

THE LYCEUM BANNER

A SPIRITUALIST MAGAZINE FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

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

Vol. XXV. No. 292.

MAY, 1915.

THREE HALF-PENCE.

Lyceum Banner Portrait Gallery.

Mr. John Marston (Stockport).

The chosen subject for this month was born at a small village on the borders of Shropshire, on Dec. 23rd, 1850. The district being agricultural, he early learnt the art of farming. After about five years of school, he was apprenticed to learn joinery and wheelwright work. He remained in the district until he was twenty years of age.

During this time he was an attendant at the Primitive Methodist Sunday School, as a scholar. He often remarks that the principles of right, taught by those earnest country people helped him to work for the well-being of his fellow workers.

After serving his apprenticeship, he obtained work in the waggon works at Shrewsbury. When about twenty-four years of age, he helped to form a Trade Union branch of his trade and became the Secretary. Some years after he was drafted to work on the railway in Stockport. Joining the branch of Railway Servants, he was soon elected the Secretary. It was owing to his activity as a Trade Unionist that he was victimised; from 20 members his branch had over 400 members when his forced retirement from railway work took place. Not only were his efforts for helping to organise workers, but he found time to be the secretary for the I.L.P., when it was first formed.

About that time, some twenty-three years ago, he and his family removed, and had for their neighbours a family of Spiritualists. Shortly after, the children from the next door took his youngest daughter (who was not quite five years old) with them to the Lyceum. The child was so pleased, and her description so different from the Sunday School attended by her brothers and sisters, that her elder sister went and was so pleased with the session that they both became scholars. Her two brothers, after the Wesleyan School was over, attended the Lyceum. Both being together, and the Lyceum not starting

until 10-30, it was possible to have early marks at both places.

Naturally, the feeling of curiosity was aroused in their parents; so at the first Open Session our subject was critically examining the whole of the session. A lady medium gave a few clairvoyant descriptions and so impressed his mind that he and his wife paid a visit. From the advice given by mediums, and the pamphlets obtained at the bookstall, after a few weeks a circle was formed in his own home. Mrs.

Marston soon developed to be a test medium, and along with the natural gift of clairvoyance abundant proof was given.

When satisfied by the phenomena obtained in his home he became a member of the Stockport Spiritualist Society (since renamed the Central Society). The Lyceum was short of workers and funds so there was scope for his organising abilities. Along with the late Mr. Thomas Edwards, who was the conductor, they promoted concerts, dances and operettas, Mr. Edwards painting the scenery (although a stonemason), Mr. Marston doing the joinery work.

Intense interest was thus created among the Lyceumists, and at the same time funds were made to carry on Lyceum work. At the first opportunity he was made secretary, then a leader, afterwards the assistant conductor. When time had qualified him to be an officer of the society, he was elected the financial secretary; then in turn, vice-president and president. The Society was short of funds and he volunteered to be the caretaker, with the aid of his family, until the Society was able to pay for one. For years Mr. Edwards and himself were the recognised heads of the Lyceum. They were ably assisted by the elder Lyceumists. Some nine years ago, Mr. Edwards became ill and wished to resign. Instead of appointing a successor, Mr. Marston filled the breach until the change took place, when he was unanimously elected the conductor.

About three years ago there was a large influx of new members in the Society who did not like the Lyceum managing its own affairs. They imposed un-



satisfactory restrictions, and would not conciliate with the Lyceumists. Through this, Mr. Marston resigned from the Society.

A meeting of Lyceumists was called in his home, and the elder Lyceumists decided to rent a hall, and at the same time subscribed funds to buy chairs and books. Rules were made so that it should always be controlled by Lyceumists for Lyceum work and the philosophy of Spiritualism. The title given it, was the "Stockport Spiritual Lyceum Church." Mr. Marston, assisted by the male Lyceumists, made a platform, cupboard, seats, tables, trestles, and boarded the floor. They also beautified the room, whilst the ladies made goods and sold them to assist the funds. At the present time, Mr. Marston is not the conductor, that office being filled by his daughter, who has been the guardian, a leader and assistant conductor. Another daughter has been the guardian, and also a leader; this is the one who first went, and as he says: "A little child shall lead them." Two of his sons have worked for the Lyceum, one being a leader; the other also was a leader, and for many years the secretary. He has been ably assisted by his wife, who has given her services as a medium, and thus raised money for the work. Mr. Marston at present holds the office of D.V. for the Stockport District, having been appointed eight years ago. In conclusion, he desires to place on record his heartiest thanks to the workers in his own Lyceum; to those in his district, and to the general body of workers in the country, his closing message to all Lyceumists being, "The Workers Win!"

H.J.

[A portrait and sketch of Mr. Frank Grayson Clarke (Brighton) will appear in our next issue.—ED.]

IN THE DREAM CITY.

One night I dreamed a dream. In it I beheld a city, wherein all men were as brothers, and all women were as sisters, and brothers and sisters they were to each other.

Before I entered into the city a strange thing took place. I had been alone toiling along a road paved with precious metals. The houses were built of marble and granite, inlaid with costly stones and furnishing. Everything bespoke of wealth and riches. Yet the inmates of this wealthy city wore upon their faces lines of discontent, anger, hatred, and remorse. Each glared at the other with looks of jealousy and hatred.

There was no love in this "City of Riches" as was this city called.

Having toiled through this "City of Riches" I came into another city.

The streets were narrow, the gutters ran with blood and filth. The dwellings of the people were small and squalid, mis-shapened were the people that lived there, drunkards, gamblers, bettors and brawlers of every description, clad in garments tattered and filthy of various hues and dyes and reeking with unhealthy odours.

I sat me down upon a barren rock on the outskirts of this "City of Discord," I wept and gazed around me over the still death-like plain. I wept for those poor souls so low and unholy, I wept also, for myself. I had come from riches down to poverty. I would take no road home, for there was that one only way. Yet, I would stay where I was, I would die.

How cruel, how hard and cold, the word "Death" sounded then, as I was, alone, fighting against the temptation of riches and the environment of darkness and wickedness. No friends were there to guide my faltering steps, and my weary desolate way.

As I sat brooding over these troubles which before had never crossed my path, but which now seemed to engulf my whole life, there appeared before me three men, each man the counterpart of the other.

Long cloaks of grey clothed them from head to foot. I looked upon them perplexed, for I had seen none approach, and they had appeared so suddenly.

"Take from us, one for your Guide."

"How am I to know whom to choose?"

"I am Guide to the "City of Riches," where all shall spend their lives in luxury and ease. I can give you all you ask and all you may desire. If you choose me you will never want."

So saying the Guide stepped back and the second spoke:

"I am Guide to the "Lower Regions," where Law doth not interfere. All persons live at ease. We do just as we please. If you take me, you will have no more care or worry, for this I see is the cause of your great grief."

He likewise retreated and the third Guide came forward and said unto me:—

"I am he whom they call "Death," choose me or not as you please. But take no rash choice lest you repent."

With these words he retreated also, and I shivered at his harsh words, so I called to the second Guide and said:—

"Drop thy mantle and reveal thyself."

Instantly he approached and dropped his mantle.

This Guide presented a wholly indifferent aspect. He wore a loose tunic of some white coarse material which fell to his ankles, a girdle of twine bound his waist. Heavy shoes protected his large ungainly feet.

The man himself, stood about five feet in height and was of powerful build. The face was square of features, large and heavy about the jaws. His eyes were small and keen. He gave me the impression of repugnance, he was so animal-like.

"Go," I said, no longer able to bear his gaze. He laughed mockingly and instantly vanished.

"Do you reveal yourself," I said unto the first speaker, and he likewise stepped forward and let his mantle fall to the ground.

He stood forth and bowed in an easy graceful way. He was the most beautiful man I had ever seen: His limbs were perfect, the skin was smooth and soft as velvet, his hair long and silky and raven-black in colour. His eyes were like stars, so brilliantly did they shine. Around his form was a mantle of rich cardinal velvet, bordered with gold, while his belt was inlaid with costly stones and pearls.

Yet there was something about him that made me hesitate; he became impatient. On beholding this I waited more, and I noted his face was undergoing a great change: his mouth had become hard, his eyes grew cold, and they lost their lustre: he clenched his fists: and at length he spoke in so changed a tone that I was surprised.

"Have you decided? For I must wait not for they that hesitate. Hesitate and you are lost and never become wealthy."

"If that is so, you may depart, I care not to go with you," I said, and hardly were the words spoken before he too had vanished.

"You have but two alternatives. One is that you come with me, or stay forever where you are. Which do you choose, speak and fear not."

Well might I fret and ponder. Long I sat there hesitating, still undecided, yet that Guide moved not. From behind that grey veil I could hear the sound of regular deep breathing.

Death seemed so very patient, and the world grew dark and cold as the sun set behind the far distant and hazy mountains.

"Cast off thy disguise, O! Death, for I am weary, and thou shalt be my Guide," I answered at length, weary of myself.

Slowly he drew off that veil, revealing a head crowned with a halo of beautiful radiance. His hair was wavy, soft and silky, in colour a rich golden brown. His forehead was high and noble. His brow soft and in colour as his hair. The eyes they overshadowed were large and lustrous, shining brilliantly with love. His nose was refined, the mouth soft and reassuring with lips well modelled.

A smile dawned upon them as he continued to dis-mantle himself.

At length the mantle fell, and before me stood "Death" in all his radiance, clothed in a garment of misty flowing drapery. His bare feet were protected by sandals.

I could hardly believe my eyes, I watched enchanted by the magnificence of my Guide. But even as I watched he grew more beautiful. Presently he stepped forward: held out his beautiful bare arms and said:—

"They who are not afraid of Death shall henceforth live in Love and Peace. You choose your Guide according to your own life on the mundane sphere. Arise, and come along with me."

I arose and placed my hands in the palms of his. Instantly I was a new being. My whole soul thrilled within me. Never had I felt so wonderful happy. No earthly sorrow could affect me now.

The Guide had folded me to his breast and we were slowly gliding forth to another world.

Soon he released me. I stood for some moments as if dazed. Then I looked at my Guide. I was able to read his very soul. Then it was that I recognised my ideal man,—the man I had so often wished to meet, but hitherto never found. Health, strength and beauty all moulded into a man.

I looked about me, the Guide took my hand, I had no need of speech. He led me into a palace which stood before us. It was little more than a gallery. The walls were hung with pictures, live, real, natural, and as I walked from one room to another, I went once again over my past life. For every picture was but a reflection of a deed done in my life before.

I shrank at the sight of many. Some selfish, wayward, passionate, all were there. But as I passed on from one room to another, the largest gallery held the pictures of my thoughts, I saw them all, many I would have given much to undo.

We next passed out of the portico into the sunlit street, into the square. In the centre of which was a beautiful fountain, around it were statues of Love, Peace, Truth, Harmony, and surmounted by Justice.

Around the basin of the fountain were people of every nationality, who had also their various pets. Men were to be seen arm in arm. Old parents leaning upon their dutiful children for support. Families were one with another.

I turned to my Guide and thanked him. He smiled and said simply:

"I have walked with you through the dim, dark alleys of poverty and suffering. Likewise through the sunshine and flowery walks of Wealth. Now you have but to thank the Father of all. Thank Him with heart and soul and remain eternally in Love and Peace. 'Fare you well and Peace be with you.'"

The Guide was gone. I awoke. Dawn had come. I arose and thanked my Heavenly Father and henceforth shall I remember my dream.

PROGRESS.

Leaves of Liberty, No. 2.

[NOTE.—The following Essay on the Human Mind is printed as a "sample sheet," referred to in the Sub-Committee on Education report, to enable the delegates to determine their educational value.—EDITOR.]

THE HUMAN MIND.

The mind is centred in the brain. Human beings stand at the apex of the animal kingdom as a self-conscious personality.

A brute is capable of thought, but does not form abstract ideas. The hive bee always builds its cell six-sided and of the same dimensions. A beaver always dams a river in the same manner. Every kind of insect, bird and beast builds or burrows its home in a similar way to those of the specie it belongs to. An ox will trample on a daisy and not recognize its beauty, yet it has the sense to avoid the buttercup as a food.

A man is able to mould his home according to his wishes, and recognizes the beauty and formation of flowers and other beautiful aspects of life. He symbolizes letters, writes words and sentences and interprets them by reading, through his power of speech.

Mind is the greatest evolutionary force on earth; the epitome and crown of life: without mind the world would be a great clod of unknowable matter. It is written that Alexandra, a great conquering soldier, once met and talked with an old philosophic thinker, named Diogenes. When he was asked by Diogenes what he would like to have been, if he had not been a great conqueror, the soldier replied, "I would like to have been Diogenes, the philosopher." He realized it was better to be a thinker than a conqueror.

The mental powers of an animal are governed by instinct. Many of the almost-human powers occasionally displayed are through contact with humans. When a stableman has not fed his horse at the proper time, the animal has been known to unlock the door leading to the corn-bin, pass through the opened doorway, feed itself and return to the stable to surprise the negligent horsekeeper when he came to fulfil his duties. No horse has ever been known to lock the door again on its return. Even this could be performed, if taught by a human, but the knowledge of the man must first impart it to the brain of the horse.

The general aspect of mental activities may be divided into phases: understanding, comparison, specialization, generalization, judgment and reason.

The power of understanding enables us to observe, experiment, collect and deduce opinions. The prin-

ciples of understanding are proven facts and possible theories. The investigation of mental forces must have truth for its object, and logic for its guide. Truth is the fundamental principle of a known natural law. Logic is the art of inferential reasoning where definite truths are not displayed.

The power of comparison is the capability to discern the similarity or difference of objects. Two men may walk through a park. One of the men walks along, sees the flowers and trees, knows through his animal instinct (the human being belongs to the animal kingdom) the different colours and smell of the flowers, and yet is not humanly interested in their growth. The second man comes along and looks at the flowers and trees. He finds the flowers of the same formation vary in colour, flowers of the same colour vary in formation, and there is a difference in the leaves of the trees, etc. This man has comparison in his nature and he has a deeper interest in life than the instinctive, unthinking man who preceded him.

The power of specialization belongs to the class of beings who fix their minds on one subject, to the exclusion of all other subjects. Different schools of thought exist for religion, philosophy, science, art, poetry, literature, music, ethics, etc. All these schools have their zealots who have devoted their lives in the pursuit of a given object. Other people have followed the specialists, formed abstract ideas in their minds, based upon distorted aspects of the truth, as revealed by the narrow concept of men whose visions have become distorted through having too narrow a view of life.

The power of generalization enables men to rise from particular facts, cease to study them specially, and group them as part of an evolutionary process in nature. We are thus able to group thoughts and things under one head. Newton saw an apple fall. Gravitation solved a great astronomical problem. Few men to-day would group these things under one head, yet Newton saw the relationship. Darwin stands out as one of the greatest generalizers the world has yet produced. This aspect of mental force is the best an individual can adopt with which to study life and personality with a view to growth on natural tendencies.

The power of judgment pronounces definitely on certain truths, depends upon experience, necessitates knowledge and a development of the mental powers already explained before a fact can be stated. Theories, judged by the knowledge of past experience, are not always reliable, as new laws, operating through nature in general and humans in particular, are constantly being revealed. Theories thus give way to fact, and progress in human thought and knowledge ensues.

The power of reason is an intellectual development of comparison. Its aspect is reflective power to deduce the value of action. Men invent a tram-car or a train and almost cease to walk, invent an alarm clock and burn midnight oil, invent machines and engines and shorten human-life by drawing the people from the country to the towns. The reasonable men have reflective power, which enables them to search results back to their causes, making the inventions and discoveries useful and helpful to their progress. Reason is the universal exponent of natural emancipation from specialized bigotry and misdirected authority.

Ideas always come first. Whatever a man makes, it is always a thought before it is a thing. "The

steam-engine," says Emerson, "is a great idea expressed in iron; it ran in the thinker's brain before it ran on rails." Every monument, cathedral, painting, poem or oratorio was first a mental picture or an imagination. From the cradle to the grave we are, or should be, scholars, self-culture should be the aim of every mind. Have faith in your own faculties! Have regard to your own attributes! Keep a free and open mind! Observe and meditate. Study the body and mind, its environing influences, our country, the world, the system of worlds and suns. This induction of thought, speech and knowledge will give power to overcome difficulties and pave the way for a life of beauty, harmony and love.

Correspondence.

OUR PORTRAIT GALLERY.

I was pleased with the portrait in the April BANNER, and very interested with the way Mr. Smith came into the Spiritualist movement. I know he has officiated at two weddings and two funerals; and if ever he is absent from the Lyceum or Church (which is very rare) you can hear the members remark: "Its funny without Joe." He never has missed a Teeside District Council meeting. LYCEUM BANNERS containing such portraits and sketches of our workers should sell well. I wish you every success.

A LYCEUM WORKER.

Our Book Table.

CLAIRVOYANCE, price 6d, by J. Bronterre Tetlow, 7, Ruskin Avenue, Moss Side, Manchester. This pamphlet of 40 pages is divided into three sections as follows: How do we see? How to see. What is seen? Mr. Tetlow is a clairvoyant and a student of clairvoyance of many years' standing. The pages are replete with evidence of his wide researches among the best writings of professed authorities on this most interesting phase of spirit manifestations, which are carefully analysed, aided and guided by his own wide experience. Rules are given for the development and practise of clairvoyance which will be found of great help to the student. Members of Liberty Groups and Study Groups will do well to add this little book to their list of text books.

