

THE LYCEUM BANNER

A SPIRITUALIST MAGAZINE FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

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

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ONE PENNY.

INTUITION.

By Mrs. FRANCES KINGMAN.

CHAPTER XVII (Continued).

Mrs. Holt came in with sage tea and mustard, she had sent for the doctor, but said she could not delay another moment in employing some means to relieve the sufferer. So I helped her, and soon afterwards we had the satisfaction of seeing Lizzie asleep. Her mother told me with tearful eyes the following story:

"Day before yesterday, Mrs. Blake, Lizzie asked my permission to take a walk with Belle Orcut. At first I refused; then her piteous appeal touched my heart and I complied with her request, asking her where they were going. 'Oh, down by the mill brook in search of wild flowers,' she replied. When she had been absent nearly an hour and a half I commenced to feel uneasy. The stream, you know, is swollen considerably with the spring rains, I imagined all sort of possible accidents, and at last became so nervous that I went in search of her. And now, Mrs. Blake, you will pardon my weakness, if thus it be, if I tell you how my Lizzie appeared to me there, and what she was saying."

"Sweet little one!" I murmured, and with a slightly flushed face Mrs. Holt said:

"It was where the water rippled, losing itself among the mosses down by the old mill. The birds, fearless of her presence, fairly sang near her feet. Belle stood over her, twining anemones and violets in her short curls, and I never saw Belle look half as well. She had her chestnut hair coiled up neatly; her tall, yielding form clad in modest print; her eyes borrowed a warmth and light from their conversation. Lizzie's lap was filled with wild blossoms. They did not see my approach, I confess I went stealthily, for I wanted to hear what it could be that so transformed Belle. My darling was too deeply engaged to gaze upward, and I stepped close behind a projecting rock, so I could hear their conversation. I was subtly beguiled, I assure you, Mrs. Blake. I heard Belle say:

"And really and truly, Lizzie, do you believe God is no respecter of persons?"

"Truly, Belle, truly. He loves you even better for all your heartaches. When He sees people who profess to be *awful* good treat you so, He pities you and wants to put His arms around you and keep you close to Him."

"But I can never join the Church and love Christians."

"Oh, they are not all alike, Belle. There are good, real good Christians and *ministers—real good.*"

"But, Lizzie, I remember that Sunday so well. Oh, if you had only been there! Miss Cutty is

splendid, but after all, she isn't you.'

"Lizzie seemed very thoughtful for a moment, then said, 'Don't you care about 'em Belle; you just do the very best you can—I'll risk the rest—and you have got one advantage, Belle.'

"What is that, Lizzie?"

"You'll feel natural in heaven. You haven't got anything to lose, but everything to gain. You won't miss splendid dresses, or lots of false hair, or great houses; you'll have a better home than ever you had here. I dare say somebody has got you ready a splendid place. I've wondered lots and lots of times what Miss Duane would do without her poodle.' Belle smiled, and Lizzie added, 'I shall look very sharp among the doves when I go to heaven to see if I can find the one I called Lily. But at any rate, Belle, you just keep real good, love everybody as much as you can who ill treats you so, and God will just be sure to make all things right. I'll bet the day'll come, up there, when these very people who won't speak to you here will try ever so hard to get introduced to you.'

"You don't say so, Lizzie,' added Belle, in amazement.

"Yes, I do; because God and the angels are going to fill all the tired hearts with joy. You just learn all you can here, Belle, and you'll do splendid things there."

"Oh, Lizzie! do you really think I might learn to sing there?"

"Of course, Belle, and paint like Cutty, if you feel you'd like to. I expect God's got such beautiful things for people who have suffered here. Oh, I expect to see such splendid, splendid things!"

"Anything like the things here, Lizzie?"

"Oh, yes; only so very, *very* much more beautiful!"

"And that great girl, Mrs. Blake, looked upon Lizzie as though she was a perfect goddess of inspiration. She asked:—

"Do you think I'll get rid of this dreadful sticking to me of the past, when I was so bad?"

"Yes, indeed, Belle. It will be so awfully long ago, and you will have been good so long God will have forgotten it all."

"With tears running down her face like summer rain, Belle kissed the hands caressing her, saying in a husky voice:

"I will remember these things all the while, and as you say, there are good Christians and good church members, and maybe I'll find them sometime. I guess I shall, where the church isn't so grand, and perhaps them who slight and scoff at me here will seek me there, if I am one of God's children. Oh, Lizzie! if ever I do go to heaven it will be because God made you."

"Utterly regardless of the passage of time, and of everything around them, they continued their conversation. I remembered what Jesus said of the little ones, Mrs. Blake."

I merely said in a sort of quiet response, "I would much like to have heard their conversation." I offered neither approval nor comment, believing a great change had dawned in the mother's soul, and that "A little child had sown good seed." Mrs. Holt bent herself down, listening to her daughter's breathing, and imprinted a lingering kiss upon the little flaxen curls, murmuring, "My precious child." I thought I observed a trifle of regret in that caress.

In the evening Cutty sat besides me for a while, and I watched her meditative mood until I said, "Let me dream with you, dear."

Smilingly she responded, "Yes, mother, darling mother, dream with me. I was thinking of dear Lizzie. If she dies, it will seem to me like a poor hunted bird finding its haven of shelter."

Then we had a pleasant season of rehearsing our connection with Lizzie, and before returning she asked:—

"Can I progress as rapidly as I desire, mother dear?"

"What is the meaning of the word, Cutty?"

"I think, dear mother, it is the drawing forth of that divine spark which lies within us all; for as we draw forth the powers of the soul, and become actually conscious of its powers we may rise so high as to be freed from selfish instincts, and almost walk with angels."

"Yes, Cutty, do not forget your own explanation. Practise it, and it will suffice. And now, darling, a kiss, for the clock is striking ten."

(To be continued.)

SPECIAL REPORTS.

Under this heading, Lyceums whose reports exceed 120 words, may have them inserted in full by enclosing 6d. for every extra nine words.

DURBAN, NATAL.—Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson have now arrived from New Zealand for a six months' mission in South Africa. They will probably spend most of their time in Durban, where they have already created a highly favourable impression. They are both earnest Lyceumists, and their presence is always welcomed at our meetings. The Lyceum has lost the visible presence of the wife of the Conductor. Although never enrolled as a member, she was an ardent Lyceumist, and hardly ever, until lately, missed a service. She was of a kind and gentle disposition, and she will be much missed. Her influence for good, though quiet and unassuming, was widespread. The interment took place on Easter Monday at Stellawood Cemetery, the graveside service being conducted by Mr. John Wilson. There was a large attendance of Lyceumists, Society members and friends, a touching proof of the love and respect in which she was held by the whole community. "Though lost to sight, to memory dear."

Bluebell Guild.

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

MY DEAR BLUEBELLS,

I am pleased to be able to have another chat with you. The weather is so beautiful, causing the hedge-rows to put on their bright spring garments; the fields are looking green, the new grass is covering up the old brown turf, and is studded with buttercups and daisies, and lots of other spring flowers. The birds are singing joyously in the trees, and the larks are

just vying with each other to see which has the sweetest and strongest voice, and all appear to be happy, and I want you to join in the general feeling of mirth and gladness. The following little story seems to fit in with the season, and I am sure you will enjoy it.

THE BEE AND THE ROSE.

AN EXCELLENT OBJECT LESSON FOR YOUNG AND OLD.

One day a bee was hunting for honey in a flower garden. He saw a beautiful red rose on a bush and was about to sip some of its sweetness, when the rose cried out, "Go away, honey bee, I do not wish you to take any of my sweetness away from me."

"Why not?" asked the bee, "you will not lose anything; you will never miss the little sip I will take."

"I do not care if I will not miss it," replied the rose. "I do not wish to part with even a drop of my sweetness; I wish to remain fragrant and beautiful."

"But you must wither and die like all the other flowers," said the bee, "give me a little of your sweetness, it will make others happy in a way that you cannot give it, and you will have plenty left to throw out in fragrance."

"No, no," replied the selfish rose, drawing her petals close together. "I want it all myself, I do not wish to part with even a drop of it, it may help me to live longer."

"But it will not," replied the bee, "you must die like all the other flowers, and that will be the end of you. Give me a sip with which to make honey, and you will leave behind some of your sweetness: otherwise all your sweetness dies with you." But the selfish rose shook her head and held her petals close, so the little honey bee flew away and took his honey from other flowers.

Not long after the bee was flying through the garden one morning when he heard some one calling faintly, "honey bee, honey bee."

He turned and beheld the selfish rose that had refused to give him a drop of honey. It was withered now and its petals were blowing away one by one. "What do you wish?" asked the bee, flying near to the drooping rose.

"I want you to sip a bit of honey from my petals before I am entirely blown away," murmured the rose. "I want to leave a little of my sweetness in the world, that I may not be entirely forgotten."

"It is too late my dear rose," replied the bee, "you should have listened to me the day I begged you to give me the honey," and away flew the bee leaving the poor withered rose to her fate.

The rose is like some people. Many of us keep things for which we have no use, when by giving them to some one we would perhaps give happiness and many times comfort to others.

And some little boys and girls keep toys of which they have grown tired and store them away in a closet, when there are many poor children who could be made happy with the cast aside toys.

And it is the same with the kindness that is in our hearts; many of us keep it there instead of letting it out into the world, in words and deeds.

A "thank you" or a smile and pleasant nod, would go far to make the world happier if such of us would do our share. It would take nothing away from us

to do this and it will surely make some one happy. Try it and see.—L. A. Tribune.

I hope all the members of our Guild will have joyous Whitsuntide.

Your loving sister,
FLORA BELLE.

Stories from the Classics.

[As the legends of Grecian Mythology afford countless subjects for poets, painters, and sculptors, so that we cannot enter a picture-gallery without finding ourselves surrounded with gods, goddesses and Greek Heroes, and as these are often alluded to in our best books and discourses to illustrate a point, or draw a moral, our insertion of selections from the ancient classics needs no apology to the scholarly reader.]

JASON AND THE GOLDEN FLEECE.

CHAPTER VI.—Continued.

On the morrow the king would not agree to hand over Medeia to the Colchians, and as they dare not return without her the Colchians sailed away and founded other towns along the shores of the Adriatic.

Then the heroes sailed away, and were caught in a terrible storm, in which they struggled till they gave up all hope of life. And at last they touched ground, and when daylight came they waded to the shore; and saw nothing but sand and desolate salt-pools, for they had arrived at the quick-sands of Syrtis, on the burning shores of Africa. And before they could pursue their voyage Canthus was killed by a stone; and Mopsus died, the seer, who knew the voices of all birds, but he could not foretell his own end, for he was bitten in the foot by a snake, one of those which sprang from the blood that dropped from the Gorgon's head when Perseus carried it across the sands.

At last they rowed away towards the north for many weary days till their water was done, and their food eaten up; and they were worn out with hunger and thirst. At last they came to Crete, and they said, "We will land in Crete, and see Minos the just king, and all his glory and wealth; at least he will treat us hospitably, and let us fill our water-casks upon the shore."

But as they drew near the land they saw a mighty giant, who quickly reached the shore, and shouted, "You are Pirates, you are robbers, if you dare land here you die."

Then the heroes replied, "We are no pirates. We are all good men and true, and all we ask is food and water;" but the giant cried the more—"You are robbers, you are pirates, I know you; and if you land, you shall die the death."

Then he waved his arms and ran up a valley and vanished in a large furnace; and the heroes were filled with fear.

But the Princess Medeia, who had been watching the proceedings said, "I know this giant. I heard of him in the east. Hephaistos [He-fa-is-tos] (Vulcan) made him in his forge in Ætna beneath the earth, and called him Talus, and gave him to Minos for a servant to guard the coast of Crete. Three times a day he walks round the island, and never stops to sleep; and if any strangers land he leaps into his furnace, which flames among the hills; and when he

is red-hot he rushes on them, and burns them in his brazen arms and hands."

