

# 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. 293.

JUNE, 1915.

ONE PENNY.

## Lyceum Banner Portrait Gallery.

### Mr. Frank Grayson Clarke (Brighton.)

The interesting collection of personalities gathered together in our portrait gallery is enriched this month by that of Mr. Frank Grayson Clarke, so well-known to the spiritualists of the South of England, and to not a few of our colleagues in the North.

Mr. Clarke was brought up in the tenets of the Church of England, but his reflective and scientific mind soon rejected its teaching and he became avowedly agnostic. While he was thus searching for more light on the mysteries of life and death, he was brought into touch with the spiritualistic movement; there he obtained the demonstration and proof his critical faculties demanded. Nature, "the old nurse," is ever ready to lift the veil of her secrets to those of her children who approach her in the right spirit. Thus it was the agnostic became the gnostic, and the radiance of truth cleared up the fog of doubt and made him one of the staunchest of spiritualists.

The societies of Clapham and Camberwell were the scenes of Mr. Clarke's early mediumship, many phases of which he has now developed, including trance speaking, clairvoyance, clairaudiences, inspirational writing, and an uncommon and wonderfully convincing variety of mediumship—impersonation.

As a speaker he first visited the Brighton spiritualists ten years ago, he at once won their admiration and esteem, and after frequent visits the appeal of Brighton became irresistible and he at length decided to make it his home. One of the first things he observed was the lack of a Lyceum. His enthusiasm soon convinced the local spiritualists that the children's Lyceum is the best training ground for the speakers and propagandists of the future, and that a Spiritualists' Society without a Lyceum was decidedly incomplete. With much valuable assistance from others, Mr. and Mrs. Clarke founded the present most excellent Lyceum, which commenced its activi-

ties on January 13th, 1907, at Manchester Street, Brighton, where it is still going strong. Since its foundation Mr. Clarke has been intimately identified with the work of the Lyceum. He has been its most able conductor, and has filled the other offices with equal success.

Mr. W. J. Colville has described the Brighton Lyceum as one of the best he has ever attended either in England or America.

Mr. Clarke has twice accepted the presidential chair of the parent society, achieving much popularity in this capacity, and welcoming to Brighton the great teachers of to-day and yesterday, including Mr. W. J. Colville, Mr. J. J. Morse, Dr. Peebles, Mr. E. W. Wallis and many others.

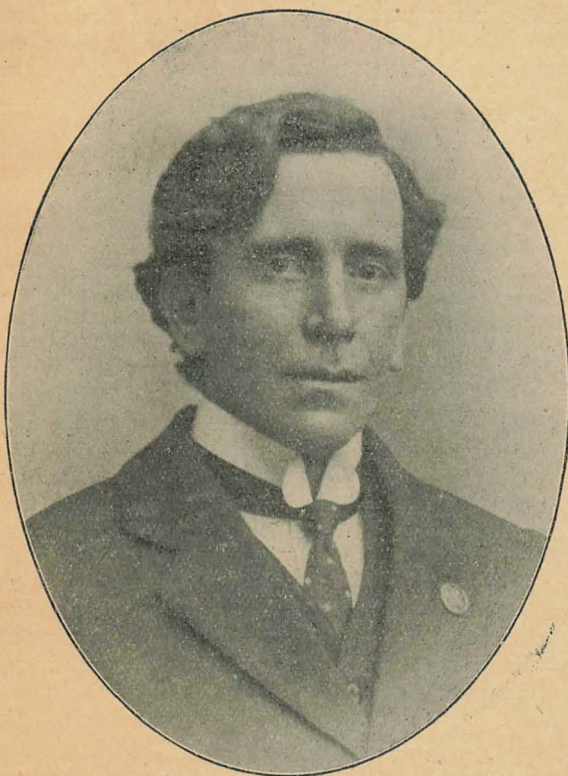
Some charming and instructive cycles of poetry have been written by him, and performed at the annual gatherings of the Lyceum, on the subjects recommended by Andrew Jackson Davis for the study of Lyceumists—phrenology and astrology. These may be reproduced in later issues of the BANNER, and our readers would do well to give them the attention they deserve.

No record of Mr. Clarke would be complete without reference to his gifted wife, who has always given ungrudgingly her able

assistance in all his undertakings, particularly in Lyceum work.

Students of phrenology will note in the portrait Mr. Clarke's large development of the faculties of Human Nature, Benevolence and Ideality. He is a gifted student, widely read, and ever ready to give freely of his knowledge to others. His innate love of children, his tact and sympathy, make the Lyceum his true field of work, and there he has the confidence and affection of all. His enthusiasm and belief in humanity makes his conversation a real mental tonic. Work for the upliftment and enlightenment of mankind is his recreation; the re-creation of a high ideal—the ultimate perfection of humanity; thus he is doing his little bit to leave this old world better than he found it.

A.G.M.S.



## SOME LITTLE WORD.

Just because you have spoken some little kindly word,  
 Just because you have listened; with sympathy have heard,  
 In that your hands have laboured some comfort here to give,  
 Life has been made the sweeter, God will more truly live;  
 Live in the deeds of your doing, breathe in the work you have wrought,  
 Grow from the seed of your sowing, rise by the worth of your thought.  
 Your life to be as the mirror reflecting the rays of His love  
 To the hearts and the minds of His children, as His loving spirit shall move.  
 Somebody's way may be brighter, somebody's soul may be stirred,  
 Just because God has spoken; just because you have heard.

Through F. G. CLARKE.

[The Portrait and Sketch of Mr. Wright, Hull.—EDITOR.]



## Bluebell Guild.

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

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

My Dear Bluebells, and Readers all,

Once more the time has come for my monthly chat with you; and, at the time of writing (for "Our Page" has to be written long before you see it in print), we are on the eve of our great Annual Conference, which we all hope will be successful in every way.

Let me "right now" give my sincere thanks to each of the four Bluebells, who have proved their active interest in our Guild and Page by writing to me this month, in response to my appeal for letters. To each and all I wish to say how pleased I was to hear from them; and hope we shall do so again; as well as from the other Bluebells. Without further comment I will give their letters:—

Dear Flora Belle,—I am writing a few lines to let you know that our Lyceum is improving. On Sunday, April 25th, it is our Lyceum Day, and we are expecting a good attendance. In the afternoon we are having a Service of Song, entitled "Spring Flowers." At night we are having a Lyceum Service. We have been practising for about two months. When this is over, we shall be practising for the Anniversary. I am very glad that we had a good attendance at our last concert, as you hoped.

This summer we are expecting some rambles. We could not have any last year because of the weather. I think this is all now, from your loving Bluebell, Olive Evelyn Baxter (Slaithwaite).

(I hope all your "big days" prove successful, and shall be pleased to hear about them.—F.B.)

Dear Flora Belle,—I am writing to tell you that we are getting up a play called "Cinderella," and I am to be "Cinderella" in it. We are getting up

another little play, and that it called "The Mission of the Field Flowers," and I am to be "Buttercup" in that. I have been so busy writing out my part and some of the other children's that I have not had much time to write before to you.

We had a very old cat. She was fifteen years old, and she suffered with very bad ears. She got so bad that we had to have her destroyed. But I have a dear little black kitten in her place. I think this is all I have to say, with love from Irene (Winchester).

(Will you please give your full name next time, Irene? I should much like to see your plays acted. I'm sure they will be good. Poor old pussy! Well, never mind, you must teach your new "Kitty" all her tricks, and I hope you'll keep her also many years.—F.B.)

Dear Flora Belle,—I received your membership card and thank you very much, as it is very nice.

On Sunday, April 25th, we had a Service of Song entitled "Spring Flowers." We had a fairly good attendance, and it was a great success. Now that summer is coming again, we are hoping to have many rambles amongst the fields and flowers, which we thoroughly enjoy.

I think that is all at present, from your loving Bluebell, Lillian Kennedy (Slaithwaite).

(Let me know all about those rambles later; for I dearly love them myself.—F.B.)

Dear Flora Belle,—I am very sorry that I have not written to you before. As you know, I am a new member of the Bluebell Guild, and I do not know much about it. We have a very nice Lyceum at Lincoln, and, being the only one in the town, we have a very good attendance; but we want more children.

On Wednesday, May 12th, we are going to have a treat on the South Common, but if it rains, either on Tuesday or Wednesday, we are going to have it in the Lyceum Room. I think this is all this time, and I will tell you about the treat next time I write. From your affectionate Bluebell, Gladys Norwood.

(Our aims are printed on your membership card, Gladys; and reading those, and our page each month, will soon teach you about our Guild. Many thanks for letter; and remember your closing promise.—F.B.)

I will conclude our page by giving you the promised story.

## THE NEW DOLL.

### PART I.

Alice and May Winston were twins, and ten years old. One day their mother took them with her into the town. On passing the window of a certain toy-shop both little girls stopped to look at a beautiful doll;—big as a baby, and wearing lovely clothes; and having all the good points of real hair, eyebrows, teeth, washable body, etc., etc., dear to any girl's heart. "Oh, what a beauty!" said Alice. "How I wish it were ours!" cried May. "Mother," said Alice, "we have each saved our pennies for a long time, and have five shillings between us. May we buy that dear dolly with it." "Yes, please, mother," seconded May. "Well, my dears," mother answered, "what if you want the next new toy that takes your fancy? Hadn't you better wait, and see if something else pleases you better; and decide

later?" "No, no," cried the two, "we only want this new doll here." Finally, Mrs. Winston entered the shop; and finding the doll cost seven shillings—she kindly paid the extra for her little daughters, who became the proud possessors of the lovely treasure. On reaching home, they gave their money to mother; and the next few days played often together with Gwennie—the new doll.

PART II.

One day the girls came in from school and May said, "Mother, Cissie Watson, our playmate, has broken her leg by falling from a wall, and they've taken her to the hospital. Can we visit her on Saturday?" "How sad," answered mother. "I'm pleased you wish to go and cheer up your little friend. Most certainly go and think of anything you can do to help to brighten her weary days in bed."

What could they do? It only needed two kind-hearted little girls to "think hard" (as they said) to find how to cheer up a little friend, whose parents could not afford to buy dear little treasures for their child. Saturday afternoon found Alice and May in the hospital, one on either side of Cissie's bed—and Cissie had forgotten her pain, for she was nursing so tenderly—what? Why, new baby Gwennie; the little Winston girls' treasured doll. "And you can keep her all the time you are here," said Alice. "Here are her other clothes," said May. "They all go on and off just like ours,—and there's her nightdress for bedtime." "Oh, thank you ever so much," said the happy patient. But which of the three were the happiest do you think?

With best wishes to you all,

Your loving sister,  
FLORA BELLE.

**For the Boys.**  
Conducted by Geo. Fred Knott.

MY DEAR CHUMS,

Last month I gave a batch of puzzles for your solution. When I was placing the list in an envelope to send to our Editor, I hesitated whether to send them or not, and I said to a very dear chum of mine, "I don't know whether to send these or write something seriously for our boys." My chum told me to send them and give our boys a chance to solve the puzzles. I feel very glad now I did not destroy my efforts to amuse.

Replies have been welcomed from Liverpool, Sheffield, Bradford, Normanton, Newcastle, Bacup, Norwich, Leeds, Rochdale, Lincoln, Great Harwood, and Nelson. In most of the returns nearly all are right. Here are the solutions:—Hidden Lyceums, 1, Belfast; 2, Blackburn; 3, Hull; 4, Christchurch; 5, Bacup; 6, Daisy Hill; 7, Douglas; 8, Fleetwood; 9, Heywood; 10, Hyde; 11, Littleboro'; 12, Castleford; 13, Brierfield; 14, Crewe; 15, Bishop Auckland; 16, Darlington; 17, Nelson; 18, Oldham; 19, Normanton; 20, Stockport; 21, Parkgate; 22, Runcorn; 23, Preston; 24, Reading; 25, Sydney; 26, Wellington.

Transposed Lyceums:—1, Royton; 2, Bury; 3, Rawtenstall; 4, Winchester; 5, Johannesburg.

Prominent workers:—1, Vickers; 2, Kitson; 3, Hesp; 4, Wright.

The last answer is:—"Too wise you are, too wise you be, I see you are too wise for me."

I am sending a Merit Card to each of the boy and girl chums who have guessed a large number of the solutions.

Many thanks to Mr. Ronaldson, of Newcastle, who has sent a square word puzzle for you. When the words are used rightly they will read the same from left to right and from top to bottom. Here is the puzzle:—

1. What you must do before you can accomplish anything.
2. A medicinal herb.
3. What you should say when asked to help mother.

There are many words which sound the same but are spelled differently, and have different meanings.

See if you can guess these:—

1. A place for building and one of the senses.
2. What you should try to do and what I am doing.
3. A chum and a floating object.
4. A landing place and a lever for opening doors.
5. What every boy should learn to do and an aquatic plant.
6. The most important part of a plant and what we should do with wrong thoughts, when asked to be better.
7. Something used by a bank and what we would do with its circulation if we found it bad.
8. A military officer who belongs to the (k)nut family.

Hidden Lyceum names:—

1. A solid body or figure tapering to a point from a circular base represents a Lancashire Lyceum.
2. Something finished and what Scotchmen say for dying.
3. A two-masted vessel and a place to put furniture.
4. Put by to a part of the head.
5. A town in Cheshire leading to a field.
6. An Indian maxim, \* \* \* \* the hatchet!
7. \* \* t t \* \* t \* \* \*
8. Ronaldisbwek.
9. Acckhnotlee.
10. By later car.
11. Feelrunindm.
12. Geahstead.

Send answers to your sincere chum,

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

**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.

In loving memory of my darling wife, Sarah Elizabeth Hale, who passed to the Higher Life June 25th, 1912.

