

THE LYCEUM BANNER

A SPIRITUALIST MAGAZINE FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

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

VOL. XXVI. No. 290.

MARCH, 1915.

ONE PENNY.

Lyceum Banner Portrait Gallery.

Mr. Ronald Johnstone (New Hirst, Northumberland.)

I think that the present will be the first instance in which the Portrait Gallery tribute has been rendered to an arisen worker, and it is one well deserved. It was on a beautiful September afternoon nearly fifteen years ago, and on the banks of the Northumbrian river Wansbeck, that I first met our brother, and somehow my heart leapt to him at once. He was Chairman for me in the evening, and his influence was as a draught from heaven. While memory dwells on that, and scores of pleasant associations since then, I feel both privileged and sad to have been asked to write a few words to accompany his kindly features in our Lyceum organ.

As physical years count he was in his prime, having just turned the 40th corner, but much arduous and successful labour filled the later twenty of them. The widow, who mourns his absence, Mrs. Stoddart, a friend of many years' standing, and others, have given me much valuable assistance in compiling a few details for presentation here, and designed both as an honour to a noble co-worker, and an encouragement to others to similarly live and serve. Born at Motherwell, near Glasgow, he had the proverbial Scottish traits of religious fervour and unpretentious devotedness to the furtherance of an object. His father was a member of the Auld Kirk of Scotland, while his mother was of the Wesleyan community. The family moved to Ashington (near Hirst) when Ronald was about twelve years old, and many interesting conversations have he and I had concerning the expansion of the district from a little straggling village to the largest colliery centre in the world. He descended the pit when thirteen years old, and continued in the same service all his life.

Soon after his marriage Mr. Johnstone became

interested in Spiritualism, his wife belonging to a local Spiritualist family, and from his initiation zeal never flagged within him. It is interesting to note that the first Spiritualist child named under our own auspices there was a sister of Mrs. Johnstone's, Mr. Grieves, a standard of the early days, performing the ceremony. The Ashington Society was his first love, but when that of Hirst was opened, he transferred his membership there, and that Society owes him a debt which only emulation of his life can liquidate.

He spent eighteen years in our movement, was for six successive years President of his Society, and during other five intermittently, and always in some responsible capacity. The Lyceum was dear to him, and young men at home, in distant lands, in the army, navy, and other national and private services, cannot fail to recall the many helpful words addressed to them by him, while hundreds of women must often turn their thoughts to the pleasant sessions, especially during the years of meeting at the hall in Mortimer Street. I often said that he seemed born to guide and inspire the children.

When Newcastle Society was in its hey-day, and bringing distant speakers quite often to its hall, Mr. Johnstone was one of a number of enthusiasts who would cheerfully walk the distance (about 18 miles), the railway service then

being very meagre, and never miss a "shift." That is the stuff of which our useful ones are made.

Besides the work he did for his Society, and for friends in general, his sympathies and activities extended to the Northern Counties Union of Spiritualists and the Tyneside Lyceum District Council. When the Conferences of either body were held at Hirst, he seemed willing to suffer and sacrifice anything so that a successful time might be assured, and his desire invariably received its reward. In connection with the Annual Demonstrations of the Council he worked indefatigably. Resultant from his example and inculcations has sprung one cheering fruit, in that his eldest son is now Conductor of his old Lyceum, and the last time I attended I could not



mistake the presence and interest of my old friend. Dear to the heart of the arisen father must be the efforts of his son.

As a speaker he perhaps lacked what people call fluency, and of conjuring with words, phrases, and periods he knew nothing, but as compensation he possessed the too rare power of reaching the heart. He was amongst my favourite speakers, the last time I heard him being at Wallsend about two years ago. He had a fascination about him on the platform which compelled attention, and secured appreciation. With mediumistic faculties he was lavishly endowed, but perhaps as a healer and psychometrist he was best known, although his clairvoyance was of no mean order. He was one of the few mediums who could lift live coals with their hands and remain untouched. Of this phase of his mediumship I have had ample and trustworthy information. To his healing powers many a child and adult owe to-day health and strength, some even their eyesight. Sufferers received from him immediate and unremitting attention, personal considerations falling to the background. In fact, several friends have expressed the opinion that had he been less prodigal of his powers in this direction, death might not have found him so soon. For many months illness spoke from his countenance, but he held up bravely, until physical strength could no longer resist the pressure. For a time he received medical attention at home, but at last he was admitted to the Royal Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne, where he passed away on the 15th of May, 1914, with the hand of his wife clasped lovingly in his own. Conscious to the last, next to home affairs his absorbing concern was the Chapel (as he called the meeting place) and the Lyceum. Shortly before he "passed" he whispered: "Follow the Chapel, see all is right. Keep the children at the Lyceum."

I have gazed on his last written words, and with the tears of affectionate memory filling my eyes thought "how like the man." Treasured by his devoted widow, the scrap of paper contains these three lines:—

"Health—man's greatest treasure here, ne'er valued till they find it fled.

Memory—Intuition—Foresight—Perception."

His worn-out body was taken home, where it lay over the week end. On the Sunday evening, being planned to speak at the Society, I endeavoured to, in a few words, point to our comrade's life as an inspiration to lead us all on, but fear I failed to convey to the friends present the sentiments animating me. Before leaving for home, I had a last look at his placid face, and as I stood looking down could not resist crooning over a few lines from that fine poem by Mrs. Hemans, No. 93 in our Hymnal:

"Dust to its narrow house beneath,

Soul to its home on high!

They that have seen thy look in death,

No more need fear to die."

When his physical body was buried at Ashington Churchyard there was a large following of friends, many of them of differing religious ideas from he they sought to honour; but they knew and appreciated his sincerity and rectitude, hence their tribute of respect. Mr. Thomas Bogue, of Gateshead-on-Tyne, conducted the ceremony, and, while unable to be present myself, I have been informed that it was

simple, beautiful, and inspiring, just the kind of service our exalted brother would enjoy. Save himself only another of the family has accepted our invitation to "seek and find," viz., a brother, Alexander, who, although possessing good psychic gifts, prefers to move quietly along outside the public ways.

As a herbalist and a botanist Mr. Johnstone spent many hours traversing the woods and moors around his home, gathering the former for healing purposes, and the latter sometimes to adorn his own table, but oftener so as to use as object lessons to the Lyceum children. Bearing these two facts in mind it is singular to note that the last public service at which he officiated was their own Lyceum Flower Service. His family and the movement locally are poorer through his going, but the district is richer and nobler from his having lived and worked in it so long.

JAMES LAWRENCE.

For the Boys.

Conducted by Geo. Fred Knott.

MY DEAR CHUMS,

Perhaps you have wondered why our page was missing from last month's BANNER? As the Editor had no space for us and you have had a continuous insertion for nearly three years, our page had to give place to more important matters.

There is one overwhelming occurrence perplexing everybody. The deplorable war, caused by years of material and mental preparation, ever since 1871, has culminated in a general upheaval of hostilities. The earth itself seems infused with the shock and a devastating earthquake sunders the earth-life of thousands of victims. The power of violence is paramount. There was a time when nations depended upon their own efforts to thwart a rival nation in war. It has been thought by a great many influential people in many lands, that, if a number of nations combined against the attack of one or more nations, the balance of power thus caused would result in peaceful methods being adopted to settle grievances. We see now how foolish such an idea has proved.

If I wanted to analyse war and its evils, I must not cry war in war times and peace in peace times, just because the nation and land in which I live, by incident of birth, happens to be at war or peace. I must be a human being capable of overcoming national prejudice. The Spiritualist movement, and the Lyceum as the educational aspect thereof, teaches me our lives should be natural, and harmonious with revealed laws. It has ever been a constant precept we should build life and character, never destroying life or characteristics unless we have something better to transform the life or conduct of the individual whom we wish to change.

My mind is taken to the British Navy patrolling the seas of the whole world, facing the calms of Capricorn, the Pacific and the Atlantic oceans, taking advantage of the trade winds, fighting the South American, Brazilian and Australian monsoons, the regions of the American and Indian hurricanes, and the typhoons of the China seas. I think, too, of the volcanoes under the sea which have thrown gigantic rocks and islands above the surface of the sea in a single night.

Sailors have studied the ocean currents and the trade winds, found it wise to avoid the dangerous portions of the world's waters where the monsoons, hurricanes and typhoons blow the ships in furious gales. A sailor feels safer, even during a storm, walking the boards of his ship under a trustworthy captain, than when he is on land. He is free, feels the air of heaven-sent breezes in his lungs, and knows no nationality. He belongs to the world and the world to him. The sailor touches the ports of the earth and develops a cosmopolitan aspect which deepens his consciousness and experiences.

When we become Spiritualists and sail in the realms of human experience, the hills which divide England from Scotland fall away as barriers to international intercourse. How many Spiritualists have thought of Herr Brinkman and people of other nations during the present turmoil? Our glorious truths take me back to that time when the British Isles formed part of the continent of Europe, when the Thames, the Rhine and the Elbe made one great river flowing into each other below the Dogger Bank and reaching the sea above the north-east of the Orkney Islands. The caves of Derbyshire reveal life's relationship to the Laurentian Mountains of Canada. The late expedition to the South Pole discovered that the land there and Australia was at one time probably joined together.

There was a time when the nations had friendly intercourse. They were joined together by commerce. They corresponded their ideas of science, philosophy, art, music, poetry, religion, etc., but the monsoon of armaments, the hurricane of secret diplomacy, the typhoon of the balance of power drowned the nations in a whirlwind of war. Some of the ships of some of the nations may weather the storm. Some of the people of some of the nations may live through the war, but those who are left will have a burden larger than John Bunyan's "Christian" had to bear.

Boys! we must harness the winds of passion. If we want to fight, let us fight for those things which shall build for us some things worth fighting for and work our energies for the emancipation of the bodies and souls of humanity.

When the Assuan Dam was built, a great engineer accomplished something for the people of Egypt and the Soudan. When Harvey discovered the circulation of the blood, when Gutenberg invented the printing press, when Lister discovered antiseptics, when all the moralists, poets, musicians, scientists, etc., fought for light and knowledge against darkness and ignorance and accomplished victories for human emancipation and welfare, we had builders who destroyed the old and gave place to the new truths.

Spiritualism has come to glorify human life, to work through the Lyceum for its full development. Violence is no part of its teaching for the accomplishment of its ends. The golden rule is the maximum. Ireland was conquered, Scotland never was, yet both countries retain their own language and customs. Compulsion and corporal punishment are not the best methods to good conduct.

The nation and the individual are both changed from within. A helpful influence may touch them from without. With the individual, salvation or the heavenly feeling of innate happiness for good deeds performed is self-imposed. True punishments are self-inflicted. The period of life in which character is formed is very early in life, hence I feel the necessity of right conduct in the adult as a practical lesson for

the child. Is your conduct and mine at the present time building for us a future of happiness based upon our knowledge of nature's revelation of harmonial life? I hope it is. Dear boys! have the courage to live your opinions of righteousness, truth, justice and love. I shall be very happy to hear from any of you.

Your sincere Chum,

GEO. FREDK. KNOTT.

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 Editor warns me that he again cannot let us have much space for our chat this month; (and our page was crowded out last month) so, beyond giving my greeting to you all; I will reserve all I have to say until another month; and just let you enjoy, with me, the three letters that have reached me since last I talked with you and which I was very pleased to receive.

The first came early from Golcar, from one of our recent members; and reads:—

Dear Flora Belle, I received the membership cards one Friday morning, though I cannot say the exact date. Olive has had hers framed but I have not yet. We had a tea and entertainment on Christmas Day and both were a success. The entertainment did not begin until 10 o'clock, so those who were in the cantata went to a friend's house to practise. At first we thought that it was going to be dull, but it was better than the one we had last year. There was a cantata called "Evergreen Cottage," and a dialogue, "Blatherwick's Diplomacy," along with songs and recitations. On the whole it was a great success. There is one item I forgot to mention, that is the prize-giving. My two brothers, a sister and myself, who are members of the Lyceum each received a prize. Well, I must give up now as it is getting late. Wishing you a happy and prosperous New Year and all good wishes for the future. I remain, yours sincerely, Annie Coldwell.

You seem to have had quite a nice entertainment, Annie, and I must congratulate your family on winning so many prizes.

The second letter brought with it a pleasant surprise. It comes from Ulverston, and was accompanied by a wee box containing a few primroses. How pleased I was to see them; and I do thank their sender for his kind remembrance and interesting letter. He writes:—

Dear Flora Belle, I am sending you a few more primroses to show you that they still continue to flower. These came off the same plant as the ones I sent you a while back.