Then all the heroes cried, "What shall we do, wise Medeia? We must have water, or we die of thirst. Flesh and blood we can face; but who can face this red-hot giant?"

And the witty brain of the fair princess had been busy thinking out a plan whereby she could outwit the giant and save the heroes. At last she said—

"I can face this red-hot giant, if the tale I have heard be true. For they say he has but one vein in all his body, and it is filled with liquid fire; and that this vein is closed with a nail; but I do not know where that nail is placed. But if I can get it once into these hands, you shall fill your vessels with water in peace."

Then she bade them put her on shore, and row off again, and leave her to deal with the giant Talus.

But the heroes murmured, as they did not like the idea of leaving her in such peril. But Jason said, "She is dearer to me than to any of you, yet I will trust her freely on shore; she has more wit in her cunning head than we can dream of."

So they left her on the shore, where she stood alone, calmly waiting the return of the giant.

And when he saw her alone, he stopped; and she looked boldly up into his face without moving, and began to sing a magic song to him.—"Life is short, though life is sweet; and even men of brass and fire must die. The brass must rust, the fire must cool, for time gnaws all things in their turn. Life is short, though life is sweet; but sweeter to life forever; sweeter to live ever youthful like the Gods, who have ichor [i-kor] in their veins—ichor which gives life, and youth, and joy, and a bounding heart."

Then Talus said, "Who are you, strange maiden, and where is this ichor of eternal youth?"

Then Medeia held up a flask of crystal and said; "Here is the ichor of youth, I am Medeia the enchantress; my sister Circe gave me this, and said, 'Go and reward Talus, the faithful servant of Minos, for his fame has gone out into all lands.' So come and I will pour this into your veins that you may live forever young."

And he listened to her false story and came near; and Medeia said, "Dip yourself in the sea first and cool yourself lest you burn my fingers; then show me where the nail in your vein is, that I may pour the ichor in."

Then he dipped himself in the sea till the water hissed and steamed round him, and then came and knelt down before Medeia and showed her the secret nail.

And she drew the nail out, but she poured no magic ichor in, and so the fiery liquid spurted from his body like a stream of red-hot iron. And the giant tried to leap up, crying, "You have deceived me, false maiden." But, lifting up her hands before him, she continued singing till he sank beneath her spell. Then she called to the heroes, "come ashore and fill your water casks in peace."

So they came and found the giant dead; and they knelt down and kissed her feet in gratitude for her noble deed that had saved them from death. And they filled their water casks and took some sheep and oxen, and sailed away from Crete.

(To be continued).

For the Boys.

Conducted by Geo. Fred Knott.

MY DEAR CHUMS,

I wish first of all to thank Harry Wright, of Sowerby Bridge, and John Firth, of Rochdale, for sending their answers to most of the puzzles which were nearly all correct. Here are the solutions:—

1. Because of the (sandwiches) sand which is there.
2. Ann Tiquity (antiquity).
3. Because it is a fellow-feeling for a fellow-creature.
4. A five pound note, when you put it in your pocket you double it, and when you take it out again it's increases (it is in creases).
5. This is done by Roman figures. M.
6. A thorn, a splinter or a spell.
7. Smiles, because there is a mile between the first and last letter.
8. Because it lays on the sleepers.
9. Because it contains the ashes of the great (grate).
10. When it's a jar (ajar).
11. Hannah.
12. A ditch, a hole or a lake.
13. Tart.
14. So that she can have a will of her own.
15. An orphan has ne'er a parent, a bald-headed man has no hair apparent, and an ape is a hairy parent.
16. Place 5 in the centre square and then, commencing at the top left-hand corner, place the following figures in the squares around the central square, when they will add to 15 every way: 4, 9, 2, 7, 6, 1, 8, 3.
17. This puzzle has a word wrong. The puzzle is to cut the squares so as to make sixty-five squares from the original sixty-four. This will be answered next month.
18. The horseman put his horse with the others. He gave 9 to the eldest, 6 to the next, 2 to the youngest, and rode away on his horse again.
19. Every year.
20. "Lyceum Banner."

This month I want to tell you of a little boy who hadn't been going to school very long. The class he was in had a class-room to themselves. Besides the desks and book-cases there was, in one dark corner of the room a wash-bowl. Beneath this bowl was a cupboard. None of the scholars had ever seen in this cupboard. When ever a boy was naughty the teacher would tell him there was a black man in the cupboard who would take the boy away, and so the boys were always quiet and good for a time, as the teacher said that if they were naughty they would have to be put there.

One day three of the boys were going to school. One of them had a looking glass. It was a hot sunshiny day and this boy was throwing the reflection of the sun from the looking glass on to the wall. They arrived at the school very soon and so they still

played with the mirror. Going in the classroom the sun's rays came through a big window. The black-man's cupboard door had been left open by a mistake. Shining the glass in different parts of the room, the boy, by accident, let it fall on the cupboard. The dark corner was illuminated by the little searchlight. All three boys saw the circular disc of light. They were frightened at first, but gaining in courage, the light was thrown on the cupboard's contents. No black man could be seen, and all they did see was some empty ink bottles.

When the lessons had commenced the boy kept playing with his mirror. The teacher saw him and threatened to put him in the cupboard, but the boy know there was nothing to fear. When the teacher found out that the boys (for the one with the looking glass told all the others what he had seen) had ceased to be afraid, there was no more threats to put them under this form of punishment.

When this boy grew bigger and anything puzzled him, he always thought of the mirror and the cupboard. If only light could be thrown upon anything which was not clear, he knew he would understand how things happened. People taught him God was in heaven on a great throne in the sky far above the clouds, but he went one day into the shop of a religious man: there was a motto hung on the wall and on it were these words, "God is Love." This small boy was an orphan and had no one whom he could talk to, so he began to look round and a certain other boy's mother took pity on him and commenced to interest herself in the orphan, which caused a strange companionship to spring up between them. When the boy was alone he brought out his magic mirror and said to himself, "If God is love and I love that other boy's mother, and that other boy's mother loves me, then we both have a bit of God within us," and so the orphan boy brought God right down from his great throne and placed Him right in his own heart. Whenever he was tempted to do something naughty he thought of his mother-friend and the God that reigned in her heart too. He found out as he grew older, that everybody had God's power of love within them, and everybody felt sorry when another was hurt or sick, and so the boy said at last "God is everywhere."

This boy commenced to read books and learn many things. He found out that all over the world people were worshipping in fear of the God in the sky, when God was love and was part of their being and yet they knew him not.

Now, boys! I wonder how many of you have a magic mirror? I wonder how many of you when tempted to disobey your parents or tell a lie think like the orphan boy that God is within you and try to live and be as children of God should. Aren't you glad you don't live in India where people still throw their boys into the River Ganges thinking to appease Gods whom we know do not exist? Aren't you glad you did not live in bible days when it is said the eldest son was sacrificed and killed, as was supposed, to please God. Boys, I want you to know God is good, the devil is bad, heaven can be brought right down to earth and placed in every home, that all these terms are positive forces to bring a better world into existence. May you strive then to bring God's kingdom of love on earth, and find in the *Lyceum Manual*

and other good books the necessary inspiration of a new hope to offer yourself as an example and a missionary amongst your playmates.

GEO. FREDERICK KNOTT.

After Death What?

[Under this head will appear a series of spirit-communications describing some of the experiences of people on their entrance into spirit-life, which the reader may find both interesting and helpful.—Ed.]

ALL NATURAL THINGS HAVE THEIR SPIRITUAL COUNTERPARTS.

We have said that the spirit body is an exact counterpart of the material body, and this is also true of the clothing, so that when a man dies he retains the spiritual counterpart of his clothing, because it is saturated with his magnetism. From this you will gather that the spiritual counterparts of material things are as detachable as the spirit body is from the physical body, and the dying man or woman unconsciously draws the spiritual counterpart of its clothing around itself, which it is able to do on account of its being saturated with their magnetism. This kind of clothing is retained by bright spirits for a time after passing from earth life until they grow accustomed to the kind and style of dress or clothing that is worn by the bright denizens they associate with, but to those spirits who are unable to leave the earth plane it is the only dress they have, and is often saturated with the evil effects of mis-spent lives and cannot be purified or cleansed except by personal atonement for the wrongs they have done, and the misery their actions have caused.

If you bear in mind that the earth has its spiritual counterpart you will be better able to comprehend the naturalness of all things proceeding from the earth maintaining their dual nature. All your clothing, whether cotton, woollen, or silk is obtained indirectly from the earth. Your furniture is made from trees whose roots are firmly fixed in the earth.

When we say a 'spiritual counterpart' we do not mean life, but spiritualized matter, which is too fine and etherealized for the physical senses to perceive.

Thus in time the arisen ones grow accustomed to seeing the spirit counterpart of your different vehicles drawn by spirit horses—or the counterparts of what is visible to your sight, but they do not see the life principle that animates the horse. Nor are they able to see the life principle animating the animal kingdom, though they see their spirit bodies.

Sometimes clairvoyants are able to see these counterparts of the animal kingdom and so think that they are immortal. But when they die, in the majority of cases, the spirit matter decays, and the life energy or principle, is conserved for further evolutionary purposes. But when the pet animal or bird dies the love bestowed upon it by its owner or keeper, helps to preserve the individuality of the spirit counterpart, or body, and it is able to survive the physical earth, and may be seen by the clairvoyant in the presence of those who cared for it, and it will persist to live while their love for it shall last. So the Indian hunter, along with his pale faced brother, may find his faithful dog and steed

on his entrance to the spirit side of life. So may all who have lost dearly beloved pets of whatever nature.

We have already intimated that all that grows on earth has its counterpart seen by spirits. Plants, trees, foliage, flowers and fruits are recognised by their spiritual counterparts. These are not the kind of spirit flowers that are often brought to your circles. They belong to the Summer-land, while those we have been describing belong to your earth-plane.

Spirits who are confined to the earth plane know of no other vegetation, flowers and fruits than those we have described. Hence arises much confusion in the minds of the investigators when they compare the descriptions of those higher, or brighter spirits with those given by a spirit who is unable to rise from the earth-plane.

MAN A PHYSICAL AND A SPIRITUAL BEING.

It will, perhaps, be as well to define what we mean by material and spiritual bodies, and what we understand by "soul" and "spirit" before we proceed further with descriptions. The material body is what you on earth call the physical body. The spiritual body is what we in spirit call the spiritual counterpart of the physical body, and is visible only to us, and appears to us as material and solid, while your physical body appears transparent. What we call the "soul" is not the spirit body nor the physical body, but is the immortal Ego, or life-essence that dwells in the spirit body, which, along with the material, are only the outer envelopes. When we speak of "the spirit," as an inhabitant of the spirit world, we mean the immortal soul and its spirit body. You are, however, just as much "spirits" as we are only you, the immortal, possess in addition to your spirit body, a physical body. In order to distinguish you from us we will call you the earth people; and us, the spirit people.

Now the earth people having an extra body of much denser material, governed by laws suited to its needs and requirements, requires sleep to allow this extra body to rest and recuperate its depleted energies and waste of tissue. While the body sleeps the spirit, as a rule, remains near the body, and talks to spirit friends who may be near, or it may take a journey to some loved one living at a distance, or if its daily labours be of a difficult and perplexing nature it may be drawn to the scenes of its anxiety and trouble, and in the morning will wake up from a troubled sleep unrefreshed. But when the spirit is not so troubled it is often more lively when the body is asleep. So you will see that the earth people live double lives—one during the waking hours of the day, when the spiritual part seems to be asleep, and one during the night when the physical body is asleep, and the spiritual counterpart is awake. Although the soul, or ego is unconscious of anything that goes on around it in the spirit world, during the time that the material body is awake; yet, when the latter is asleep the spirit once more resumes consciousness of its activities during the sleeping hours of the body, but cannot impress a full knowledge of them on the memory of physical life; consequently that part of a man's life which is enacted during the time of sleep is a complete blank to him. There is

nothing to prevent earth people from having a circle of spirit people with whom they can associate during the sleep of their bodies. In fact the friends or guides who are in attendance during the day often let their charge enjoy their society during the night. We may state that when a spirit is drawn away from its sleeping body it has to be carefully watched by its spirit guardians, as the connecting link between it and the body might be severed, when death during sleep would take place.

