

THE LYCEUM BANNER

A SPIRITUALIST MAGAZINE FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

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

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THREE HALF-PENCE.

A Psychic Photograph.

The Camera Reveals the Unseen.

Is there an Explanation?

Under "From my point of view" the other week "Man about Town" had the following note:

"One of the days this week a well-known local gentleman called on me, and during a conversation produced a photo with an interesting story. Friends of his—man and wife—were at a spiritualist meeting, and placed, as directed, two newly-bought packets of photo plates on the table. After a while the plates were held in their hands for a few minutes, their hands being covered by the hands of several other friends. Then one of the plates was placed in a camera—previously carefully examined—and the photo of the man and wife taken. The man developed the plate there and then with a surprising result. On the negative were the photos of the man and wife, but looking over their shoulders, in fainter outline, was the draped face of their own absent son. I saw the photo. Was it a trick of the operator? My friend thinks not; in fact every precaution was taken to prevent the possibility of trickery. I pass on the story thinking it may interest some of my readers, some one of whom may be able to throw some light on the matter."

We are now able to re-produce the remarkable photograph referred to, along with a letter from the

gentleman, whose portrait is shown in the photograph. Explaining the circumstances under which the sitting was given, he writes: "I travelled to Crewe, Easter Saturday night last year, and had the photo taken at 3 p.m. on Sunday. My wife purchased the plates at Taylor's Drug Stores, Middlesbrough, and she placed them in the dark slide herself. After it was exposed, I developed it myself, no one else touching it until it

was fixed. I had a print made of it to bring away with me.

"The people at Crewe will not touch a plate of anyone who goes there. Everybody has to buy their own and bring them with them, and place the plates themselves into the dark slides. They put their names on the plates and afterwards develop the plates themselves, and what is more, the people at Crewe have never taken a penny for their services, and will not do so in the future. They give you one photo, and afterwards, if you want more, their charge was, until lately, 2s. 3d. per dozen, but, owing to the war, the price is now 2s. 9d. per dozen."

The gentleman, writing to a Lincoln friend, adds "Since I saw you I have had a lot more psychic photos sent me, and my father's have come out as fine as my boy's."

What is the explanation?



[We are indebted to Mr. J. K. Crawshaw, Lincoln, for the loan of this plate which appeared, with the descriptive text, in *The Lincolnshire Chronicle* for Saturday, September 25th, 1915.—EDITOR.]



PSYCHIC PHOTOGRAPHS.

Taken under Strict Test Conditions.

Our first experience of Psychic Photos was on Easter Sunday, 1914, when Mrs. Pugh and I paid a special visit to Crewe Circle, and were strangers to all its members. On that occasion, at 3 p.m., we had a short sitting, and were told to use four $\frac{1}{4}$ plates, which we had purchased at Middlesbrough before undertaking the journey. Mrs. Pugh went into the dark room and marked the plates, and put them into the dark slides. We got three psychic extras. One was our own son who passed to the spirit life on October 13th, 1895, when only three days old. His mother, being a natural clairvoyant, has been able to see him at intervals and watch his growth to manhood, as naturally as if he had grown up in our home, and so she easily recognised him. We were very pleased to have his photo as is shown on the oval block, kindly loaned by Mr. Crawshaw, of Lincoln. On the second plate there appeared a letter from Archdeacon Colley, addressed to us thanking us for the help to Miss Scatcherd, when the Archdeacon collapsed and passed away to spirit life, 30th September, 1912, at Middlesbrough, while attending the Church Congress. The message was as follows:—

“Dear Friends,—I thank you for the help you gave to our dear friend Miss Scatcherd at Church Congress. I try to be near you in spirit.—Faithfully yours, T. Colley.”

The above message is written in Archdeacon Colley's own handwriting, and is from right to left, making it necessary to hold it in front of a mirror to read it. A letter from one who had passed away eighteen months previous!



On the third plate appeared a guide of Mrs. Pugh, well known to her, and a message.

On the Easter Monday we had another sitting, after which a plate was exposed on which the psychic extra was Mrs. Pugh's great aunt; all four plates were developed by me.