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.

Mrs. Ellen Mason, Stretham, Ely, formerly of Burnley, passed to the higher life on April 7th. Mr. William Mason, the husband, is a Past-President.

YORK.—Clive, the beloved son of Mr. and Mrs. Matthews, age 8 months, passed into spirit life on March 23rd. Mr. Apedaile officiated.

SCARBOROUGH.—In loving memory of Mrs. Bowdon, our oldest Lyceumist, who passed to the higher life May 28th, 1913. Mrs. Coutts and family.

SCARBOROUGH.—In loving memory of Mrs. Davison, our beloved Treasurer, who passed to the higher life May 4th, 1914. From the Lyceum.

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—

There is not space enough for us this month to do more than have a brief chat—as a glance at the many very important things in our BANNER will show you. Therefore, I'll just "say a short say" and then bid you au revoir until next month, but with the promise that then you shall have a story.

This past month has brought me one, two, three, four really nice "blue-bell-y" letters, and cheered me up very much, for they have made me feel that some interest is, after all, taken by some members. What of our nearly four thousand other members! Come along, Bluebells, wake up and be active as your name-sakes now are. Let us all hear from you very soon; tell us about yourselves, your friends, your district, your Lyceum, and its work and concerts, guilds, rambles, etc., etc., tell us of your pets and their doings, any incident you've noticed of someone practising our motto, etc., etc. Surely you won't plead now that you would write but you "don't know what to talk about"!

Letter number one this month brought us six new members from Southport, and reads:—

"Dear Flora Belle,—Here are a few names of members of our Lyceum (Hawkshead Hall, Southport), in whom I have awakened an interest in your "Bluebell Guild." They are quite eager to become Bluebells, so will you please accept them as such.

From your loving Bluebell,

E. JESSOP."

That shows real energy and interest, and I thank our Bluebell for such real help; and heartily welcome the new members to our ranks.

Then from Hull came a letter with ten new names, and to you, Queenie, also, I give my sincere thanks, and greet the members and welcome them. You might encourage them, for me, to write to "Our Page" at times; and, of course, to take the BANNER regularly and read our chat.

"Dear Flora Belle,—I am sending you a few of our Lyceumists' names who wish to join the Bluebell Guild. There are only ten but I hope to send a few more yet, although a good number did join a few years back at the same time as myself. They are from Hull, Holborn Hall Lyceum.

At our Lyceum we are practising for Lyceum Sunday, which is on the second Sunday in June. I don't think I have any more to write just now, but I hope to be able to write again very soon if you do not mind.

I remains yours sincerely,

QUEENIE WILSON."

I hope the "Lyceum Sunday" will be a very great success; and of course write to me again; I shall be most pleased to hear from you.

The third letter was from our next new member herself, whom I welcome sincerely, and thank for her gratifying letter, and trust we may soon have another letter from her.

"Dear Flora Belle:—Having two friends in the Guild, I thought I would like to become a member. I attend the Slaithwaite Lyceum, and read the "Bluebells' Page" every month, being greatly interested in the stories and letters from other Bluebells. I have long entertained a desire to become a Bluebell.

I am, yours truly,

LILIAN KENNEDY."

Our fourth and last letter was one more from our Bluebell, Annie Coldwell. Many thanks, Annie, for again writing, and all best wishes for the success of the Service of Song and Anniversary.

"Dear Flora Belle,—We are going to have a "Service of Song" entitled "Spring Flowers," in the afternoon; and an open session in the evening, of April 25th—our Lyceum Day—and it is expected to be a success. We are having our Anniversary on June 6th.

I hope you had a joyful Easter.

I remain, your loving Bluebell,

ANNIE COLDWELL."

With all loving greetings and good wishes from your sister,

FLORA BELLE.

SOUTHPORT LYCEUM.

3827	Blanche Hardy.	3830	Nora Fletcher.
3828	Clara Hardy	3831	Ivy Leech.
3829	Dulcie Hardy.	3832	Mrs. Peel.

HULL LYCEUM.

3833	Annie Brown.	3838	Maggie Parsons.
3834	Doris Ness.	3839	Edward Thurloe.
3835	Charlie Tyler.	3840	Elsie Headley.
3836	Nancy Tyler.	3841	Milly Leng.
3837	Alice Hammond.	3842	Milly Graham.

SLAITHWAITE LYCEUM.

3843 Lilian Kennedy.

For the Boys.

Conducted by Geo. Fred Knott.

MY DEAR CHUMS,

I have been asked by numerous chums to give you some more puzzles. As this issue deals very largely with Conference details of a serious nature, I am devoting the whole of our space to puzzles consisting in every case of names of Lyceums.

You will find all the hidden names for the following 26 Lyceums in the printed list at the back of this paper. See how many you can find. Here they are:

1. A sleigh-horse decoration and what we all break each morning.
2. A colour and something caused by fire.
3. One of the main parts of a ship.

4. A religious leader and a place of worship.
5. The cry of a sheep and a drinking vessel.
6. A small flower and a small mountain.
7. A boy's name.
8. Seven trawlers and a piece of timber.
9. A sudden call and a small forest.
10. What did Guy Fawkes do?
11. Something small and another name for a town.
12. A large building in Lancaster and stepping-stones across a river.
13. A twig and a meadow.
14. The name of a number of sailors working together.
15. A church dignitary and a town in New Zealand.
16. A fond daughter and a heavy weight.
17. A great admiral.
18. Something not new and part of a pig.
19. Another name for William the Conqueror and the opposite of not.
20. The handle of a whip and a haven of ships.
21. What stands at the entrance of a park?
22. To what horses do, add what they eat.
23. Place before a heavy weight what it can do.
24. Something you are doing with the BANNER now.
25. A boy's name from over the sea.
26. An historical General.

The following letters when transposed also form the names of Lyceums :

1. Notory.
2. Ruby.
3. Allwartents.
4. Restweinch.
5. Abeghjnnorsu.

The following contain the names of prominent workers in the movement :

1. Cikrsve.
2. Kosint.
3. Shep.
4. Hitwgr.

Can you explain this:—

yyuryyubicuryyiforme.

Now! boys, see how many of the hidden words you can find and send your solution to your sincere chum,

GEO. FREDK. KNOTT,
22, Gowers Street, Rochdale.

JUST ONE WORD.

What can it matter in a little while
That for a day
We met and gave a word, a touch, a smile,
Upon the way?
What will it matter whether hearts were brave
And lives were true,
That you gave me the sympathy I crave,
As I gave you?
These trifles! Can it be they make or mar
A human life?
Are souls as lightly swayed as rushes are
By love or strife?
Yea, yea! A look the fainting heart may break
Or make it whole?
And just one word, if said for love's sweet sake,
May save a soul.

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, neé Shelhamer, who has kindly given her permission for their reproduction in "The Lyceum Banner."

(Continued from page 58, April issue).

In a moment the scene changed; the features of the sleeping girl resumed their natural appearance, but for an instant only. Before any word could be spoken by the astonished spectators, they beheld a sight which electrified their hearts, and—as soon as they could comprehend it—filled them with the keenest rapture; none other than the well-remembered face of their darling Lucy, whom they had long mourned as lost to them, gazed upon them with an expression of the most angelic love and peace.

In a little while the spirit gained power to speak to her parents, assuring them of her presence with them from the day of her physical decease—of her endeavours to announce herself to them, relating scenes in the spirit world, and speaking of her home of light there. Thus did she continue until the shades of doubt, perplexity, and incredulity faded from the father's face, until the sensation of terror vanished from her mother's heart, when, with a tender caress to both parents, she bade them adieu. You can imagine the rapture and happiness which dawned upon the household at this revelation of life and love from beyond the grave. Words fail to express the joy they felt; it must be experienced to be fully appreciated.

In a little time it became almost a daily occurrence for Katy Morrow to be controlled by some dear spirit from whose lips the Aikens received many lessons and instruction and benefit. Their darling child was enabled to explain the past, and her efforts to reach them. Not only this bright spirit, and Mr. and Mrs. Morrow, came with messages of love and advice, but other dear ones also manifested their presence, until it seemed that the gates of heaven were indeed opened and the angels were thronging through.

No happier home is to be found anywhere than that of the Aikens. From the experiences of the past they have learned many lessons. As benefactors to the needy and suffering they are widely known, for they delight to use their wealth for good, under the direction of their angel friends; while Katy Morrow is looked upon by all as the favoured daughter of a most happy and lovable couple.

EXPERIENCES IN SPIRIT LIFE.

In my investigations into the mode and manner of living beyond earth's portals, and in my desire to gain knowledge of spiritual things, I have visited many places, witnessed varied scenes,—some strange, others familiar,—and have interviewed a number of spirits in regard to their own experiences. A portion of the information thus acquired I purpose to transcribe for my readers.

I do not think that mortals,—even well-educated Spiritualists, realise fully that all around them spirits live, that the very atmosphere pressing around them is peopled by human, conscious, individual beings, each intent upon his or her own work, purpose, or mission,

be it good, or be it ill. While this is true, it is also true that the spirit world has its localities, its homes distinct from your homes, its natural scenery, and its places of interest; its life is as real, and its inhabitants pass through many and varied experiences, even as do the people of earth.

The various classes of spirits near the earth.

In passing, let me simply state that those spirits who people the earth around you, who dwell in earthly homes and pursue a labour in connection with material life, are not all attracted to the earth by the same conditions. Some of these spirits are bound to physical life because of the grossness of their inner natures; their joy is found in pursuing carnal pleasures; they have no desire to rise above the conditions of matter. A portion of the spirits dwelling near the earth are held by the selfish affection of their mortal friends who cling to them—if only in memory—with a passionate sorrow and despair that will not let them rise above the earthly sphere; and for a time such spirits remain in contact with material life, because they yet lack the power to rise above its conditions. Others find their work and pass a large part of their existence here, in connection with the physical, in doing good, ministering to the spiritual necessities as well as labouring for the alleviation of the physical wants and sorrows of suffering humanity. And so you have a world within a world, as it were, right here, and a double life pulsating, where you only perceive the manifestations of the external; and those of you whose aspirations are holy, whose desire is to be of use in the world, who strive to do right, attract the good spirits to your side; they come to gain magnetic strength from your lives, which ennoble them to resist the friction of material conditions while pursuing their labours for others, and at the same time they impart a blessing of peace to your souls. Often do you entertain unaware pure and silent guests, who watch you with their loving eyes and read your hearts with unerring precision.

(To be continued).

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TO THE CONFERENCE, MAY, 1915.

We have pleasure in submitting the following report of our work during the year.

Hymn Sheets and Music.—In accordance with instructions received at the Glasgow Conference, a selection of hymns has been made from the Spiritual Songster and issued in 11 sheets. No. 11 is double size. These have been published and offered at popular prices.

Parliamentary Rules have been carefully compiled, and two copies sent to each Lyceum of good financial standing with the above Union. Extra copies may be had on application to the General Secretary.

Educational Committee.—In accordance with resolution passed at 1914 Conference an education sub-committee was formed from E.C. members. A report of its deliberations will be submitted to you.

S.N.U. Conference, 1914.—Your two representatives to the conference of our National body, held at Manchester, July, 1914, were cordially invited to a seat on the platform, one of whom was given an opportunity of addressing the evening Mass Meeting.

Finance.—The accounts are presented in a new form, mainly through the efforts of the treasurer and both auditors, to whom our thanks are due. We trust the same will be satisfactory to the Conference. Attention is drawn to one item. The adverse balance in last year's General Fund Account of £156 7s. 7d. does not obtrude so largely, but the causes which brought it about are still in operation and need your careful consideration, so that ways and means may be adopted, unanimously, to remedy the leakage, when the constitution comes under revision in 1917. The adverse balance referred to is brought about through heavy charges being made on the General Fund, in carrying out important work, authorising to be done, in promulgating the aims and objects of the Union, viz., (a) Quarterly business and propaganda meetings by the E.C., the collections taken up falling short of expenses incurred, e.g., travelling, printing, posting, etc.; (b) Conference liabilities, which also are not covered by the collections, (c) travelling expenses of your District Visitors, some of which far exceed the contributions paid to the Union.

We suggest a full consideration of these facts and the following propositions may help to bring about a remedy; *firstly*, whether it would be advisable for Lyceums desiring the assistance of the D.V.'s to pay expenses of such visits—the Union being responsible for expenses incurred in opening, or re-opening Lyceums. *Secondly*, the holding of E.C. Meetings at a suitable centre for business purposes only; *thirdly*, conferring expenses to Conferences to E.C. members, *fourthly*, reducing the number of members on the E.C. to its previous strength, viz., eight; *lastly*, raising the affiliation fee sufficiently to meet the expenses.

Other schemes may be evolved from the foregoing and something definite be prepared for the Conference of 1917.

Lapsed Lyceums.—Eleven Lyceums have lapsed during the year, as follows:—Blackburn (Northgate), Earlestown (Market Street), Bradford (Shirley Road), Crompton, Dundee (Barrack Street), Hindley, Newcastle (Royal Arcade), Portsmouth, Sheffield (Meersbrook), Stalybridge (Bennett Street), and Todmorden (Eagle Street), withdrawn. We are hopeful that several of the above will be open at an early date. Crompton Lyceum seeks a suitable hall. The Lyceumists of Dundee, Newcastle, and Sheffield Lyceums, are attending other Lyceums until such times as they can re-assemble in their own halls. Stalybridge lost a faithful and devoted conductor when Mr. J. Croasdale passed away, and the Lyceum lapsed in consequence, while the one at Todmorden continues to do good work.

New Lyceums.—Twenty-three new Lyceums have been enrolled, viz., Belfast, Birmingham (Handsworth), Bradford (Harker Street), Brighton (Windsor Street), Burton-on-Trent, Chester, Douglas, Glasgow (W. Campbell Street), Krugersdorp, Leeds (Bethel Street), London (Battersea, Holloway, and Stratford), Manchester (Gorton), Mansfield (Westgate), Normanton, Northampton, Ossett; Parkgate, Sheffield (Paradise Square), Southampton, Todmorden (Halifax Road), and Toronto. It will be noticed the Lyceum Union is represented in Ireland and the Isle of Man.

(Continued on page 77).

FOUNDED NOVEMBER, 1890, BY J. J. MORSE.
 Adopted as the Official Organ of the British Spiritualists'
 Lyceum Union, May, 1891.
 Transferred to the above Union, as a Free Gift by the Founder,
 May, 1902.
 FOUNDED NOVEMBER, 1890, BY J. J. MORSE.

THE LYCEUM BANNER:

ALFRED KITSON, Editor.

Terms to Lyceums and Societies:

Twelve copies, 10¹/₂d.; 18 copies, 1s. 4d.; 24 copies, 1s. 9d.; 36 copies, 2s. 7¹/₂d.; 42 copies, 3s.; 48 copies, 3s. 4d. All orders for four dozen copies and upwards are supplied at 10d. per dozen. All parcels sent post free. Accounts due Quarterly: March, June, September, and December.

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

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

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

SUNDAY, MAY 2ND, 1915.

Lyceum Notes and Comments.

The Lyceum Conference is drawing near. Our Attercliffe friends, along with those in the districts of Sheffield, are working most strenuously to make the gathering a success. The Conference will meet on the Saturday in the Attercliffe Spiritual Church, Bradford Street, and the tea will be served in the Vestry Hall near by. On the Sunday these arrangements will be reversed: the Conference will meet in the Vestry Hall morning and afternoon, and the dinner and tea will be served in the Spiritual Church. The evening's Mass Meeting will be held in the Attercliffe Palace Theatre, which is capable of seating 1,200.

All the Sheffield Spiritual Societies have decided to close their halls on Conference Day, and rally round the Attercliffe friends to make it a record gathering.

The Conference will be composed of the following units: Officers, 4; Members of the Executive, 8; Auditors, 2; District Visitors, 15; District Council Delegate, 11; Lyceum Delegates, 125; representing 78 Lyceums. A full agenda of the Conference business, with the various reports, will be found in the pages of this issue, the LYCEUM CONFERENCE DOUBLE NUMBER.

It will be seen on reference to the Statistical Returns that the total number of Lyceums on the Union's Roll is 200, as against 186 last year. We much regret to learn that the newly enrolled Lyceum at Brighton is declining membership on the plea that Lyceums in membership with the Lyceum Union "COULD NO LONGER BE RELATED TO THE PARENT SOCIETY." A rumour to the same effect was assiduously circulated in London some time ago, and did much harm to the movement. We give the above full publicity in order that it may be officially denied. In fact, the Executive Council welcome all Lyceums that are managed by their Societies as being less liable to upset through misunderstandings. The other Lyceums whose parent Societies decline to manage, are given Home Rule to make their own arrangements with their Societies, and urges upon both parties an honourable observance of the terms of agreement, as all strife is inimical to spiritual fellowship.

Active interest in the Lyceum movement is manifest, as the following items will show: A Lyceum was opened at Mansfield on Easter Sunday. Mr. Dobby, of Lincoln, officiating. The Hucknall Torkard Lyceum has been re-opened, and is fairly prosperous. The Mexborough Lyceum has been re-opened after a lapse of about four years. A Lyceum has been opened at Stoke-on-Trent, and also one at Witton Park, Co. Durham. The Teeside L.D.C. generously supplied them with a dozen full cloth *Lyceum Manuals*, a *Spiritual Songster*, and twenty-four copies of the LYCEUM BANNER, which cleared us out of our April issue.

