

THE LYCEUM BANNER

A SPIRITUALIST MAGAZINE FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

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

VOL. XXII. No. 255.

APRIL, 1912.

ONE PENNY.

INTUITION.

By Mrs. FRANCES KINGMAN.

CHAPTER V (Continued).

"One more question, please, then I will not ask you to talk any more to-night. Please let's put the catechism away. I never liked it; and I *will* believe mother, father, and Johnny can grow better in the spirit world. I will never, never believe again they are burning in fire, or that the wicked must remain so forever and ever. My question is: 'Do you believe God told men what to write in the Bible?' It is said they were inspired of God."

"Yes, dear," I answered, "every soul is of God, and all *truth* is inspired. Whatever of *truth* we read from those writers, receive and cherish. You know I have found *through* studying books on Geology that many of the statements in the Bible about the creation of the earth, etc., are not correct; but that does not condemn the whole Bible. God is inspiring men and women in the present age as well as He did in the past. Inspiration has never closed and sealed its books. It goes hand in hand with man's progression. Souls thirsting for truth ever drink of the waters of life. So, dear, remember, 'Give us this day our daily bread,' also means Give us truth and spiritual light for our daily need. Have faith, darling, for under the ice runs clear water; above the dark clouds the sun shines warm and bright; beneath the snow nestles the snowdrop and anemone; and near you and me an angel of light waits our believing and striving for inward peace."

"Oh! Mrs. Blake, that makes me feel every minute better and better. I can *love* God now, instead of dreading Him. To-night I shall pray to Him. I have not obeyed you before because I did not care whether I went to heaven or —" She did not finish, but threw her arms around my neck, kissing me ardently, then, being too full of gratitude to thank me for the light and help she had received, she whispered a sweet "Good-night," and I listened to the sound of her footsteps going up the stairs.

A sweet, inward calm possessed me. I was deeply grateful to my angel inspirers to have been able to give comfort and joy to my young charge. I had forgot all earthly things. I had purified my inner being by prayer for spiritual influx. I remembered that it is not for money, position, power, or favour we have our probation here, but for the preparation of the true life which is to come.

The opening of the inner sense is no miracle; it is the progress of spiritual development. Making God and angels unreal beings has been the fault of the past; and our vital relations to those gone before have been misunderstood and neglected.

Revelation from the inner realm has never ceased and never will—this intuitive revelation comes alike to savage and civilized people as they are able and willing to receive it, telling of a God and immortality. God is LOVE, and all true love is of God, it is the corner-stone on which the structure of all happiness rests; as we receive this divine love it gives us an irrepressible desire to bestow it upon those who are in need and capable of receiving it. The more we love God, the less we love ourselves, and are able to rise above the selfish animal instincts to a state of self-forgetting purity, we walk in a sweet radiance of heavenly light, and judge of all things by spiritual instinct or intuition. The light being revealed to us we understand God's goodness, justice, and love; and death becomes a doorway to the better apartment, and we have sweet communion with those we love.

CHAPTER VI.

Mrs. Holt has been over to-day, really in trouble about Lizzie. Her mother says she can have no influence with her concerning religion, and never could have; the more you talk to her of future punishment, the more careless she becomes.

I asked, "What does she do that is naughty?"

"Oh!" replied the mother with a sigh, "she mortifies me to death. Our minister took his tea with us last evening, and what do you suppose she said after his prayers?"

I answered that I could not guess.

"Well," continued Mrs. Holt, "he prayed for the orphan and widow. When the prayer was ended she stood in front of him and said, 'Isn't Dicky an orphan, Mr. Blaisdell?' You know, Mrs. Blake, Dicky is the name of the boy they have adopted. The minister answered, 'Yes, dear.' Then, said Lizzie, 'why don't you give him enough to eat, and not make him work so hard?' I thought I should die with shame and told her I would whip her severely; but instead of being frightened, she said, 'I don't like praying and preaching people who don't do what they pray for.' I took hold of her and gave her a shaking. Then she turned on me, saying impudently, 'You know it is so, mother—you know Dicky doesn't have enough to eat—you know *you* said so, and so did father; and you know Deacon Gurney stole wood; and Miss Green told lies about her bonnet; and sometimes I was afraid to give Dicky a biscuit when he looked at them so longingly, because Mr. Blaisdell might find it out and be vexed.' Oh, I was vexed. And Mr. Blaisdell said that no doubt someone had been talking to the child, and naturally tried to turn it off with a laugh. Mrs. Blake, what shall I have to do with her?"

I asked what bad traits she had about her.

"None, except she is so outspoken, and says such strange things. I tried after the minister had gone to show her how bad mannered she was to speak as she had done to the minister. She said, 'I don't want to make you cry, mother, and I don't care

whether the minister likes me or not, so long as he starves poor orphan Dick Welch half to death, then comes here praying for such like.' I told her God would punish her terribly for saying such things. She just turned her head and said, 'I'll risk it.' I then told her she would never be an angel, with beautiful white wings, and she said, 'I don't want any wings—they would be in the way; besides. I haven't any wings here, and don't believe I shall have there. I shouldn't know how to use them.' Then I told her I was afraid she must go to the dreadful place where sinners go, but it had no effect on her, for she said, 'I ain't afraid, I don't tell lies, nor steal, nor quarrel, nor starve anybody, nor make believe to be a Christian, nor steal dead people's things before they are buried.' 'Who did steal them?' I asked. 'Miss Grant stole all her sister's clothes before she was buried, Jessy told me so, and her grandmother cried awfully over it, and she says Miss Grant is a church member. Neither Jessy nor I do such things, and we believe God loves us, and we love God, and we are never going to be Church members, neither, because they act so. And I ain't afraid of no fire nor brimstone. Cutty Stone believes her mother and father are miserable, and she cries about it, and says she just as lief go to hell as not. And I told her I didn't believe God has got a hell of fire—and I don't.'"

This was not the half of Mrs. Holt's trouble. I tried to comfort her to the best of my ability. But I was pleased, for the child's sake, that her life was not blighted with the teachings of total depravity as Cutty's had been.

During the day Cutty went with me to Cecil's grave. I carried some lovely flowers, and asked her to help me arrange them on his grave.

For the first time she ventured to speak when I was talking to him, as is my custom.

"Mrs. Blake, do you really think Cecil sees his grave and you here placing the flowers?"

"Yes, dear, I do, I feel his presence."

"Do you mean that he is here?"

"Yes, dear." She looked upward, and I said, "Not up there, but here, close besides me."

"Oh, Mrs. Blake! tell me, oh, tell me, what he is like! Oh! I cannot believe it."

Her last words rang out like the plaintive wail of a lost soul. Is there a *lost* soul? No, not while God is Love. Thinking I might receive more of the Divine influx that emanates from the Deity to angels, and angels to mortals, by Cecil's grave, I answered her questions. She listened enrapt, enhalloved by the golden radiance of her girlhood; each word I uttered seemed to dispel and startle from its long rest her educational prejudices. She placed her hands to her forehead, pressing it hard. Then she said:

"I cannot understand this spiritual body. What is it? Do tell me, Mrs. Blake!"

"The external body, dear, is not the real man, woman, or child; it is only the recipient of the indwelling soul. Between the soul and the body there exists an intermediate body which we call the spiritual body. Paul says 'There is a natural body and there is a spiritual body.' Our natural body is without feeling after death. Why? Because the spiritual body containing the soul has withdrawn from it. Death has no power over the spiritual body, nor has the grave. It is not the soul that feels when we prick ourselves with a pin; it is not the soul that receives

that peculiar sensation from a fall. What is it then? It is the intermediate something which we call the spiritual body."

"But it is the soul that feels, Mrs. Blake."

"No, dear; the soul only feels the emotions of mind—love, hate, hope and fear. There is something that feels pain—pricks and burns. When any part of the physical body is removed, there remains a something which answers to the rest. My cousin Amos lost an arm. How many times he has said to me, 'Oh, Anne! how my arm aches!' I used to laugh and tell him he only imagined it ached, but he would answer, 'no, it does ache badly.' Well, Cutty, there is the spiritual body, I believe, which cannot be destroyed by carrying away the earthly body. The spiritual part of the arm remains answering to the whole."

"Oh," she exclaimed, "I think I see your meaning. Take a pin and prick all over the body—the fingers, toes, arms, legs, and head, and it is all alive with pain; now if that which feels the pain could only get away from the body it would be the spiritual body, and when the physical body dies, the soul takes this spiritual body away with it; they cannot be separated. Oh, I see!"

"Yes, dear, I am pleased you understand."

"Yes, dear Mrs. Blake, I understand, and oh, how glad I am, it gives me such a good idea of form also."

"Yes, my child, the shape of the body is only a resemblance of the inner man—the spiritual body. The soul is the cause, the body is the effect. Our bodies receive their form from the soul, which is the God part of our nature. My dear, can you think of anything without giving it some form? Even though it be a vapour you give it some shape."

"Yes, Mrs. Blake, I understand."

"Well then, as it is impossible to think of anything other than as shape of some kind, be it ever so ethereal, there must be substance, for a formless personality is impossible to think of. When you think of your dear mother, what do you think of her as being like?"

"A person; I can't think otherwise."

"Of course, dear; take away form and shape and you have nonentity."

"Do you really think they come back to us," she asked, "Does Cecil really come back to you?"

"I do not see him, but I feel his presence as truly as though he were here in the flesh. When I think of him he seems to come, and when I think of his loving caresses and kisses I feel them again. Angels have visited the earth from time immemorial."

"Please, Mrs. Blake, tell me what an angel is."

"According to the teachings of the scriptures, and our own intuition, they are the souls dwelling in their spiritual bodies of those we have loved and lost by the change called death. My Cecil is an angel." I saw a shadow flit across her brow, and I well knew its meaning, so I quickly added, "I believe your mother and father and Johnny will be angels by the time you go to them—perhaps they are angels now if they have progressed rapidly; all they have to do is to allow the good in their natures to manifest itself. The good part is the God part, and you know, darling, God never will quench his own life. It may be a slow growth, but the more this divine God-part of ourselves is unfolded the higher will they, and you, and I rise."

"Oh, Mrs. Blake," she exclaimed in joyful accents, "how I love God! Oh, how I will try and be good. I have so much to live for now."

I was glad she had found the light which gave peace and comfort to her inner being.

Just as I rose to go, she pleaded in her own pretty way:

"Are you too tired to answer just one more question, please?"

"Not now, dear," I replied, "it is time we returned home." And turning my gaze slightly upward said, "Good-bye, my darling Cecil, till tomorrow. Come home with mother, please."

Cutty looked at me wonderingly and asked, "Can he really come home with us?"

"I think so dear. I feel sure he often comes here with me for my intuitional communings with him, and returns home with me full of joy and gladness that I have been able to realise his presence and gather spiritual strength and solace.

(To be continued.)

Stories from the Ancient Greek myths, for our Boys and Girls.

BY THE EDITOR.

THE ADVENTURES OF PERSEUS.

(Continued.)

Then Perseus flew to Atlas to keep his promise, and when the giant heard him he called, "Come hither, O! Perseus, and fulfil thy promise."

Then Perseus held up to him the Gorgon's head, and Atlas was turned into a mighty rock, on which the clouds rested, and so had rest from his task of bearing the heavens on his shoulders.

Then Perseus thanked the fair maidens of the gardens of Hesperides, and asked them, "By what road shall I return home, for I wandered far out of my course in coming hither?"

And they wept and pleaded with him not to return home, but stay and play with them, as they were lonely dwelling so far away from Gods and men.

But he declined to stop for pleasure when duty called him to return.

Then they told him the way, and gave him some magic fruit, which, if he ate once would satisfy his hunger for seven days.

Then they kissed him, and cried over him to think they must lose such a brave and faithful young man. Bidding them adieu, he leapt down the mountain, and was borne onward by his wonderful sandals.

So Perseus floated onward to the north-east, over many a mile of sea, till he arrived at the rolling sand-hills and the dreary Lybian shore.

And he floated onward across the desert: over banks of shingle and level wastes of sand and shell-drifts bleaching in the fierce rays of the sun, and the skeletons of great sea-monsters and dead bones of ancient giants strewn up and down the old sea-floor. And as he went the drops of blood from the Gorgon's head fell to earth and became poisonous snakes, which breed in the desert to this day.

Over the sands he floated, feeding on the fruit which the Nymphs had given him till he saw the hills of Psylli [Si-lé] where the Dwarfs fight with cranes.

But there arose a mighty wind which forced him back southward toward the dreary desert. All day he strove to force his way through it, but even his

winged sandals could not prevail. So he was borne along by the wind all night, and when the morning dawned there was nothing to be seen but the dreary waste of sand.

Out of the north the sandstorms rushed upon him like blood-red pillars, blotting out the noon-day sun; and Perseus fled before them to save himself from being choked by the burning sand. At last the storm abated, and he tried to float northward again, and again the terrible sandstorm drove him back. For seven days he kept up the struggle to travel northward as soon as the storms abated, and was driven back each time, till he was worn out with thirst and hunger. If he had not been of the race of the immortals he would have perished.