On April 21st, 1915, Mrs. Pugh was again at Crewe, and obtained under the same test conditions, another of her Guides. There appears in the position of the Guide's right hand a mass of white, as if the Guide was carrying a bouquet of flowers, but on closer inspection it was found to be a man's face in miniature (shown above).

On June 26th, 1915, the members of the Crewe Circle came to Middlesbrough and were our guests. Mr. Hope, who is one of the mediums for those psychic extras, kindly brought his camera, but no plates, nor chemicals for developing plates, etc. These I procured in town. And our friends who came for sittings brought their own plates with them. During the whole of the series of sittings for psychic extras no member of the Crewe Circle handled the plates in any way until after the plates were developed and fixed. We turned our front room into a studio and our bathroom into a dark room. They gave eight sittings and obtained eighteen photos with psychic extras, and sixteen of these have been recognised.

On June 30th, at 3 p.m., Mrs. Pugh and I again had a sitting, and two plates were exposed, and two more plates with my son sitting as well, he was asked to do so by Mr. Hope's guide. On the first plate there appeared a long message. The second plate contained two psychic extras, positive and negative, *at one exposure*. The spirit form, when reversed, proved to be my father, John Pugh, who passed away from earth life at Shrewsbury, January

15th, 1914. The third plate showed my father surrounded in drapery. On the fourth plate we obtained the spirit form of my father again, full features, surrounded with a halo, immediately over our son's head, as shown in the photo above.

On August 9th, 1915, Mrs. Pugh's father and mother (Mr. and Mrs. Batten) called at Crewe and obtained, 1st, a message addressed to the friends at Middlesbrough, *without* the camera. Mrs. Buxton, the lady medium of the Crewe Circle, had the plate held to her forehead by Mrs. Batten for a few seconds, and then developed. On the 2nd plate there appeared Mrs. Pugh's grandfather; and on the 3rd plate, without camera, was a medical prescription.

Such tests as the above prove to the searcher for truth that

"There is no death in God's wide world,
But one eternal scene of change;
The flag of life is never furled,
It only taketh wider range."

W. COWELL-PUGH.

[NOTE.—Mr. W. Hope, 144, Market Street, Crewe, is now in possession of a fine lantern and slides of Spirit Photography, and is ready to accept engagements for exhibiting the slides, and lecturing on the subject of Psychic Photography, or Spirit Photos. Terms on enquiry.—*Editor*].

OUR LYCEUM BANNER.

F. JOHNSON.

I am afraid that Lyceumists generally do not know the value of the prize that they possess in their monthly paper, namely, THE LYCEUM BANNER.

Twenty-five years ago, Mr. J. J. Morse first published this little gem, for the use of Lyceums and Lyceumists, and in 1902 Mr. J. J. Morse gave it to the Lyceum Union as a *free gift*. Shortly afterwards your worthy Secretary, Mr. Alfred Kitson, became the Editor, and under his skilful management and editorship the paper has now come to be one of the most instructive and helpful issues that the Spiritualist movement possesses.

It is almost unnecessary for me to point out the various changes that have been made in the publication of this valuable paper on purpose to meet the demand of our growing Lyceum movement, and to-day we have one of the best pennyworth that can be bought.

No Spiritualist's Home can be complete without this valuable publication. For apart from the Portrait Gallery, Girls' Own Corner, Bluebell Guild, and the reports of the various Lyceums throughout the kingdom, (which by the way covers over four pages, including special reports) there are several pages of very useful and interesting educational matter, which we cannot afford to miss.

And last, but not least, there is one page devoted entirely to Poetry for the children, to memorise and recite at their various Lyceum Sessions.

This page, to my mind, is well worth the penny you pay for the paper, for I feel sure that Reciting is one of the finest lessons that we can set our children. It not only teaches them to speak correctly and grammatically, but it has the tendency to give to the reciter that courage and confidence requisite to face an audience. And this is what they most require, first in the

role of Delegate or Officer, and later on as platform workers in our cause. For I am assured that if we are to give to the world at large *True Spiritualism* our Exponents and Demonstrators must first be educated and developed in our Lyceums. Some years ago, when I filled the office of Secretary in the Pendleton Lyceum, Cobden Street, we organised a "Banner Fund," for the special purpose of supplying *free* to each representative of every home of our scholars a LYCEUM BANNER every month, and this system was kept up all the years that I remained in office.

