

THE LYCEUM BANNER

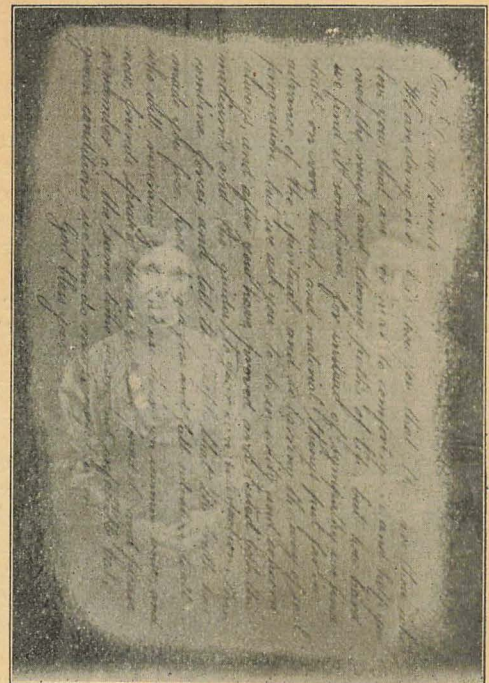
A SPIRITUALIST MAGAZINE FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

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

VOL. XXIII. No. 273.

OCTOBER, 1913.

ONE PENNY.



Spirit Photographs obtained under Test conditions.

Girls' Own Corner.

BY MRS. JESSY GREENWOOD.

SESSION PROGRAMME.

OCTOBER, 1913.

Date.	Opening Hymn.	S.C.R.	Mus. Reading.	G.C.R.	Closing Hymn.
Oct. 5	403	344	207	113	351
Oct. 12	359	306	206	110	349
Oct. 19	346	304	209	109	340
Oct. 26	336	301	225	103	*309

*Tune, Aurelia, Bristol Tune Book.

PEARLS.

OCTOBER 5th.—True Spirituality is to see the divinity in common things.

—Henry Drummond.

OCTOBER 12th.—A little judicious blindness and deafness is a great virtue in a wise teacher.

—Rev. E. Thring.

OCTOBER 19th.—Wishing dies in thin air: will must complete itself in action.

—Stopford Brooke.

OCTOBER 26th.—Think upon beauty, live with it, love it, and fix your mind upon it, and beauty will leaven your whole mind and nature into the image of itself.

—W. J. Dawson.

Last month I made a promise to give an account of

a sitting with the Crewe circle. Accompanied by a lady friend who may not be known to some Lyceum-ists, but one who is a spiritualist of many years' duration and well-known in the Midlands, especially in the Walsall Society. Mrs. Brown is sister to Mrs. Venables and Mr. J. J. Bennett, whose name is revered by all who knew him. We travelled to Crewe purposely to attend the circle and had, preparatory to going there, bought a packet of Royal Standard 1-plates—special rapid, and, according to instructions had carried them on the person so as to saturate them with our own magnetism, which seems necessary to help the spirit friends to manifest themselves on the plate later. We were met by Mr. Walker, of Buxton, and together we went to the little homely cottage where these psychic experiments are carried on. A hearty welcome was accorded us, and soon we were seated round the little wood table—the simple means of such tremendous worth to the world from times long past—and it was soon apparent we were not alone, spirit friends surrounded us, and to those gifted with the clairvoyant gift, it was evident the appointment was a mutual one between them and us. The meeting was harmonious; a religious service to us, and all were in earnest in the research for more proof of the continuity of life, and intelligent consciousness of our doings. The packets we had brought were laid on the table—still unopened—and as daylight flooded the room where we sat they were in view

of all of us. Presently the controlling intelligence said "Mrs. Brown and myself were to sit together for one of her plates, also for one of mine, and for the other two we were to sit alone. We each opened our own packet, separately, in the dark room, and took out two plates which were placed in the dark slide in the ordinary way ready for exposure. This followed immediately and as quickly as possible were developed and fixed by Mr. Walker in the presence of myself and the medium.

Up to this point all the movements made were as in the ordinary course of having a portrait taken, but when Mr. Walker had developed the plates, and they were fixed so that we could examine them by daylight, we saw psychic additions to our own photographs: No. 1, Mrs. Brown's plate, an attempt to build a face over her head was not quite a success, but on No. 2 there is a remarkable thing to be told. There is shown a scroll or banner coming from the top of the picture down to the heads of the sitters—Mrs. Brown and myself—upon which there appears human faces and floral decorations, but strange to say these faces, etc., are *positive*, whilst, of course, the sitters are *negative*. A print taken from it produces the sitters positive, and in order, but the other portions are then negative. In ordinary laws of photography, without psychic assistance, such a thing as a negative and positive at one exposure after this manner is quite unknown. Owing to the difference in the densities a contact plate has brought out one of the faces on the scroll, but not the other faces and matter. This picture should be seen to understand the above description. It is not sufficiently definite to reproduce in our BANNER. On my No. 1 plate, where I sat alone, there appears a beautiful girl enveloped in a mass of drapery or aura covering a good deal of the surface of the plate. It is a delightful face and an abundance of wavy dark hair. The aura is like fine gossamer. I think I know who it is, but could not say so definitely at present. That will follow in due course, and I wait patiently for them to convey the information in their own good time. No. 2 plate is another specimen of their power. Mrs. Brown and I again are sat together, and we are almost obliterated by a finely written message in fine script and apparently in front of us. The message is as follows:—

"Our dear friends,

We are doing our best to show you that there are those who love you, that are ever near to comfort, guide and help you over the rough and thorny paths of life, but, how hard we find it sometimes! for instead of sympathy we find doubt on every hand, and material things but far in advance of the spiritual and so harrasing the way of soul progression, but we ask you to be in unity and concord always, and after you have proved and tested both the mediums and the guides to your own satisfaction, then combine forces and tell the people that the Truth has made you free, breaching a free and full salvation to all who will reverence God and use their own common sense; and now friends, speak of this as you have found it, and please remember at the same time we are not infallible, but given conditions we can do much useful work.

God bless you."

If we believed in miracles I should say this is one.

None of us could possibly write the above in much less time than five minutes, even if we knew what we were going to write. This message came as the hand of a lady gently pressed the ball, and everybody said "It is done." It was a great pleasure to sit with these workers at Crewe, whose mediumship enables the spirit friends to give us loving messages of cheer, or show themselves on the sensitive plate. May their power increase. May they not become the prey of the phenomena-hunter, but ever preserve the lofty standard of spirituality now prevailing in their little meeting. They, and we, and you, and thousands of others, all workers together in the great vineyard of God, to help remove the darkness of ignorance concerning those who have slipped away to that other realm of existence, and to flood the world with the facts of truth, as well as to establish peace on earth and goodwill to man.

Both Mrs. Brown and myself are grateful to them for their cordial reception and helpful results from the sitting on August 6th, 1913, also to Mr. Walker for his kindly co-operation and assistance. His experience has been considerable with these friends, and each phase of psychic power is of paramount interest to him. We felt him to be a valued acquisition as a sitter and etc.

For the Boys.

Conducted by Geo. Fred Knott.

MY DEAR CHUMS,

I thank Mrs. R. A. Owen for a kindly interest in our Page, and an almost complete solution of all the "Pleasure Resorts" puzzles. Here are the answers:—Fleetwood, Southport, Liverpool, Scarborough, Blackpool, Redcar, Bath, Rhyl (Rill), Saltburn, Brighton, Yarmouth, Ramsgate, Barmouth, Peel, Matlock, Holyhead, Grasmere, Folkestone, Ryde (Ride), Portrush, Oban.

Now we will resume our little talks on the principles of Spiritualism, the fourth of which is "the communion of departed human spirits with people still living in this present life of material existence."

There was once a little boy who lived with his sisters and brothers, who were all older than he was. His name was James Phillips, but his playmates were fond of him and called him "Little Jimmy." His mother and father had passed away, leaving him for his sisters and brothers to take care of. Jimmy had been a weak baby and when he began to walk his legs turned inwards at the knees. As he grew older he started going to school. One day, a doctor, who had known his parents, saw Little Jimmy going home. They walked on until they met and then the doctor said to the boy, "would you like to have your legs made to grow straight like other boys?" Jimmy looked up at the kind face of the man a little bit frightened, and timidly replied, "Yes! sir." "Very well," said the doctor, "I will come to your home and see about it," and giving the boy a pat on the head, the good man went on his way.

By-and-bye Jimmy turned up at school with some

strange-looking irons up his legs. All the other boys were glad he would some-day be able to walk straight, and run about like them. Sometimes the irons got twisted somehow and would hurt the little lad, making him shout out with pain. His brother would then come and make them all right again.

These moments of pain made the boys feel sorry for him and some of them would stop and talk with Little Jimmy at playtime instead of joining in the rough games boys seem to like so much.

One morning Jimmy and his brother did not come to school. The teacher told the school-master they were absent. A boy was sent to their home not far away to learn the reason they had not come to school. Jimmy's brother opened the door in answer to the scholar's knock. His eyes were red, as though he had been crying, and he looked very sad as he told his school-chum to tell the school-master Little Jimmy had been taken to the Hospital, because the doctor said he had the fever and would have to be taken away.

When the poor little boy came back home, his body was in a coffin, in a big black hearse. Everybody in the school had liked the quiet patient little lad and felt very sorry he had not been strong enough to come through the fever. The school-master closed the school when Jimmy's funeral took place. A good number of the boys were there. The memory of their chum remained with some of them for a very long time. Most of them ceased to talk of him, when the examination was coming on.

It was the custom of this school to hold a proper yearly examination, after which, another examination was held by the school-master. Any boy or girl could try to do the lessons. Prizes were given for those scholars obtaining a certain number of marks.

The boy and girl who obtained the most marks would each be presented with a silver watch, and be known as the two best scholars in the school, for the year in which they had won the watches.

When the results of both examinations were known, a concert and racing competition would be given to the parents and friends of the scholars. All the pictures in the school would be taken from the walls to be replaced by the best work of the scholars. All the concert was given by the scholars, with the help of the teachers. The racing competition was arithmetic or grammar. The evening of the concert would find many proud parents there long before the time to start, picking out the work of their children, saying to their friends, "our Tom did that;" "this is our Jim's;" "that's our Mary's;" whilst proudest of all would be the parents whose son or daughter had won one of the watches which hung in a special place near the platform.

During one of the practices for the concert the scholars were singing a song of welcome to the parents when Tom Swift, a boy who had always sat next to Little Jimmy, felt a touch on his arm. He had forgotten for the moment Little Jimmy was dead. Turning to see what the touch could mean he saw his poor little chum sat next to him, smiling and happy. Then Tom remembered Jimmy was dead and he became frightened and sick. Tom Swift looked at the teacher and stole another look at Jimmy, but he could see nothing now of the dead boy.

When Tom reached home he told his mother about

what had happened. The mother hugged her boy and told him not to be frightened. "My mother often comes and talks to me" said the parent to her boy. "We shall all be angels some day and come back to our friends, just as Little Jimmy has been to you. If he comes to you again don't be afraid but speak to him." "Why," said Tom with a puzzled look, "I thought Little Jimmy had gone to heaven." "Heaven is not a place, it's a feeling" said the mother, "but run out and play, as I have some work to do. When Mr. Swift came home, Tom's mother told him about Tom and what he had seen at school.

She knew then the father would find a way to tell Tom about his little chum.