Nottingham L.D.C. is in a good financial condition, having a credit balance of £3 4s. 5¹/₂d. A shortage of male officers is reported, owing to the war.

The following appeal is to hand from the Rishton Lyceum; "I have been requested by our Lyceum to put the question before you, hoping to see the answer in the LYCEUM BANNER. It is in the Golden Chain Recitation, No. 119, the third part for the Lyceum,— 'True dignity abides with him alone, who, in the silent hour of inward thought, can still suspect, and still revere himself in lowliness of heart.' "

Answer.—The theme of this G.C.R. is PRIDE, ANGER AND IGNORANCE. The sentence to which our attention is drawn, comes under "Pride." We are reminded that true "dignity" is not to be mistaken for a haughty, arrogant demeanour, which induces a feeling of undue importance, or as stated here, having their eyes ever on themselves. True dignity gives a consciousness of our divine relationship with God—the All Good, which leads us, in our quiet moments, to watch our thoughts, desires, and aspirations and check all tendencies to pride of heart, that will beget a boastful, bragging, disposition, but rather to "still revere ourselves," our attainments, positions, and talents "with lowliness of heart" as being indicative of spirituality.

In response to our appeal in last month's issue for LYCEUM BANNER HELPERS to reduce heavy charge of postage on each issue by having parcels to one town, where convenient, sent to one address and distributed to their respective Lyceum Secretaries, we are pleased to publish the following list of helpers, and would be glad to receive promise of help from other Secretaries:—

Mr. Will Swift, Accrington (Abbey Road and China Street); Mrs. Stoddart, Ashington and Hirst; Mr. Helme, Barrow-in-Furness (Abbey Road and Dalkeith Street); The Editor, Batley Carr and Dewsbury; Miss Griffen, Burnley (Hammerton Street and North Street); Mr. G. Starr Bambrick, Coventry and Foleshill; Mr. Wm. Hall, Jnr., Dunstan and Gateshead; Mr. Percy Chapman, Halifax (Alma Street and Raven Street); Mr. J. C. Thompson, Liverpool (Daulby Street and Romer Road); Mr. J. Wicks, Leicester (Queen Street and Silver Street); Mr. Alex. Dawson, Newcastle (Heaton and Byker, Rutherford Street and Wallsend); Mr. C. Peel, Nottingham (Bentinck Road, Burton Street, Hawarden Terrace, Lamartine Street and Parliament Street); Mr. Wm. Chisnall, Oldham (Coronation Street, Elliot Street and Union Street), and also Royton, (Spring Garden Street and Union Street); Mr. J. Wilson, Shildon (The Avenue and Shildon Road); Mr. Wm. Woodall, South Shields (Fowler Street and South Eldon Street).

THE LYCEUM RECITER.

MY TRIO.

I do not live a lonely life,
For in my home with me
There dwells a lovely trio—
Faith, Hope and Charity.
Each with her own peculiar charm,
To cheer my earthly lot,
And make my little home for me
The world's most pleasant spot.

When trust in all is wavering,
My Faith fulfils her part;
Her firm, reliant words dispel
The doubts within my heart.
She points toward the sunset sky;
In tones of kindest cheer
She whispers words that seem to bring
The distant heaven near.

My Hope! Ah, words could never tell
How dear she is to me!
Her sunny glances fill my soul
With nameless ecstasy.
She sheds about my path a light
Like tints of coming morn,
And, at her ringing tones, within
My soul new strength is born.

But Charity—the sweetest one
Of that sweet sisterhood—
Is ever standing by my side.
About my pathway brood
Her watchful care and tenderness,
Like angels' wings above,
And all my life is circled with
The halo of her love.

Ah, Faith! my firm, unwavering friend,
Dwell ever by my side!
Bright, laughing Hope—fair, winsome sprite,
Fore'er with me abide!
But thou, oh, tender Charity,
Of all the blessed three
Most blest, rest thou within my heart
For all eternity!

J.C.

NEVER ALONE.

Never alone through this world of woe;
Never alone, where ever I go;
Never alone the Angels keep
Watch over me, when I am asleep.

Never alone any time of the day,
Never alone when at work or play,
Never alone, why should I fear,
With Angels of God to me so near?

Never alone in sorrow and grief,
Never alone, they give me relief,
By showing me visions so bright,—
O Angels of Wisdom, Truth and Light.

Never alone, I, when tired and done,
The mortal fails to carry me on,—
Never alone, my Father above
Hath sent through my Guide this Message of Love.
Never alone, "Through water and fire
I'll be with thee" if thou desire.
Never alone, have courage, my friend;
"Thy refuge and shield I'll be to the end."
JOS. FRANCIS, Chester.

GRANDPA'S LITTLE CONSOLER.

"God hath his small interpreters,
The child must teach the man."
—Whittier.

One summer's day an aged man
Sat resting on a rustic seat;
A little girl was playing there,
With gathered daisies, at his feet.
The birds were singing madrigals,
Away up in the leafy trees;
And from the beds of scented flowers
Came murmuring music of the bees.
But such delights he did not heed;
His thoughts were soaring in the skies.
The child crept to the old man's side,
And fondly looked into his eyes;
Then took his hand, and gently said—
"Dear Grandpa, why are you so sad?
You do not talk to me to-day—
What can I do to make you glad?"
The old man turned away his head,
Awhile he brushed a tear aside.
He placed the child upon his knee,
And pressed her closely to his side.
"A year ago this day," said he,
Your dear old Grannie passed away,
My fond sweet wife, my truest friend,
And that is why I grieve to-day.
We used to sit so often here,
Together on this garden seat;
And life was joyful to us both;
But happiness, alas, is fleet!
We loved each other, Gran. and I,
And often, dear, we used to say
What close companions we should be
When we were still both old and grey.
But Grannie is an angel now,
And lives, my dear, in Summerland;
While I am waiting till we meet
Someday upon the golden strand.
But, girlie, Grandpa loves you too.
And so, whatever may betide,
Consoling hours shall yet be mine,
When you, dear child, are by my side."
"Yes, Grandpa dear," the maiden said,
"I love you greatly, as you know.
So let me sit beside you now,
As Grannie used to long ago."

H. T. WORLOW.

THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION

WILL HOLD ITS

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

On Saturday, May 22nd, in the Spiritual Church, Bradford, at 5 p.m., and on the Sunday, May 23rd, 1915, in the Vestry Hall, Attercliffe, Sheffield, at 10 a.m.

A GRAND PUBLIC MEETING will be held on the Sunday, at 6-30 p.m., in the Palace Theatre, Attercliffe Road, to be addressed by the President, President-elect, and members of the Executive Council

President: Mr. ERNEST VICKERS, Sheffield.

AGENDA.

- 1.—OPENING EXERCISES.
- 2.—APPOINTMENTS (*pro tem*).
- 3.—MINUTES OF THE LAST CONFERENCE.
4. CORRESPONDENCE.
- 5.—REPORTS (a) Annual Report, (b) LYCEUM BANNER, (c) Treasurer, (d) Permanent Secretary Fund, (e) Delegates to the S.N.U. Conference, (f) Auditors', (g) Education Sub-Committee.
- 6.—UNFINISHED BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA. Nil.
- 7.—ELECT PLACE OF NEXT CONFERENCE.
- 8.—ELECT OFFICERS.

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE.

President.

Mr. H. Hargreaves (Nelson), Mr. E. Vickers (Sheffield), Miss Alice Hesp (Leeds), Mr. George Fred. Knott (Rochdale), Mrs. Jessy Greenwood (Hebden Bridge).

Vice-President.

Miss Alice Hesp (Leeds), Mr. H. Hargreaves (Nelson), Mr. Geo. Fred. Knott (Rochdale), Mr. E. Vickers (Sheffield), Mr. J. M. Stewart (Glasgow).

Treasurer.

Mr. T. H. Wright (Sowerby Bridge), Mr. E. A. Keeling (Liverpool).

9.—EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (4 wanted).

Mr. H. Hargreaves (Nelson), Mr. Geo. Fred Knott (Rochdale), Mrs. Jessy Greenwood (Hebden Bridge), Mr. E. Vickers (Sheffield), Mrs. Pickles (Burnley), Mr. George Mathison (Birkenhead), Miss Alice Hesp (Leeds), Mr. Harry Dobby (Lincoln), Mrs. A. E. Bentley (Manchester), Miss M. L. Stair (Keighley), Mr. W. Edwards (Accrington), Mr. C. Welsh (Chesterfield), Mr. J. T. Apedaile (York), Mr. J. Sutton (Darlington), Mr. M. Clegg (London), Mr. E. A. Keeling (Liverpool), Mrs. Hogg (Hull), Mr. H. T. Batten (Bolton), Mr. D. Urquart (Dundee).

10.—AUDITOR.

Mr. Will Edwards (Accrington), Mr. A. C. Eaton (Blackpool).

11.—ELECT TWO REPRESENTATIVES TO THE SPIRITUALISTS' NATIONAL UNION CONFERENCE at Hull, on July 4th.

11A.—ELECT HON. SECRETARY TO THE P.S. FUND.

12.—NOTICE OF MOTIONS.

(1).—We, the Rotherham Progressive Lyceum, urge upon the B.S.L.U. at this Conference to pass a resolution urging upon the Government the necessity of abolishing Child Labour; also the Half-time System for School Children, and that the various Lyceums send this resolution to their members of Parliament in the Constitencies.—*H. Blaymire, Secretary.*

(2).—That the E.C. be authorised to grant to District Councils a loan of *Manuals* to assist in opening new Lyceums, and other propaganda work.—*Ed. Walsh, Secretary, Bolton L.D.C.*

(3).—That a charge of admission be made on all District Councils, and that the E.C. be instructed to fix same.—*Pendleton Lyceum.*

(4).—That a "Temperance Sunday" be held once per year, and the S.N.U., Ltd., be asked to co-operate with us on that day.—*Reg. Bowmer, Sheffield L.D.C.*

(5).—That we abolish the Permanent Secretary Fund.—*R. Ashworth, N.E.L.L.D.C.*

(6).—That we avail ourselves of the Trust Deeds of the S.N.U.—*R. Ashworth, N.E.L.L.D.C.*

7.—That we avail ourselves of the Trust Deeds of the Spiritualists' National Union, and that we appoint a sub-committee of five (5) delegates, or more, to carry the resolution into effect before the next Conference. The said sub-committee to become Trustees under the Deed, along with the Spiritualists' National Union Trustees.—*Herbert Buller, Sec., Nelson.*

NOTE.—Similar motions are to hand from Padiham, Burnley (North Street), Burnley (Hammerton Street), and Sheffield L.D.C.

(9).—That a Committee be appointed representative of the varying sections of opinion in regard to the mode or method of obtaining legal status for the Lyceum Union, for the purpose of arranging a compromise between their respective positions and thus clear the way for a satisfactory settlement of this outstanding question.—*J. C. Thompson, Daulby Street, Liverpool.*

(10).—That a special effort be made to conclude business by Sunday noon, and in the event of the success thereof, a Mass Lyceum Session be held in the afternoon; the Conductor to be appointed by the Conference.—*Executive Council.*

(11).—That the £300 in the Walsall Corporation be set aside as a guarantee or surety for the General Secretary's Salary, and the same be provided for in the Agreement.—*Executive Council.*

13.—NOTICE OF MOTIONS FOR NEXT CONFERENCE.

14.—VOTES OF THANKS to retiring Officers, Executive Council Auditor, Local Society and Lyceum.

15.—CLOSING EXERCISES.

THE NEXT ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

Lyceums desirous of inviting the Annual Conference of 1915 should do so in writing, as a verbal invitation given from the floor of the Conference cannot be accepted if there are any in writing.

CONDITIONS OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

1.—That the Lyceum Union takes all receipts and pays all expenses.

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

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

ALFRED KITSON, Gen. Secretary.

DELEGATES PLEASE NOTE.

All delegates desirous of ascertaining where they will be billeted should write to Mr. J. K. Jones, 48, Palmer Road, Attercliffe, Sheffield, and enclose a stamped addressed envelope for reply.

HOW TO REACH THE CONFERENCE.

Sheffield Lyceumists wearing the A. J. Davis Badge will be present at all the stations on the Saturday to direct delegates on arrival. Delegates should get the Tinsley car, and book to Attercliffe, Coleridge Road stopping place, which is next to Bradford Street.

WHIT-MONDAY.

A Grand Excursion is being arranged to Castleton, the beauty spot of Derbyshire.

PUBLISHING FUND ACCOUNT.

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
To Stock of Publications, etc., Decem- ber 31st, 1913 ... ..	...			287	19	11		By Manuals ... ..	...			286	12	7	
„ Printing & Binding Lyceum Manuals 156 4 0	...	156	4	0				„ Bank Interest ... ..	...	5	17	6				
„ Binding "Songsters" ... ..	...		7	10	0			„ Interest on Walsall Corporation Loan	...	9	12	6				
„ Brooch Badges. ... ..	...		79	2	2			„ $\frac{3}{4}$ of Collection for Permanent Secre- tary's Salary ... ..	...			15	10	0	
„ Leaflets and Hymn Sheets ... ..	...		4	9	6			„ Stock of Publications, etc., Decem- ber, 1914 ... ..	...			412	9	5	
„ Carriage ... ..	...		21	14	6											
„ Advert. in L.B. ... ..	...		5	0	0											
„ Insurance ... ..	...		0	6	0											
„ Bank Commission ... ..	...		0	11	6											
					274	17	8										
„ General Secretary's Salary ($\frac{3}{4}$)	...		78	0	0												
„ Rent and Lighting ... ..	...		12	14	9											
					90	14	9										
„ Balance to Accumulated Fund A/c. ...	...		78	9	3											
					£732	1	7								£732	1	7

PERMANENT SECRETARY ACCOUNT.

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
To Transfers to Publishing Fund (three- fourths) ... ..	...		17	9	7			By Donations ... ..	...	24	2	6			
„ Transfers to General Fund (one- fourth) ... ..	...		5	16	6.23	6	1	„ Less postages ... ..	...	0	16	5.23	6	1	
					£23	6	1										
To one year's Salary of Permanent Secretary	...		104	0	0			By Publishing Fund (three-fourths) ...	...			78	0	0		
					£104	0	0	„ General Fund (one-fourth) ... ..	...			26	0	0		
															£104	0	0

ACCUMULATED FUND ACCOUNT Dec. 31st, 1913.

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
To Transfer from General Fund ... ..	...		156	7	7			By Transfer from Publishing Fund ...	...			886	17	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	
„ Balance carried forward ... ..	...		1025	1	9			„ Stock of Publications, etc. ... ..	...			287	19	11	
					£1181	9	4	„ Outstanding Debts ... ..	...			6	12	1 $\frac{1}{2}$		
															£1181	9	4

ACCUMULATED FUND ACCOUNT, Dec. 31st, 1914.

Dec., 1914.		£	s.	d.	Dec., 1914		£	s.	d.			
To Balance, Deficit on General Fund A/c.	...		49	18	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	By Balance of Accumulated Fund, Dec., 1913		1025	1	9		
„ Balance to next Account		1059	12	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	„ Surplus on Lyceum Banner Fund ...		5	19	6		
						„ Surplus on Publishing Fund		78	9	3		
					£1109	10	6			£1109	10	6

LYCEUM HOME FUND.

		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.			
To Balance to next Account		102	8	2	By Balance as at December, 1913		99	18	0		
						„ Interest to December, 1914		2	10	2		
					£102	8	2			£102	8	2

BALANCE SHEET. December 31st 1914.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
To Accumulated Fund Account	1059 12 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	By Walsall Corporation Stock	300 0 0
„ Lyceum Home Fund	102 8 2	„ Stock of Publications, etc.	412 9 5
		„ Outstanding Accounts	10 7 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
		„ Cash in Bank, General Account ...	336 15 1
		„ Lyceum Home Fund	102 8 2
			439 3 3
	£1162 0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$		£1162 0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$

Audited and found correct,

27/2/1915.

THOMAS W. D. PINCOTT.
WILL EDWARDS.

} Auditors.

(Continued from page 71).

E.C. Meetings.—Your E.C. has held its quarterly meetings at the following places since last Conference: July, Leicester; October, Darlington; January, Keighley; and April, Manchester. The last named had been arranged at Peckham, London; but, consequent on the withdrawal of cheap bookings by the railway company, the officers decided to send two representatives only, viz., Miss Hesp and Mr. Knott, and thus save the Union a considerable sum in travelling expenses. Afterwards the E.C. assembled at Manchester and agreed to send the President, Mr. E. Vickers, as a further deputation.

Register of Attendances of E.C.—Possible 4. Mr. Vickers 4, Miss Hesp 4, Mr. Wright 4, Mr. Kitson 4, Mrs. Greenwood 4, Mrs. Nurse 4, Mr. Hargreaves 4, Mr. Knott 4, Mr. Owen 4, Mr. Latham 4, Mr. Stewart 3, Mr. Mathison 2.

Agreement between General Secretary and the Union.—The terms of agreement between the Union and the General Secretary were amended as instructed, but owing to other matters of importance arising therefrom, it was decided to submit a full report of the position to the Conference.

Appreciation of Services.—We would again tender our grateful thanks to our staff of Lyceum District Visitors for valuable services rendered to the movement during the past year; also the Press, particularly the *Two Worlds*, *Light*, *Progressive Thinker*, etc., for their very sympathetic attitude to the Children's Cause.