I have just arrived back from a long walk with Mr. Coward, our Lyceum Conductor, and I may say we both feel very tired. The route we took was by Kirby Moor, Harlock, Pennington and round by Prosside. At Harlock are the reservoirs which supply Barrow-in-Furness with water. The scenery around there is magnificent.

At Barrow Shipyard a large number of Belgian refugees are employed. They are hard to understand and the main part of the foremen find the task very trying.

I feel there is no more news, and in the name of the Ulverston Lyceum I wish you and the other Bluebells success and happiness. I remain, your loving Bluebell, Herbert W. Pennington.

Then my heart was cheered by the following kind letter from Blackburn, which brought with it a list of fifty-four new members. I thank the writer sincerely for all the nice things she says; and the new members, along with the one from Lincoln, I warmly welcome to our Guild.

Dear Flora Belle, It gives me great pleasure to write to you. It is quite a long time since I wrote to you before. I am pleased to be able to send you a long list of names for the Bluebell Guild. They are from the Blackburn (St. Peter Street) Lyceum. I am proud to say I have been a member of the Guild for fourteen years, being one of the early members—as you will see by my number. I am always pleased to see its numbers grow. I will close now with love and best wishes to you, yours, and the Guild; I remain, yours fraternally, Mrs. Derbyshire (Bluebell 206).

Let me end by giving you the remainder of the story about Androcles.

Androcles and the Lion.

PART II.

At length, wandering through the woods he met with a company of soldiers sent out to apprehend him, and was by them taken prisoner and conducted back to his master. The laws of that country being very severe against slaves, he was tried and found guilty of having fled from his master, and, as a punishment for his pretended crime, he was sentenced to be torn in pieces by a furious lion, kept many days without food, to inspire him with additional rage.

When the fatal day arrived, the unhappy man was exposed, unarmed, in the midst of a spacious arena, enclosed on every side, round which many thousand people were assembled to view the mournful spectacle. Presently a dreadful yell was heard, which struck the spectators with horror, and a monstrous lion rushed out of a den, which was purposely set open, and darted forward with erected man and flaming eyes, and jaws that gaped like an open sepulchre. A mournful silence prevailed. All eyes were directly turned upon the victim, whose destruction now appeared inevitable, but the pity of the multitude was soon converted into astonishment when they beheld the lion, instead of destroying his defenceless prey, crouched submissively at his feet, fawn upon him as a faithful dog would do upon his master, and rejoice over him as a mother that unexpectedly recovers her offspring. Then the governor of the town, who was present, called out with a loud voice, and ordered Androcles to explain to them this mystery. Androcles then related to the assembly every circumstance of his adventures in the woods, and concluded by saying that the very lion which now stood before them had been his friend and entertainer in the woods. All the persons were astonished and delighted with the story, to find that even the fiercest beasts are capable of being softened by gratitude and moved by humanity, and they all asked for the pardon of the unhappy man from the governor of the place. This

was immediately granted to him, and he was also presented with the lion, who had in this manner twice saved Androcles.

LINCOLN LYCEUM.

3772—Alice Lee.

BLACKBURN LYCEUM.

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 3773—Linetta Derbyshire. | 3800—Winifred Buckley. |
| 3774—Frank Derbyshire. | 3801—Gertrude Buckley. |
| 3775—Nathan Derbyshire. | 3802—Phyllis Buckley. |
| 3776—Elizabeth Penny. | 3803—Elizabeth Aspin. |
| 3777—Edith Penny. | 3804—Maggie Aspin. |
| 3778—Mary Penny. | 3805—Alice Rushton. |
| 3779—Annie Youd. | 3806—Cissie Rushton. |
| 3780—Harry Youd. | 3807—John Rushton. |
| 3781—Thomas Youd. | 3808—Maggie Brindle. |
| 3782—Walter Youd. | 3809—Pearson Brindle. |
| 3783—Harold Youd. | 3810—Herbert Arkwright. |
| 3784—Gertrude Robinson. | 3811—Fred Arkwright. |
| 3785—Edith Hopper. | 3812—Joseph Entwistle. |
| 3786—Cecil George Robinson. | 3813—Ernest Simpson. |
| 3787—Stanley Robinson. | 3814—Willie Slater. |
| 3788—Alice Smith. | 3815—William Thomas Miller. |
| 3789—May Smith. | 3816—Frank Williams. |
| 3790—Ada Marsh. | 3817—Maggie Eskdale. |
| 3791—Nellie Marsh. | 3818—Annie Smith. |
| 3792—Ellen Turner. | 3819—Lilian Harwood. |
| 3793—Annie Turner. | 3820—Bertha Nelson. |
| 3794—Rachel Turner. | 3821—Maud Holland. |
| 3795—George Turner. | 3822—Florence Callon. |
| 3796—Mary Ann Hartley. | 3823—Phyllis Riley. |
| 3797—Sarah Alice Hartley. | 3824—Alice Riding. |
| 3798—John Hartley. | 3825—Bertha Emmett. |
| 3799—Prudence Wilkinson. | 3826—Annie Haigh. |

Your loving sister,
FLORA BELLE.

Girls' Own Corner.

By
Mrs. JESSY
GREENWOOD



SESSION PROGRAMME.

MARCH, 1915.

Date.	Opening Hymn.	S.C.R.	Mus. Reading.	G.C.R.	Closing Hymn.
March 7	346	75	231	134	356
March 14	310	74	237	135	335
March 21	315	72	225	132	383
March 28	395	70	240	125	386

Pearls.

MAR. 7—"The ignorant always, by some instinctive dread of the unknown, oppose new departures."

—T. Billington-Greig.

MAR. 14—"The true relationship of man and woman is the core round which society grows."

—A. C. Cobden Sanderson.

MAR. 21—"It makes yer brave, it do, to be a Spiritualist. 'Cos why? it gives yer 'ope."

—(Adapted) G. Gilmore.

MAR. 28—"Physical force can neither kill nor destroy a superior mental or moral force."

—Marion Holmes.

BLIGHTED AFFECTIONS.

The following incident is not an uncommon event in life, but it is an unhappy thing—the story is briefly this:—

A young man, of good standing in the town in which he resides, had paid considerable attention to a young woman, who reciprocated his attentions and naturally expected to become his wife, as he came so frequently to the home, and gave her every reason to suppose that her hopes were warranted. But another girl had fascinated him, and to her he became formally engaged. The whole matter being freely talked about and criticised.

The first girl was so bitterly disappointed and so deeply chagrined that she fretted and worried over the matter to such an extent that her health suffered, her mind became deranged, and a sadder thing than mere loss of love befell her, like an ugly cloud over her life. "What a pity," said some; "What a fool," says another; "Plenty more fish in the sea," adds another; whilst others showed a real sympathy by refraining from passing any remarks.

There is a side to this story which does not always receive due consideration, but, then, how can you dissect, discuss, and determine love, or advise the young when in its thrall? Older heads can understand where they missed their way, and try to decide for the young ones, but they should recollect the headstrong, silly things of their own courting days, and wisely withhold their interfering remarks.

No, each must have their own experiences and learn love's lessons in their own way. In a case like the above there is an element of relief which may be suggested to one who suffers. Supposing the man found out he did not love sufficiently to marry, but to keep a promise he carries it through and enters wedlock. The direct, if not immediate, result, is an awakening to the alarming fact, that a bigger disappointment than being "jilted" was to be the portion for the period "until death us do part." This is an awful thing to happen. Better have the first sharp sting, than everlasting pin pricks and hatred for years.

Perhaps when Time has done its work and healed the breach, this point of view may prove a helpful thought in assuaging the great grief and mental tempest.

There are lots of girls who read these pages who know more about this kind of thing than I do. I wish they would write their thoughts on it for the benefit of others who are extremely sensitive and whose affections are true and honest amid this painful encounter with life. Just say what you would do under similar circumstances.

PERMANENT SECRETARY FUND.

The books for the above fund are in the auditors' hands, but the following sums have been received since the books were despatched, and will be acknowledged by the usual receipt as soon as possible:—

Attercliffe Lyceum, 2/6; Mitford Street, Harpurhey, Manchester, 7/6; Johannesburg Lyceum, 21/-; North End Progressive Lyceum, New Bedford, Mass., 4/-; Mr. Kitson's services at Attercliffe and South Manchester, 10/-.

JESSY GREENWOOD, Hon. Sec.

Ashleigh, Hebden Bridge.

Helps to the Study of the Lyceum Manual.

Valley of Dry Bones, No. 313. This has reference to a vision of dry bones, seen by the prophet Ezekiel, and recorded in the book of Ezekiel XXXVII, where in the first verse we read, "The hand of Jehovah was upon me, and he brought me out in the spirit of Jehovah, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of dry bones" (American revised version of the Bible). If we read the whole chapter we shall learn that the vision was symbolical of the whole house of Israel, or the people known as the Israelites, whom Jehovah promises to renew, and put his spirit, or breath into them. The term is often applied to people who have lost heart, or lack courage in the cause to which they are attacked. Remember "The workers win"; the slackers become like a valley of dry bones."

Veneering, No. 51. The act or art of overlaying an inferior wood with a thin layer of a more valuable kind of wood, thus making the common wood look to be of a superior kind. Similarly, lies are covered over and made to appear as truths.

Vicarious Atonements, No. 136. Vicarious means to fill the place of another; perform or suffer in place of or for another. So the vicarious atonement has reference to the Christian doctrine that Jesus will suffer in the place of all mankind who believe in the doctrine of vicarious atonement, and the sinner will be allowed to escape the just punishment of his own actions. The spirit people tell us that this is not so, that all must reap as they sow.

Vigils, No. 21. Watching, or keeping awake through the night for religious exercises; the eve before a feast or a fast-day. The line: "Guardian angels, vigils keeping," means they keep watch over the sleeping body through the night.

Waiting for the Boatman, No. 420. In ancient Egypt, the dead were ferried over the river Nile where a kind of examination was made of the deceased's life. If it were found to have been of a sympathetic and honourable nature the dead body was allowed to be preserved by embalming, if it were found they had lived a selfish and unjust life they were denied embalming, which was equivalent to being totally destroyed. It is said that even kings could not escape these post mortem trials, which tended to make them very careful of their daily actions. The ancient Greeks improved on the Egyptian plan by transferring the judgment scene to the other world, and represented the departed as having to cross three rivers in order to reach the judgment hall. The first river was Acheron (Sorrow), the second was Cocytus (lamentation), and the third was Stix (intense darkness). The grim ferryman was called Charon [Kā-ron]. It is the Greek conception that is reflected in the first verse of hymn 420. [The reader is referred to *Outlines of Spiritualism for the Young* (where chapter XIII deals with the VARIOUS CONCEPTIONS OF HEAVEN AND HELL OF ALL NATIONS) for a fuller account.]

Whatever is, is Right, No. 1. This affirmation has given rise to much discussion and contention owing to the various interpretations placed upon it. It is not intended to condone and sanction wrong-doing, as so many have assumed, but is only another way of stating, "Whatever we sow, we must reap." If we sow evil, we must reap evil, *and it is right that we do reap it.* Whatever is, is *Natural-effect* following the cause; and what is natural is right. This is quite another matter from saying, that people have a right to do wrong. Let us say, whoever does wrong it is right that they suffer for it.

Zend-Avesta. This is a compound word, and signifies, not only the ancient sacred writings, or Bible of the Parsees, as the Avesta, but also the kind of language in which it was written as the Zend, which is said to be the pure Aryan language, it being closely related to the Vedic Sanskrit. The Avesta, or Bible, was for a long time memorised by the magi or priests, and orally handed down from generation to generation until it was ultimately committed to writing in the Zend language, and to-day is known to western scholars as the Zend-Avesta.

THE END.

Life and Labour in the Spirit World.

Being a description of localities, employments, surroundings, and conditions in the spirit spheres. Communicated by Spirit Violet, through Mrs. M. T. Longley, nee Shelhamer, who has kindly given her permission for their reproduction in "The Lyceum Banner."

Two weeks had passed since the day that Katy had left her work at the mill. Mr. Aiken, the president, was in the counting house as the working girls filed in to receive their wages. Carefully he scrutinised each face at the little window until the last one had disappeared, when he turned to the doorkeeper and inquired for "Morrow's girl," whose ever-cheerful, modest and smiling demeanour had often attracted his attention. He was told that she had left the mill because of failing health, and the matter was dropped for the time being. But the spirits, particularly gentle Lucy Aiken, and anxious Mrs. Morrow, were determined that the obdurate heart of this dignified man of wealth should be softened, and they were steadily working to accomplish their purpose.