The following Saturday afternoon Mr. Swift and his boy set out for a ramble. They lived in a valley on one side of the Pennine Chain. Getting on a car they rode to the foot of one of the hills. On the way up the hill the boy told his father all about Little Jimmy. The father was a Spiritualist, and understood many things which he told his son, trying to make him understand it was really Jimmy he saw at school. "But why did nobody else see him, father?" said the boy. They had now reached the top of the hill. The man asked the boy if he could see a cloud. The boy looked up and pointed to the sky, "Yes! up there," he said. Mr. Swift told Tom to look on his coat collar and his cap. There was a vapoury mist on their clothes. Sometimes the clouds hang low on the hill-tops. "We are in a cloud now" said the father, "if you was in the valley you would be able to see this cloud. Most people are like that, they think heaven and the home of spirit-people is up somewhere in the sky, when all the time they are as near to them as the mist on our coats is to us." They descended the hill and looked back. "I can see the cloud now, father," said the boy. Mr. Swift was a photographer and as he could not make his boy understand how his little chum really came to him, the father took a photo of Tom and his mother telling him Little Jimmy was there. Sure enough when Tom helped his father to finish the photo there stood the spirit of his little school-chum. Tom was not frightened now and whenever he saw Jimmy he spoke to him and by-and-bye they became part of each other's life again.

What Tom Swift saw, many other boys and girls have seen, men and women too. They talk freely with these spirit-people who are our relatives and former friends in earth-life. When we are tempted to do wrong it is the thought that our dear spirit-friends are watching us, which often stops us from doing that which we should not. If we could teach all people spirit-communion is true, everybody would be as happy as Tom Swift and Little Jimmy are in their new-found spiritual friendship.

Your Sincere Chum,

GEO. FREDK. KNOTT.

Mrs. LEE

(Late of Armley)

136, WESTMINSTER ROAD,
MORECAMBE, W.E.

Homely Apartments.

Bath and Piano!

Bluebell Guild.

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

CONDUCTED BY M. E. KITSON, B.A.

My dear Bluebells and readers all,

Our little flowers of the woods, whose name we have adopted, are now not in evidence when we go for a ramble through the places where we found them in the spring-time. Where are they? Well, we might give a worse answer than that of the child who said, "They worked hard all spring to make the country look pretty, and to make seeds so that more bluebells may grow next year, and now they are tired and resting, but they will waken up again in spring."

Yes, in spring, we can easily imagine that the following little poem (which I found in a child's magazine) is true:

BLUEBELLS.

Blue magic, blue magic; the fairies have been
And spun them a carpet of mauve threads and green,
With warp of clear sapphire, down under the trees,
All opal and soft like blue mist of the seas.
They wove it by night when the hushed earth was
still,

Aslant to the brook from the brow of the hill.
By green lane and meadow, by valley and glen,
The fairies will lead you there now and again,
Till suddenly, miles from the dust and the heat,
You sight bluest heaven aglow at your feet.
And when you have found it, for pure wonderment,
Kneel down, steep the soul in its colour and scent.

Rose E. Sharland.

But now "they are tired and resting," so are most other flowers; and the trees too are changing their leaves into beautiful colours, and then shedding them. When we go for our beloved country rambles, everything seems to tell us that autumn is coming; and we instinctively think of long, dark evenings, bare country and gardens, cold weather, fogs, rains, etc. But that, in turn, brings memories of the joys of winter to our mind;—especially of Christmas festivities. "But why talk of Christmas now? It is such a long time off yet!" is what some of you say. Why! so it is; but I want some of us—nay *all* of us—to make it a real, happy, splendid one this year, and I know we can do that *best* by giving thought to it, and making plans a long time in advance—so that we can be quite ready and waste no opportunities.

Now, this is what I think, and if you agree with me, I'm sure you'll help quite willingly. Some of you will at once think of many *little* (but effective) ways by which a Bluebell can give some pleasure to another at Christmas. Well, one big way in which just those clever Bluebells can help other Bluebells is by telling them of their ideas, so that they too may know of ways how to be a jolly, merry, happiness-giving "Christmas spirit." So, will *all* of you who can think of ways of being that, please write to me soon and tell me your ideas on "Ways of giving others a merry Christmas." I say "write *soon*," then I can give your letters in our next chat (November),

to give much time for your plans to be thought well out and carried into practice by all readers.

Come now, let me hear from quite a number of you, and help us to be a "Guild of Helpfulness" one to another.

This month I want you all to read the following story, and not only read it, but *think* about it, then you'll be able to tell your friends, and also have good reasons to offer, in conversation, *against* the practice of fighting and war.

PATRIOTISM AND FIGHTING.

"Dad, you a patriot?"

"I hope so, my boy. All proper Englishmen are patriots."

"What does patriotism mean, dad? We had it at school to-day, but I don't know now."

"It means loving your own country better than any other. To us it means love of the British Empire. A good patriot's motto is 'God, King, and Country'; that is to say, he must worship God, honour the King, and fight for his native land."

"Worship God and go to war, did you say, dad?"

"Yes, my boy, if that should be necessary."

"If there's a war, dad, there are patriots on both sides, aren't there?"

"Oh yes."

"Which country is God's, then. Isn't he a patriot?"

"God cannot be called a patriot, he loves *all* the countries, you see."

"Well, when an army goes out to fight, and there are patriots on both sides, and they both worship God—which side is God on?"

"On the side of the right, of course."

"And suppose the '*right*' side has only a few patriots, dad, and the wrong side has a lot, and plenty of guns, and bullets, and things to kill people with, does God's side win?"

"We like to think the right always wins, my boy, though, of course, it does not always."

"And when there isn't a war, dad, is God a patriot then?"

"No, all countries are God's. He loves them all."

"Well, what is it when a *man* loves them all, like God? What is he? If men loved all the countries there couldn't be any war, could there. Are you sure God wants us to be patriots, dad. *He* isn't one, is he?"

"A man cannot love all the countries, my boy. It is not consistent, nor natural, nor ever desirable. We must love our own country, and honour our own King, and do our duty faithfully by our fellow-men."

"But aren't the others that we fight our fellow-men too, dad? Besides we should love all the countries: Willie says so, if we believe in the BROTHERHOOD OF MAN."

Ah, then, of course, it *must* be so! If you hear it at Willie's school, it is so!—Of course, of course!—Even though it's a pack of nonsense that you hear, eh, my boy?"

"But *could* not all men love each other, and work together, instead of fighting together, dad? We used to fight in England once, didn't we? Now we have judge and jury. Isn't that better?"

"That may be done with individuals, people of one nation, but not with many nations."

"Don't you believe what God says then, dad?"

"You must not compare God with man, my boy, he is in Heaven; on earth we have to love one another as far as we can. The conditions of life will not allow us to love all men, of all countries."

"What does God tell us to do it for then, dad, if we can't? Dad, why doesn't he come down here. Wouldn't it be better than staying up there?"

"You must not discuss God, my boy. Neither you nor Willie may understand so big a subject yet; wait a little while longer."

"Dad, if you kill a man in the street, that's murder, isn't it?"

"Yes, you gruesome boy."

"Well, isn't it murder if you kill a man in war?"

"It is not counted so."

"What is a 'remnant,' dad?"

"Generally speaking, a remnant is a piece of calico or cloth, the last piece on the roll; the piece left over, so to speak, when all the other has gone. What has 'remnants' to do with patriotism and war, sonny?"

"At Willie's school they say war is a remnant of barbarism. That means, dad, that it's a piece left over from barbarism, doesn't it? The time when English people used to fight each other. Our history books say they went about in tribes, and were always killing and murdering. We altered *those* conditions, didn't we, dad?"

"Yes, fortunately we have changed that."

"There's some more, dad."

"Some more what?"

"Brotherhood Nonsense. Willie told it me."

"Go on then, I'll be patient. Emit it, my dear; I'm all attention—and eagerness."

Boy repeats:—"Help to bring about the day when all nations shall live fraternally together in peace and prosperity."—"I like that much better than patriotism, dad. I don't think I understand patriotism. This is a funny world to understand, isn't it, when you're little!"

Adapted from "The Young Socialist" (August).

Worth reading and thinking about, isn't it? I have a nice little story about a frog for you, but I find I've no room for it this month, so I must give it to you next. I'm sure you will like it.

Your loving sister,

FLORA BELLE.

Man: Body, Spirit and Soul.

Note:—The writer of the following article on the burning question as to the correct meaning of Soul and Spirit, is well-known to the Spiritualistic Press, but prefers to withhold his name, so that the article—which is written specially for "The Lyceum Banner,"—may be considered solely on its own merits. We beg to recommend it to the consideration of Liberty Groups.—Editor, L.B.

Man is truly a microcosm, or a little universe in himself, and as such, he is the conservator of all forces, the image of all objective forms, the embodiment of all subjective ideas, and the connecting link between all existences, higher and lower than himself in the scale of being.

In himself he is a trinity of elements, namely: Body, spirit and soul. His physical body is a conservator of all the powers and functions of matter; his spirit, the animating principle, is made up of all the forces we vaguely call life; his soul is the pure Deific and immortal essence whose attribute, as manifested in the male, is will or intelligence, and in the female is love or affection—the Osiris and Isis of the Egyptian Mysteries.

It is the attempt to analyse these three elements which has formed the ground work of philosophy and the theme of learned speculation for thousands of years.

The soul, or innermost part of man, is a Divine emanation from Deity, the physical body is an aggregation of material atoms, vitalised by the Astral Spirit, which serves as the life principle to the body and is the ethereal body of the soul and forms the connecting link between the soul and body.

It is this essential, innermost and divine principle of soul which survives all change, which is neither subject to decay nor disintegration; which is the spark derived from Deity, and so is the link which unites the creature to the Creator.

Encompassing this divine essence of soul, and clothing it as a spiritual body, is the subtle and refined element which, in its effects, is force; in its action through organic bodies, is life; and in its all-pervading influence throughout the realm of space, is vaguely termed magnetism and electricity.

It has often been stated by clairvoyants that there are many layers or strata of this spiritual body, varying in degree of refinement from the innermost near the soul, outward. These layers are called, collectively, the astral spirit, from the fact that it is not a single original element, like the soul, but a combination of all the imponderable elements of the universe. Its first emanation, as a vital essence, is from the sun, and planetary system. Hence its name "astral," from "astrum," a star; it is also derived from the great organic life of the earth. This astral spirit accompanies the soul at death. The more refined portions adhere to the soul, the coarser layers form the outer covering or spirit body. Upon its exterior is engraved the character, motives, powers, functions, vices, virtues, hopes and memories, which the soul has gathered up in its process of growth through the material body which can be tapped, as it were, and read off by disembodied spirits, and at times by the psychometrist, to the marvel and amazement of the audience. Not a deed, word, or thought which has helped to make up the sum of human life, but what is photographed upon the spiritual body!

Those different grades of astral matter composing the spirit body change in response to solar and planetary changes, and thence they affect the mind, influence the character, and constitute the links of connection by which the planets act upon the individual's life, for as man's astral body is aggregated from so many forces in the universe, so it is subject to the influence of changes occurring in every department of nature.

When we consider the emanations from the sun, moon, and planetary system; the various emanations given off by the earth in the different seasons of the year contribute to form the essence of the embryonic being before it sees the light of day; when we

further consider the inherited tendencies of mind and body imposed on the life-germ by parental law; that the physical sustenance, mental temperaments, employment, and thoughts of the mother combine to impress the unborn child we shall begin to realise what a complex and sensitive body the spirit of man is.