Then in his anguish he prayed to the Goddess, Athene, and said, "Oh, fair and pure Goddess, if thou hearest me, wilt thou leave me here to die of hunger and thirst? I have brought Thee the Gorgon's head at Thy bidding, and hitherto Thou hast prospered my journey; doest Thou desert me at the last? Else why will not these immortal sandals prevail against the storm? Shall I never see my dear mother again, and the sunny hills of dear Hellas?"

Then Perseus stood and listened, and said, "Surely I am not here without the will of the Immortals, for Athene will not lie. Were not these sandals to lead me in the right way? Then the road in which I have tried to go must be the wrong one."

Then suddenly he heard the sound of running water. He scarcely dare believe his ears. He was scarcely able to stand with being weary, but by a great effort he moved forward, and at a short distance he saw a glen with green grass, date trees, and a small stream of sparkling water.

The water trickled down the rocks, and a pleasant breeze rustled in the branches of the date trees; the sight made his heart rejoice. He laughed for joy and leaped down the cliff and drank of the cool water and ate of the dates and rested on the grass, and then leapt up and went forward once more, but not towards the north, for he said, "Surely Athene does not wish me to go homeward yet. What if there is another noble deed to be done before I see the sunny hills of Hellas and mother?"

So he went east a long, long time, passed green oases and gushing fountains, date-palms and green grass till he saw before him a mighty wall of mountains, rosy red, to bar his progress. But he floated upward in the air, like an eagle, for his limbs were strong again, and he flew all night across the mountains till the day began to dawn, and rosy-fingered Eas came blushing up in the sky. And then, behold, beneath him was the long green garden of the Nile valley.

And he saw big cities with temples, obelisks, and pyramids, and giant statues of stone.

But when the Egyptians saw him they all stopped work, and gathered round him, and cried:—

"Who art thou, fair youth? and what bearest thou beneath that goat-skin? Surely thou art one of the Immortals, for thy skin is white like ivory, and ours is red like clay. Thy hair is like threads of gold, and ours is black and curled. Surely thou art one of the Immortals"; and they would have worshipped him, but Perseus said:—

"I am not one of the Immortals; but I am a hero of the Hellens. I have slain the terrible Gorgon in the wilderness, and bear her head with me. Give me food, therefore, that I may go forward and finish my work."

Then they gave him food and fruit, but they would not let him go. And when the news reached the city that the Gorgon was slain, the priest came out to meet him, and the maidens with their harps and timbrels, to do him honour with songs and dances, and they wished to take him to their temple, and to make him their king; but Perseus put on his hat of darkness, and so vanished out of their sight.

The Egyptians waited long for his return, and worshipped him as a hero, and made a statue of him in Chemmis [Kemmis], which stood for many hundreds of years; and said that he appeared to them at times, and whenever he did so the season was fruitful, and the waters of the Nile rose high.

When Perseus vanished from their sight, he floated along the shore of the Red Sea, up the shore of Palestine, where the dark-faced Æthiops dwelt.

He flew on past pleasant hills and valleys, like Argos itself, or, the fair Vale of Tempe.

But the low lands were all drowned by floods, and the highlands blasted by fire, and the hills heaved like bubbling cauldrons, before the wrath of King Neptune, the shaker of the earth. He went on all day and the sky was black with smoke; and he went on all night, and the sky was red with flame. At the dawn of the day he looked towards the cliffs, and at the water's edge, under a black rock, he saw a white image stand.

"This," thought he, "must surely be the statue of some sea-God; I will go near and see what kind of Gods these barbarians worship."

So he drew near to it and saw that it was not a statue, as he had imagined, but a lovely maiden chained to the rocks, with chains of brass; and her head drooped on her bosom, either with sleep, or weariness, or grief. At times she looked up and wailed with anguish, and called for her mother; yet she did not see Perseus, for the cap of darkness was on his head.

Full of pity and indignation, Perseus drew near and looked upon the maiden. Her cheeks were darker than his, and her hair was blue-black like a hyacinth; but Perseus thought, "I have never seen so beautiful a maiden; no, not in all Hellas. Surely she is a king's daughter. Do barbarians treat their king's daughters thus? She is too fair, at least, to have done any wrong. I will speak to her."

So, lifting the hat of darkness from his head, she suddenly saw him and shrieked with terror, and tried to hide her face with her hair, for she could not do so with her hands; but Perseus gently said:—

"Do not fear me, fair one; I am a Hellen, and no barbarian. What cruel men have bound you thus? But first I will set you free."

And he tore at her fetters, but they were too strong for him; while the maiden cried—

"Touch me not, brave youth; I am accursed, devoted as a victim to the sea-gods. They will slay you, if you dare to set me free."

"Let them try," said Perseus; and drawing Herpe [Her-pè] from its sheath, he cut through the brass chains that bound her as if they were made of flax.

"Now," he said, "you belong to me, and not to those sea-gods, whosoever they be. I know now why Pallas Athene sent me this way instead of returning straight to the shores of Hellas. It was to gain a prize worth all my toil and more."

Then he clasped her in his arms, and said, "Where are these sea-gods, cruel and unjust, who doom fair maids to death? I carry the weapons of the Immortals. Let them measure their strength against

mine. But tell me, maiden, who you are, and what dark fate brought you here?"

And with tearful eyes she answered—"I am the daughter of Cepheus [Sēfūs], King of Iopa, and my mother is Cassiopœia [Kas-si-ō-pē-i-a] of the beautiful tresses, and they called me Andromeda [An-drom-ē-da], as long as life was mine. And I stand bound to the rocks here, hapless that I am, for the sea-monster's food, to atone for my mother's sin. For she boasted of me once that I was fairer than Atergatis [A-tēr-gā-tis], Queen of the Fishes; so she, in her wrath, sent the sea-floods, and her brother, the Fire King, sent the earthquakes, and wasted all the land, and after the floods a monster bred of the slime, who devours all living things. And now he must devour me, guiltless though I am—me who never harmed a living thing, nor saw a fish on the shore but I gave it life by placing it back in the sea; for in our land we eat no fish, for fear of Atergatis, their queen. Yet the priests say that nothing but my blood can atone for a sin which I never committed."

Then Perseus, in order to give her hope said, "A sea-monster? I have fought with worse creatures than it: I would have faced the Immortals for your sake; how much more a beast of the sea?"

Then Andromeda looked up at him, and new hope was kindled in her breast, so noble did he look, with one arm round her to give her support, while in his right hand he grasped his good sword. Then she was filled with fear for his sake and cried—

"Why will you stay here and die, young as you are? Is there not death and sorrow enough in the world already? It is noble for me to die, that I may save the lives of a whole people; but you, better than them all, why should I slay you too? Go your way; I must go mine."

But Perseus cried, "Not so; for the Lords of Olympus [ō-lim-pus], whom I serve, are the friends of the heroes, and help them on to noble deeds. Led by them, I slew the Gorgon, the beautiful horror; and not without them do I come hither, to slay the monster with that same Gorgon's head. Yet, hide your eyes when I leave you, lest the sight of it freeze you, too, to stone."

But Andromeda answered nothing, for she could not believe his words. Then suddenly looking at the sea, she pointed and shrieked—

"There it comes, with the sunrise, as they prophesied. I must die now. Oh! how shall I endure it? Do go away. Is it not dreadful enough to be torn piecemeal, without having you to look on?" And she tried to thrust him away.

But he said, "I go; yet promise me one thing ere I go: that if I slay the beast you will be my wife, and come back with me to my kingdom in fruitful Argos, for I am a king's heir. Promise me, and seal it with a kiss."

Then she lifted up her face and kissed him; and Perseus laughed for joy, and flew upward, while Andromeda crouched trembling on the rock, waiting for what might befall.

On came the great sea-monster, coasting along like a huge black galley, lazily breasting the ripples. Its great sides were fringed with clustering shells and sea-weeds, and the water gurgled in and out of its wide mouth as he rolled along.

At last it saw Andromeda, and shot forward to take its prey, while the waves foamed white behind it.

Then down from the high cliffs floated Perseus like

a shooting star to meet the monster, while Andromeda hid her face as he shouted; and then there was silence for a while.

At last she looked up trembling, and saw Perseus floating towards her; the monster had been turned into a long black rock, o'er which the waves of the sea were dashing.

Who then so proud as Perseus, as he landed on the rock, and lifted his fair Andromeda in his arms and flew with her to the cliff top!

And who so joyful as all the people? For they had stood watching the monster from the cliffs, waiting for the maiden's fate. And they quickly sent a messenger to the king and queen, who were sorrowing over their daughter's sad fate. And they came quickly, and all the people of the city with them, to see the great wonder that had been wrought, and they sang and danced for joy, and the king and queen received their daughter back again, as one made alive from the dead.

Then Cepheus said, "Hero of the Hellens, stay here with me and be my son-in-law, and I will give you half of my kingdom."

"I will be your son-in-law," said Perseus, "but of your kingdom I will have none, for I long after the pleasant land of Greece, and my mother who waits for me at home."

(To be continued).

Correspondence.

To the Editor LYCEUM BANNER.

RE TRUSTEES FOR THE JOHN AINSWORTH BEQUEST.

Dear Sir,—With your permission I should like it to be known to all Lyceums that it was not the desire, nor will, of Mr. Ainsworth that his bequest be placed in the hands of trustees, because of the fact that these trustees become—practically—owners. The LYCEUM UNION, being an *unregistered body*, I understand the Charity Commissioners *insist* on the appointment of trustees. If this be so, there is a simple way of satisfying the Commissioners, and leaving the entire management of the bequest in the hands of the LYCEUM UNION'S E.C. If the National Union trustees consented to be the trustees for this bequest, provision is made in the Articles of Association and Draft Deeds for the delegation of their powers to the LYCEUM UNION'S E.C., or to such of *their body* as may be on the E.C. I would strongly suggest to all Lyceums to send in before April 26th, as their nomination, that the S.N.U. trustees be appointed trustees of the John Ainsworth Bequest.

Yours, etc.,

JAMES KNIGHT.

RE OUR GROUPS' SPECIAL.

Dear Sir,—On behalf of our Lyceum, re the analysis of the first poem in our Manual, will you kindly allow me to ask a question or two, either from the writer or any other, whose mind has been trained to enquire into causes of occurrences? We fail to find anything in the Article suggesting how, or why, "*Whatever is, is right.*" We can see that good only is eternal, and that evil is always in that transitory stage, which is amenable to its influence, and we can see that with the growth of goodness and spirituality amongst us evil will, by comparison, be eliminated, and we can see how far pride and selfish ignorance is responsible for many immoralities amongst us. But

in taking into view all the circumstances we can conceive of in many cases of what is; we don't see how it can be right. For example, that some are born with natural tendencies of selfishness and ignorance which has such a miserable effect around us, and some are born into surroundings whose conditions of morality are in every way favourable. We know there are many discordant notes in the score of our lives' efforts that are detrimental to harmony, but we fail to find in this analysis anything to warrant us in saying that it is right there should be such. I had a motor car accident, which happily did not end as bad as Mr. Latham's, yet I had terrible pain from it, and if it was right in either case, as the poem says, in what part of our evolution did we merit such an effect? We are *desirous* of training our minds to enquire into, and discover a natural cause and direction of forces, which has in so many cases such a miserable effect. Let us look at the lamentable condition of our movement through the selfishness and ignorance of many Spiritualists, at least I can only put it down as such. Yet these friends think they are right in believing in one-person rooms and meeting places. But we, who think differently, criticise and dispute their right, yet if "*whatever is, is right,*" why do we dispute it? I hope we are not confusing the Divine Order with these seeming imperfections manifest in the Human Order. We are asked to submit, in this or any other sphere, to be safe in the hand of one disposing power. But in spite of our erring reason, the truth is *not* clear to us that "*whatever is, is right.*"

J. LIGHTOWLER, Conductor,
Holme Street, Bradford.

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE LYCEUM AND SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the LYCEUM BANNER.

Mr. Rodgers asks, "What is the best method for Society and Lyceum to work together?" At Nelson in 1904, a certain set of rules were adopted which have been the means of harmonious working between Society and Lyceum. Since then, I may say, there has not been one single hitch worthy of note. The main points in the rules which are responsible for this are:—The Conductors, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Lyceum are elected by the Lyceum leaders annually. *These Officials must be members of the Society.* The Lyceum committee consists of seven of the leaders, aided by the Society's Committee as ex-officio members.

Now here is a great point to notice, whilst the Society's committee can sit upon Lyceum's committee, the contrary does not hold good, *i.e.*, the Lyceum's committee cannot sit upon the Society's committee, unless duly elected as such. Thus you will see our Lyceum is the child of our church. Should any friction arise in the Lyceum's working, if it could not be settled by its committee, it would be referred to the parent committee, who would have the final say in the matter.

The Lyceum's subjection, if I may use such a term, has been our strong point, and I think I may speak fairly impartially upon the matter, being as I am the Treasurer for the Lyceum, and the Secretary for the church.

I hope others may profit by these hints in local circles. And I sincerely hope in time to come this method may be adopted nationally.