Weeks lengthened into months, and still Mr. Morrow languished upon his bed of pain, and still Katy drooped in her seat by the window, where she sat striving to perform some needlework which one of her mill companions had procured for her, and which she persisted in doing, despite the protest of the doctor whenever he came to visit his patients.

THE LAST PENNY AND THE LAST APPEAL.

Many times did the work drop from the weary fingers of the sick girl, while her frame shook with the spasmodic cough which seized upon her, until at length this kind of work had to be laid aside, and she was obliged to remain idle altogether. In a very short time, every penny of the carefully-saved, hard-earned little store of means was exhausted, and cold and hunger settled upon the little household. It was at this time that the dispensary physician, Dr. Jones, determined to see Mr. Aiken on behalf of his patients.

The doctor found Mr. Aiken alone in the office, and made his errand known at once. He, the doctor, related the fallen fortunes and present misery of Mr. Morrow and his brave daughter Kate, to the stern-eyed man of wealth, who listened to the recital in silence. When he had finished his story, he said, after waiting in vain for a word of comment from the millionaire: "And so, Mr. Aiken, I have come to see what you can do for this man, who met with the injury that has made him a hopeless, helpless invalid while in your employ."

"I do not see that I am called upon to do anything," responded the man of money; "the rule of the Corporation is to pay all expenses of an injured employee for ten weeks after the accident. This rule has been complied with in Mr. Morrow's case, I believe."

"But, Mr. Aiken," interrupted Dr. Jones, "consider the circumstances of this peculiar case, for only a moment, and I am sure your sense of justice will prompt you to do something more for this unfortunate man. He was a steady, faithful and conscientious workman, always at his post, ever discharging his duties with promptness and fidelity. Through no fault of his own, an explosion occurred, depriving this man of the use of his limbs, and rendering him an invalid for life. True, the Corporation paid his expenses for a time, but health did not return to him, and when that supply ceased, his daughter, a young girl, nurse, companion and housekeeper in one, entered the mill and laboured early and late, until her health gave way, and she, too, became an almost confirmed invalid, I feel—"

THE INFLUENCE OF THE SPIRIT BEGINS TO SHOW ITSELF.

"There, doctor, that will do," interrupted the rich master, "I cannot listen longer, as I have an engagement to meet in just five minutes. Here are ten dollars; give them to Mr. Morrow, and perhaps—not positively, mind you, but possibly—I may make it in my way to call upon him before many days."

The doctor took the money tendered him and retired from the presence of the great merchant with a sigh, thinking to himself: "Ah, well, it is true that 'corporations have no souls,' and it seems to me that the individuals who form these corporations have very little ones. The pitiful sum he has given me will provide for the wants of my patients for a few days only, and I must cast about in some other quarter for assistance. I will again make application for their admittance to the hospital before the money is exhausted; they will have to be separated, but it cannot be avoided;" and so musing he passed on his way.

Sweet, gentle Lucy Aiken! Mild and benign spirit, working for a father's enlightenment, striving to elevate the soul of a beloved parent above the selfishness of worldly interests and personal grandeur! She had no thought of allowing the matter to rest there, and she lingered by the side of that parent, filling his mind with the thought of the suffering and destitute family whose circumstances had been so eloquently presented to him that day by his visitor, Dr. Jones, and causing him to turn in spirit towards that humble home many times, until at last, "to get rid of the thing," he murmured, Mr. Aiken ordered his carriage and was driven down to the humble neighbourhood of Mr. Morrow's home.

The injured man lay stretched upon his couch in a

passing paroxysm of pain as the master entered. By his side, leaning back in an easy chair, sat his daughter Katy, so pale, wasted and wan in appearance that she seemed more a wraith that would vanish away at a touch than a human being. Mr. Aiken was startled at the sight that met his gaze,—the suffering inmates, the extreme destitution, yet cleanly surroundings of that humble home, spoke more eloquently to this man rolling in wealth, and wrapped up in self-sufficiency, than a hundred sermons concerning the hard lot of the poor could have done; and, strange to relate, while questioning the pallid girl concerning her own and her father's condition, his lower lip actually trembled with emotion.

THE SPIRIT DAUGHTER'S PRESENCE.

Ah, this was a place where spirits could gather and perform their work, and Lucy Aiken came so near to Katie Morrow at this time that her presence quite overshadowed the features of the invalid, and reflected its expression and influence upon them, causing the face of the mortal girl to assume a striking likeness to the well-remembered features of the spirit, the loved and loving daughter of Mr. Aiken. It was this sight that thrilled the visitor with emotion, and caused his eyes to grow dim with unshed tears.

At that interview with the invalids—Mr. Morrow and his daughter Katie—the proud heart of Mr. Aiken became softened as it had never been before; the time, place and circumstances exerted a strange influence upon him, for which he could not account, and he left, promising to send assistance, and also to come again, which promises were faithfully kept. A strong and capable female nurse was engaged to attend the sufferers, and arrangements were made with the proprietors of various stores to supply the family with whatever they required, without stint or question.

Mr. Aiken found himself unable to remain long away from the humble home; again and again was he to be seen in the home of Mr. Morrow, questioning the suffering man concerning his malady, conversing with the invalid daughter in relation to her ailments, or speaking words of cheer to both. At each visit the likeness between Katie Morrow and the long-lost darling of his heart grew upon him. Ah, little did he know that it was the presence of his angel child that caused the marvellous likeness, and that at every visit of the father the spirit gained power to come closer and closer to him; or, indeed, that it was herself, dear Lucy Aiken, who filled her parent's mind day after day with the desire to visit and assist these poor but worthy people.

(To be continued.)

THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

Official Notice.

All notices of motion to come before the Lyceum Conference to be held at Sheffield, must reach this Office not later than March 23rd, the same to be published in the LYCEUM BANNER for April, as per Article X, page 5, of the Lyceum Union's Constitution.

No amendments to the Lyceum Union's Constitution are in order before the 1917 Conference.

ALFRED KITSON, Gen. Sec.,

17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury.

The Religion of Spiritualism in Relation to the Bible.

[NOTE.—On several occasions when I have spoken on the above subject I have been requested to reduce the address to writing and publish it in pamphlet form, as the handling of the Biblical incidents was calculated to be of great assistance to many inquiring Christians, and also to those Spiritualists who have to contend with bigoted Christians. In response to these appeals I have decided to publish it in the LYCEUM BANNER, as space permits.—EDITOR.]

The Religion of Spiritualism may be a theme that will startle many pious Christians who have been taught to look upon Spiritualism as mere fortune-telling, having nothing of a religious nature in its keeping. Such may view with pious awe any attempt to associate it with the sacred name of religion.

There are other well-meaning Christians who have a secret longing to investigate the claims of Spiritualism, but are afraid that by so doing they may offend their God, and jeopardise their soul's salvation, as they have been assured by their pastor that it is forbidden by holy writ as being abhorrent to the Lord.

Others, a little more venturesome, have dared to satisfy themselves that spirit communion is a fact, and the messages are consoling and cheering to the anxious mourners who are assured of the continued love and affection of the dear departed ones. Yet such is the effect of their early Sunday School training on their minds that they are afraid, notwithstanding the consoling messages they receive, that they may be offending their God by seeking to hold communion with the departed.

Said one lady: "Don't you think it is policy to retain one's membership with the church, although you may prefer the teachings of Spiritualism, and enjoy its Home Circles, so that you will be on the right side in case it is a sin to seek communion with the departed? If it is not a sin, you have nothing to fear; while if it is a sin your church membership may save you."

I believe the case of this lady illustrates the position of thousands of Christians to-day who, were it not for the psychological effect of their early training, would declare themselves Spiritualists, and work shoulder to shoulder with us. They have been taught to regard the Bible as the Word of God, and to reverence its contents as being too sacred to be questioned and analysed except by the pastors who have been specially trained and qualified to expound its sacred text.

When ministers of the Christian religion say that Spiritualism contains nothing of a religious nature, that it is nothing but a system of fortune-telling, it would be easy for us to say the same about the Bible.

Let me draw the reader's attention to the 1st Book of Samuel, chapter 9, where he will read of Saul being sent, along with a servant, in search of his father's asses. Commencing with the fourth verse we are told how they passed through the hill-country of Ephraim, and passed through the land of Shaalim, and through the land of the Benjaminites, but found them not. 5. "When they were come to the land of Zuph, Saul said to his servant that was with him, Come, let us return, lest my father leave off caring for the asses, and he be anxious for us. 6. And he (the servant)

(Continued on page 42).

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

THE LYCEUM BANNER:

ALFRED KITSON, Editor.

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Office—17 Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, near Dewsbury.

SUNDAY, MARCH 7th, 1915.

Lyceum Notes and Comments.

Twelve months ago we had to dispense with our Notes and Comments, in order to make room for "Helps to the Study of the Lyceum Manual," which have proved so very helpful that requests are being received that they be printed in pamphlet form. Others suggest that they be added to the Officers Edition of the Lyceum Manual. As these are matters for the Union's Executive Council to deal with, we now resume our Notes.

OUR BIG LYCEUM BANNER!

No doubt our readers will be surprised at the above title, and wonder if it is going to be enlarged?

The LYCEUM BANNER, like the Lyceum movement, is progressive. When it was first founded in 1890 it was about one-third the size it is to-day. But its devoted Founder, Editor and Publisher, Mr. J. J. Morse, gradually increased its size as its circulation increased, so that in May, 1902, when it was presented to the Lyceum Union, it had been increased to eleven pages of reading matter, but was uncut and unwired.

In those early days it was customary affectionately to refer to it as "Our little LYCEUM BANNER," and that term has stuck to it so very tenaciously that it seems to be taken for granted that it is little compared with the other Spiritualistic papers.

The fact that in 1904 it was increased by four more pages, with blue cover added, each copy to be wired and cut, the extra cost being borne for the first year by our good friend and benefactor, Mr. Alfred Smedley, of Belper, seems to have been overlooked.

The little LYCEUM BANNER that was, the darling of its founder's heart, the anxious care of many weary years of struggle, and the cause of much financial embarrassment, like Topsy, in the story of Uncle Tom's Cabin, has "grewed" and "grewed" until to-day it is the biggest member of the English Spiritual Journalistic Family! There, that is a big claim!!!

"How do you know that, Mr. Editor?" a number of our readers will be asking. We answer, by measuring each member of the family, and we were careful not to let Miss L.B. stand on her "tippy toes," in order to make herself appear bigger than she really is. Here are their respective sizes on the dates named: The *Two Worlds*, price 1d., February 5th, twenty-two columns, each one eleven inches long, total length, 242 inches. *Light*, February 6th, price 2d., twenty-five columns, each one eleven inches long, total 275 inches. The LYCEUM BANNER, February 7th, price 1d., thirty-two columns, each one nine inches long, total 288 inches.

The demand on the space of the Big LYCEUM BANNER for February was so great that we were compelled to withhold Mr. Knott's Page for the Boys, and the Bluebell Guild Page, besides using nearly two-hundred inches of brevier type, which was equivalent to four extra pages.

We do not like depriving our Boys and Girls of their special pages, and so in order to meet the great demand on our space we purpose having a supplement once per quarter, making what is generally called a DOUBLE NUMBER, but NOT double price, but only three-halfpence each. By this arrangement our readers will experience no further disappointment in finding their favourite articles "crowded out."

Our Portrait Gallery is proving a success. Seeing that all Lyceum District Councils have had the privilege of selecting their own representative, it follows, as a natural course, that the Lyceums in each district will circulate their special number of the LYCEUM BANNER among their friends. Some Lyceums have withheld their orders for extra copies till they saw the portrait and sketch of their own representative, and having "a pleasant surprise," have sent for extra copies, only to find the edition was sold out. Lyceums are advised to order their extra copies *before* their special edition of the LYCEUM BANNER is printed, and not to wait till they are sold out.

Our next issue will contain the Portrait and Sketch of the Teeside Lyceum District Council's Representative. Will the Lyceums in this District please note, and send on their orders for extra copies?

The new Parliamentary Rules have been posted to all Lyceums whose contributions for 1915 have been duly paid. Lyceumists should familiarise themselves in the art of Conference procedure by observing these rules at all Lyceum Committee and Officers' Meetings. Extra copies can be obtained at 9d. per doz., post free, from the Union's Office.