It is in this astral spirit this concentration of all force, motion, heat, life and imponderable essence that resides the determining qualities of mediumship, whether it be to lift ponderable bodies, materialise spirit forms, produce spirit lights, writing, and photography, and all forms of spirit communion.

The soul is the divine spark, an emanation from Deity; the spirit is the aggregation of imponderable forces and essences emanated by the various members of the solar system, and the physical body is an aggregation of atoms forming a vehicle for the manifestation of the soul and spirit combined.

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.]

THE SPIRIT SPHERES.

Theologians for long ages before the days of Copernicus and Galileo, conceived that the sky was a solid arch, and that heaven was located on the other side. It was there they delighted to depict God sitting on His white throne, surrounded by the twenty-four elders and the ransomed multitude.

This teaching received a rude shock when it was discovered that the blue vault of heaven was immensity of space in which myriads of suns were scattered, like countless gems on a black cloth.

Great was the fear of the theologian when it was announced that instead of the earth being the centre of the universe, the sun was the centre of a large family of subordinate globes, the earth being one of the *smaller* members. This fact made the location of heaven very difficult indeed, and filled the priestly class with fear and apprehension for their sacred calling. When it was later announced that the earth was circulating round the sun at a mean distance of 93 millions of miles their anger and fear were increased, as it was most apparent that if they taught the people heaven was immediately overhead, say in June, the earth would be gradually receding from it till December, when it would be 186 million miles away, and it would take it (the earth) till the following June to come directly under the orthodox heaven. These were, indeed, dark and sad days for the theologian.

But sadder still were their state and condition of mind when it was further announced by the astronomer that the sun itself was not stationary, but moving with his family of worlds through space: so that the earth would *never* return in its annual circuit to the *same* place in the heavens. Naturally the preachers were frantic in their hatred of the new teachings concerning the sun, moon, and stars, and denounced the new discoveries as being the work of the Devil, and those who taught them as being in league with him to destroy human souls by undermining the teachings and authority of the sacred Church. And

so, incessant war and bitterness was waged between the Church and Science until spirit communion was opened up between the two worlds, when information was sought on the vexed problem of the location of heaven.

Our testimony is that the teachings of astronomers regarding the earth and its relation to the solar system, and the motions of the solar system, are true and correct in fact, and the misunderstanding and bitterness on the part of the priesthood has arisen through their assumption, which they have taught as being based on Divine revelations, concerning the location and conditions governing heaven and hell.

The spirit-world is not located beyond the highest star as portrayed by the vivid imagination of the fervid preacher, and its attainment does not depend on either a stationary sun or earth as we hope to prove to you. The spirit-world does not consist of a New Jerusalem, beautiful as that may be, with its pearly gates, jasper walls, and golden streets, to be trodden by the feet of the blessed. A big city, no matter how resplendent with gems and precious stones, would be no home, no resting place for the weary toilers of earth if it were divorced from fields, flowers, trees, woodlands, and streams, nature's own panacea for the weary city and town-sick toilers. The plains of heaven must reproduce and maintain all the fairest spots of hill and dale, lake and stream that the earth contains, and beautify and spiritualise them, to gladden the hearts and delight the eyes of all who inhabit them.

The spirit-world proper may be described as consisting of a number of zones, commonly called "spirit spheres," surrounding and encircling the earth at varying altitudes, something after the manner of the rings or belts of Saturn.

These spheres are maintained at their respective distances from each other, and the earth as naturally as the various stratas of clouds float one above the other; only the spirit spheres do not float but are stationary over their respective portions of the earth, and participate in its rotatory movements on its axis. But they are unlike the clouds inasmuch as they cannot be seen by those living on the spheres underneath them.

On the upper surface of each sphere is to be found a reproduction of the beauty spots of the earth beneath, unmarred by the hands of man in his eagerness to extract all the wealth of minerals and metals from its bosom. Mossy grasses, decked with flowers, form a natural carpet. Trees bear beautiful foliage, blossom, and fruit in greater variety and richer tints than is possible for them to do on earth; the waters of the brooks murmur and ripple along their pebbly beds, the birds sing for very exuberance of life and joy, and all nature is in tune with its Maker, and the happy spirit people who dwell thereon.

The surface of each sphere is seen to rise in large and extensive plateaux or tablelands, which are peopled by spirit men and women of varying degrees of spiritual unfoldment. As they grow wiser and better, mastering the shortcomings of their earth life, they are able to ascend higher and higher until they are prepared to ascend to the next higher sphere. Of course their progress is quick or slow according to the success of their efforts to master their shortcomings, and to perfect their lives.

These spirit spheres are separated from each other by a space of about fifty miles, but as the movements of bright spirits are so rapid, being able to travel almost with the speed of light, it seems but a step from one sphere to another, and may be so described by those who only take note of the few seconds of time it takes to reach them.

When the spirit has succeeded in reaching the second sphere it finds itself in a better and grander world. The surroundings are more bright, ethereal, and spiritual. It also finds its spirit body and raiment partakes of the same radiant quality, and so it bears the same relationship as it did on the sphere from which it has just ascended. The spirit also finds that the same law of progress rules all its actions. All advancement has to be earned. There are no favourites, God is no respecter of persons.

"The beggar there can greet the king as equal and as neighbour;
The crown has left the kingly brow, the staff the beggar's hand."

When the spirit has progressed, or ascended to the third sphere, it finds that it has arrived at the 'home of the soul,' for it is here where the spirit homes, temples, and colleges of learning are to be found. It is here where the children are borne when they pass out of their earthly bodies, and are adopted and nursed by those best fitted to train them. It is also here where the heavenly Lyceums are to be found. It is the true Summer-land. The spirits find that beautiful beyond description as the scenery of the first and second spirit spheres were, they were but preparatory stages to prepare and fit them for the true spiritual life.

(To be continued).

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.]

THE ADVENTURES OF THESEUS.

And she answered, 'Weep not for me. That which is fated must be. Full of sorrow was my youthful days and full of sorrow and repining has been my womanhood. But for thy sake I will bear my lonely state with fortitude.' "

Then she kissed him, and weeping returned to the temple, bidding him seek his father, and Theseus saw her no more.

THESEUS MEETS PERIPHETES, THE TERRIBLE.

Theseus stood contemplating the incidents his mother had related to him, and the distant shores of Attica where his father reigned as king, and how best to reach him. First he thought of going down to the harbour and hiring a ship to sail across the bay to Athens, but that seemed too slow for his eager

desire, and he longed for wings to fly across the sea. And then occurred the saddening thought, "What if my father have other sons about him whom he loves? What if he will not receive me? Evidently he has forgotten both mother and I. Why should he welcome me now?" Then taking a noble resolution he exclaimed, "Yes, I will make him love me, for I will prove myself worthy of his love. I will win honour and renown, and do such deeds that king Ægeus shall be proud of me, though he had fifty other sons! Did not Hercules win himself honour though he was the slave of Eurystheus for twelve years? Did he not rid the land of robbers, evil beasts and poisonous reptiles? Therefore it was that all men honoured him, because he rid them of their miseries and made life pleasant to them and their children. I will go by land, and into the mountains, and round by the way of the Isthmus. Perhaps I may have brave adventures and do something which shall win my father's love and admiration."

So he went by land, and away into the mountains, with his father's sandals on his feet, till he came to the Spider Mountains, so called because they seemed to hang over Epidaurus and the sea, and full of secret paths that led to nowhere, and so were bewildering to the unlucky traveller that was tempted to enter them.

And he followed the upward path between the rough marble rocks, till the valleys grew blue beneath him, and the clouds seemed to hang round about him. Upward and onward he went through the spider's web of glens and great black cracks full of dreary, oppressive mists which seemed to bar his way. But forward he must go, as there was no way to the right or left.

So he toiled on past bog and brake till he came to a huge pile of loose rocks. On the topmost stone a fierce looking man was sitting. He was wrapped in a cloak made of bearskins. The head of a bear's skin served him for a cap, and its teeth grinned white on his forehead, the skin of its forelegs were brought round his neck, and their claws shone white upon his broad, hairy chest. When he saw Theseus he stood up and laughed till the mountains echoed with his cruel mirth.

Then ceasing to laugh he asked, 'Who art thou, fair fly, who hast walked into the spider's web?' Theseus walked steadily on his way, wondering in his mind if this was some robber, and had an adventure come to him already?

The strange man was puzzled with the newcomer's quiet, determined manner, and said, 'Bold fly, know you not that these mountain fastnesses are the web from which no fly ever finds its way out again, and this valley in their midst is the spider's house, and I am the spider who feeds on the human flies? Come hither bold youth, for I intend to feast on thee; it is no use to try and run away, for so cunning a web did my father Hephæstus (Vulcan) spread for me when he made these clefts in the mountains, that no man who once enters them ever finds his way out again.'

But instead of showing fear Theseus walked steadily on, and looking boldly at the robber and murderer—he asked, 'And pray what is your name among men, bold spider, and where are your spider's fangs?'

(To be continued).

Lyceum Union, May, 1891.

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

FOUNDED NOVEMBER, 1890, BY J. J. MORSE.

THE LYCEUM BANNER:

ALFRED KITSON, *Editor.*

Terms to Lyceums and Societies:

Twelve copies, 10¹/₂d.; 18 copies, 1s. 4d.; 24 copies, 1s. 9d.; 36 copies, 2s. 7¹/₂d.; 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.

Terms to Lyceums abroad, 1/- per dozen copies, post free. 1d. for every additional copy.

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.

OCTOBER, 1913.

LYCEUM MOTTO FOR 1913.

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

Lyceum Notes and Comments.

Our readers will readily join us in our sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Yates, of Huddersfield, in their grief caused by the sad death of their eldest son, as reported in our "In Memoria" list.

An effort is being made to start a Lyceum at Caerua, near Bridgend, Glam. We wish them success in their efforts.

Our readers will be interested to learn another effort is being made to re-open the Lyceum at Foleshill, near Coventry. There seems to be an enthusiastic spirit amongst them that bids fair to make the present effort a lasting success. We well remember supplying information concerning the formation and management of the Lyceum to Mr. John Cox in 1887.

We gather from a correspondent that an effort is being made to unite the two Societies and Lyceums at Barrow-in-Furness, which, if successful, will result in the Abbey Road friends joining those at the Psychological Hall, Dalkeith Street.

We desire to thank our numerous readers for their appreciative remarks re the excellency of the contents of our last issue. We trust our present issue will be found to be equally good and attractive.

In reply to the many enquiries that have reached us as to the price and name of publisher of the story called "Intuition," lately appearing as a serial story in our pages, we have to say it was published by the late Mr. James Burns, 15, Southampton Row, London. It is now out of print.

We regret being unable to supply back numbers containing the spirit messages now appearing under the title of "After Death, What?" If a good demand for it is forthcoming the Executive Council may be induced to print it in pamphlet form. But readers would be well advised to preserve their BANNERS in case no reprint is made.

It is encouraging to learn *The Lyceum Reciter* is meeting with so much appreciation. Short recitations have a preference as they are best adapted for the little ones to memorise. Last month we ventured to insert "The Lady's Dream" as it contained gems of spiritual truth. It would appear a number of children are trying to memorise it. As an encouragement we offer a Lyceum Badge to the one who recites it best, if more than one tries, their respective conductors to the the judge; not more than one Badge to be awarded to one Lyceum.

The same offer applies to the recitation in this month's BANNER, written by Miss V. G. Rayner, of Nottingham.