HERBERT BULLEN.

P.S.—The Church and Lyceum have a fund each of their own.—H.B.

OFFICIAL NOTICE.

Trustees to the John Ainsworth bequest of £500 for a Lyceum Home will be elected at the Lyceum Conference to be held at Nelson on May 11th and 12th, 1912. Any Lyceum desirous of nominating a fit and proper person to act as one of the Trustees must send notice of the same to the General Secretary, as below, not later than April 26th, or the nomination cannot be voted upon.

By Order of the Executive Council,

ALFRED KITSON., Gen. Sec.,
17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury.

Bluebell Guild.

OBJECT: To promote Gentleness, Kindness and Good Behaviour. Membership is open to all.

MY DEAR BLUEBELLS,—

I am indeed pleased to have received a few more nice letters, several of them containing names of new members for our Guild.

I am much obliged to Mrs. Moulton for her cheerful words of encouragement. I am sorry to be unable to find room for them.

Miss Leach, of Leicester, sent me six new members just two days too late to be inserted in the March BANNER. I was so sorry I could not get them in. But never mind, dear sister, they shall be the first this month. Their Lyceum Secretary has just sent me the following nice letter concerning their branch of the Guild.

"Dear Flora Belle,

It is with pleasure I write these few lines on behalf of Miss Leach (President), and members of the Bluebell Guild. We embarked on our new undertaking on March 4th, and we have made excellent progress up to the present, both in attendance and carrying out the aims and objects of the Guild. We have not got all the new members names ready for the April BANNER, but I will forward them on for May. The tea and social Miss Leach made mention of in February's BANNER is to take place on May 3rd, when we hope to have a good programme of items by the children. We sincerely hope the members of the parent society will rally round and support us both numerically and financially."

Yours fraternally,

J. C. BUTLEY, Secretary.

Leicester, Silver Street Lyceum.

I do hope their tea and social will be a great success. I shall look forward to their report with happy anticipations.

The next letter of appreciation and good wishes that reaches me is from Ulverston. Miss Mather sent me a good list of new members last month, and this is what she says concerning the reception of the members' cards:

"Dear Flora Belle,

We duly received the Membership Cards for the Guild, which were presented to the Lyceumists on the Sunday morning. The members are quite proud of them. Our Secretary, on receiving his, said he hoped the "Bluebells" would not forget the objects of the Guild, and they must all bear in mind they had promised to do their best to carry them out in their daily lives.

"A few more scholars now wish to join the Guild. I therefore enclose you a list of their names."

Yours fraternally,

WINIFRED MATHER, No. 572.

Thank you, dear sister, for your second list and your kind letter. I hope all the members will heed your Secretary's remarks.

My next letter comes from the Sheffield, Darnall Lyceum, and, like the others, contains a list of new members. It reads as follows:—

"Dear Flora Belle,

Enclosed you will find a list of names of children

who desire to be enrolled as members of the Bluebell Guild. These are members of the Darnall Lyceum. I was enrolled a member in October, 1907, and along with me were Clara Hawkins and Mabel Hawkins, who have lost their cards. Wishing you 'God speed in your good work.'

Yours sincerely,

W. QUANTRELL."

Thank you, Bro. Quantrell, for your good wishes and list of new members. I am enclosing new cards for sisters Clara and Mabel Hawkins, whose numbers are 2286 and 2287.

I wonder how many of our little Bluebells can act the part of

A LITTLE FAIRY.

"Auntie," said little Ethel one day, "are there any real live fairies now?"

"Fairies?" asked auntie, with a smile. "Yes, indeed, and I should say that we need one at our house this very day—a nice, good one to keep baby quiet so mamma could sleep off her headache, and another to find these things and wait on grandma."

"I wish one would come," sighed Ethel.

"Well, close your eyes and wish very hard, and perhaps one will," said auntie.

Ethel shut her eyes very tight and thought and thought and wished for almost two minutes. Then she got up very suddenly and ran out of the room. In a few minutes the baby stopped crying and auntie did not hear him for a long time. When she went to look for him he was sound asleep in his crib.

Down in the sitting room grandma was making a nice warm quilt for Ethel's little bed.

"What do you think?" she said when auntie came in. "I found a row of needles in my work basket all ready threaded for me. Now, what do you think of that?"

"Maybe a little fairy has been here," said auntie.

Ethel smiled over her sewing when she heard that, but she did not say anything. She was too busy with the pretty little white thing she was making to move until she heard papa's step on the porch. She jumped up then, however, and ran to meet him. He was very glad to have a little girl to put his hat away and bring him a glass of cool water, for it was a very hot day.

When the dinner bell rang papa and Ethel found mamma looking well and rested after her nice nap, and she seemed very much pleased with a little present she found by her plate. It was a pretty white handkerchief, nicely hemmed.

"Now, who could have done that?" she asked.

Nobody answered until grandma said—

"It must have been a fairy. There has been one around here all the morning keeping the baby quiet and threading needles."

"Yes," said papa, "and bringing cool water. I believe I could guess her name. Could you?"

Your loving sister,

FLORA BELLE.

LEICESTER (Silver Street).

3262 Lillian G. Lucas.	3265 Alfred Brooks.
3263 Archibald E. Lucas.	3266 Florrie Bee.
3264 Alfred Lucas.	3267 Hilda Healey.

ULVERSTON.

3268 Daisy Hoggett.	3275 Robby Casson.
3269 Mary A. Barton.	3276 John Barton.
3270 Dorothy Rushmer.	3277 Maggie Barton.
3271 Florence Rushmer.	3278 Willie Hoggett.
3272 Fanny Taylor.	3279 Harry Miller.
3273 Jessie Brown.	3280 Leslie Dent.
3274 Fred Brown.	

SHEFFIELD, DARNALL.

3281 Elsie Beverley.	3291 Mabel Hawley.
3282 Ivy Major.	3292 Ivy Roebuck.
3283 Silvia Major.	3293 Evelyn Hawkins.
3284 Ada Cottam.	3294 Arthur Wilcox.
3285 Ethel Cottam.	3295 Archie Wilcox.
3286 Dorothy Cottam.	3296 Frank Major.
3287 Clara Wilson.	3297 Cyril Gunstone.
3288 Miriam Laycock.	3298 Leonard Cottam.
3289 Evelyn Woodcock.	3299 James Roebuck.
3290 Katie White.	3300 John Arthur Roebuck.

Transfiguration of Christ and its effect on the Present Generation.

AN ESSAY BY WILLIAM HUNTBAUGH. AGE 15.

Before starting to write in earnest on the above subject it may be advisable to state what I infer is meant by the "present generation." Of course as Spiritualists we believe, and I think I can safely say know, that it is possible for a well developed medium, under proper conditions, to do many things that Christ is recorded to have performed, and furthermore, that if the present advancement of mediumship is still continued, some medium, at some future time, will, by the help of spirit friends, carry on the work of Christ in the same perfect way that he did; healing the sick, restoring sight to the blind, and doing good in every way. Now to others than to Spiritualists, the Transfiguration of Christ means absolutely nothing, except the bare fact that it is recorded as having happened, and therefore they accept the truth of the statement, but ask them if it is possible for anyone to be transfigured, and they will, without thinking, say, of course not, only Christ could perform miracles. So we see that the Transfiguration of Christ affects only the Spiritualists in a great degree, although it may have a slight effect on the Quakers, and may be other religious bodies, but of these, I, not having taken an interest in their teachings, cannot ascertain anything on this subject.

The Bible reads in second verse, chapter 17, of St. Matthew, "And Christ was transfigured before the disciples, and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light."

It also states in 9th chapter St. Mark, verses 2 and 3, "And he was transfigured before them. And his raiment became shining, exceeding white as snow; so as no Fuller on earth can white them."

Comparing the two records, we find that the clothing Jesus wore became white, but from what colour it appeared to change is not recorded. Further on, in both books, we find that Moses and Elias, both of whom had been dead some years, appeared before the disciples at the side of Jesus and talking to him. Now this is clearly a case of materialization of the departed spirits of Moses and Elias, the power or magnetism necessary for this manifestation probably only coming from Christ, made the change which the disciples saw.

The effect that this has on the Spiritualists of the present (and shall I say of the past?) generation, is that it made them think that if the spirits could materialize then, they could, if given the proper conditions, materialize now. This has been proved to be possible, and although the fact has been proved, I am afraid that through the inability to produce the proper conditions, this form of manifestation is not very familiar to the present generation. Let us try together by putting heart and soul

into the cause, we, the future generation, see if we cannot tend to put this, and particularly the more useful manifestations, into perfection, and to make them more familiar to the Spiritualists and to the world at large.

Nom de plume "SUNSHINE."

This is the unaided work of the competitor.

(Signed) ELLEN HUNTBAUGH (mother).

Questions and Answers.

Under this heading Lyceumists may ask questions bearing on the teachings of the LYCEUM MANUAL, and matters appertaining to the Lyceum Movement in general. All correspondents must give their full name and address, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith with the Editor. Letters should be addressed to the Question and Answer Department, the Office of the Lyceum Banner, 17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury.

Dear Mr. Kitson,

Question.—Can you explain in the BANNER for the benefit of some of our scholars the meaning of the following lines in the S.C.R., No. 26? "There's a home for the vile, all polluted with guile, When cleansed by the quickening spirit."

M. WARBURTON, Con.

East Leeds Lyceum.

Answer.—The above couplet teaches progression in spirit life. Even those polluted with wrong doing are not to be denied spirit homes of joy and happiness. But mark the qualifying terms or conditions on which they are to inhabit those homes. They are not promised on their immediate entrance into the spirit world, but have to wait till they are "cleansed by the quickening spirit." Their inner natures, their sense of right and wrong, are to be first quickened, causing them to desire to live better lives, and willing to make full atonement for their past wrong doing. When they have done this they may be said to have become "cleansed by the quickening spirit," or in other words they have progressed in spirit life, and have earned for themselves a "home."

PERMANENT SECRETARY FUND.

For 1911:—Motherwell Lyceum, 7/6; Bacup, 5/-; Leeds Psycho, 5/-; Eden Hall, Gateshead, 5/-; Mr. G. Wheeldon, 2/6; Mr. T. F. Smedley, 2/6; Mr. and Mrs. Gull, 2/6; Mrs. Bodell, 2/-; Mr. Holland, 1/-; Mr. J. H. Hawkins, 2/6; Belper Lyceum, 10/-; Coun Venables, £1.

For 1912:—Batley Carr, 10/-; Crewe Lyceum, 5/-; Mr. Kitson, 10/-; Huddersfield, Ramsden Street, 10/-. The thanks of the E.C. has been duly sent in each case.

JESSY GREENWOOD,

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

The officers and members of the Executive Council will visit the Spiritual Church, Bold Street, Attercliffe, Sheffield, on April 14th, 1912; attend the Lyceum Sessions at 10 a.m. and 2-30 p.m., and address the Mass Meeting at 6-30 p.m. Tea will be provided for visitors, price 6d.

A public tea and social will be held in the same church on Saturday, April 13th. Tea at 5 p.m., Social at 7-30. Tea and social 6d., social only 3d.

On the Monday, April 15th, a social and distribution of prizes will be held to commence at 7-30, admission 3d. Mrs. Lizzie Nurse, Vice-President of the Lyceum Union, will address the meeting and distribute the prizes. ALFRED KITSON, Gen. Sec.

FOUNDED NOVEMBER, 1890, BY J. J. MORSE.
 Adopted as the Official Organ of the British Spiritualists'
 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, 1s. 4d.; 24 copies, 1s. 9d.; 36 copies, 2s. 7½d.; 42 copies, 3s.; 48 copies, 3s. 4d. 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.

APRIL 1912.

LYCEUM MOTTO FOR 1912.

"THE GREATEST GOOD OF THE GREATEST NUMBER."

Lyceum Notes and Comments.

The 23rd Conference of the Lyceum Union is drawing near, and judging by the applications for credentials already to hand, will be one of the best attended.

It will be seen by the notices of motions that appear in this issue that full advantage of the five years limit to amend the Constitution is being taken. It is to be hoped that the deliberations will be marked by that disposition of mind which may be briefly summed up in the words of our motto, "The greatest good of the greatest number."

If this is borne in mind when Lyceums are instructing their delegates how to vote on the motions, they will not be guided by personal motives in approving of what will most benefit their own Lyceum, so much as what will most benefit the greatest number of Lyceums.

It will be noticed there is a desire to have an extended sessions of the Conference. Some delegates may be so circumstanced that they could stay till Tuesday morning, and so attend all the three days, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. But those should consider their less fortunate brothers and sisters who cannot afford to lose two or three days' wages, and so must return home on the Sunday evening. We venture to add, the greatest number of delegates to our Annual Conferences are so circumstanced.

If it be felt that the time of the Conference should be extended would it not be a wise and gracious act to decide that the date of Conference be held on Whit-week-end, when the country is enjoying a general holiday, then the less fortunate delegates could stay and participate in all the sessions without fear of loss of either work or wages. We think this a case in which our motto could be exercised with great gain to the movement.

