE.—All Reports will be disqualified that do not conform to the following Rules:—

RULE 1.—Reports must be written on one side of the paper only. Commence the Report by stating the name of your Lyceum, and sign your name at the end.

RULE 2.—Record only the events occurring during the present month.

RULE 3.—No Lyceum Report must exceed 120 words.

RULE 4.—All Reports must reach this Office not later than Wednesday, 23rd October, to ensure insertion in the November issue.

ASHTON UNDER-LYNE (Burlington Street).—On Sunday, Sept. 1st, we held our monthly open session. The gold and silver chain recitations and musical readings were well responded to. Marching and calisthenics were fairly good, but would be much more effective if more reverence were exercised during this part of the session. Readings were given by Mrs. France, Hedley Teague and Ogden Wrigley. Recitations by Mr. Mortin, Mabel Simpson and Jane Yates. Also a number of pearls. On Sunday, Sept. 15th, we had a visit of a number of Lyceumists from Chell Street, Longsight, a practice they indulge in very often, and one that ought to commend itself to other Lyceumists. Instead we go our way in life too much alone.—Abraham France, secretary.

BELPER.—On Saturday afternoon, Sept. 7th, we had our annual outing to Whitworth Institute, Darley Dale. The party of 50 left Jubilee Hall in Brakes at 1-15 and journeyed through Matlock and arrived at Darley Dale about 3-30. Boating, swinging and games were indulged in, and a good tea partaken of. We called at Matlock on our way home, it being Fête day we had a splendid view of the illuminations from the brakes. We arrived home about 9-30.—John H. Hawkins.

BIRMINGHAM (Saltley).—On Sept. 1st our Lyceum rendered the Service of Song entitled "Unseen Hands" to a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Burroughs (conductor) was the reader. The solos and duets were ably rendered by Misses D. Chew, E. Price, G. Reaves, C. Burroughs, and Messrs. W. Reaves and F. Chew. On Sept. 8th we had groups. Mr. E. E. Laxton gave a lesson on Marie Corelli's "Romance of Two Worlds." Questions were dealt with at the close. We sincerely thank Mrs. Shergold for taking the children's group. On the 15th we had groups, when Mr. O'Conner gave an interesting lesson on "Heather, and its use in the World," which was well appreciated.—Miss E. Burroughs.

BLACKBURN (St. Peter Street).—I am sorry to report the losing of one of our Lyceum scholars Willie Beardwood, who sailed for America on Tuesday, Sept. 17th. Willie who is accompanying his father, is only 11 years of age, yet he was one of our promising young workers. On Sunday morning, Sept. 15th a presentation took place.

The presents consisted of a book, a writing case, and a gladstone bag, the gift of the Lyceum. The present was thankfully received both by Willie and his parents. Although his new home will be a good few miles from any Lyceum he has got a Lyceum Manual. Our good wishes go with him for every prosperity in his new home.—E. Holding, Secretary.

BIRKENHEAD (Grange Road).—On Saturday, we journeyed to Barnstone Dale by waggonettes, a number of parents joining the children. The morning was very dull and cloudy, but the afternoon was fine and beautiful. The children indulged in games till tea. Afterwards they displayed keen interest in competing for the three prizes offered. We arrived safely home after having spent a most enjoyable day.—John Parry, Sec.

BRADFORD (Ivy Rooms).—The open sessions were held on Sunday, Sept. 1st. Mrs. Beadsworth was the Conductor. Mr. Akeroyd was responsible for the drill and marching which was very good. The following entertaining programme was exceedingly good. Pianoforte selection, Miss Gladis Gray; recitation, "The Day I spent at School," Master G. A. Holbrook; recitation, "Keeping his Word," Miss Elsie Wright; reading, "The Newsboy's Death," Mrs. H. Akeroyd; duet, Misses Daisy Naylor and Lily Akeroyd; reading, "A name in the Sand," by Mrs. Beadsworth. Mrs. France, of Brighouse, gave a short address.—J. Wright, Sec.

BOLTON (Bradford Street).—On Saturday, Sept. 14th, we had our annual outing, journeying by car to Duns-car. The party numbering 120. Tea was provided at the "Bungalow." A football match between married v. single (Lyceumists) took place and a very pleasant time was spent, but owing to darkness intervening we had to leave rather early.—Robert Rostron, Sec.

BRIGHTON (Manchester Street).—Sept. 1st, session well attended. Solos and recitations by Winnie Schofield, Edith Cager, Annie Scoggins and Bertha French. Sept. 4th, first annual outing to Saddlescombe, many friends joining. 65 sat down to tea. Most enjoyable time. Heartiest thanks due to friends for cordial support, and to officers for untiring efforts to make outing a success. Sept. 8th, our enjoyment was added to by the singing of Miss Curry, who rendered two songs in a most pleasing and telling manner. Mrs. Cager and Geo. Curry also contributed. Sept. 15th, visit from Mr. and Mrs. Imison. Mr. Imison spoke encouragingly to the scholars. Songs by Gwennie Leach and Phyllis Thake; recitation, Vida Goodwin.—Frank G. Clarke, Sec.