(To be continued).



Girls' Own Corner.

By
Mrs. JESSY
GREENWOOD



MAY, 1913.

SESSION PROGRAMME.

Date.	Opening Hymn.	S.C.R.	Mus. Reading.	G.C.R.	Closing Hymn.
May 4	395	396	226	130	387
„ 11	346	355	242	119	356
„ 18	345	344	241	112	406
„ 25	338	93	239	110	334

MAY 4.—“The life of the soul while it is in the body has as much value as when it has left it.”

MAY 11.—“There is no greater mistake in education than to associate virtue in early youth with gloomy colours and constant restrictions.”

—Lecky.

MAY 18.—“If our virtues did not go forth from us, 'twere all the same as if we had them not.”

—Shakespeare.

MAY 25.—“It is with narrow-souled people as with narrow-necked bottles: the less they have in them, the more noise they make in pouring it out.”

—Pope.

THE COMING OF SPRING.

S. WOOD, (*Daily Citizen*).

Over the moorland brown and bare,
Over the flowerless plain,
Spring, like a maiden wondrous fair,
Scatters her gifts again.

Miracles rise where'er she treads;
Over the emerald grass,

Daisy and primrose life their heads,
Eager to watch her pass.

Delicate wind-flowers ope their eyes,
Celandine flaunts its gold;
Violets smile to the violet skies,
Banners of leaf unfold.

New from slumber the wild bee wakes,
Roused by the joyful sounds,
Bluebells spring in the tangled brakes,
Down where the freshet bounds.

Yes, Spring is here, and already the trees are feeling the new impulse by just unfolding slowly, gradually, beautifully, their pretty green leaves whose clean, sweet influence is ever so marked after the dark cold day of winter. This same impulse is manifest in the human as in the vegetable, indeed all nature is pulsating with a responsive bound to the touch of the gay maiden, bringing to sight all the hidden glories of tree, bud and flower, exquisite in shape, form, colour and perfume, and the lover of nature asks where have all these things been concealed, and what is the magic power which makes the old earth yield up her great and never ending store of verdure, beauty, strength. Surely God is speaking to us in these marvels, these delightful specimens which spring bids to appear, to grace and beautify the country. None of us can produce nor imitate its matchless beauty. A child may pull a daisy to bits in sheer mischief, but an angel cannot remake it. No, the spirit of the world ordains the majestic trend of the seasons and we, as part of the whole, advance similarly. The spring of youth is the gladsome, happy time of babyhood and childhood, when all is new and sweet, and the mind is being conditioned by environment and experience to prepare for the next step, which, like summer, holds the promise of the future ready to be developed and expanded into sterling manhood and womanhood. The heat of summer is typical of the period when love calls and cupid plays havoc with young hearts, then later when troubles have been and changed the once sweet green to a sober hue, and the serious brown and russet of autumn proclaims the waning of powers, the approaching of winter's icy grip, and eventually the passing of a soul to the eternal spring of the Summerland. Ah! it is a beautiful passage in spite of April showers, June's tender embraces, October's changing grey from brown locks, to winter's covering of snow and frost and cold. Even the glitter of the stars on a frosty night claim your attention and indicate a vision of light encircling orbs to yet another sphere which surpasses their tiny beacons as the sun hides them from view in the day time. Our good angels keep watch and guard all the way.

REMINISCENCE (*Daily Citizen*).

When lavender and roses die,
And Nature dons her sombre grey;
When all the hopes of summer lie
Bemired, amid the oozing clay;
When some lone dreamer draweth nigh
To the drab end of his far way,
And sad fond hearts in pity sigh
For the dead loves of yesterday:
Oh, could we climb again the heights,
Or sing again the gladsome tune,

The same we sang those fairy nights
When life was sweet as sunny June!
But summer suns are hid in clouds—
Our wedding garments are our shrouds.

PERMANENT SECRETARY FUND.

Subscriptions since last BANNER list:—Leicester
(Silver Street) 5/-.

MRS. JESSY GREENWOOD, Hon. Sec.
Ashleigh, Hebden Bridge.

A Glimpse of Mexico City.

BY MRS. GERTRUDE N. EDGARD.

This afternoon it begun to rain. It sounds very mild but in reality the rain descends in torrents, rebounding from the pavements with big splashes and filling the gutters with rushing rivers. I watched it from the window of the trim dining room, in Porter's Hotel, and amused myself hugely at the antics of the unlucky ones caught in the shower. Some rushed across the street taking refuge in doorways; a lady holding her skirts tightly endeavoured to make record time down the street, but was much handicapped by hobble skirt and high heeled shoes; a gentleman, evidently very proud of his immaculate attire, hailed a coach. The driver immediately brought out from somewhere below his seat, a large apron of oil-skin, which he proceeded to spread in front of the gentleman, (now sitting inside the coach, which was of the Victoria type), buttoning it securely on either side, the head of the gentleman appearing above it, reminding one of a kitten placed inside a basket, peeping over the side. Not a coach was to be had inside of five minutes, all were rushing here and there taking pedestrians to their destinations, the clip-clopping of the horses feet echoing in the now almost empty street.

An old native was toiling slowly along—too old and indifferent to hurry—doing his best to shelter beneath his many coloured *Paño*—a square rug with a slit in the centre through which the head is thrust, the ends falling gracefully from the shoulders,—and his big "sugar loaf" hat with its wide brim.

The lightning flashed again and again, accompanied by crashes of thunder which shook the building as though the heavens were bent on our destruction.

"How often does it rain like this?" I asked of Vicente, the head *mozo*.* He rolled his large black eyes and elevated his eyebrows; shrugging his shoulders, with a sweep of both hands. "Every afternoon," he replied, "in the rainy season, *señorita*."

"But this is the summer, is it not?" I persisted.

"*Como no*, † *señorita*. It rains all summer."

"And what does it do in the winter?" I queried, thinking of the dreary time in store for me, my pet aversion being rain.

* *Mozo*—Waiter. † *Como no*—That is so.

Mrs. LEE

(Late of Armley)

136, WESTMINSTER ROAD,
MORECAMBE, W.E.

Homely Apartments.

Bath and Piano.

"It is fine all winter, *Señorita*, lovely weather. But we like this rain, it is so refreshing, and then, it is always fine in the mornings."

I left the dreary outlook, to warm my chilled bones at the stove, thinking I would have to rise earlier than usual in the mornings if I were to see anything of Mexico City. The Hotel was sadly empty just now on account of the scare of the Revolution.

I went up the four steps or so to the lift, and was soon in my room. That night I was early in bed, but for a long time could not sleep, listening to the thumpety-thump of the pump drawing water into the cistern. As the cistern filled, the pump gradually stopped, then again it would go on as soon as water was used in any part of the Hotel. It was like the engine throbbing on board ship; closing my eyes I could imagine I was once more on the wide ocean. Then a single mosquito tormented me, until he came singing round my head once too often, just as he was preparing to settle on my nose I caught him. Perhaps I should speak of the insect as feminine, as I am told only the female mosquito thirsts for one's blood; then, a good deed done, I went to sleep.

I followed out my intention, and in the morning was up in good time, down to breakfast at eight-thirty. The Hotel was a paragon of cleanliness, and the dining room, filled with an array of tables covered with snow-white linen and decorated with lovely flowers, made me think for a moment of dear old England so far away.

Vicente escorted me to a table, and seating myself, I propped the "Mexican Herald" against a water jug and tried to make some sense out of the jumble of news re the Revolution. As far as I understood from the paper, Mexico was in a frightful state of revolt and murder, and here was I calmly sitting in the midst of comfort and not a sign of trouble or discord anywhere! Turning my attention to breakfast as an antidote to all the awful things I had been reading seemed the best course. The obsequious *mozo* handed my bag to me and took away the chair as I was rising, at exactly the right moment, with a most engaging smile. I made the discovery later on that politeness in these parts is more a habit than otherwise.

A few minutes later I was standing at the door of the Hotel watching the stream of people passing to and fro and trying to make up my mind which direction to take for my walk. A big burly man, dressed in a leather waist-coat, white blouse, leather trousers, and huge sugar loaf hat, was standing in the middle of the pavement intercepting passers-by with a pile of lottery tickets which he waved invitingly before them.

"*Uno numero bonito*," † he said very often. He had many sales, and seeing me stationary, advanced with his tickets. That decided me. I hurriedly left the steps; so far the fever had not made me a victim; perhaps it would 'ere long.

I did like all women, made straight for the shops; following the stream of people, I went up La Avenida de San Francisco, the first turning to the right, and discovered quite a boulevard of fashion and shops such as one finds at home. Owing to the exodus of the American, I passed few English speaking people; the

(Continued on page 73).

† *Uno numero bonito*—A pretty number.

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—17 Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, near Dewsbury.

MAY, 1913.

LYCEUM MOTTO FOR 1913.

“All religion has relation to life, and the life of religion is to do good.”

Lyceum Notes and Comments.

It was a pleasing sight to see the splendid rally of Lyceumists at Burnley, North Street, on Sunday morning, April 13th. The combined session was full of vigour and enthusiasm. We hope to see Lyceums unite for an Executive Council visit whenever possible.

We are requested to accord to Gateshead Lyceum the full credit of marks obtained in the Shield Competition, namely 87 and not 86. As we do not wish to minimise the credit due to any one, we gladly make the desired correction.

It is gratifying to see the activity displayed in the Tyneside Lyceum district. Besides the Sunderland Lyceum being re-opened we learn of one being opened at South Shields, Eldon Street. The pleasing part of it is that both are contemplating joining the Union. This good work is due, in the main, to the Officers of the Tyneside District Council. If they continue to enthuse Societies in their district at this rate they will soon become one of the strongest districts in the Lyceum Union.

Another pleasing item comes from Morecambe. The Society has decided to re-open its Lyceum. We hope all Lyceumists who spend their holidays at Morecambe this season will attend the sessions and help to support the effort. Such visitors may add to the pleasure of their visit by securing apartments at Mrs. Lee's, who is an ardent Lyceumist, late of Armley, Leeds. Mr. Sam Lee is well known as the D.V. for Leeds Lyceum District.

The Annual Reports to the Lyceum Conference will be in the hands of all Lyceum Secretaries ere this meets the eye. There has been some delay owing to the reports having to be submitted for approval, and the extra amount of work these special Conference handbooks entail on the General Secretary.

We are in receipt of a letter from Mr. George Smith, Hull, from which we quote the following particulars concerning Conference arrangements:—“I am pleased to say everything is going on well with the arrangements for Conference. The various Committees have worked well together. We have arranged for the delegates to be met at the station by Lyceumists. It is a straight road to our Hall, Holborn Street, off Holderness Road. Will friends note that they must take the car marked H. The catering has been entrusted to a noted firm, and meat teas will be provided at 10d. each. On the Sunday a hot dinner, consisting of roast beef and mutton, with all the *et ceteras*, at a charge of 1s. 6d. per head. **Will Delegates please enclose stamps for reply when writing for billets.** Some have not conformed to this rule. I may add we are also arranging for something on the Monday.”