Information is to hand that a certain section of our Lyceum movement will be unable to be represented this year as its representatives are obliged to be at business, whereas if the Conference had been fixed for Whit week they would have been able to attend. As they are earnest workers, and have a hard struggle to keep their flag of liberty for the children flying, it

would have done them good to have met and mingled with their co-workers gathered from all parts of the country. Remember our motto

In order to provide room for the Conference agenda, balance sheets, a full list of Lyceum officers and scholars, and the numerous reports in our issue for May, we shall be unable to insert any Lyceum reports. Will secretaries please note?

During these last two or three months there has been a tendency on the part of Lyceum secretaries to send their letters with a half-penny stamp, for which we had to pay one penny on receipt. The practice became so general that we were reluctantly compelled to decline paying the surcharged postage. Will correspondents please note?

Our esteemed President desires to warn Lyceumists of a person fraudulently representing himself as a Lyceumist seeking employment, and craving charitable assistance. He is described as being fairly tall, clean shaven, high cheek bones, and a very husky voice. If you "recognise this form," be on your guard, or he may impose on you, as he has imposed on our President.

We are desired to say that the service of song, "Launch the Life Boat," given on February 11th, at the Hunslet Spiritual Church, was given by members and friends, and not by the Lyceum as stated in our last issue.

The Teesdale Lyceum District Council has succeeded in inducing the friends at Gurney Villa, near Bishop Auckland, to restart a Lyceum after a lapse of ten years. All the officials of the council were present at the opening, and rendered valuable service. Some of the Shildon Lyceum friends have kindly promised to help them for several weeks.

Lyceums have also been opened at South Shields, Savile Street, and Fowler Street. The officers of the Tyneside Lyceum District Council, are rendering all the assistance possible. The friends at Greenock are making another effort. Mr. Horace W. Kay, of Keighley, has been elected Conductor; Mrs. Atkin, assistant Conductor; and Mr. Tom King the Secretary. It has also been suggested that the Alum Rock Road, Saltley, start a Lyceum at an early date. A Lyceum has been opened at Victoria, B.C., Canada; a good consignment of Lyceum Manuals, etc., has been sent.

NOMINATIONS.

The following list of Nominations is subject to revision by the Lyceum Union's Executive Council.

President:—Mr. R. A. Owen, Mr. Latham, Mr. Tinker, Mrs. Nurse, Mrs. Bentley, Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Venables, and Mr. T. H. Wright.

Vice-Presidents:—Mrs. Nurse, Messrs. Owen, Latham, Knott, Wright, Wilkinson, Tinker, Raw, and J. Knight.

Treasurer:—Mr. Venables, Mrs. Greenwood, Mr. Latham and Mr. Johnson.

Auditor:—Mr. Knott, Mr. Owen and Mr. Kersey.

Executive Council: Mr. Latham, Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Bentley, Mrs. Nurse, Mr. Kersey, Miss Hesp, Mr. Vickers, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Keeling, Mr. Venables, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Pickles, Miss Heslith, Messrs. Lloyd, Wilkinson, Walker, Knott, Brooks, Peel, Hargreaves and Batten.

British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.**Annual Conference.****Official Notices.**

The following is a list of motions to be submitted to the Lyceum Conference, held May 11th and 12th, at Nelson:

1st.—That we, as a Lyceum, request the Conference in session, to strike out of the Constitution the rule which prohibits associate members from being eligible for office. And we, in the future, give to associate members all rights, usages, privileges, etc., equal to delegates.

Mrs. Wallace, Secretary.

2nd.—That the Lyceum Manual be printed with expression marks in the margin.

Hammerton Street, Burnley.

3rd.—That each member of the Executive Council, at the commencement of each Conference, shall give a written statement from the Secretary of his or her Lyceum to the Secretary of the Union, that he or she has made the sufficient number of Lyceum attendances according to Constitution.

North Street, Burnley.

4th.—(a) That the first part of Article XI of the B.S.L.U. Constitution be amended to read as follows: All officers of the Union, excepting the General Secretary, together with four members of the Executive Council, shall retire annually (and any person who has served for two periods shall not be eligible for re-election until 12 months have elapsed). All other persons shall be eligible for re-election by ballot providing, etc.

(b) That the paragraph dealing with Associate members in Article VII of the Constitution for District Councils, be deleted. *Heywood Lyceum.*

5th.—(a) That an Interim Consultative Conference be held annually, at which shall be considered and discussed only papers, subjects, and questions relating to the welfare and development of Lyceums and the Lyceum movement.

(b) Re Invitations for Conference. No verbal invitations to be considered unless there are none in writing. *Hoborn Street Lyceum, Hull.*

No. 6.—Article V says, re voting, children over 12 to select officers. We wish you to put on the agenda that Liberty Group and over have the privilege, not children, in selecting officers, as we think our conductor, etc., will be voted for on merit, rather than likes and dislikes from the children. *Lancaster Lyceum.*

No. 7.—That all hymns in the Lyceum Manual be punctuated and graded as in Songster.

Nelson Lyceum.

No. 8.—(a) That the Lyceum Contributions be 5/- for those Lyceums who have not more than 50 names on the Lyceum Register, 10/- for those who have over 50 but more than 100; and 15/- for all those who have more than 100, and that Bye-law V be altered accordingly.

(b) That fourteen days' notice be given in writing to the General Secretary of all questions to be raised in the Conference relating to the business of any Conference, except the last one.

Lyceum Union's Executive Council.

No. 9.—That in the interest of the Union it is desirable that the Permanent Secretary's Fund be abolished. *Bolton Lyceum District Council.*

No. 10.—(a) That Article XI, page 6, delete the words "The President and the Vice-President must have served on the Executive Council for at least one year."

(b) Article V, page 10, raise the age from 12 to 14 years.

North East Lancashire Lyceum District Council.

No. 11.—(a) That where more than two candidates go to the vote for any single office the principle of the second ballot shall govern the election.

(b) That the Constitution be amended in all respects as suggested in the Crucible articles except the last of the Bye-Laws, which confines the amendments of Bye-Laws to once in five years.

Daulby Street, Liverpool.

No. 12.—(a) That the title of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union be amended by omitting the word "British," and merely calling it "The Spiritualists' Lyceum Union."

(b) That the capitation tax of members' dues be increased from 1d. to 2d. per Lyceum member.

(c) That District Councils pay as membership of the B.S.L.U. a tax equal to the capitation tax of the Lyceums—Example: If a D.C. has 12 Lyceums on its register, then on present basis of 1d. per member the D.C. would pay 1/- per annum as members' dues.

(d) That each Lyceum on the Register of a District Council pays a membership due of 1/- per annum.

(e) That clause (e) Article II of the Constitution for District Councils be amended to read as follows: "Such other methods as may be approved by the Executive of the Lyceum Union, or an Annual Conference."

(f) That a new office of Chairman be created in the B.S.L.U. The Chairman to hold office for three years with power to be re-elected.

Liverpool Lyceum District Council.

No. 13.—(a) That the B.S.L.U. hold a National Annual Examination in conjunction with classes organised by District Councils, Certificates being given upon results. Syllabus and teachers to be sanctioned by the Executive Council.

(b) That prices of Manuals be lowered to their original price. *Sheffield Lyceum District Council.*

ALFRED KITSON, Gen. Sec.

Conditions of Annual Conference.

Lyceums desirous of inviting the Annual Conference of 1913 are requested to note the terms are as follows:—

1. That the Lyceum Union take all receipts and pay all expenses.

2. That all arrangements for halls, posters, and hymn sheets must be submitted to the Union's Executive Council through the Union's Secretary before they are put in hand.

3. That local friends provide free hospitality for the officers, Executive, and the delegates.

ALFRED KITSON, Gen. Sec.

REPORTS (continued from page 64).

ROTHERHAM (Percy Street).—Our monthly open session was held on March 10th, being conducted by R. Papworth. Singing, responses, marching and calisthenics very well done. Dialogue by N. Sanders and Ivy Brooks. Recitations by Misses Horsel, Brook, and Jackson, also Master A. Bruce. In the evening the service of song, "A Terrible Lesson," was given by the combined Lyceumists of Rotherham and Parkgate, which was a decided success. Solo by Miss Parks. Votes of thanks brought a very enjoyable day to a close.—Mrs. E. H. Metcalfe, Secretary.

SHEFFIELD (Attercliffe).—On Sunday, March 3rd, we had our open session, and, by kind permission of the Society, we conducted the evening service. The following Lyceumists rendered recitations in a nice style: Ernest Pegg, Mabel Buffey, Ada Johnson, Mabel Saxilby, Florrie Green, Violet and Alice Jarvis. Dialogue by Ethel Goodall and Ethel Rainer. Solo, "Sweet Golden Age," well sung by Laura Ballard. Messrs. F. Smith and A. Green said a few words on the Lyceum Movement, as did also Mrs. Johnson, the mother of our Lyceum, who was celebrating her 60th birthday. We are eagerly looking forward to the visit of the E.C.—T. Whiteley.

SHEFFIELD, HEELEY.—On Sunday, March 3rd, we held our open session, the following giving recitations: Evelyn Hempstock, Francis Evans, Albert Shipman, Cyril Truelove, Flo Vernon, Joe Hopkins. A very enjoyable day. Sunday, March 10th, was Lyceum Day. In the afternoon we held an open session, recitations, etc., being rendered by Lyceumists. In the evening the service was conducted by officers. Recitations by Mr. Gibbons and Bertha Alton, duet by Maggie Newhall and Alice Alton, speeches by Mr. Bains and Mr. Vickers. We have commenced a leader's class for the liberty group, educational subjects being taught by Mr. Vickers.—G. H. Magness, Secretary.

SOUTHPORT (Hawkshead Street).—On March 3rd we held an open session, during which an excellent programme was presented, consisting of recitals and temperance readings, contributed by Messrs. T. Devereux, Bert Riding, and E. Beardsworth, and the Misses Dulcie Hardy, Maud Riding, Clara Hardy, Kitty Bolton, Blanche Hardy, and Hilda Riding. Brief addresses were delivered by Messrs Geo. Smart, Horwich; C. Houldcroft, and Miss Roston, Bolton; Mr. G. Robb attended and complimented us on the progress achieved. During the month Miss Roston and Mr. Birdsall, Bradford, have conducted the Lyceum with conspicuous ability.—Maud M. L. Riding, Secretary.

STOCKPORT (Central Lyceum).—I am very sorry to report that we are having a great deal of trouble with our parent body, through the Lyceumists refusing to pay rent for having the use of the room for 3 hours every Sunday. The Lyceum have been given notice to quit, but up to the present we are still holding our sessions as usual. For some time past we have had no support whatever from the Society, and have had all our open session dates cancelled by that body, but I am very hopeful that we shall still be able to keep our flag flying, no matter what dangers or obstacles are placed in our path.—J. Bell, Secretary.

TODMORDEN, PATMOS.—I am sorry to say we had not as good an open session as usual on March 3rd, and so had to make up with marching and calisthenics, which is ever welcome. We had a recitation by Miss Bertha Lee, also one by Master Harold Firth. I hope for a brighter open session next month.—Frank Pratt, Secretary.

WAKEFIELD (Dixon's Yard).—We held our anniversary services on Sunday, March 10th. We had an open session in the afternoon, when there was a very good attendance. Recitations were given by Miriam and Phyllis Wright, May Cope, Edna May Turner, Roy Maine, and Mr. Beety. Pearls by Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Smith, and Mrs. Beety. Reading and responses were very good. Mrs. Jessie Greenwood, of Hebden Bridge, conducted the session and complimented us on our marching and calisthenics. Every one seemed to enjoy themselves.—A. Baldwin, Secretary.

We beg to congratulate Mr. Herbert Buckley, of Royton, on the honour of having his post card hymn tune, entitled "Royton," accepted by His Majesty King George.

Mrs. Gertrude Edgar, the only daughter of Mrs. Ellen Green, is leaving England, along with her husband and little son, on April 6th, by the s.s. "Lusitania," for Mexico, via New York. The LYCEUM BANNER wishes her and family a safe and prosperous voyage.



Girls' Own Corner.

By
Mrs. JESSY
GREENWOOD

For a long time I have felt inclined, or shall I say in one familiar parlance, impressed to take up the Girl's Corner again and chat to the mothers and girl who are readers of the BANNER. This does not entirely cut out the Lesson Plan, only the extended lessons will disappear for a time. This change, I believe, is necessary and can be beneficial if the readers will enter into the spirit of our work, i.e., of co-operation in interesting ourselves on lines calculated to uplift the general tone of conduct and interest. Every woman has a great mission in the world, and just as she carries herself circumspectly will that influence work on others. Have you girls thought of that. Do you *think* when you speak unkindly to your parents, particularly mother dear? Just read these few lines and study them.

Let us take to our hearts a lesson—no lesson can braver be—
From the ways of the tapestry weavers on the other side of the sea.

Above their heads the pattern hangs; they study it with care;
The while their fingers deftly weave, their eyes are fastened there.

They tell this curious thing, besides, of the patient plodding weaver—

He works on the wrong side evermore, but works for the right side ever.