Tho' we have placed beneath the ground  
The form of our loved one dear,  
We know her spirit hovers round,  
And mingles with us here;  
Her home is in the spheres above,  
Yet oft to us below,  
She will return to breathe her love;  
Our dear ones have told us so!

—Mr. D. W. Hale and Family.

## Girls' Own Corner.

BY MRS. JESSY GREENWOOD.

### SESSION PROGRAMME.

JUNE, 1915.

Date.	Opening Hymn.	S.C.R.	Mus. Reading.	G.C.R.	Closing Hymn.
June 6	360	67	227	133	349
June 13	83	74	225	142	88
June 20	32	52	229	137	340
June 27	338	70	241	134	330

JUNE 6.—“Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year.”—*Emerson*.

JUNE 13.—“No man has learned anything until he knows that every day is Doomsday.”

JUNE 20.—*The Search*.

No one could tell me where my soul might be;  
I searched for God, but God eluded me;  
I sought my brother out, and found all three.

—*Ernest Crosby*.

JUNE 27.—

‘God smiled,  
And the skies turned blue.  
God frowned,  
And the storm clouds grew.  
God dreamed,  
And the west wind blew.

‘God laughed,  
And the brooklet ran.  
God vowed,  
By the rainbow’s span.  
God loved,  
And gave Christ to man!’

—*E. P. Prentice*.

Being unable to supply my usual monthly chat for April, I could not follow up the subject of the previous month’s talk, but something in it arrested the attention of a young friend who wrote me an exceedingly nice letter, expressing a wish for me to deal with the difference between “Love and Fascination,” or further, an article on “What is Love?”

I intend to accede to this request later, when the excitement of the Conference is over, and I have more leisure to devote to it. It is the most difficult task any one can have, but I am more than glad to find some one who views it seriously, and no doubt my questioner and I will take widely different views because of the view point we start from—youth and age in contrast.

Our Conference has passed and once more we begin a year’s work with renewed energy, borrowed from the intercourse of friends and workers from all parts of the country. The majority gained over discussions, *pro* and *con*, will now be made effective, and Lyceumists will go back to their respective Lyceums heartened and cheered for further effort among the children. We shall not forget the handclasp, the smile of recognition, the respect for long service and the love of the cause shown by all; and our cry is, “God bless our Lyceums evermore; the leaders and conductors, our Union too, and its Secretary round whom the movement moves, and whose interests are woven into the very fabric of it, may he feel the new, fresh impulse of those souls who watch and urge the influence of the hour for *our* good.”

### THE FUTURE DAWN.

There is a fount about to stream;  
There is a light about to beam;  
There is a warmth about to flow;  
There is a flower about to blow;  
There is a midnight blackness changing

Into grey;

Men of thought, and men of action,  
Clear the way.

Aid the dawn with tongue and pen;

Aid it, hopes of honest men;

Aid it, paper, aid it type;

Aid it, for the hour is ripe,—

And our earnest must not slacken

Into play.

Men of thought, and men of action,

Clear the way.

A. HENRY, Darlington.

## The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

### 26th Annual Conference.

Held in the Spiritual Church, Bradford Street, Sheffield, on Saturday, 22nd May, 1915, and in the Vestry Hall, Attercliffe, Sheffield, on Sunday, 23rd May, 1915.

#### CONFERENCE MINUTES—SATURDAY.

Mr. Ernest Vickers, President, occupied the chair, and was supported on the platform by Miss Alice Hesp, Vice-President; Mr. T. H. Wright, Treasurer; Mr. Alfred Kitson, General Secretary; Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Nurse, Mr. R. Latham, Mr. R. A. Owen, Mr. G. F. Knott, Mr. H. Hargreaves, and Mr. G. Mathison, members of the Executive Council.

The proceedings commenced at 5 p.m. with the song “Welcome, Thrice Welcome,” after which Miss Hesp offered the invocation.

The President invited to the platform Mrs. Susannah Harris, of America, and the S.N.U. representatives, Mr. E. W. Oaten and Mr. H. J. Webster.

The President made the following appointments:—*Messenger*, Mr. B. Chappell, Rotherham; *Tellers*, Mr. A. Ross, Liverpool, and Mr. J. Bell, Stockport; *Minute Secretary*, Mr. J. M. Stewart, Glasgow (by Executive).

Coun. Walter Appleyard, J.P., Sheffield, who was present at the opening of the Conference, extended a welcome to the delegates and asked each of them to accept a copy of his pamphlet, “Where are our Valiant Dead slain in the War?” He thought that such a pamphlet would prove very helpful at the present time, and suggested that the delegates might bring it before their societies. The price was one penny, and orders of a hundred would be supplied at a ¼d. per copy. He himself had distributed 15,000 copies in Sheffield.

The president requested the delegates to delete the words “Notice of” from item 12 on the agenda. Also to substitute “security” for “surety” in motion ten.

Motion 3 on the Agenda, dealing with charge of admission on all D.C.’s., was ruled out of order by the President, after he had ascertained from the representative of the Pendleton Lyceum that it referred to the Constitution, which cannot be altered until 1917.

Mr. Alfred Kitson, Gen. Secretary, read the minutes of the last Conference, which were taken as read on the motion of Mr. Batten, Bolton, seconded by Mr. Clegg, London. *Agreed*.

Mr. E. A. Keeling, Liverpool, drew attention to three discrepancies in the minutes, which it was agreed to correct, and he therefore moved their confirmation, seconded by Mr. W. E. Bentley, Manchester. *Agreed*.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

The General Secretary read communications conveying greetings from the Darwin and North London Lyceums, and also from Mrs. Cadwallader, of America. Mrs. Raymond, Liverpool, moved, and Mr. Coupe, Rawtenstall, seconded, “That the correspondence be taken as read,” and that a letter of greeting be sent to Mr. Rudolph Malmberg and Mrs. Cadwallader. *Agreed*.

#### ANNUAL REPORT.

Mr. T. H. Wright, Treasurer, moved, and Mrs. Nurse, E.C., seconded, “That the annual report be taken as read.” *Agreed*.

The President referred to the paragraph dealing with the Agreement between the General Secretary and the Union, and asked the delegates to add the subject to the agenda under Reports, item (H).

The General Secretary submitted the following list of Lyceums statistical returns to bring them up to date.

Lyceum.	Officers.	Members.
Cardiff ... ..	6	28
Brighouse, Commercial St. ... ..	9	35
Dundee, Overgate ... ..	5	16
Dunfermline ... ..	7	18
Oldham, Elliott St. ... ..	11	29
South Shields ... ..	6	19

After some questions and discussions the confirmation of the report was moved by Mr. Marklew, Rotherham, seconded by Mr. Batley, Accrington. *Agreed.*

LYCEUM BANNER REPORT.

Mr. Keeling, Liverpool, moved, and Mr. Bell, Stockport, seconded, "That the report be taken as read." *Agreed.*

Mr. H. C. Dobby, Lincoln, drew attention to two mistakes in the report which Mr. Kitson stated were printer's errors. Mr. Dobby also paid a high tribute to Mr. Kitson's editorship, and to the success with which it was meeting.

Mr. R. A. Owen, E.C., referred to the paragraph relating to the reduction in postage of parcels due to the secretaries in several towns having undertaken the distribution of the BANNER to other Lyceums in their town. He urged a fuller adoption of this practice.

Mr. Bentley, Manchester, asked for information relative to the Free Insurance Coupon; and Mr. Kitson replied that he had not yet received the acceptance of the proposal by the Insurance Company.

Mr. Owen, E.C., moved, and Miss Hesp, E.C., seconded that the paragraph in the report relating to the Insurance Coupon be amended by substituting the words "We hope to be able to offer" in place of the words "We are able to offer."

The confirmation of the report was moved by Mr. A. Ross, Liverpool, seconded by Mr. R. Ashworth, N.E.L.D.C.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mr. T. H. Wright, Treasurer, drew attention to the new form in which the accounts were presented, and tendered thanks through the Conference to the General Secretary for his invaluable help in making the financial work as light as possible. He moved, seconded by Mr. Ackroyd, Huddersfield, "That the Balance Sheet be taken as read." *Agreed.* Questions and discussion then ensued.

Mr. Ronaldson, Tyneside, drew attention to the absence from the accounts of any mention of income tax to be refunded; and the John Ainsworth Bequest of £500. The treasurer replied that the former would appear in the current year's accounts, and that officially he knew nothing about the latter. It was a separate fund and banked in the name of Mr. Venables, the previous Treasurer, and Mr. Bateman, Solicitor.

Mr. Kitson supplemented this information by stating that the Bequest was given for a definite object, viz., the establishment of a Home for sick Lyceumists, and that not being a legal body the Union could not administer the Fund. Mr. Bateman and Mr. Venables were in the meantime responsible for the fund to the Charity Commissioners until the Union became legalised.

Mrs. Raymond asked for information relative to the number of meetings and expenses of the various sub-committees, and suggested that in future fuller details might be given.

Mr. Knight, Bolton, drew attention to the cost of typing minutes, and information given by the General Secretary showed that the sum was moderate.

A further question by Mr. Knight re income from Advertisements in the BANNER was answered by the General Secretary.

Mr. Keeling, Liverpool, raised the question of debiting the BANNER account with a portion of the General Secretary's salary. The feeling was expressed, however, that in view of the additional cost of cutting, wiring, and covering, the BANNER could not be made to pay if it had to face, say, 25 per cent. of the Gen. Secretary's salary.

Mr. Dobbie, Lincoln, drew attention to the increasing cost of E.C. meetings, and urged the Lyceums concerned to make these meetings more productive. The responsibility rested with them, the Officers being simply the servants of the Union.

The confirmation of the Treasurer's report was moved by Mr. Crawshaw, Lincoln, seconded by Mr. Higham, Padiham.

PERMANENT SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Mr. A. Ross, Liverpool, moved, and Mr. Lord, Heywood,

seconded, "That the report be taken as read." *Agreed.*

After some discussion Mr. Knott, E.C., moved the confirmation of the report, and added that the best thanks of the Union be given to Mrs. Greenwood for her long and valuable service as Hon. Secretary to the fund. This was seconded by Mr. Doleman, Manchester, and unanimously agreed to.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

Mr. Will Edwards, auditor, intimated that owing to illness his fellow auditor, Mr. H. Birdsall, had not been able to act, and that Mr. T. W. D. Pincott had been co-opted in his stead. Mr. Edwards referred to the remodelling of the accounts and stated they were now in proper legal form.

Mr. Edwards also drew attention to the outstanding Lyceum Banner Accounts, and thought that Lyceums should see that their accounts were paid promptly. He would like to see the item disappear, or at any rate be greatly reduced in future financial statements.

Reference was also made by Mr. Edwards to the deficit on the General Fund. He suggested that all publications should be increased 50 per cent. to un-affiliated Lyceums, and the amount placed to the credit of the General Fund. The BANNER double numbers he thought should also be sold at 2d. instead of 1½d.

In conclusion, Mr. Edwards stated that the books were well kept. He had seen all the relative vouchers and was satisfied as to their correctness.

Mr. Pincott, in a few words, associated himself with what Mr. Edwards had said in regard to the accuracy of the accounts. It had been a pleasure to him to act in place of Mr. Birdsall, although he regretted the cause which rendered his services necessary.

Mr. Keeling moved the acceptance of the report and that a special vote of thanks be given to Mr. Pincott for his ready assistance. Mr. Knight seconded and the motion was unanimously agreed to.

The report gave rise to some discussion. Mr. Knight thought the services of the D.V.'s. might be requisitioned in regard to the outstanding accounts. Mr. Latham dealt with the deficit on the General Fund. He was of opinion that an equitable arrangement might be made whereby Lyceums paid a subscription fee in proportion to their strength.

Mr. Ronaldson, Tyneside, recommended an increase in the present fee of 1d. to 2d. per head. He contended that this could be adopted at any annual meeting as the amount of fee was not fixed by article of constitution, and that the matter need not therefore wait the revision of constitution due in 1917.

DELEGATES' REPORT OF S.N.U. CONFERENCE AT MANCHESTER, JULY, 1914.

Delegates: Mr. Ernest Vickers, President, and Mr. Alfred Kitson, General Secretary.

Mr. E. Vickers gave an excellent report of the proceedings. Mr. A. Ross, Liverpool, moved the acceptance of the report, and that the best thanks of the Conference be given to Mr. Vickers. This was seconded by Mr. Clegg, London, and unanimously agreed to.

EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT.

Mr. Magness, Sheffield, moved, and Mr. Downs, Hull, seconded, "That the report be taken as read." *Agreed.*

Mr. Knott, E.C., gave particulars of the constitution of the Sub-Committee, number and expense of meetings held. He further stated that if the scheme were adopted the expense of its working would be chargeable to the General Fund, whereas the profits from sales would be credited to the Publishing Account.

Discussion ensued as to the best way to deal with the report, in which Mr. Keeling, Liverpool; Mr. Seth Ackroyd, Huddersfield; Mr. Knight, Bolton; Mr. Owen, E.C.; Mr. Latham, E.C., joined. It was felt that the success of the scheme depended upon the support given to it by the D.C.'s., and that although the scheme might not have been fully considered by the delegates, it was desirable that the Conference should indicate in a general way its approval or otherwise.

It was ultimately agreed to take the clauses in the report *seriatim*. In the discussion which followed some interesting points emerged. Some delegates were of opinion that in the teaching of sex questions the boys and girls should be separated. The weight of opinion was, however, on the other side.

Mr. Ackroyd pressed for the publication of cheap text books, but Mr. Knott pointed out that the Education Committee were of opinion that there were a sufficient number of these on the market already, and he instanced the 6d. Classics dealing

with Botany, Geology, Physiology, etc. The aim of the Committee was rather to publish leaflets dealing with subjects not fully covered by the general run of books, particularly those relating to spiritual questions from the spiritualistic point of view, and in the light of the facts gathered in a realm of being which has hitherto been little explored.