We are in receipt of a copy of the Sheffield Lyceum District Council's Examination paper. There are two grades of questions. The preliminary grade is for those students under 15 years of age. The ordinary grade is for those over 15 years of age. There are 12 questions in each grade, the student is expected to answer six of them, and is allowed to make his or her own selection. As we looked through the preliminary grade we wondered how the majority of Spiritualists would acquit themselves if placed in the position of students under 15 years of age? Students who take those courses of studies for a few years should be a splendid acquisition to our platforms. The LYCEUM BANNER wishes the Education Scheme a brilliant success.

Weddings.

On Monday, March 24th, the marriage was solemnised at Attercliffe Spiritual Church of Mr. Cyril Nelson and Miss S. Raynor. Both are ardent Lyceumists.—F. Whiteley, Secretary.

On Saturday, March 22nd, Miss Ada Ingle, of Toronto, late of Armley Lyceum, was united in marriage to Mr A. Fincham, of Toronto.—David Abbott, Secretary.

In Memoriam.

Ordinary intimations will be inserted as follows:—**Not exceeding twenty-four words, Free. 6d. will be charged for every additional nine words. Poetry 6d. per line. Payment must accompany all intimations of more than 24 words, or they cannot be inserted.**

Passed to the Higher Life on Easter Sunday, Alice, the beloved wife of John A. McLaren, Conductor of the Durban Lyceum. The dear one who has just gone home was an ardent Lyceumist; a strenuous society worker and member of the executive; a faithful wife, a devoted mother; a true friend and an earnest spiritualist from having added to her faith knowledge. She lives in the hearts and memories of her loved ones left for a time behind.

PENDLETON (Ford Lane).—I am sorry to record the passing away of one of our young Lyceumists, Leonard Berry, age 5 years. Mr. Henley officiated. Leonard told his mamma he was going to heaven, but he would come back and see her.—J. Green, Sec.

THE
British Spiritualists'
Lyceum Union

Will hold its

**24th ANNUAL
 CONFERENCE**

In the Holborn Hall,

Holborn Street, Holderness Road, HULL,

On SATURDAY, May 10th, 1913

At 6 p.m.

On SUNDAY, May 11th

The Conference will continue its Session at 10 a.m.

In the

Lecture Hall, Jarratt Street

A

Public Mass Meeting

Will be held in the

Lecture Hall, Jarratt Street,

At 6-30 p.m.

when Addresses will be given by well-known prominent workers
 in the movement.

President: Mr. Reuben Latham, Burnley.

TEA will be served in the Holborn Hall on the
 Saturday, and DINNER and TEA in the same place on
 the Sunday, at popular prices.

A. KITSON, Gen. Secy.

Mrs. A. BIRD,

Saltley House, 16, Lonsdale Road,
 (Off Lytham Road),
 South Shore, BLACKPOOL.

Public and Private Apartments.
 Two minutes from Promenade. Piano.

(Continued from page 71).

native element predominated, and on that account
 business was poor everywhere.

Across the road a beggar was asking alms; he was
 a queer stunted native, in rags, and dirty; a gentle-
 man gave him money, and then, to my surprise, the
 beggar dropped to the pavement and walked along on
 all fours! One saw at a glance that he had always
 walked like that. It was Saturday, and by law the
 "Beggar's Day." To-day they were allowed to beg.
 It was a sight not to be forgotten. Scores of beggars
 accosted you, many of them blind, others suffering
 from frightful diseases; one man confronted me, hold-
 ing up both hands, minus fingers; he pointed to his
 feet; I looked; they were without toes! A way was
 made for a creature literally crawling on hands and
knees, his legs from the knees just small bones. After
 some days I closed my eyes to these sights and looked
 elsewhere.

At each street corner were wooden stalls heaped
 with roses, where the flower sellers made gigantic
 bouquets, surrounding them with long ferns and
 leaves. The men sat on boxes, their fingers swiftly
 twisting wire amongst flowers with practised hands;
 their faces were bronzed and rather handsome, and
 they wore the "sugar loaf" hats. Here and there
 I passed natives selling fruit, slices of pineapple and
 water melon, placed in shallow baskets on the pave-
 ment exposed to the dust. It made one shudder to
 think of eating such delicacies after the feast of the
 hundreds of flies clustered there. I never saw fruit
sold any time whilst in Mexico, though I saw lots
 of fruit being eaten. There is a saying that "A water
 melon is a meal and a bath." A Mexican will hold
 a huge slice of water melon in both hands and just
 push his teeth into it, the juice of the fruit dripping
 over him and the curved ends coming up each side of
 his face; all the time he is rolling his eyes and smack-
 ing lips, apparently in a perfect ecstasy of delight.

The older natives look very picturesque with their
 tall hats and gay cloaks; the latter are especially use-
 ful in hiding many deficiencies—particularly dirt, I
 should think. The poverty of the natives is extreme,
 they don't appear to have sufficient clothing to cover
 their nakedness in many cases. Huddled in a door-
 way you will see an old woman, her grey hair hang-
 ing in thin wisps about her face. She is toothless;
 she is dirty and forlorn. Besides her is a shallow
 basket filled with the native *Tortillas*, an unwhole-
 some looking cake, baked over charcoal, for which
 she evidently has a sale.

The traffic in this narrow street is terribly con-
 gested; a mass of coaches, automobiles and a variety
 of other vehicles, rushing along at a speed regardless
 of consequences. At the street corner is a policeman,
 looking very ferocious with hand on sword-hilt. He
 endeavours to direct the tide of traffic, and more
 often than not makes a hopeless muddle out of which
 the drivers emerge as best they can, shouting scathing
 remarks at each other and mentally calling down the
 blessings of heaven (?) upon the unlucky policeman's
 head.

Coming to the end of *San Francisco*, I turned to
 my right into the *Portalis*. Here were more large
 shops, and on the edge of the pavement were stalls,
 guarded by girls in gaudy dresses, hair arranged in
 a roll round the head with an enormous black ribbon

bow stuck at the back to hide all deficiencies; they occasionally waved a fan made of native grass, to clear away flies attracted by the highly coloured candy spread out for sale.

Cheap laces and embroideries, cheap toys of all descriptions, cheap watches, fruit and cakes, articles of every kind, amongst them sensational models of Jesus on the cross, and terribly painted statuettes of the Madonna, all to be had for a few cents.

There is something very elemental in the nature of the low-born Mexican native; all that appeals to the senses meets an immediate response in him. He loves colour, the bull fight, bloodshed, laughter, and to make love. To fight and shed blood is his delight; to play all day long and have plenty to eat is his dream.

BOLTON LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the above Council was held at Bradford Street Spiritualist Church, Bolton, on Saturday, March 29th. Mr. Batten (in the chair) pointed out several features of the work that we had in hand in our district. The minutes of previous meetings were accepted as a correct record. The Secretary's report, the Treasurer's report, and Correspondence were accepted in the usual way. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mr. Gough, Horwich; Secretary, Mr. Ed. Walsh; Treasurer, Mr. Winder; D.V., Mr. Knight, Bolton; Auditors, Messrs. Clegg and Woodward.

It was resolved that the B.D.C. should go in for a silver shield, and all Lyceums in the district should do something in getting funds together, in promoting socials, tea parties, potatoes pie suppers, etc. The Secretary, Mr. Walsh, was elected Delegate to the B.S.L.U. Conference to be held at Hull. Resolved.—We, the Bolton D.C. are unanimous in our opinion that the newly elected D.V., Mr. Knight, should represent Bolton district at the B.S.L.U. Conference. The Annual Balance Sheet was accepted, showing a balance of £1 15s. 7½d. It was suggested for the newly elected E.C. to take into consideration the forming of a united gathering of Lyceumists at some pleasure resort, and that all matters of arrangements be left in the hands of the E.C.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Bradford Street friends for their invitation and entertainment. Votes of thanks were tendered to past officers for their services. The next Council meeting to be held at Hindley, on Saturday, June 7th, at 3-15, and the E.C. to conduct the Sunday services, to be held in the Co-operative Hall, June 8th. The following Lyceums were represented: Bradford Street, Commission Street, Leigh, Daisy Hill, Hindley, Horwich, Chorley and Radcliffe. ED. WALSH, Sec.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD LYCEUM D.C.

Annual meeting held at Alma Street, Halifax, on Sunday, April 20th.

The President, Mr. W. Burrows, Halifax, presided. The following Lyceums were represented:—Halifax (Alma Street), Huddersfield (Ramsden Street), Brighouse (Commercial Street), Hebden Bridge, Sowerby Bridge and Slaithwaite.

The President in his address reviewed the past year's work, and made special mention of the interest

and enthusiasm of the young members of the council, which is a sure sign of progress. There is still need for earnest workers to face the difficulties now before us. Elland Lyceum is now closed for want of support and interest in the care for the children. The question of how to retain our elders, especially in the Liberty groups; the existing divisions between Lyceums and Societies; the question of Legalisation were all given special emphasis, hoping that the newly elected E.C. would give these their earnest consideration in the coming year.

The various reports showed a healthy position. Financially a little balance to the good. The statistical returns showed a slight increase on the rolls and in the average attendance.

It was decided to hold a Demonstration and Competition at Halifax on Saturday, July 26th, working co-operatively with the "Messenger" Guild Centres, who will hold a Field at the same place on the Sunday, July 27th.

It was decided not to support separate legalisation of the B.S.L.U., but to support the motion in favour of a comprehensive Trust deed with S.N.U.

The following officers were elected:—President, Mr. W. Burrows; Vice-President, Mr. T. H. Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Peel; Treasurer, Mr. H. Holdroyd; D.V., Mr. S. Ackroyd; Auditors, Mr. Wilby and Mr. Hart.

Mr. W. Burrows will represent the D.C. at the Conference at Hull.

A ramble was arranged for June 28th to Hardcastle Craggs.

The usual votes of thanks were passed to the retiring Secretary, and also to the Alma Street friends for their kind hospitality.

W. H. PEEL, Hon. Sec.,

16, George Street,

Crosland Moor, Huddersfield.

MANCHESTER LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The Annual Meeting of the above Council was held on Saturday, March 29th, at Pendleton, Ford Lane. The following officers were elected:—President, Mr. J. Kay; Vice-President, Mr. C. Lloyd; Treasurer, Mr. Grimsditch; Secretary, Mr. O'Neill; District Visitor, Mrs. A. Bentley; Assistant D.V., Mr. Grimsditch and Miss Johnson. Mrs. Bentley introduced the newly-formed Salford Lyceum to the Council, and we were glad to receive their Conductor, Mr. Kay, as our President. It was decided to hold a Demonstration, the date to be decided at the next Council Meeting. We give a hearty invitation to all Lyceums in the Manchester District, and also surrounding districts, to take part in the demonstration. Votes of thanks were given to retiring officers, and also to the Pendleton friends for use of hall.—A. O'Neill, Secretary.

SHEFFIELD SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

EXAMINATION RESULTS, 1913.

ORDINARY GRADE, FIRST CLASS.

Helena Appleby, Reginal Bowmer, Arnold Jenkinson, Edith Appleby, Annie Evans, Ernest Stevenson, Alice Alton, Valentine Cecil Norris, Ernest Kitson, Reginal Stevenson, and Alice Frost.

SECOND CLASS.—Edward Gale.

PRELIMINARY GRADE, FIRST CLASS.

Harry Victor Truelove, Wm. Thomas Hopkins, Ernest Eric Norris, Florence Vernon, Evelyn Hempstock, Vernon Jenkinson, Doris Horton, Joseph Hopkins, Hugh Cecil Truelove, Willie Bowmer, George Ernest Green, Cyril Truelove, C. A. Beardoe.

SECOND CLASS.—James Beardoe.

All persons desirous of obtaining a copy of the examination paper of the Educational Scheme may do so by sending a stamped addressed envelope to George Magness, 120, Duchess Road, Sheffield.

THE TYNESIDE LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

SESSION COMPETITION.

The presentation of the Shield will take place at Rectory Hall, Gateshead, on Sunday afternoon, May 25th. Open Session, 6-30. Special evening service 6-30. To all a most hearty invitation is accorded.