It is only when the weaver stops, and the web is loosed and turned,

That he sees his real handiwork—that his marvellous skill is learned.

Ah! the sight of its delicate beauty! how it pays him for all its cost!

No rarer, daintier work than his, was ever done by the frost.

The years of man are Nature's looms; let down from the place of the sun,

Wherein we are weaving away, till the mystic web is done. Sometimes blindly; but weaving surely, each for himself his fate;

We may not see how the right side looks; we can only weave and wait.

—Selected.

PROGRAMME FOR LYCEUM SESSION.

Date	Opening Hymn	S.C.R.	Musical Reading	G.C.R.	Closing Hymn
April 7	310	82	213	135	311
April 14	308	34	212	131	†33
April 21	*86	21	233	141	19
April 28	346	344	241	105	345
May 5	349	396	\$399	129	360

*52 Bristol Tune Book.

†204, Bristol Tune Book.

\$Impromptu Readings.

PEARLS FOR EACH SUNDAY.

- April 7 "Happiness is a perfume you cannot pour on others without getting a few drops on yourself."
- April 14 "Keep your religion by doing your best to give it away."
- April 21 "Men who complain about playing second fiddle ought to be thankful they are in the orchestra at all."
- April 28 "Curiosity is the germ of all enterprise."

Botany for the Young.

By J. KNIGHT.

Dear Bannerites,

I was very sorry that a portion of my friend's, Mr. Lucas, paper on Holly was crowded out of the February BANNER. I hope you have saved your February number so that you can re-read what Mr. Lucas has said, and so connect the two.

I am very pleased to present to you a very nice essay by Mr. Robert Rostron, of Bolton, Bradford Street Lyceum. The essay is a good one, and I know, had space permitted, he could have said much more about Butter Burrs. Being one of our earliest flowering plants, with massive flower heads, it is a great favourite with bees and other insects, each floweret having a rich supply of honeyjam, which coming after the pinch and starvation diet of winter is very welcome. Thank you, Robert, for your contribution. I hope many of our fellow Lyceumists will send me similar essays during the year.

Next month I intend resuming our lessons on leaves.

ESSAY ON COMMON BUTTER-BURR.

(*Petasites Vulgaris*.)

This plant is one of our earliest, and also one of our commonest, wild plants. Yet I feel sure that few know either its name or its useful properties. So I shall endeavour in this essay to so describe the plant, that all readers of the "Botany Page" will easily recognise it on their next walk in the country. It will be mostly be found in woods, by river-sides and damp grounds, whilst it seems to prefer a clayey soil. The root-stems are stout and strong, spreading along the ground just below the surface, and where it has been established for years they very much interlace each other. The next outward development of the plant may seem very peculiar, for like Coltsfoot, the flowers appear before the leaves. We can find the flowers very profuse this month, April, and early May. To prove that it is one of our earliest wild plants, I have had a specimen of the flower on Christmas Day, whilst this year I had one on January 14th. The flowering stalks shoot up from different parts of the root, and the numerous flowerets shooting out from this central stalk form a perfect bunch or head. The petals are of a dark pinkish colour, in fact, the roots and flowering stalks have also a pinkish tinge. The central stalks are from 9 to 12 inches high. When the flowerets have reached maturity they gradually run to seed, similar to dandelion, with a cotton-like formation attached to the seeds, which enables them to be carried away by the wind. By this time the leaves will have begun to make their appearance. They very much resemble rhubarb, in fact, in many

country districts the children call them wild rhubarb (but, oh, what a difference in the flavour). The leaf-stalk may be anything from 10 inches to 2 or 3 feet in height, with a large heart-shaped leaf at the top, which oftentimes reach 2 feet in diameter. The stalks and leaves remain green until late autumn, then droop away, when the plant begins to await and prepare for nature's call in early spring, to again fulfil its mission as part of this stupendous whole.

In a few districts of Lancashire is to be found another variety, the White Butter-burr (*Petasites Alba*), but it is a disputed plant, some contending that it is a coltsfoot. So it generally gets the scientific name of "*Tussilago Petasites*," meaning Coltsfoot-Butter-burr. It grows almost exactly like Common Butter-burr, except that the petals are white and the underside of the leaves are whitish and hairy.

We now come to the use to which Butter-burr can be put. The parts generally used are the flower heads, which are cut when at full bloom, and dried, ready to be used when needed. It is very useful in all chest and lung troubles, coughs, colds, etc. It is very appropriate that it should flower in spring when so many people suffer from lung ailments, as the fresh herb can then be brewed.

Our subject, Butter-burr, belongs to the composite family in the Natural System, and class 19, Syngenesia, in the Linean System.

R. ROSTRON,
9, Finney Street, Bolton.

Lyceum District Council Reports.

BOLTON DISTRICT LYCEUM COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the above Council was held at the Co-operative Hall, Platt Bridge, on Saturday, March 16th. Mr. Batten presided over a fair attendance of delegates, all Lyceums except Radcliffe being represented. The minutes, correspondence of Secretaries, D.V., U.D.C., and various reports were read and passed. The following officers were elected:—President, Mr. Batten; treasurer, Mr. Knight; secretary, Mr. Walsh; D.V., Mr. Rudd. The Secretary was elected as delegate to the B.S.L.U. Conference. The names of the following associate members have been enrolled:—Messrs. Knight, Batten, Woodward, Rostron and Miss Metcalf. After an interesting discussion it was resolved: "That the Bolton D.C. support the appointing of the S.N.U. Trustees as the trustees for the Lyceum Home Fund." It was agreed that our next meeting be held at Brown Street Lyceum, Leigh, on a date to be fixed by the Secretary sometime in June. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to local friends for their kind welcome and hospitality. Resolved:—"That this Council introduce the following motion at the Conference: 'That, in the interests of the Union, it is desirable that the Permanent Secretary Fund be abolished.'"—Sunday, Open Session at 2-30, when a number of Lyceumists came from Hindley to help along the newly-formed Lyceum. Excellent services were conducted in the Co-operative Hall, the following taking part:—Messrs. Batten, Knight, Walsh and Mrs. Speakman.

ED. WALSH, Secretary.

BRADFORD LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the above Council was held at Shipley on Sunday, March 3rd. There was a good number present. The annual reports of the Secretary, Treasurer, and D.V. were accepted; also the reports of the U.D.C. delegates. The Auditors' reports and balance sheets were also accepted. The General Fund balance sheet showed a balance of 7s. 7½d., and the Shield Fund balance sheet showed a deficit of 4s. 4d., which was immediately paid off by the guarantors. It was decided to send a representative to Leeds L.D.C. demonstration at York on June 29th, Mr. H. Birdsall being elected. In order to try once again to re-open the Yeadon Lyceum, the Secretary invited Mr. S. Smith, an interested worker at Yeadon, to be present. It was finally decided that we form a deputation to Yeadon and take the whole of the services (free) on some Sunday, the date

to be fixed by the Yeaton Society, and that they invite all to attend a Lyceum session, to be held in the morning. Messrs. Rau, Alderson, Barnes, Carter and Lightowler were elected to form the deputation. The Secretary was instructed to obtain an estimate from Messrs. Fattorini and Sons, Bradford, for a scroll bearing the word "Spiritualist" to be fixed on to the Shield.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Miss M. Pollard (Keighley), Vice-President, Mr. W. Barnes (Ivy Rooms), Secretary, H. Birdsall (Otley Road), Treasurer, Mr. Haley (Boynton Street), D.V., Mr. E. Shackleton (Keighley), Auditors, Mr. A. Oldfield (Shipley) and Mr. J. Lightowler (Holme Street).

A vote of thanks was given to retiring officers for their past services. An Open Session was held in the afternoon, the room being almost full. The Murphy family provided the entertainment. A good service was held in the evening, the following taking part:—Messrs. Arnold, Barnes, Birdsall, Rau, Lightowler, Simpson and Miss Pollard. Our Shipley friends were again highly complimented for the way in which we were entertained.

H. BIRDSALL.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the above will be held at Alma Street, Halifax, on Sunday, April 21st, commencing at 10-30 prompt. The usual business will be transacted, also election of officers. The following are the nominees:—President, Mr. W. Burrows, Halifax; Vice-President, Mr. W. H. Peel, Huddersfield, and Mr. T. H. Wright, Sowerby Bridge; Secretary, F. France; Treasurer, Mr. G. Baker, Greenland, and Mr. H. Holroyd, Halifax; Auditors, Mr. Hart and Mr. Wilby.

In the afternoon a Lyceum Open Session will be held. Will all Lyceums endeavour to be fully represented and make our visit a success.

FRED FRANCE, Hon. Sec.

LIVERPOOL LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the above Council was held at Wigan, Miners' Hall, on Saturday, 9th March. Mr. E. A. Keeling presided over a good meeting, 20 being present, viz., 4 officers, 13 delegates, representing 8 Lyceums, 2 Associates and Mr. Davies, from the Earlestown Lyceum.

The various reports showed that the Council was actively existing.

A number of motions for the Conference were discussed and instructions were given for them to be put forward.

It was decided that the expenses of authorised delegates to the District Council's meetings be pooled so that each delegate will bear equal expense.

The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:—President, Mr. F. E. Monks, Wigan; District Visitor, Mr. G. Mathison, Birkenhead; Treasurer, Mr. R. A. Owen, Daulby Hall; Secretary, Mr. H. Walker, Crewe; Auditors, Mr. G. A. Mack, Widnes, Mr. G. Robb, Birkenhead; Judge, Mr. E. A. Keeling, Daulby Hall.

With regard to Session Competition, it was decided that certificates of merit be granted to the Lyceums coming first and second.

A hearty vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the Wigan friends for their kind hospitality.

On Sunday morning the Lyceum was conducted by Mr. Gawthorn. In the afternoon an Open Session was conducted by Mr. Keeling. The evening service was presided over by Mr. F. E. Monks. Messrs. Adamson, Gawthorn and Keeling gave addresses.

During the evening service the Silver Shield was presented to Mr. Adamson, as delegate of Daulby Hall, the successful Lyceum.

H. WALKER.

LONDON LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

We held our annual meeting at Shearn's Restaurant Hall, 231, Tottenham Court Road, on March 17th. In the afternoon we had a Lyceum demonstration, and in the evening many speakers, including Mr. P. S. Smyth, Mr. Clegg, Mr. Graham, Miss Morris, Mr. H. Boddington, Mr. Ashley, Mr. Drake, &c. We also had beautiful solos from Mr. and Mrs. Alcock Rush, entitled "Pass it on," and Mr. Humphreys, "Then they will understand"; also a violin solo, which was well rendered. Altogether we had a very successful Sunday. We heartily invite sympathisers and helpers to the Lyceum Cause to become Associates with us, and help the cause of the children in London.

We are having our Annual Social and Dance on Saturday, April 27th, in Food Reform Hall, 2 and 3, Furnival Street, Holborn (near Prudential), at 6-30. Tickets 1/-. Further particulars from Alex. Brooking, 17, Geneva Road, Brixton.

NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the above Council was held on Saturday, March 16th, in Northgate Lyceum, Blackburn. Mr. Tom Holland, President of the Council, presided.

Salford Lyceum, Blackburn, made application for affiliation, and was accepted. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted, as was also the correspondence.

The Secretary's report was accepted and is as follows:—

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

In presenting my annual report, I must at the outset say it has been one of the most eventful years in the history of this Council, various events standing out very prominently. Firstly, the accident which occurred to Bro. R. Latham, at Blackburn, when he was returning from discharging his duties as Adjudicator at one of the Lyceums. As you are all aware, this necessitated the amputation of his left arm. Your Council took the matter up and issued an appeal to all Lyceums and Societies, and also to well-known workers in the movement. The response was a hearty one, no less a sum than £148 10s. 11d., being subscribed through the following sources, viz.:—Collected by Mr. Higham, £96 13s. 5d.; Mr. Button, S.N.U., £25 18s. 5d.; LYCEUM BANNER, £22 16s. 4d.; *Two Worlds*, £3 2s. 9d. These amounts were handed over to Mr. Latham, at the Annual Tea Party in connection with North Street Lyceum, Burnley. Your Secretary, on behalf of this Council, presented Mr. Latham with the amount he had collected, and Mr. J. J. Morse, Editor of *The Two Worlds*, presented the amounts collected by the S.N.U., THE LYCEUM BANNER, and *The Two Worlds*. Then, secondly, we held a most successful Demonstration at Blackpool. On this occasion we took over 500 by train, and we marched through the streets of Blackpool, headed by a brass band, to the sands, where an exhibition of marching and calisthenics were gone through. It is hoped that another demonstration will be organised again this year, and provided it be a fine day, that it will be more successful even than the one we have had. Thirdly, the Silver Shield Competition, in which, in the first contest, four Lyceums were equal in the number of marks and had to be re-judged, was quite exciting. Also the closeness of the second judgment, when Hammerton Street Lyceum, Burnley, wrested the Shield from Colne by half a point. The Adjudicator's report shows a higher state of efficiency throughout the whole of our Lyceums. I would now draw your attention to the statistics of our Lyceums. I have to thank Mr. Kitson for sending me the number of returns sent in by the various Lyceums in our districts. During the year a new Lyceum has been opened at Earby, our total number of Lyceums being 21.