The offer of FREE COPIES of the LYCEUM BANNER to those Lyceums who increase their monthly order—see page 133 September issue—holds good for the remainder of the year—November and December. Quite a number of Lyceums have embraced the offer, and no doubt will be delighted with the result. Mrs. Greenwood's descriptive article on the spirit photos should ensure a ready sale.

The Editor had a most pleasant surprise during his visit to the Nottingham United Lyceums' Demonstration in the excellency of the various programmes for the occasion.

Two hundred Lyceumists, mostly girls, dressed in white, with parti-coloured sashes indicating the Lyceum they were members of, seated on the large rostrum of the Scala Theatre, made a pretty picture. But they were there to be heard as well as seen. And their individual and collective efforts were heartily applauded.

A splendid Orchestral Band, under the able tuition of Mr. J. W. Rayner, musical conductor, rendered an extra attraction to the occasion. But the climax in the musical items was reached when Master E. Mills rendered on the cornet, "The Rosary;" and Master Hayden Godwin rendered on his violin, "Intermezzo." The two soloists were youths about 12 or 13 years of age, but the execution and judgment of emphasis was that of adults of mature years. No wonder the audience encored the performers.

Mr. T. W. Masters presided over the morning's service, in his usual genial way. Mr. G. F. Berry ably presided over the afternoon's demonstration. The old veteran, M. J. J. Ashworth, presided over the evening's meeting. A protest meeting held in the Market Place, brought a memorable day's proceedings to a close.

THE LYCEUM RECITER.

WHAT IS IT?

I have a head, a little head
That you could scarcely see;
But I have a mouth much bigger
Than my head could ever be.

That seems impossible, you say;
You think 'twould be a bother?
Why, no! My head is at one end,
My mouth's 'way at the other.

I have no feet, yet I can run,
And pretty fast, 'tis said;
The funny thing about me is,
I run when in my bed.

I've not a cent in all the world,
I seek not Fortune's ranks;
And yet it's true that, though so poor,
I own two splendid banks.

I've lots of "sand," yet run away;
I'm weak, yet "furnish power";
No hands or arms, yet my embrace
Would kill in half an hour.

You think I am some fearful thing,
Ah, you begin to shiver!
Pray, don't; for, after all, you know,
I'm only just a river.

WHATEVER IS—IS BEST.

I know as my life grows older,
And mine eyes have clearer sight,
That under each rank wrong, somewhere,
There lies the root of Right;
That each sorrow has its purpose,
By the sorrowing oft unguessed,
But as sure as the sun brings morning,
Whatever is—is best.

I know that each sinful action,
As sure as the night brings shade,
Is somewhere, sometime punished,
Though the hour be long delayed.
I know that the soul is aided
Sometime by the heart's unrest,
And to grow means often to suffer—
But, whatever is—is best.

I know there are no errors,
In the great Eternal plan,
And all things work together
For the final good of man.
And I know as my soul speeds onward
In its grand Eternal quest,
I shall say as I look back earthward,
Whatever is—is best.

ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.

NECESSARY LINKS.

There's a thought of such sweet comfort,
And it cometh to me oft,
Like sweet strains of cheerful music
With a richness sweet and soft.

It will haunt me when I'm dreaming,
Making sweet my troubled sleep,
When awake its light still gleaming
Through my veins will gently creep.

I am but a poor musician,
Earning pennies in the street,
With my good old friend the fiddle,
I, the idle crowd do greet.

Though my audience will chatter,
When I fain would have them still,
I can hush their talk, what matter?
Power I have their souls to thrill.

I can fill them full of laughter,
Bring the tear-drop to the eye,
I can make them long for better
Brighter things when they are nigh.

As I look at my strange gath'ring,
Touched by music simply sweet,
Look at varied faces changing,
And their wistful gazes meet.

Then my thought of such sweet comfort
Seems my inmost soul to thrill,
It inspires me with a feeling
Of sweet peace and real goodwill.

That I count as nought in living,
Is a thought that flies away,
That my audience counts as nothing,
Is a thing I ne'er will say.

All are children of the Father,
Working out His mighty plan,
And the poorest, humblest creature,
Is to me my fellow man.

I, who have been scorned by many,
And am scorned by many still,
Though I'm poor in earthly treasures
I bear all men real goodwill.

I do not envy men of wealth,
Nor the humblest creatures scorn,
For every man and woman,
By the self-same law was born.

Each and all must fill their places,
All are links in one great chain,
Each related to the other,
Yet they each apart do reign.

This my pray'r then, envy no one,
Fill your souls with joy and peace,
You are wanted, you are counted,
And your blessings shall increase.

Composed by VICTORIA GWENDOLINE RAYNER,
(A Nottingham Lyceumist.)

North-East Lancashire Spiritualist Lyceum District Council. Adjudication Results for 1913. Possible (Maximum) Marks 75.

	SINGING			READING			MARCHING			CALISTHENICS			GENERAL DISCIPLINE			TOTAL
	Precision	Tone	Expression	Unison in Response	Delivery	Mental Efficiency	Time	Carriage of figure	Accuracy	Time	Accuracy	Energy	Attentiveness	General Standard	Devotional Aspect	
Blackburn, St. Peter St.	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	4	4	5	4	5	69
Nelson	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	69
Rishton	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	69
Burnley, Hammerton St.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	69
Blackpool	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	68
Colne	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	67
Great Harwood	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	66
Accrington, China Street	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	64
Earby	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	62
Blackburn, North Gate	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	61
Rawtenstall	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	60
Preston, Clarke's Yard	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	59
Barnoldswick	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	58
Brierfield	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	58
Darwin	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	53
Preston, Lancaster Road	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	51
	65	67	66	69	67	71	71	72	71	70	70	73	76	71	75	1061

If you divide 1061 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 17 you get an average number of points of 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ (nearly) which is almost identical with the number of marks awarded to the Lyceum that is half way down the list. Whether these figures may be taken as a criterion of the general standard of the Lyceums for the year or not is an open question, but they certainly do show an improvement over last year, especially when you remember that I have not given as many marks this year for the same exhibition as I did last year. You will notice that the Section with the lowest marks is the singing; I am not very much surprised at this, because of the presence of so very many young children in the Lyceums, but there are a few Lyceums where there are a good many adults in attendance, in these cases I think there is much room for improvement, especially with regard to good alto and tenor singing. It is very common to hear persons trying to sing alto which is really bass, but sung an octave higher. The next lowest section is the Reading. I think our Lyceums generally, do fairly well in this respect when you consider the composition of the Lyceums and realise the difference in the ages of the various scholars, the youngest reading at the same time as the eldest, trying to pronounce difficult words and at the same time read in unison, it is wonderful that we have such good reading at all. If there is any fault to find it is more with the adults than the children. I find in some Lyceums individuals who

very much like to be heard, who not only read very much louder but also very much quicker than the rest. This is very bad practise, adults should always lean towards the children because it gives them confidence when they find they read in unison with the adults. You will notice that the marching and calisthenics are fairly equal in marks; in some Lyceums these sections are almost perfect, but in others there is much room for improvement. In some cases there is more noise with the left foot than with the right, sliding of the feet, curved lines, rounded corners, scholars in the wrong step, and in the chain march the handshake not with the beat of the music. In the Calisthenics all the hands should strike with the beat of the music in a nice graceful movement, and not so vigorous and energetic that it becomes a toil. You will see that Attentiveness obtains the highest number of marks again. I don't think this is a criterion of the attentiveness the year round, because I think the mental efficiency would be much better if that were so. There is an aspect that I would like to touch upon in "General Standard," i.e., Conductors. It is one thing to occupy the position and another thing to occupy it with ability; it is in the answering of questions and the general handling of the Lyceum where a good many fail. All scholars know the general routine of the session and could announce the various items and read the readings, but the Conductor should be able to do more than this, he should have taste in choosing the readings and hymns so that they all have a bearing upon each other, and when choosing a scholar to read consider the ability of the scholar before doing so. Some children can read very well when alone, but when reading before a whole school it becomes a great task, others are not affected, and when giving an order give it more in the way of a request than a command; firmness does not mean abruptness. I would advise all conductors to choose the readings, etc., the Sunday previous, and announce them to the Lyceum in order to give the scholars the opportunity of looking the readings up and come prepared with questions and answers. This is done in one Lyceum and works well, of course you will plainly see that the arrangement is upset when the Adjudicator appears, but generally, it is of great utility. The devotional aspect of the Lyceums would be greatly improved if all the scholars would close their eyes, this practise may not alter or indicate devotedness, but it certainly does give one a better chance to concentrate his mind upon the prayer uttered. I mention it for that alone. It has given me pleasure to go to the various Lyceums, as it always does, no matter how small the Lyceum may be, but I should have been a great deal more pleased if I had noticed an increase in the number of scholars instead of an apparent decrease. I say apparent because I hope that it is so, and not real. The retaining of our scholars, especially from the ages of 17 or 18 years to marriage age, is the great problem that we must solve if we are intending carrying on the work successfully in the future, some really good practical advice is urgently needed upon the subject. Are you going to be the first to offer?

Yours very sincerely,

J. E. ELLIOTT,

264, Leeds Road, Nelson,

Adjudicator.

In Memoria.

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.

HUDDERSFIELD—(Ramsden Street).—It is with very deep regret I record the passing to spirit life of Joe Willie Yates, he was one of our young scholars, aged 13, and son of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Yates of 25, Thornton Lodge Road. The transition took place under tragic circumstances; missing from home from the 8th of September, nothing was heard concerning him until the 14th, when his body was taken from the canal. The interment took place on the 17th. Mr. Holdsworth, of Keighley, officiated. All who know Mr. and Mrs. Yates will, I am sure, extend to them their deepest sympathy.

Tom Ellis, Secy.

LEEDS.—(Church Street).—Passed into spirit life, dear sister Mrs. Wilkinson who was a member both of our Lyceum and Society.

Albert Harrison, Secy.

NEWCASTLE, HEATON.—Re Ralph Eke, the cause of death was strain of the heart, whilst climbing, and not poisoning as reported by Mr. Benn.

J. Ronaldson, Con.

BRADFORD.—The earthly body of Mrs. Nicholson was interred on September 20th. Mr. John Jackson performing the ceremony. She had been an ardent worker in the cause.

Cor.

OFFICER'S EDITION OF LYCEUM MANUAL.

It has been decided to include in the officer's Edition of the Lyceum Manual (now in preparation), Naming, Marriage and Interment services.

An open invitation is hereby given to those, who, having such services, would care to submit same to the Sub-Committee of the B.S.L.U. E.C., who have the matter in hand.

It is earnestly desired, that the matter be proceeded with AT ONCE. And to this end it is requested that those willing to assist should submit manuscript on, or before November 8th, 1913, to Alice Hesp, Secretary of Sub-Committee, 10, Cross Flatts Drive, Beeston, Leeds.

Correspondence.

MATTERS CONCERNING NEWCASTLE.