Lyceums have been opened at the following places: Brighton (Windsor Street), London, Stratford (Idmiston Road), and Northampton (Brunswick Place). Cardiff, Chester and Ossett Lyceums have been re-opened.

"SOME REMINISCENCES." By the late Alfred Smedley, including an account of Marvellous Spirit Manifestations—Medium in a Cage—Spirits materialise, hold conversation, and dematerialise in full view of all present—Spirits make Wax Mould of their feet, etc. In Cloth, gilt lettered, 14 illustrations, price 2/-, reduced to 1/-, or post free 1/2. 9/- per dozen, carriage free. SPECIAL OFFER: 25 COPIES 12/6 CARRIAGE FREE.

THE LYCEUM RECITER.

LITTLE PHYLLIS AND HER TEDDY BEAR.

Ah, Teddy Bear, dear Teddy Bear,
I see you snugly lying there;
Up in a corner on the couch . . .
So like a little scaramouch . . .
Now come and sit upon my knee,
My Teddy dear, and talk to me,
You growl for "yes," and growl for "no";
But which you mean I always know. . .
Say; Do you love me Teddy dear?
Just whisper to me in my ear—
"Burrrh," . . . that means "yes."

You know I love my golliwog,
My rabbit, and my fluffy dog,
My dollies too, and all the rest,
But Teddy dear, I love you best.
You let me stand you on your head,
Or hide you down in Mamma's bed;
And do not growl, unless alack,
I turn you helpless on your back.
I often tease you, Teddy Bear, . . .
But would not hurt you—would I dear?
"Burrrh," . . . that means "no."

I do not buy you clothes you see,
As Mamma often does for me . . .
Because your fur is nice and warm,
And keeps you, Teddy, free from harm;
Nor do I give you food you know,
Because you do not have to grow.
Now, Teddy, dear, just while we play,
I want again to hear you say
You love me, Teddy—Yes you do,
And Mum, and Dad, and baby too.

"Burrrh," that means "yes."

H. T. WHORLOW.

A CHILD'S CALL.

A little child you here can see,
Nor question me what I may be,
For God has blest me with gifts so dear,
And I will try to use them here
To make my life a perfect part,
And seek true love in every heart.

Simple though my path may be
I have some duties you will see
That must indeed be done,
As ever I journey on
In the understanding of Nature's self,
And render God all honoured wealth.

So life goes on with many a bend
In lessons which begin and end,
Some of trials, some of grace,
Each in time has its perfect place
To bring us nearer, or further from
The joy of the eternal home.

So let us each and every one
Pull together, the weak and strong,
May every act and deed be done
Each day as an eternal one,
For it is asked from the great and small
For God to shine in every call.

A. HENRY.

THE RIGHT WAY.

Take courage, my comrades, take courage,
As through this world you go,
Courage to fight against evil,
The most persistent foe;
He will attack you when least expected,
Perhaps with a voice sweet and low,
The moment you think you detect him,
Deal him a deadly blow.

Take courage, my comrades, take courage,
If attacked by enemies new,
Turn to your good friend conscience,
And ask him the best thing to do.
As soon as you ask, he'll advise you,
For the foe he detests most is sin,
Take the first commands that he gives you,
And the fight you are sure to win.

Take courage, my comrades, take courage,
If the hill is hard to climb,
With patience and perseverance,
You will reach the summit in time.
Look back then, and note the evils,
You have conquered one by one,
Shout "Hallelujah" to God in the Highest,
The victory now is won.

MRS. BLANCHE HENDERSON, Leicester.

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR?

Thy neighbour?—It is he whom thou
Hast power to aid and bless,
Whose aching heart or burning brow
Thy soothing hand may press.

Thy neighbour? 'Tis the fainting poor,
Whose eye with want is dim,
Whom hunger sends from door to door:
Go thou, and succour him.

Thy neighbour? 'Tis the heart bereft
Of every earthly gain;
Widow and orphan, helpless left:
Go thou, and shelter them.

Thy neighbour? 'Tis that weary man,
Whose years are at their brim,
Bent low with sickness, cares, and pain:
Go thou, and comfort him.

Thy neighbour? Yonder toiling slave,
Fettered in thought and limb,
Whose hopes are all beyond the grave—
Go thou, and ransom him.

Where'er thou meet'st a human form
Less favoured than thine own,
Remember 'tis thy neighbour man,
Thy brother or thy son.

Oh, pass not, pass not heedless by;
Perhaps thou canst redeem
The breaking heart from misery:
Go, share thy lot with him.

(Continued from page 39).

said unto him, Behold, now, there is in this city a man of God, and he is a man that is held in honour; all that he saith cometh surely to pass: now let us go thither; peradventure he can tell us concerning our journey whereto we go. 7. Then said Saul to his servant, But, behold, if we go, what shall we bring the man? for the bread is spent in our vessels, and there is not a present to bring to the man of God: what have we? And the servant answered Saul again, and said, Behold, I have in my hand the fourth part of a shekel of silver: that will I give to the man of God to tell us our way. 9. (Beforetime in Israel, when a man went to enquire of God, thus he said, come, and let us go to the seer: for he that is now called a prophet was beforetime called a seer). 10. Then said Saul to his servant, Well said; come, let us go. So they went unto the city where the man of God was."

Before proceeding further with this very interesting narrative, let us briefly consider the significance of the foregoing.

First, Saul and his servant were despatched to search for some lost asses. After making a diligent search over a wide extent of country until they reached the land of Zuph Saul was inclined to give up the search and return home, and would have done so but for the servant suggesting that they visit "a man of God," who was honoured among the people because what he told them came true. This "man of God" was Samuel the prophet, who because of his clairvoyance (a seer), and clairaudience (hearing spirit voices) the people applied to him when in trouble. Second, the question asked by Saul, "But, behold, if we go, what shall we bring the man? for the bread is spent in our vessels, and there is not a present to bring to the man of God: 'what have we?'" is a clear indication that it was customary in Samuel's time for people to make some present to the seer for exercising his clairvoyance, etc., in their behalf, the same as is done to-day. Otherwise Saul would never have been so prompt in asking the question as soon as the suggestion was made and declined to go until he was satisfied that they were able to make a suitable present. Third, although he (the clairvoyant) was exercising his powers in the manner indicated, the people honoured him as "a man of God."

The question naturally arises here, If in the Bible times people exercising their clairvoyant powers, for which they received presents, were worthy of being held in such high esteem as to be called "men of God," ought not people who are similarly gifted to-day to be worthy of the same measure of respect and reverence, instead of being denounced as rogues and vagabonds deserving of imprisonment as cheats? Christians cannot plead justification on the ground that the seers and prophets of old only exercised their spiritual powers on behalf of the Temple services, and the government of the people, for here we have a case in which the object of enquiry was the tracing and recovery of asses.

What would Christians say to-day to a case in which a clairvoyant had been consulted by a farmer who had lost a number of donkeys? Why, they would be shocked, and denounce him in severe terms. If it were right for Samuel to do this thing, how can it be wrong for any one to do it to-day? The spiritual values are the same. There is no difference except in the lapse of time between the ancient and the

modern cases. If we are to apprise the psychic incidents recorded in the Bible at their true value, we must look at them in the light of how they would be viewed to-day; and, conversely, we must look at the exercise of modern clairvoyance as if it were recorded in the Bible, then we shall be in a position to judge their spiritual values impartially.

Let us now examine the prophet Samuel's leave-taking of Saul as recorded in chapter ten, commencing at verse 2, where we read as follows:—"When thou art departed from me to-day, then thou shalt find two men by Rachel's sepulchre, in the border of Benjamin at Zelzah; and they will say to thee, The asses which thou wentest to seek are found; and, lo, thy father has left off caring for the asses, and is anxious for you, saying, What shall I do for my son? 3. Then thou shalt go forward from thence, and thou shalt come to the oak of Tabor; and there shall meet thee three three men going up to God to Beth-el, one carrying three kids, and another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a bottle of wine; 4. And they will salute thee, and give thee two loaves of bread, which thou shalt receive of their hand, 5. After that thou shalt come to the hill of God, where is the garrison of Philistines; and it shall come to pass, when thou art come thither to the city, that thou shalt meet a band of prophets coming down from the high place with a psaltery, and a timbrel, and a pipe, and a harp before them; and they will be prophesying. . . .

9. "And so it was, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, God gave him another heart; and all these signs came to pass that day." (The italics are mine).

Here we have a long list of predictions, minute in detail as to the people he would meet, what they would be carrying, and what they would say to Saul. Now, if to foretell coming events is "fortune telling"—and that is what Spiritualists are charged with by Christians—we find the prophet Samuel practising "fortune-telling" inspired by Jehovah himself. One fact is clear: If fortune-telling is wrong, then nearly all the prophets of the Bible stand condemned by their own records.

Christians, when brought face to face with these facts, have changed their ground of attack, and pleaded that their religion is not based on the records of the Old Testament. That it was only needful to prepare the way for the later and diviner testimony of God for the salvation of His people, namely, the New Testament. They plead that the mission of the Old Testament was to the New Testament something like John the Baptist was to Jesus, it came to prepare the way for that which was to come on which the Christian religion, which was designed to conquer and rule the world, was to be fully revealed.

If Christianity is not dependent on the records of the Old Testament, and Christians decline to stand by its records when quoted against their opposition to Spiritualism, is it fair, honest and just for them to quote passages from it to denounce Spiritualism and Spiritualists? If they plead non-dependence on its records when they find themselves hoisted with their own petard, let them cease quoting it for party purposes, and thus show their sincerity.

But the Christian can no more get away from psychic phenomena when he takes refuge in the New Testament than he could in the Old Testament. If anything, he has plunged deeper into it. To wit: the promise of Jesus that those who believed in him

should do greater things than what he had done (John xiv., 12); and Paul's exposition and definition of the spiritual gifts which were widely practised at that time (I. Corinthians, xii.).

(To be continued).

LYCEUM MUSIC SHEETS.

Reprinted from the SPIRITUAL SONGSTER.

The following is a full list of songs carefully selected from the SPIRITUAL SONGSTER, by the Lyceum Union's Executive Council, in response to the many requests made by Lyceums. They are single sheets printed on both sides, as follows:—

Sheet No. 1.	{ Steps of Progress S.S.	89
	{ The March of Life "	93
Sheet No. 2.	{ Seeds of Promise "	20
	{ Trust in God and do the Right "	13
Sheet No. 3.	{ Children's Day Welcome "	12
	{ Be Kind to Each Other "	192
Sheet No. 4.	{ Roses of Life "	82
	{ Scatter the Germs of the Beautiful "	112
Sheet No. 5.	{ Have Faith in One Another "	164
	{ Beautiful Home so Bright and Fair "	171
Sheet No. 6.	{ The Lyceum "	92
	{ Hear the Angels "	140
Sheet No. 7.	{ Hark! I hear the Angels "	184
	{ Invocation Vesper "	193
Sheet No. 8.	{ Doxologies 324, 325, 326 "	75
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Sheet No. 9.	{ Hail, all Hail! "	22
	{ Good Night "	23
<i>For Funerals.</i>		
Sheet No. 10.	{ Waiting on the Other Side "	58
	{ They Still Live "	72
<i>For Naming of Children, double sheet.</i>		
Sheet No. 11.	{ O Guide Thy Barque "	73
	{ Heart Flowers "	144
	{ Open the Door for the Children "	145

SAMPLE COPIES of the complete set of the eleven sheets sent to any Lyceum in the Union for 9d. Single copies 1½d. post free, or 9d. per doz. Sheet No. 11, 2½d. post free, or 1/6 per doz. To non-Union Lyceums the prices are 2½d. per sheet, or 1/6 per doz. No. 11, 4½d. per sheet or 3/- per doz.

ALFRED KITSON, 17, BROMLEY ROAD, HANGING HEATON, DEWSBURY.

District Council Meetings.

BOLTON LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The annual meeting will be held on March 13th and 14th at Ash Street Lyceum, Radcliffe. There will be a public tea and social on the 13th, tea at 5 p.m., tickets 6d. each. Sunday, at 2-30, Open Session. At 6-30 the services will be conducted by the E.C. A good muster of Lyceumists for these meetings is earnestly desired. Order of business at 3-30: President's address; minutes; correspondence; Mr. Batten's report; Invitation from N.E.L.D.C. to join in their demonstration; balance sheet; auditor's report; presentation of the shield; election of officers, auditors, and adjudicators; votes of thanks. —ED. WALSH, Secretary.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Nominations for office received up to February 16th, 1915: President, Mr. J. Sutcliffe, Slaithwaite; and Mr. F. France, Brighouse. Vice-President, Mr. F. France, Brighouse; and Mr. T. Ellis, Huddersfield, Ramsden Street. Secretary, Mr. W. Burrows, Halifax St. Paul's. Treasurer, Miss H. Allured, Huddersfield, Ramsden Street. District Visitor, Mr. S. Ackroyd, Huddersfield, Ramsden Street. Auditors, Mr. Wilby, Halifax St. Paul's, and Mr. Hart, Hebden Bridge. —W. BURROWS, Secretary.