BURY (off Paradise Street).—Through the efforts of Councillor P. Wallace, of Tottington, and Mr. F. Hepworth, 130 and 80 poor children of Bury and Bolton respectively were conveyed by lorry, bus, etc., on Saturday, to Affetside (a beautiful country village) and provided with a free tea, games, races and dancing. Tottington Prize Band was in attendance at a nominal cost. Thoroughly enjoyed. Sept. 21st, tea and social (Rochdale D.C. Delegates' Annual Meeting). Songs, dancing and games were gleefully accepted and highly appreciated. About 80 persons partook of tea. On Sunday, the 22nd, we had a pleasant reminder in the form of a letter from Messrs. H. Williams and A. E. Kershaw, who have been some six months in America.—Wm. Fletcher, asst. sec.

CROMPTON.—We held a competition, open to all the children, for the best description on "How they spent their Holiday." The judge was Mr. Prince, of Milnrow,

who gave his awards on Sept. 1st as follows:—First prize, Miss E. Taylor; second prize, Miss A. Taylor; third prize, Master Henry Taylor; and fourth prize to Master J. G. Taylor. Our object was to try and induce the children to take a deeper interest in the LYCEUM BANNER'S essays.—James Leigh, secretary.

DEARNLEY.—Sunday, September 1st, was our open session, which we held in the open air in the morning. We had good congregations all day, especially at night, when the scholars went through their marching and exercises. The speaker for the day was Mrs. Ann Taylor, of Rochdale (in place of Mrs. Jessie Greenwood who was unavoidably absent), who gave some good clairvoyance. On Sunday, the 15th, we had our harvest thanksgiving service, conducted by Mr. Kay, of Salford. We had a good display of vegetables, fruit and flowers. The choir rendered the anthem, "Be glad, O! ye lands," the solos being taken by Mr. A. Shore and Miss Eddison, conducted by Mr. Walter Leach.—Thomas Pinchbeck, secretary.

DUNDEE (Barrack Street).—After two months' vacation, we held our re-opening service in the City Assembly Rooms, there being a large number of Lyceumists and visitors present. Also Mr. George P. Young, of Glasgow. Solos and recitations were ably rendered by members of the Lyceum, after which a child was spiritually named by the guides of Mrs. Inglis. On the occasion of her leaving for South Africa, from the Lyceum, she was presented with a basket of flowers, an umbrella and card case, this being prettily done by Marguerite Clark, our youngest member. Mr. Young spoke a few words of comfort to us, which were much appreciated. Mr. Clark, our good conductor, ably presided over the large gathering.—James Inglis, jun., secretary.

GLASGOW.—The Scottish Mediums' Union, whose headquarters are at Clarendon Halls, 251, New City Road, Glasgow, inaugurated a Lyceum on 8th September, at which they had the able assistance of Mr. Robert Sudall, the D.V., and Mr. John M. Stewart, of the Bath Street Lyceum, who initiated the workers into the mysteries of Lyceum methods. On the following Sunday, in addition to the aforesaid able workers, the company was favoured with the presence and cheerful remarks of Mr. Keeling, of Liverpool, who was on duty as representing the Lyceum Union. The work, under the capable and enthusiastic conductorship of Mr. Sneddon, is likely to prove a great boon to the Spiritualists in the district.—J. Sharpe, President Scottish Mediums' Union.

GREAT HARWOOD (off Westwell Street).—We held our open session on Sunday, September 1st. The silver chain was led by Maude Cross, the musical reading was led by Martha Houghton, and the golden chain was led by J. T. Eastwood. Recitations were said by Nora Wrigley, Annie Thornber and Harold A. Eastwood. Singing by Martha Houghton.—H. Waterhouse, secretary.

HAMILTON, BURNBANK.—It is with great pleasure I send our first report in connection with our Lyceum, which we opened some four weeks ago. I am pleased to say the membership is on the increase, so much so that we have been forced to engage a larger hall, and purchase a musical instrument. I desire to thank the Scottish D.V. and the friends he brought from Glasgow to help us to open our Lyceum, and the useful information he gave us regarding the conducting of the same. I learn he is about to sail for America. We wish him 'God speed,' for indeed his heart and soul is in the Lyceum work.—T. Mason, Sec.

HEBDEN BRIDGE (Victoria Hall).—On Sunday, Sept. 15th, we held a flower service sessions in the afternoon at 2.30 till 4.0 in place of the usual afternoon service, conducted by Mr. J. Manning. The following gave recitations: Miss E. Ogden, "Then turn"; Miss J. Slater, "The Mill Girl"; Miss L. Ogden, "Warm with Showers"; Miss L. Slater, "Sage Advice"; Miss G. Thornton, "The Blind Boy"; Miss H. Houlston, "The child's World"; Miss M. Greenwood, vocal solo, "Light"; pianoforte solo, Miss G. Thornton; hymn and chorus, "Sweet golden Age"; hymn, "We all might do Good," little girls. Mrs. Mayo gave a short address on "Ideals." The rostrum both top and front was prettily decorated with flowers and choice fruit.—W. Rawson.