Sir,—I am really surprised to read Mr. Wardle's letter *re* D.C. meeting at Potts Street, and also the statement that I admitted to him that the Secretary of the D.C. had no right to adopt measures he did. As to the important information I received, I must say the secretary only did his duty according to his instructions from the E.C. of the D.C. But one side is always good till the other one is told and those who live in glass houses should never throw stones. The E.C. has always endeavoured to be just and fair to all. But as regards Rutherford Street Lyceum striving against concoctions and hatred, I must say is entirely a wrong idea altogether, for misrepresentation has never built up a Lyceum yet, and this is where the failing of the Rutherford Street secretary comes in. Article V. in our constitution says, "A General Meeting shall be held once a year, etc.," but not after the management committee has been appointed to carry on the business of the Lyceum. To call the Lyceum members together 21 Sundays of out 28 sessions for business, instead of the management committee doing the duty they were elected to do. Carrying a resolution with five votes on each side, and the chairman's casting vote in favour

of withdrawing from D.C. is one of the things that is not fair, or giving to the members of the Lyceum justice in any way, but is a snap division and is not the true feeling of the Lyceum. But, Sir, I would suggest that the constitution be carried out to the letter, this would tend to create harmony and good feeling to all.

I remain, yours truly,

A. E. BRINKLOW,
Chairman of D.C.

DEAR SIR,

Being interested in Mr. Wardle's letter (September edition), and knowing something of what he is getting at, I feel it must be answered, though not in any prejudiced manner. For it pains me to crave a little of your space for such matter quite uninteresting, if not disgusting to those who seek in its pages for fruit of a more wholesome character. Mr. Wardle is quite right as far as he goes, but why tell half a truth, when the whole truth is as clear as a placid stream. His letters were considered at the E.C. meeting, May 31st, previous to the D.C. meeting June 8th, and in their opinion were personally addressed to me. Therefore they instructed me as Secretary not to bring the business up in correspondence, but to do so in my report. This was done, also I read one of his letters making demands which were beyond their authority. It was carried that the whole business be squashed. It is now September and our friend can't see yet why he was not asked to speak. But let us trust he will place himself in order by moving with the majority. He also speaks of "congealed conditions, injustice, etc." For the past eight months Rutherford Street Lyceum has been striving against concoctions and hatred." I am sorry to say it is true. It has a cause, and in my opinion, will be found within their own walls. Let them go back to the beginning of the time stated and therein it lies. The old proverb repeats itself "None, are so blind, as those who will not see."

D. R. DAVIES.

BOLTON SPIRITUALIST LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The quarterly meeting of the above Council was held in Commission Street Hall, Bolton, on Saturday, September 20th. Mr. H. Gough, President of the Council, presided, and pointed out several features of the work that we had in hand in our District. He also extended a hearty welcome to the Bury delegate, and was glad to see our old friend and D.V., Mr. Knight, back amongst us again, trusting that he will be able to give his time for the children's cause.

The minutes of the previous meeting was accepted as a correct record. The secretary's, treasurer's, and the D.V. reports were all accepted. A letter was read from Mr. J. H. Charnley *re* Radcliffe Ash Street Lyceum, and it was decided that our Secretary write them; offering to them the E.C. services, hoping that by their efforts that they will be the means of making their Lyceum stronger.

Resolved: That all Lyceums taking part must at once prepare for competition. The Adjudicator to commence duties in the New Year 1914. That we take N.E.L.O.C. Marks. Presenting of the Shield be made at the Annual Demonstration. And the winner of the Shield to have preference for the Demonstration to be held in their district. And that the adjudicator be left in the hands of the E.C.

Resolved: That each delegate take back to their Lyceum for discussion whether they are in favour of a District Educational Scheme; each group to study one fixed subject, or a district week night Study Group, proficiency to be awarded by certificate? Or to continue the usual Lyceum study group as obtains in the Liberty Groups? A hearty vote of thanks was passed unanimously to our Commission Street friends for the hospitable way they provided for us. The following Lyceums were represented: Commission Street, Bradford Street, Horwich, Daisy Hill, Leigh, Bury. A most successful and enjoyable social was spent by all.

ED. WALSH, Secretary.

BRADFORD LYCEUMS' DISTRICT COUNCIL. CHILDREN'S OUTING.

The above D.C. organised an outing for the children on September 6th. Meeting at Shipley Spiritual Church, about 150 set down to tea, which all under 16 received free, afterwards the party walked to Baildon Green, where races, games, etc., were indulged in. Returning at dusk to Shipley Church, where a social took place. The party now numbered over 200. Some splendid prizes were given to the winners of the races. Each Lyceum in the district being represented amongst the

prize winners. Much amusement was caused by a comic race, "Blind Bell horses." The winning "horses" Mr. Noble and Mr. Holbrook, both blindfolded, were driven by Mrs. Ramsden. H. BIRDSALL.

BRADFORD LYCEUMS' DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The half-yearly meeting of the above was held at Otley Road, Bradford, on Sunday, September 14th. All the Lyceums in the district were represented, with the exception of Windhill. Mr. Ramsden in the chair. The D.V. reported favourably with regard to Skipton. After much correspondence, the Skipton committee had decided to discuss the question of re-opening their Lyceum. Miss Stair (D.V.) also reported visiting Guildford Street, Bradford, the result being far from satisfactory. It was decided that the D.V. should again visit them in the afternoon, September 14th. Reports of the trip to Grassington, and the children's outing at Shipley and Baildon were accepted. The Secretary, H. Birdsall, was elected delegate to the next U.D.C. meeting, and also nominee for the B.S.L.U., E.C. The Inspector's report of the Lyceum Examinations was accepted with thanks. We were sorry to learn of the serious illness of our Vice-President, Miss Preston. The Secretary being instructed to send a letter conveying our sympathies and best wishes for her speedy recovery. The presentation of the Shield to Dudley Hill Lyceum, will take place in their rooms on Saturday, October 11th. All nominations for officers of the D.C. must be in the Secretary's hands not later than January 27th, 1914. A splendid session was held in the afternoon. Mr. Horn conducting. Silver chain recitations was conducted by Mr. Summers, Keighley: M.R. by Mr. Haley, Bradford; and G.C. Recitations by Mr. G. E. Baker, Halifax. Addresses were given by Mr. Race, Mr. Barnes and Mrs. Stell. Mr. Ramsden presided over the evening service. Addresses were given by Miss Stair, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Race and Mrs. Ramsden. Mrs. Ramsden also gave clairvoyance.

H. BIRDSALL.

BRADFORD LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

LYCEUM EXAMINATIONS FOR SILVER SHIELD.

	Punctuality 10 marks	Order and General Conduct 15 marks	Singing 10 marks	Reading 10 marks	Pearls, Questions and Answers 10 marks	Marching 10 marks	Calisthenics 10 marks	Group Work and Lessons, 15 marks	Total
Dudley Hill, Bfd.	9	12	10	8	7	8	9	13	76
Shipley	9	14	7	8	8	8	7	14	75
Keighley	8	12	9	7	9	7	7	15	74
Otley Road, Bfd.	7	15	9	8	7	8	8	12	74
Boynton St., Bfd.	9½	13	8	7	7	7	8	13	72½
Ivy Rooms, Bfd.	9	13	7	7	7	8	7	13	71
Cleckheaton	8	13	6	9	6	8	9	11	70
Windhill	4	12	6	6	5	8	9	11	61

*Punctuality also includes a deduction for absent members.

G. E. BAKER, Examiner.

LEEDS LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The quarterly meeting of the above Council was held at Liversedge, on Saturday, September 20th. After the President, Mr. Sykes, had briefly welcomed the delegates, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

It was resolved that in future all Lyceums in the Council shall pay an affiliation fee of 2/- per annum to District Council, such fee to be paid in advance, and the rule to take effect from the Annual Meeting.

It was reported that the Leeds section of the Council were preparing their syllabus for the winter's session of the Study Group, and the hope was expressed that the Study Group would meet with the same approval, and be as successful as hitherto.

It was resolved that the next Field Day be held in Leeds on June 27th, 1914, and that the Yorkshire Union Guild Centres be invited to join.

It was agreed that Miss Hesp be delegate to next U.D.C. meeting.

Much discussion ensued on the question of the falling off of Lyceumists. Various reasons were given and ideas propounded.

The next meeting will be held in the Leeds Psycho.

Votes of thanks were given to the Liversedge friends, who so ably catered for tea, and to Mr. Kitson, who presided over

the meeting, after the president had taken his compulsory early leave. Miss Hirst and Mr. Kitson responded.

A. HESP, Secretary.

NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Council Meeting held at Darwen, September 20th. Mr. Hargreaves gave presidential address, in which he referred to Sir Oliver Lodge in a very able manner, and also in bitter tones about the Boy Scout movement and the teachings of murder of men.

Secretary's report, Treasurer's report, and correspondence accepted as read. District Visitor and assistant D.V. reports passed.

Adjudicator's Silver Shield Report accepted. Three Lyceums tying for first place.

Messrs. Higham, and Elliot were accepted as judges in the re-judging, and have power to appoint time and place.

Credential Report, E.C., 4; delegates, 22; associates, 11; making 37 persons.

The following Lyceums were represented: China Street, Accrington; Burnley (North Street; Burnley (Hammerton Street); Blackburn (St. Peter Street); Darwen; Earby; Fleetwood; Nelson; Preston (Clark's Yard); Rawtenstall, and Rish-ton.

Assistant District Visitors for next quarter: Mr. Clark, Earby; Mr. Wilson, Rawtenstall; and Mrs. Wilson, Preston. Fleetwood Lyceum were accepted as members of the Council.

Resolved: That Clark's Yard, Preston, be the place for next Council.

Resolved: That meeting at 3, tea 6, and social at 7-30.

Best thanks to Darwen.

R. ASHWORTH, Secretary.

NOTTINGHAM AMALGAMATED LYCEUMS' DEMONSTRATION.

On Saturday, September 13th, a reception was held in the Bentick Road Schools to welcome our speaker, Mr. Alfred Kitson, to Nottingham. Solos, recitations, etc., were rendered by various members of the Lyceums. Two anthems were ably rendered by the Spiritual Alliance Choir, under the conductorship of Mr. E. Watkins, followed by an address by Mr. A. Kitson on "The Rise and Progress of the English Lyceum Movement." Everything being highly enjoyed.

Sunday, September 14th, services were held in the Scala Theatre, morning and evening. The following Lyceumists gave recitations: Misses L. Harrison, Hilda Hickling, Phillis Hartwell, Mr. F. Jarvis and Mr. H. Huntback, Solos, Misses Ivy Scott, Doris Carlin, May Woodward, Edith Hickling, Doris Hawkins, Lily Huntback, and Alice Huntback. Duet, Misses Holt and Swadden, Violin solo, Master Hayden Godwin, and cornet solo, Master E. Mills.

In the afternoon, on the Nottingham Forest, an open-air Lyceum Session was held, Mr. A. Kitson, as in the morning and evening, was the speaker and showed great enthusiasm in his address. The marching and calisthenics being well executed. The only thing that seemed to mar a most successful day was the Nottingham Watch Committee prohibiting the use of a Prize Brass Band to lead us in procession from the Mechanics Hall to the Scala Theatre to the evening's gathering.

It was decided that a protest meeting be held in the open market place after the evening service, when the following resolution was carried unanimously:

"That this meeting of Spiritualists strongly protests against the action of the authorities in prohibiting the use of the band in their procession to-day, seeing that other societies are allowed to do what we are denied the right to do. And we ask the Watch Committee to receive a deputation to discuss the matter."

The speakers were Mr. A. Kitson, Mr. T. W. Masters, Mr. G. F. Berry, Mrs. Brown, and Mrs. McCaig.