LIVERPOOL LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the above Council will be held at the Star of Progress Lyceum, 2, Romer Road, Liverpool, on Saturday, March 13th, at 3 p.m., continued on Sunday, March 14th, at 3 and 6-30 p.m. This being the annual meeting it is most important that all Lyceums in the District be represented.

Also all associate members are earnestly requested to attend. The Agenda shall include the election of President, Secretary, Treasurer, District Visitor, and other officers. The consideration of the advisability of holding a joint picnic during the summer. The annual reports, and other important business. Tea will be provided about 5-30 p.m. Price 6d. each. —W. J. CRETNEY, Hon. Sec.

NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Yearly meeting will be held at Vernon Street, Nelson, on March 20th, 1915, to commence at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. Business as follows: President's address; Secretary's report and correspondence; Treasurer's report and balance sheet; D.V. and Assistant D.V.'s reports; U.D.C. report; election of officers: President, Secretary, Treasurer, D.V., Auditors, Assistant D.V.'s; Delegate to Conference; credentials; legalization question; demonstration question; hymn sheets; Permanent Secretary; collections; open council; vote of thanks. As this is an important meeting kindly send full number of delegates, and also remember the Sunnyhurst Woods ramble on Good Friday, we shall probably have all arrangements made ready for this meeting. Associates are also very necessary. —R. ASHWORTH.

SHEFFIELD LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the above Council will be held at Rotherham, Percy Street, on Sunday, March 21st, at 10-30 a.m. sharp. Will all Lyceums endeavour to be well represented. Lyceum and associate affiliation fees now due. May I urge all associates, old and new, to be present. The Council wants you. Everyone necessary, election of officers for the year. B.S.L.U. conference business, also other important matters. The Rotherham friends will provide a tea for the modest sum of sixpence, and they expect the usual enthusiasm and high spirits. —REG. BOWMER, Sec., pro. tem.

SOUTH-EAST LANCASHIRE LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the above Council will be held on Sunday, March 21st, business to commence at 10-30 a.m. in the Chadderton Church, Brook Street. Delegates attending kindly intimate to Mr. Chisnall, so that suitable provision may be made. Sessions, afternoon and evening, to be conducted by the delegates present. All Lyceums in the District not associated with us are invited to come in and join forces with us. A good rally is desired. —WM. CHISNALL.

SOUTH SHIELDS UNITED LYCEUM WORKERS.

Owing to all the Lyceums not joining, the savings bank has been rescinded. Mr. Woodall suggested having a trip up the river Tyne as far as Ryton for our annual trip for the Lyceumists in August, so after much discussion he was elected to obtain full particulars as to terms for hire of steamboat, etc. We had our second Lyceum Demonstration at South Eldon Street, on February 21st, which passed off successfully. —N. E. AINLEY, Secretary.

THE TYNESIDE LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The above Council will hold its next meeting at the Heaton and Byker Lyceum, 2, Potts Street, on Sunday, March 28th, to which all Lyceums in the Tyneside District are invited to send their delegates. —J. RONALDSON, Sec.

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.

CHESTERFIELD.—On February 9th, Vincent, only son of Mr. Welch (past Lyceum Conductor) and Mrs. Welch, aged three years.

Though hard it was yielding their treasure to God,
They still rest content in His love;
For they know he still lives and to them can return,
An angel of light from above.

E. WIDDOWSON, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—On Sunday, February 21st, we witnessed the naming of Mrs. Woodley's baby. The ceremony was performed by Mrs. Finchett, who gave the earthly name Edna May and the spirit name "Star of Hope." Mr. Thompson conducted the session, and the readings and recitations were suitably chosen. Altogether we spent a most enjoyable session. —Winifred Wilkinson, Secretary.

United Lyceum District Councils.

The above held their meeting at the Ford Lane Lyceum, Pendleton, Manchester, on February 20th and 21st. The following D.C.'s being represented: Liverpool, Messrs. Owen and Keeling; Bolton, Mr. Batten; Sheffield, Mr. Papworth; Halifax and Huddersfield, Messrs. Ackroyd and Ellis; Leeds, Miss Ingle and Mr. Beaty; Manchester, Messrs. Bentley and Dolman; South East Lancashire (Rochdale), Messrs. Chisnall and Lord; Stockport, Messrs. Marsten and Bramwell; North East Lancashire, Messrs. Higham and Heaton; B.S.L.U., Mrs. Nurse and Miss Hesp (Vice-President). Mr. Keeling was elected to the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were adopted and confirmed, after a few remarks re length and accuracy of report as published in the December BANNER.

The Secretary was instructed to send a letter of sympathy and reciprocation of sentiments in reply to a letter from Mr. Simpson, of Bradford, who was unable to attend the meeting because of illness.

Mr. Beaty moved and Miss Ingle seconded, "That only one representative from each D.C. be allowed to sit upon the E.C. of the B.S.L.U." Defeated: for 3, against 9.

Mr. Batten moved, and Mr. Bramwell seconded, "That the E.C. be instructed to consider an application from a duly constituted D.C. in relation to the supply of *Manuals* for the purpose of helping weak Lyceums. The D.C. to be responsible to the E.C. for the safe custody of same."

Mr. Owen moved, and Mr. Bentley seconded the following amendment, "That we recommend to all D.C.'s. the consideration of forming an equipment fund for the benefit of new and weak Lyceums." For the amendment 11. Against (or for motion) 2.

Nominations: Mr. Knott, E.C.; Mr. Batten as E.C.; Mrs. Bentley as E.C.; Mr. Vickers, as President; Miss Hesp, as President, Vice-President, and E.C.; Mr. Dobbie, of Lincoln, as E.C.; Mr. Hargreaves as E.C.

Mr. Dolman gave notice of the following motion: "That any person having served three terms of office upon the E.C. shall not be eligible for re-election before the expiration of one year."

Mr. Owen moved, Mr. Batten seconded, "That the arrangements for the next meeting be left in the hands of the Secretary." Carried. Mr. Keeling moved, Miss Hesp seconded, "That our thanks be given to the local friends for their very hospitable entertainment." Carried.

Almost all the delegates took an active part in the Sunday services. A very good feeling prevailing throughout the day.

J. E. ELLIOTT, Hon. Sec.

Correspondence.

To the Editor, LYCEUM BANNER.

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. O'Neill's letter asking for an explanation of my report, appearing in the November BANNER. If my report sheet is looked up it will be found to be a printer's error, and ought to have been corrected. I was not aware of the mistake until it was too late for correction in the December issue, being away from home at the time. Since then I have had other duties to attend to, as Mr. O'Neill is aware.

T. MYATT.

[The figures on the report sheet are as printed in the LYCEUM BANNER.—EDITOR.]

GOOD SPEAKERS AND WHERE THEY ARE TO COME FROM?

To the Editor, LYCEUM BANNER.

Dear Sir,—I don't profess to be a speaker, or yet a writer, but I cannot help but pen a few words, after reading the letter of Beatrice Eke (age 15), of Heaton and Byker Lyceum.

I cannot understand why so many of our Society members fail to attend our Lyceums, as it is certainly the school house, or training ground, for those who are desirous of gaining more knowledge of the movement, and by studying the lessons in the Lyceum, along with activity in same, is a sure way towards the goal of good speakers. I have been surprised to find some of our prominent workers, holding leading positions in the Society, know so little of Lyceum work, and yet some Societies lack speakers simply for lack of interest by their leaders. I am sure, if more Study Groups were formed we should soon be able to have Societies all with capable speakers.

Why so many of our adherents, with their children still attending orthodox churches and schools; if good enough for parents, why not good enough for their children?

J. C. WALLER, Hon. Sec., Fleetwood Lyceum.

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 February 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 accompany all special reports or they will be cut down and inserted as ordinary reports.

RULE 4.—All Reports must reach this Office not later than Wednesday, March 24th, to ensure insertion in the April 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 (Abbey Street).—On Sunday, February 7th, we held our Open Session, when the following items helped to make the session attractive:—S.C. Recitation No. 83, "Trust in God and do the right"; M.R. No. 230, "Seeds of Promise," and G.C. Recitation No. 128, "The Family of Nations." Annie Fletcher recited "Victorious Promise" and Emily Parkinson "Charity." We had a pleasant time.—John Redmond, Sec.

ACCRINGTON (China Street).—We held our Open Session on Sunday, February 7th, with hymn "Do not wait for joys to come." S.C.R. 87, "Wisdom orders all things well," was led by Miss Lee. F. Unthank recited "Snowdrops"; M. A. Unthank, "The Picnic"; Willie Smith, "The Revell." Mr. F. S. Livesy (who kindly officiated in the absence of the organist) sang a solo; Miss Nellie Ormerod sang No. 401, "Go forward"; Miss Alice Gorton sang "Heart flowers," and Ben Unthank sang "Angel care." G.C.R., "The Teachings of Spiritualism," was well rendered. After the marching and calisthenics, Mr. Will Edwards kindly presented the prizes for the same.—Will Smith, Secretary.

BARROW (Dalkeith Street).—On Sunday, February 7th, we held our usual Open Session. Mrs. Harris (Conductor) presided. The following took part:—Recitation, Grace Frankland; duets, B. Walker and C. Smith, A. Huddard and D. Grove; readings, E. Brown and J. Brown, H. Harris and E. Smith; songs, Miss J. Kendall, Mrs. Wallace and Mr. J. Kendall. All parents would be made most welcome at these pleasant afternoons, where earnest workers are much needed.—C. Wallace, Assistant Secretary.

BELFAST (Chichester Street).—Our first Lyceum Social was held on Saturday, February 13th, and was well attended by members of the Association and Lyceumists, and all enjoyed themselves to the utmost. Prizes were awarded for the best recitations to the following: Lulu Dunn, 1st; Minnie Smeltzer and Sadie Beattie, 2nd; Lily Irwin, 3rd. Jack Holland was awarded the prize for best essay on "Why I attend the Lyceum," Mr. R. A. Owen, of Liverpool, kindly acting as judge. The officers return their heartiest thanks to those members who so kindly gave these prizes.—D. Smeltzer, Sec.

BLACKBURN (St. Peter Street).—On Sunday, January 28th, we held our Open Session, with about 200 present. Mr. Hopper conducted. Recitations were rendered by Mrs. W. Francis, J. Francis, S. Robinson, Kipps, M. Brindle, P. Wilkinson, E. Hopper, L. Derbyshire. Solo, Miss N. Eskdale. Miss A. Riding and Masters F. and N. Derbyshire, three of our smallest scholars, rendered a recitation, entitled "How we helped to win the Shield," composed by one of our Lyceumists, Mr. Derbyshire. We had the pleasure of seeing the naming of two children by two of our own Lyceumists, Mrs. F. Hopper naming Annie Aspin, spirit name, "Sympathy," and Hilda Francis, spirit name, "Fidelity"; Mr. Derbyshire naming Harold Sutton, spirit name "Ernest." We hope their future will be as full of pleasures as this day.—Tom Edwards.

BOLTON (Bradford Street).—On February 7th we held our Open Session, which was very well attended. Many pearls, recitations and songs were given, also instrumental music by our Lyceum band. Many visitors were present, and all spent an enjoyable afternoon. In the evening Mrs. Bentley gave a

very instructive and interesting address on the value of a Lyceum training. On February 13th we held a Valentine Novelty Social, each lady and gentleman wearing a flower of a corresponding colour to denote their partner for the Valentine dances. This was a social and financial success, realising £4 11s. 4d. An interesting letter was read on February 21st from one of our Lyceumists under military training at Felixstowe, Suffolk.—John Grindrod, Secretary.

BRADFORD, CARLISLE ROAD (Ivy Rooms).—On Saturday, the 6th of February, we held our Lyceum Tea and Social, when a good number were present. On Sunday, February 7th, we had our Anniversary Open Sessions, morning and afternoon, when recitals were given by Miss E. Hogg, Miss D. Simpson, Master W. Simpson and Master F. Simpson; solo by Mr. F. Naylor, and a pianoforte selection by Mr. H. South. The prizes were presented by Mrs. Beardsworth to the scholars, for attendance. Mr. J. Jackson gave a short address. Miss E. Broadley was the pianist. Mr. F. Rawnsley conducted. In the evening Mr. J. Jackson gave a very interesting and instructive address on "Pictures." We had success at all the services.—J. P. Simpson.