HEYWOOD (William Street).—We held our children's picnic on the 21st Sept., when we paid a visit to Heaton Park, having being supplied by Mr. Pearson with a lorry, in which we seated 32 of our Lyceum children, also a few elders. The day was fine for the occasion. When we got to our destination several games were played by the children, then we had tea together. We had an enjoyable ride home, where we landed about 9.30, all having being well satisfied with the outing. We hope to have many more of the same kind as time goes on.—H. Cloud, Sec.

HYDE (Clarendon Street).—On Sunday, Sept. 15th, we had our harvest festival. There was a splendid show of flowers and fruit. Mr. Aaron Wilkinson was the speaker and clairvoyant. A nice sum was realised by the effort. Saturday, Sept. 21st, we had a social evening. There was a fair attendance and some good talent was procured for the occasion. We were fortunate in having with us an elocutionist of good merit in the person of Mr. Frank Iles, of Denton, who pleased immensely. There were also selections on the gramophone, kindly lent by Mr. Samuel Rylance. Songs by members of the Lyceum, dancing, etc.—Joseph Smith, secretary.

KEIGHLEY (Heber Street).—We held our monthly open session on Sunday, Sept. 8th, when Excelsior Group, boys, were responsible for the programme. Mr. F. Longbottom sung "Asleep in the deep," and "Daddy." Messrs. E. Aked, A. Midgley, E. Longbottom read the readings attached to musical reading. Mr. Haworth, of Rishton, spoke a few words on "Discipline of the Will, Reason and Affection." Mr. Hargreaves, D.V. for B.D.L.C., was also with us. Miss Stair, group leader, conductor.—H. W. Kay, secretary.

LEICESTER (Albion Street).—We had our annual outing on Saturday, Sept. 14th, when we went to Birstal, a pretty little spot, well wooded, and somewhat elevated, commanding a good view of the country for miles around. The day was an ideal one for the occasion. Breathing the fresh air and otherwise revelling in the beauties of nature, the children had games and plenty of racing, with prizes for every one. A good number of friends joined us, and remarked at the close that they hoped to spend another such day on some future occasion. The fresh air and exercise enabled all to do full justice to the refreshments.—Joseph Hurst, conductor.

LEICESTER (Queen Street).—On September 1st the Lyceum gave a service of song, entitled "The strolling player," before a large audience. Miss N. Place, daughter of Mrs. Place-Veary, was the reader. The singing was well rendered by the scholars. Mr. Tye officiated at the piano. I am sorry to add that our Lyceum has lost the services of a very old and valued worker, Mr. C. Welborne,

who has left for Gorton, Manchester. Among the many friends to wish him success was Mr. Shackshaft, Mr. S. Hunter, Mr. W. B. Wright and Mr. W. Chambers. All spoke highly of the services rendered to the Lyceum by Mr. Welborne, after which a small presentation was made to him.—James Bishop, secretary.

LITTLETOWN (Well Street).—On Thursday evening, September 12th, we had a social evening, at which there was a good attendance of scholars. We went through our marchings and calisthenics. We had songs and recitations by our scholars. Mr. Harrison gave a few rambling remarks. We had a very enjoyable evening; the time seemed to fly. When it was closing time some said that we had hardly started.—J. Westcott, secretary.

LIVERPOOL (Mount Pleasant).—On September 15th we held our first Lyceum Sunday. Mrs. A. E. Bentley was our speaker. She conducted the services and her clairvoyance all recognised. Songs and recitations were given by the children. Miss Macadam was our soloist. On Wednesday, the 18th, we had a grand social and our first prize distribution, which proved a red letter day in the history of the above Lyceum. Mrs. Bentley distributed the prizes, and the words of love and encouragement she spoke filled us with the feeling of good will. Will those local mediums who gave private seances in aid of our children's prizes accept thanks from the officers and also to Mr. H. H. Langley for providing us all with flowers.—Madge Parker, secretary.

LONDON (Tottenham).—On September 1st we held our half-yearly election of officers, when Mr. C. Barrington was elected conductor; treasurer, Mr. T. May; secretary, Miss Ada Barnes, along with efficient staff of officers. On September 8th we had a good session. Miss L. Thomas rendered a pianoforte solo, and took part in a duet with Miss E. Barnes. Master Hembrow gave a reading. On the 15th September we had a few new scholars. The marching and calisthenics showed a marked improvement. Readings were given by Master Harold and Miss Kathleen Jones. Solo, Miss P. Cole; pianoforte solo, Miss F. Blake; duet, Misses A. Thomas and A. Barnes.—Miss Ada Barnes, secretary.