A. H. COLES, Secretary.

ROCHDALE LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The Annual General Meeting of this Council was held in the prettily situated Church, William Street, Heywood: Mr. G. F. Knott, President, in the chair. Minutes and correspondence accepted, after a little pleasant discussion on some of the items. D.V. reported having visited seven Lyceums since last meeting; and President two, both giving encouraging reports of all visits. Auditors' and Secretary's reports were appreciated by the delegates. Election of officers resulted in the old E.C. being unanimously re-elected, namely: President, Mr. G. F. Knott, Rochdale; Secretary, Amos Harris, Bacup; Treasurer, Mr. James Lord, Heywood; District Visitor, Mr. W. Chisnall, Royton; Auditors were elected as follows: Mr. H. Buckley

(Oldham, Coronation Street), and Mr. A. Fallows (Oldham, Union Street). Further decided that Secretary be our representative to U.D.C. meeting in November, and that he be instructed to notify U.D.C. Secretary of two notices of motion from our Council to be placed on the agenda for November, viz., (A) That the Officers' Edition of the *Manual*, and its contents be placed on the agenda; (B) and that a glossary of terms be eventually inserted in the Officers' Edition. The notice of motion: That two visitors be appointed to visit Lyceums in the Council apart from the B.S.L. visitor. Expenses to be paid by the Council, was defeated by the amendment: That one additional official visitor be appointed to visit all Lyceums, and at each quarterly meeting D.V. report Lyceums who want additional assistance, and that it be granted by this Council; Secretary be our additional visitor. Mr. F. Shaw (Oldham, Elliott Street), was instructed to visit Royton Lyceum; and Mr. H. Buckley visit Chadderton before next quarterly meeting. Votes of thanks to retiring officials and local friends finished the business. On Sunday, four of the delegate assisted in the work of the day. In the morning the Liberty Group were occupied in dealing with a paper entitled "Electrical Psychology," given by Mr. Pickles, of Heywood. Good discussion followed same. Rest of day was spent in three inspiring Open Sessions, for which great credit is due to the local officials. They have recently elected two young men conductors. Messrs. Archie Barley and Geo. Kay. The marching and calisthenic evolutions were splendidly led by Mr. and Miss Alice Lord. Solos by Mrs. Friend and Amos Harris, both of Bacup. Duet, Messrs. Barley and Kay (230 *Manual*). Quartette, Mr. Shipley and three children, 332 *Manual*. Recitation, Mr. Barlow (Heywood). Pearls were plentiful and of good quality. Mr. H. Buckley (Oldham) and Mr. Ashworth (Heywood) shared the honours of instrumentalists. Silver and Golden Chain recitations were nicely conducted. Excellent phenomena were rendered by Miss Bayliss (Conductor, Oldham, Coronation Street). A paper by Council's Secretary. There was a moderate attendance in the afternoon, and a large and appreciative one in the evening. The Heywood friends are to be congratulated on the position and possession of such a nice hall. We trust to see Heywood expand and grow; for they possess a young and capable band of energetic workers and officials. May harmony such as we felt there on Sunday ever remain to cheer and inspire them to increased effort, and more enduring success in the cause of the children, and of all humanity. The next meeting will be held at Oldham, Coronation Street, on Saturday, December 13th, 1913, at 4 o'clock p.m. prompt.

AMOS HARRIS, *Secretary*.

THE TYNESIDE LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Held their quarterly meeting at Fowler Street, South Shields, on Sunday, September 21st, when eleven Lyceums were represented, with a good company of associates and friends. Mr. Brinklow took the chair at 10.45 a.m., and an amount of good work was got through. We were favoured by the presence of Mr. C. Smith, President of the Teeside D.C., whose interesting remarks were highly appreciated, and added to a splendid programme rendered at the afternoon joint Open Session, with South Eldon Street Lyceum.

The President presided at the evening meeting. Speakers, Mrs. A. Poole, Vice-President, and Messrs. Herd and Davies. Mr. Hall, D.V., moved a hearty vote of thanks to our Fowler Street friends, to which Mr. Ridley, conductor of Fowler Street Lyceum, ably responded.

D. R. DAVIES.

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 September 26th.

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 accom-

pany 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, October 22nd, to ensure insertion in the November 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).—Open Session on September 7th, on which date we had our Harvest Festival. About 50 scholars and friends. Room tastefully decorated. Songs by Misses A. Gorton and Nellie Ormerod, and Mrs. Chambers. Numerous pearls and explanations. Splendid session.—R. Ashworth.

BATLEY CARR.—On Sunday, September 7th, we held the first of a series of Open Sessions. We had a few visitors present, who seemed to thoroughly enjoy the session. In addition to the ordinary programme, a few recitations and two solos were rendered by Lyceumists. We are looking forward to our next Open Session, which will be the first Sunday in October.—L. Mortimer.

BIRMINGHAM (Crawford Street).—On Sunday, Sept. 7th, a General Meeting was held, for the purpose of reconstructing the Lyceum management. On Sunday, September 14th, Mr. E. E. Laxton gave a very inspiring address on "Happiness and Fraternity." On Sunday, September 21st, Mr. L. Spencer gave a very interesting paper on "Love," questions being invited afterwards. Recitations have been given by Miss E. Phipps and Mr. W. L. Shergold. On Sunday, September 14th, Mr. L. Thomas, the District Visitor, was with us and gave some very good suggestions to the Lyceum, which we hope to carry out in the near future.—Vera Marshall, *Secretary*.

BLACKBURN (St. Peter Street).—We held our usual Open Session on Sunday, August 31st. Conductor, Mr. H. Hopper; assistants, R. Eskdale and T. Edwards. Attendance not as good as usual. Opening hymn, "Lyceum Anniversary Song." Invocation by Miss Allan. Readings were given by Miss May Slater, Miss Maggie Slater and our Conductor. Recitations by Master S. Robinson and Miss E. Hopper. Solo by Miss L. Callan. Marching, calisthenics and rod drills good. We also had a naming ceremony, conducted by Miss Jones, a Lyceum scholar and worker. The child's earth name was Elsie, spirit name "Sincerity." Our President, Mr. J. T. Ward, also gave a short address. Closing hymn, "Forward press to conquer." Pianists, Miss Eddleston and Miss B. Robinson.—J. Savage, *Secretary*.

BOLTON (Bradford Street).—I am sorry to report loss of one of our ardent workers in Mr. W. Nelson, having gone abroad to find better fields of labour. Our sincere and earnest wishes go with him, and may he have success, materially and spiritually, is our desire, for though we miss him, he is sure to be some one else's gain. On Sunday, September 21st, we held our Harvest Festival, the speaker being Mr. J. J. Morse, of Manchester. On the following Monday, the products of Sunday's festival were disposed of in the way of a fruit banquet, with considerable success. The night's entertainment was also enjoyed. Lyceum progressing smoothly, and on the whole the month's produce is very appreciable.—T. Worthington.

BRADFORD (Guildford Street).—We held our first Open Session on September 7th. There was a very good attendance, with Mr. Draycup as Conductor. There was a good response when songs and recitations were asked for, all being willing to give what help they could for the benefit of the Lyceum. Our pianist, Laura Poynton, kindly started with a pianoforte solo. Recitations were then given by Frank Morrel and Mrs. Ackroyd. Our Conductor then sang, "Haste to the field of labour," from the *Lyceum Manual*. Mrs. Ainger and Miss Haley together kindly obliged us with "Angels lead my footsteps," also taken from the *Manual*. On September 14th, Miss Stair, D.V., paid us a visit. After the marching she kindly gave us a few words of advice.—George E. Hall, *Secretary*.

BRADFORD, WEST BOWLING (Boynnton Street).—We held our Open Session on Sunday, September 7th, and I am pleased to report that more interest was shown than has been this last few months. The following took part:—Master Norman Haley, recitation; duet by Miss Hilda Crofts and

Miss Hilda Thornton; reading by Mrs. Ramsden; pianoforte solo by Miss Hilda Firth. Mr. Chambers gave us a short address on "Inspiration," which was very much appreciated.—A. E. Carter, Secretary.

BURY (66, King Street).—On September 20th and 21st we held a Re-union of old and new scholars and friends. On the Saturday we had a tea party and social, which was very well attended. On the Sunday, in the morning, we had an Open Session, which was conducted by Mr. Duckworth. Songs were rendered by Mrs. Oldfield, Messrs. Duckworth, Rockliffe and Chadwick, and a reading was given by Master W. Kaye. The afternoon service was opened by Mrs. Oldfield, of Chadderton. Mr. Batton, of Bolton, gave a short address on "Re-union," and Mr. Verity gave clairvoyance. A duet by Miss May and Mr. E. Hepworth concluded the afternoon programme. Our speakers for the evening were Mrs. Oldfield and Mr. Verity.—Edith Kaye, Secretary.

CHADDERTON (off Brook Street).—On September 7th we held our quarterly Open Sessions. Pleased to have with us Mr. Chisnall, the D.V., who spoke very encouragingly to all. He was pleased to find we had improved since his last visit. Session in the evening very good, visitors being present from Elliott Street and Luzley Brook. Recitations given by Mrs. Simmonds, Miss Thornton, and Miss Sheppard. Solos by our Musical Conductor, Miss Hawcroft, Mrs. Oldfield and May Sheppard. Sunday, September 21st, our Lyceum and Church fourth Anniversary. Session in the afternoon, and in the evening addresses by Mr. Albert Shaw. Mr. Lester ably responded. We hope to continue in this grand and noble work.—Mrs. M. Oldfield, Secretary.

CHESTERFIELD (Old Assembly Rooms).—On Sunday, September 14th, we held our usual Open Session. There were not many items, but what few there were were well rendered. Recitations were given by the following:—Edith Herrot, Florrie Smith, Alice Smith, Rosie Phillips, and Alice Delegate, and a vocal solo by Mr. Taylor. We are still finding the BANNER RECITER very useful.—Edwin H. Widdowson, Secretary.

CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND.—On Sunday, July 27th, we had Open Session. Although there was a moderate attendance we had a record day, the children taking considerably more than usual interest. After the opening exercises, Miss Rose Moody (our Musical Conductor) favoured us with a pianoforte solo. Duet, 578 *Manual*, Eileen Champness and Bert Emmerson. Solos, "The spirit sailor boy," Miss Champness; 392 *Manual*, Hilda Fryer; 337, Mrs. Schofield; 17, Robert Forbes. Recitations, Mr. Moody (Conductor), Nelly Cook, Maud Emmerson, Gladys Cook, Beatrice Emmerson, Daisy Moody, Lydia Forbes, Lily Coombes, May Small, Roy Coombes, Ernest Coombes, and a reading by Oliver Moody. It is hoped that this afternoon is the forerunner of many such interesting and pleasant sessions.—C. E. Sibson.

CREWE (Mill Street).—On Sunday we held our usual Open Session. The following items were well rendered:—Pianoforte solo by Florrie Wood; recitations by Lily Greenwood, Eva Jones, Florrie Jones, Annie Breeze and Elsie Challoner; solos by Edith Bebbington, Annie Smith, Maggie Baggeley and Doris Kinsey; duet by Ada Buxton and Gwennie Baggeley. On Sunday, September 7th, we celebrated our Harvest Festival. Mrs. Shearsmith (Manchester) conducted the whole of the services. To her we are greatly indebted for so kindly coming forward as she does on every occasion. The following items were well rendered:—Solos by Gwennie and Maggie Baggeley; recitations by Eva Jones, Annie Brookshaw, Annie Breeze and Maggie Concliffe. A very successful and enjoyable time was spent by all.—Miss M. Martin, Sec.