Mrs. Pickles, Burnley, gave expression to the thought that every Psychic might be a better teacher than any book. Mr. Niven, Scottish District Council, suggested that Lyceum leaders might approach curators of museums and librarians in their respective districts for simple lectures on the arts and sciences. He had done so in Edinburgh and had found them only too ready to respond. In this way he had aroused, on the part of the children, a keener interest in their lessons.

Mr. Knott, E.C., commended the "Outlines of Spiritualism," by Mr. Alfred Kitson as a text book, and also the lessons appearing in the BANNER under Mrs. Greenwood's name. Both had proved an inspiration to Leaders.

Mr. Owen, E.C., moved, Mr. Batten seconded, and Mr. Clegg, London, supported, "That report as a whole be adopted." *Agreed.*

#### CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Officers 4, E.C. Members 8, Auditor 1, District Visitors 10, D.C. Representatives 10, Delegates 93, Press Representatives 2, Visitors 2, S.N.U. Representatives 2. Total 132.

Mr. Owen, E.C., moved, and Mr. Ross, Liverpool, seconded, "That the report be accepted." *Agreed.*

It was agreed, on the motion of Mr. Bentley, Manchester, seconded by Mr. Edwards, auditor, that the Conference adjourn at 8-30 p.m.

#### REPORT ON GENERAL SECRETARY'S AGREEMENT.

Mr. R. A. Owen, E.C., on behalf of the Executive, presented a lengthy report regarding the Agreement between the Union and the General Secretary, which expired on the 9th November, 1914.

The chief points of report may be briefly summarised as follows:—

- (1) Appointment of General Secretary.
  - (2) Consideration of transfer of liability of retiring to incoming E.C. Members.
  - (3) The justification or otherwise of E.C. Members signing the agreement who are unable to meet liabilities if emergency arose.
  - (4) The amount of such liability, etc.
- At this point the Conference rose under previous resolution.

#### SUNDAY MORNING.

The President (Mr. Ernest Vickers) called the Conference to order at 10-10 a.m., the late start being due to the delay in obtaining the Credential Book.

The opening song was "Open the door for the Children." Mr. H. Hargreaves, E.C., offered the invocation.

An Ode of Welcome, composed by Mr. E. W. Oaten, Sheffield, was ably presented by twelve children, two selected from each Lyceum in the district. Mr. Humphries, Rotherham, was in charge of the children, all of whom recited their parts with great feeling. The Ode was as follows:—

#### ODE OF WELCOME TO B.S.L.U.

The Lyceums of Sheffield and district joyously  
Unite to give you welcome into their midst to-day.

We pray that in your Councils peace and goodwill may reign.

And that the Father's blessing may everyone sustain;  
As in past times it strengthened one who'll be with us to-day.  
We'll spell his name to all of you—I'll start with the letter A.

We greet you in our Founder's name—the name we all revere,  
Brave Andrew Jackson Davis, the great Poughkeepsie seer.

He founded the Lyceum in eighteen-sixty-three,

To train the bodies, minds, and souls of little ones like me  
By methods used in spirit life, seen by this best of men.  
And to perpetuate his name I'll add the letter N.

God blessed him with fair visions of happy Lyceum bands  
Marching with songs and banners in the great summerlands.

He saw them winding hand in hand 'neath canopies of flowers,

Forming their groups and classes in sunlit glades and bowers.

He learned that real tuition quite natural should be.  
The other ones will tell you more. I'm only letter D.

And each group had a colour peculiarly its own,  
And this was on their badges and banner plainly shown.

Those banners and their colours are represented here,  
Just as our Founder saw them used in the spirit sphere.  
Right colours make for harmony, wrong colours cause a jar.  
Carefully mark that lesson—taught by the latter R.

The spirit groups were graded by their growth—you understand,

For children of all ages pass to the spirit land.

And some one there must train them; for children, you must know,

Are just the little rosebuds from which human flowers grow.  
Young children grow in spirit life the same as you and me  
Until they reach maturity. So says the letter E.

Twelve groups in all he counted, and he found the children grew

So quickly in intelligence, and spiritually, too,

That A. J. Davis was inspired to found upon this earth

A Lyceum on the spirit plan. It proved of so much worth

In training spirit children in the land of the new birth.  
Your burdens all seem lighter, and cares don't trouble you  
If you're trained in a Lyceum, like letter W.

The spirit children loved to learn their lessons, that was plain,  
For everyone was happy. They did not dread the cane.

They were not crammed or preached to, but interest was stirred

By methods that were natural and varied. In a word,  
Mental and moral lessons can oft be learned in play.  
I haven't time to tell you more, else we'll be here all day,  
So as Jackson is a long word, we'll use the letter J.

The first Lyceum started in Dodsworth Hall, New York,  
And Andrew Jackson Davis laid a plan for future work

Which has been copied far and wide, and its success lies here:

It turns out men and women so broadminded and sincere,

That strife, and war, and bloodshed will quickly disappear  
With creeds, and forms, and dogmas, which make men disagree,

When all are trained on spirit lines—the same as letter D.

In Britain the Lyceums may be counted by the score.

We've dozens herein Yorkshire, but there's work for many more

To kill false creeds and dogmas about children born in sin,  
And teach men of the power of God existing deep within  
Each child of God; and if we each our God-given powers display,

Each in due order and degree, 'twill quickly pave the way  
To union of all nations. So says the letter A.

For sixty years our founder was a mouthpiece of the spheres,  
And now he's been translated there is no need for tears.

He guides us and inspires us still, and wraps us in his love.

Our Father has but called him to a larger work above.  
If we're true to spirit teachings, our guide he'll surely be.  
May his spirit hover o'er us, is the wish of letter V.

Dear delegates and friends, you meet to carry on his work,  
May God and guardian angels help you to never shirk

The trials and the crosses which always strew the way

Of those who work for liberty and progress day by day.  
If you are faithful to your trust, blessings from God on high  
Will fall upon you here on earth and fit you by and by  
For Lyceums in the Summerland. So says the letter I.

We're glad you've come to Sheffield, the city famed for steel;  
We also make Lyceumists second to none for zeal.

For instance, there's our President, whose work we all admire.

The message of the spirit world often his lips inspire.

We trust you'll all enjoy yourselves and do some good work too,

Welcome to Sheffield, every one! Welcome, B.S.L.U.

The work that lies before you will make life's sorrows less;  
May god inspire and bless you, is the prayer of letter S.

The children then presented the President and other officers and members of the E.C. with button-holes and sprays.  
Mr. J. K. Jones, President S.D.C., and Mr. G. Magness, President of Conference Committee, ably supported the welcome.

The President (Mr. Ernest Vickers) responded to the hearty welcome which had been given, specially complimenting the children upon their delivery. He expressed the hope that the Conference would result in increased activity of Lyceum work in Sheffield.

The President extended a welcome to Mrs. Susannah Harris, of America, and called upon her to say a few words. Mrs. Harris briefly responded, and stated that she would take back to America sweet memories of the Convention.

## Presidential Address.

To the Delegates assembled at the 26th Annual Conference of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union at Sheffield, May 22nd and 23rd, 1915.

Lyceumists and Friends:—

It is a pleasing duty to present to you in my native city the Presidential Address giving you a brief idea of the work done during the past year, and a few thoughts and suggestions which I trust will be helpful to you in the noble work in which you are engaged.

The Parliamentary Rules issued will enable future conferences, by voting on the lines shown, to arrive at the best possible result.

In order for Conferences to run smoothly and waste of time avoided in voting, it is essential for all Delegates to come prepared, and I hope that the methods of voting, etc., contained in the Parliamentary Rules, will be carefully studied and adopted in every Lyceum and District Council so that Delegates to Conferences will be fully acquainted with the system to ensure the desired success.

I am pleased with the result of the Education Committee's work and the scheme outlined for your consideration.

Many serious difficulties have had to be faced, and although the subjects quoted for the Examination may appear elementary to some, yet it is a good beginning, and if the scheme meets with the whole-hearted response as that anticipated, no doubt higher stages will be introduced in the future to include advanced grades of thought.

To me the educational aspect of our movement is a very serious matter, for we find great difficulty in many Lyceums of procuring teachers or leaders for Groups.

Obviously the early work of the Education Committee will be very hard in placing the matter to be studied in as simple form as possible.

I feel sure that as the years pass Lyceumists who have been successful in passing lower stages will be encouraged to assist in teaching others.

I look upon the Lyceum Movement as introduced by Andrew Jackson Davis as the most advanced Educational System ever presented to mankind; one need only refer to his early Manual to be convinced of this.

All forms of education as are in existence at the present day together with those that pertain to the spiritual nature of man are included.

After years of plodding along bearing all manner of criticism, statements occasionally have emanated from the scientific world that "there is no death," and the Lyceum Movement has been teaching during the past fifty-two years what Sir Oliver Lodge in his Presidential Address before the British Association at Birmingham nearly two years ago, had the courage to state in spite of all criticism "That personality exists beyond bodily death," and "That the Psychic region can be studied and brought into law too."

Children's Progressive Lyceums are the result of that wonderful seer A. J. Davis being able to leave his Physical body and journey into the Spirit World to be shown Lyceums in which Spirit children are taught.

It is time these higher laws that control our spiritual natures were taken into consideration to assist the child and man to unfold all the parts of their natures: The Physical, Mental and Spiritual, and so help them to live and move in harmony with Physical and Spiritual laws.

During the early part of this year I received the following message from Mrs. Emma Rood Tuttle, of New York: "Lyceumists should work to put Spiritualism on a sound educational basis from which there can be no backsliding, no retreat."

I entirely agree with the message, and all our energies should be directed to the education of Lyceumists so that as they move about in the various grades of society they will be equipped with the necessary knowledge to refute all criticism with credit to themselves and honour to the movement.

I am of the opinion that the ideal spiritualist should be produced by passing through the Lyceum, instead of having to

submit to bigotted teachings, he is taught truth obtained from all sources; "That he is a Spirit now functioning through a physical body," and "Death is a change from a lower to a higher state of existence."

Having passed through such a system of education, where all the parts of one's nature are cultivated, we can expect to be able to supply suitable exponents to the Mother Church Spiritualism.

When the opportunity presents itself I think we could consider to advantage the formation of a Psychological Research Society, constituted of suitable members to investigate scientifically Spirit Phenomena and to undertake research work into the laws that govern such Phenomena so that such could be recorded for the benefit of the parent movement.

With reference to the financial aspect of our Union according to the balance sheet, which has been arranged quite different from those made in previous years, we see the adverse balance that appeared for years is much smaller and no doubt it will diminish yearly.

Although the balance sheet appears better yet the causes that were responsible for the accumulation of the adverse balance are still in operation, and no doubt if you will carefully study the causes and possible remedies as detailed in the general report you will be helped to arrive at a satisfactory solution of the problem.

The statistical returns show a slight increase of the number last year, and although it is small yet when one thinks of the many Lyceumists who have joined His Majesty's Forces, and the various influences prevailing during the past year due to the war, I think you will agree the returns are satisfactory.

Since the last Conference a terrible catastrophe has befallen European nations, and we find ourselves to-day witnessing the greatest war that has ever been the lot of nations to enter.

We find the most wonderful instruments for dealing death and destruction are being used, the product of years of scientific research.

As Lyceumists we recognise "That all war is murder and as such must be atoned for by those who cause it and those who practise it."

The effect of participating in such conflicts is not only felt in this life but in the "Life after death."

Progress is checkmated by being drawn into such conflicts and anything that is derogatory to human progress is to be deplored.

Many Lyceumists have joined the Forces, and I am sure they have the prayers of the entire movement for their safety, but I would like to point out that if you have a desire to serve "King, Country, and Humanity" you could do so in no better way than serving under the Red Cross.

Whatever may be the outcome of this great war let us hope and trust that it will be the last of wars and differences between nations instead of being contested by the sword be settled amicably at an international board of arbitration.

Music sheets have been issued which should be found very useful for anniversaries and special sessions.

I would like to point out that a music sheet has been issued containing an Invocation and Vesper, and Lyceums will find their introduction in the sessions very uplifting and tone of session improved.

During the past year that ardent Lyceumist and Spiritualist, our veteran, Mr. William Johnson, has been promoted to spirit life. I am sure all of us recognise the many years of faithful service to our movement, the courage always displayed to stand "for truth and justice," and the splendid example he has shown us that we may try even to emulate.

Although we have lost his physical presence yet we may be sure that the keen interest which he always showed to the Children's Movement will still continue in his new sphere of activity.

I would like to thank each officer and member of the Executive Council and all Lyceumists for the respect and goodwill extended to me during my term of office; also to those unseen helpers, for although they have passed through the change death, and are now denizens of the Spirit World, they are as much alive to the needs of humanity as ever they were.

I recognise the great sacrifices made by our District Visitors and Officers of Lyceums and District Councils in trying to fulfil their duties to the best of their abilities to the children.

You are all engaged in a great work to teach children by various methods included in our system, that which will enable them to grow up with minds free from contamination with creeds, free from bigotted teachings, and above all assist them to assimilate truth only.

(Continued on page 98).

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.

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## THE LYCEUM BANNER :

ALFRED KITSON, *Editor.*

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

SUNDAY, JUNE 6th, 1915.

## Lyceum Notes and Comments.

A few words of explanation are due to readers concerning the announcement in our last issue of a free Insurance Coupon for £100. In order to make the matter plain we have to say that all matters of a financial nature have to be submitted to the Lyceum Union's Executive before they can be acted on. When the scheme was received it was promptly acknowledged, and intimation given that it should be duly submitted to the Executive Council, and its decision thereon forwarded in due course. This was done, and we await the ratification of the agreement. When that is to hand, the free Insurance Coupon will appear for the sole benefit of our readers.