On behalf of the E.C.,
ALFRED KITSON, Secretary.

The Lyceum Banner Annual Report.

In presenting my report to you on this occasion it affords me pleasure to inform you that there has been a steady improvement in the sales, which have increased from 42,150 copies for 1913 to 48,700 for 1914, being an increase of 6,500, at an increased cost of £8 12s. 9d. for printing. The figures are:—Printing for 1913, £118 17s. 7d.; for 1915, £127 10s. 4d. The increased cost for postage on parcels is £4 12s. 8d. The cost of photo blocks is £3 12s. These may be used in the course of time for a *Lyceum Banner Workers' Album*, which will be a valuable collection of Lyceum worthies; so the extra cost incurred by our Portrait Gallery is a possible asset held in reserve for future use.

An effort is being made to reduce the cost of postage by including two or more parcels in one where there are two or more Lyceums in one town. A number of Lyceum Secretaries have already volunteered their help to this end by distributing the parcels, and no doubt others will follow.

It affords me pleasure to report that 89 per cent. of the federated Lyceums, and four of the non-Federated Lyceums, have regular parcels.

"*Helps to the Study of the Lyceum Manual*," lately appearing in the pages of the LYCEUM BANNER, have met with wide appreciation, and several requests for their publication have been made, and your Executive Council has kindly referred the matter to

the Sub-Committee on Education. Due notice will be given of prices, etc., if that body decides to publish them.

Your Editor was forcibly reminded, when attending the Conference of the S.N.U. at Manchester last July, of the selections from the Ancient Classics (that lately appeared in the pages of the LYCEUM BANNER) by the reference of Mr. Price Heywood, when dealing with the attitude of certain scientists towards the facts attesting spirit communion. He remarked that they had a theory which reminded him of the wonderful bed of Procrustes which was reputed to fit all persons, big or little, who were invited to sleep on it. The wonderful arrangement by which it was done consisted in the cruel device of stretching the limbs of the small man to the required length and lopping off the limbs of the tall ones to make them fit. The treatment inflicted on his guests by this ancient Greek robber was similar to that which the scientists inflicted on the facts proving spirit communion:—those that were too short to fit their theory were stretched to the required length, and those that were too long were lopped off to make them fit. This Greek robber, Procrustes, and his bed is dealt with in the "Adventures of Theseus," appearing in the issues of the LYCEUM BANNER for April and May, 1914. The above incident is cited as a measure of justification of publishing the selections in your OFFICIAL ORGAN.

The demands on the space of the LYCEUM BANNER,—which, by the way, contains more reading matter than any other English Spiritualistic journal—has become so great that we find it necessary to issue a double number once a quarter to accommodate the many and varied reports without crowding out the articles of the staff. This can be done for an extra halfpenny. I feel sure the change will be welcomed by our readers, who have complained of the articles being crowded out.

A further advantage we are able to offer our readers is a FREE INSURANCE COUPON for £100. So each penny paid for a LYCEUM BANNER is an insurance for £100 for four weeks. No one wants to be killed, or even hurt, but where accidents do happen to us it is some consolation to feel we, or those dependent on us, are in a measure provided for.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the LYCEUM BANNER staff for their many favours and sustained efforts so freely bestowed during the past year, and all Lyceum Secretaries and Conductors for their liberal support. I beg to solicit your cordial assistance and co-operation to win an equal measure of success during the 1915 year's issues.

THE EDITOR.

PERMANENT SECRETARY FUND ANNUAL REPORT.

As approved by the E.C., April 10th, 1915.

The P.S.F. has realized by donations from Lyceums and subscribers the sum of £24 2s. 6d. Sixty Lyceums—the same number as in last year's report—have contributed, whilst private subscribers number nine. Two Lyceums keep up the standard of generosity adopted by them at the commencement of the P.S.F., viz., Walsall and Nelson, who have subscribed a guinea each. There are also staunch sup-

porters who give every year and have done so from the year 1903 when the Fund was initiated.

It is invidious to mention names; such helpers have a deep interest in the welfare of the Union. Mr. Wadsworth has again rendered material help to the Fund by his gift of cards for soliciting donations. The E.C., on your behalf, conveyed thanks to him.

We are remembered by far-away Lyceums, and donations have come from Johannesburg, South Africa; Wellington, New Zealand; and Winnipeg, together with warm appreciation of the Union to Mr. Kitson. It is good to feel this spirit of fraternity. The pleasure of attending our conferences and meeting Lyceumists from almost every district is denied them, but their letters speak of love and goodwill to the Union, and more particularly its general Secretary. Many subscribers have had to state their inability to help this year on account of straitened circumstances, or greater claims on their means consequent on the effects of the present crisis, whilst others show a disposition to make a sacrifice for our cause.

All subscriptions have been duly acknowledged by the Secretary, also through the columns of "Our BANNER," and the E.C. take this opportunity of thanking all Lyceums and subscribers for their continued support and generosity.

On behalf of the E.C.,

JESSY GREENWOOD, Hon. Sec.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

As Approved by E.C., April 10th, 1915.

To the Conference assembled: An Education Committee was formed in accordance with the 1914 Conference resolution: "That it be an instruction to the Executive Council that they shall form from their own body, or from co-opted members, an Education Committee who shall take into consideration—

- (a) The formation of suitable age groups in all Lyceums.
- (b) Provide for sale suitable cheap text-books for each group.
- (c) Print a comprehensive syllabus for each Sunday in each group.
- (d) Each year provide for Examinations being held in each district."

The Education Committee has taken into consideration the above and issues to the Conference the following recommendations for adoption:

(A) The formation of suitable age groups in all Lyceums.

- (1) This is already provided for in the the Officer's Edition, Lyceum Manual, e.g.,
A.J.D. Manual, 12 Groups.
B.S.L.U. Manual, 6 Groups.
- (2) As ages and numbers vary so much in each Lyceum, formation should be made according to local circumstances.
- (3) We emphasize the need of groups being formed, without distinction to sex in every Lyceum, and that as far as possible seating for distinctive groups be arranged during the full session.
- (4) Group Lessons be given every Sunday excepting one per month, the latter being set aside for open session, recitations, songs, etc. This is intended for Lyceums having one session each Sunday.

Lyceums having two sessions each Sunday, only one to be open session, the other as usual.

(B) Provide for sale suitable cheap text books for each Group.

- (1) Undesirable in view of quantity of such publications at present, and financial responsibility of such an undertaking.
- (2) Compile list of names of suitable text books and issue as leaflet of convenient size for placing in the Officer's Edition of Lyceum Manual.
- (3) Issue leaflets of articles on special subjects for discussion by groups in Lyceums, to be supplied at cheap rates, and suggest the following:
 1. "The Human Body."
 2. "The Human Mind."
 3. "The Human Spirit."
 4. "The Human Soul."
- (4) Publish periodically propaganda pamphlets for sale. No. 1. "The Objects of Children's Progressive Lyceums."

(C) Also print a comprehensive syllabus for each Sunday in each Group.

- (1) Impracticable—because of varying number of groups, ages, etc.
- (2) Each Sunday a special subject might be selected, the songs and readings be chosen by Conductor or Lyceumists, which have a distinct bearing upon the subject selected. Elaboration by the group leaders could follow, this would establish concentration.

(D) Each year provide for examinations being held in each district.

- (1) As an experiment for the first year we suggest the following subjects for study:—"The origin, objects, and methods of "Children's Progressive Lyceums," "The origin of Spiritualism."
- (2) A syllabus or line of thought be issued simultaneously, to benefit students in their studies.
- (3) Where possible Lyceumists to receive lectures one night per week, if not, introduce subject at Sunday sessions to the best advantage.
- (4) The co-operation of D.C's. in aiding those Lyceums unfortunately placed and in encouraging the scheme in every possible way, would be expected.
- (5) The Education Committee to hold Annual Examinations, a list of questions to be issued; all Lyceumists over 9 years being eligible to participate. Consideration to be taken re age of Lyceumists in the marking of examination papers.

An oral examination be held for Lyceumists under 9.

Examinations to be held in May.

District Councils to make suitable arrangements, where possible, for holding Examinations at one or more halls to suit Lyceumists in the district.

D.C's. to suggest suitable neutral persons to superintend examinations, two for every fifty candidates. Names to be approved by Education Committee. Candidates to have admission cards to be given up on entering Examination Room.

All examination papers, etc., to be sent sealed to one of the officials controlling examinations; same to be opened in the presence of other officials in Examination Room.

Numbered cards to be distributed to Candidates. Candidates to write number on written sheets and on a perforated slip attached thereto, together with name (Christian and Surname), address, Lyceum, and age.

When the papers are given in, Examination Officials to see the numbers on papers and perforated slips coincide, and are signed in space provided, certifying the Examination has been carried out in a satisfactory manner and in accordance with rules.

All Examination Papers to be sealed in presence of Examination Officials, and despatched same day to Education Committee Secretary. Secretary to take all the slips off examination papers and enter up numbers, names, and other particulars.

Examination papers to be sent to Examiners with numbers on only. When Secretary receives marked papers, by referring to names and numbers, the results of candidates will be ascertained.

By this means no possible loophole for favouritism could accrue. Regulations to be observed during Examination to be printed on the front of examination paper.

- (6) Certificates to be issued by the B.S.L.U. for merit.

ERNEST VICKERS, Chairman.
GEO. FREDK. KNOTT, Secretary.

Statistical Return to the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Conference, May, 1915.

No.	Name of Lyceum.	Total on the Register	
		Officers.	Members
1.	Accrington, Abbey Street	7	13
2.	Accrington, China Street	6	63
3.	Ashington, New Row	5	13
4.	Ashton-under-Lyne	5	26
5.	Bacup, Burnley Road	10	42
6.	Barnoldswick, West End	10	20
7.	Barnsley, George Yard	6	24
8.	Barrow, Abbey Road	6	15
9.	Barrow, Dalkeith Street	8	55
10.	Batley Carr, Carr Street	13	35
11.	Belper, New Road	20	88
12.	Belfast, Cichester Street	10	44
13.	Birkenhead, Bridge Street	8	44
14.	Birmingham, Crawford Street	6	11
15.	Birmingham, Handsworth	10	40
16.	Birmingham, Smethwick	7	24
17.	Bishop Auckland	4	19
18.	Blackburn, St. Peter Street	24	120
19.	Blackpool, Albert Road	13	72
20.	Bolton, Bradford Street	17	66
21.	Bolton, Commission Street	13	39
22.	Bradford, Boynton Street	5	52
23.	Bradford, Carlisle Road	16	36
24.	Bradford, Harker Street	6	27
25.	Bradford, Otley Road	7	20
26.	Bradford, Manchester Road	12	30
27.	Brierfield, Colne Road	5	25
28.	Brighouse, Commercial Street		
29.	Brighouse, Martin Street	4	10
30.	Brighton, Manchester Street	14	47
31.	Brighton, Windsor Street	2	8
32.	Brisbane, Australia	8	23
33.	Burnley, Hammerton Street	8	48
34.	Burnley, North Street	17	50
35.	Burton-on-Trent	8	32
36.	Bury, King Street	10	52
37.	Burwood, N.S.W., School of Art		
38.	Castleford, Lr., Oxford Street	10	46
39.	Chadderton, Brook Street	8	11
40.	Chester, Commonhall Street	5	31
41.	Chesterfield, Assembly Rooms	14	46
42.	Cheristchurch, N. Z., Worcester Street	6	34
43.	Cleckheaton, Old Robin Street		
44.	Colne, Cloth Hall	10	57
45.	Coventry, Bull Street	8	33
46.	Crewe, Mill Street	16	48
47.	Daisy Hill, Mabel Street	7	27
48.	Darlington, Bondgate	6	32
49.	Darlington, High Northgate	7	60
50.	Darwen, Church Bank Street	10	86
51.	Dearnley, Rochdale Road	6	32
52.	Derby, Charnwood Street	3	29
53.	Dewsbury, Bond Street	15	69
54.	Douglas, I.O.M., Circular Road	6	14
55.	Dundee, Overgate		
56.	Dundee, Ratray Street	8	27
57.	Dunfermline, New Row		
58.	Dunston-on-Lyne	8	30
59.	Durban, Natal, S.A.	6	54
60.	Earby, Green End Avenue	9	44
61.	Edinburgh, Queen Street	7	63
62.	Fleetwood, Kemp Street	3	59
63.	Foleshill, Broad Street	10	20
64.	Gateshead, St. Cuthbert's Place	16	68
65.	Glasgow, Berkley Street	25	60
66.	Glasgow, W., Campbell Street	4	42
67.	Great Harwood, W., Well Street	11	26
68.	Grimsby, Strand Street	8	28
69.	Gurney Valley		
70.	Hadfield, Albert Street		
71.	Halifax, Alma Street	18	50
72.	Halifax, Raven Street	17	93
73.	Hamilton, Ont., Barton Street	14	46
74.	Hanley, Percy Street	14	135
75.	Hebden Bridge, Hope Street	12	23
76.	Heckmondwike, Tower Street	6	10
77.	Heywood, William Street	14	42
78.	Hirst, Equitable Stores Hall	6	54
79.	Hollinwood, Byrom Street	6	40
80.	Horwich, Beatrice Street	12	60
81.	Huddersfield, Ramsden Street	18	29
82.	Huddersfield, St. Peter Street	6	50
83.	Hull, Day Street		
84.	Hull, Hessle Road	6	50
85.	Hull, Holborn Street	14	78
86.	Hyde, Clarendon Street	10	55
87.	Jarrow, Market Square	12	44
88.	Johannesburg, Henwoods Arcade	7	61
89.	Keighley, Heber Street	10	62
90.	Krugersdorp, Kruger Street	6	24
91.	Lancaster, Gage Street	6	44
92.	Leeds, Armley, Theaker Lane	6	36
93.	Leeds, Bethel Street		
94.	Leeds, Church Street		
95.	Leeds, Easy Road	12	37
96.	Leeds, Grove House Lane	14	32
97.	Leicester, Queen Street	8	29
98.	Leicester, Silver Street	6	30
99.	Leigh, The Avenue	12	72
100.	Lincoln, Coultham Street	16	46
101.	Littleborough, Hartley Street	6	18
102.	Littletown, Well Street	6	9
103.	Liverpool, Daulby Street	13	48
104.	Liverpool, Romer Road	9	39
105.	London, Battersea	5	60
106.	London, Fulham	12	40
107.	London, Holloway	10	54
108.	London, Kingston-on-Thames	4	20
109.	London, Manor Park	8	48
110.	London, Peckham	6	26
111.	London, Plaistow	10	24
112.	London, Stratford	6	24
113.	London, Tottenham	6	26
114.	London, Woolwich	9	53
115.	Longton, Stone Road	3	32
116.	Macclesfield, Cumberland Street	4	24
117.	Manchester, Ardwick	13	25
118.	Manchester, Cheetham Hill	4	30
119.	Manchester, Collyhurst	10	32
120.	Manchester, Gorton	8	15
121.	Manchester, Harpurhey	8	64
122.	Manchester, Openshaw		
123.	Manchester, Pendleton	10	115

124.	Manchester, S. Princess Road	12	54
125.	Mansfield, Quaker Lane	5	55
126.	Mansfield, Westgate	6	24
127.	Middleton Gilmour Street	10	66
128.	Middlesbrough, Waterloo Street	10	75
129.	Mossley, Abbey Road	6	26
130.	Nelson, Vernon Street	26	156
131.	New Bedford, U.S.A.	13	37
132.	Newcastle, Benwell	6	78
133.	Newcastle, Heaton and Byker	16	62
134.	Newcastle, Rutherford Street	12	49
135.	Newcastle, Wallsend	8	46
136.	Normanton, Queen Street	6	18
137.	North Shields, Stanley Street	10	50
138.	Northampton, Brunswick Place	3	10
139.	Nottingham, Bentinck Road	12	52
140.	Nottingham, Hyson Green	2	18
141.	Nottingham, Burton Street	11	49
142.	Nottingham, Lamartine Street	9	49
143.	Nottingham, Parliament Street	6	49
144.	Oldham, Coronation Street	7	35
145.	Oldham, Elliott Street		
146.	Oldham, Union Street	12	48
147.	Ossett	8	22
148.	Padiham, Ightenhill Street	12	42
149.	Parkgate, Ashwood Road	4	20
150.	Perth, Museum Street		
151.	Pontypridd, River Street	9	56
152.	Preston, Clark's Yard	10	52
153.	Preston, Lancaster Road	7	46
154.	Radcliffe, Ash Street	8	42
155.	Rawtenstall, Bk. Ormerod Street	6	48
156.	Reading, Blgrave Street	6	44
157.	Rishton, Eachill Road	9	32
158.	Rochdale, Penn Street	14	46
159.	Rochdale, Regent Street	10	95
160.	Rotherham, Percy Street	12	54
161.	Royton, Union Street	7	13
162.	Runcorn, Ashridge Street	5	25
163.	Scarborough, Aberdeen Walk	5	19
164.	Shaw, Lyon Street	5	19
165.	Sheffield, Bold Street	25	125
166.	Sheffield, Darnall	4	20
167.	Sheffield, Heeley	18	73
168.	Sheffield, Paradise Square	7	50
169.	Sildon, Newlands Avenue	14	40
170.	Sildon, Sildon Road	7	23
171.	Snipley, Teal Court	11	14
172.	Slaithwaite, Laith Lane	11	20
173.	Southampton, The Avenue	2	25
174.	Southport, Hawkshead Street	5	12
175.	South Shields, Fowler Street	9	35
176.	South Shields, King Street		
177.	South Shields, Robinson Street	9	34
178.	South Shields, S. Eldon Street	10	62
179.	Sowerby Bridge, Hollins Lane	18	57
180.	Stockport, Wellington Road	15	39
181.	Stockton-on-Tees, Brunswick Street	5	22
182.	Sunderland, Derwent Street	10	30
183.	Sydney, N.S.W.	10	38
184.	Todmorden, Halifax Road	6	24
185.	Toronto, College Street	8	24
186.	Ulverston, Oddfellows Hall	6	43
187.	Waihi, Auckland, N.Z.	6	18
188.	Wakefield, Kirkgate	12	30
189.	Walsall, Bradford Street	13	52
190.	Warrington, Sankey Street	7	25
191.	Wellington, N.Z., Kent Terrace	8	40
192.	West Hartlepool, Whitley Street	6	32
193.	Widnes, Victoria Road	10	20
194.	Wigan, Millgate	12	27
195.	Windhill, School Hill	5	21
196.	Winnipeg, Polson Avenue	16	31
197.	Witton Park, Viaduct Terrace	2	10
198.	Wolverhampton, Princess Street	4	24
199.	York, Cromwell Road	4	22
200.	York, St. Saviourgate	10	60

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NON-FEDERATED LYCEUMS.