MACCLESFIELD (Cumberland Street).—On Sunday, Sept. 15th, we held our harvest festival, our speaker being Mr. Hepworth, of Bury. In the morning we had an open session, there being about 50 present. We had also Mr. Poulton, of Hyde, the District Visitor with us, after the marching and calisthenics he gave some encouraging remarks to the children, and said it was the best Lyceum he had visited. In the afternoon and evening we had special music rendered by a string band of 20 performers, conducted by Mr. T. Albinson (our newly elected Lyceum conductor) which was greatly appreciated. We have been able to form a library exclusively for the use of the Lyceum, through the generosity of Mr. Hayes, prior to him leaving for Canada.—William Albinson, Sec.

MANCHESTER (Maskell Street).—On Sunday, Sept. 15th, we held our 19th Lyceum anniversary. In the morning Mr. Armitage gave an excellent address to the children. In the afternoon service of song conducted by Mr. Brummitt, entitled "Mathew Rogers," Crimean and Indian Mutiny Veteran, being well read and highly appreciated. In the evening the guides of Mr. Armitage answered questions from the audience giving most convincing answers to a large audience. On Monday, Sept. 16th, we had a floral social at which our conductor (Mr.

Braham) presented a gold centre medal on behalf of our Lyceum to Mr. Herbert Porter, one of our officers, who has sailed to Toronto, Canada. He takes with him our best wishes to his new home.—Miss L. Sims, Sec.

MANCHESTER (Princess Hall).—On Sunday, Sept. 15th, we held our anniversary. We had a full Lyceum and several visitors. Recitations were rendered by the Lyceumists. A duet, given by Misses Forrest and Hall, was greatly appreciated, and also a solo by Nellie Robinson. The marching and calisthenics were very good. In the evening we had a full audience, the subject was "Scatter the Seed and the Harvest shall be great," given by Mrs. Gilbert. Miss G. Roberts gave a recitation entitled "Somebody's Mother," and "What can little Children do" was recited by Master N. Fitch. We were favoured with a duet, "Do not Wait," from Misses Hall and Forrest, and a solo, "Sunny Days of Childhood," from Nellie Robinson.—Miss T. Robinson, secretary.

NOTTINGHAM (Gladstone Hall).—On Sept. 8th, open session was held, during which our conductor, Mr. T. Shipley, gave a short but very interesting lecture on "Temperance," which was listened to most attentively. After the singing of a hymn our old friend, Mr. Masters, talked to us on "Home, Sweet Home," during which he referred to kindness to animals, and temperance, asking the children if they remembered his old text, to which they responded with "Where there's drink there's danger," showing that they do not forget what is taught them, and are all pleased to let him know how they appreciate him and his addresses.—Miss E. H. Yates, sec.

SEACOMBE AND EGREMONT.—We held our first annual picnic at Barnston (a charming little place in Cheshire) on Saturday, Sept. 14th, a fair number of friends and members accompanying the children. The morning broke dull and cloudy, but as the day advanced the sun shone with the brilliancy of a bright summer's day. Great interest was shown by the children in competing for the prizes. Games were indulged in by both young and old. Lunch and tea was provided, which was enjoyed by all. We beg to thank those friends and members who so kindly subscribed towards the picnic. We arrived home in good time, everyone having spent a very enjoyable day.—H. Williams, secretary.

SHEFFIELD (Attercliffe).—On September 1st Mr. Green, conductor, opened the session, and the marching and calisthenics was gone through to the admiration of the officers present. "The noble boy" was well recited by Captain Martin. A paper was read to the Group by David Wilks, on "God's love to humanity," which was well appreciated. On September 8th Mr. Hepworth, of Bury, attended the session and pointed out the good that was being accomplished by the Bluebell Guild, and hoped the Lyceum at Attercliffe would not be behind in this matter. On September 19th the mortal remains of our arisen brother and co-worker, George Pool, was interred at Tinsley Park Cemetery. J. K. Jones officiated, many Lyceumists joining in the procession of members and friends.—H. Bowmer, secretary.

SHEFFIELD (Darnall).—On September 8th Mr. Frank Hepworth, of Bury, paid us a visit at the afternoon session, when he spoke kindly and encouragingly to all, interesting the children very much by earnestly advocating the Lyceum Guild, asking them to join, the result being

37 Lyceumists are anxious to be enrolled. Although we only opened our Lyceum in January it is making steady progress.—Miss Alice Mason, secretary.

SOUTHPORT (Hawkshead Hall).—On the 1st inst we received an official visit from Mr. R. A. Owen (D.V.), who delivered a vigorous address on Lyceum work in general. Miss Lizzie Bilton recited in her usual pleasing manner. Picnic—An agreeable time was spent by the scholars and friends of the Hawkshead Hall Lyceum on Wednesday. The rendezvous was Parbold. Splendid weather prevailed, and tea was provided by Mrs. Blacow at the Coronation Tea Rooms, where upwards of 30 enjoyed an excellent repast provided by the officers of the Lyceum.—Miss Elsie Gage, secretary.