Teas provided in the Hall, 6d.

Re Shield Fund.—Too late for publication in this issue.—See *Two Worlds*.—D. R. Davis.

Spiritualist Mottoes.

DECORATE YOUR HALLS AND CHURCHES WITH SPIRITUALIST MOTTOES.

These Mottoes are printed in bright colours, with fancy floral border.

Any of the following Mottoes printed:—

ANGELS LEAD MY FOOTSTEPS.
THE WORKERS WIN.
STAND FOR THE RIGHT.
WE ALL MIGHT DO GOOD.
DO GOOD, AND BE GOOD.
CHERISH FAITH IN ONE ANOTHER.
THERE IS NO DEATH.
WE DO NOT DIE.
SPIRITUALISM IS TRUE.

These Mottoes vary in lengths from 3 yards and upwards.

Price 5/6 each, post free.

Orders to be sent to—

HERBERT BUCKLEY, Artistic Designer,
211, Oldham Road,
LONGSIGHT, OLDHAM.

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

The Executive Council held its business meeting at Burnley, North Street, on April 12th, and all the members were present.

A long agenda of pressing business kept the Executive busy till a late hour. Besides the minutes and the usual reports there were the reports of the Legalisation, Officers' Edition of the *Lyceum Manual*, the United District Council, the Messenger Guild, and the Good Friday Celebration. The usual batch of late applications for credentials were also in evidence. The following applications for membership were also considered and ordered to be placed on the Union's Roll: Bishop Auckland and Wolverhampton (Princess Street). Important matters relating to the Lyceum Conference were also dealt with.

SUNDAY MORNING.

There was a splendid gathering on the Sunday morning. The officers and scholars of the Hammerton Street and Brierfield Lyceums were present, and contributed their quota to the success of the joint session.

"Open the door for the children" was sung with a heartiness that was indicative of the object of the gathering. After the invocation Mrs. M. E. Pickles, the conductor, extended a hearty welcome on behalf of the Lyceum to the Executive

Council and the officers and scholars of the two neighbouring Lyceums. She then invited the President of the Lyceum Union, Mr. Reuben Latham, to preside over the day's meetings.

Mr. Arthur Thornton, the Conductor of the Hammerton Street Lyceum ably led the S.C.R. "What I live for," and offered comments on the same.

Mrs. Frances Stables, representative of the Nelson Lyceum, led the M.R. "We all might do good." Miss Forbes Hudson, Conductor of the Brierfield Lyceum, led the G.C.R. "The religion of use," and invited questions on the same. Several Lyceumists availed themselves of the opportunity, and an interesting ten minutes followed.

After the singing of a hymn, Mrs. Nurse (Rochdale), performed the pleasing ceremony of naming a baby boy. A gentle, soothing influence pervaded the Lyceum during the ceremony.

The spacious hall was almost too small to allow free display of marching and calisthenics of the assembled Lyceumists, whose combined forces had an enthusing effect.

After the exercises the adults retired to a large ante-room to listen to an essay, and the children were formed into three groups, or classes, which were ably instructed by Miss Hesp (Leeds), Mr. Owen (Liverpool), and Mr. Wright (Sowerby Bridge). The lingering of the boys and girls round their respective leaders showed how fully they had enjoyed their lessons. The singing of the hymn "How to live," brought a very pleasant and edifying session to a close.

The afternoon session was equally pleasant and varied. After the opening exercises Miss Hesp led the S.C.R. entitled "Better than gold." Miss Annie Pickles, a girl elocutionist, ably rendered "The Bishop and the caterpillar," which won an encore. Mr. E. A. Keeling (Liverpool) contributed a solo. Miss Wilkins (North Street) ably recited "The gift of love," which also won an encore. After the M.R. "Natural worship," Mr. Wright (Sowerby Bridge), during a brief address, referred to his visit at the opening ceremony of the church, and how he had pictured to himself the splendid Lyceum sessions that would be held in it. In order to succeed in their labours of training the young it was necessary they should learn and practice the law of self-sacrifice. A solo, "O rest in the Lord" was sweetly sung by Miss Laycock (North Street). Miss Mary Parker followed with a solo on the mandoline, with pianoforte accompaniment, "The Bohemian Girl." The whole session was very enjoyable.

A moderate gathering assembled for the evening meeting, presided over by Mr. Latham. After the singing of "Be kind to each other," Miss Hesp gave the invocation.

Mr. Keeling (Liverpool) said he had expected seeing a much bigger audience on an occasion like the present. He was reminded that many pioneers had arisen in the district who had done splendid service for the Cause. There was need of more pioneer work and pioneer training. In order to do this they must so train themselves as to be able to meet all opposition that shall come against the truths of Spiritualism.

Mr. Owen (Liverpool), said that on awakening that morning he heard strains of music which reminded him of the lines "Sweet golden age," etc. And he wondered how the golden age was to be brought about? And, as if in answer, came the lines, "Hand in hand with angels, through the world we go, clinging to the strong ones, *drawing up the slow*," etc. Herein appeared to lie the secret of success,—while they cling to the strong ones, who are their spirit guides and instructors, they must remember their duty to those less favoured, the slow ones who had not received the spirit teachings, and extend a helping hand to them.

Miss Laycock (North Street) sang "The Better Land."

Mrs. Jessy Greenwood (Hebden Bridge), under control of spirit "Earnest," referred to the value of the work that was being done in training the children in the truths and principles of the religion of Spiritualism, from which would evolve pioneers and reformers to help forward the world's upward march. They affirmed that the work would go on because it was guided and energised by the spirit people.

Mr. Henry Rau (Bradford), during a spirited speech, said one particular note seemed to have rung through the day's meetings, and that was, "What I live for." He thought it was a mistake if they only lived for those who loved them. It was not intended they should live till they were 70 years of age merely to keep body and soul together. They had work to do. There were movements in the world that needed assistance, and it was their duty to assist them to the best of their abilities. There were wrongs in the world that needed all their powers of resistance to keep them from spreading to injure people.

Annie Pickles, by special request, most admirably recited "The leak in the dyke."

Mr. Kitson complimented them on the splendid elocutionary and vocal talents in their own Lyceum, and thanked them for the splendid treat they had enjoyed that day.

ALFRED KITSON, Gen. Sec.

British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

LYCEUM DISTRICT VISITORS' QUARTERLY REPORTS.

ENDING MARCH 30TH, 1913.

BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT.—There are 12 Societies in this district, four of which have no Lyceum. Two interviews have been held, with no visible result.

Birmingham (John Street).—I had a long talk with the officers of the Society re the advisability of starting a Lyceum. I learned they have a class for adults, but very little, if any, hope was held out for a Lyceum. Fare 1/1.

Netherton (High Street).—I visited this Society on February 13th, and had an interview with the Secretary and friends, who say they cannot see their way yet to open a Lyceum. Fares 1/-.

Walsall.—This Lyceum is in a healthy condition, and the high tone of its sessions fairly well maintained. Postages 6d.

A. O. THOMAS, D.V.

BRADFORD DISTRICT.—There are 12 Societies in this district, three of which have no Lyceum. No interviews have been sought.

General remarks.—*Shipley.*—A fair Lyceum on the whole. Marching and calisthenics well gone through. The Conductor commented on the silver and golden chain recitations. Fares 1/-.

Bradford (Carlisle Road).—Open session was being held on the day of my visit. Late start. Calisthenics too fast, and marching marred by inattention to the Captain. Fares 1/6.

Bradford (Boynton Street) was also having its open session. I found this Lyceum at its best. The Conductor seemed to put the required energy into the Lyceum by explaining the nature and importance of the marches and calisthenics, which were excellent.

Cleckheaton (Old Robin Street).—The officers struggle bravely to maintain this Lyceum. They are in need of help. (Walker Street).—Rather a poor attendance, but I was pleased to see an improvement in the session. Fares 2/5.

Keighley.—This Lyceum continues to make headway. Good sessions. The Liberty group is proving a great success.

E. SHACKLETON, D.V.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.—There are 12 Societies in this district, three of which have no Lyceum. No interviews have been sought.

General remarks.—February 25th I visited *Sowerby Bridge*. In the morning there were 37 present, and 65 in the afternoon. There is a diminished attendance. The officers have less enthusiasm, and there were few of them present. The calisthenics were good. They generally have instructive teachings from the chain recitations. Fares 1/10.

Huddersfield (St. Peter Street).—March 16th. This Lyceum has served its Society well since it was reopened. More workers are required and more punctuality is desirable.

I visited *Slaihwaike* in the afternoon. Present 26. This Lyceum is in a more healthy condition than it has been. They have got some young workers who have become warmly interested in the work.

March 23rd I visited *Brighouse* (Martin Street). The calisthenics were good. Two groups were formed. I was pleased to see the blackboard used in the younger group. Liberty group had a study from Mrs. Besant's "Higher Life." Fares 10d.

SETH ACKROYD, D.V.

LEEDS DISTRICT.—There are 18 Societies in this district having a Lyceum.

On January 5th I visited *Liversedge*. A small attendance. A little girl conducted very nicely. Reading, singing, marching, etc., very good. The officers are looking forward for better results, and are working to obtain them. Fares 1/10½d.

Leeds (Heed Street).—I visited on January 19th. They have only been in existence about three months, but they give promise of a bright future. Fares 4d.

Leeds (Psycho).—I visited on January 26th and was pleased to find a great improvement, there being about 40 present. Reading, etc., good; questions were ably dealt with. The best session I have seen here for many years. Fares 3d.

Leeds (Church Street).—I visited on February 16th. In the morning 24 present, in the afternoon 29. Reading, solos, pearls, etc., good. Fares 5d.

Leeds (Easy Road).—I visited on February 25th. In the afternoon there were 52 present. I have seen some good marching during my visits but that day's was superior to all previous efforts. The reading and responses were good. This is one of the few Lyceums who have groups. A well conducted Lyceum. Fares 5d.

Castleford was visited on March 16th, 35 being present. I strongly urged them to join the B.S.L.U. and my remarks were attentively listened to. In the afternoon the scholars asked a good number of questions concerning the readings. Fares 1/7.

In conclusion I thank all friends for their kindness and courtesy during my term of office.

SAM LEE, D.V.

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT.—There are 18 Societies in this district, five of them have no Lyceum. Two interviews have been sought and held.

Birkenhead.—I found a great improvement in the session and also in the attendance.

Seacombe.—Although this is not a large Lyceum, yet they have been able to win the Shield. The whole session was good, and great credit is due to its Conductor, Mr. Thompson.

Southport.—Attendance small, only 11 present. The whole session was good. Leaders are much needed. I obtained the President's permission to appeal to the Society at its evening service to render more assistance to the Lyceum. Fares 2/4.

GEORGE MATHISON, D.V.

LONDON DISTRICT.—There are 24 Societies in this district, 14 of which have no Lyceum. Three interviews have been sought, and two held. Clapham Society is unable to find workers for a Lyceum.

Brixton.—I regret to report this Lyceum has lapsed on account of the Church lease having run out, and the owners would not renew it. I hope they will soon find a new home.

Bayswater.—Mrs. Clegg and self had an interview with Mr. Beard and were assured that as soon as possible they would have a Lyceum. Fares 1/-.

Brixton (Mayall Road).—This Lyceum has improved since my last visit. They have no room for marching, but the pearls, recitations and songs were good. Fare 10d.

Manor Park (Strand Road).—A nice, harmonious session, though it was brief on account of another meeting to be held.

Holloway.—It always gives me pleasure to visit this excellent Lyceum. The chain recitations, songs, pearls, marching and calisthenics all were good.

Battersea.—I am glad to report progress since my last visit. I was pleased to see Mrs. Boddington among the workers. Fares 10d.

Peckham.—This Lyceum is improving both in the quality of its sessions and membership. Fares 1/-.