1.	Abercynon		
2.	Birmingham, Bull Street		
3.	Bristol, Thomas Street		
4.	Burnley, Richard Street	10	37

5.	Cardiff		
6.	Cwmgrove		
7.	London, Brixton		
8.	London, Little Ilford		
9.	Merthyr Tydvil		
10.	Morecambe, Market Street		
11.	Pontypridd, Church Street		
12.	Royton, Spring Garden Street	5	48
13.	Todmorden, Eagle Street	12	54
14.	Winchester, Hyde Abbey Road	1	13
		28	152

NOTE.—Seven days' notice must be given to the General Secretary of all questions to be raised in Conference concerning the accuracy of the above figures, so that the Return Forms may be produced.

Special Reports.

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

HYDE.—I am glad to report that our Lyceum is increasing in membership. On Sunday, April 4th, we held our 20th Anniversary, when our platform was occupied by Mr. A. Kitson. At our Open Session in the afternoon many beautiful pearls and recitations were given by the children, after which Mr. Kitson distributed the prizes and gave a short, but suitable address. Our evening service was well attended and was a great success.

A lovely duet, entitled "The reaper and the flowers," was given by the children; while our elders favoured us with the duet, entitled "O Lovely Peace," from Judas Maccabæus. We are also indebted to Miss S. Burgess for a solo, entitled "Star of the East," and to Miss E. Horsfield for the solo "As pants the hart." We were all delighted by Mr. Kitson's splendid address. It was a pity we could not stop the clock for a bit.—E. Douglas Kellv, Secretary.

LONDON, MANOR PARK.—For some time past a number of our Lyceumists have been working hard under the instruction of Miss Shead, preparing the fairy play, "Aladdin," and we owe to the energy and perseverance of Miss Shead and all concerned a most enjoyable evening on April 15th. The parts were excellently taken as follows:—Aladdin, Stanley Dixon; Princess, Winnie Sarfas; Magician, Lionel Puxley; Aladdin's Mother, John Hudson; Genii, Alfred Sarfas; Tea Girls, Christine Collins, Dorothy Mead and Ella Remington; Fairies, Ethel Dixon, Hilda Rayment, Gwen Maybale and Mavis Turner. A laughable nigger sketch, "The Black Doctor," followed, Lionel Puxley, Stanley Dixon and John Hudson taking part. The evening was brought to a happy close by a number of splendidly-rendered solos and recitations. The collection of £1 goes towards our summer outing. L. G., Secretary.

SHEFFIELD (Paradise Square).—On Sunday and Monday, April 11th and 12th, we held our Anniversary Services. Sunday afternoon, Open Session, and short address by our speaker, Mr. Jackson, who also spoke in the evening on "Hope Realised." On Monday evening the report of the year's work was given, and prizes distributed by Mr. Tozer. Short addresses were given by members of Liberty Group. Recitations, solos, etc., at all services. On Sunday, April 18th, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Conductor, Miss Marshall; Secretary, Mr. Hare; Treasurer, Mr. Hudson; Guardian, A. Jenkinson; Captain of Guards, L. Wallace; Guards, D. Romanes, G. Watkinson, H. Davis, S. Romanes; Musical Director, Miss Barton; Assistants, K. Saunders, D. Romanes, M. Redfern and A. Jenkinson; Auditors, D. Romanes and Mr. Redfern; Sick Visitors, Mr. and Mrs. Hare.—G. Hare, Secretary.

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNION'S EXECUTIVE AT LONDON, PECKHAM, LAUSANNE HALL.

PECKHAM.—It was nice to see the many friends meet and greet very heartily the three members of the B.S.L.U. Executive on their arrival at Lausanne Hall for the morning service on April 11th, and looking round the Hall many

Lyceums were represented, some coming long distances to welcome our Yorkshire friends. Mr. Alcock Kush representing the London Union; Mr. and Mrs. Clegg, the L.L.D.C.; and a good attendance of Peckham friends. Mr. Ernest Vickers, President, B.S.L.U., occupied the chair. Miss A. Hesp, Vice-President, opening the meeting with the invocation. The chairman making a few appropriate remarks, also introducing Mr. G. F. Knott, of Rochdale, who gave us a very stirring address on Lyceum work and the origin of the B.S.L.U.

AFTERNOON MEETING.

In the afternoon we again had a delightful time, Miss Hesp conducted the Lyceum, and it was the most glorious session I have ever been at in Lausanne Hall, and I think all our visitors from other Lyceums will agree with me, Miss Hesp so thoroughly understanding the Lyceum work. She also took the Calisthenics, and Mr. Cotterill kindly took the marching for us, which indeed was a treat to all, especially the lookers on, everything was so well done. Afterwards, Mr. E. Vickers presented the medals to the winners of King's Hall, which I was sorry to find out of eight only four responded to their name. I do not know why this was so. We also had a few pearls from our own Lyceumists, and ended the session in the usual manner. After a most delightful time with our Yorkshire and Lancashire friends, and we sincerely hope that ere long we may have another good time with them all.

EVENING.

The meeting was presided over by Mr. Ernest Vickers, President.

The Vice-President, Miss Alice Hesp, remarked that for 2000 years people have been satisfied to believe in creeds and different forms of worship.

The Lyceum Movement had been introduced in the world to give a saner system of education, so that instead of Lyceumists saying "I believe" they would be able to exclaim "I know."

The President was proud to be a Lyceumist and Spiritualist because our educational system taught him how to unfold all the parts of his nature so that he might live in harmony with Physical and Spiritual Laws.

No other movement had withstood so much ridicule and abuse as Modern Spiritualism, and how thankful we should be to our pioneers for the freedom of expression we now so much enjoy. He showed how impossible death is and how science is gradually establishing the laws governing spiritual phenomena. He illustrated the similarity of wireless telegraphy and soul vibration, how it is possible if the instruments are in harmony, for messages to be received and transmitted from soul to soul. An earnest invitation was extended to all to join the Lyceum and study the truths of life.

Mr. Geo. F. Knott said we had a system of revelation to offer mankind. In Lyceum work we adopted the method, where things cannot be proved they should be left alone; then instead of accepting creeds we should only acknowledge truth. He showed the great importance of training the child so that they will be able to stand temptation and come out triumphant. A great reformation in human character would thus be established, and instead of refraining from doing wrong owing to being punished by the laws of the country, we should do right because it is right and shun wrong because it is wrong.

Mr. C. I. Williams (President of Peckham Society), Mr. Richards, Lyceum Conductor, and Mr. Clarkson, Lyceum Secretary, each in short breezy speeches thanked the deputation for the work done and hoped much good would accrue from the visit.

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

The Executive Council of the above Union held its meeting at 10, Egerton Terrace, Ardwick Green, Manchester, on April 10th, and not at London as announced in the LYCEUM BANNER, owing to the withdrawing of all week-end bookings.

Miss Alice Hesp, Vice-President, and Mr. Geo. Fred. Knott, were appointed to attend the Peckham Lyceum and Society, to be followed by the President at the close of the business meeting, as the Executive's representative. On the meeting being called to order the President explained what had been done, at which there was some demur. It was ultimately decided that the President leave by the evening mail and not the night mail as contemplated.

Mr. J. M. Stewart wrote to be excused attendance owing to the heavy travelling expenses. All the other members were present with the exception of the two on duty at London.

The minutes were considered and adopted. The Secretary's general report, Lyceum Banner report, the Treasurer's report, the Permanent Secretary Fund report, the U.L.D. Council report, the Education Committee report, the Parliamentary Rules Committee report, and the Good Friday Demonstration at Manchester report, were all submitted and dealt with.

The sales ending March 31st were £103 8s. 6d., which was a record, being £27 3s. 10d. over last year for the March quarter. The total cash receipts for the quarter were £184 10s. 3d., being an increase of £27 3s. 10d.

Mr. Robert A. Owen was elected to preside over the meeting in the absence of the President and Vice-President.

The question of reprinting Helps to the Study of the Lyceum Manual was referred to the Education Committee.

The Parliamentary Rules Committee having completed its labours was dissolved, and the members thanked for their services.

It was decided that the Education Committee's report be adopted, and ordered to be printed in the LYCEUM BANNER, and submitted to the Conference.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letters were submitted from the following places: Manchester Lyceum District Council (three); Stockport, Tyneside Lyceum District Council, and Liverpool Lyceum District Council.

NEW MEMBERS.

Applications for Membership from the following Lyceums were duly considered and endorsed:—Bradford (Harker Street), Brighton (Windsor Street), London (Stratford), Mansfield (Westgate), Normanton and Northampton.

Conference arrangements were considered. It was decided that an effort be made to finish business by Sunday noon, so that an Open Session may be held in the afternoon. The Secretary was instructed to insert a motion on the Agenda to that effect.

Mr. John M. Stewart, Glasgow, was appointed Minute Secretary to the Conference. Messrs. Will Edwards and Harry Birdsall were appointed Scrutineers of Delegates' Credentialed Cards.

The lists of nominations as printed in the April issue of the LYCEUM BANNER were revised as much as possible, the General Secretary being instructed to strike off the lists all names of persons not appointed to attend the Conference at the expiration of the time limit, as per Constitution.

ALFRED KITSON, General Secretary.

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

District Visitors' Quarterly Reports ending on or before March 28th, 1915.

BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT.—There are 13 Societies in this district, 5 of which have no Lyceum.

Smethwick. I find a lack of children but plenty of leaders. I would advise parents to bring their little ones, and also those of their neighbours who are willing to allow them to attend. Fare and postage, 1/4. A. O. THOMAS, D.V.

BOLTON LYCEUM DISTRICT. Since my last report I have visited *Daisy Hill* Lyceum and found everything satisfactory, except the meeting room, which, on account of its smallness, handicaps them in their physical exercises very much. Expenses 9d.

Bolton (Bradford Street). This is one of the best all-round Lyceums in the Union. I have paid them two visits; on my first visit there were 65 present in time, very few coming late. A really good session. A fine Liberty Group engaged in the study of Gambier Bolton's book. My second visit was to their Open Session at which there were over one hundred present. It was probably the best Open Session I have yet had the pleasure of attending.

Bolton (Commission Street). Our District Council has adopted a scheme for the interchange of Conductors, and the first of these interchanges took place on my first visit. There were only twenty-six present, eighteen of them in time. Mr. Ben Smart, of Horwich, made an excellent conductor. Second visit; a late start, thirty present. A poor session, wanting in "go" and enthusiasm.

Bury. My visit to this Lyceum was the day of their Open

Session, at which over fifty were present, including visitors. There was a good programme; the session was pleasant and well conducted by Miss Henderson. Fare 8d.

As this will be my last D.V. report I wish to thank the Lyceums in this District for the very kindly way I have at all times been received, and to express my hope that each Lyceum will strive to its utmost to become the best Lyceum in the country.
JAMES KNIGHT, D.V.

BRADFORD DISTRICT.—There are 11 Societies in this district, 3 of which have no Lyceum. Two interviews have been sought and held. Results not definite.

Bradford (Harker Street). This is a newly formed Lyceum, and promises well for the future. The general tone was good throughout the session. Fare 1/6.

Bradford (Boynton Street).—I was glad to find an increased membership. The adults are working ardently for the children's benefit, and good results will follow. There was a healthful tone of progress. A healthful tone is felt throughout the Bradford District. Fare 2d. MISS M. L. STAIR, D.V.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.—There are 12 Societies in this district, 3 of which have no Lyceum.

Huddersfield (Ramsden Street). January 31st. There were 45 present. This Lyceum is staffed with rather young leaders, but they are regular in their attendance and interested in the work. An improvement in the marching. Liberty Group interesting, led by an old Lyceumist.

Slaithwaite. February, 7th. 26 present. A slight increase in membership and decided improvement in efficiency. I think the Study Group held at this place is improving the Lyceum. Fare 3d.

Brighouse (Commercial Street). I had become anxious about this Lyceum because of the loss of its ablest workers, so I visited it on February 14th, 21st, and 28th. I was pleased to report a decided improvement in that period. They now have three groups. Liberty Group is studying Archaeology and Creation Stories. They are very efficient in their physical exercises. Fares 1/-.
S. ACKROYD, D.V.

LEEDS DISTRICT.—There are 17 Societies in this District, 5 of which have no Lyceum.

Castleford. I visited this Lyceum on January 3rd. It is a good Lyceum, the scholars being very attentive to the Conductor. The singing, chain recitations, marching and calisthenics were all good, and so were the groups. Fare 2/1.

Armley. I visited this Lyceum on February 7th, and found their numbers small at the morning session, but better in the afternoon. A very good session was held. I should very much like to see this Lyceum as strong and vigorous as it used to be. Fare 1/5.

Heckmondwike. I visited here on February 28th. A very small attendance. This Lyceum is suffering from lack of officers, who have joined the forces. I hope others will come forward to fill the vacant places. Fare 2d.

J. COLBECK, D.V.

LONDON DISTRICT.—There are 25 Societies in this district, 13 of which have no Lyceum. Three interviews have been held, and one Lyceum started in Stratford: There are hopes of one being opened at Clapham by and bye.

Manor Park. I am pleased to say this Lyceum is improving very well, and I wish them success.

Tottenham. This Lyceum is working very hard to make themselves more efficient. I feel sure they will succeed. I hope to see them increase in numbers. Fare 1/-.

Fulham. Since this Lyceum has got into a home of their own they have made good use of it, and good work is done. Fare 1/-.

Plumstead. This Lyceum has gone through troubled waters since the outbreak of this great war. Some of the workers have gone away, and others are working such long hours they have scarcely a chance to attend. But I am glad to say they are keeping well up to the standard.

Battersea. This Lyceum has gone through many changes. It requires good judgment, tact, and patience in its management. I am glad to see an improvement. Fare 10d.

Peckham. I am glad to say this Lyceum is going ahead. They are determined to make it one of the best in London. Fare 1/-.

Brixton. This Lyceum has been re-organised, and is doing good work. Music is being taught, and several other items which will be useful. Fare 10d.

Plaistow. It has given me real pleasure to see the great improvement here. The children are bright and their conduct is good. I hope they will continue to put forth their best efforts. Fare 2d.

Kingston-on-Thames. This Lyceum continues to make pro-

gress. There is a decided improvement, and I wish them continued success. Fare 2/2.

Stratford (Edmiston Road). I have had the pleasure of opening this Lyceum, and I have hope of it becoming a good Lyceum. I hope they will succeed in realising the standard they are striving after. Fare for interview with Clapham Society 10d. Postages for the quarter 1/3.

M. CLEGG, D.V.

NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.—There are 20 Societies in this district, all but one, Blackburn (Regent Street), have a Lyceum. An interview with them has been sought and held with the object of inducing them to re-open the Lyceum, but was unsuccessful.

I visited *Blackpool* Lyceum on February 7th. There was a splendid session, and good work done throughout. This Lyceum is in a very healthy condition. Fare 4/6.

Padiham. I visited this Lyceum on February 21st. There were twenty-eight present. The session was pleasant and instructive. This Lyceum has improved very much. Fare 8d.

Accrington (China Street). I visited this Lyceum on Feb. 28th. The reading and marching very well gone through. The whole of the session was carried through with enthusiasm and deep interest. Fare 1/4.

Burnley (North Street). March 7th. The session was honoured by the presence of the President of the B.S.L.U. The session was pleasant and interesting throughout.

Earby. I visited this Lyceum on March 14th, when there were eleven persons present. Although small in number the session was good, particularly the physical exercises. Fare 1/6.
RUBEN LATHAM, D.V.

NORTH LANCASHIRE AND CUMBERLAND DISTRICT.—There are 7 Societies in this district, 3 of which have no Lyceum.

Barrow (Dalkeith Street). I visited this Lyceum on March 21st. There was a fair attendance of children, but a lack of adults. The calisthenics and behaviour was very good. No marching on account of the time being short, the room being wanted for another meeting. I hope to stay to both sessions when I visit them again.

In the afternoon I visited the *Abbey Road* Lyceum. This Lyceum has been lapsed for a time, but with Miss Lawton's time and devotion it will soon be in full swing. The room is small, and the conductor promised to have marching once a month. There were fifteen present. Fare 1/6.