SOUTH SHIELDS (King Street).—Our anniversary on Sept. 8th, was a great success. By special request we repeated the entertainment on the following day. Everything turned out beyond our highest anticipation. Mrs. Thurwell was the speaker, and was warmly applauded for her remarks. During the day about thirty children individually took part in giving recitations, hymns, solos, &c., being highly satisfactory to all present. At the close of the proceedings, Mr. Humfress moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Lawrence for the able manner in which he had trained the children and conducted the proceedings. In responding, Mr. Lawrence thanked them for their cordial vote of thanks, and paid a tribute to the valuable assistance he had received from his brother officers.—Thomas James, secretary.

SOUTH SHIELDS (Robinson Street).—On Sept. 8th, we held our session in the new Mission Room, which is much larger and healthier, and every way better adapted for Lyceum work than our other room was. Our marching and calisthenics will have more room for display and execution. I trust our efforts in our new hall will continue to be marked with progress, and that success will crown our efforts in the future as in the past.—Robert Humes, secretary.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES (Silver Street).—On Sunday, Sept. 15th, we held our anniversary and harvest festival. The church was beautifully decorated for the occasion. Our open session in the afternoon was well attended by friends and strangers, who were delighted, and helped liberally. In the evening the church was crowded. We had a large and varied programme of items by Lyceumists, all well rendered. Clairvoyance was given by a girl aged 13, Ethel Sidebottom, who was well received. A child was named, Stanley Williams, spirit name, Onward. The ceremony was performed by our conductor, Mr. Harrison, who also ably conducted the services of the day. On the 17th, prizes were awarded to 27 Lyceumists.—Richelieu Brown, secretary.

TODMORDEN.—At our usual monthly open session the following programme was gone through:—Recitations, "Three Words of Strength," Master Ben Pellow; "My Native Land," Miss C. Johnson; "Phyllis and the Golden Rule," Miss S. A. Stephenson. Duet, Masters W. Sutcliffe and F. Johnson. Dialogue, "The Presence of Angels," Misses B. A. Crossley and M. A. Sutcliffe. Recitation, "Nine Questions," Mr. W. J. Braund. Short speech by the conductor, Mr. J. A. Greenwood. Speech by Mr. Newby, of Oldham, who gave a short review of Service of Song which he had conducted on the previous Sunday.—Geo. Crossley, sec. A. Emmett, asst. sec.

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

INSTITUTED AT OLDHAM, MAY, 1890.

Secretary: Mr. Alfred Kitson, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, near Dewsbury.