The following is a list of Lyceums, with their number of scholars and their increases and decreases:—

	No of Scholars	Increase	Decrease
Carter Street, Accrington	31	—	5
China Street, Accrington	53	—	3
Barnoldswick	67	7	—
Mount Street, Blackburn	84	—	—
Northgate, Blackburn	60	26	—
St. Peter Street, Blackburn	108	—	22
Blackpool	129	22	—
Hammerton Street, Burnley	99	18	—
North Street, Burnley	83	—	22
Brierfield	30	—	10
Clayton-le-Moors	30	—	—
Colne	97	—	3
Darwen	80	—	5
Earby, New Lyceum	44	—	—
Great Harwood	58	—	—
Nelson	180	—	6
Padiham	60	—	—
Clark's Yard, Preston	56	—	9
Lancaster Road, Preston	21	—	24
Rawtenstall	49	—	11
Rishton	47	3	—
	1466	76	120

You will thus see that while only five Lyceums have made increases, 11 have decreased. Do you consider this satisfactory? Could not something be done to help those Lyceums who have reported a falling off? We still have one Lyceum not connected with our Council or the B.S.L.U. I refer to Richard Street, Burnley. I have visited this Lyceum many times, to try and get them to join our Council. I visited them again recently and made another attempt, with, I think, a little better success, and I am still hoping to get them to join us again.

The financial report was accepted as satisfactory, showing a slight gain on the year's working. The D.V.'s and Assistant D.V.'s reports were accepted. Mr. Elliott gave the report of the U.D.C. meeting.

The election of officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with and resulted as follows:—President, Mr. H. Hargreaves, Nelson; Secretary, Mr. G. C. Higham, Padiham; Treasurer, Mr. J. Nightingale, Darwen; D.V., Mr. R. Latham, Burnley; Auditors, Messrs. Thornton (Burnley) and Elliott (Nelson). Messrs. Batley (Blackpool), Driver (Colne) and Livesey (Clayton-le-Moors) were appointed Assistant D.V.'s for three months. Mr. G. C. Higham was elected Representative to the B.S.L.U. Conference. It was decided to continue the Silver Shield Competition this year, with Mr. Latham as Adjudicator. No notification will be sent to any Lyceum when the Adjudicator attends, and the selection of the silver chain, musical reading, and golden chain shall be left with the Adjudicator. The competition to start in April.

It was resolved that the following amendments to the Constitution be sent in, viz.:—Article 11, Election of Officers, &c., to delete the words "the President, and the Vice-President must have served on the Executive Council for at least one year." Also Article V., Lyceum Constitution, "that the age be raised from 12 to 14 years."

It was decided to hold another Demonstration this year, and that each Lyceum should send one representative to form a committee for working the same. Members of the E.C. to represent their respective Lyceums. A meeting of the representatives to be held at Carter Street, Accrington, on Sunday, March 31st. Mr. Elliott gave report of Education Committee, which was accepted.

Votes of thanks were accorded to past officers for their services, and to the local friends for invitation and entertainment. The Credentials Committee reported that there were present 32 Delegates, 10 Associate members, and 4 E.C. members, making a total of 46, together with a large number of visitors. The following Lyceums were represented:—Rishton; St. Peter Street, Northgate, and Salford, Blackburn; Hammerton Street and North Street, Burnley; Great Harwood; Clayton-le-Moors; Clark's Yard, Preston; Rawtenstall; Carter Street and China Street, Accrington; Darwen; Colne; Nelson; Padiham, and Blackpool. 17 Lyceums represented out of 21.

The remainder of the evening was spent in a social manner.

Geo. C. Higham, Secretary.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT LYCEUM COUNCIL.

The annual meeting was held in the Heeley Temperance Hall, March 17th, 1912. Election of officers:—President, Mr. Nelson, Attercliffe; Vice-President, Mr. Widdowson, Chesterfield; Secretary, Mr. Spittlehouse, Wombwell; Treasurer, Mr. Winpenny, Mexbro; Delegate to S.D.C., Mr. Papworth, Rotherham; Delegates to U.D.C., Messrs. Spittlehouse and Vickers, D.V.

Nomination for B.S.L.U. Executive Council, Mr. Vickers, D.V.

The following resolutions were passed:—

1. That motion submitted by Mr. Vickers, D.V., be sent to the Conference. Carried unanimously.
2. That prices of *Manuals* be lowered to their original price.
3. That arrangements for Lyceum Demonstration be left in the hands of the sub-committee.

The hearty thanks of the Council was extended to Mr. Vickers for the splendid district report.

A lengthy and interesting discussion followed the U.D.C. report given by Messrs. Vickers and Spittlehouse.

The two dates, September 8th and December 8th, are still open.

S. D. SPITTLEHOUSE, Secretary.

TEESIDE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Quarterly meeting held March 10th, at Stockton, Mr. J. Sutton in the chair. All Lyceums were well represented. Gurney Valley (our latest recruit) sent their Conductor, Mr. Foster.

Our balance sheet showed £4 4s. 10d. in hand. Letters from Tyneside President and Secretary were read, and in future we shall work together to join the district between Tyne and Tees with Lyceums. Mr. Sutton presented the Shield, to Shildon Lyceum, Mr. Smith accepting the same on behalf of the Lyceum scholars. Shildon, 97 marks; Hartlepool, 72½; Middlesbrough, 72½; Darlington, 65½; Stockton, 62½.

The PEACE BRIGADE came in for a lot of discussion.

The Shield Competition and judging for next year was left over to next Council meeting at Hartlepool.

The officers elected:—Mr. Smith, President; Mr. Simpson, Treasurer; W. Cowell-Pugh, Secretary; Mr. Brown, District Visitor; Mr. Sutton, Mr. Cammis, Mr. Foster, also sit on the Executive.

W. COWELL-PUGH.

THE TYNESIDE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Met in fervent assembly on March 10th, to the kind invitation of Rectory Hall Lyceum, Gateshead. A good muster of dele-

gates and associate members, with our worthy President, Mr. J. Rodgers, in the chair, entered upon the agenda business in a whole-hearted manner. Greetings were received and read from our near neighbours, the Northern Union of Spiritualists. Also from the Teeside Lyceum District Council. These were received with deep gratitude. The Secretary's, Treasurer's and D.V.'s reports shewed good general progress throughout the district. It was agreed to hold a Lyceum Demonstration on August Bank Holiday at Jesmond Dene. A motion for a Lyceum Session Competition was placed under the consideration of Lyceums, to be further dealt with at our next meeting, on June 15th and 16th, at First. The Secretary was elected as delegate to the Teeside D.C.'s meeting at Hartlepool. Other business was discussed and an amount of good work was got through. As a newly-formed District Council we must be thankful for the harmony that prevails amongst us. It helps us more than we can estimate, and speaks well for our progress. A magnificent programme was rendered in the afternoon, the children being worthy of all praise for their work. The evening service was well attended. Speakers: Messrs. J. Rodgers, A. Brinklow, J. Lawrence, J. Taylor, and D. Davies. The choir rendered anthems, which were highly appreciated. The President, at the close of the service, moved a hearty vote of thanks to our Gateshead friends for the day they had given so freely to our services, which was seconded by Mr. Lawrence. Mr. Hall responded in a most able manner. The work of the day was felt by all to be one to stand out in the history of our growing upon Tyneside.

D. R. DAVIES, Secretary.

UNITED LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A meeting of the above Council was convened at Commission Street, Bolton, on Saturday, March 2nd. All District Councils, except London, Scotland, Teeside, and Tyneside being represented. Mr. R. A. Owen and Mrs. Nurse represented the B.S.L.U. Mr. R. A. Owen was elected to the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and passed as a correct record. There being no correspondence the motions were next proceeded with.

Motion (a) That we recommend to the B.S.L.U. the advisability of holding an united demonstration at some convenient centre (N.E. Lancashire D.C.) was lost by 6 against, 2 for, 1 neutral.

Motion (b) That we recommend to the B.S.L.U. having an interim conference solely for constitution consideration (Halifax and Huddersfield D.C.) was lost by the casting vote.

It was decided that Motion (c) That we consider the time has now arrived when the Permanent Secretary Fund should be abolished (N.E. Lancashire D.C.) be referred back to Lyceums.

The amended D.C. Constitution was next submitted, and was unanimously adopted. It was agreed that N.E. Lancashire D.C. "do take the necessary steps to make the U.D.C. Constitution a part of the B.S.L.U. Constitution."

The annual November meeting was left with Rochdale D.C., failing them N.E. Lancashire D.C.

Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to our Chairman and local friends.

On the Sunday the delegates staying overnight were present at Bradford Street and Commission Street in the morning. In the afternoon an Open Session was held at Commission Street and was well attended by adults, but there was a shortage of children present. The evening meeting was also conducted by the delegates. I trust their efforts will be appreciated and good results ensue.

FRED FRANCE, Hon. Sec.

LYCEUM REPORTS.

BACUP (Market Street).—On Saturday, March 9th, we held our annual tea party and prize distribution, when a good number of Lyceumists and friends sat down to a good tea. The after proceedings were presided over by our Lyceum Conductor, Mrs. Friend. The prizes were distributed to the scholars by Mr. James Newby, of Oldham. The following took part in the programme:—Mrs. M. A. Duerden, Misses M. E. Brine, Olive Martin, Emily Jackson, Rhoda Pleyworth, Mary Pleyworth, and Gladys May Holmes. Dancing and games were also indulged in. A most enjoyable evening.—W. Nixon, Secretary.

BLACKPOOL.—On the 28th February we had our Annual Tea and Prize Distribution. Mr. Batley presented about 30 prizes (the recipients having above two-thirds of the possible attendances in during 1911), and presided over the entertainment. Glee, &c., were given by "The Serenaders," songs by Misses Hulme and Hopwood; a duet and descriptive dances by Misses Hobbs and Procter, and action songs by Misses Beeton, Procter, Hulme, Lamb, Shufflebotham, G. and E. Weeks and

Hobbs. The feature of the evening was a fairy play by the younger end of the Lyceum, the principal parts being taken by Misses Critchlow, Hodgkinson, Beeton, Hulme, Garlick, Hamlet and Lamb, and Masters Hulme, Frank and Lowther Turner, Taylor, Hamlet and Procter.—A. Eaton, Hon. Secretary.

BOLTON (Bradford Street).—On Saturday, March 9th, we held a grand concert, given by Mr. Hepworth and Concert Party, of Bury. Songs were rendered by Messrs. Hepworth, Swarbrick, and Misses Carr and Hepworth, Mrs. Swarbrick and Crompton. Recitations by Misses Henly and Hepworth, and violin solos by Miss Hampson, Messrs. Hepworth and Pilkington officiating at the piano. A laughable farce concluded the evening's entertainment. On Tuesday, March 19th, we held a farewell social, for Monro Waddilove, a very hard worker, and one of our oldest Lyceumists, who set sail for Canada, with his family and a friend, on March 22nd. We can ill afford to lose such a good worker, but we wish him every success and prosperity in his new home.—Joseph B. Shaw, Secretary.

[Write with ink, please.—Ed. L.B.]

BRADFORD (Boynton Street).—We held our Open Session on March 3rd, when the following gave recitations:—Master N. Haley, Misses Alice and Eleanor Lodge. Mrs. Ramsden gave a reading. Miss F. Winder recited at the afternoon session. Miss Leekie and Miss White gave a duet, No. 350 in the *Manual*. All were well received. A good number of our members were away at the annual meeting of the District Council, and we are pleased to congratulate our Deputy Librarian, Mr. Haley, on his appointment as Treasurer to the said Council.—A. E. Carter, Secretary.

BRADFORD (Ivy Rooms).—On Sunday, March 3rd, Open Session was held, when a good number of children and friends were present. The following Lyceumists took part: Miss Gray, pianoforte solo; Miss Nixon, song, "Sweet Spirit Star"; Miss N. Simpson, recitation, "Buy your own cherries"; Mrs. Fearnley, recital; G. A. Houlbrook, reading; Miss Preston, song; Miss Barrett, Mr. William Bolton, paper; and others. A very pleasant session was spent by all. Our Lyceum looks like waking up, several friends are constantly visiting, and we are hoping to make a record this year and prove to the neighbourhood our grand truths.—Joseph P. Simpson, Secretary.

BRADFORD, LITTLE HORTON (Holme Street).—On Sunday, March 3rd, we held our Open Sessions, morning and afternoon. The responses to the chain recitations were greatly improved. Marching and calisthenics gone through with vigour. The following recited:—Mrs. H. Robinson and Mrs. E. Gush; solos, Misses E. Chambers, A. Leeming, L. Winders, A. Grane and Mr. W. Robinson. The G.C.R. No. 125 was considered in the Liberty Group. The questions arising therefrom were freely discussed, under the leadership of Mrs. Snarey. Mrs. K. Robinson presided at the piano.—W. Robinson, Secretary.