J. E. COWARD, D.V.

NOTTINGHAM AND LEICESTER DISTRICT.—I have visited the following Lyceums: Lamartine Street, Bentinck Road, Parliament Street, and Hucknall Torkard. In each one I found good work being done by a few earnest workers. In each of them much more good could be done if more workers came forward, or if they would visit the Lyceums occasionally it would be encouraging to those who are toiling weekly to train and teach the young. No expense.
THOMAS W. MASTERS, D.V.

SOUTH-EAST LANCASHIRE. There are 16 Lyceums in this district.

Oldham (Coronation Street). I visited this Lyceum on Jan. 31st. A very good session, and fairly well attended. The responses to the conductor's appeal for the various items were very good. The new officers seem very enthusiastic in their work. I trust that good may result from their efforts. Fare 2d.

Oldham (Union Street). Singing, reading, pearls, marching, etc., finely rendered at the morning session, which was a pleasant one. Fare 2d.

Chadderton. February 28th. I was sorry to find such a poor attendance, there being only seven present. The short session that was held was good. I gathered that there is a feeling of indifference on the part of the elders towards the spiritual welfare of the children. I hope for better things in the near future. Fare 2d.

Shaw. March 28th. Rather late start, but a very interesting session. This Lyceum could be improved if the church members interested themselves a little more in its working. Fare 4d., postages 2d.
WM. CHISNALL, D.V.

STOCKPORT DISTRICT.—There are 12 Lyceums in this district, 6 of them have no Lyceum. Two interviews have been sought and held, but without visible results.

Mossley (Abbey Road). I was disappointed with the small attendance, but pleased with the singing, reading, responses, and exercises, which were very good. A pleasant session. Fare 1/8.

Hyde (Clarendon Street). A very good attendance; punctual

start; conduct and attention good. A good session throughout, reflecting great credit on the officers for the manner in which it is so ably conducted. Fare 8d.

JOHN MARSTON, D.V.

TEESIDE DISTRICT. There are 10 Societies in this district, all but one having a Lyceum, and that one—Witton Park—is opening a Lyceum on April 4th, being the result of two interviews held.

Shildon (Hydesville). On February 21st there were twenty-five present. The responses, recitations, solos, pearls, marching and calisthenics very good. All present were deeply interested in the group lessons. F. COATES, D.V.

TYNESIDE DISTRICT. There are 21 Societies in this district; all but five have a Lyceum.

West Stanley. January 17th. An effort is being made to start a Lyceum here, but owing to the attendance consisting of the Conductor and his children, along with a friend and self, no session was held. Fare 1/8.

North Shields. January 24th. A punctual start. A very instructive and interesting session. I would like to see a few more adults taking an active interest in the work. Fare 1/-.

South Shields (Eldon Street). February 14th. I found them preparing for a combined Lyceum session. The recitations, responses, pearls and solos were well rendered. Fare 1/-.

WallSEND. February 21st. Having entered new premises since my last visit, I was very pleased with the improvement. I would like to see better punctuality. The responses, marching and calisthenics very good. Fare 1/-.

Hirst. March 7th. The singing, marching and calisthenics were gone through without music, as they lack a musical conductor. The recitations and pearls were well rendered, but their order and punctuality could be greatly improved. Fare 2/6. WM. HALL, D.V.

District Visitors' Report of the Work during the year of March, 1914, to March, 1915.

I have great pleasure in presenting you my report because of the success that has attended our efforts during the past year, and more so when we take into consideration the great War that has come about and taken away many of our faithful workers.

As you are aware, we started the last year in opening Battersea Church as the Lyceum Church, and although it is worked by our comrade, Mr. Percy Smyth, and his co-workers, we all form a part, and it rests with us to assist in building and strengthening their hands. The Demonstration that we had in the King's Hall last March was a great success. Success also attended the Committee that you formed last year to carry on and work out this great effort, and I might mention that a large amount of credit is due to our willing comrade, Mr. Rainbow, for the part that he played.

Then again there is the "Study Group" that has grown during the year, and we may now state that it is an accomplished fact. Mr. Richards, as you know, opened his house two years ago for this purpose, and we are glad to say that Mr. Forsyth and his friends have come to our help, both by their attendance and opening out to us their Hall, but as the "Study Group" grew so, we suggested to the friends at Holloway that the time has come when we thought that they could form a "Study Group" of their own, and I am glad to say that they have formed a committee of five members to carry this out in the name of the Council. I have cordially thanked Mr. Forsyth and his friends for their efforts, and no doubt Mr. Richards will tell you of Mr. Carpenter and others.

During the year I have had the pleasure of visiting all the Lyceums in the district, which have been duly reported in the LYCEUM BANNER, and so need not be repeated.

LONDON DISTRICT COUNCIL.

During the past year the following is the abridged report of their work. Meetings of the L.D.C. total thirty-three, District Visitors visiting Lyceums, forty-eight. Twelve interviews sought with Churches not having any Lyceum and interviews held. Twelve Demonstration Committee meetings, "Study Group" meetings, fifteen; this makes a total of eighty-three meetings your Visitor has attended during the year. It has been my pleasure to assist, cheer and help whenever it occurred to me that there was help required, ever remembering our motto that "Workers Win." We must always remember that we all have temperaments of our own, and we must understand them.

Let us always remember our Founder's words, "Enfolded in the human infant is the beautiful image of an imperishable and perfect being." Also let us all be careful to help and

cherish motherhood. I will finish with the words of Mrs. E. Cook, "There is really only one way for you to successfully train your child, and that is to train yourself." It is the parents who need the training; with a well-trained mother,—a self-trained mother—any child will grow up sweet tempered, thoughtful and industrious, she will unconsciously or subconsciously catch her mother's vibration.

MYERS CLEGG, D.V.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The above Council held its annual meeting at St. Paul's, Alma Street, Halifax, on April 4th. A good number of delegates were present, the only absentees being Hebden Bridge and Brighouse Alliance. In the enforced absence of the President, Mr. France, the chair was taken by the Vice-President, Mr. H. Holroyd, at 10-30. The President's address was read by the Secretary, and it was decided to acknowledge same with thanks. The minutes of last meeting were accepted without any comment. The question of train service, *re* adjudicating Lyceums, was raised by the adjudicator, and it was agreed that he make his own arrangements regarding same. The Secretary's, Treasurer's, and D.V.'s reports were accepted.

The U.D.C. report was accepted after some little comment. The officers for the ensuing 12 months are as follows:—President, Mr. T. Ellis, Huddersfield, Ramsden Street; Vice-President, Mr. H. Bramall, Slaithwaite; Secretary, W. Burrow, St. Paul's, Halifax; Treasurer, Miss Allured, Huddersfield, Ramsden Street; D.V., Mr. S. Ackroyd, Huddersfield, Ramsden Street; Auditors, Mr. Wilby, St. Paul's, Halifax, and Mr. Hart, Hebden Bridge. Votes of thanks were accorded to the retiring officers.

The Secretary complained about Lyceum Secretaries not sending in "Return sheets," according to date, thus making the arrangements for entertaining delegates a very awkward question at times, and asked that in future they should endeavour to comply with the request *re* date on "Return sheet," and thus simplify matters.

The returns for the 12 months *re* scholars showed an increase on Register of 41, and an increase of average attendance of 68, which is a good sign of an increasing interest.

The balance sheets, showing a balance in hand of £1 15s. 0½d. on the year's working, were accepted with thanks.

In the afternoon a splendid Open Session was held, in which some of the delegates took part. In the evening a splendid service was given, the delegates taking part in various ways, this bringing another enjoyable day to a close.

W. BURROWS, Hon. Secretary.

TYNESIDE LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The Annual Meeting of this Council was held at the room of the Heaton and Byker Lyceum, on Sunday, March 28th.

In the unavoidable absence of the President, who was engaged in the production of munitions of war, the chair was taken by Mr. Hall, D.V. Mr. Catherall kindly officiated at the organ.

After the opening hymn and invocation by Mr. Hall, a hearty welcome was extended by Mr. B. Westgarth on behalf of the Lyceum. The Tellers appointed were Mr. Fenwick and Mr. Scott. Eleven Lyceums were represented and Mr. Simpson, of Darlington, represented the Teeside D.C.

The minutes of the previous meeting and also of the E.C. meetings were read, accepted and confirmed. No business of importance arose therefrom. The election of officers took place as follows:—President, Mr. J. Lawrence, Newcastle; Vice-President, Mr. Dawson, Wallsend; Secretary, Mr. J. Ronaldson, Heaton; Treasurer, Mr. A. E. Brinklow, Heaton; District Visitor, Mr. Hall, Gateshead; Auditors, Mr. Poole, Jarrow, and Mr. Robinson, North Shields; Adjudicators for Shield Competition, Mr. D. R. Davies, Whitley Bay, and Mr. J. Abbott, Jarrow; Delegate to B.S.L.U. Conference, Mr. J. Ronaldson, Heaton; Delegate to Teeside D.C., Mr. D. R. Davies, Whitley Bay; Delegate to Northern Counties Union of Spiritualists, Mr. J. Ronaldson.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Hirst on June 6th. *Resolved*,—"That each Lyceum be notified at least seven days prior to the date on which it is to be judged."

Mr. Simpson, Darlington, spoke of the necessity of having direct representation and asked the Council to consider the advisability of having a United D.C. for the Tyne and Tees Districts. The matter was referred to the E.C. for consideration.

The afternoon session was splendid. After the opening exercises the platform was thrown open to the children and they kept it going until the finish. A propaganda meeting was held in the evening, the speakers being Mrs. Robinson, North Shields; Mr. Brinklow; Mr. Lawrence; Mr. Hall and Mr. B. Westgarth.

Votes of thanks to retiring officers and to local friends were heartily accorded and brought to a close a series of very pleasant and profitable meetings.

J. RONALDSON, Secretary.

TYNESIDE LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.
Shield Competition for the year ending 28th February, 1915.

Name of Lyceum.	Number Present.		Singing.		Reading.		Marching.		Callisthenics.		Groups.		General.		Total.				
	First Visit.	Second Visit.	Expression.	Time.	Expression.	Pronunciation.	Time.	Order.	Symmetry.	Spontaneity.	Accuracy.	Grace.	Time.	Quality.		Educational Value.	Punctuality.	Discipline.	Individual Effort.
Heaton and Byker	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
South Eldon Street, South Shields	64	54	Not Competing.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	8	7	8	4	4	3	8	100
Jarrow	54	54	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	7	7	7	3	3	4	9	83
Eden Progressive, Gateshead	54	73	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	6	6	6	4	4	4	7	88
Royal Arcade, Newcastle	21	15	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	7	7	7	4	4	4	8	78
Rippon Hall, North Shields	52	34	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	6	6	6	3	3	4	9	72
Rutherford Street, Newcastle	38	22	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	7	7	7	3	3	4	7	76
Wallsend	35	44	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	6	6	6	4	4	4	7	76
Hirst	54	40	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	7	7	7	3	3	4	7	74
Derwent Street, Sunderland	49	21	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	6	6	6	4	4	4	8	74
Benwell	72	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	9	9	9	5	5	4	8	70
Fowler Street, South Shields	40	25	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	4	7	66
Ashington	20	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	65
King Street, South Shields	16	23	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	7	53
Dunston	39	43	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	2	2	2	2	4	4	40
Robinson Street, South Shields	32	30	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	4	6	42

LYCEUM REPORTS.

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

RULE 2.—Record only the events occurring after April 23rd.

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

RULE 4.—All Reports must reach this Office not later than Wednesday, May 26th, to ensure insertion in the June issue.

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

LONDON, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—We had a surprise visit from Mr. Clegg at our Open Session Sunday, March 7th. I am sorry to say we were small in number, and in fact a general depression prevailed. Pearls few, and recitations were not up to the standard. Song, Connie Brown (good). Piano, John Chambers (good). Recitations from Lena and Greville Humphris, Allan Brown, and Ivy Chambers. Our D.V. obliged with one, and gave us good advice in his able address on the "Three R's." The following Sunday Mrs. Neville graced us with a visit, giving to the children the "Auras," which we greatly appreciated. Many thanks to Mrs. Neville and Mr. Clegg for their good work, which we gratefully acknowledge.—F. I. Miles, Sec.

PRESTON (Lancaster Road).—On Sunday, March 7th, we held our monthly Open Session, when there was a fair attendance. Recitations were given by Irene Chadwick, David Rae, Miss Jones, Miss Howarth, and T. Holderness; solos were given by Mr. Rae, and also two by Miss Lupton, of Chorley, who was on a visit, which were well rendered and appreciated. Mr. Higham, the D.V., was with us, and gave us a few words of encouragement. We felt the loss of our Conductor, A. Hodson, who has joined the colours. We are hoping that "Peace on Earth" may soon be proclaimed and nations be able to recognise that "men are brothers all."—Wm. Rae, Sec.

SHILDON (Newlands Avenue).—On Sunday, March 7th, we held our Open Session, when we had with us the Teeside District Council. The Lyceum was well filled and a good number of visitors attended. Mr. Smith conducted the session. Recitations were said by James Chappell, Nathan Peacock, Wm. Peacock, Sarah Riley and Elsie Hunter. An anthem and quartette were sung by Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Chappell, Mrs. J. Wilson, Miss J. Smith, Mr. Smith, Mr. Riley, J. Wilson and T. Brown. Solo by Mrs. Chappell. Messrs. Pugh, Sutton, Simpson, Westbrook and Mrs. Twin did their best to impress on those present what the Lyceum is for. The singing of "The happy spirit land" brought a good session to a close.—J. Wilson, Secretary.

[We regret having overlooked the above reports last month.—EDITOR.]

ACCRINGTON (China Street).—We held our Open Session on April 4th; there were fifty-four scholars present. Opening hymn, "Festal Morn," silver chain, 50, led by Mr. R. A. Gordon; recitations by Miss Jackson, Hilda Swift, Freda Greenhalgh, Miss Unthank, Nellie Gordon, Mrs. Chambers, Emily Rhoda Swift "Speak kindly to each other," W. Smith, "One by One." Solos by Misses Cook, Ashwort, and Unthank.—Will Swift, Sec.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS (Abbey Road).—On Tuesday, April 20th, we held a tea and social for the Lyceum Funds, which proved a great success, between eighty and ninety sat down to tea. The social consisted of solos, recitations, games and dancing, and continued till 10-30 p.m. All spent an enjoyable evening, which was brought to a close by singing "Auld Lang Syne."—Ada M. Lawton, Conductor.

BELFAST (Cichester Street).—On Thursday evening, April 15th, our Lyceum annual meeting was held, with a good attendance of Lyceumists present, and a lively interest was taken in the business. The following officers were elected:—Mr. Curphey, Conductor; Mr. Skelton, Assistant Conductor; Mrs. Norris, Treasurer; Mr. Morrison, Guardian; Eric Smeltzer, Assistant Guardian; Francis Beattie, Librarian; Lilly Beattie, Captain of Guards, Hildred Smeltzer, Aggie Hillis, Jack Holland and Sam Goligher, Guards; Nettie Austin, Pianist; Mr. Heslop, Drill Instructor; Mrs. Morrison, Auditor, and D. Smeltzer, Secretary.

BIRKENHEAD (Bridge Street).—Several of our Lyceumists paid a fraternal visit to Star of Progress Lyceum, Liverpool, on Sunday, March 28th. The session was excellent throughout, and pearls were plentiful. On Good Friday, our conductor, Mr. Thompson, provided a splendid tea and social for the elder children and leaders of the Lyceum. We all enjoyed ourselves thoroughly and we parted in the evening in excel-

lent spirits, and feeling much better for the social intercourse afforded. At the close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Thompson for his kindness.—Winifred Wilkinson, Sec.

BIRMINGHAM, BLOOMSBURY (Crawford Street).—The work of our Lyceum still continues satisfactory. The speakers this month were our Conductor, Miss Beavon (one of our Lyceumists), and Mr. Eardley, of Smethwick. Each rendered interesting subjects which were well received. We are to hold another tea and social on May 15th in aid of the Organ Fund, and it is hoped that the efforts being made by some of our members to make this social a huge success, will not be in vain.—Herbert Bromage, Sec.

BOLTON (Bradford Street).—On Good Friday we held a concert for the Lyceumists, which was a great success, everyone spending an enjoyable evening. Owing to sickness the speaker for Easter Sunday was unable to attend, so the Lyceum was called upon to render their services. The afternoon service was conducted by Miss Wilkins, who gave the address, and the clairvoyance was given by Mr. Batten. In the evening the choir gave a service of song entitled "The Strolling Minstrel," and the connective readings were nicely read by Miss Rowe. Solos were given by Miss Worthington and Miss Sheldon, and a quartette was given by Misses Kershaw, Worthington, and Walker, the chair being taken by our President, Mr. Batten.—J. Grindrod, Sec.

BRADFORD, BANKFOOT (Manchester Road).—On Sunday, April 4th, we held our Open Session, when Mr. Chambers conducted. The following gave recitations: Alice Fernihough, Eleanor Lodge, Nellie Thomas, Norman Haley, Harry Fernihough; duet by Ruth Fernihough and Hilda Croft; solo by Mr. England; reading by Miss Garth. Mr. Rau gave a few encouraging remarks which helped to make our session a success. We had a few visitors present and will be pleased to see them again.—A. Haley, Sec.