DARLINGTON (Bondgate).—On September 7th we had with us our esteemed friend, Mr. Kitson, the speaker for the day. We enjoyed a most harmonious session, well attended. We opened by singing "Shoulder to shoulder," followed by silver chain reading, "The Visible Creation." Musical reading, "Catch the sunshine" and golden chain, "Physical, moral and spiritual order." Recitations were then given by Eva Grey and Cecil Lumley. A reading by Florrie Lumley, and solos by Miss Bird, Mr. Kitson, Florrie Lumley and Eva Grey. A good string of pearls were also rendered. Mr. Kitson very kindly led the calisthenics, and gave us valuable hints as to their correct execution. Mr. Sutton conducted. We closed a most enjoyable session by singing "God speed the right."—Winifred W. Airey, Secretary.

DARLINGTON (High Northgate).—In connection with the above we held a very successful social on Wednesday, Sept. 10th, in aid of the Society's funds, it being well attended and every one enjoying themselves. Songs were sung by Mr. Park and Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Harrison accompanying on the piano.

Also on the same day our Secretary, Mr. Welding, and District Visitor, Miss Park, were married at St. Paul's Church. A good number of Lyceumists attended the ceremony. The young couple received many congratulations and useful presents, leaving later in the day for the sea side. Everything here is progressing fairly satisfactorily, and we are busy preparing for the Anniversary, which takes place in October.—Mrs. Simpson, Deputy Secretary.

EARLESTOWN (Market Street).—On Saturday, August 30th, we held our first Picnic, the place selected being Lea Green. We left Earlestown at 1-10 p.m., arriving at our destination about 2 o'clock. The weather was fine and warm, and while the adults were getting tea ready the children enjoyed themselves in a field. After a good tea, we all went to the field, where they fully enjoyed themselves in games and racing. After a thoroughly enjoyable time, we arrived home about 8 p.m., everybody perfectly satisfied without the least thing to mar our happiness. There were 22 children and seven adults. Our Lyceum is only normal at the present time, but we are working hard towards progression.—H. Davies, Sec.

GLASGOW (Berkeley Street).—On September 14th the Liberty Group was addressed by Bailie Miller (Johnstone). His subject was, "The robbery of the poor," which revealed the bad condition our country was in at present. Bailie Miller dealt with his subject in a masterful way, quoting largely from personal experiences as a municipal worker. He showed clearly how the poor man has always to pay, and that the days of slavery were not really past. Some more workers of the same calibre as Bailie Miller, I feel sure, would hasten on the happy time, which Scotland's national poet speaks of in that spirited song, "A man's a man, for a' that."—C. S. Rothead, Secretary.

HALIFAX (Raven Street).—On Saturday, September 13th, a social was held, when a presentation was made to Mr. and Mrs. G. Bartle, on the occasion of their marriage. Mr. Bartle, since joining the movement, has been an ardent worker in the Lyceum. He at present holds office as a teacher and has previously held the position of conductor of the Lyceum. His enthusiastic efforts and kind disposition have gained him the esteem and respect of many friends. The presentation was made by Mr. A. Moorhouse. A beautiful marble timepiece was the gift. Songs were rendered by Miss L. Thorpe, Miss J. Buckley, Mrs. Pollard and Mr. E. Shaw, and a recitation was given by Miss Kathleen Pollard. Mr. Thorpe officiated as pianist.—F.B.

LANCASTER (Collegian Rooms).—Open Session September 7th. Recitations were given by Misses L. Kirk, "Just as I am"; E. Thompson, "The sun flower," and Charlotte Taylor. Solos, Miss M. Dodd and Mr. R. Clarkson. Duet by Mrs. Preston and Master John Kirk. Our Conductor, Mr. Kirk, has been shining again with his little poems. His daughter Lizzie recited his latest, entitled "Just as I am." The girls of our Lyceum seem to be more in earnest than the boys in giving us the fruits of their labours. We wish our friends at home and abroad every success.—R. Clark, Corresponding Secretary.

LEEDS, ARMLEY.—On Tuesday, August 26th, a social evening was held, to wish Godspeed and success to Mrs. J. Joy, who is joining her husband in Nova Scotia, Canada. During the evening, a presentation to Mrs. Joy was made by Mr. W. Sykes, on behalf of the Lyceum members. Messrs. Sykes, Poll, Paine and Warrington made brief remarks, touching on the able way Mrs. Joy had assisted in the Lyceum for a good number of years. The proceedings were concluded by all present singing, "Auld acquaintance," and in this way the feeling of all present was expressed, wishing Mrs. Joy Godspeed and every success in her new sphere.—John Warrington, Jr., Secretary.

LEICESTER (Queen Street).—On September 7th we held our Open Session in the morning, under the Conductorship of Miss A. Clarke. We also took the services, both afternoon and evening. In the afternoon the following Lyceumists took part: Solos by Miss D. Goldsmith and Master A. Veary; duet by Miss F. Chater and Miss Wright; recitations by Miss P. Goldsmith, Miss E. Wicks and Master H. Wicks, and Mr. Robertson. Mr. Humphries gave clairvoyance. In the evening the Lyceum gave a service of song, "Spirit return." Mrs. Jewitt gave connective readings, which were listened to by a large audience.—Mr. J. Wicks, Secretary.

LIVERPOOL (Romer Road).—We are going on very nicely. I am pleased to say that our numbers are increasing slowly. During this month we have had to elect a new Conductor, Mr. Owen having resigned. Mr. Pickup was unanimously elected. We all wish him success.—W. J. Creney.

LONDON, FULHAM.—We re-opened on August 31st with

a tea, to which 50 sat down. Since our last report we have enrolled six new members. Mrs. Boddington named two little Lyceumists on Sunday, September 7th, and Mrs. Neville named another little man at the evening session on Sunday, September 21st. The dancing class (which is incorporated with the Social Guild) has an average attendance of 30. The social held on September 22nd was a huge success. We were pleased to note the presence of many members of the parent Church. We hope at an early date to secure a large hall for the Musical and Dramatic Section's Concert. There is no lack of enthusiasm at Fulham, but more members are wanted.—Sydney A. V. Wood.

LONDON, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—We held our Open Session on the 7th September. Pearls were said and explained by most of the members, and I felt that much benefit had been received by all. We had some individual efforts, but not as many as I should like to have rendered at the Open Session. Mr. Robinson gave us a very sound and healthy talk, and I trust it will not be the last from him. We have enrolled six new members since the visit of the L.D.C. We have also had a day together at Oxshott. 40 sat down to tea. The adults and children enjoyed the pinewoods and gathering the beautiful heather, in glorious weather.—J. W. Humphrey, Conductor.

NORTH LONDON, HOLLOWAY.—Bright and harmonious sessions have been ours during the month. Pearls and recitations have been well rendered. Marching and calisthenics excellent. On Sunday, September 14th, we were delighted to welcome Mrs. Crowder, of Sheffield, who gave a beautiful uplifting address. We also had the pleasure of welcoming Mrs. Alice Jamrach, who also addressed the Lyceumists upon "The power of thought." After a few remarks from the Conductor, a session of much spiritual power was brought to a close. On the 21st we had the opportunity of hearing one of our new members, Mr. Gillingham, upon "The good we all may do."—J. Forsyth, Conductor.

LONDON, PECKHAM (Lausanne Hall).—Our Lyceum, I am pleased to say, is still progressing, slow perhaps, but sure. We have made two or three new members during the month, and several of our old ones are returning. A notable feature of our work is the pearls and individual efforts of juvenile members, which is a good sign of progression. Mr. Levy is offering prizes to the members who obtain most recruits to the end of October. On Sunday last we had quite a record gathering to witness another interesting ceremony, viz., the naming of Mr. and Mrs. Thorpe's baby, beautifully performed by Mrs. Mary Gordon and Madame Beatty. The spirit name of "Grace" was given, and a very impressive address was enjoyed by all present.—S. Clarkson, Secretary.

LONDON, PLAISTOW (Braemar Road).—On Saturday, September 20th, a tea was given to the younger Lyceumists, afterwards all the Lyceumists gathered together, games were played, and songs and recitations rendered. A very enjoyable evening was brought to a close at 9-30 by Mr. and Mrs. Waterfield singing "Good-night." Each child received a prize. On Sunday, September 21st, we had an enjoyable session, several of the children and adults rendering a verse each from "Pass it on" and "Catch the sunshine." During the session Mrs. Waterfield rendered a solo, entitled "Angels lead my footsteps." Glad to report progression in the Lyceum. Hearty welcome to the return of one of the old Lyceumists, and also to all new members and Lyceumists during the month.—G. T. Askins, Conductor.

LONDON, TOTTENHAM.—On September 21st we had the pleasure of a visit from the London Lyceum District Council, and also delegates from other Lyceums. The short addresses were very bright and encouraging, silver and golden chain recitations being read and responses given readily. Individual efforts were very good, but had to be curtailed owing to shortness of time. Recitations were given by Flossie Embleton, Lily Hassell, Edith Franklin, Hilda Towler and Ernest Evans. Pearls were well rendered, and we closed the session by singing "In the march of life." The Council and Delegates held the quarterly committee meeting and were very pleased to welcome the new Secretary of the Council.—C. Hassell, Secretary.

LONDON, WOOLWICH AND PLUMSTEAD.—Sunday, August 31st, was Business Session, and a good deal of work was gone through. Mr. Clegg, D.V., paid us a visit, so could see how business was carried on, and also spoke to scholars. Sunday, September 7th, was Open Session, and a good attendance was made, one or two old scholars paying us a visit. Individual efforts were numerous and good, also essays on "The summer holidays" were read, the following scholars receiving prizes for their efforts:—Misses A. Drieselman, L.

Davis, L. Prigg and E. Watthey, and Masters J. Prigg, E. Drieselman and B. Selfe, while Miss L. Drury sang "Hear the angel," from the *Manual*, the session being most enjoyable.—H. Watthey, Secretary.

MANCHESTER, COLLYHURST.—We held our quarterly Open Session on September 21st. Mr. Horrocks conducted. Bright and hearty singing. Readings, responses and exercises nicely rendered. We were delighted with the presence of our friend and late officer, Miss E. Rhodes (now of Leigh). Recitations by Misses Ashton, Jones and Lily Anyon; solos by Mr. Hemes and Edith Anyon well rendered. Mr. Horrocks commented on the readings. At the evening service Mr. R. Hughes, of Higher Broughton, gave a very interesting and instructive address on "The spiritual significance of the Lost Chord." Miss Bradbury, in rendering the solo, "The Lost Chord," sang with great effect and much feeling. We are greatly indebted to Mr. Hughes and Miss Bradbury for their services so generously given.—J. Parkinson, Secretary.

MANCHESTER (Maskell Street).—During the last month we have had a somewhat quiet time, but nevertheless a pleasing time. Our classes are improving, with very good subjects, and are enjoyed by all present. Several of the members are busy preparing for our opening social, to be held on Saturday, October 11th, at 7-30. We send a hearty invitation to all, and hope that as many as possible will be present, as I am sure they will have a good and pleasing time.—S. Sharp, Sec.

MANCHESTER, OPENSHAW (Beulah Street).—On Sunday, September 21st, we held our Open Session, conducted by Mr. T. Myatt in a very able manner. We are all proud of Mr. Myatt as our Conductor. Recitations were given by the following Lyceumists:—Lily Watson, Emily Owen, Jennie Jackson, Adelaide Perry, Jessie Campbell, Willie Price, and Richard Watson. A solo was also nicely rendered by Mrs. Rickards, the audience heartily joining in the chorus. A few encouraging words were spoken by Mr. Coulthurst, which were well received. Our Lyceum is still making progress, and I hope it will continue to do so.—J. A. Price, Secretary.