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

- Accrington**, Argyle st., 10-30 a.m., J. T. Hibbert, 181 Burnley road
 ,, China-st., at 10 a.m., Mr J. F. Shuttleworth, 1 Lion-st., Church
 ,, Carter-st., 10-30, G. R. Sutcliffe, 60, Pendle street
- Altrincham**, Station rd., 2-30 p.m., Mr. J. Bardsley, 1, Daisy Bank, Bloomsbury Lane, Timperley
- Armley**, Theaker lane, 10 a.m., Mr. S. Lee, 12, Paisley-st, Armley, Leeds
- Ashington Colliery**, 2 p.m., Mr. C. Smith, 35 Roslynd terrace, Hirst, via Morpeth
- Ashton-under-Lyne**, Burlington street, 10-30, Mr. A. France, 174 Margaret street
- Bacup**, Market street, 10 a.m. and 1-45 p.m., Mr. B. J. Riding, 151a, Rochdale road
- Barnoldswick**, Green street, 10-30 and 1-30, Miss N. Pickering, 4 Sturart-st.
- Barnoldswick**, Market-st, 10 & 1-30, Richard Ashley, 10, Powell-st.
- Barnsley**, George Yard, 10-30 a.m., and 2 p.m., Mr C. H. Scholey, 26 Blenheim road
- Barrow-in-Furness**, Lyceum Hall, Mr. J. Kendall, 25, Osborne st.
- Barrow-in-Furness**, Berry's Buildings, 10 and 2, Miss Ada Lawton, 16, Dalkeith-st.
- Barry Dock**, Newland-street, 2-30, Mr. E. Brittan, 117, Woodland-rd.
- Batley Carr**, Carr st. 10 and 2, Miss Ethel Myers, 15 Cross Mount-st, Warwick-rd, Batley
- Belper**, Jubilee hall, 10 and 2, Mr. J. Hawkins, Brook side.
- Birkenhead**, 161 Grange road, 11 a.m., Mr. John Parry, 42 Frodsham street, Tranmere
- Birmingham**, Salthay, Spiritualists Society 2-45 p.m. Miss J. Reeves, 3 Marlborough-place, Mount-st, Nechells
 ,, B.S.U., 11 a.m., County Chambers, Martineau Street. Miss F. Davis, 77 Murdock road, Handsworth
 ,, Smethwick, Central hall, cape hill 2-45, p.m., Mr. Fred Purcell, 97, Cheshire-road
- Blackburn**, St. Peter st, 9-30 and 1-45, Mr. E. Holding, 46 Sandon street
 ,, Northgate, 9-30 1-45 Mr. R. Sharples, 7, Mary Ann st.
- Blackpool**, Albert rd, 9-30, Mr. Wm. Critchlow, 69 Albert road
- Bolton**, Bradford st., 10 a.m. Mr. R. Rastron, 32 Philip street
- Bradford**, Ivy Rooms, 10-30 a.m., Mr. J. Wright, 10 Agar terrace, Girlington
 ,, Otley rd., 10-30 a.m., Miss Edith Flatts, 47 Aire-dale road
 ,, Westgate new hall 10 a.m., Mr. J. Burchell, 65, Girlington road
 ,, Dudley Hill, Shirley-road, 10 and 1-45, Mr. Richard Platts, Dawson mount, Dawson lane, Dudley Hill
- Brighouse**, Martin st, 10 a.m., Mr. George Crowther, 19, Piggott-st.
- Brighton**, Manchester-st., 2-45, Mr. F. G. Clarke, 9, St. Margaret s-place
- Burnley**, Hammerton st, 10 a.m., Mr. Lawrence Tattersall, 24 Hornby-st
- Burnley**, Fulledge, Richard st, 10 a.m., Miss J. Cooper, 18, Sussex-st.
- Burnley**, North st, 9-30, Mr. Herbert E. Laycock, 16, Renshaw street.
- Burton-on-Trent**, Hurninglow Wharf, 10 & 2-45, Mr. George Forrester, 54 Gordon street
- Bury**, Paradise st., 10 a.m. and 1-45, Mr. F. Hepworth, 2a Cateaton-st.,
- Cardiff**, 53, Queen-st., 2-45 p.m., Mr. F. Silby, 75 Clive road, Canton
- Castleford**, Britten hall, 10 a.m., Mr. A. Atack, 100, Hugh street, Beacroft road
- Chester**, 85 Brook street, 10-30. Mr. Arthur B. Priddey, 25 Seller street
- Chesterfield**, Old Falcon Assembly Rooms, 10-30, Mr. J. Martin, 16, Valley-road, Spittal
- Clayton-le-Moors**, 10 a.m., Mr. James Simpson, 80, Pickup-st., near Accrington
- Cleckheaton**, Old Robin-st., 10-30 a.m., Mr. B. Walshaw, Listing Lane Cottages, Gomersal, near Leeds
- Colne**, Cloth hall, 9-30, E. Hargreaves, 28, Patten street
- Crewe**, Mill-st., 10-30. Hy. Walker, 26, Stamford avenue
- Crompton**, near Oldham, Rochdale-rd., 10 a.m., and 2-15, Mr. James Leigh, 4, Broadbent, off Manchester road, Shaw, near Oldham
- Darwen**, Church bank-st, 9-30, & 1-45, Mr. J. Clarkson, 116 Elizabeth-terrace, Red Earth-rd.
- Dearley** near Rochdale, 10 Mr. Thos. Pinchbeck, 555 Halifax road, near Rochdale
- Derby**, Traffic st., 10-30 Mr. Arthur R. Sleigh, 24 St. Giles road
- Dewsbury**, Bond st. 10 and 1-45, Miss C. Falla, 96, Upper-rd., Batley Carr, Batley