BRADFORD, EAST BOWLING (Harker Street).—We held our Open Session on Sunday, April 4th, which was very well attended. Recitations were said by the following: Misses Annie Ward, Annie Mary Snaith, Gladys Pammenton, and Master George Snaith; duet by Mrs. Pammenton and Annie Pammenton, 403 in the *Manual*. Solos by Annie Ward and Annie Mary Snaith, 314 in the *Manual*. Miss Ada Carter played for the marching and calisthenics, and Miss Annie Carter conducted the calisthenics. Considering the short period we have been open the session was a success.—R. Wilkinson, Sec.

BRADFORD (Otley Road).—We held our Open Session on April 4th, and had quite a good time. The young scholars showed much eagerness in their efforts. We had readings by G. Vinn, H. Vinn, E. Emerson and Hilda Raistrick. Misses Ripley, Richmond and Harrison sang "Angel care." Mr. Hillis, our Conductor, gave us a recitation, entitled "It's queer." Also Mrs. Hillis, Assistant Conductor, favoured us with a good recitation, entitled "The bachelor's story." We send our good wishes to all fellow Lyceumists.—Elsie Ripley, Secretary.

BRADFORD, WEST BOWLING (Boynton Street).—We held our annual tea and entertainment on Saturday, April 3rd, which was a success financially, a good programme being provided by the scholars of the Lyceum, the following taking part: Messrs. Plumb, Taylor, J. W. Crofts, Rowland Hill, J. W. Plumb, Wilfred Ackroyd, Mrs. Plumb, Mrs. Bell, Misses Iltingworth, Crofts, Ivy Hill, Harrison, Chrissie Ward, Esther Long, Olive Bell, Violet Pilkington. Open Session, Sunday, April 4th, a good number of recitations, pearls, etc., being ably rendered by the scholars. We are holding our Lyceum Anniversary on Sunday, May 9th, speaker, Miss Raistrick, one of our own scholars. Special hymns by the scholars and string band, when we hope to have a good attendance.—J. W. Crofts.

BRIGHTON (Manchester Street).—The Liberty Group was privileged, this month, to listen to an address by Professor Severn (past President, B.P.S.). The subject, "Britain's Allies, from the phrenological standpoint," as dealt with by Mr. Severn, proved very helpful and instructive. Comparisons were made and stress laid upon the value of Russian initiative and spiritual qualities. The chairman, in thanking Mr. Severn at the close of his remarks, called attention to the fact that he had now given some fifty lectures for the benefit of Manchester Street Lyceumists.

BRIGHTON (Windsor Street).—The attendance this month has been very poor, but we hope for a goodly number on the 2nd of May, when we have the first meeting in our new hall. We regret that the serious illness of our Conductor's daughter

has kept her from us, but we hope to welcome her again soon. Pianoforte solos have been well rendered by Mr. Fred Curry, Miss Hoskins, and Miss E. Morton. Mr. Curry also gave us an organ solo.—Marjorie Morton, Sec.

BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA.—I am pleased to report that the elder people are beginning to take some interest in the Lyceum work, and hope that they will continue to do so. Good pearls are given, but recitations are lacking, but trust that some Lyceumists will recite some poems, and then, perhaps, some of the others will follow their example.—A. E. Sampson, Sec.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Good Friday we assisted the Society in holding a tea and social with success, and a pleasant day for all. We held an Open Session in the afternoon of Sunday, April 11th, when our first annual prize distribution took place. The children nicely went through the marching and calisthenics, after which Mrs. Spier, of Derby, spoke a few encouraging words, and closed an enjoyable session by presenting about 30 prizes to the children.—A. Bench, Sec.

BURY, KING STREET (off Rochdale Road).—On Sunday, March 28th, we held our election of officers, the following being elected: Conductor, Miss J. A. Henderson; Assist. Conductor, Miss F. Kaye; Conductor of Marching, Mr. J. Gregory; Assist. Conductor of Marching, Mr. B. Owen; Secretary, Mr. Jos. Wood; Librarian, Master J. Myers; Guardian, Miss A. Wilson; Leaders of Groups, viz., *Liberty*, Mr. E. Duckworth; *Excelsior*, Miss I. Kaye; *Sea*, Mr. B. Owen; *River*, Miss A. Henderson; *Fountain*, Miss F. Kaye; Committee, Mrs. Berry, Miss I. Kaye, and Mr. H. Metcalfe; Sick Visitors, Mr. J. Wood and Mr. H. Metcalfe, Miss A. Wood and Miss E. Alligan.—Joseph Wood, Sec.

[Please observe Rule 3, your report contained over 200 words.—Editor.]

CHADDERTON (off Brook Street).—On Saturday, April 17th, Miss Standing conducted a circle, followed by a social at 8 p.m. for the benefit of the church. Mrs. Oldfield gave potatoe pies in aid of the same. There was a nice gathering of Lyceumists and friends. Mr. Peter Ingham officiated at the piano. Thanks to all friends who assisted us.—M. Oldfield, Secretary.

CREWE (Mill Street).—On Easter Sunday we held our Open Session, Miss G. Baggaley conducting in the absence of our conductor. Miss Cain, of Chester, paid us a visit and delighted us with an excellent recitation. The following also contributed towards a pleasant session: Solos, Misses D. Coops, E. Bebbington, D. Williams, F. Hope, and L. Greenwood, and Fred Jones and Albert Reay recited.—Gwenie Baggaley, Sec.

DEWSBURY (Bond Street).—On Saturday, March 27th, our anniversary tea and concert was held. A very nice tea was provided, after which an enjoyable programme was gone through. Songs by Miss E. Stott and Master Shelly Begg; recitations by Misses Benson and Day; also sketches by Messrs. L. Bland, J. Whittles, R. Pinfield, E. Wilson, A. Tolson, Q. Holdsworth, and Misses F. Collier, I. Moore, and L. Whitworth. On Sunday, March 28th, we had an Open Session, many questions and comments arose out of the recitations. Pearls, solos, recitations, and a quartette were rendered. It was indeed a real good session. In the evening we had a good service, at which Mr. Knott gave a stirring address to a large congregation.—E. Wilson, Sec.

EDINBURGH.—We held an Open Session on Sunday, April 4th, Mr. Niven, conductor, presided. The following Lyceumists took part in the Session: Solos, Mrs. Geo. Stewart, Miss Sanderson; duet, Ella and Barbara MacLennan; recitations, Walter and Edward Sanderson. On Sunday, April 11th, we held our half-yearly business meeting, the following office-bearers being elected for the ensuing term: Conductor, Mr. Niven; Assist. Conductor, Mr. McIntosh; Secretary, Miss Copley; Treasurer, Miss Sanderson; Guardian, Miss Neilson; Librarian, Cyril McIntosh; Musical Conductors, Mr. G. McIntosh and Mr. Cant; Leaders, Miss Raeburn, Miss Neilson, Mr. Niven, Mr. Rankin and Mr. Wollison; Calisthenics Leader, Miss Copley; Marching Leaders, Annie Bathgate and Hugh Smith; Auditors, Mrs. Smith, Mr. Sanderson.—M. M. Neilson.

FLEETWOOD.—Friday, March 26th, an interesting social evening was held for the purpose of presenting Mr. and Mrs. Batley (who have since left the district) with a very neat mahogany bureau, subscribed for by spiritualists and friends in Fleetwood. Vice-President Waller in making the presentation, referred to the work they had done in the Lyceum, Mr. Harris and Mr. Barnes—an old Spiritualist and friend of

Mr. Batley's—supporting the opening remarks. Mr. Batley, on accepting the present, said a few words, and hoped that would be a red letter day in the history of Fleetwood Lyceum, and all work together in unison for the good of the cause. The social closed by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."—J.C.W., Sec.

FOLESHILL.—Everybody present tried to make our Open Session on Easter Sunday enjoyable. Margery Neal recited a patriotic piece; Florrie Lucas gave us "Bye and Bye"; Jenny and Lucy Lee and Raymond and Malcolm Bambrick contributed interesting selections; Esme Neal recited "Waste not, want not"; and Gracie Martin, "Little Birdie." Malcolm Bambrick sang the Welsh National Anthem. Our little Zulu friends pleased us immensely. Julie Oughton gave "Waiting for Father Christmas"; May Oughton, "Follow my Leader"; and Winnie Oughton interested us with "A Lesson for Mama." Then they sang in their native tongue, "Are thou weary; art thou languid?" and the Marseillaise in French. Mr. Grant then spoke to us about Easter, and closed a very delightful session.—G. Starr Bambrick.

GLASGOW (Berkeley Street).—On April 5th (Spring Holiday), we held our first ramble of the season to Bardowie, going by tram to Lambhill, thence walking four miles to destination. There was a record attendance of about 50. A most enjoyable time was spent in spite of some showers. It seemed as though the football would be stopped early, owing to the ball bursting, but "Tommy's winning way" with the ladies enabled repairs to be effected, and the game to continue. About 7 p.m. we left for home, tired but happy, after a lingering farewell with the "Laird." It is intended to hold rambles fortnightly throughout the summer season. Our Lyceum Sessions continue to be well attended and most interesting.—James Shaw, Secretary.

GREAT HARWOOD (off Westwell Street).—We held our Open Session on April 4th, when the silver chain was led by Master Herbert Baxter; the musical reading by Florrie Owen, Ada Waterhouse, Elizabeth Ann Hindle, and Will Thornley; the golden chain by Mr. Woods. Good discussion. Songs were rendered by Miss Alice Wylie, Florrie Owen, Miss Holt, Mr. Baxter, Will Thornley, Herbert Baxter, and Harry Hindle. I think our scholars are attending better now than they have been doing for some time past.—Louie Holt, Sec.

HIRST.—On Sunday, April 4th, we held our usual Open Session. Mr. Johnstone, Conductor, presided over a very good attendance. The children were quick to respond on being called upon to give recitations, etc. The following took part:—Mr. Johnstone, Mrs. Eke, Master Eke, Master Sproat, N. Cowell, R. Minto, R. Richardson, J. Johnstone, A. Walkenshaw, Miss Eke, S. Elliott, M. Sproat, E. Sproat, M. Charlton, J. Elliott, and M. Johnstone. Mr. Eke, from Heaton and Byker Lyceum, gave an address to the children, Mr. Johnstone responding. This concluded a very pleasant session.—Mrs. A. M. Stoddart.

HUDDERSFIELD (St. Peter Street).—On Sunday, April 4th, we held our usual Open Sessions, our President conducting. Recitations and pearls were nicely rendered by the scholars. Marching and calisthenics were done splendidly, led by Mr. W. W. Wallace. We also had a very large attendance of friends and strangers to see how we have our spiritual ceremony of naming the baby of our Lyceumists, Mr. and Mrs. B. Taylor. The ceremony was again performed by our President, Mr. F. Fielding, who gave its earth name as Cyril, and spirit name "Wisdom." This brought another pleasant session to a close, which every one present enjoyed.—John Midgley, Sec.

HULL (Holborn Street).—Now that the fine weather is here I am pleased to say that we are having a much better attendance. On Sunday morning, April 4th, we held our Open Session, opening with "Welcome, Angels, pure and bright." The various readings were led by members of the Lyceum. Mr. Griffith kindly led the Golden Chain recitation, "The three rules," which he ably explained, and urged all present to practice the "golden rule" in their daily lives, and thus help to bring about a much brighter future. Several pearls and recitations were given. A most enjoyable session was brought to a close by singing "The Lyceum."—C. Headley, Secretary.

LEICESTER (Queen Street).—On April 4th we held our Open Session, when the following Lyceumists took part:—Mr. Bowmer took the Golden Chain Recitation 121, *Manual*, and gave a very good address from it, which was enjoyed by all present. A recitation was given by Miss E. Wicks; solos by Mr. H. Waterton, Miss U. Waterton, and a reading by Masters A. Veary and H. Wicks. We had a very good session.—J. Wicks, Secretary.

LEICESTER, QUEEN'S HALL (Silver Street).—On

Sunday, April 4th, we held our Open Session, the service being conducted by Mrs. Whitmore. Marching and exercises were taken, under the leadership of Mr. Bowmer, in his usual brisk manner, after which we were treated to an address by our Mr. Watts, on the subject of "Easter," an effort which received the appreciation of all present. Recitations were afterwards given by Cissy Jones, Mr. Watts and Mr. R. Bowmer, followed by solos from Alice Spence and Miss Parsons; a well-rendered duet by Archie Lucas and Albert Veary, making up a very pleasant session, which was well enjoyed by all. The attendance of both adults and scholars was gratifying, and well reflects the efforts of our leaders.—F. C. Smith, Secretary.

LEIGH (The Avenue).—On Sunday, March 28th, we held our Open Session and Presentation of Shield. Mr. Batten, of Bolton, President of the B.L.D.C., made the presentation. During his remarks he said he was pleased to present the shield to us, and warned us that other Lyceums were trying to win it from us. We are equally determined to try and keep it. The shield is a splendid piece of workmanship and well worth the winning. In the evening a service of song was given, entitled "Rest at last," Mr. James Massey being the reader. Both the singing and the reading were much appreciated. Both services were well attended.—J. Hurdus, Sec.

LINCOLN.—On April 4th we held Open Session. Many of us, namely, P. Cotton, A. Crawshaw, A. Tomlinson, Mr. Rutter, Miss K. Crawshaw, E. Andrews and Miss C. Crawshaw, said recitations. F. Harrison and Eva Tomlinson sang "Seeds of Promise," from the *Songster*, and Mr. Cotten also sang "The Golden Age." We had pearls from Mr. Rutter, Miss Roberts and Miss C. Crawshaw, and Mr. Sharpe told the children about the boy who hurt himself because he wanted only just the sweet things of life. We had a very good time, but Mr. Dobby, our Conductor, had gone to open a new Lyceum at Mansfield, so he was not with us.—Edith Andrews.

LONDON, BRIXTON.—On March 28th, though missing our late Conductor, Mr. Parker, we were pleased to welcome back our old friend, Mrs. Staton. Groups were formed and during the month two papers on "Influence" and "The Workers Win," written by the Leader (Miss Theobald), of the Liberty Group, were read and discussed. On April 4th we experienced much pleasure in welcoming Mr. Symons into the discussion of the former paper. We are also happy to report the return to the Lyceum of our young friend, Charles Hutchins, who for some months has been absent through illness. On May 7th and 8th we are holding a May Festival, at which we shall gladly welcome all friends from the different Lyceums. Programmes 6d. each.—(Miss) V. Appleby, Secretary.

LONDON, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—We held our Open Session on Sunday, April 4th, and although small in numbers, those who attended were well rewarded in hearing a very instructive address from our old friend, Mr. T. West, on "Easter and its forces," which was greatly appreciated. The individual efforts were very good indeed, and showed great improvement, being given by the following:—Pianoforte solos by Edna Hustwick and John Chambers, our organist, a recitation by Florrie Brown and a song by Ivy Chambers. Pearls were good and numerous. Marching and calisthenics were entered into with the zeal which we like to see. Our thanks are given to the adults for their attendance, which is so encouraging.—Fred John Miles.

LONDON, PLAISTOW (Braemar Road).—On Sunday, the 11th April, we celebrated our sixth Anniversary. Mrs. Roberts spoke very encouragingly in the afternoon, and Mr. Roberts gave the children a very beautiful description of the life of children in the Summerland. At the evening meeting, after reciting "A noble vengeance," Miss T. Manning was presented with a medal by Mrs. Roberts, on behalf of the London Lyceum District Council, won at the King's Hall in March for Eloquence. Plaistow is also to be congratulated upon winning a certificate at this demonstration. The Lyceum Choir rendered two solos in the evening, which were greatly applauded. Both services were fully enjoyed and the Lyceumists deserve all praise. Thanks are due to officers for their support.—A. Monk, Secretary.

LONDON, STRATFORD (Idmiston Road).—Our progress is slow, but sure. Wednesday evenings are used for drill, and the teaching of songs, etc., for forthcoming entertainments; and through these meetings we have secured several children for the Sunday session. New interest has been given by Mr. Selfe and Mrs. Greenwood, who have promised watches for the boy and girl who during the year get most marks for recitations, pearls, securing new members, etc. Two new leaders have joined us and take a great interest in the work. Our

Group arrangements, also, are working very smoothly and the children seem to be really interested in our teachings. On Sunday, 25th, we received our first visit from the London District Council.—Mrs. A. T. Connor, Secretary.

LONDON, WOOLWICH AND PLUMSTEAD.—Our scholars are still working with a will, and although we were not successful in winning a medal at the recent demonstration, we shall still strive after one at the next trial, and congratulate the winners on their success. Those of us who were fortunate to meet the three members of the B.S.L.U. at Peckham had a most enjoyable time, and our only regret was that so few were able to make the journey, but the few who did come made a fine stir, and Peckham was fortunate in thus having made the visit so delightful for London Lyceums. If we work with a will, now is the time for Spiritualist Lyceums to make themselves heard.—H. Watthey, Secretary.

MANCHESTER, ARDWICK.—This Lyceum still maintains its numbers, and is improving steadily. Numerous recitations, solos, etc., being given each Sunday. The groups under their leaders provide interesting matter for discussion. On April 4th we had a short lecture on the "Origin of Easter." On April 18th we had a pleasing ceremony, being the naming of the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. McClellan, the medium being Mrs. Jones, the earthly name being Eric, and the spirit name "Peace." Its spiritual guardians were described and recognised, being a sister and grandma. The service was simple and effective, so different from the crystalized churchianic method.—Albert E. Jones, Secretary.