BRADFORD, EAST BOWLING (Harker Street).—On Sunday, February 7th, we held our first Open Session, which was well attended. The Silver Chain recitation was conducted by one of our young scholars, Miss Annie Ward. The following gave recitations:—Miss Nellie Hudson, Annie Ward, Master George Snaith, David Snaith, Leonard Wilford, and Mr. Snaith gave a reading, which were very much appreciated. On February 13th we had a Coffee Supper and Social Evening, to help us to get some *Lyceum Manuals*, which was a success, considering the bad weather which prevailed on that day, clearing the sum of 18/.—A. E. Carter, Secretary.

BRADFORD (Otley Road).—We held our Open Session on Sunday, February 7th, when we had a very pleasant time, the following scholars taking part:—Recitations by Misses Hilda Raistrick, Ivy and Elsie Emerson, and Harry Vinn; solos by Miss Beecham and Mr. Hale; duets, Misses Ripley, Richmond, Miss Jones and Mr. Horn. On Sunday, February 14th, we held our Lyceum Anniversary, our services being taken by Mr. and Mrs. Hillis. Our Conductor presented the prizes to the scholars, owing to the sickness of our speaker, Mr. Simpson. The afternoon was a splendid children's service, the young scholars responding with recitations and solos. Pleased to report that we are progressing very well.—H. Horn, Sec.

BRADFORD, WEST BOWLING (Bowling Old Lane).—On Sunday, February 7th, we held our Open Session, which was conducted by Master N. Haley, when the following gave recitations:—Ruth Fernihough, Eleona Lodge and Norman Haley; duet by Ruth Fernihough and Hilda Croft; solo by Miss Garth. Mr. Chambers made a few remarks. We also had a very nice gathering of parents and friends, which helped to make it a success.—A. Haley, Secretary.

BRADFORD, WEST BOWLING (Boynnton Street).—We held our annual meeting on Saturday, January 30th, and were favoured with a very good attendance. The following officers were elected for the year 1915:—Conductor, Mr. Crofts; Assistant, Mr. L. Schofield; Treasurer, Mr. Schofield; Secretary and Musical Conductor, Mr. J. W. Crofts; Calisthenic Instructor, Miss I. Hill; Guardian, Mr. Plumb; Leaders, Miss I. Hill, Miss Plumb, Mr. Stevens and Mr. C. Carter; Guards, Mr. Taylor and Mrs. Bairstow; District Council Delegates, Mr. Crofts and Mr. Schofield; Liberty Group, Mr. Hill; other Groups, Mrs. Manning, Miss Illingworth and Miss Raistrick. We held our Open Session on Sunday, February 7th, and had a large attendance, when a number of pearls, recitations and solos, etc., were ably rendered.—J. W. Crofts.

BRIGHOUSE (Commercial Street).—On Saturday, January 29th, we held our Annual Lyceum Tea and Social and Prize Distribution, which were presented in a pleasing manner by Mrs. Broomhead. Songs were rendered by Mr. Sykes and Ambrose Broomhead; a recitation, Sam Briggs. On Sunday, January 30th, we held our Lyceum Anniversary, the speaker being Mrs. Balshaw, of Leeds. In the afternoon we had an Open Session. Solos were sung by Mr. Crossley, Mr. Sykes and Ambrose Broomhead; duet, Elsie Sykes and Evelyn Crossley; recitations by Sam Briggs. We had the pleasing ceremony of naming a child. Mrs. Balshaw gave excellent addresses and clairvoyant delineations. Mr. Sykes conducted all meetings. Mr. Flintiff ably supplied all the music for same. Success all round.—James Crossley, Secretary.

BRIGHTON (Manchester).—Our annual meeting was held on February 4th, when the following officers were elected: Conductor, Mr. Cager; Assistant, Mr. Severn, Jun.; Guardian, Mr. Grayson Clarke; Assistant, Mr. A. Scoggins; Captain of Guards, Master James Rhodes; Guards, W. Jacobs and Miss A. Scoggins; Musical Director, Mrs. Meikle; Marching and

Calisthenics Instructor, Mr. J. Rhodes; Librarian, Willie Jacobs; Treasurer, Mr. Roy Banks; Secretary, Mr. C. Moorey; Auditors, Messrs. R. Gurd and H. Everett; Group Leaders: *Fountain*, Miss Lily Goodwin; *Stream*, Miss Cassie Goodwin; *River*, Miss Queenie Goodwin; *Lake*, Mrs. Mansell; *Sea*, Mr. A. Scoggins; *Ocean*, Miss Rosaman; *Shore*, Mrs. Rhodes; *Beacon*, Mr. Rhodes; *Banner*, Miss Mills; *Star*, Mr. Moorey, *Excelsior*, Miss Scoggins, and *Liberty*, Messrs. Cager and Severn.—C. Moorey, Secretary.

BRIGHTON (Windsor Street).—During the month we have made steady progress in our work, although, unfortunately, not in numbers. We have to thank Miss Hoskins, a Lyceum member, for the welcome gift of group sashes, which we hope to wear shortly. Owing to the unavoidable absence of our conductor, Mr. Fred Curry has twice acted in her stead. His services were greatly appreciated. The following items have been well rendered: Pianoforte solos, Mr. F. Curry, Miss E. Morton. Song, Miss O. Johnson; Recitations, Nurse Stockwell, Misses E. Johnson and M. Morton. We had a very welcome visit from Mrs. Harvey, who gave us a short address, also messages of encouragement from spirit friends present with us.—Marjorie Morton, Secretary.

BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA.—One of our Lyceumists, Katharine Marchant, has passed into the higher life, and a memorial service was held at the Lyceum. Mr. Humphreys, our conductor, addressed the Lyceumists, and impressed on them the glorious truth that there is no death, and that our loved ones are still with us. I am sorry to report that the elder people *do not* take an interest in the Lyceum work, and that some members of the Spiritual Church in Brisbane do not send their children to the Lyceum. But we have a fair attendance each Sunday.—A. E. Sampson, Secretary.

BURNLEY (North Street).—On Saturday, January 30th, we held our annual prize distribution, tea party and concert. A good number sat down to tea, which was augmented at the concert. Mr. Wilfred Whittle, our Conductor, occupied the chair. Recitations, songs, and action songs were presented by the children of the Lyceum. Our friend, Mr. T. E. Chadwick, of Nelson, distributed the prizes, saying suitable words to each Lyceumist. A humorous dialogue, entitled, "All for Love" was presented by four young men and three young women, which was very much enjoyed by the audience. Dancing brought an enjoyable evening to a close.—Miss Beatrice Griffin, Sec.

BURY (King Street, off Rochdale Road).—On Saturday, February 6th, the Band of Hope held a grand Character Carnival, about 120 persons being present, mostly in character costume. The hall was tastefully decorated under the supervision of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon, who also acted as Host and Hostess; whilst Masters W. Kaye (as Kitchener), and J. Chadwick (as Jellicoe), acted as page boys. A very enjoyable evening being spent. During the evening songs were given by Messrs. Metcalfe and Gregory. Messrs. Fletcher and Hepworth were the accompanists, and Mr. B. Owen the M.C. The chair was occupied by Mr. Duckworth, the Band of Hope president.—Jos. Wood, Secretary.

CHESTERFIELD.—On February 14th we held our Open Session, when the following members took part: Recitations, Mrs. Widdowson, Ethel Wade, Ethel Briggs, Lily Marriot, and Alice Delicate. Pianoforte solos, Joseph Hobster. We also held a Memorial Service on the same day for our little fellow Lyceumist, Vincent Welch, expressing our sympathy with his parents, who are also Lyceumists.—E. Widdowson, Sec.

CHRISTCHURCH.—Last Sunday, December 21st, was our Recitation Sunday, when the following assisted: Pearls: Effie and Lily Coombes, Renee Fulyerd, Mary Prime, and Eileen Emerson. Recitations: Ronald Burling, Roy Davies, Jim Fulford, Mary Martin, Phyllis Elliott, Marjorie Nortontaylor, and Beatty Emerson! Songs: Cissy Hadler and Mary Dalziel, Maude Emerson, Ida Dalziel, Harold Wright, Ernest Wright, Mrs. Fulyerd, and Mr. Nortontaylor. There was a good attendance of members and friends. There has been a decided improvement in the Lyceum during the past year. On New Year's Day we hope to hold the most successful picnic that has ever been held in connection with our Lyceum. The Season's Greetings to all Lyceums.—I. M. Dalziel, Lyceum Secretary.

COVENTRY Bull Street).—The prize distribution for the preceding year took place on January 31st, Mr. T. B. Bramley, President of the Society, ably conducted the session. Recitations of a high spiritual order were given by the children. Mr. Bramley afterwards presenting the prizes to those who had made the best attendance. A special prize was given by the President to James Charles Rice for a perfect attendance.—Mrs. H. Rice, Secretary.

DEARNLEY.—Saturday, January 13th, we held our Lyceum tea party and entertainment, there was an attendance of over

120 to tea. Subsequently an enjoyable programme was given by the Lyceumists, Mr. T. Smith presiding. Miss L. Bamford distributed the prizes. Mr. Raymer was the accompanist.

DOUGLAS, I.O.M., ODD-FELLOWS' HALL (Circular Road).—In our new hall our Lyceum shows progress. We have introduced marching here. The Lyceum was conducted by the following: February 7th, Willie Lord; 14th, Mary Musker; 21st, Mr. Starkey; all in a creditable manner.—Mrs. Higginbotham, Secretary.

DUNDEE (Overgate).—On Sunday, February 14th, we held our election for the ensuing season as follows: Conductor, Miss Brown; Treasurer, Mr. A. Grossett; Secretary, Mr. James Lawson; Marching Conductor, Mr. D. Booth; Guardian, Mr. T. Proctor.—James Lawson, Secretary.

EDINBURGH.—On Sunday, 7th inst., we held our Open Session. Mr. Niven, Conductor, presided over a fair attendance. The following Lyceumists took part in the session: Songs: Mr. Niven, Mr. Harry Cant, Mrs. Geo. Stewart, and Ella MacLennan. Duet, John Niven, John Stewart and Harold Smith. Recitations, Miss Neilson and Edward Sanderson. The marching concluded the Session. On Sunday, 14th inst., we were favoured by a visit from Mr. Urquhart, the District Visitor for Scotland.—M. M. Neilson, Secretary.

FLEETWOOD (Kemp Street).—During the month we have had a visit by one of our Lyceumists (W. Richardson) who has been training at Sevenoaks, Kent, and has since been drafted to France. We have also had the misfortune to lose our worthy and capable Conductor, Mr. E. Griffiths, for a time if not permanent, owing to material conditions and having to seek fresh fields of labour, having gone to Hull, and hope our friends there (probably Holborn Hall) will keep him in harness. We are making steady progress and are on a fair way to recover lost ground, although we have yet to work in the trenches, but hope soon to be on good ground.—J.C.W., Secretary.

FOLESHILL.—Our Open Session was very enjoyable in itself, but was rendered more especially so by the interesting lesson by Mrs. Bambrick on "Flowers," and their power of attracting our little friends in spirit life, to swell our numbers and impart to us a more heavenly feeling. The lesson was prompted by the first flowers we have had in the Lyceum for some time, and this latter fact alone makes a session much more bright and cheerful. Florrie Lucas, Lucy Lee, and Malcolm Bambrick gave appropriate and instructive recitations.—G. Starr, Bambrick.

GREAT HARWOOD (off Westwell Street).—We held our Open Session on February 7th, when the Silver Chain recitation was led by Rachel Baxter, the Musical Reading by Mrs. Smith, Ada Waterhouse, and Richard Leaver, and the Golden Chain recitation by Will Thornley. We had recitations from Alice Wylie, Annie Thornley, Mrs. Smith, and Will Thornley; songs rendered by Mrs. Holt, Florrie Owen, and Will Thornley. We also had Mr. Hilditch with us, who spoke words of encouragement to the scholars which brought the session to a close.—Louie Holt, Secretary.