BRIERFIELD (Clethroe Road).—On February 24th we held a Tea and Entertainment, which were well attended. Songs and recitations were nicely rendered. A most happy evening was spent, under the presidency of Mr. Culvert.—Joseph Blake, Sec.

[No reports next month].

BRIGHTON (Manchester Street).—The above Lyceum held its Annual Tea and Demonstration on Friday, March 8th. The social part of the programme was ably rendered, especially Romberg's Toy Symphony, an instrumental selection introducing various toy instruments, including the cuckoo, quail, and many others, which, with the assistance of a few violins, produced a really enchanting effect. There were also recitations, songs and shadowgraphy, the latter causing considerable amusement, particularly a piece, entitled "A visit to the Dentist." The simple harmonies of the charming ballad, "Oh, who will o'er the downs so free," were brought out most effectively, and the exquisite rendering of another part song evoked loud applause.—R. Banks, Secretary.

BURNLEY (Hammerton Street).—On Sunday, March 3rd, we had Open Session and service combined in the afternoon. An excellent programme was gone through, consisting of readings, recitations, songs and a duet. Our Conductor, Mr. E. Richards, officiated at the naming of the son of Mr. and Mrs. Richmond. In the evening we had a service of song, entitled "Did he atone?" The reading was nicely given by Mrs. Metcalfe. The choir did great credit to the musical part. On Saturday, March 9th, our young ladies gave a potato pie feast, which proved a great success. A miscellaneous entertainment followed, after which dancing was indulged in till 11 o'clock.—S. A. Rilev, Secretary.

BURTON-ON-TRENT (Central Hall).—On Sunday, March 10th, we had with us Mr. Meadwell, of Birmingham. Recitations were given by Masters Knight and Brownhall, and Miss Wood. Solos were given by Miss Bench. Sunday, March 17th, Mr. Vincent Morris, Nottingham, was with us, whose encouraging remarks were much appreciated. A social was held in aid of the Lyceum on March 18th, when a play, entitled "Cinder-

ella," was rendered by the Lyceumists. Recitations were given by Harold and Doris Brownhall, and Doris Wood. Songs by Marjorie Baxter, Messrs. Chance, Meadwell, Brownhall; club swinging by M. Baxter; violin and pianoforte solos by Masters Collins and Rendwick. "Auld Lang Syne" terminated a pleasant evening.—R. S. Knight, Secretary.

BURY (off Paradise Street).—On Saturday, March 16th, we held our Annual Tea Party and Prize Distribution. Tea was excellently provided. At seven o'clock the prizes were distributed by our Conductor, Mr. Ellis Duckworth. A vote of thanks was accorded to, and was suitably acknowledged by, Mr. Duckworth. We afterwards spent a very enjoyable evening. Dancing, singing and games were indulged in.—Mrs. Cotterell, Secretary.

CHADDERTON (off Brook Street).—On Sunday, March 10th, we held our Lyceum Open Session in the afternoon. Marching, calisthenics, readings, solos and pearls were given in a creditable manner. Lyceumists were present from Shaw, Royton, and Oldham. Mr. Cockcroft played for marching. In the evening a service of song, "In Heaven's name." Reader, Miss Cadman. Mr. D. Greaves gave the invocation. The reading was very effective, many in the audience being moved to tears. Solos were rendered by Miss Garside, Mr. Frank Shaw, Mr. Rogers and Mr. Ogden; also a quartette by four of our young Lyceumists. Mrs. Hilton occupied the chair, and a very pleasant day was spent. Thanks to all friends who helped to make our session a success.—Mr. M. Oldfield, Secretary.

CHESTERFIELD.—On Sunday, March 17th, we held our Open Session, but owing to anniversary practices, we had to curtail it. Recitations were much appreciated from the following:—Ethel Wale, Edith Herriott, Evelyn Philpott, Lena Elliott and Willie Latham. Pianoforte solo, Hilda Welch. Banjo solo, Mr. Wale.—Edwin H. Widdowson, Secretary.

CLAYTON-LE-MOORS.—On Saturday, March 2nd, we had a Fancy Dress Carnival, in the Mechanics' Institute, when the following artistes appeared:—Jack Jones' Jolly Juveniles; Doc-Simpson, tenor, Accrington; Charles Gray, concertina soloist, Clayton-le-Moors. He has also been an organist and accompanist for a few months. Prizes were given for the best character costumes, and dancing from 8-30 till 11. Chairman, our President, Mr. Jas. Simpson. An enjoyable evening was spent. Some friends came from Great Harwood to assist us.—Jack Jone.

[No reports next month].

CREWE (Mill Street).—On Sunday, March 3rd, we held our usual monthly Open Session, which was fairly well attended. Recitations were very ably rendered by Walter Chadwick, Gladys Mottram, Albert Reay and Ethel Reay. Mrs. Harrison also rendered a song, "Swiftly time is bearing us away." The marching and calisthenics were successfully gone through, and I am pleased to say they are improving by degrees. Pearls, though few, were of a high character, and were much appreciated. The interest displayed by the whole Lyceum throughout the session was evident proof that the time spent was not wasted.—Fred Homer, Secretary.

DUKINFIELD.—We held our Annual Party, Prize Distribution and Entertainment on Saturday, March 2nd. The prizes were distributed by Mr. Oldham, Senr., President of the Society, who spoke encouraging words to each recipient. Songs were rendered by Mr. H. Hall, an old Lyceumist; also Miss Jones and Hallworth. Recitations by Misses Jones, Humberden, Ratcliffe, Hallworth, Masters Garside and Ratcliffe. Dialogue by Misses Ratcliffe and Hallworth. On Sunday, March 10th, we held our Open Session, which was well attended. Recitations were rendered by Messrs. Wolffenden, Wheatley, Garside, Hallworth, Ratcliffe. Solos by Mr. Oldham and Miss Jones. Instructive address on Lyceum and its Objects, by Mr. Beech. Marching and calisthenics were ably gone through, under the leadership of Mr. Fletcher and Miss Jones.—William E. Oldham, Junr., Secretary.

EARBY.—We held our usual Open Session on March 3rd, before a good attendance of scholars and parents. Recitations were given by Maud E. Ward, F. and D. Wilkinson, E. Maunder, E. Foulds and Mr. C. Riding. Mrs. Walmsley gave a short address on "Our Rights," from the *Manual*, which was appreciated. Our Conductor, Mr. G. E. Bradley, and Miss A. Bradlev sung a duet, to the accompaniment of Mr. S. Hodgson. We are pleased to say that our Lyceum is progressing, and hope it may long continue to do so.—J. W. Clark, Secretary.

GATESHEAD (Rectory Hall).—On Sunday, March 10th, the Tyneside Lyceum District Council held its quarterly Conference in the above hall. The Lyceum Session commenced at 2-30 p.m., and Mr. J. Rodgers, President of the Council, conducted. Recitations, solos, pearls, &c., were numerous and very well rendered. Mr. Hall, Conductor of the Lyceum, was called upon to present to three of our Lyceumists, Mrs. C. Middleton, Mr. M. Mather and Master O. Dixon, each with a

beautiful *Lyceum Manual*. At the evening service several members of the Council strenuously advocated the Lyceum Cause. The choir rendered a choral and several solos. I am sure it is such pleasant and instructive gatherings as this that will elevate our Lyceums to their highest standard.—W. Hall, Junr., Secretary.

GLASGOW (Berkley Street).—We have now removed into our new hall, with which we are highly pleased. The numerical strength of the Lyceum is increasing gradually. Our Liberty Group still continues to be a very interesting part of our Lyceum. Other groups are still showing good progress. Marching and calisthenics are once more in full swing, owing to the better conditions of our new hall. Our Rambling Club for the Summer Season will be started soon, this being a most pleasing feature of the Lyceum.—Wm. Guild, Junr., Sec.

GLASGOW, KINGSTON.—We feel unitedly constrained to make some expression of our best wishes towards Mrs. Watson, a leader in our Lyceum, who is leaving for Australia. She took an active part in all the work, and her kind, free and homely manner is sure to cause a vacant place. But we trust that on the other side of the pond she will send her good thoughts to us, and that she may prosper there and have as many friends as she is leaving behind her here.—T. Kane, Secretary.

[No reports next month].

GREAT HARWOOD (off Westwell Street).—We held our Open Session on Sunday, March 3rd. The silver chain was led by Mr. Baxter. Musical reading by Mr. Baxter, Sarah Proctor and Richard Leaver. Golden chain recitation by Mr. Crooks. We had our marching and rod exercises afterwards. Taking it all round we had a good session.—Miss Alice Anderton, Sec.

HALIFAX (Raven Street).—On Sunday, February 10th, we held our second Children's Service, which continues to be a success, as we have some young and very willing workers. Master Albert Moorhouse officiated as chairman, and Misses Minnie Shaw and Gladys Helliwell as speakers. The following gave recitations and songs:—Misses May Moorhouse, Kathleen Pollard, Norah Firth, Phyllis Crowther, Lizzy Thorpe, Florrie Dawson, Doris Marvel, Lillian Stott, Alice Jowett, Vera Culpan, Annie Jowett, Masters Lewis Ackroyd, Cyril Firth, Harry Harris, Ernest Fletcher and Frank Crowther. Great credit is due to the workers of the Raven Street Lyceum. Also the children for the way these services have been conducted. Mr. J. W. Thorpe officiated as organist.—Levi Blackburn, Secretary.

HOLLINWOOD (Hudson Street).—On Saturday, February 24th, we held our Lyceum Annual Tea Party and Social. We had a good number of friends and visitors present. We commenced our social at 7 o'clock. Our Conductor, Mr. A. Dawson, in the chair. Solos were sung by Misses Thornton, Dawson and Hobbs. Recitations by Miss Walmsley. We had a nice selection of dances, pianist Mr. Wm. Hy. Dawson, our esteemed Musical Conductor and Organist. It proved a great success, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.—Mr. Wm. Hy. Dawson, Secretary.

HYDE.—On Sunday, March 10th, we had the election of officers for the next twelve months. Result as follows:—Conductor, Mr. Dean; Assistants, Messrs. Wright and Bouden; Treasurer, Mr. Brammell; Secretary, Mr. A. S. Wright; Guardian, Miss S. Burgess; Librarian, Mr. Noah Cartwright; Musical Conductors, Mrs. Mattocks and Miss Lucy Horsfield. I am pleased to say our Lyceum is making good progress and the scholars are increasing.—A. S. Wright, Secretary.

HULL (Holborn Street).—On March 11th we held our Annual Prize Distribution and Concert. Mr. Merrills presided and made appropriate remarks on each item rendered. The following programme was gone through:—Pianoforte duet, Misses Smith and Willey; song, "The empty chair," Donald Atkinson; violin solo, "Home, sweet home," Master Barker; recitation, "The enchanted shirt," Miss Hogg; song, "Just someone," Miss Jackson; action song, "The sleepy brigade," Misses Taylor, Leng, Brown, Hogg and Headley; violin solo, "Hiawatha," Master Barker; dialogue, "Our floral circle," Misses Smith, Wilson, Hogg, White, Brown, Taylor, Mitchell, Hammond, Pilgrim, Wilhelm and Rothernberg, which was much appreciated, after which the prizes were distributed by Mr. Dauber, of Faldingworth, Lincolnshire. A few kindly words were spoken to each recipient.—Mrs. C. Headley, Secretary.

KETTERING (Gold Street).—Our Lyceum is progressing nicely. Mrs. Johnson, Mr. King, Mr. Broom and Mr. Parish faithfully attend to their duties as leaders. The children wear their sashes, and so do the officers. We had a visit from Mr. Eaton, of Leicester, and a pleasant time was spent. We are looking forward to Easter, when we are to have a Flower Service, arranged by Mr. W. Harvey, of Burton-on-Trent, who has promised to present each child with a white button hole. This idea seems to fit nicely with the resurrection of the life of Nature. A number of children have sung and recited for us.

Miss Gwinnie Parish presided at the piano.—Mrs. Johnson, Conductor.

LANCASTER (Phoenix Rooms).—Our Lyceum has been closed for two weeks owing to the sudden departure of chairs, etc., from the rooms, and if wishes and a few coppers had been mortar and bricks we would have had a key to our own building by this. Our Society Secretary is always ready to receive any little donation in support of our Building Fund.—Mr. J. Kirk.

LEEDS (Easy Road).—Annual Tea and Concert, held March 16th, everyone enjoying themselves. The concert was taken by Lyceum scholars. The children, under Mrs. Hurley, took the first half of the programme, and did better than ever. Seven elders took the remainder, and all was a great success. On Sunday we had an Open Session, and in the evening a service of song, "Rest at last," Mrs. F. Shepherd being the reader. Miss Warburton offered invocations. We had solos by Misses Hurley, Richmond, J. and M. Shepherd, Richmond, and Mrs. G. Ingle.—H. Shepherd, Hon. Sec.

[No reports next month.]

LEICESTER, (Queen Street).—On March 3rd we held our Open Session under the conductorship of Mr. Baldwin. The following scholars took part: Recitations by Miss Holt, Miss Goldsmith, and Master H. Wicks; solos by Misses Smith, Baldwin, Heath, and Master Veary.—John Wicks, Secretary.