"The Ode of Welcome" to the Lyceum Conference was prettily rendered by twelve boys and girls—two each being selected from the local Lyceums, so as to make the welcome thoroughly representative—each one carried a silk banner on which was a large gilt letter. The colours of the banner were those given by our beloved Founder in his inaugural address. When the twelve banners, representing the colours of the twelve groups in a fully constituted Lyceum were displayed to the Conference there appeared in gilt letters the following name: ANDREW J. DAVIS! which was greeted with loud applause. The children then proceeded to present each member of the Executive with a buttonhole flower, which were proudly worn by the recipients in honour of the occasion.

The young ladies of the local Lyceums graced the rostrum at the Sunday evening's mass meeting and led the singing, ably conducted by Mr. Frank Whiteley, the choir-master.

The Cardiff (Castle Street) and Witton Park (Co. Durham) Lyceums were admitted as members of the Lyceum Union by the Executive in Council assembled on Conference day. This brings the membership up to 201.

News has reached us that the Spiritual Society of Alberta, Canada, has decided to start a Lyceum. This will make five Lyceums started in Canada by English Lyceumists. The names of the places are as follows: Alberta, Hamilton, Toronto, Victoria, and Winnipeg. We hope the list will continue to grow.

From Holland comes the good news that at the Dutch Spiritualists' Conference, held on May 3rd, at the Hague, it was resolved to start Lyceums in Holland, and build up a Lyceum Union or Association. For which purpose a provisional committee was formed. Mr. G. A. W. Van Straaten, who has spent several years in Glasgow, was elected secretary.

Huddersfield, Ramsden Street, has invited the Executive of the Lyceum Union to pay them a visit in April, 1916. For the guidance of other Lyceums who are desirous of inviting the Union's Executive we beg to announce that the following dates are open: October 9th and 10th, 1915; and January 8th and 9th, 1916.

Mrs. Hale, of Winchester, is making a brave effort to maintain and build up a good Lyceum, but is handicapped for lack of funds to buy *Lyceum Manuals*. She will be very grateful for Lyceums to send her their disused copies of *Lyceum Manuals* for use till they can raise funds to purchase some new ones. Address all parcels to Mrs. H. F. Hale, 15, St. Peter Street, Winchester.

THE LYCEUM BANNER begs to tender its congratulations to Dr. J. M. Peebles, the pioneer pilgrim who, on March 23rd, celebrated the 93rd anniversary of his birthday. The following excerpts from a belated copy of his address delivered on the occasion to a number of his friends fully indicates the venerable Doctor's views on life:—

"To-day, the twenty-third of March, 1915, wrapped in shadowing memories and meditations, I bid farewell to ninety-three years of storms, mental cyclones, moral struggles, defeats and victories. And yet these mental struggles, lighted with sunbeams of faith and purpose, inspired me to strenuously continue the climb towards the distant mountain of the ideal. Every shadow demonstrates a causative substance, and every night prophesies a brighter morning. No real pilgrim lingers by the way, nor drops his staff in early life." "REAL LIFE BEGINS AT DEATH. With others I stand philosophically in the centre of eternity. Involution and evolution are the links that bind the universe in oneness. Suns of progress are rising before me; the future is golden, and joyful are my yearly footsteps towards the realm of immortality."

OUTLINES OF SPIRITUALISM FOR THE YOUNG. This excellent book is specially written for Lyceums. It presents the Facts and Teachings of Spiritualism in a clear and concise manner. It is a book of valuable information. Cloth 1/9 post free; Blue and Gilt 2/9 post free. From the Lyceum Union Office, 17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury.

A good character is better than riches. Riches are left behind at death, character survives it as spiritual riches.

## THE LYCEUM RECITER.

### WHEN SHOULD I DO THOSE GOOD DEEDS?

We stand on the place to-day has given,  
To make or to mar our lot;  
We may fill it up to the brim with heaven,  
Or blur it with stain and blot.  
Bravely may toil for the good and true,  
Earnestly strive and pray,  
But the good or the ill we all may do  
Must be done in the span of to-day.

When should I speak a word of cheer  
To the fainting hearts that are ever near?

Now!

When should a helping hand I lend  
To those who under a burden bend?

Now!

When should I do the work to do,  
And pay the duty I owe to you?

Now!

When should I do all in my power  
To fill with sunshine the passing hour?

Now!

When should I love and charity show  
For all of my fellows here below?

Now!

### PLEASANT THOUGHTS.

Pleasant thoughts are precious jewels  
They are of the greatest worth;  
They enrich the springs of action,  
Giving them a nobler birth.

Like a sweet, refreshing cordial,  
They invigorate the soul;  
Cleansing it from all corruption,  
Making it both pure and whole.

Pleasant thoughts, their sweet'ning  
influence  
Brightens up the human face;  
Blotting out all lines of harshness,  
Giving it a winsome grace.

We are to them the most susceptible  
When around us they do play;  
How they make a mighty difference  
Brightening up the darkest day.

Pleasant thoughts are not as numerous  
As they otherwise might be;  
For the cruel weapon, censure  
We are apt to use too free.

Pleasant thoughts then let us cherish  
Send them out to one and all;  
They will oft inspire with courage,  
Some poor pilgrim prone to fall.

Give thy generous nature freedom,  
That in love it may expand;  
Then will life be full of beauty,  
Making it so fair and grand.

Then you need not wait for heaven  
Till friend Death shall ope the gate;  
You will have it quite 'within you,  
It is just what you create.

T. W. BATEMAN, Nelson.

### TO OLIVE,

MY LITTLE IRISH FRIEND.

Romping little rosy rogue,  
Saucy maiden full of glee;  
Tell me, in your dainty brogue,  
Will you come a walk with me?  
Let us stroll along the pier,  
While I hold your dimpled hand;  
Run a race with me, my dear,  
On the sea-kissed glistening sand.  
Come and gather pretty shells,  
While we dodge the pearly spray,  
Watch the ocean's rolling swells,  
Chasing, racing, all the day;  
Then we'll go and find wild roses,  
Listen to the skylark's song.  
Make mamma some lovely posies,  
While we gaily trip along.  
You shall scamper to and fro,  
Rosy little romping rogue;  
I will hear you as we go,  
Prattle in your Irish brogue.

H. T. WHORLOW.

### TAKE COURAGE.

Faint hearted my brother, you stumble along,  
No light on your pathway you see,  
Yet around you there shines a heavenly glow,  
The light of God's love surrounds thee.

Take courage my brother, and press bravely on,  
Though dark clouds o'er-shadow the sky,  
Beyond them the sun shines with brilliance still,  
Soon away the storm clouds will fly.

So weary the way, and the feet grow tired,  
For life's road is oft rough and steep,  
But look upward, press onward my brother,  
God's angels a faithful watch keep.

Unseen by earth's children they walk hand in hand,  
Spirits bright, immortal are they,  
Our dear "loved and lost ones" return thus to earth  
To smooth for us life's thorny way.

You also, my brother, must help others along,  
Rejoice in the power of God's might  
Let the world be the better for knowing you,  
And sing though you see not the light.

Let your earth life be one, bright, joyous song,  
Soon we sail from life's troubled sea,  
To dwell with God and our loved ones for aye,  
On the "shores of eternity."

LUCY CHAPMAN KNIGHT, Cardiff.

(Continued from page 95).

I would encourage you to still greater activity in working for our movement, whose aim is not only for the upliftment of children but mankind.

Yours fraternally,  
ERNEST VICKERS,  
President, 1914-1915.

#### PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

The President's address was warmly received; and Mr. E. A. Keeling, in moving its acceptance, cordially thanked the President for his inspiring message, which he felt would be productive of much good. He specially commended the paragraph relating to research work. Mr. Simpson, Bradford, seconded, and Mr. Clegg, London, supported the acceptance of the address, which was unanimously agreed to, with the instruction that it be printed simultaneously in the Spiritual Press.

#### GENERAL SECRETARY'S AGREEMENT (continued.)

After Mr. Owen, E.C., had briefly reviewed the position, Mr. Jones, moved, and Mr. Whittles, Dewsbury, seconded, "That Mr. Alfred Kitson be re-elected for another term of five years, and that the agreement be ante-dated to date of expiration of previous agreement, viz., 9th November, 1914. *Agreed.*"

Mr. T. H. Wright, E.C., moved, and Mr. G. Mathison, E.C., seconded, "That the report presented by Mr. Owen be accepted. *Agreed.*"

#### ARISEN LYCEUMISTS.

Mr. Alfred Kitson read the list of arisen Lyceumists during the past year per In Memoriam in the LYCEUM BANNER since 1914 Lyceum Conference.

Mrs. Greenwood, E.C., moved the acceptance, and referred particularly to the transition of Mr. William Johnson, a past President of the B.S.L.U., and for many years a member of the E.C. Mr. J. K. Jones, Sheffield, seconded, and the Conference expressed its sympathy by a silent vote, the delegates rising in their places.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS.

The following scrutineers were appointed: Mr. Walsh, Bolton; Mr. Barnes, Bradford; Mr. Bowmer, Sheffield; Mr. Bentley, Manchester; and Mr. Colbeck, Dewsbury.

The voting resulted as follows:—

President: Mr. Ernest Vickers, Sheffield, 44; Miss Alice Hesp, Leeds, 28; Mr. G. F. Knott, Rochdale, 25; Mrs. Jessy Greenwood, Hebden Bridge, 14; Mr. H. Hargreaves, Nelson, 12.

Vice-President: Miss Alice Hesp, Leeds, 45; Mr. G. F. Knott, Rochdale, 28; Mr. H. Hargreaves, Nelson, 26; Mr. J. M. Stewart, Glasgow, 24.

Treasurer: Mr. T. H. Wright, Sowerby Bridge, 96; Mr. E. A. Keeling, Liverpool, 26.

Executive Council: Mr. G. F. Knott, Rochdale, 66; Mr. H. Hargreaves, Nelson, 63; Mrs. Jessy Greenwood, Hebden Bridge, 60; Mr. H. C. Dobby, Lincoln, 51; Mr. E. A. Keeling, Liverpool, 36; Mr. G. Mathison, Birkenhead, 31; Mrs. Pickles, Burnley, 28; Mrs. A. E. Bentley, Manchester, 27; Mr. H. T. Batten, Bolton, 25; Mr. Myers Clegg, London, 17; Miss Mary L. Stair, Keighley, 15; Mrs. Hogg, Hull, 9; Mr. J. Sutton, Darlington, 7; Mr. C. Welch, Chesterfield, 6. Elected—Mr. G. F. Knott, Mr. H. Hargreaves, Mrs. Jessy Greenwood, and Mr. Harry C. Dobby.

Auditor, Mr. Will Edwards.

#### PLACE AND DATE OF NEXT CONFERENCE.

Two invitations had been received, one from Battersea Lyceum, London, and the other from Douglas, Isle of Man. The acceptance of the former was moved by Mr. Clegg, London, seconded by Mr. Cager, Brighton, and the latter by Mr. Mathison, seconded by Mr. Latham, E.C.

It was explained that the London invitation had the support of the District Council, and that the conditions of the Isle of Man invitation were that delegates should pay for their board and lodging, which was estimated at 5/- per head.

On being put to the vote the London invitation was accepted by 72 as against 24 for the Isle of Man.

The date of next Conference was fixed for Whitsuntide, June 10th and 11th, 1916, on the motion of Mr. Owen, E.C., seconded by Mr. Dobby, Lincoln.

Mr. Holland, Blackburn, moved, and Mr. Coupe, Rawten-stall seconded, "That the Conference sends out its best thoughts for the safe and speedy return of all who had gone on active service." *Agreed.*

Mr. Jones, Sheffield, moved, and Mr. Batten, Bolton, seconded, "That the Conference adjourn at 12-30 p.m. and re-assemble at 2 p.m." *Agreed.*

Mr. D. Niven, Scottish District Council, moved, and Mr.

B. Magness, Sheffield, seconded, "That a retiring collection be taken in aid of the Red Cross Society." *Agreed.* (The collection amounted to 12/1.)

The President and General Secretary were elected to represent the Union at the Spiritualists' National Union Conference at Hull on July 4th.

#### CREDENTIAL REPORT.

Officers 4, Executive Council 8, Auditor 1, D.V's. 11, D.C. Representatives 10, Delegates 91, Press Representative 1, Visitor 1, S.N.U. Representative 1, Total 128.

Mr. Keeling, Liverpool, moved, and Mr. Ross, Liverpool, seconded, the acceptance of the report. *Agreed.*

#### MOTIONS.

(1) Mr. Marklew moved, "That we, the Rotherham 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 constituencies."

Mr. Marklew, who spoke at length on the subject, condemned the system as being injurious to the stamina of the rising generation. It robbed the children of their sensitiveness, power to think, and affected their moral conduct. Mr. Chappell, Rotherham, seconded.

Mr. Owen, E.C., moved, and Mr. Ackroyd, Huddersfield, seconded the following amendment: "That in view of the European crisis, and the extra work thrown upon the Government, the question be deferred until next Conference."

At this stage the Conference adjourned as per resolution.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

On resuming at 2 p.m. the proceedings commenced with the song, "We all might do good, etc."

The question taken on the question of Child Labour, after it had been further discussed, resulted as follows: for Mr. Owen's amendment 68, against 17. The amendment carried.

Motion (2). Mr. Walsh, Bolton, moved, and Mr. Batten, Bolton, seconded, "That the E.C. be authorised to grant D.C's. a loan of Manuals to assist in opening new Lyceums and other propaganda work." In support of the motion they stated that their work in this direction was considerably handicapped through lack of Manuals, and further that a number of Lyceums had lapsed through the same cause.