SOUTH MANCHESTER (Princess Road).—September 21st our twelfth Anniversary Services. We were honoured by our esteemed President, Mr. Reuben Latham, whose addresses at the three services were interesting and enjoyable. A firm expounder of Spiritualism and keen upholder of Lyceum training. We had an abundant gift of flowers, also the pleasure of Mr. Dibble, President of our Society, which made the day very happy. A little sadness we had when our Conductor, Mr. Aronovich, presented, on behalf of the Lyceum, a *Songster* and two *Manuals* to Miss Stewart, Mary and Arnold Stewart, who shortly leave England for Brazil. Our President, on behalf of the Society, along with Mr. Latham, joined the Lyceum in "Good wishes" for their future welfare.—Maud M. Harrison, Secretary.

MANSFIELD (Quaker Lane).—On Sunday, September 7th, we held our usual Open Session in the afternoon. Mrs. Foster, of Sheffield, addressed the children after marching, and calisthenics. We are pleased to report that our Lyceum is progressing very fast. We have about 70 members on the books at present, and they are still coming. The Society held their Harvest Festival on Sunday, at which the Lyceum gave a Musical Reading, and solos by Misses A. Wright and B. Daykin, and altogether we had a successful day.—H. G. Orchard, Secretary.

NEWCASTLE, BENWELL (Co-op. Hall).—On Sunday, September 7th, we held our Open Session. Our speaker did not make an appearance, but after the recitations, which were very good, our sister, Mrs. MacDonald, willingly filled up the gap and gave a splendid address on "Children representing flowers," which held the children spellbound. Our sister then presented two prizes to Agnes Bell and Lily Homewood for personal attachments. This ended a glorious session. All thanks to our sister for taking the session at so short a notice. The children seem to be taking more interest in their work than was the case a month or so ago.—J.N.W., for D. McCullan.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, HEATON AND BYKER.—On September 7th we held our Open Session. Duets by Miss F. Fenwick and Master Robert Fenwick; solos by Miss J. Hughes and Alice Eke; recitations by Nellie Scope, Mary Scope, Lily Eke, Beat. Eke, Annie Shadforth, Fred Eke, Arnold Patterson, Alfred Scope, Nellie Hirst, Thomas Fenwick, and also by our Conductor, Mr. Ronaldson. We were pleased to see so many adults present and trust they will think over the few words the Conductor said and come and be workers amongst us.—Mrs. Robert Hunter, Secretary.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE (Royal Arcade).—On Sunday, September 14th, we held our Lyceum Service, which was enjoyed by all. There were recitations given by E. Anderson, D. Walton, E. Mein and W. Anderson; solos by Miss A. Adams and L. Willis; also a duet by A. Adams and E. Mein. We also had a splendid address from Mrs. Clarke.—T. H. Willis, Secretary.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE (Rutherford Street).—Our Open Session held on September 14th. We had our yearly business meeting, bringing us to the normal and original date of our Lyceum. Officers were appointed as follows:—Conductor, Miss Evelyn Curtis; Assistant Mr. Wilkes; Guardian, Mr. Wilkinson; Secretary, Mr. Wardle; Treasurer, Mr. Curtis; Auditors, Mr. R. Finley and Mr. Wilkinson. Miss Lays was added to the above as leader of Daisy and Violet Groups, after amalgamation had taken place, the latter being Rose and Lily and Daisy and Violet Groups, respectively. Our readers will observe the necessity for Leaders, which are almost nil in our place. Although I hope that by the aid of our coming friends will bring back to us that which is essential to assist each other.—R. Wardle.

OLDHAM (Coronation Street).—We at the above Lyceum think that the time is ripe for a great revival in connection with the Lyceum movement. What is wanted is more enthusiasm to be put into the Lyceum. We are going to do this by having Sunday afternoon sessions and Wednesday night sessions, which we hope will prove a great success. We know and realise that we shall have the help from our spirit friends. We shall be pleased for Lyceumists from other Lyceums to visit us. A hearty welcome will be given to them. We send our fraternal greetings to all Lyceumists throughout the world. Hoping for great success in the future. This we can have by working "Hand in hand with angels."—H. Buckley, Secretary.

OLDHAM (Elliott Street).—The above being closed a fortnight through decorations, was re-opened on September 14th, when we had with us Mr. G. F. Knott, President of Rochdale District Council. A very pleasant time was spent, both at the Sessions and Liberty Group. On September 21st we held our Harvest Festival, which was largely attended, the Church was tastefully decorated. In the afternoon Miss Lucy Booth sang "The Children's Evening Prayer." In the evening Miss Alice Diggle sang "The Narrow Way." Both solos being well rendered. Mrs. Fanny Taylor, of Castleton, was the Medium. On Monday evening we held a fruit banquet, which was a great success. The room being well filled. Everyone enjoyed themselves.—T. Meakin, Secretary.

[Please do not write on both sides of the paper.—Ed.]

PENDLETON (Ford Lane).—On September 14th, we held our Lyceum and Church Harvest Festival and they proved a huge success. The array of plants, flowers, fruits and vegetables were splendidly set out to fully represent nature. The afternoon session was well attended by Lyceumists and friends, and several female Lyceumists contributed to the afternoon's programme, the boys being sadly left out. The evening meeting of the Church was well conducted, whose subject no doubt was well appreciated by all of the extremely large congregation. The following evening a social evening was held in connection with the sale of harvest thanksgiving, and we gratefully thank all contributors to our grand harvest of 1913.—Joseph Green, Secretary.

PONTYPRIDD (River Street).—On Sunday, September 7th, we held our usual Open Session, and had a very enjoyable afternoon. The following items were very well rendered: recitations, Mary Jones, Georgina James, Doris Eveleigh, Florrie Bowden, Lizzie Badam, Ernest Davies, George Davies, and John Davies; story, Mrs. Bowden; solos, Alice James, Mr. Matheus, and Mr. Carne; violin solo, L. Sweetman, Secretary.

PRESTON (Clark's Yard).—We have to report the loss of another worker in our Lyceum, Fred Fisher, who through change of occupation, has left Preston to reside in Oldham. The Lyceumists presented him with a very useful article, on August 31st, and wishes were expressed for his success. On September 7th, Mr. J. E. Elliot, adjudicator, paid us his visit, it was our Open Session, the following gave recitations as usual, Alice Spencer, Eunice Kay, Annie Colis, Mollie Molloy, Annie Parkinson, Miss Moorby, and Richard Cartmell, of Burnley.—Ellen Savage, Secretary.

PRESTON (Lancaster Road).—On Sunday, September 7th, we held our Open Session. The silver chain and golden chain recitations were well responded to. Recitations were given by

Miss Jones, Kitty Cusack and Joe Cusack. We spent a very pleasant morning together.—Maude Clarke, Secretary.

RISHTON.—We held our Open Session on Sunday, September 7th, when we had a very nice time. The following gave recitations: Elizabeth and James English; and A. Holden and M. F. Haughton sang for us.—Miss A. Haughton, Secretary.

ROCHDALE (Regent Street).—On Sunday, September 7th, we had our Open Session. The readings from No. 12 S.C., 202 M.R., and 148 G.C., were read by Misses A. R. Spencer, G. Dean, E. Butterworth and L. Dean. Pearls by Mr. Dean, Mr. Dearden, J. W. Briggs, Ivy Brown, Minnie Cowen, Emma Holt, Emma Firth, John Firth, junior, Winifred, Dulcie and Arthur Lilley. Recitation, "The noisy railway," Agnes Firth; recitation, "The Discontented Apples," Emma Firth; "What is good," John Firth, junior; "Take care of your words," Dulcie Lilley; "Lucy Gray," Emma Holt; "Tony and Tim," Arthur Lilley. Solos were sung by Mrs. John Firth and Miss Emma Holt. Duet by Misses Lizzie Dean, and A. R. Spencer.—John Firth.

ROTHERHAM.—On August 30th and 31st, we engaged Mr. John Taylor, the physical medium, when we had two good seances, which revealed some splendid manifestations of spirit power. Our adult Lyceumists did not attend the seances as we would have liked them to do. On Sunday, September 14th, we held our Open Session, with an attendance of over seventy scholars and friends, we had a very instructive and happy time. Recitations were given by Elsie Hossell, Ethel Vernon, Hilda Chappel, and Arthur Bruce, each bringing forth deserving applause. There was a great improvement in the marching and calisthenics. We are intending starting a study group for the winter months. Don't let our enthusiasm wane during the winter.—W. Rawlingson, Secretary.

SOUTH SHIELDS (South Eldon Street).—On August 31st, we had a visit from Mr. Taylor, late D.V., Manchester District, who spoke a few encouraging words, afterwards distributing Bluebell Guild cards with a few words of advice to each recipient, giving pleasure to everyone. As a Lyceum we are still going forward, our room is much too small for us, our sessions are bright and cheerful; pearls and recitations plentiful. On September 21st we attended a combined session at Fowler Street, on the occasion of the Tyneside District Council Quarterly Meeting, where a pleasant and profitable session was held.—Wm. Woodall.

STOCKTON.—On Sunday, September 4th, we held our Anniversary Services, which proved a great success. The chairman for the occasion was Mr. Dodsworth, of Middlesbrough. Opening hymn, 66 *Manual*. Invocation by Mr. Dodsworth. Hymn by the Lyceum, 329 *Manual*. Recitations by Maggie Evans, Alice Dobson, Thompson Oliver. Musical Reading, 217 *Manual*. Recitation by Hilda Jones. Dialogue by Mrs. and Miss Christopher. Recitations by Lily Berry, Mr. King and Mr. Brown. Hymn by the Lyceum, 204 *Manual*. Recitations, Mrs. Christopher and Beatrice Winstanley. Anthem, "How Excellent." Recitations by Olive Beans, Lily Bramley, Martha Dodsworth. Duet by Misses Harrison and Christopher. Recitations by Henry Edward Westbrook, Lily Williams, Dorothy Hunter, Annie Winstanley, Mary Evans, Collection Piece.—H. W. Westbrook, Secretary.

WIDNES.—On Sunday, September 14th, we held our quarterly Lyceum Open Sunday. The services were conducted by Mr. Kay, of Salford, the meetings being attended better than on previous Lyceum Sundays. We were pleased to see the greater interest, and trust it will continue. We are also pleased to report that a few more adults are now joining the Lyceum. Recitations were given by Misses Kayes, H. Close, P. Close, P. Andrews, S. Andrews, and Master Close. Two prizes were given by Mr. Kay for ability in answering questions. The winners were Misses B. Kayes and H. Andrews. Sympathy was expressed to the parents of one of our baby Lyceumists, who has gone to "Higher Life."—G. A. Mack, Secretary.

WINNIPEG (Polson Avenue).—On September 7th, we had our Open Session, which was a success. Mrs. Forrest performed the pleasing ceremony of naming the child, Albert, of our conductor, Mr. Stevenson. After the ceremony all the Lyceumists presented it with flowers. Mrs. Turner presented it with a gold ring. The room was crowded. Mr. Harry Forrest conducted the session. The evening service was taken by the Lyceum, Mr. Stevenson presiding. Mr. Leach led the silver chain recitation. Miss F. Brown and R. Atkinson gave recitations. Mr. Vernon spoke of the Lyceum and its work. Mr. C. Forrest spoke of the future of the Lyceum. A good audience present.—C. Forrest, Secretary.