Little Ilford.—There is room for improvement here. I hope they will ever remember "The workers win."

Plaistow.—This Lyceum has had a very hard struggle. Mr. Robotom has worked hard and success has at last crowned his efforts. I hope all will work together in harmony. Fare 6d.

Tottenham.—I was pleased to see the marked improvement here. The singing, recitations and pearls were good. The whole session was harmonious.—Fares 1/-.

MR. CLEGG, D.V.

MANCHESTER DISTRICT.—There are 11 Societies in this district; all of them have a Lyceum.

Collyhurst.—A prompt start, many recitations and a splendid address on "Harmony and music" by their late musical conductor helped to make a very pleasant session. This Lyceum has lost a faithful friend in the passing on of Mr. Crutchley. Fare 4d.

Chell Street.—This Lyceum has decreased in numbers from 64 on my previous visit to 30 on my last one. The session was nicely conducted and responses good. Fares 2d.

Princess Road.—There has practically been a change of officers all the way round. The children appear to feel the change somewhat. I do hope when I pay my next visit they will all have got thoroughly in harness and the whole session show good results.

Ardwick (Maskell Street).—I have visited twice during the quarter. On my first visit we were quite a quarter of an hour late in starting—no marching or exercise, but a very pleasant Liberty Group. On my second visit we had a very happy session, with responses to the golden chain recitation. There was again a late start, owing to the absence of the three chief officers, Conductor, Assistant Conductor and Musical Director. The Assistant arrived later, and we had a nice march round to the music of our voices. On March 23rd they lost one of their late secretaries, Mrs. Burgess (Miss Lily Sims).

Higher Broughton.—This Lyceum has dissolved, owing to the Society closing. They have placed the whole of their belongings in trust with the Trustees of the Society, so that they may

hope at some future time to open out again with better results.
ANNIE E. BENTLEY, D.V.

NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.—There are 21 Societies in this district, each having a Lyceum.

Brierfield.—January 19th. Lyceum commenced very late. A good attendance. Singing, reading and marching good. A medium present gave a paper on "Am I a Spiritualist?" A good discussion followed. This Lyceum is progressing. Fare 2d.

Nelson.—February 9th. Lyceum started prompt. Good attendance. Singing, reading, marching and calisthenics very good. Everything going well and progressive. Fares 4d.

Preston (Clarke's Yard).—February 16th. Prompt start. Singing rather poor. Readings and calisthenics very good. This is a good Lyceum, always cheerful and entertaining. Fares 3/8.

Accrington (China Street).—Late start. Singing and readings well rendered. (Discussion banned). Physical exercises very poor. The Lyceum has a good attendance, and the future looks bright and progressive. Fare 1/4.

REUBEN LATHAM, D.V.

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.—There are 11 Societies in this district; all but one have a Lyceum.

Nottingham (Lamartine Street).—This Lyceum continues to show considerable vigour, and maintains excellent order. The marching and calisthenics are also well done. There is room for more adult helpers, whose services would be appreciated. Fares 3d.

Nottingham (Bentick Road).—Energy, progress and efficiency is very apparent, and much should be heard in the near future of the work of this Lyceum, under the conductorship of Miss Swaddon, and with the help of other officers. They have a number of good voices, which under the able training of Mr. Thomas, should prove highly beneficial.

Nottingham (Hawarden Terrace).—I am glad to be able to report this Lyceum is again, in numbers, on the up grade, and should claim rather more workers from the Society's members, and I hope the new conductor, Mr. Brown, will get the support he deserves. Expenses nil. Postages 5d.

J. J. ASHWORTH, D.V.

ROCHDALE DISTRICT.—Number of Societies and Lyceums in this district not stated.

Todmorden.—January 19th. Prompt start. There is the making of a fine Lyceum here. The work is going on alright. The session was fine on the whole. Fares 2/6.

Heywood.—February 9th. A very fine session throughout in every respect. Fares 1/1.

Bacup.—February 23rd. Start punctual. A fine Lyceum. Singing, reading and exercises good, which speaks well for the officers. Fares 2/6.

Oldham (Coronation Street).—March 9th. Late start, otherwise a very fine session, which speaks well for the Conductor, Miss Bayliss, who seems to have got hold of them. Marching and calisthenics were fine. Fares 2d.

Crompton.—March 16th. This seems to be a small Lyceum, but they are in earnest and determined to win. I wish them success. Fares 4d.

Royton.—March 23rd. I was pleased to find this Lyceum is pulling up nicely.

Dearnley.—March 30th. A very pleasant session, much enthusiasm displayed in all sections. Fares 1/7. Postages 6d.

WM. CHISNALL, D.V.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT.—There are 14 Societies in this district, four of which have no Lyceum.

Attercliffe.—A marked improvement has been made in things educational. The study group is doing valuable work. Fares 4d.

Rotherham.—The numbers are increasing. Good sessions were held, which reflect much credit upon the Lyceum and Conductor. Fares 8d.

ERNEST VICKERS, D.V.

STOCKPORT DISTRICT.—There are 13 Societies in this district; all but four have a Lyceum. One interview has been sought and held.

Mossley (Abbey Road).—This Lyceum has made very good progress in efficiency since my last visit. Reading good. Exercises very good. A very good session. Fares 1/8.

Stalybridge (Chapel Street).—This Lyceum has been closed for some time. An effort is being made to re-open it. There were about a dozen present when I visited it a short time ago. A short, but successful session was held.

Dukinfield (Railway Street).—This Lyceum is closed through lack of energetic workers. I have visited the Society to see if there were any possibility of its being re-opened, but there is none at present. Fares 6d.

JOHN MARSTON, D.V.

TYNESIDE DISTRICT.—There are 32 Societies in this district; 14 of them have a Lyceum. One interview has been sought and held. The advisability of opening a Lyceum is under consideration.

North Shields.—January 5th. The day was very wet, and I was pleased to find 50 present in their new hall. Recitations and pearls moderate. Marching and calisthenics good. Fares 1/1.

Cullercoats.—January 19th. I regret to say this Lyceum is not making the progress I should like to see. Workers are wanted. The elders show a lack of interest. Fares 1/3.

South Shields (King Street).—February 16th. This Lyceum is progressing and will soon reach the high standard they were noted for a few years ago. Mr. Hall, of Gateshead, was present and conducted the session very ably. Fares 1/-.

Ashington.—February 23rd. A great improvement since my last visit. It was pleasing to see one of the young ladies conduct the marching and calisthenics so well. A nice session. Fares 2/9.

Gateshead.—March 9th. Fair attendance, good order, marching and calisthenics excellent. Recitations and pearls well rendered.

Newcastle (Royal Arcade).—March 16th. On my arrival I found the Lyceum closed. I failed to find any notice intimating there would be no Lyceum session. Fares 3d. Postages 3d.

W. J. TAYLOR, D.V.

LYCEUM REPORTS.

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

RULE 2.—Record only the events occurring after April 25th.

RULE 3.—Ordinary reports must not exceed 120 words. Special reports will be inserted as follows: The first 120 words free of charge. All above that number will be inserted at the rate of 6d. for every nine words. Payment must accompany all special reports or they will be cut down and inserted as ordinary reports.

RULE 4.—All Reports must reach this Office not later than Wednesday, May 21st, to ensure insertion in the June issue.

RULE 5.—Colonial Reports, if posted to the Lyceum Banner within 7 days after the events reported, will be inserted in the next issue after receipt at the Banner Office.

ACCRINGTON (China Street).—On March 30th we had an Open Session specially for the naming of two children, one for a spirit name and one for both. The ceremony was performed by Mrs. Thompson, and a more pleasant proceeding could not be imagined. We all gave flowers to the children and sang "Joy bells," about 70 persons being present. Recitations, solos, etc. The children's names were "Steadfast," the spirit name for the boy, and Emily Forrest, spirit name "Lily," for the girl. April 6th another Open Session; 71 present. Recitations by Harold Topper, Willie Smith, Freda Greenhalgh, Florrie Unthank, Mrs. Clayton, J. Birch, and A. Greenhalgh. Solos by Miss Nellie Ormerod, Mrs. Chambers and J. Shuttleworth, who is leaving for Canada.—R. Ashworth, Sec.

BIRMINGHAM (Crawford Street).—On Easter Tuesday we held a Tea and Social, to which about 60 attended. After an enjoyable tea, games of various character were much appreciated, while the entertainment was provided by several Lyceumists, of which Misses O'Connor, Phipps, Marshall and Mr. Smith were conspicuous. A little bit of rag-time by a Lyceumist wound up a thoroughly successful evening. We here take the opportunity of thanking all kind friends who willingly gave assistance. On Sunday, 6th April, we held a meeting, when all was reported satisfactory. We regret to report the resignation of our late conductor, Mr. Shergold, and in his stead Mr. Morris was elected. We all thank Mr. Shergold for

his past services, and hope Mr. Morris will justify his good impression.—Herbert Bromage, Secretary.

BLACKBURN (St. Peter Street).—On Sunday, March 30th, we held our 20th Anniversary, which was attended well by Lyceum scholars and friends. 100 Lyceumists took part in the marching, calisthenics and rod drills. The silver chain 78 was led by Mr. Grime, musical reading 242 by Mrs. Derbyshire and Mrs. Wilkinson, golden chain 143 by Mr. Hindle. A short discussion followed. Recitations were also given by Misses L. Derbyshire, A. Pickles; Masters W. Francis and J. Francis, and were much appreciated by the audience. We also had the naming of a Lyceum member's baby, earth name Arnold Victor Moorey, spirit name Emmanuel, Mrs. Pickles, of Burnley, being the speaker for the day, had the pleasure of naming the baby, which was very ably carried out. Miss Eddleston and Mr. Edwards, pianists.—J. Savage, Secretary.

BRADFORD (Shirley Road).—We held an Open Session on the afternoon of April 6th, which was conducted by Mr. Rau, and well attended. Recitations were given by Masters Wilfred Tuersley, Willie Wadsworth and Miss Louie Higham. A hymn from the *Manual*, "The homeland," was very sweetly sung by Miss Ida Fearnley, and was much appreciated. We hope it will be the forerunner of many such afternoons and that the scholars will each try and help. We also had a social evening on Saturday, the 12th, and enjoyed ourselves with some romping games, and I am sure each one went home feeling happy and lighthearted.—T. W. Tuersley, Secretary.

BRIGHTON (Manchester Street).—The average attendance for the past month has been well maintained. Scholars, group leaders and conductors show healthy zeal. On April 6th Mr. R. Banks gave an address, introducing a series of lectures upon "Evolution." We are proud to record a visit from Mr. J. J. Morse on April 20th, who immediately won everyone's hearts with a breezy little address. The social programme was not lacking in items upon these occasions. Miss Curtis and Miss Prichard (visitors), Miss Mascall (an old Lyceumist), Miss W. Goodwin, Miss Zoe Bridgen and Mr. Rhoades sang. Miss Hoskins organ solo. Recitations by Miss A. Scoggins, Lulu Cager and Violet Mascall. Mandoline duet, Miss E. Scoggins and Mr. Cager. Mrs. Meikle accompanied throughout.—Herbert Everett.

BURY.—On Saturday, April 5th, we held a Surprise Social, in aid of the Band of Hope. Dancing and games were indulged in. Songs were rendered by Miss A. Wood, and the Misses Henderson. All the officers assisted to make the evening a success. Mr. Metcalfe presided and Messrs. Hepworth and Fletcher were the accompanists. A very enjoyable evening was spent.—Edith Kaye, Secretary.

CREWE (Mill Street).—On Sunday, April 6th, we held our usual Open Session. Attendance good. Marching and calisthenics were fairly good. I am pleased to say a little more interest has been shown in the marching and calisthenics this last few weeks. A pianoforte solo by Miss Florrie Wood was much appreciated, also a duet by Misses Ada Buxton and Gwennie Baggaley. Solos were also well rendered by Doris Williams, Edith Bebbington, Annie Smith, Eric Johnson and Alfred Fletcher. Recitations by Elsie Challoner, Harold Bradley and Kate Owen.—M. Martin, Secretary.