And I was very sorry indeed to find that this fund had fallen through, and now those who require the LYCEUM BANNER must buy it.

Well this may be quite in order, but I look at the matter from quite a different point. I not only desire that every home shall have a copy of our paper, but that every child shall look forward to its issue each month, just as readily as we older people look forward every week for "*The Two Worlds*" and "*Light*." I also recognise that if all our children are expected to contribute to the collection box, say every week, or once or twice a month, as the case may be, surely they cannot be expected to find a penny for the LYCEUM BANNER as well.

But I do think it is the duty of every Lyceum to supply every home with a copy of the BANNER each month *free of charge*.

Remembering that after all it is good propaganda work, and it is as much the duty of the Lyceum to do something in this direction, as that of the church to which they are attached.

Do not forget that the Lyceumists of to-day will be the Spiritualists of to-morrow, and we must not lose a chance to educate them to the best of our ability, remembering the words of the immortal Will Payne,—"The future of our children depends on what we do," and we must do it regardless of the cost, that is, if we deem Spiritualism to be the saviour of the human race.

We must therefore, be prepared to sacrifice the cost of the BANNER each month for the *children's sake*. The 4s., 5s. or 6s. required each month for this purpose, could be very easily covered if we formed a Developing Class once a week for the elders of our Lyceum, when a weekly contribution of 1d. or 2d. per week per member could be charged.

This would not only meet the cost of the BANNER, but it would be a means of developing mediums for our own platforms, and would prove a great saving to the Church in railway expenses alone, also a very wise provision against disappointments (which are always liable to occur) when your engaged medium fails to keep their appointment.

For over 21 years the LYCEUM BANNER and the *Two Worlds* have been delivered at our home as they are issued, and I should miss a very warm companion if either of them were to pass away. Long may the BANNER wave be my earnest wish.

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

MAN, KNOW THYSELF.

ALFRED KITSON.

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It is reported that the Ancient Greeks held the above injunction in such high esteem that they had it engraved in letters of gold over the Temple of Delphi (this temple being also noted for the oracles of Apollo).

The command applies to man as a physical, mental and spiritual being, the physical body being the vehicle through which he, as a conscious entity, is brought into contact with the physical world for his education and development of his God-like attributes, and the unfoldment of his latent power and abilities. It is important that he shall know himself in this respect, so that he may no longer be a stranger at home or a stranger in his physical temple.

It is certain that the Greeks regarded with pride their bodies, with their well-developed limbs, the easy gracefulness when walking, and the beautiful symmetry of the whole body. Their instructions were preceded by physical exercises. Indeed, it was from them we derived the name of our Lyceum exercises known as calisthenics. But I doubt their being acquainted with human physiology or the functions of the vital organs, or with human anatomy, the structure of the human body learned by dissection of all its component parts. They may have had, and probably had, a general idea of the human body. But the circulation of the blood was discovered by Dr. Harvey in 1628, which revolutionised the system of surgery then in use. Since then the study of human physiology has made rapid progress. The combined results of specialists have placed the physiologist of to-day at the head of all previous attainments in the world's history of medical and surgical accomplishments.

MAN'S MENTAL POWERS.

The above remarks also apply to the configuration of the cranium as indicating the character and disposition of the individual, which is known by the term phrenology, or the science of the mind. The configuration of the head, taken in conjunction with temperament of the body, has been studied and developed into a science whereby the character, proclivities, and idiosyncrasies can be predicted. Nay, the phrenologist can even indicate which parent, the father or mother, is the dominant factor in a child's nature. This study opens a wide field for our young men and women, as prospective parents, whereby children may be better organised on making their appearance into this world. It is better for a child to have a well-balanced, strong, and healthy physical body than to inherit riches with an ill-balance, sickly organisation. The former favours a happy, harmonious life, and a well-earned spiritual harvest; the latter the reverse of this.

MAN'S SPIRITUAL NATURE.