MANCHESTER, HARPURHEY (Mitford Street).—On Saturday, March 27th, we held our Annual Prize Distribution and Concert, which was opened by nine of the Lyceum children, each saying a verse of a song, entitled "When a woman I am," followed by a cantata, given by the adults, entitled "Sherwood's Queen." There was a fairly good audience. The rest of the evening was given up to distributing fifty prizes by late Conductor, Miss Powell. Our present Treasurer, Mr. Dolman, had the pleasure of presenting our late Treasurer, Mr. Frith (who held that office for fourteen years), and our Musical Conductor, Master G. Smith, with a special prize of a silver-mounted umbrella each, thus bringing an enjoyable evening to a close.—Miss P. Thomas, Secretary.

MIDDLESBROUGH (Waterloo Road).—We held our Open Session on April 4th. Opening Hymn No. 13, "Welcome to Angels." Our Conductor, Mr. Jack Tuffin, gave 147 as the Invocation. Silver Chain 51, "Life's Builders," being conducted by Thos. Drew. Musical Reading 204, "The Angels," readings of which were favourably rendered by Miss Ruth Tuffin. Golden Chain 149, "The attainment of truth." Pearls, etc., were very scarce. We had the pleasure of having Mrs. Young, from South Shields, as a visitor. Being asked to say a few words, our friend gave a very effective and inspiring address. After the usual marching and calisthenics we closed a very enjoyable session with hymn 341.—E. W. Buckingham, Secretary.

MIDDLETON (Gilmour Street).—On Sunday, April 4th, we held our Open Session in the evening for a change, and I am pleased to say it was a grand success. Friends from other Lyceums visited us, and with grand results. Remarks were passed by Conductors of Manchester (Harpurhey) Lyceum, Miss Elliott, and Heywood (William Street), Mr. Lord, President of South East Lancashire Council, which I think was very encouraging. Duets were sung by Mrs. Marcroft and Mr. Liddle, Mrs. Liddle and Mr. Liddle; solos, Mr. Williamson and Mr. Whitehead. We are still progressing and with perseverance hope to gain the top of the tree.—J. Liddle, Secretary.

MANSFIELD (Westgate).—On Sunday, April 4th, Mr. Dobby, of Lincoln, opened our Lyceum. Opening hymn, "Open the door for the children." Invocation for God's guidance and blessing was offered by Mr. Dobby. Afterwards he pronounced the Lyceum duly opened. Pearls, solos and recitations were contributed by the children. There were two prizes given by the Conductor, Mrs. Cox. The first was awarded to Ethel Watson and the second to Louisa Rigley. Mr. Dobby then addressed the children on "The Spiritualists' Lyceum and its meaning." He then presented the Lyceum with a *Spiritual Songster* and a copy of *Outlines of Spiritualism for the Young*. We were visited by Mrs. Hill, the Conductor of the Quaker Lane Lyceum, and a number of scholars.—W. H. Vardy, Sec.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, HEATON AND BYKER.—On Sunday, April 4th, we held our Open Session, conducted by Mr. Hunter. Recitations by Arnold Patterson, Lavina Wardle, John Wardle, Mary Wardle, Jennie Jobson, Edward Patterson, Edith Sandam, Gordon Sandam, Dorothy Craig, Agnes Bradley, Marjory Whitfield and Miss Drinkald. Pearls by

Mr. Ronaldson, Mrs. Wardle, John T. Shadforth, Mr. Sandam, Jennie Jobson, and a solo by Alice Eke. A very enjoyable session.—Mrs. R. Hunter, Secretary.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE (Rutherford Street).—Our Open Session on April 4th was well attended, and the following contributed towards the afternoon's enjoyment:—Solos by Misses Claque and Duckworth, and Messrs. G. S. Dawson and H. Thompson; duets by Misses Sinton and M. Goss, and Messrs. Scott and Edward Campbell. Pearls by Mrs. Finley, Master Robbie Finley, Master J. W. Anderson, Miss Blackhall, Miss Eva Anderson, Mr. G. S. Dawson and Mr. H. Thompson. Before the session closed a dyed Easter Egg (the gift of a member) was handed to each one present by James A. Dawson, our youngest Lyceumist. On Monday, 19th April, several of our members assembled at the Central Station to bid "God speed" to John Finley.—Alex. Dawson, Secretary.

NORMANTON.—On Sunday, April 11th, we held our Open Session, ably conducted by Mrs. Severn, our lady Conductor. Singing and recitations, and also silver and golden chain recitations, were gone through in an enjoyable manner. One of our old Lyceumists, Mrs. Rothery, gave excellent clairvoyances. At the evening service we had a treat in store. Mr. C. R. Illingworth made his first public appearance, and gave an illuminating address on "Spiritualism in the Theatre—The Blue Bird." Mrs. Rothery again gave some good clairvoyance, and the President of the Lyceum, Mr. Rothery, ably presided.—C. R. Illingworth, Secretary.

NOTTINGHAM (Bentnck Road).—On Sunday, April 11th, we held our Open Session, conducted by Miss Swadden, when the following items were ably rendered:—Recitations by Miss Marie Sanderson and Miss Winnie Breffit; duet by Miss Harriman and Miss Metcalf; and a duet was rendered by the two youngest girls in the school. Pearls were very good. Miss Swadden concluded an interesting session by giving clairvoyant descriptions.—M. Reade, Secretary.

OLDHAM (Elliott Street).—On Sunday evening, April 18th, we had a very pleasant Open Session. We had recitations by Sam Clayton; Robert Slater, "My good right arm"; J. W. Slater, "Almost a crime"; Mr. Slater, "Sow in the morn thy seed." We had solos by Miss E. Whitehead, Mrs. Platt and Mr. Barker. The meeting was a pleasant one from beginning to finish. The singing was excellent, and the attendance good. There were many fresh faces, and we hope for a continuance of their presence, along with those of our old friends.—J. W. Slater, Assistant Secretary.

OLDHAM (Union Street).—On March 27th we held our Anniversary Fancy Dress Social, which was a great success. There were 103 present. We made presentations to our President and his wife (Mr. and Mrs. Standish) for their long services to the Church and Lyceum. The presentations were made by Mr. Taylor, Vice-President, moved by Mrs. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Grimes, and supported by Mr. Wood and Mr. Lester. On April 11th we held our Open Session. Recitations by Frances Rooks, Malisa Rooks, Winnie Rooks, Mary Hargreaves and Mrs. Hargreaves; solos by Elsie Pointon, Miss Ashton, Hannah Baguley and Mrs. Moore. In the evening we had a service of song, entitled "Minnie Lee," the reader being Mr. Standish.—F. Grimes, Secretary.

PRESTON (Clarke's Yard).—Sunday, April 4th, Open Session. We were pleased to see about nine or ten visitors from the other Lyceum. Recitations were given by the following:—Lizzie Chambers, "The fairy wand"; Miss Cartmell, "I wonder"; Rena Colis, "The singers"; Florrie Howarth, "Not one to spare"; Mabel Cartmell, "The reaper and the flowers"; Melita Birkeley, of Nelson, "The Leak in the Dyke." Song by Miss Clark, "Queen of the Angels." Trio by Miss Moorby, Mr. R. Cartmell and Bert Tomlinson, "Never give up the right way." Piano and mandoline duet by Miss Savage and Miss Eccles, air from "Il Trovatore." Everybody seemed to enjoy the session.—Ellen Savage, Secretary.

PRESTON (Lancaster Road).—On Sunday, April 4th, we held our Open Session. There was a very fair attendance. silver chains and goldens were well read, and some good pearls were also given. Recitations were given by Irene Chadwick, Lilian Hayes, Elsie Holderness, Mark Holderness, Joe Cusack, David Rae and Tom Holderness. A solo was given by Mr. Rae and a duet by T. Topping and J. Casack. Words of cheer were given to us by Mrs. Glover, of St. Helens, who was the medium for the day. We all felt that we had been strengthened and are determined to spread the teaching of the Lyceum at all times.—Wm. Rae, Secretary.

READING, THE NEW HALL (Blagrove Street).—I am pleased to report our Lyceum Sessions are interesting and

helpful by the addresses and solos given by our Lyceumists, which encourages us to go forward. At our last business meeting Master R. Deadman was elected Treasurer and Miss Gladys Loveday, Secretary, our late officers having to resign owing to duties taking them away from town. Our Resident Speaker, Mr. Percy Street, presented each with a book dealing with our Philosophy, as a memento for their willing services during the past five years.—Gladys Lovelock, Secretary.

[Will Miss Lovelock please forward her address to this office?—EDITOR.]

RISHTON (Eachill Road).—On Sunday, April 11th, we held our monthly Open Session. There was a good attendance of scholars, and we all tried our best to make it a pleasant session. Recitations by Eva Dewhirst, Lizzie English and James English; also a solo by Ivy Dixon, and a duet by Mr. R. Cooke and Maurice Holden. There was an improvement in the marching and calisthenics, I am glad to say. I hope we shall still march onward and upward in this school of a liberal and harmonious education, where we unfold our faculties in their due order and degree, and thus progress, both physically and mentally, for this is what our Lyceums teach, so shall we come to realise its highest ideal.—Eva Ormerod, Secretary.

ROCHDALE (Penn Street).—On Sunday evening, March 28th, we held our quarterly Open Session before a large congregation, being creditably conducted by Mr. L. V. Holt. Silver chain recitation was conducted by Miss Edith Robinshaw; Musical readings by several of our Lyceumists, and the golden chain recitation by Mr. F. W. Wood. Afterwards marching and calisthenics were gone through, being ably led by Mr. Ernest Hudson and Mr. Fred Wright. Recitations were given by Miss Edna Turner, Jane Alice Wood, Elsie Taylor, Maggie Guy, Master John Lomas, Harry Hudson and John Hitchon. Solos were sweetly rendered by Miss Edith Robinshaw and Elsie Taylor, Mr. Sanderson proving an efficient accompanist. A very successful session.—Miss Mary Taylor, Secretary.

ROTHERHAM.—On Sunday, April 4th, we held our Open Session, when a good number of Lyceumists and friends took part. The marching and calisthenics were excellent. Our good friend, Mr. Humphery, offered a Lyceum badge for the best recitation, the winner being Annie Hollis, a little scholar of 5; the following taking part:—Margaret Swallow, May Hemshall, Ruby Hossell, Cissie Cole, Ellis Rand, Thomas Brookes, Clara Harrod, Wilfred Swallow. Mrs. Sharpe and Mr. Chappell each gave a solo, which were well rendered. Mr. Green spoke well on G.C.R. 126, giving good food for thought, which brought an enjoyable afternoon to a close.—H. Blaymire, Secretary.

SHEFFIELD, ATTERCLIFFE.—On Sunday, April 18th, we held our first practice for the anniversary sermons. We had with us Mr. Gush, who gave a very interesting address to the Lyceum elders, the subject being "Our spirit bodies." Our Lyceum has now three of its late Conductors fighting at the front, Mr. C. H. Saxley, Mr. W. Barnes and Mr. Bacon, besides others who are serving in the Army in England. May God allow his Angel Ministers to hover around them, to carry to them love's best wishes and happy memories from Lyceum members at Attercliffe.—E. Pegg, Secretary.

SHEFFIELD (Heeley).—On Good Friday we held our Annual Tea and Social. There was only a moderate attendance of Lyceumists and friends. Sunday, April 4th, was our Lyceum Day. We held Open Session in the afternoon, and the following members of our Lyceum gave short addresses in the evening:—Mr. E. Vickers (President of the B.S.L.U.), Mr. Hugh Bowmer and Mr. Haseldine. On Sunday, April 11th, R. Whitehead gave a paper on "Socrates." The subject raised a great amount of discussion, and it was a splendid effort for so young a member of our Liberty Group. Mrs. Collins conducted the Liberty Group on Sunday, April 18th, and gave an interesting paper on "Youth."—G. Stevenson, Secretary.

SOUTHAMPTON (Cavendish Grove).—On Sunday, April 4th, we held our first Open Session. We opened with song 363. Our Conductress, Mrs. Penton, gave the Invocation. After song 407 we had a silver chain recitation, then pearls, which were very good. Recitations, Gladys Henry, entitled "Teddy bear," from the BANNER; also Maggie Hulme, Mollie Shillington and Frank Reeves; who also sang "Angels lead my footsteps." A duet from Violet Dawson and Leonard Stephens, "Over the river of light." The marches, maze and cross were led by Marie Allen. There were a large number of friends present. Mrs. Long made a nice little speech for the children, then presented prizes. Friends were delighted to see such a happy band of Lyceumists.—Mrs. Wattlely, Secretary.

STOCKPORT.—On Saturday and Sunday, April 17th and 18th, we held our Anniversary Social and Service, respectively. Upwards of 80 sat down to an excellent tea on the Saturday, ably provided and attended to by the Lyceumists. After tea, dancing and singing were indulged in and a very enjoyable time spent. On Sunday afternoon we had an Open Session, which was ably and excellently conducted by our Conductor, Mrs. Ennion, to whom great praise is due in this direction. In the evening we had Mr. Hepworth, of Bury, occupying our platform, and his address, based on the subject, "Milestones," was most inspiring, it dealing from the birth of our beloved founder, Andrew Jackson Davis, to the present day.—J. Bell, Secretary.

SUNDERLAND (Derwent Street).—On Sundays, April 12th and 19th, we held our Anniversary Services, which were well attended. We had recitations by Mary Smith, Hilda Petrie, Garth Petrie, Ruth Ditchburn, Sarah Lee, Geo. Koppenhoefer and Leslie Ditchburn; solos by Miss Sankey, "Now the winter storms are over"; Miss E. Lee, "Sweet golden age"; Mrs. Petrie, "The city gates," and Mr. S. Relly, "Never give up the right way"; and a reading by Mrs. Koppenhoefer. On Easter Tuesday we held our Annual Social, a large company being present. During the evening Mr. Lee, our oldest Lyceumist, presented the prizes to the children. A most enjoyable evening was spent.—E. E. Rely, Secretary.

TODMORDEN (Halifax Road).—On Sunday, April 4th, we held our Open Session, when the following helped to make it a good success:—Recitation by Miss C. Howarth; duet by Miss Howarth and Mr. Wilkinson, and an address by Mrs. Sutcliffe; song by Miss E. Howarth; recitation by Mr. Wilkinson; recitation by Miss D. M. Ashworth; song by Miss M. Taylor.—O.S., Secretary.

TORONTO, CANADA.—We held our Open Sessions, which showed a very great improvement has been made. It was conducted by Mrs. Stier, assisted by Mr. Fred Brooks, in golden chain recitation and musical reading, entitled "Rest for the weary." The Lyceumists gave pearls and recitations, also a solo was sung by Nora Bell. Miss Hobson accompanied her on the piano. Mr. Herbert Brett conducted the marching and Mr. W. Deeks conducted the calisthenics. We closed the Lyceum by singing "Rest for thee at home." Mrs. Stier offered prayer.—Polly Stier, Secretary.

WAIHI, AUCKLAND, N.Z.—On Sunday, 7th February, we held our Open Session, and though we had a smaller attendance than usual, the responses were good. Each child said a pearl and then recited or read a suitable poem for the day. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, who are occupying our platform, spoke a few words to the children, and Mrs. Wilson recited a beautiful little poem. Although the Church members increase in number the Lyceum does not grow as it should. We are looking forward to our Annual Lyceum Picnic on 1st March.—W. M. Morton, Secretary.

WAKEFIELD (Dixon Yard).—On Sunday, March 28th, our Lyceumists gave a service of song, entitled "Joan of Arc," reader, Mr. Jackson, of Shipley. Great credit is due to our organist, Mr. Slater, for the way he trained the children for the singing of the hymns. Miss A. Hargate sang a solo, entitled "Angel care," and I am pleased to say a nice few of our Church members came and helped us. Our Church was not full, but it ought to have been, but the weather turned out to be very bad. I am sure they missed a treat. Our Lyceum is making good progress now.—A. Harding, Secretary.

WELLINGTON, N.Z.—On Sunday, we held our election of officers, which resulted as follows:—Conductor, Mr. W. Miles; Vice-Conductor, Rose Waring; Secretary, A. G. Miles; Treasurer, Mrs. Miles; Musical Conductors, Mr. Sutcliffe and Mrs. Stenning; Guardian, Mr. Turner; Guard, Nell Waring and Pearl Burnette; Librarians, Nancie Bailey and Rose Waring; Auditors, Mr. Turner and Mrs. Sutcliffe. Our finances were found to be in a healthy condition and everything running along nicely. The only regrettable part is that our membership is not increasing as it should, but we have hopes of a full Lyceum some day, and we pin our faith to those hopes and wait. Now the colder weather is coming we shall re-commence our marching and calisthenics.—Alfred G. Miles.

WINDHILL.—We held our Open Session on Sunday, April 11th. Quite a nice number were present and all did their best to make the time as happy and enjoyable as possible. Songs were sung by Mrs. Copley and Mr. Harrison. Duets by Misses I. Hailstone and E. Starkey, and Mrs. Crapper and A. Crapper. Recitations by Helen Olives, Emily Yeadon, Master W. Alderson and E. Alderson. Quartet by Misses E. Alderson, A. Hicks, I. Hailstone and E. Starkey.—Miss Gott, Secretary.