In the discussion which followed Mr. Will Edwards, auditor, was of opinion that if the motion was agreed to it should only apply to Lyceums in affiliation with the Union. Mr. Knott, E.C., objected to the motion on financial grounds, and warned the Conference that it opened up such a wide door as to endanger the financial status of the Union, the backbone of which was the profit on the publications. Mrs. Bentley, Manchester, thought that it would be difficult to recover the Manuals loaned owing to the frequent changes in the personnel of the D.C's., that their value would soon depreciate in the hands of some children as to make recovery worthless.

Mr. Ross, Liverpool, thought the principle of the motion was wrong, and that every child should be encouraged to own and become responsible for a Manual. Mrs. Nurse also opposed the motion, and thought that it was open to be misapplied.

On being put to the vote 13 were in favour and 76 against the motion.

Motion (4). Mr. R. Bowmer, Sheffield L.D.C., moved, and Mr. Marklew seconded, "That a Temperance Sunday be held once a year, and the S.N.U. be asked to co-operate on that day." In support of their motion they considered that the subject should be brought before Lyceumists as often as possible, and that it would help to fix the matter and be a beginning, if at least one Sunday in the year was set apart for Temperance.

Mr. Ross, Liverpool, Mr. Lord, Heywood, Mrs. Hogg, Hull, joined in the discussion, during which it was brought out that the motion referred to temperance in strong drink.

On a vote being taken the motion was lost by 28 for and 64 against.

Motion (5). Mr. R. Ashworth, N.E.L.L.D.C., moved, and Mrs. Pickles, Burnley, seconded, "That we abolish the Permanent Secretary Fund." They were of opinion that this fund was in the nature of charity, and that the Union was now strong enough to take up a more independent attitude.

Mr. Whittles, Dewsbury; Mr. Holland, Blackburn; Mr. Knight, Bolton; Mr. Kitson, General Secretary; Mr. Knott, E.C., and Mr. Keeling, Liverpool; joined in the subsequent discussion. The last named was strongly of opinion that no change should be made until the affiliation fees were revised, considering that it would be unwise to shut off any source of income in the meantime.

The motion carried by 46 votes as against 45.

Mrs. Raymond, Liverpool, expressed the hope that Lyceums who had in the past contributed to this Fund would now send their contributions to the General Fund. This was supported by Mr. Simpson, Bradford; and Mr. Keeling.

Mrs. Greenwood, who had administered the fund for the past twelve years, expressed regret that it had been abolished by so small a majority. She made it clear that the fund had been subscribed by friends within the movement.

Motion (6). Mr. R. Asworth, N.E.L., moved, and Mr. Batley, Accrington, seconded, "That we avail ourselves of the Trust Deeds of the S.N.U."

Mr. Bowmer, Sheffield, supported the motion. Mr. Will Edwards, Auditor, suggested that Motions 6 and 7 be coupled together. Mr. Owen, E.C., objected to this, on the ground that while some might agree with the principle of the Motion they might object to the method of putting the principle into operation.

Mr. Keeling opposed the motion and was of opinion that it would involve fusion with the S.N.U., and the sacrifice of independent action on the part of the B.S.L.U. He moved the following amendment, which was seconded by Mrs. Bentley, Manchester:—"That we avail ourselves of the Trust Deeds of the S.N.U., providing such action be found to provide the Lyceum Union with legal status and a continuance of free and independent action."

Mr. Latham, E.C., and Mr. Hargreaves, E.C., in supporting the motion, contended that there would be no interference with the independence of the Lyceum Union. Mr. Kitson, who also joined in the discussion, stated that for the past 15 years he had pleaded for legislation, and favoured the direct form, and not through the S.N.U. He instanced several cases where the Lyceum Union would have benefited had such been an accomplished fact.

On the vote being taken, the amendment was carried by 67, as against 33.

The amendment now became the substantive motion, and on being put to the meeting 77 voted for it and 15 against.

Motion (7). Mrs. Buller, Nelson, moved, and Mr. Chadwick, Nelson, seconded, "That we avail ourselves of the Trust Deeds of the S.N.U. and that we appoint a sub-committee of 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 S.N.U. Trustees."

The movers of the Motion contended that the S.N.U. would not be able to dominate or in any way interfere with the liberty of the Lyceum Union. Mr. E. W. Oaten supported this view, stating that the B.S.L.U. would only be bound by legal documents. He further stated that the S.N.U. was not controlled by unattached Spiritualists.

Mr. Keeling asked if the movers of the motion would embody in it the previous motion, and on receiving an answer in the negative, he moved the following amendment, seconded by Mr. Knott, E.C., "That we avail ourselves of the Trust Deeds of the S.N.U., if such action be found to provide the Lyceum Union with legal status and a continuance of free and independent action. That we appoint a sub-committee of 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 S.N.U. Trustees."

On being put to the meeting, 65 voted for the amendment and 32 against.

The amendment then became the substantive motion, which was further amended by Mr. Knight, Bolton, seconded by Mr. Bentley, Manchester, as follows, "That the last sentence of the motion be deleted, viz., the words, 'The said sub-committee to become Trustees under the Deed, along with the S.N.U. Trustees.'" The amendment carried by 54 votes, as against 24.

The motion as amended now became the substantive motion, and on being put to the meeting 85 voted in favour of it and 2 against.

Mr. T. H. Wright, treasurer, moved, and Mr. Doleman, Manchester, seconded, the appointment of the following sub-committee:—Mr. Bentley, Mr. Keeling, Mr. Ross, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Ashworth, Mr. Marklew, Mr. Knight, Mr. Chadwick and Mr. Simpson.

The Credential report was as follows:—Officers 4, E.C. 8, Auditor 1, D.V's 11, D.C. Representatives 9, Delegates 77, Press 1, Visitor 1, S.N.U. 1, total 113.1 Acceptance moved by Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Sutton, and agreed to.

Motion (11). Mr. Wright moved, and Mrs. Bentley seconded, "That the £300 in the Walsall Corporation be set aside as a guarantee or security for the General Secretary's salary and the same be provided for in the Agreement." After some discussion, in which Mr. Owen, Mr. Keeling, Miss Hesp,

Mr. Knight, and Mr. Crawshaw took part, the motion was put to the meeting, 52 voting in favour of it and 25 against.

#### NOTICES OF MOTION FOR NEXT CONFERENCE.

Mr. Keeling gave notice of the following motion:—"That a standing orders committee be appointed to arrange the agenda for all future Conferences."

Mrs. Raymond gave notice that a sub-committee be appointed from the E.C. to solicit and consider amendments to the Constitution.

On the motion of Mr. Ross, seconded by Mr. Keeling, and supported by Mr. Owen, Mr. Knight and Mr. Latham, votes of thanks were given to the local friends for their hospitality, the children for their beautiful welcome, Mr. Jones for his marked ability in the discharge of his arduous duties, Mr. Mathison, the only retiring member of the E.C., Mrs. Greenwood, who for 12 years had acted as Hon. Secretary of the Permanent Secretary Fund, now abolished, and the President, for his labours in the chair.

This finished the business, and the Conference closed by the singing of the "Lyceum Band," and benediction by Mr. Wright at 5-15 p.m.

(Signed) J. M. STEWART,

Minute Secretary.

#### SUNDAY EVENING.

There was a fair gathering at the evening meeting, which was held in the Palace Theatre, Attercliffe, Sheffield. Mr. Ernest Vickers (President), occupied the chair, and was supported by Miss Hesp (Vice-President), Mr. T. H. Wright (Treasurer), Mr. Alfred Kitson (General Secretary), Mr. R. A. Owen, Mr. J. M. Stewart, Mrs. J. Greenwood, Mr. G. F. Knott, Mr. H. Hargreaves, Mr. H. C. Dobby (Lincoln, the newly-elected member to the E.C.), Mr. J. J. Morse, Mr. E. Oaten, Mr. Webster, and the Rev. Susannah Harris.

After the opening hymn ("Welcome to All"), and the invocation by Mr. R. A. Owen, the President, in his opening remarks,—which he stated would be brief on account of the splendid array of talent at his disposal—pointed out the object of the meeting, the B.S.L.U. holding its 26th Anniversary Conference of Delegates from all over England and Scotland. He pointed out that we were now, at the present time, spirits as much as ever we should be, and hoped that all present would ever bear this in mind.

Mr. G. F. Knott, who was the first speaker introduced to the meeting, enumerated particulars as to the conception of the Lyceum movement, which came into existence in a world only partly developed; in the dark ages when men bowed to authorities. He pointed out that many people stated "We should not disturb the dead," but, added Mr. Knott, "it was the dead who distributed us." Our Lyceum stood for those who can and will think for themselves. The result of public enquiry into Spiritualism was "Truth its basis" and "Logic its guide." In concluding Mr. Knott stated that Nationality was no bar to human progress. Spiritualism was a worldly subject and stood paramount.

Mr. J. J. Morse (Editor of the *Two Worlds*) in his usual happy and skilful way, referred to a book published some 15 years ago, entitled, "Other People's Children," and also to the old theories regarding children being told to "sit quiet," "shut up," "don't ask questions," "remember that children are to be seen and not heard," and so on. One of the greatest misfortunes of manhood, he added, was so soon to forget childhood. You cannot educate a child unless you appreciate the child's points of view; therefore let us come down to the child. This, he pointed out, is where the B.S.L.U. gets into its own. The simplest of languages was the best language; the simplest speech the best speech. The man who cannot learn anything at any time of life should go straight to heaven, he is no use here. Our object was not only with the development of the child's mind, but with the child's body as well. Concluding, Mr. Morse said that Lyceumists were trained to have the "seeing eye," the "listening ear," and the "understanding mind."

Mr. Alfred Kitson, our General Secretary, on rising, was received with an outburst of applause, and commenced by saying that amongst us we probably had ladies and gentlemen who were seeking information, and addressed himself specially to those who were seeking information on the theme, "*Death does not end all.*" He referred briefly to the inauguration of Modern Spiritualism through the little daughters of John D. Fox, and ended with the remark that one so often heard "*Dead men tell no tales*"; but, said Mr. Kitson, they do. Here is a message for hundreds of thousands of people in the universe who are mourning for their loved ones, and are wanting to know "where they are" and "what has become of them." He advised all the people to ascertain for themselves what the life beyond the grave is. We want, he added, something solid

and substantial to give to our children, and concluding said the child could understand that whatever seeds were sown in its garden so would the harvest be. We train the child that as it sows so shall it reap.

Mr. H. Hargreaves, who was introduced as the Conductor of the largest Lyceum in the country, addressed the gathering as "Brothers and Sisters," which, he stated, was the best and greatest greeting he could give. He stated that war was an evil existing in the world at the present time—all evil is ignorance. In a breezy speech he stated that our movement accepts something that no other religion does, and that was "Woman's equality with Man."

Mrs. J. Greenwood, under the spirit control of her guide "Ernest," opened by stating how she felt the nearness of the spirit world. "What is the need of the hour?" "The consolation and comfort that only Spiritualism can offer." Let us train the child the way it should go and instil into the mind of the child, as early as ever possible, that life is eternal. "Education begins at birth." Let us train the children, and let the work go on until all hands are united, and let all Lyceumists do their work nobly and well.

Mr. J. M. Stewart compared a conference to a stocktaking. Let us turn over a new leaf, he said, and ask ourselves what better things we can write on the new page. Spiritualism is not the enemy of religion. To-day we are overshadowed by this great war, but let us not slacken our efforts but go forward with renewed energy as there is now so much more work for us to do—the people are clamouring for our religion. We give them the safe and sure knowledge that their loved ones are still with them. Let us strive to create an interest in the child. We recognise the tremendous possibilities in the child and show it that the spiritual nature is a portion of its being. If Spiritualism comes into contact with false doctrines so much the worse for the false doctrines. No artist's work is so high or noble as the moulding of the character in the child.

Mr. E. Oaten, in a way all his own, made a stirring appeal for those who had laboured long and earnestly for us who could no longer labour for themselves. It was our duty, he said, as Spiritualists, to help those who had given their best, and to this end a retiring collection was made.

The President offered a very hearty vote of thanks to all friends at Sheffield for the kindness shown to delegates and friends who had assembled there for the Annual Conference, to which Mr. J. K. Jones very suitably responded.

A very successful evening was brought to a close by the singing of "Our Lyceum 'tis of Thee," the benediction being pronounced by Miss Hesp.

Special mention might here be made to the juvenile orchestra which very sweetly rendered selections and accompanied the hymns, under the able leadership of Mr. Frank Whitely.

#### MONDAY.

On Monday upwards of 150 delegates, friends, and Lyceumists journeyed to Hope (for Castleton) the famous beauty spot of Derbyshire, which after the tremendous heavy work of the Conference acted as a great stimulant. One was pleased on looking round to find the A.J.D. Badge so prominent and the wearers with such happy, beaming, and smiling faces. Many places of interest were visited, including the Peak Cavern, the world-famed Blue John Mine and Caverns, the Winnatts, etc., etc. To add to the joy of everyone "Old Sol" was on his best behaviour, and the day was as near to perfection as possible, and it made one smile to hear one of the prominent members of the E.C. remark, "The sun shines on the righteous." It shone on us and a very enjoyable time was spent.

The rally which was arranged at the Attercliffe Church was not so well patronized as one might have expected, but this was probably due to so many of the delegates not returning to Sheffield but having to go forward to their various destinations from Hope early in the afternoon. Those assembled were amply rewarded for their visit. Mr. Vickers occupied the chair and spoke words of encouragement. Miss Hesp, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Ackroyd, Mr. Spencer Green, Mr. Niven, Mr. Webster, Miss Crawshaw, Mr. Bell, and last but not least Mr. J. K. Jones, all assisted to entertain those assembled.