- Doncaster**, 11, Wood-st., 10-30 a.m., Mr. A. Bates, 12, Belmont Avenue, Balley
 ,, Netherhall Road, 10-30, Mr. A. R. Harrison, Carr view, Green Dyke lane
- Dukinfield**, Railway st., 10-30, Geo. Ellis, 26 Portland place, Portland st., Ashton-u-Lyne
- Dundee**, Camperdown Hall, Barrack st., 12-30, Mr. J. Inglis, jr., 22 Dundonald st., Clepington
- Dundee**, Foresters' Hall, 12-20, Mr. George Duff, c/o Mr. Thallon, 44 Calderum street
- Edinburgh**, Queen-st., 2-30, Mr. J. Lewington, 22, West Saville Terrace
- Elland**, James st., 10, Miss M. A. Marsden, 82 Longdale-street
- Falkirk, N.B.**, Co-op. Hall, 1 p.m. Mr. C. H. Wann, 7, Glebe st.
- Gateshead**, Cotsworth rd., Beaconsfield Hall, 2-30 p.m., Mr. Wm. Hall, 34, Balfour-st, Bensham
- Glasgow**, Assembly Rooms, 136, Bath st., 4 p.m., Mr. W. G. McPherson, 10, George Drive, Govan
- Great Harwood**, Westwell-st., 10 a.m., Mr. Hy. Waterhouse, 55 Church street
- Greenock**, Cathcart-st., Shepherds Ha l, 4-30 p.m., Mr. Alex. Peacock, 71, Ann street
- Grimsbury**, Miss Daisy Scott, 94, Stan ey-st., New Clec
- Hadfield**, Albert-st., 10-30 a.m., Mr. Philip Bealey, 6, Wesley street.
- Halifax**, St. Paul's, Alma st., 10 and 1-45, Mr. Fred Townsend, 4 Green terrace sq., Savile Park
 ,, Raven-st, 10 and 1-30, Mr. J. Whiteley, 6, Cromwell-st
- Hebden Bridge**, Victoria Hall, 10-30 a.m. and 1-45 p.m. Mr. W. Rawson, Post Office, Mytholmroyd, S.O., Yorks.
- Heckmondwike**, Tower-st., 10-30 and 2, Mr. W. R. Lunn, 3, Commercial-st.
- Heywood**, William st., 10 a.m., Mr. Herbert Cload, Holland street, off William street
- Higher Broughton, Salford**, Hilton st, 10-30 and 2, Mr. J. R. Henshall, Hilton street
- Hindley**, Bridge-st., 10 a.m., Mr. J. H. Hutchins, 5, Hill st.
- Hollinwood**, Byron-st., 10-30, Mr. Fred Snape, 91, Chapel-rd., nr. Oldham.
- Horwich, nr. Bolton**, Beatrice st, 10-30, Mr. D. Emsall, 4 Abraham st.
- Huddersfield**, Ramsden st., 10, Mr. A. Jagger, 8, School-st., Mold Green
 ,, St. Peter st., 10-15, Mr. Wallis, 43, Clara st., Fartown
- Hull**, Lime-st 10 a.m. Miss Ethel Wright, 122, Severn-st.
- Hyde** Clarendon-st 10 a.m., Mr. Joseph Smith, 97 Kynder street, Denton, Manchester
- Idle**, Back Lane, 10-30 & 2-9, Mrs. M. J. Whitworth, 151, Bolton Hall rd, Bolton Woods, nr. Bradford.
- Johannesburg**, Mr. Joseph Horne, P.O. Box 6209, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- Keighley**, Heber st., 10 and 1-30, Mr. Horace W. Kay, 54 Cavendish street
- Lancaster**, Athenæum st. St. Leonards gate 10-30 Mr. A. H. Dawes, 31 Sterling rd., Moorlands.
- Leeds**, Bethel st, 10 a.m., Mr. Piliun Duxbury, 11 Crow Nest lane, Beeston, Leeds
 ,, Psychological hall, Grove house lane, 10-30, Mr Wm. Barnes, 23 Ashton street, Harehills road
 ,, Joseph-st, 10-30 and 1-45, Miss Alice Hesp, 33, Sunbeam-st., Beeston Hill, Leeds.
 ,, Hunslet, Church-st, 10-30. Miss Warburton, 3, Branding-st., Hunslet.
- Leicester**, Queen st., 10-30 Mr. James Bishop 10, Mere rd
 ,, Albion-st, 10 and 2-45 p.m. Mr. J. Hurst, 36 Jermyn street, Belgrave
- Leigh**, Brown-st., 10-30. Mr. G. Woodward, 22 Poets nook
- Lincoln**, Exchange Arcade, 10-30, Mr. Fred Nicholson, 45, Waterside North
- Littleton**, Well-st., 10 and 2, Mr. J. Westcott, Benjamin street, Union road, near Liversedge
- Liverpool**, Mount Pleasant, 2-45, Mrs. Madge Parker, 2 Spofforth road, Edge Hill
 ,, Daulby hall, Daulby st., 10-30 a.m., Mr. E. Clarke, 16, Watford road, Anfield
- London**, Battersea park, Mrs Bolton, 35 Beauchamp-road, Lavender Hill, S.W.
- London**, Clapham, Gauden-rd., 11-30, Mr. H. Boddington, c/o Assembly Rooms, Gauden-rd., Clapham.
- London**, Manor Park, Wakefield-street, East Ham, 3-15 p.m., Mr. T. Glennie, 48 Ruskin-avenue, Manor Park, Essex
- London, W.** 110 High road, Chiswick, 2-45, Miss B. Imison, 165 St. Albans Avenue, Bedford Park, W.
- London**, Tottenham, 193, High-rd, 3 p.m., Miss Ada Barnes, 2 Laurel villas, Felixstow, Lr. Edmonton