LEIGH, (Brown Street).—The Committee of the above Lyceum have decided to commence the Sunday morning session at 10 o'clock instead of halfpast, starting with the first Sunday in April. Will other Lyceums in the district kindly note.—James Hurdus, Secretary.

LEICESTER (Silver Street).—March 3rd we held our open session, when Mr. Hurst gave an address on "Unity and equality of Labour." Recitations and songs were rendered by the Lyceumists. Altogether it was a bright session. We extend to friends a cordial welcome to our sessions, thus stimulating our Lyceumists. Delighted to report continued progress of Mrs. Jewitt, whom we hope will shortly join us again.—J. Butler, Secretary.

LONDON, BRIXTON (8, Mayall Road).—On Friday, March 15th, Mrs. Staton, our conductor, gave an invitation tea to 17 friends and 30 children. Mrs. Maunder, Vice-President, presented four book prizes, provided by our conductor. Mrs. Tyndall presented a handsome bouquet of flowers to Mrs. Staton as a mark of appreciation of her work among the children. Mr. Beavers and Mr. Manvell spoke a few words. Mr. Maunder provided handsome flowers for decorations. Great credit is due to our conductor and assistant conductor, for the way the children have been trained.—J. Manvell, Assistant Secretary.

LONDON, HOLLOWAY (Parkhurst Hall).—The interest in our work is still maintained by our parent society, members of the Church visiting us Sunday by Sunday. During the month pearls and recitations have been exceedingly good, the solos beautifully rendered, and those Lyceumists are to be congratulated upon the expression put into these items. On the 17th, 22 Lyceumists took part in the anniversary of the London District Council, when one of our youngest members, Violent Brenan, rendered a beautiful recitation, "On the road to Heaven." This was greatly appreciated.—Bert Kent, Secretary.

LONDON, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES—Sunday, March 3rd, we held Open Session. Miss Kent ably filled the place of our Conductor, who was ill. After we had finished our marching and calisthenics, in which great improvement was shown, Mr. Miles spoke on the Fifth Commandment. We then had a few words from a very welcome visitor, Mr. Percy Smythe, our district President, who said the heartiness with which we sang was a credit to our Conductor. He encouraged us, and we promised him we would try to get more scholars. We must keep our promise. Our Conductor joined us on the 10th, much better I am pleased to say.—Frank Brown.

[No reports next month].

LONDON (Manor Road).—March 16th, a social was held, and was well attended. Refreshments were provided, and a very good programme was arranged. March 17th, one of our Lyceumists represented us at the Demonstration at Tottenham Court Road; he returned with an excellent report. In a few months we shall be holding our Bazaar. Donations will be gratefully received by the Lyceum Secretary. Will friends kindly note that this Lyceum is held at 3 p.m. and not 11 a.m.—Miss Harrison, Secretary.

LONDON, WOOLWICH AND PLUMSTEAD.—Work goes steadily on in this Lyceum, although no increase is taking place in the attendance. Marching and calisthenics are improving. We sent two delegates to London on March 17th to the gathering of London Lyceums, and their report was very gratifying. On March 3rd the London Union visited our hall, and a very good day was spent.—H.W. Sec.

MANCHESTER (Maskell Street).—February 24th, social evening. Songs rendered by Miss C. Hardman and Mr. Arstall, recitation by Miss A. Cheetwood. March 10th, Mr. H. Sharples, of the Collyhurst Lyceum, gave a very interesting lecture. March 24th, morning, Mr. Sharples continued his lecture, which was well received. Afternoon, open session, recitations by Phyllis MacMaster, Ivy Turner, Ethel Wardle, Miss A. Cheetwood, James Hearn, and Hector Jones. Evening, a service of song, entitled, "Poor Mike," was rendered by the Lyceumists, reader Mr. Knight. A very pleasant day.—James M. Jackson, Secretary.

MANCHESTER (Princess Road).—On Sunday, March 3rd, we had an interesting paper by Mr. Aronavitch. On March 6th we had a social, which was a credit to those who looked after it. Songs and recitations were rendered, and the Machartj Bros. gave a display of hand balancing. On Sunday, March 10th, we held our open session, the speaker for the day was Mrs. Bentley, and there was a good programme given by the little ones and elders. The session was a real treat.—E. Hart, Secretary.

MANCHESTER, HARPURHEY, (Mitford Street).—On Saturday, March 9th, we held our annual prize distribution and social. A good number of prizes were given and the evenings programme consisted of songs, recitations, and club swinging. Also a sketch entitled, "Why young men don't marry," by a number of our Lyceumists. All credit is due to those who helped towards such a pleasant evening. I regret to announce the passing away of Willie Nuttall, one of our young Lyceumists, after a short illness. I venture to say that our young brother has obtained a prize, by far exceeding those present here.—that of eternal progress.—Walter Robins, Secretary.

MANSFIELD.—On Sunday, March 3rd, we held our usual Open Session. Glad to report a marked increase in attendance of both members and visitors. I hope that by brotherly love one to another it will continue. We are holding our anniversary on Easter Sunday, April 7th, when we hope as many friends as possible will make it convenient to attend.—J. Arnold, Secretary.

MOTHERWELL.—We are making excellent headway here, especially with our Groups. The new leaders are: Mr. Hendry, Mr. McCutcheon, and Miss Hendry. Our D.V., Mr. Hamilton, was with us on March 3rd. He taught us a new hymn and promised to learn us another on his next visit. On the same Sunday we had a special farewell Service to Mr. Nicol, who was about to leave for America. Each Lyceumist gave him the double handshake. Our Conductor, Mr. Winning, handed to him a volume of *Spirit Teachings*, one of *Spirit Identity*, and also a handsome Pocket Book as a token of the esteem in which he is held.—Jas. Porteous, Lyceum Secretary.

NEWCASTLE, BENWELL, (Co-op. Hall).—At our Open Session on March 3rd, we had for the first time the naming of a child. The ceremony was performed by Mrs. Macdonald, of Benwell. One of her guides gave a short address, which was very instructive. The child was enrolled a member of the Lyceum, and the children are proud in having so young a Lyceumist. Miss I. Morris favoured us with a solo. There was a good attendance of children and elders, showing the interest taken in the ceremony.—William Stock, Secretary.

[Will our contributors please write all Reports with ink].

NOTTINGHAM (Gladstone Hall).—Sunday, March 3rd, Open Session. Good attendance. Songs were nicely rendered by Edith and Hilda Hicking. Three prizes given by Nurse Sketchley for the best essays upon the "Transfiguration of Christ" were awarded as follows:—1st, Wm. Huntbach; 2nd, Archie Shipley; and 3rd, Violet Hather. Nurse Sketchley gave an excellent address upon the subject of the essay. Mr. T. Marsters also said a few words upon the subject of "Temperance." A vote of thanks to Nurse Sketchley concluded a pleasant and profitable session. On Monday, March 11th, an "Operetta" was given to a large audience. All worked with a will, and the concert proved fairly successful.—A. Shipley,

NOTTINGHAM, HYSON GREEN ALLIANCE.—On Feb. 25th we received a surprise visit from Mr. Ashworth. The D.V. Recitations were given by Doris Capps, Florie Stanley, Lizzie Stanley, John Stanley, and Fred Stowe, and a duet by Miss E. Swodden and Harry Stowe. March 17th, Open Session. We had a visit from Nurse Sketchley, of Leicester, who gave four prizes for the best essays on "How to improve the Lyceum," which were awarded to Horace Shaw (age 14½), Doris Capps, (age 13), Arthur Read (age 15), and George Purdy (age 12). A recitation was given by Doris Capps, entitled "Spirit Blossoms," written by Miss Coles, one of our Lyceumists. Also a duet by Horace Shaw and Fred Stone.—A. H. Coles, (NOTTINGHAM Parliament Street).—On March 3rd, Mr. T. W. Marsters paid us a visit, and gave his experience of his journey on the Continent and the sights he saw, which were very interesting. 10th, Mr. Hepworth was the speaker for the day, he kindly visited the Lyceum and gave a very interesting address. Two solos were sung by our conductor,

and recitations were given by Alice Copeley and Rose Harris. 17th, two essays were given by Elsie Henson and Jabez Cartwright, on "What is Spiritualism." Both received a prize, kindly given by Mr. J. Dobson.—C. H. Newman, Secretary.

OLDHAM (Elliott Street).—On Saturday, March 16th, the members of the Ladies' Sewing Class held a birthday party in the school. Mrs. Noble occupied the chair. Hostesses, Mrs. Waterhouse and Mrs. C. Shaw, who gave every one a hearty welcome as they entered the room. The following artistes gave solos, which were very well rendered: Mrs. Booth, Miss A. Diggley, and Miss L. Booth. Mr. C. E. Waterhouse amused us with his "Talking Doll." He also accompanied on the piano. Our friends from Hollinwood (Byrom Street) gave us the "Sleeping Beauty, which was well appreciated. J. Clayton, Secretary.

PADIHAM.—On Sunday, March 17th, we held our Lyceum Anniversary services, Mr. R. A. Owen, of Liverpool, being our speaker. The Lyceum took its ordinary course in the morning, except a short address by Mr. Owen. In the afternoon we had an open session. Readings were given by Florrie Houlgrave and Florence Broadley; trio by Miss M. H. Oates, May F. Dandy, and M. A. McManus. In the evening the elders of the Lyceum took their places on the platform, and Mr. Owen gave another splendid address. The clairvoyant was Mrs. Starkie, of Padiham.—Wm. Hy. Oates, Secretary.

PENDLETON (Ford Lane).—On Sunday, March 10th, we held a farewell open session to three of our workers—Mr. J. Kenyon, conductor; Mr. Wood, vice-president; Mr. Churchill, assistant conductor. Morning session was well attended. The afternoon was a session which will always be remembered, good harmony and record attendance. The children who took part in the tableau had their photos taken, along with Mr. Kenyon, as a memento. The evening service was a great success. A tableau was given, "The truth shall make you free," specially written by Mr. F. Hepworth. Mr. Kenyon conducted. All Lyceumists wish our good workers success.—C. Lloyd, Secretary.

PRESTON (Clarke's Yard).—On Sunday, March 3rd, we had our open session. There was a very good attendance considering the bad weather. Recitations by Mary Alice Margison, Mabel Cartmell, Nellie Spencer, Annie Collis, Rena Collis, Esther Cartmell, Annie Beetham, Willie Holt, Will Beetham, John Cartmell and Mr. Jones. Song by Miss Fanny Mooby. On the whole we had a happy time.—C. Fisher, Secretary.

PRESTON (Lancaster Road).—On March 3rd we held our monthly open session. Marching and calisthenics were gone through. Recitations were given by Misses Annie, Ivy, and May Pullan, Nellie and Maggie Culling, Leah Wood, Master Joe Cusack and John Hood. A duet was given by Cissy and Joe Cusack.—Albert Hodgson, Secretary.

[No reports next month].

ROCHDALE (Penn Street).—On March 24th we held our first open session since the re-formation of the Lyceum. There was a crowded attendance. Marching and calisthenics were excellent. The following Lyceumists gave pearls: Annie Brown, Annie Farby, Elsie Quarumby, Robert Farby, Eric A. Berry and Joe Brown. The following recited very nicely: Annie Brown, Annie Farby, Elsie Quarumby, May Bromiley, Gladys Holt, Eric A. Berry, Joe Brown, and Ernest Berry. Solos were nicely rendered by Miss Kate Cavanaugh, Elsie Quarumby, and Annie Brown. The session was very ably led by our conductor, and was a great success.—Frank W. Wood, Secretary.

ROCHDALE (Regent Street).—Sunday, 3rd March, Lyceum anniversary. Mr. Farrow conducted. The Lake Group had raised money to purchase new Manuals. Messrs Farrow, E. Hudson, Miss Taylor, and Mrs. Nurse assisted the children. 72 Manuals were presented to the Lyceum by Mr. Rueben Latham. Mrs. Nurse received the gift. Small mementos were presented to Messrs. Latham, Farrow, Hudson and Mrs. Nurse, and a little token for Mrs. Latham. Miss Gray sang a solo in good style.—G. F. Knott.

SHILDON.—On March 2nd, a grand concert was given by our Lyceum, when the following programme was well rendered: A juvenile operetta, "The old woman who lived in a shoe," a juvenile sketch, "Curly Locks." The children taking part in the above were: Misses M. Gardiner, A. Chappell, B. Dickinson, C. B. Mason, M. J. Harris, S. A. Smith, N. Johnson, N. Robinson, Masters A. Robinson, W. Smith, J. Dickinson, J. Chappell, also chorus girls. A suffragette comedy, "Votes for Women," by Mrs. Christopher, Mrs. Johnson, Miss Copping, Mr. Wilson, and R. Christopher. Also songs sung by F. Coates, T. Brown, J. Chappell, and J. Wilson. Miss A. Chappell sang "Jingle Bells," accompanied by chorus girls with bells.—T. W. Brown, Secretary.

(For remainder of Reports see page 58).