Great thanks are due to Mr. J. K. Jones and his staff of untiring workers for the way in which everything appertaining to the whole conference was carried out.

J.B.

### Bradford Lyceum District Council.

Quarterly meeting of the above Council was held at Shipley Spiritual Church on Sunday, May 2nd. The President, Mr. Simpson, presided and welcomed the delegates from the various Lyceums, all being represented except Harker Street.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted as a

true record. Correspondence was read from Mr. Kitson, Mr. Barnes, and others, and the matters raised in their various letters were dealt with. The Secretary was instructed to write the secretaries of Cleckheaton (Old Robin) Spiritualist Society and Skipton Society to try to arrange if members of the District Council could occupy the platform for them and to act as deputation to the Societies to press the need for Lyceum work. It was also arranged for President, Secretary, and District Visitor to visit Harker Street Lyceum to explain the working of the District Council.

The various nominations and notices of motion for Conference were discussed, and the District Council's delegate received his instruction. The preliminary arrangements for the children's treat were made. The Secretary was instructed to arrange for interchanging of the conductors of the various Lyceums. It was agreed to subscribe 5/- out of the funds of the Council towards the cost of the pamphlets sent by the S.N.U. to the war bases. In the afternoon a most enjoyable Open Session was held, conducted by the President, in which the following took part: Musical reading, Miss Stair and Mr. Haley; G.C.R. 146, "The Pioneers of Freedom," Mr. Rau, on this a good discussion too place. Solos by Miss Holdsworth, "Swiftly time is bearing us away," and Miss Barker, "Never give up the right way"; Recitations, Miss Winterbottom, "Always tell the Truth"; Miss Ivy Barker, "Footsteps on the other side"; Mr. Alderson, "Whatever is, is best." A well-attended meeting was held in the evening, when addresses were delivered by Miss Stair, Mr. Rau, and Mr. Naylor; clairvoyance by Mrs. Hillas. A vote of thanks to our Shipley friends brought a most enjoyable day to a close.

WM. BARNES, Sec.

### LIVERPOOL LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The next quarterly meeting of the above will be held at the Miners' Hall, Millgate, Wigan, on Saturday, June 12th, commencing at 3.30 p.m. prompt. Delegates are particularly requested to be prepared to consider the motions remitted from the United District Council.

ERNEST A. KEELING, Hon. Sec.

### SOUTH EAST LANCASHIRE LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The next meeting of the above Council will be held on Saturday, June 12th, at the Regent Hall, Regent Street, Rochdale, at 4 p.m. All delegates are requested to attend.

ARTHUR LORD, Sec.

## 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.**

CHESTERFIELD.—Sunday, April 25th, we held our Lyceum Anniversary, the services being taken by Mr. A. Wilkinson. Open Session was held in the morning, and in the afternoon Mr. Wilkinson presented the prizes, giving a suitable message to each child. Some splendid pearls and "Stringings" were forthcoming, and recitations were contributed by the following: Lily and Rene Marriot, Clara and Grace Booth; Alice Delicate, Selina Elliot, Ethel Wale, Winnie Marsh, Lily and Cissie Driver, Ethel and Doris Briggs. During the evening service special singing was rendered by Lyceumists. Altogether we had a most encouraging time. On Sunday, May 9th, we held our usual Open Session, when the following girls recited: Edith Woodyer, Lily Marriot, Doris Briggs, Alice Delicate, Frances Slater, and Selina Elliot.—Edwin H. Widdowson, Secretary.

LONDON, BRIXTON.—On May 7th and 8th our Lyceumists performed "The Queen of the May," the following taking the principal parts, the Misses Theobald, W. and E. Bradley, Boddington, B. and K. Wicks, Hobbs, Nuthall, Masters Maunder, Barnard, and George Hutchins, others taking part as villagers, milkmaids, and maypole dancers. The parts were splendidly performed and, judging by the applause from the audiences greatly appreciated. Great credit is due to Miss V. Appleby (who is also assistant conductor), for the patience and perseverance (which is a great quality) she displayed in training the children, some of whom were not more than four years of age. Also great credit is due to Mrs. Barnard for making dresses for the younger children. Master Charles Hutchins ably presided at the piano and also painted the scenery, which was greatly admired. Mesdames Maunder, Pemberton, Nuthall, and Miss G. Appleby worked hard in supplying refreshments, their stall being well patronised. We concluded a pleasant evening with songs and dances, anyone joining in who cared to. The highest praise I can give is that each one did their best, making the event a great success both socially and financially.—Mrs. Staton, Conductor.

SOUTH SHIELDS (South Eldon Street).—On April 25th, we were visited by Pte. J. A. Wood, of Rotherham Lyceum. Fraternal greetings received and sent. May 1st a model Lyceum session, when Mr. Lawrence, President, and Mr. Ronaldson, Secretary of the Tyneside L.D.C. attended to present the Challenge Shield. May 2nd Anniversary Services, when the service of song "Unseen Hands" was given. The solos were well rendered by Mrs. Parker, John Parker, Amy Large, Alice Barnaby, and Elsie Wilson. The anniversary was continued on May 9th with "A True Briton." Solos by Mrs. Fenwick, John Parker, May Seaton, and Miss Wilson; a duet by Mr. Russell and Mr. Harris; reader, Mrs. Bewick. Mr. Harris ably presided at the organ, accompanied by Mr. Ainley with the 'cello. May 3rd, election of officers as follows: Conductor and Secretary—Mr. Woodall; Assistant Secretary and Representative to D.C.—Mr. Fenwick; Guardian, Mrs. Bewick; Treasurer, Mrs. Parker; Librarian, Miss Wilson; Captain of Guards, Mr. Dietz; Organist, Mr. Harris.—M. Woodall.

## Correspondence.

To the Editor of the LYCEUM BANNER.

### A PROTEST.

Dear Sir,—Will you please allow me to enter my protest against what I term a gross injustice to Mr. Marklew, the Rotherham Delegate at the Conference held at Attercliffe on Sunday, May 23rd. Mr. Marklew moved the Rotherham resolution *re* Child Labour; Mr. Chappell ably seconded the same. Discussion was then allowed. The President allowed Mr. Marklew to rise to reply to the discussion, but the Conference had decided to adjourn for dinner at 12-30, and as it was 12-28½ when Mr. Marklew rose to reply, the President immediately rang him down with a promise of reply on resumption. Now this was where the injustice came in. During the dinner adjournment the opposition to the resolution got their heads together and drafted an amendment which was rushed into business immediately on resuming. Mr. Marklew claimed that which was his right, that he should be allowed to reply before the voting took place, but the President would not allow him to do that which he had promised him before the adjournment for dinner. Therefore Mr. Marklew refused to be put off so easily, with the result that for a time there was a deadlock in business, until Mr. Marklew yielded to persuasion. Now I don't think this reflects much credit on a movement which claims to be democratic, and I think the sooner such judgment is left out of Conferences and justice given to all the better it will be for our movement. To make the act of injustice seem worse, almost immediately after the President allowed Mr. Ashworth to reply to his motion. Now what is good for the goose ought to be good for the gander.

I trust that this protest may result in a greater sense of justice permeating our future Conferences.

WALTER RAWLINSON.

111, Avenue Road,  
Wath-on-Dearne, Nr. Rotherham.

## 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 May 27th.

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, June 23rd, to ensure insertion in the June issue.

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

ACCRINGTON (Abbey Street).—On Sunday, May 2nd, we held our Open Session with a good attendance of Lyceumists. A lively interest was taken in the session. Opening hymns 383, Silver Chain 95, Musical Reading 209, Golden Chain 142, led by Conductor, Mr. Eastwood. Recitations were given. Closing hymn 251. A good session.—John Redmond, Sec.

ACCRINGTON (China Street).—On Sunday, May 2nd, we held our Open Session, opening with hymn "Festal Morn"; duet by Misses M. and A. Unthank; recitation, "The Roses Spring," by Willie Smith; Silver Chain, No. 9, led by Miss Gorton; Musical Reading, No. 223, by Mrs. Chambers and Miss Clayton; Golden Chain led by Mr. Marfleet; recitations by the following: Miss M. A. Unthank, Polly Cook, Florrie Unthank, Bessie Sedden, Millie and Cissie Gordon. Mr. Batley has made his home at China Street and is our Musical Conductor.—Will Swift.

BATLEY CARR (Carr Street).—We celebrated our Lyceum's thirty-third anniversary on Saturday and Sunday, May 15th and 16th, with a tea and concert on the Saturday. The latter consisted of songs, solos, recitations, and the following sketches: "Misjudged," "Why young men don't marry," and "Rival Lovers," all heartily applauded. On the Sunday services were held at 2-30 and 6 p.m., when the children dressed in white and wearing blue sashes made a pretty display on the platform, and heartily rendered special hymns, ably conducted by Mr. J. Roberts. Mr. Geo. Fred. Knott, of Rochdale, delivered two splendid addresses, the one in the afternoon on "Spirit Control," and in the evening on "Human Personality." Both were treats, well reasoned, and in orderly sequence.

BOLTON (Bradford Street).—On May 2nd we held our Open Session, and it was very successful. Many pearls, solos, and recitations were given by our Lyceumists. On May 23rd we held our annual flower service, the whole of the services being given by members of the Lyceum. In the afternoon Miss Wilkins gave a reading from the *Manual*, followed by an address. A quartette was given by Misses Kershaw, Walker and Worthington. A recitation entitled "For the Children's Sake" was given by Miss E. Roe, Miss Webster taking the chair. In the evening the address was given by Mr. Isherwood; clairvoyance by Miss Webster, and a solo by Mr. Shaw, his own composition.—J. Grindrod.

BRADFORD, BANKFOOT (Manchester Road).—On Sunday, May 2nd, we held our Open Session, which was conducted by Miss Alice Lodge, whom we were pleased to have with us again after many weeks' sickness. The following gave recitations: Eleanor Lodge, Alice Fernihough, Ethel Lodge, Hilda Croft, Miss Turnbull, and Norman Haley. Duet by Ruth Fernihough and Hilda Croft. Solos by Mrs. Ridley and Mr. England. Mr. Chambers gave some remarks on an "Old Organ Grinder," which ended with a good moral, which brought a very good session to a close.—A. Haley, Sec.

BRADFORD, EAST BOWLING (Harker Street).—On Sunday, May 2nd, we held our Open Session, which was conducted by Mr. Carter. Recitations were said by the following: Misses Annie Ward, Mary Edith Wilford, Nellie Hudson, Hannah Mary Snaith, and Polly Stead; duet by Annie Ward and Hannah Mary Snaith, 303 from the *Manual*. Solos were rendered by Mr. Carter, "Just across the silent river," and Mr. Wills, 335 from the *Manual*, which were very well appreciated.—R. Wilkinson, Secretary.

BRIGHTON (Manchester Street).—On April 30th last we held our Annual Demonstration; it was a great success. The excellent tea provided by Mrs. Cager and her helpers was much appreciated. A musical fantasy, "The Hours," which was very artistically rendered, was the star turn of the attractive programme. Mr. Curd was stage manager, and Mr. Miles presided at the piano. The younger children showed us how well they could dance and sing in some charming scenes arranged by Miss Zöe Brigden. Humour was abundant in a burlesque played by Mr. and Miss Scoggins. Vocal and instrumental numbers from the other Lyceumists brought forth applause and bouquets, and a merry and bright evening was concluded with the distribution of prizes by Mrs. Clarke.—C. Moorey, Hon. Secretary.

BURNLEY (North Street).—We held our usual Open Session on Sunday, May 2nd. I am sorry to say we were small in number. Mr. Wilfred Whittle conducted the session. S.C.R. and M.R. were read by the Lyceumists. Miss A. J. Housin led the marching and calisthenics. Recitations were well rendered by Miss Doris Allan, Ethel Barraclough, Ella Sutcliffe, and Mabel Barraclough. We should be very pleased if the adult members of the Lyceum would attend a little better, it would help to make the session brighter.—Beatrice Griffin, Sec.

**CHRISTCHURCH.**—Our first recitation afternoon for the new year was held on Sunday, March 7th, when there were upwards of 60 members and friends present. The programme was made interesting and bright by the varied recitations, songs and musical selections of the children. The following contributed pearls: Douglas Emerson, Lennice Worthington, Harold Elliott, Rona Davies, Dorothy Harden, Mary Dalziel, Ida Worthington, Phyllis Elliott, Marjorie Nortontaylor, Bert Emerson, Willie Martin, Miss Dyson. Recitations: Ronald Burling, Eileen Emerson, Mary Martin, Daisy Moody, Beatty Emerson, Olive Wright, Roy Davies, Jim Fulford, Geo. Perry. Songs: Pearl de Breton and Mr. Nortontaylor. Pianoforte solo: Miss G. Davies. After a bright but brief session of marching the interesting afternoon was closed with the doxology.—I. M. Dalziel.

**CREWE (Mill Street).**—Mr. Walker, Buxton, presented prizes to our Lyceumists on May 10th. The following Lyceumists enabled us to spend an enjoyable evening: Solos—Misses M. and G. Baggaley, I. and D. Williams, L. Greenwood, D. Coops, F. Hope, E. Bebbington, A. and L. Coulthard, A. Breeze, L. and A. Freeman, Mrs. Tapley and Messrs. F. Jones, S. Buxton, and W. Breeze. Recitations: Misses P. Tapley, E. Challinor, A. Breeze, E. Jones, V. Wright, and Mr. A. Reay. A dialogue entitled "An Awkward Mistake" was performed by Misses D. Williams, E. Bebbington, G. Baggaley, and Messrs. P. and C. Gawthorne. Mrs. Lomas (Stockport), conducted successful anniversary services on May 15th, 16th, and 17th.—Gwendoline Baggaley, Sec.