- Longton**, Stone-road, 10 and 2, Mr. H' McCartney, 12, Littleshall-st., Florence.
- Macclesfield**, Cumberland street, 10 a.m., Mr. Wm. Albinson, 5 Bond street
- Manchester**, Cheetham, Halliwell lane, 10-30, Mr. Albert L. Williams, 86, Bellott st., Cheetham
- Manchester**, Collyhurst, 10, Mr. Arthur P. Anyon, 38, Thornton-st., Collyhurst
- Manchester**, Junction St Hulme, 10-30 and 2-30, Mr. Geo. Vernon, 73, Mytton st Hulme
- Manchester**, Harpurhey, 10 a.m., Mr. T. Edmondson, 13, Wellington rd., Crumpsall.
 ,, Higher Openshaw, Beaulth st., 2-30 p.m., Mr. Wm. T. Weitzel, 90, Church lane, Gorton
 ,, Longsight, Chell-st., 2-30, Mr. Charles Fox, 21 Peacock Grove, Gorton.
 ,, 38, Maskell-st., C. on M. 10-30 Miss L. Simms, 96, Cranworth-st, C. on M.
- Manchester** South, Princess Hall, Princess rd, 2-30 p.m., Miss T. Robinsen, 11 Wellington avenue, Whalley Range
- Manchester**, West Gorton, William-st, 2-30 Mr. Noel Pearson, 7 Bunyon st., Ardwick
- Middleton**, nr. Manchester, Gilmour st. 10-15 J. R. Dooley, 371, Oldham-rd.
- Middlesbro'** Grange rd, 10 a.m., Mr. W. Cowell-Pugh, 61, St. Paul s-rd.
- Millom**, Main-st., 10 and 2, Mr. Wm. Tyson, 5 Kathrine street
- Morley**, Fountain-st., 10 a.m., Mr. Herbert A. Hill, 2, Tomlinson Buildings, High Street.
- Motherwell**, Park-st., Socialist Institute, 3 p.m. Mr. Jas. Porteous, c/o Mrs. Cutler, 4 Flemington street, Flemington
- Nelson**, Every st., 10 a.m. Mrs. H. Stables, 5, Hammond street, Wolverden
- Newcastle** Northumberland hall, High Friar-st. 2-30, Mr. Albert Brown, 32 Polmaise street, Blaydon-on-Tyne
- Newcastle**, Benwell Co-op. Hall, 2-30, Mr. Frank E. Brittain, 3 Victoria street, Newcastle
 ,, Benwell, Atkinson rd, 2-30, Mr. J. W. Londrom, 114, Ethel st., Benwell
 ,, Heaton Spiritual Institute, Mr. A. N. Gay, 112 Tynemouth road, Heaton, near Newcastle
- New Hirst**, Ashington, Miners Hall, 2 p.m., Mr. Ronald Johnstone, 11, Clyde-st., Hirst.
- Nottingham** Gladston hall 2-30, Miss E H Yates, 51 Brook Oak street
- Nottingham**, Hyson Green, Hawarden-ter., 10-30, and 2 to 3, Mrs. E Gratton, 206 Alfreton road
 ,, Mechanics' hall, 2-30 Mr. Lewis Cooke, 195 Wollaton-st
 ,, Parliament Street, 10-30, Mr. Joseph E. Lister, 1 Lake street, Hyson Green
- Oldham**, Coronation st., 10 a.m., Mr. T. Whitehead, 8, Swinton street, Glodwick
- Oldham**, Elliott st, Lower Moor, Mr. John Frost, 203, Rochdale road
- Padiham**, Ightenhill-st., 10 a.m. J. W. Hoole, 83, Lowerhouse lane
- Parkgate**, Ashwood-rd., 10 a.m., Mrs. Frances Hague, 48, France-st., near Rotherham
- Pendleton**, Broad-st., Leaf-square, 10-30, Miss Nellie Dean, 15 Sedan st., Clarendon rd., Salford
- Pendleton**, Junction : Ford Lane and Broad-st. 10-30 and 1-45, Mr. J. Kenyon, 279 Broad street, Pendleton
- Preston**, Walker-st., 10 a.m., and 2 p.m, Mr. C. Fisher, 27, Ashton-st.
- Rawtenstall** Back ormerod st., 10-15 to 11-45, Mr. Geo. Henry Foster, 17 Haslam street
- Rishton**, 10 a.m., Mr. J. English, c/o Mrs. Rhodes, 9 Walmsley street, near Blackburn
- Rochdale** Regent hall, Regent st., 9-45 & 2 p.m., Mr. J. J. Farrow, 67 Grouse street
 ,, Penn st, 10 a.m. Mr. Wm. Brown, 7 Grafton st
- Rotherham**, Howard-st., Mr. John Hy. Barker, 21 Bridgegate
- Rothwell nr. Leeds**, Commercial-st., 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Mr. Ernest Heaton, Cross-st.
- Royton**, Union st., 10 a.m., Mr. J. N. Cockcroft, 5 Ratcliffe street, nr. Oldham.
- Salford**, Chapel st., 10-30, Mr. Harold O'Neill, 11 Sligo street, Pendleton.
- Scarborough**, North st., 10-30, Mr. V. Davison, 5, St. John-st
- Seacombe & Egremont**, Brighton street, 2-30, Mr. H. Williams, 20 Edith road
- Sheffield**, Central Paradise square, 9-45, S. Beedham, 17, Wath road.
- Sheffield** Attercliffe, 10 a.m. Mr. H. Bowmer, 264, Newhall-rd., Attercliffe
- Sheffield**, 111, Staniforth road, 9-45 and 2, Miss A. Mason, 240 Alfred road
- Sheffield**, Heeley, 379, Bramhall lane, 10 a.m. Mr. C. Baines, 27 Abbeydale road