DAISY HILL.—We opened the month in a very satisfactory manner, new Lyceumists being entered on register. On the 19th, 20th and 21st we had with us Master Charles A. Teal, the boy medium, of Leeds. He conducted the Lyceum and took the Liberty Group, his subject being, "The Lyceum." Our classes are proving very successful and enlightening to each. I feel we are climbing the ladder of progress.—Will H. Towers, Secretary.

DARLINGTON (Bondgate).—April 6th and 7th being Lyceum week end, we held an Open Session in the afternoon. In the evening a service of song, entitled "Unseen Hands," was given by the whole Lyceum, being well attended and appreciated. The story was excellently read by Miss Torkington, and recitations were given by Misses M. Sinclair, Edna Langhorn, Ethel Park, Daisy Cole, and Mr. Nicholson. Iris Armstrong sang "Angel voices" very sweetly. The singing was conducted by Mr. Park and Mr. Robbins ably accompanied on the organ. The service was presided over by our Guardian, Mrs. Simpson. On Monday evening the service was taken by Miss Sidebotham, of Stockton, who gave an address and clairvoyance. Everything else progressing satisfactory.—A. E. Welding, Secretary.

[See Rule 3 concerning Special Reports.—Ed.]

GLASGOW (Berkeley Street).—On Friday, 4th April, the parent association held their annual social. A most enjoyable evening was passed, during which Mr. John Stewart, our esteemed Conductor, was presented by the Lyceum, Association and friends with a gold watch, also a gold pendant for Mrs. Stewart. Mr. Robertson, who made the presentation, spoke highly of the valuable services rendered by Mr. Stewart during the past ten years, which we all heartily endorsed. He is a splendid worker, both for the Association and Lyceum. In connection with our Lyceum a group to study the literature of the movement has been formed, and a splendid start has been made with Andrew Jackson Davis' works.—C. S. Rothead, Sec.

GREAT HARWOOD.—We held our Open Session on Sunday. The silver chain was led by Mr. Baxter; the musical by Mrs. Holt, Will Thornley, and Maud Wilcox; the golden by Fred Hindle. Recitations were rendered by Will Thornley and Mrs. Groves, also a solo by Mr. Baxter. Taking all into consideration, we had a very enjoyable session.—Miss P. Birtwistle, Secretary.

LEEDS (Easy Road).—A tea and concert was held in these rooms on April 12th in aid of the Whit-week trip. It was conducted by the female portion of the Lyceum. The tea was excellent, and the concert was a very good success, both financially and otherwise. The concert consisted of dialogues, songs, recitations, and a troupe. The troupe consisted of the young girls, under the tuition of two young lady Lyceumists, and right well did they perform their part. Through the females' and males' efforts, the children ought to have a good time on Whit-Tuesday.—H. Brown, Secretary.

LEICESTER (Silver Street).—On Sunday, April 6th, we held our Open Session, which was a success. The following took part:—Miss Whitmore, solo; Mr. Hurst, solo; Mr. Snowden, a pianoforte solo, which was very much appreciated; Misses Horner, Harvey and Bromley, trio; Misses Chater and Tuckwood, duet; and Master Veary, recitations. Then we had marching and calisthenics, which brought a very happy session to a close. A hearty welcome is given to all.—E. Basthorpe, Secretary.

LIVERPOOL (Romer Road).—On March 30th, we had a visit from Mrs. Annie Bentley, when, by a unanimous vote, she was elected as an honorary member of our Lyceum. I am pleased to say we are going on very well.—W. J. Cretney, Hon. Secretary.

LONDON, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—We held our Open Session on Sunday, April 6th. Individual efforts were good. Recitations were given by Florrie Brown, Edna Huskwick, and Ivy Chamber; also pianoforte solos by Edith Hodgins and John Chambers. Mrs. Hulland gave a short address on "A hive of bees," and offered a prize to those who were thirteen and under for the best essay written on her address. Many elders were present, and we performed our marching and calisthenics as usual.—Katie Bowskill.

LONDON, MANOR PARK.—The status of this Lyceum continues to be normal. The attendance is rigidly maintained, and the Lyceumists manifest an earnestness to receive instruction from the teachers which is encouraging. We should like to see a larger attendance in the Liberty Group, as this is a most interesting class for adults.—C. Harrison, Secretary.

LONDON, TOTTENHAM.—On March 30th we had a visit from Mr. Clegg, who gave us a lecture on "The Mistakes of Life," and it was very interesting. We had an Open Session on April 20th, when Miss Firth gave us a solo, "Life's Lesson." Miss E. Barnes and Miss D. Steel sang from the *Manual*, and we had a splendid recitation from Miss K. Jones. Two of our youngest members, Florrie Embleton and Lily Hassell also recited. I am very pleased to say we are growing, as five new members were enrolled this month.—Mrs. C. Hassell, Secretary.

SOUTH LONDON, PECKHAM (Lausanne Hall).—Our Lyceum has not maintained its strength. There has been a falling off in attendance, mostly through illness. We must certainly put more life into the work. I am, however, pleased to say there has been marked improvement in marching and calisthenics, thanks to the kindness of Brother Brooking, who has instructed us for four consecutive Sundays. On Sunday, May 4th, we have arranged for the christening of Mr. and Mrs. Underwood's six weeks' old baby. Mrs. Clegg is to perform the ceremony. Tea will be provided. All welcome.—S. Clarkson, Secretary.

LONDON, WOOLWICH AND PLUMSTEAD.—I am glad

to still report progress in our Lyceum. During the month two new scholars were introduced, and good interest was maintained by the scholars; also improvement in marching and calisthenics. On April 13th our District Visitor spoke on "Disease, Ignorance and Injustice," and was much appreciated. We are all eagerly looking forward to the visit to King's Hall on May 25th, and trust to renew acquaintance once more with the London Lyceums.—H. Watthey, Sec.

MANCHESTER (Maskell Street).—On April 6th we had the election of officers for the coming six months. The following were elected:—Conductor, Miss A. Hill; treasurer, Mrs. Sims; secretary, Mr. S. Sharp; assistant conductors, Mr. C. Reynolds and Mr. J. Higson; leaders, Mr. C. Wardle and Miss G. Entwistle; musical conductor, Miss A. Sharp; assistant musical conductor, Mr. A. E. Jones; guardian, Miss E. Mills; librarian, Miss A. Sharp; teachers of groups: Liberty Group, Mr. J. Higson; Second Group, Mr. McClelland; Third Group, Mr. S. Sharp. We regret to announce the passing on to the higher life of Mrs. W. Burges (*nee* Lilly Sims) on March 23rd, 1913, Easter Sunday. The interment took place at the Ardwick Cemetery, March 28th. Mr. F. Hepworth and Mr. J. Morse officiated at the graveside—S. Sharp, Secretary.

SOUTH MANCHESTER (Princess Road).—On March 30th the Liberty Group had the pleasure of listening to Mr. Hanson Hey, who discussed with them the essential need of such classes to bring forth the speakers to expound the truth of Spiritualism in the future. On April 20th we opened a morning session at 11 o'clock for instruction in marching, calisthenics, singing and reading, having a nice gathering of children and a very happy time. Mr. Aronovich conducted. By his desire we formed the session to give him more time in the afternoons for mental and spiritual instruction to the members. We heartily invite a visit from other Lyceumists. We unite in good wishes for a record Conference. On Whit-Friday our Lyceumists go to Marple.—Maud M. Harrison, Secretary.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—We held our Open Session on Sunday, April 6th. The marching and calisthenics were done well, after which some of our young members recited. The pearls and singing were good, also the conduct. Altogether we had a very pleasant session. During the past month we have been honoured with the presence of Miss Kitson. On Sunday, April 20th, we had with us Mr. Beety, of Wakefield. He explained many things to us out of our golden chain recitation, which we took for our lesson in the Liberty Group. Our Lyceum is progressing very favourably, and we only hope that in time to come we will have one of the best Lyceums in the North.—Minnie Bessant, Secretary.

MIDDLETON (Gilmour Street).—Open Session, April 6th, good attendance. Pearls, recitations and solos were grand. There were a few strangers present, who enjoyed the sessions, and we hope to draw them into the fold. Recitations were given by Misses Collinge, Horrocks, Whitehead and Mrs. Symons. Solos by Miss Heywood and Mr. Liddle. Things are on the improve, and we are hoping at some future date to be among the topmost in the field. Conductor, Miss F. Davies; musical conductor, Miss Polly Openshaw. Miss Davies also took the evening service, and there was another good attendance.—John Liddle, Secretary.

NEWCASTLE, HEATON AND BYKER.—On Sunday, April 6th, we held our Open Session, Mr. Ronaldson conducting. Recitations were given by Lily Eke, Alice Eke, Beatrice Eke, Mary Kyle, Annie Shadforth, Winnie Andrews, Mamie Elliott, Maggie Souness and Lily Taylor. A duet by Misses Hughes and Lily Marshall. A solo by Miss Blair. Mr. Ronaldson, Fred Eke, Ralph Eke, Ralph Blair, John Ronaldson, James Marshall and Hacken Hetherington also recited.—Joseph Benn, Secretary.

NEWCASTLE (Rutherford Street).—Our Open Session, although moderately attended, was a good one. Poems were rendered by Miss E. Elnor, Polly Wardle and Mrs. Wardle. Pearls, Miss Edith Elnor, Master R. Finley, Miss Craig, Mrs. Finley, Miss Tweedy and Master E. Curtis. Solo, Master E. Curtis. At the close we had a District Council report from Bros. Fisher and Brinklow, which was accepted after a few questions. We also appointed two delegates for B.S.L.U. Conference, to be held at Hull on May 10th. It was decided to send our Conductor and Secretary for the same. It being Whitsuntide, it was decided to have a tea and social on the 12th for the aid of the Lyceum, and we give a hearty invitation to all.—R. Wardle, Hon Secretary.

OLDHAM (Coronation Street).—On Sunday, April 13th, we held our Open Session. Opening hymn "Open the door for

the children." Prayer by Mrs. Ogden. Hymn, "We are happy and rejoice"; silver chain, "Children"; musical reading, "Scatter Seeds"; golden chain, "Children in Spirit Life." Recitations by Jack Frankland, Harry Dunkerly, Ethel Wood, Pearls, Frankland and Miss E. Frankland. Solos by Miss B. Frankland, Miss E. Frankland, Mr. J. Trippear, and Mr. G. Hazlehurst. Miss Nellie Bayliss was the conductor. Marching and calisthenics were done in a pleasing manner. Mr. C. Dunkerly conducted the marching, and Mr. W. Roberts and Miss E. Frankland the calisthenics. In the evening a service of song was rendered, entitled "Ministering Spirits. Mr. E. Reyner officiated as organist, and Mr. Birchall the reader.—Herbert Buckley.

OLDHAM (Elliott Street).—On Saturday, April 5th, a social was held in our rooms, under the auspices of the Oldham and District Union, for the purpose of bringing together the surrounding district Lyceums. We had songs and recitations by friends, making it a successful social. We held a social of our own on Saturday, April 19th, which was another success. Several new dances were introduced, including the One Step (a rag-time dance). The recitations and quartette party taking well. A very smart Open Session was witnessed on Sunday, April 20th, recitations and pearls being plentiful. A beautiful hymn was well rendered by three of our Lyceumists. The morning session is improving a little in numbers.—H. Shaw, Secretary.