**FOLESHILL.**—Another Open Session was rendered extraordinarily enjoyable by a large and varied programme, to which the senior as well as the junior Lyceumists heartily contributed. Patriotic pieces were recited by Lizzie Neal and Florrie Lucas. Margery and Esme Neal, Winnie Oughton, Gracie Martin, and Malcolm Bambrick gave beautiful nature poems. Lucy Lee and Raymond Bambrick gave classical selections. "A Noble Boy" was admirably recited by Doris Lucas. Alice Stack said "Good Night and Good Morning." The 19th Psalm, given by Jennie Lee, being Hebrew poetry, added to the delightful variation of the programme. Our worthy chairman, Mr. Staite, who has been absent for many weeks owing to Government work, made a special effort to be with us on this occasion.—G.S.B.

**GREAT HARWOOD (Off Westwell Street).**—On Sunday, May 2nd, we held our Open Session. The Silver Chain being led by Richard Leaver, Golden Chain by Mrs. Holt, Musical Reading by Rachel Baxter, Alfred Ainsworth, and Florrie Owen. We had recitations from Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Hall, Will Thornley, and Mr. Woods; songs were rendered by Florrie Owen and Mrs. Walton, from Blackburn. We also had with us Mr. Wilson, of Rawtenstall, who spoke on the Golden Chain, and afterwards to the Lyceum, which brought the pleasant session to a close.—Miss Louie Holt.

**HAMILTON, ONTARIO, CANADA.**—It gives me pleasure to report our Open Session on Sunday, April 25th, conducted by Mr. Gretton, Master Gretton officiating at the piano, Master Palmer recited an "Invitation to the Lyceum," and Miss Palmer recited "Hold Fast." Miss Etchells sang "No Night There," and "Swiftly Time is bearing us away." Some of the children gave pearls. Several adults responded to the conductor's request for short addresses. We send our greetings to all Lyceumists.—Miss Selina Etchells, Sec.

**HIRST.**—On Sunday, May 2nd, we held our usual monthly session, when several pearls were said by the children, also recitations by the following: Emma and Maggie Sproat, Ivy and Ronald Johnstone, Nellie Cowall, Annie Montgomery, Amy Wallenshaw, Jane and Thomas Elliott, Allan Johnstone, Ruth Minto, Wm. Ainsley, and R. Richardson. An interesting letter was also read from one of our Lyceumists, Pte. James Fotheringham, who is now on active service. We shall celebrate our Lyceum Anniversary on May 20th. The Tyneside Lyceum District Council will hold its meeting here on June 6th, when we hope to have a pleasant and profitable time.—Alice Stoddart, Secretary.

**HUDDERSFIELD (St. Peter Street).**—On Sunday, May 2nd, we held our usual Open Sessions. Recitations, solos, etc., were nicely rendered by the Lyceumist. Marching and calisthenics were conducted by Miss Smithies, then our conductor, Mr. Fielding, performed the pleasing ceremony of naming two babies. Mrs. Brooke's baby was named Frank, spiritual name "Peace," the other one was named Cyril, spiritual name "Light." This brought another splendid open session to a close.—John Midgley, Sec.

**LEICESTER (Queen Street).**—On May 2nd we held our Lyceum anniversary services. In the morning Mr. Pridmore gave an address on the "Lyceum and its work." In the afternoon our speaker was Mr. Jackson, of Shipley, who distributed

the prizes to the scholars, and also gave a short address. Solos were given by Misses D. Goldsmith and M. York. Recitations by Miss E. Wicks, Masters H. Wicks, and L. Crossley. In the evening the Lyceum gave a service of song "Joan of Arc," Mr. Jackson gave the connective readings. Miss A. Clarke conducted all services. Good attendances.—J. Wicks, Secretary.

**LITTLETOWN (Well Street).**—We had our Annual Treat on Whit-Monday, when we went by train to Harold Park, Low Moor. Tea and buns were served to the scholars. Games, etc., were enjoyed, also sails on the lake. We also sang our anniversary hymns, which attracted many people. At 8 p.m. we returned to our Lyceum, where we had more games and music till 10 p.m. We concluded a happy day by again singing our hymns. Our anniversary is fixed for July 25th, friends please note.—B. Walshaw.

**LINCOLN.**—Again "Open Sunday" passed very happy, and we were pleased that even the small Lyceumists were able to take part. Lyceum songs were given by Edith Andrews, Fanny Harrison, and Elsie Tomlinson; while charming recitations were given by Paul Cotten, Eric Sharpe, Stanley Sharpe, Gladys Norwood, and Ada Crawshaw. Many pearls were also given, and our Conductor, Mr. Dobby, gave a piece to inspire everyone with hope, "Take Courage." The Liberty Group has tackled some big subjects lately, *viz.*, "The Lessons of Life," "The Lyceum," "The Fourth Dimension," and "Miracles." We want, however, much more enthusiasm and more punctual attendance, especially from the children, if we wish our efforts to make for success in the movement.—Kathleen Crawshaw, Secretary.

**LONDON, BATTERSEA.**—I am pleased to report progress in this Lyceum. Pearls are too numerous to mention, but songs and recitations have been given by Alice, Nancy and Louie Fairlough; Ivy, Grace and Tom Halston; Ada Field, Kate Evans, and Leonard Doyle. We have been greatly assisted by an old Lyceumist, in the person of Miss Smith, who has kindly conducted the session twice during the month. As the Battersea representative I was present at the Brixton Lyceum Concert and I must say that great credit is due to all for the way in which the play was produced. I am only voicing all our members' wishes by saying that we shall be delighted to welcome any visitor to our Lyceum, especially any member of the L.L.D.C.—Eva F. Ashley.

**LONDON, FULHAM.**—On Sunday, May 2nd, we celebrated our Anniversary. At the morning session Mr. Smyth addressed us. Individual efforts by A. Lissaman, O. Smith and R. Drew. About 24 friends sat down to a very enjoyable cold lunch. The afternoon session was conducted by Mr. Holding, of Blackburn. Mr. Fielder and Mrs. Boddington addressed the meeting. Efforts by Miss Drew, Miss Smith, Mrs. Orlowski. The evening session was presided over by Mrs. Orlowski. Mr. Fielder again spoke splendidly on behalf of the children. Efforts by Miss Rix, Mr. Drew and Master Smith. The pearls were excellent throughout. A most enjoyable day was spent, which was only marred by the absence of the young men who have joined the colours.—A.E.A.

**LONDON, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.**—The usual Monthly Open Session was held on the 2nd of May, when we had the pleasure of an address from our friend, Mrs. Stockwell, who spoke upon "Ants and their work," an instructive address which no doubt will have the effect of producing good results. Our best thanks are due to the speaker. I was pleased to note pearls were abundant, 95 per cent. Also we had songs from Ivy Chambers and a duet from Miss Welbelove and Connie Brown, well rendered. John Chambers obliged as usual with a pianoforte selection in his usual masterly way.—F. I. Miles, Secretary.

**LONDON, MANOR PARK.**—On May 2nd, we held an Open Session. The individual efforts were followed by marching and calisthenics, now regular items in our sessions, under the conductorship of Mr. Hurrell. A most interesting paper was then read by Miss Trimmer, dealing with influence. At the committee meeting, which followed the session, it was decided to form a social club, for the trial of the scheme the Church committee have granted us the use of the hall once a week for three months. Our summer outing was fixed to take place on June 26th, to Lambourne End by brakes. We have also found it necessary to re-arrange our groups.—L. Goater, Secretary.

**LONDON, PECKHAM (Lausanne Hall).**—I am pleased to report several new members. We are making good progress, but are sadly in need of good workers. On May 6th we had the pleasure of Mrs. Bentley, of Manchester, conducting our Lyceum, and had a splendid time. Again, on 23rd, we had another good time, with Mrs. Annie Boddington. Pearls and efforts were good, especially from the little ones. If we could only get a few workers like those two ladies we should indeed make progress. There is marked progress in our marching

and calisthenics, due to the kindness of Mr. Cotterill, who has been leading us since our own leader has been away.—S. Clarkson.

LONDON, TOTTENHAM.—I am glad to report that our Lyceum is progressing favourably, particularly in the afternoon sessions, successfully conducted by Mrs. Hassell. April 25th we held a committee meeting, at which we decided to have our last social for 1915 at Warmington House, May 13th, and in place of socials, we are to have rambles, at intervals of a fortnight, during the summer months. Commencing May 8th our friend, Mr. Barrington, kept us walking for a few hours. A medal was presented to Mrs. Hassell at a delegate meeting, May 2nd, for items rendered by us at the United Demonstration at King's Hall. We extend hearty greetings to every Lyceum, with good wishes for the well-being of all.—Alice Mitchell, Secretary.

LONDON, STRATFORD (Idmiston Road).—On Sunday, May 23rd, we were visited by the London District Council, and our Church Evening Service was converted into a Lyceum Session, Mr. A. A. Hayward conducting. Miss Ashley and Messrs. Drury, Richards, Selve and Askins delivered stirring propaganda addresses, and Albert and Reggie Tae sang "Shall we know each other there?" and a recitation, "Home affections," by Eva Connor. A most impressive part of the session was the presentation of a new banner, done in our Lyceum colours of purple and gold, by Mr. H. Greenwood, whose father presented our old banner to our Lyceum over twenty years ago. Our officers are determined to make our Lyceum worthy of it.—Mrs. A. T. Connor.

LONDON, WOOLWICH AND PLUMSTEAD.—On Sunday, May 2nd, we had a visit from Mr. Scott, late Conductor Barnsley Lyceum, who was in Woolwich, awaiting orders to go to the front. He spoke very encouragingly to the scholars, who in return wished him a safe return to his friends and Lyceum. May 9th our old friend, Mr. P. R. Symons, also paid us a welcome visit. He is one of the few speakers who visit the Lyceum when he is taking the evening meeting. All speakers are urged to do likewise wherever opportunity presents itself. Fairly good attendances are made and work is well up to the standard.—H. Watthey, Secretary.

MANCHESTER, HARPURHEY.—On May 2nd, we held our Open Session. Miss Harrison gave a paper in the morning entitled, "Spiritualism and Theosophy." In the evening we had a splendid congregation. A duet was given by Misses L. Smith and H. Thomas; solo by Mr. W. Smith; recitations by Miss Jennie Littler, of Ford Lane, and Mr. Oliver, of Harpurhey; also by members of the Lyceum. Remarks were made by Conductors of Middleton (Gilmour Street) and Pendleton (Ford Lane). We spent an enjoyable evening together; all were seemingly well pleased.—Miss Polly Thomas, Sec.

MANCHESTER, PENDLETON.—On April 25th we held our Open Sessions, when the following gave recitations:—Messrs. Boyd, Walters, Royle, Wortley, Thompson and Clayton; Boys, W. Halliday, Shaw and K. Stringer. Solo by Annie Berry. Short addresses by Mr. F. Johnson and Miss Elliott. Evening service was also conducted by the Lyceumists. Recitations by Misses Littler, Boyle and Walters; solos by Miss Brooks. Musical reading conducted by D. Boyle, A. Pilkington and W. Pilkington. Miss Elliott took golden chain 108 with appropriate remarks. Mr. Elliott gave a reading and short address. Miss Thompson took the after circle. We are sorry to announce the passing on of one of the members of the Lyceum, John Massey, at 19 years of age.—C. Lloyd, Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH (Waterloo Road).—Our Lyceum is showing signs of improvement. On Sunday, May 2nd, our Treasurer, Mr. Pugh, was chosen to perform a very pleasing duty he being asked to present a wedding gift, given by the Lyceumists to Mr. and Mrs. Mattock, better known to most as Mr. John Mattock and Miss E. Ward. On Mr. Mattock receiving the present, he said a few words of thanks, and said how sorry he was that he could not be amongst us. At our last meeting it was agreed upon that a Roll of Honour be made of the past and present members, who are at present serving their country.—E. W. Buckingham, Secretary.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE (Benwell).—We held our Open Session on Sunday May 2nd, there being a good number of scholars present. The speaker for the session was Mr. Crooks, of Hirst, who gave a very interesting address on "The Word of God," which was very attentively listened to and very instructive. Pearls and recitations were up to the usual standard, and after a few remarks from our Conductor, the session came to a close.—J. Scott, Secretary.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE (Rutherford Street).—On May 2nd we had the naming of the daughter of Brother and Sister A., Dawson. The ceremony was performed by Mrs. Patterson, of North Shields, who gave the child the name of Alexena

Dawson, the guides giving the spirit name of Lily. Mrs. Patterson afterwards presented the baby with a gold bangle, a gift from Mrs. Patterson; also a Lyceum Badge, suitably inscribed, as a gift from the Lyceum. The members of the Daisy and Violet Groups then marched round the room, led by the Conductor, Miss E. Curtis, and laid a flower on the breast of the baby, while the Lyceum sang "Hand in hand with Angels," an incident which filled many with emotion.—Alex. Dawson, Secretary.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE (Wallsend Café Hall).—On Sunday, April 25th, we held our election of officers. They were as follows:—Conductor, Mr. Dawson; Assistant, Mr. Campbell; Secretary, Miss Gregory; Treasurer, Mrs. Jackson; Guardian, Miss Lawrence; Assistant, Miss A. Innis; Captain of Guards, Mr. A. Emerson; Guards, Miss M. Emerson, Miss M. McIntosh and Master A. McIntosh. To conclude the afternoon session we had recitations by Florrie Innis and Alice Jackson, and solos by Mr. Campbell, Misses A. Innis, Florrie Innis and Mr. A. Emerson. We are also practising for our service of song, which we hope to have in the near future.—Miss E. Gregory, Secretary.