HIRST.—We opened our session on February 7th with pearls from Edward Elliott, Minnie Johnstone, Sarah Barton, Ronald Johnston, Ivy Johnstone, and Rosalind Richardson. Solos, R. Johnstone, Ettie Copland, Harold Teasdale, Mrs. Johnstone, and Mrs. Harrison. Recitations, Allen Johnstone, Maggie Sproat, Minnie Johnstone, Ivy Johnstone, Rosalind Richardson, Wm. Atkinson, and Mr. Lawrence, the speaker. This concluded a very lovely session. We are hoping to have the Tyneside Lyceum District Council in March, when our Lyceum will unfold their banner and march to meet the visitors at the station.—Thomas Teasdale, Secretary.

HOLLINWOOD (Byron Street).—On Saturday, February 20th, we held our annual tea party, concert, and prize distribution, 158 sitting down to tea. The concert was given by the members of the Lyceum. Cantata by the children, entitled, "Red Riding Hood," under the directorship of Miss J. Anderson, Miss F. Webster, and Miss A. Webster, which was very well performed. Miss Jessie Ball took the part of Red Riding Hood in a very excellent manner, her sweet singing delighting everyone; Miss Nellie Anderson, "School Mistress"; Master T. Ball, "Giles." Mr. Carter then presented the prizes, speaking encouraging words to each one. A recitation was given by Miss F. Taylor. The evening ended with a social.—F. Taylor, Secretary.

HORWICH (Beatrice Street).—On Sunday, January 31st, we held our Open Session in the afternoon, and it was well attended. Mr. Walsh conducted, and the session was well gone through. The marching and calisthenics were conducted by Walter Frost. Miss Ivy Walsh played for marching. Pearls and solos were rendered by the Lyceumists. In the evening the

services were conducted by Mr. Walsh, Mr. Smart. Miss Elkins offered the invocation, and also gave a short address. Mr. Smart spoke on children in spirit life. Mr. Walsh gave a paper on "Spirit, where is it, and what is its occupation"? which was very enlightening. Solos were rendered by Mrs. Walsh and Ada Emsall. The Lyceumists took part in the open circle.—R. Frost.

HUDDERSFIELD (St. Peter Street).—On Sunday afternoon, February 7th, we held our usual Open Sessions. Our President conducted. Pearls and recitations were nicely rendered by the Lyceumists, after which we had marching and calisthenics, conducted by Mr. W. W. Wallace. We also had a good attendance of friends and strangers to witness a spiritual ceremony of naming a baby belonging to two of our Lyceumists, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Fielding. The ceremony was performed by Mr. F. Fielding, our President, who gave its earth name as Minnie and spirit name "Sympathy." This brought a pleasant session to a close.—John Midgley, Secretary.

JARROW (Market Square).—On February 14th we held our annual meeting and election of officers. The following were elected: Conductor, Mr. R. Burns; Assistant, Master J. Abbott; Secretary, Miss Parker; Treasurer, Mrs. Smith; Organist, Miss Hodgson; Assistant, Miss I. Wake; Captain of Guards, C. Smith; Guard, Willie Poole; Guardian, Mr. James; Auditors, Mr. James and Miss E. Hodgson; Delegate, Mr. James; Group Leaders, Mrs. Hodgson, Mrs. Overton, Miss Hodgson, Miss Parker, Master Abbott, and Mr. James. I sincerely trust that our Lyceum will soon come back to its old standard.—Mrs. Poole.

KEIGHLEY (Heber Street).—We held our Open Session on Sunday, February 14th, when we had a nice session. Recitations were given by Misses Walker, E. Bottomley, B. Rodger, and Master J. Spencer. A reading by Miss L. Mitchell; solo by Miss O. Teal; duet by Misses D. Hughill and Butler. The marching and calisthenics were under the command of Mr. Summers, the conductor.—E. Shackleton, Secretary.

LANCASTER.—Our progress may not appear striking, yet like the great conflict now raging for right and justice, which many of ours are nobly engaged in, the knowledge that right is might, bids us hope for an early advance on to new thoughts, fresh ideas, and greater achievements. Some of our young ladies, acting as conductors, appear to hit off just to the mark, silencing us all to attention with their intelligent remarks, and of course their winning ways. At the Open Session the very little ones, even the babies, appear to have been the champion reciters, but the elder scholars are beginning to be helpful with solos at the adult services.—James Sayle.

LEICESTER (Silver Street).—On Sunday, February 7th, we held our Open Session, when Mrs. Whitmore conducted the service, and we were also favoured by the presence of Mr. Hanson G. Hey, Mr. Reggie Bowmer, late Sheffield Lyceum District visitor, who we are delighted to say has come to stay permanently in Leicester. Marching and exercises were gone through, followed by short addresses from these gentlemen, after which our old Lyceumist, Mr. Hurst, gave an address, these taking up the whole of the time. We had to put the scholars' efforts off for another session. We had a really pleasant session, and despite the inclement weather we had a splendid attendance.—F. C. Smith, Secretary.

LEICESTER (Queen Street).—On February 2nd we held our Open Session, when the following Lyceumists took part: Recitations by Miss E. Wicks and Master H. Wicks; solos by Master A. Veary and Miss D. Goldsmith; duet by Misses Thorpe and P. Goldsmith; duet by Masters H. Cartwright, S. Eaton. We also had short addresses by two visitors, one from Leeds and the other from Shipley, which were well received. We had a very good and enjoyable session. Miss A. Clarke conducted.—J. Wicks, Secretary.

LINCOLN.—A record Open Sunday was held on February 7th: the children seem to realise now the real meaning of the occasion, and everyone came forward with items, which were appreciated by all. The children's party was a great success, the adults who were responsible for the preparations were gratified at the results. There was a good tea, followed by games, heartily enjoyed by old, young and middle-aged, and none went home without one or two presents as mementoes. Our roll of honour includes Brothers Samson, Mullinger, Burrows, and Parker, and Sister Swaby.—K. Crawshaw.

LIVERPOOL (Romer Road).—On Sunday, February 7th, we held our Open Session, notwithstanding wet day a fairly good number turned up. The session was conducted by Mr. A. Roberts. After the opening hymn, "Hand in hand with Angels" and the invocation, Miss Bessie Phillip led the S.C.R., followed by Musical Reading, the readers being Mr. Roberts, Miss

Molloy, and Master A. Cretney. Pearls were given by Messrs. A. and R. Cretney and Molloy, and Misses Molloy, Rigby, Clarey, and Mrs. Clarey. The marching and calisthenics were led by Mr. J. Molloy. A fairly good session but not up to the standard. We are hoping to see a great improvement ere long. W. J. Cretney, Secretary.

LONDON, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—With great pleasure we have to record a good attendance of adults and Lyceumists at our Open Session, February 7th, attracted no doubt by the presentation of prizes, which were ably presented by Mrs. Bance in her usual gracious manner. Addresses by Messrs. Bance and West, also a mandoline duet by the Misses Smith and Miles, Mr. West at piano. We thank the visitors heartily for the treat they gave us. Individual efforts and pearls were good; the following obliged with recitations: Edna Hustwick, Lena Humphries, Dorothy Foreman and Allan Brown. A song by Connie Brown and piano solo by John Chambers. All well rendered.—F. I. Miles, Secretary.

LONDON, PECKHAM.—Sunday, 21st, we held our anniversary. Morning, a splendid address by Mr. Levy. Afternoon the District Council was with us, all enjoying the pearls and efforts of the children, the youngest ones especially, they being the best volunteers. Evening, Mr. Richards, our conductor, had the pleasure of awarding five silver medals as follows: Fred Duggan, marching; Charley Williams, Pearls; Dolly Richards, recitations; Bruce Clarkson, music; Norah Clarkson, efforts. They being voted for by the Lyceumists. Short addresses from members of the Council followed. Miss Ashley's first appearance from Fulham, was appreciated; also Mr. Askin. We wish we in Peckham were blessed with such good workers. We have a good Lyceum but lack workers. Fancy dress social, March 13th.—S. Clarkson, Secretary.

LONDON, STRATFORD (Idmiston Road).—We have made a very encouraging start with our new Lyceum, and have every hope of a successful year. The officers are enthusiastic over the merits of the *Manual*, and cheerfully "drill," under the direction of Mr. Tace, the energetic conductor. We are rather unfortunate in being obliged to compete with several Christian Sunday Schools which hold their session at the same time as ours; but we feel confident that our teaching and methods will eventually prevail. Altogether, our prospects seem very bright indeed.—Mrs. A. T. Connor.

LONDON, TOTTENHAM.—Our Lyceum is progressing. Pearls and individual efforts are splendid, and every week we find fresh talent. Our social for prize distribution will be held on March 11th at Warmington House, High Road, Tottenham, and we give a hearty invitation to all Lyceums.—C. Hassell.

[Your report of New Year's treat is out of date.—Editor.]

LONDON, WOOLWICH AND PLUMSTEAD.—On January 27th we held our annual tea and prize distribution, and a splendid evening was spent. Mr. Myers Clegg, D.V., kindly presenting the prizes. Mr. Gordon, of Greenwich, entertained with many conjuring tricks, while songs were sung by Miss Lily Driesselman and Mr. Giles Piggott. Our thanks are also due to the instrumentalists for their kindly help. On Sunday, February 7th, Mrs. Drury named a baby, who received the earth name Lily, and spirit name "Peace." Mrs. Clegg presented a Lyceum Badge on behalf of the L.L.D.C., and Mr. Watthey presented a loving cup on behalf of the W. & P. Lyceum, subscribed for by a few members. Mrs. Osborne (mother) suitably responded.—H. Watthey, Hon. Sec.

SOUTH MANCHESTER (Princess Hall).—Our Lyceum is going on nicely. On February 21st we held our Open Session, the speakers being Miss Hesp, Leeds, and Mr. Owen, Liverpool. As Mr. Kitson, whom we expected, could not come owing to Mrs. Kitson's illness, we were disappointed at not having him with us, but hope Mrs. Kitson will have quite recovered by now. We were very pleased to secure the two named above, and a very enjoyable time was spent.—Dora Parker, Secretary.

MIDDLESBROUGH (Waterloo Road).—We held our Open Session on February 7th, which was ably conducted by Mrs. Lofthouse. The readings and singing were carried through successfully. A recitation being very well rendered by Mrs. Brown, and a duet given by Miss M. Bessant and Mr. F. Robson. Mr. Wood gave a short address to the Lyceum, making much impression. Pearls were also given by a number of scholars. After the usual marching and calisthenics, which were done in a vigorous manner, we closed the session. We are holding a social the last Wednesday in every month, the proceeds being towards the Boys' Gymnasium that has just been formed.—E. W. Buckingham, Secretary.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, HEATON AND BYKER.—On Sunday, February 7th, we held our Open Session, conducted by

Mr. B. Westgarth. Recitations by Arnold Patterson, Lavina Wardle, Agnes Bradley, John Wardle, Gordon Sandam, Annie Dison, Clara Dison, Mary Wardle, Margery Whitfield, Annie Shadforth, Lily Taylor. A dialogue by Mr. Eke, Fred Eke, Alice Eke; musical reading, 241, by Alice Eke and Lily Eke; duet, Miss J. Hughes and Mr. G. H. Westgarth, "Little feet are passing"; pearl, Mr. Ronaldson.—Mrs. R. Hunter, Sec.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE (Rutherford Street).—On February 7th, we held our Open Session, which was well attended, and the individual efforts were good and numerous. In the evening the Society's platform was occupied by the Lyceum, and which was ably conducted by Miss E. Curtis, and the following contributed towards the evening's enlightenment: Invocation by Mrs. Campbell; solos by Misses F. Clague, Eva Anderson, and Mr. G. S. Dawson; duets by Misses Barbara Stokor and Sinton, Miss Sinton and Mr. Scott; recitations by Misses Barbara Stokor, Eva Anderson, Hilda Blackhall, Chrissie Anderson, Mabel Stokor, Mrs. Campbell, Mr. Scott, Masters J. W. Anderson and Fred Ellis. A few words of encouragement to the children and an earnest appeal for support from the elders was given by Mr. Dawson.—Alex. Dawson, Secretary.

NOTTINGHAM (Bentick Road).—On Sunday, February 7th, we held our Open Session. Invocation by our conductor, Mr. Coles, who gave us a surprise visit, conducted the Silver Chain. Recitations were given by Florence Pearson, Freddie Brown, and Willie Sanderson; duet by May Savage and Hettie Newstead; quartette by H. Newstead, M. Read, H. Shaw, and H. Newstead, Junr., giving "Come gentle spirits." Marching and calisthenics were gone through in an able manner. Pearls were given, showing much enthusiasm. A very inspiring session was brought to a close by Miss Swadden giving us clairvoyance, which was much appreciated by all present.—M. Read, Secretary.