PENDLETON (Ford Lane).—Sunday, April 13th, we held our Open Session at 10-30, the Session was well attended. Our conductor, Mr. Lilliott, dealt ably with silver chain recitations 55 and 56. At 2-30 the session was again well attended. Recitations by Misses Clayton, Massey, Green, Walter, Nellie and Agnes Boyd, Masters Lilliott, Halliday and Littler. Silver chain recitations 14 and 17 were well taken by Mr. Lilliott. Marching and calisthenics were excellently gone through under the leadership of Mr. Sharples and Miss Dorothy Clayton. Mr. Fletcher gave an interesting reading. In the evening a solo by John Halliday and recitation by Clara Royle were well rendered. Golden chain 121 was well read by Mr. Lilliott. Mr. Fletcher gave an interesting address on Life and Death.—Joseph Green, Secretary.

PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—We held our annual picnic on Good Friday at Como Beach, a splendid little place on the Swan River. We left Perth at 10 a.m. and travelled by motor launch up the river about six miles to our destination. We had sports, every Lyceumist receiving a prize, and romping about in the bush. The ladies who had charge of the refreshments gave us all a good spread. After tea we had our photos taken by Mr. Blackburn, who is a new arrival and has joined our Lyceum. We left for home at 7-30, the return trip being much enjoyed by moonlight.—A. Carter, Secretary.

[Thanks for photo of group.—Ed.]

PRESTON (Clark's Yard).—In order to raise funds for our Whitsuntide treat we arranged a social, which took place on April 5th. During the evening two sketches were given, the first entitled, "The Fairy's Visit," was performed by four Lyceumists, Misses Eleanor Beetham, Esther Cartmell, Will Beetham and Will Holt. Miss Emily Moorby presided at the piano. It was a delightful little sketch, with a moral, of course. The second one, entitled, "As like as two pears," was acted well by two leaders, Miss Cartmell and Jack Cartmell, causing much merriment in a domestic quarrel, which ended happily. Everybody seemed to join in the fun in a hearty fashion. Our social ended with dancing.—Ellen Savage, Secretary.

READING.—On March 30th, our conductor, Mrs. Street, spoke a few words upon "Love," and a solo was rendered by Miss Gladys Lovelove. April 5th, Mr. Arthur Lawrence, subject, "The Pathway of Truth," which was very much appreciated. April 12th, Mrs. Street gave a reading taken from the book entitled *Spiritualism for the Young*, upon "Spiritual Gifts." April 19th, Mr. Stanley Taylor, subject, "Heaven, What is it?" I am pleased to say our scholars enjoy their sessions and respond very well. We hope that there will be a greater interest taken in the Lyceum and that all Spiritualists in the town will see to their children attending the Lyceum, also themselves when possible.—S. Wm. Taylor, Secretary.

ROCHDALE (Penn Street).—On Sunday, March 30th, we held our quarterly Open Session before a large congregation. The silver chain recitation and musical readings were conducted by several of the Lyceumists, and golden chain by Mr. F. W. Wood. Marching and calisthenics were conducted by Mr. Fred Wright and Mr. Ernest Berry respectively. Recitations were given by Misses Emily Holt, May Blomley, Elsie

Taylor, Elsie Quarmby, and Annie Brown. Master Harry Hudson, Ronald Lingard, Joe Brown, Eric Berry and Ernest Berry. A solo was nicely rendered by Miss Elsie Quarmby; and a duet by Miss Sarah Quarmby and Miss Gladys Holt. Mr. Sanderson proved an efficient accompanist. Thus terminated a very successful session, being creditably conducted by our conductor, Mr. F. W. Wood.—Mary Taylor, Secretary.

ROCHDALE (Regent Hall).—On April 6th we had a very interesting session. Mrs. Granville Lingard performed the ceremony of christening the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. George Jenkinson, two scholars of the Lyceum, Mrs. Lingard gave the child's earthly name, Eric, and its spirit name, Light. Appropriate hymns were sung, namely, "The voyage of Life," 203 *Manual*, and "Sunny Days," 402 *Manual*. A recitation was also given by Miss Emma Firth, entitled, "My Little Brother," who afterwards presented the baby with a toy. Mr. J. W. Nurse, the conductor, said a few words to the effect that other religious bodies had their christenings, the children in time became scholars, and he hoped that as the parents were Spiritualists they would in the future allow their child to become a Lyceum scholar.—John Firth.

ROTHERHAM.—We held our Open Session on Sunday, April 6th, when there was a good attendance of scholars and friends. We had recitations from James Embley, Fred Ridley, Mabel Freeman, Alice Harrad, and Ruby Hossell. We are progressing steadily with our Lyceum, but we should still like a few more of the elders to attend. We are anticipating a good time on May 4th, when we are rendering a service of song entitled, "Ministering Spirits."—W. Rawlinson, Secretary.

ROYTON, LUZLEY BROOK.—We held our Lyceum tea Party on Saturday, April 12th, about fifty sat down to tea. Friends from Elliott Street and Chadderton paid us a visit. After tea we had a concert and social, songs and recitations being well rendered. Songs were given by Misses C. Grindrod, A. Grindrod and Mrs. Hilton, Miss Maud Leek, Mr. F. Day, Mr. J. Bradford and Mr. J. Smith. Recitations by Misses L. Shepperd, E. Thornton, M. Nicholas and Mrs. Oldfield. Mr. A. Shaw spoke encouraging remarks to old and new friends. Games were also selected for the children. Our hearty thanks are due to all who helped to make our party a good success. Mr. Mellor was chairman for the party and gave an interesting address.—F. Stevens, Secretary.

ROYTON (Union Street).—On Saturday, April 12th, our Lyceumists, along with Oldham, Coronation Street, Lyceumists, had a ramble to Doghill Pleasure Grounds. The afternoon was devoted to racing, swinging, a skipping competition, and a walking match. After tea a Lyceum Open Session was held, which was a success. The following programme was gone through: Opening hymn, "Open the door for the children," silver chain "One by One," musical reading, "Hand in Hand with Angels," golden chain, "The Lyceum." Solos were sung by Mrs. Greaves, Miss A. Haslam, and Miss B. Frankland. Pearls were also given. Mr. D. Greaves conducted the marching, and Mr. W. Roberts the calisthenics. Mr. Herbert Buckley was the pianist. This is the best kind of propaganda work for our Lyceum movement.—Fred Chadwick, Secretary.

SHEFFIELD (Attercliffe).—On Sunday, April 6th, Mr. H. J. Webster, President of the Society, conducted the Lyceum in the absence of our conductors. This was particularly pleasing as showing the good feeling existing between Society and Lyceum. On April 13th we had a visit from Mr. S. Ackroyd, of Huddersfield, and in the afternoon we held an Open Session, in which Mr. Ackroyd took an active part. Recitations by Polly and Lily Sharman and Wilfred Henderson. Unfortunately we had no time for pearls. Our prayers and sympathy go out to Mr. J. K. Jones, one of our beloved conductors, who has had to go away on account of his health. May he be speedily restored to health and vigour once again.—F. Whiteley, Secretary.

SHEFFIELD, HEELEY.—On Sunday, March 30th, we held our second Lyceum Day Services for the benefit of the Society. A friend, Mr. Lucas, offering to give us a lecture on "Music and Inspiration," which was very interesting. Mr. Lucas also sang "Catch the sunshine." A number of Lyceumists recited. In the evening we held a full Lyceum session, when a large audience of parents and friends were present, who enjoyed the session, especially the marching and calisthenics. Mr. Lucas again obliged us with more music, which was made all the more interesting by his explanations as to how each hymn came to be composed. Mr. Richard Vernon

also favoured us with a solo. Thus concluded a happy day.—G. Magness, Secretary.

SHILDON (Newlands Avenue).—On Sunday, April 6th, we held our Open Session, conducted by Mr. J. Smith. Questions were asked, and a good number of pearls were given by the Lyceum. Recitations were given by Wm. Smith, James Chappel, and Sarah Ann Smith. Solos were given by Misses A. Chappel, M. Gardiner, and A. Gregory, and a quartette by Mr. Hunter, Mr. J. Wilson, Mrs. Johnson, and Mrs. J. Wilson. The calisthenics were conducted by Miss A. Chappel. We also were visited by the E.C. of the Teeside Council for the day.—J. Wilson, Secretary.

STOCKPORT (Lyceum Church).—We celebrated our first anniversary by having a tea party and entertainment on April 12th. Unfortunately we had not many visitors. After tea Mr. J. Bell sang a number of songs, and a few of the young Lyceumists sang solos and action songs. Mr. J. Bell had trained the children, assisted by the guardian, Miss L. Pickethall, as accompanist. Mr. Hallworth and friend, assisted by our Treasurer, Mr. E. Hall, gave selections as a string trio. On Sunday, April 13th, in the afternoon, we held our Open Session. Mr. Firth, of Hyde, and Mr. T. Albinson (late of Macclesfield), addressed a few remarks to Lyceumists and friends. Mr. Aaronovitch made a spiritual appeal for support in the evening.—J. Warstow, Secretary.

TORONTO, CANADA.—On Saturday, March 29th, we had a very nice social, with a good crowd present. Songs, duets, quartettes, and recitations were given by members of the Lyceum, and non-members too. Mr. Willie Sharpe, late of Armley, being the comic singer. Sunday, April 6th, being Open Session, the choir gave the service of song, "The Little Violinist," which went very well indeed, Mrs. Cardy being the reader. I am sorry to say that a few of our members are falling off owing to lack of interest, especially those who ought to be willing to help.—Wishing you every good wish.—D. Abbott, Dovercourt Lyceum, Secretary.

WAIHI.—We held an enjoyable Open Session on Sunday, March 2nd. Recitations were given by Misses G. Grange and Morton; Masters R. Lewis, F. McCarty, G. Morton, and N. Morton. Readings by Mrs. Lewis, Miss Chambers, Mr. Anderson, and Mr. Lewis. We are all looking forward to our annual picnic, which will take place on the 16th March, weather permitting. Wishing you success in the good work.—Winnie Morton.

WIDNES.—On Sunday, March 30th, we were discussing the word "Truth" in an Open Session. About half way through the meeting, one of our Lyceumists, Mr. Hitchmough, got up and described a gentleman, which he had not the slightest doubt was A. J. Davis. Mr. Hitchmough said he felt impressed that our esteemed founder had been drawn there owing to the nature of our lesson. A hearty welcome from all our Lyceumists was given to our arisen friend.—Geo. A. Mack, Conductor.

WINDHILL (School Hill).—We held our Open Sessions on April 13th, with a very large attendance, for we have grown in strength and unity since the New Year. Marching and calisthenics were very nicely gone through. The following songs, solos, and readings were given by members of the Lyceum. Our conductor, Mrs. Kitchen, gave a golden chain recitation. Mr. Wright selecting the following pearl, "Blessed are the faithful, the dutiful, the punctual, the orderly, the innocent, the pure in heart, for they shall see God." Reading by Mr. G. Roper, entitled, "Wisdom orders all things well." Song by Mrs. Kitchen, entitled, "Angels lead my footsteps." Reading by Master Thomas Wright, entitled, "Children." Duet by Miss F. Sheard and Mrs. Kitchen, entitled, "Heart Flower." We closed by singing 226 in "Lyceum Manual."—John Brown, Hon. Secretary.

YORK (Cromwell Road).—On April 6th we held our usual Open Sessions. The recitations, singing, marching and calisthenics were excellent. Also fourteen of our younger Lyceumists spoke some encouraging remarks on the Lyceum movement. We also had an enjoyable meeting in the evening. The Lyceumists sang "We are trying to follow the Angels." Two solos were also given by Miss Lily Stier "Dream of Paradise," and Harry Apedaile "Father, we are weary pilgrims." They were both well applauded. Our Conductor, Mrs. Stier, took charge of the sessions. I hope that all Lyceumists will extend their sympathy to our Treasurer, Mr. J. B. Dawson, who has sustained a great loss by the passing away of his beloved mother, April 8th.—Ernest Stier, Secretary.