NOTTINGHAM (Bentinck Road).—On Sunday, May 2nd, we held our Open Session. The S.C.R. was led by Miss Pearl. Duets were sung by the following:—J. Metcalf and E. Lacy; Florrie King and Hettie Newshad; May Savage and May Woodward. We had a surprise visit from Mr. Watkins, an old Lyceumist, who brought greetings from North Shields Lyceum, which we heartily reciprocated. Our Lyceum D.V., Mr. Masters was also with us, who congratulated both officers and scholars on smart way in which the calisthenics had been performed. He also spoke on The Path of Duty being the Path of Safety.—Miss M. Reade.

OLDHAM (Union Street).—During the month we have had good sessions and recitations given by Francis Rooks, Mrs. Taylor, Sidney Pointon and John Wood; also solos by Bessie James, Alice Baguley, Annie Chappell, Annie James, Hannah Baguley, Elsie Pointon, Frances Rooks, Albert Fallows, Robert Roberts, Sam Dearly, Joe Lenard, George Wilson; duets by Frances Rooks and Hilda Pointon; Lily Renshaw and Frances Rooks. Our Liberty Group has had two lessons; one has been given by Miss Ashton, on "This is my work," and the other one by Miss Fielding, "Trust yourself," which have been very interesting. We have also had the naming of a child, Mr. Standish performing the ceremony.—F. Grimes, Secretary.

PRESTON (Clerke's Yard).—Open Session, May 2nd. Attendance good. After the invocation, we had Silver Chain recitation No. 49, which brought forth remarks from one of our small boys, Willie Beetham. Musical Reading, No. 211, and Golden Chain recitation, No. 130. Sydney Margerison, Lily Holker, Mabel Cartmell and Miss Jones gave recitations. No. 420 was sung by Mrs. Margison, Miss Moorby, Mr. R. Cartmell, Mr. B. Tomlinson and Jack Tomlinson, accompanied by Miss E. Moorby. Mr. R. Cartmell also sang No. 407. Miss Clark sang "The beautiful prayer." A mandolin solo was given by Miss Eccelles and a reading by Mr. Jones, our Conductor. The members of our Ramblers' Club are enjoying themselves.—Ellen Savage, Secretary.

PRESTON (Lancaster Road).—On Sunday, May 2nd, we held our Open Session, when there was a very fair attendance. Silver and Golden Chains well read, and some good Pearls were given by the children. Recitations were given by Mark Holderness, Irene Chadwick, Elsie Holderness and T. Holderness. Solos were given by Mrs. Guest, Mr. Rae and Miss Walker, and duets were given by Annie and May Pullen, Emily Bradley and Ivy Pullen, Misses Counsell and Walker; also a duet well rendered on the piano and violin by Misses Porter and Walker. Altogether we had a bright session and hope other Lyceums had the same.—Wm. Rae, Secretary.

RAWTENSTALL.—On Sunday, May 2nd, we held our Open Session, which was kindly conducted by Mr. J. E. Elliott, of Ramsbottom, who spoke in a very able manner on the G.C.R. "Self-abnegation." Pearls were given by Mr. Duckworth and Mr. Woodall. Songs were rendered by Mr. Woodall, Master Blizard and Miss Stansfield, and others. We had with us Mr. Rushton Stansfield, an old Lyceumist, who has responded to his country's call. He gave an account of the military training. The whole session was good.—G. F. Duckworth.

READING, NEW HALL (Belgrave Street).—Again we can speak of progress in our Lyceum, having had the pleasure during the past month of listening to some most instructive lessons and some very helpful solos from our members. Our Institute is also going strong. Every Wednesday we have a social evening, and many have been helped and encouraged by the clairvoyant descriptions given by Mrs. Street. Saturdays we have cycle runs or rambles. By these means we hoped to keep our young people together and we have not been disappointed.—Gladys Lovelock, Secretary.

RISHTON (Eachill Road).—On Sunday, May 9th, we had our Lyceum Anniversary Open Session, which was very well attended by both scholars and friends. Recitations by Rita Ormerod, Lizzie English, Amy Waddington, Annie Pickles, of Burnley, and James English; also a solo by a scholar from Great Harwood Lyceum and a duet by Eva Ormerod and Mr. R. Cooke. Mrs. Pickles also recited. We had with us our A.D.V., Mr. Ashworth, of Accrington, who spoke a few words on the conference to be held at Sheffield, on May 22nd. Mrs. Pickles was our speaker for the day, and our Lyceum Anniversary proved a success, and well appreciated and enjoyed by all present.—Eva Ormerod, Secretary.

ROCHDALE (Regent Street).—On May 2nd we held our Open Session. The S.C.R. 34, *Manual*, the readings were read by Olive Lilley, John Firth, Nellie Dearden, and Lizzie Sanderson; M.R. 231, *Manual*, connective readings by Lizzie Dean, Edith Shepherd, Harris Cowen and Frank Brown; G.C.R. 124, *Manual*, was conducted by Mr. W. H. Dearden. Pearls were given by E. and A. Firth, R. Isherwood, Taylor, Mrs. Firth. Recitations by Agnes Firth, entitled "The effect of jam tart," and by Thomas Firth, entitled "The Mill." Solos were sung by Bessie Whitehead, S. A. Dearden and Lizzie Dean; duets by A. Spencer and Cowen, Dearden and Winnie Lilley. The Lyceum was conducted by Mrs. Ernest Spencer.—John Firth.

ROTHERHAM (Percy Street).—On Sunday, May 2nd, a happy day. Morning, usual session. Afternoon, Open Session, and a very good one too. A pleasing feature was the naming of a baby by our Conductor, Mr. Marklew. A Worker gave a Badge (A.J.D.) for the best recitation, which was awarded to Miss May Hempshall, 13 in all trying for it, with a good number of friends present. In the evening the Lyceum rendered a service of song, "From darkness to light," written by our Conductor, this being a perfect success; everyone attending appearing to be delighted with the service. Solos by Messrs. Wilson and Buxton. Duet by Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. Bunker. Other Lyceums can have the above service on application to the Secretary, H. Blaymire.

SCARBOROUGH.—On Sunday, April 25th, we held our Lyceum Anniversary. Miss Lockwood, our Conductor, led the Silver Chain Recitation No. 52, followed by Musical Reading 215, Golden Chain Recitation 109. Hymn 321 was sung in Memoriam of our late Treasurer, Mrs. Davison. Recitations were given by Lyceumists. A quartette was sung, entitled "Thoughts that are fair." A number of Lyceumists gave a recitation, each holding a letter which, when completed, spelt "Come to the Lyceum." Mr. Harold K. Hodgson was the speaker for the day; afternoon subject, "Consider the lilies"; evening subject, "The origin of the Lyceum." Mr. Hodgson earnestly appealed for more workers for our Lyceum. Mrs. Coutts sang as a solo "God be with you till we meet again."—J. W. Constant, Secretary.

SHEFFIELD, CENTRE.—On Sunday, May 2nd, we held our Open Session, at which recitations were given by the following:—E. Hare, G. Hare, May Watkinson, H. Romanes, Elsie Tarlton, M. Wingfield, Mrs. H. Whitehead; and solos by Miss Watkinson and Miss Barton. On Sunday, May 16th, we had a grand session, at which all had a very good time. Mr. Whitehead conducted the Liberty Group, subject, "Shakespeare," which was very interesting to all present. We had a good attendance of members. The marching and calisthenics were led by the children, which were gone through in an able manner, bringing an enjoyable day to a close.—G. Hare, Secretary.

SHEFFIELD (Heeley).—We have held a grand and most successful concert, Lyceumists providing an excellent programme, the most interesting item being "Blue Beard," effectively rendered by Lyceumists. We had our usual Whitsuntide outing on Whit-Monday. About 10-30 in the morning we started from Bramall Lane, journeying by car to Woodseats, and had a pleasant walk in lovely weather to Bullivants' Farm, Greenhill. During the day, biscuits, milk, sweets and oranges were distributed. About 90 Lyceumists and friends sat down to tea. In the evening, after races had been enjoyed by the children, and Lyceumists had rendered, by request, "Open the door for the children" and "Hand in hand with angels," we journeyed home, having had a pleasant day.—G. Stevenson, Secretary.

SLAITHWAITE (Laith Lane).—On Sunday, April 25th, we held our Open Session. In the afternoon a musical service was rendered, entitled "Spring Flowers," the following Lyceumists taking part in the recitations, solos and duets:—Mary Hodgson, Mabel Kennedy, Annie Hoyle, Mary Baxter, Annie Coldwell, Olive Baxter, Lilian Kennedy, Tom Hodgson, Clemont France, John Wm. Kennedy and Wilfred Shaw. All the items were exceptionally well rendered. The evening session was taken by the Liberty Group, with Miss E. Norris conducting. Short addresses were given by Mr. A. Bramall, Mr. Tom B. Cold-

well and Mr. D. Sutcliffe. The accompanists at both sessions was Miss V. Shaw. The audience and collections were records. May it be repeated time after time is the earnest wish of all who took part.—A. Bramall, Secretary.

SOUTHAMPTON (Cavendish Grove).—On Sunday, May 2nd, we held our Open Session. It was well attended by the Lyceumists and creditably conducted by Mrs. Penton. The Silver and Golden Chain Recitations were well rendered. Recitations and Pearls were very good. The marching and the calisthenics were given in a masterly style, reflecting great credit on the training the Lyceumists have had from Mrs. Penton. I am pleased to say we are progressing, and the interest in our Lyceum is still maintained. Our Conductress, before closing, gave a few well-chosen remarks on "Spiritualism," which ended a very enjoyable afternoon. We would like to see more friends visit our Sessions, as it encourages the children and helps to bring out their best qualities.—Alice Wattlely.

SOUTHPORT (Hawkshead Street).—On May 16th we held our Anniversary. At the morning session Mr. Beardsworth gave some interesting particulars of the growth of the Lyceum movement in England and its spreading to Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. The principal session was held in the afternoon, presided over by Mrs. H. Peel. Opening hymn, "Children's Day Welcome"; Musical Reading, "Have faith in one another" Miss Dulcie Hardy, Mrs. Peel and Mr. T. Devereux read the connective passages. Mr. G. Wootton read a paper on "A gentle, kind word" and opened a discussion thereon. Mrs. Peel recited "Life's journey," and Mr. Peel recited "Not understood." A solo, "Open wide the gates," was rendered by Private Bowker.—Elsie Jessop, Secretary.

TODMORDEN (Halifax Road).—On Sunday, May 2nd, we held our Open Session, which we opened by singing 336 *Lyceum Manual*. A solo was sung by Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson, 209 *Lyceum Manual* sung by Misses G. Howarth, P. E. Flourth, and E. Wilkinson. Recitations by D. Ashworth, "Little Consoler." Readings by Mr. E. Ashworth and Mr. A. Ashworth. We closed by singing 311 *Lyceum Manual*, ably conducted by Mr. Wilkinson.—O.S., Sec.

SHILDON (Shildon Road).—There is nothing of great importance to report this month. Still I am pleased to note that the Lyceumists maintain their enthusiasm and ardour that so characterised them in the past. We still have good recitations and pearls.—Robert H. Evans, Sec.

TORONTO, CANADA.—On Sunday, May 2nd, friends from the Hamilton Lyceum paid us a visit, and Mrs. Earith kindly conducted our session. The following recited: Miss Cheetwood, "The Rose"; Eileen Cardy, "Mr. Nobody"; Miss Holden, "The Water Mill"; and a solo by Miss Lily Stier. The Hamilton Choir sang "Sun of My Soul," "Send out Thy Light," and "Incline Thine Ear." Mrs. Stier read, "It can be done!" Then we had remarks from Mrs. Portor, Mr. Abbott, and Mrs. Stier. Mr. Herbert Brett conducted the marching and calisthenics. Friends from Hamilton remarked on how they had enjoyed the Lyceum. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to them. All joined in singing "God bless the Lyceum." Mrs. Earith pronounced the benediction.—Mary J. Stier, Sec.

ULVERSTON (Oddfellow's Hall).—We held our Open Session on Sunday, April 25th, Mr. Coward presided. The following Lyceumists took part: Recitations, Selina Miller, May Coward, Beatrice Tyre, Doris and Fanny Taylor, May and Barbara Miller, Nessie Coward, Harry Taylor, Walker Martindale, Gladys Martin, Harry Miller and Leslie Dent; solos by Mr. Taylor, Herbert Pennington, Poppie Tyre, and Doris Coward. Also Mr. Harris gave a song of his own composing. Mr. Harris, late of Bacup, has come to reside in Ulverston, and we are looking forward to him being a good help to our Lyceum.—Edith Martindale, Sec.

WAIKI, AUCKLAND, N.Z.—Yesterday we held our Open Session. The responses were good. Pearls and recitations were given by most of the children, and a few words of encouragement were spoken by Mr. Victor. On Friday, 20th April, a farewell social evening was given by the Lyceum children to Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson, who are leaving us shortly. A purse of sovereigns was presented to them on behalf of the Church members and a few other friends, while the children gave Mrs. Wilson a travelling rug in recognition of the many kind actions she had rendered them whilst she attended our Lyceum so regularly.—Winifred Marton, Sec.

WINDHILL (School Hill).—We held our Open Session on May 2nd, a good number present. After the usual readings, marching, etc., much interest was shown in the following: Solos, Mr. Harrison, Miss Gott, and Miss Butterfield; recitations, Master W. Alderson and Miss Ethel Alderson; readings, Miss Nellie Alderson and Miss L. Beecroft. Altogether we had a good time.—Miss Gott, Sec.