NOTTINGHAM (Mechanic's Hall).—On Sunday, February 7th, we held our Open Session and prize distribution, conducted by Miss V. G. Rayner, when the following interesting items were given: recitations by Eva Lawrence and Mary Sanderson; two violin solos by Mr. J. W. Rayner, and a musical dialogue "Winning the best prize" (composed by Miss V. G. Rayner), by Misses H. Hartwell, A. Tunnicliffe, S. Wakefield, J. Reynold, N. McCaig, G. Morton, and V. G. Rayner. Mr. Warner Clark, Birmingham, who is very interested in Lyceum work, distributed prizes to the 31 successful Lyceumists, with words of encouragement to each. Mr. Marsters, D.V., was also with us, and gave a short address on the dangers of drink.—O. Peel.

OLDHAM (Elliott Street).—On Sunday last we held our Open Session, it being a great success, recitations being given by Master Sam Clayton, "Speak Kindly"; Robert Slater, "Do Good"; J. W. Slater, "John Maynard"; Mr. F. Shaw, "A slum child, to the wise: I will pay." A solo, "Into Thy Arms," was splendidly sung by by Mrs. Platt. We welcomed the presence of an old Lyceumist, Mrs. Diggle, of America, who the first Sunday after arrival in England appeared in the Lyceum at ten o'clock, thereby setting a good example to all others.—J. W. Slater, Assist. Secretary.

OLDHAM (Union Street).—During the month we have had fairly good sessions. The recitations were given by Frances Rooks, Winnie Rooks, Malisa Rooks, Lily Renshaw, Mary Hargreaves, Eunice Fairbottom, Janie Fairbottom, Miss Fielding, Miss Redden, Mrs. Hargreaves, Edward Beaumont, and George Beaumont; solos were given by Elsie Pointon, Frances Rooks, Alice Baguley, Annie James, Bessie James, Miss Ashton, Mrs. Clegg, Albert Fallows, George Beaumont, Richard Wood, Handley Dearnley, and Mr. Chisnall, D.V. Duets by Alice Baguley, Elsie Pointon, Lily Renshaw and Frances Rooks. Our Liberty Group has had two lessons, one by Mr. John Wood, on "What is Truth," and another by Mr. William James on "The way of Salvation," which were very interesting.—F. Grimes, Secretary.

PADIHAM.—On Sunday, February 7th, we held our usual Open Session, which was conducted by Mr. G. C. Higham. The readings and singing were very well rendered. The marching and calisthenics were splendidly gone through. We had pearls given by Mr. G. C. Higham and W. H. Oates, also recitations by Mr. W. Denbigh, Mrs. C. H. Hoole, M. Wright, M. Allen, and A. Higham. On the whole it was a treat to be present.—C. H. Hoole, Secretary.

PONTYPRIDD (River Street).—On Sunday, February 7th, we held our usual Open Session, conducted by Mr. Recardo. Recitations were rendered by Florrie Bowden, Gladys Recardo, Mary Jones, and Kitty Bowden; duets by Dolly Snore and Lizzie Badham, Mrs. and Miss Bowden. We had a pleasant session.—Mrs. Rowlands, Secretary.

PRESTON (Clarkes Yard).—We regret the loss of our conductor, Mr. John Cartmell; he considering it his duty, has enlisted. Mr. Jones, an old Lyceum worker, is now filling the office. Sunday, February 7th, Open Session. Recitations by Ida and Nellie Jackson, Bertha and Annie Fishwick, Nellie Nicholson, Nellie Spencer, Lizzie Chambers, and Will Beetham. Songs by Miss Clarke and Miss Beetham. Lyceum anniversary, Sunday, February 14th; recitations and songs were given by Lyceumists during the day. The afternoon service was conducted by Mr. Jones, as speaker, and Mrs. Wilson, as clairvoyant. In the evening a demonstration was held, the attendance was excellent and warmed the hearts of the workers. The after circle was taken by Mrs. Beetham and Mrs. Simmonds.—Ellen Savage, Secretary.

READING, THE NEW HALL (Blagrove Street).—During January the lessons given by the scholars at our Sunday afternoon sessions have shewn what progress they are making; what a grasp of the principles of Spiritualism they have, and also how well their speaking powers are developing. We held a social evening on January 25th, over a hundred scholars and friends were present, and each received a gift from the Christmas tree. Dr. Ranking's prize, "King Albert's Book," was sent to him in France, where he was on active service with the R.A.M.C. Very enjoyable social afternoons and evenings are held in the Institute every Saturday, under the capable management of Miss Lovelock.—Mrs. Street.

RISHTON (Eachill Road).—Open Session held Sunday, February 14th, which was very well attended, the following scholars helped to make it a pleasant session: Recitations by Lizzie English, Icelia Grime, Rita Omerod, Eva Dewhirst, Doris Jones, James English, and Norman Dixon; and a solo by Ivy Dixon. Marching and calisthenics were gone through, but their is room for improvement. We feel the lack of elder scholars in our school. If only we could draw them in and get them to work hand in hand in this good cause, I feel sure their help will not be in vain, but very much appreciated in our Lyceum. The harvest is great but the workers are few.—Eva Omerod, Secretary.

ROTHERHAM (Percy Street).—Open Session, February 14th. The attendance was good, and we were pleased to see a good number of the children's parents and members of our Society present. There is a little improvement in the marching and calisthenics. The individual responses beat all records this month, there being eighteen in number, all well rendered; and a duet and a solo by the adults. Space not permitting me to mention all names, but each one bore the hall mark of success, and we had one of the most harmonious afternoons I remember. We have had some excellent sessions during January, both in attendance and attention, and the three groups we have formed appear to give good satisfaction.—H. Blaymire, Secretary.

SHEFFIELD, ATTERCLIFFE.—On Sunday, February 7th, we held a splendid Open Session. Mr. A. Kitson was present, and we had a champion time together. It was the first time a lot of our Lyceumists had seen Mr. Kitson, but they all sincerely hope they will see him many times more. He gave us some very good advice, and urged us to work still harder for our noble cause. At the morning session the youngest of our Lyceumists marched, and Mr. Kitson said it was a credit to both the children themselves and the elders that were training them. On Sunday, February 14th, we held a very enjoyable session with Mr. Aaron Wilkinson, who gave clairvoyant descriptions to some of our Lyceumists.—E. Pegg, Secretary.

SHEFFIELD, HEELEY.—On Sunday, January 31st, Mr. J. J. Gibbons continued the subject commenced in the Liberty Group on a previous Sunday, the paper being on "Is there an after-life for animals?" There were many adult friends present with us, including Mr. Hanson G. Hey, and a most interesting time was spent. On Sunday, February 7th, we held our Open Session. There was a moderate attendance. The following Lyceumists gave recitations: Alice Whitehead, Hilda Furniss, Eunice Hempstock, Mr. H. Bowmer, G. Porter, Hugh Cecil Truelove, Arthur Oliver, J. Porter, W. Bowmer. Misses Alice and Bertha Alton gave duet, "Rest for the Weary." On Sundays, February 14th and 21st, Mr. H. Bodsworth conducted the Liberty Group in his usual able manner.—G. Stevenson, Secretary.

SOUTH SHIELDS (Fowler Street).—We had a successful anniversary on February 7th and 14th. Recitations were given by Mona Dagg, Harriet and Mary Elliot, Georgina Frazer, Hilda and May Galley, Isabel Knox, Eliza Patterson, Ethel Short, George Ainley, William Berry, and George Patterson. Solos by Isabel Knox and George Ainley. We were indebted to Mr. A. Todd, South Shields, for his solos,

and to Miss Bogue, Gateshead, elocutionist. Mrs. MacDonald, Benwell, presided the first Sunday, and Mr. Badesey, North Shields, the second. We had a string quartette—violins, cello, and bass—of professional musicians, and this helped the singing immensely. Four of the Lyceumists went the next Sunday to South Eldon Street, and took part in a United Lyceum Demonstration there.—N. E. Ainley, Secretary.

SOUTH SHIELDS (South Eldon Street).—On February 7th we were visited by the adjudicator. Good session. Very wet day, but fair attendance of scholars. February 14th visited by District Visitor and consort; both gave us encouraging addresses. February 21st, United Lyceum Session in the afternoon, and in the evening, to a crowded and appreciative audience, presided over by Mr. Ridley, conductor of Fowler Street Lyceum. Recitations by Mona Dagg, Georgina Frazer, Isabel Knox, Dolly Terry, Nora Mengel, Eddy Palmer, Madge Palmer, Janet and Amy Large, Geo. Ainley, and Geo. Lavery. Solos by Winnie Dietz, Alice Barnaby, Janet Large, Amy Large, Lily Parker, Eliza Woodall, Isabella Woodall, Elsie Wilson, Doris Wilson, John Parker. Geo. Ainley as reader, and Isabel Knox as soloist, rendered Musical Reading 207 very effectively.—Wm. Woodall.

SOWERBY BRIDGE.—On Sunday, February 7th, we held our Open Session. The golden chain was conducted by Mrs. Rowson, who also gave a few remarks on same. Mr. S. Stansfield conducted the marching and calisthenics, after which we had a duet rendered by Misses N. Butterworth and C. Thorpe; recitations by Maggie Warrington, Susannah Bottomley, John Whiteley and Marjorie Robinson. Mr. Frank Hynes, of Leeds, the speaker for the day, was also with us and gave the Lyceum some splendid thoughts and encouragement to keep the flag of the Lyceum and Spiritualism flying.—William Rowson, Sec.

TODMORDEN, ROOMFIELD BUILDINGS (Halifax Road).—On Sunday, February 7th, we held our Open Session, when the following items were rendered:—Recitations, Misses Doris and May Ashworth; solos by Misses E. and C. Howarth, and Lily Wilkinson; duet by Miss C. Howarth and M. E. Wilkinson; and Misses E. Howarth and D. M. Ashworth. It was a very instructive and enjoyable session.—Edward Ashworth, President.

WARRINGTON.—On Sunday, February 7th, we held an Open Session for the purpose of distributing prizes to Lyceumists for regular attendance during 1914. There was a good congregation of friends, who were cordially invited to witness the Lyceum session. Mrs. Amy Williams was successful in giving a few clairvoyant delineations. Prizes were earned by the following:—Leonard Tanner, Harold Tanner, Arthur Churm, Jack Dolphin, James Parr, Lilian Tanner, Edith Dutton, Minnie Nightingale, Florence Nightingale, Maggie Randles, Miss Dolphin, Miss Parr, Miss Roberts, Thomas Dolphin, Mr. Dolphin, Mr. Foster, Arthur Foster. Mrs. Amy Williams kindly presented the prizes, and gave a few words of good advice to each recipient. This brought an enjoyable afternoon to a close.—A. Foster, Secretary.

WELLINGTON, N.Z.—On Sunday, December 13th, the Lyceum bid farewell to Mrs. Harris-Roberts, on the occasion of her returning home to Auckland. She has been our platform speaker for the past nine months, and during that time has worked very hard and attached herself to every one. She is practically the Mother of Spiritualism throughout New Zealand, and a thorough upholder of the cause. At the conclusion of a farewell speech, she presented each child with a handsome book of pearls, and the Treasurer (Mrs. Miles) with a Spiritualist's badge of silver. The Lyceum, in return, gave her a No. 5 *Manual* and a Lyceum badge, with which she was greatly pleased.—Alfred G. Miles, Secretary.

WINDHILL (Schoolhill).—We held our Open Session on Sunday, February 7th, when a very enjoyable time was spent. There was a good attendance, but there is room for more. After the usual chain recitations, readings of great interest were given by Mrs. Copley, Misses N. and Ivy Alderson, Mr. A. Bickel and Mr. Harrison. Recitations by Masters W. Alderson and E. Clark. Solos by Misses Gott, N. Alderson, Ivy Halestone and Mr. Harrison. Unity is strength.—Miss Gott, Secretary.

WINNIPEG (Polson Avenue).—On Sunday, February 7th, we held our Open Session, and I am sorry to say we did not have our usual good attendance, as quite a number of our Lyceumists were sick. We had recitations by the following:—Violet Vernon, Ruby Spenceley and Jonina Somalidsom; and we were also favoured with a reading by Miss Anderson, entitled "The Star of the Lily." At the evening service the Lyceum gave a service of song, entitled "Unseen hands," being read by our Conductor, Mr. John Parkinson, and I believe it was enjoyed by all.—Edith Vernon, Secretary.