It is quite evident that the ancients—Greeks, Romans, Hindus, Egyptians, etc.—had some knowledge of man's spiritual nature, as they had their seers (men and women) and priestesses selected on account of their psychic powers. Socrates had his dæmon or guardian spirit. The dæmons were the spirits of the departed heroes and others. The term has been

corrupted by the Christian to demon, and interpreted to mean an evil spirit, or devil; but this corruption does not rob them of the knowledge that they were surrounded by spirit entites who once lived on this earth. Therefore, we must accord to them the credit that they added to their knowledge of man that he was something more than a physical being, though they had no recognised system of spirit communication as is known to-day. Neither did it enter into their minds to discriminate between the ego of the departed and the spirit body, or vehicle that was to serve the ego in the world to which they had risen. It appears to have sufficed them to know that their "shade" persisted after the death of the physical body. Moreover, the same assurance appears to suffice with the majority of Spiritualists to-day.

MAN, THE MICROCOSM.

In the "Lyceum Manual" Golden Chain recitation, No. 112, we read that God in the boundless universe is the "Macrocosm, the infinitely large, on earth, and in thyself, He is the Microcosm, the infinitely little." This is a very comprehensive definition of man (which term we use in a general sense to also imply woman as being the dual half of the being homo), and implies that in his immortal nature the ego is a miniature god. Not only that, but his physical body is a miniature universe. All the elements of the earth are represented in the physical body. The earth has its atmosphere, which has been eliminated from its interior forces; the attraction of the gravitational force of the earth on the invisible atmosphere is of such power as to prevent it from being dissipated into space. Similarly the physical body has its auric atmosphere, which has been eliminated from its interior vital forces, and is daily maintained in its position enveloping the body by the attraction of the latter. Moreover, as the earth's atmosphere is permeated by magnetic and electric forces which, when strongly disturbed, give rise to storms and flashes of lightning, so similarly, when the forces in the human body are strongly stirred by angry passions, miniature storms arise in the auric atmosphere, in which flashes of miniature lightning are seen to dart, exhausting the nervous system of its vital forces.

This conception of man being a microcosm of the universe receives the confirmation and support of those clairvoyants who, with the inner vision, have been able to see the vital forces at work throughout all the kingdoms of Nature—mineral, vegetable, and animal—in the process of evolving and sustaining the human body.

Perhaps there does not exist a more lucid description of those hidden vital forces of Nature than that given by A. J. Davis in his "Great Harmonia," vol. iii., who, in closing the description of his wonderful vision, says, "And in each mineral, vegetable, and animal I saw something of man! In truth, the whole system of creation seemed to me like the fragments of human beings. In the beaver I saw one faculty of the human mind; in the fox another; in the wolf another; in the lion another; and so throughout the entire mass of the spirally progressive and concentric circles of mineral, vegetable, and animal life I could discern certain relationships to and indications of man" (pages 119 and 120).

On pages 53 and 54 he says, "It cannot be denied that every animal appears to be the embodiment of

some particular principle of mind; whilst man is the unitary organisation of all principles, and, hence, is superior to those partial organisations which contain only a few of the immortal elements which compose the human mental constitution. The *Viper*, for example, seems to embody, without any other element, to act as a modification, the principle, or rather (to speak more philosophically) the propensity, of a smooth, insinuating malice. The *Spider* seems like a commercial Peter Funk, a maker of nets in which to entrap the verdant and unwary traveller. The *Sloth* seems like an indolent man—the consumer of the productions of the industrious and frugal. The *Cat* seems like an organisation of the propensity of secretiveness—a pouncer upon the interests of other and lesser personalities. The *Dog* is an embodiment of friendship; the *Lamb* of innocence; the *Cow* of submission; the *Horse* of nobility; the *Gazel* of gracefulness; the *Elephant* of memory; the *Fox* of cunning; the *Ass* of firmness; the *Peacock* of pride; the *Reindeer* of speed; the *Bird* of affection; the *Lion* of majesty; the *Swine* of grossness; the *Beaver* of constructiveness; and the *Monkey* of trickery."

The above traits of character inherent in the human mentality have long been known to phrenologists, who, on their symbolical charts, have used some of the above-named creatures to illustrate the nature of certain organs of the brain. Thus it will be seen that the clairvoyant, studying the secret forces of nature working in their varied and separate departments to produce their quota of the human constitution, has his testimony confirmed by the mental scientist. This combined testimony is of inestimable value to the students in the quest of "Man, Know Thyself," and opens up vast fields of research as to the necessity and importance of man's appearance here on earth, which we may deal with on some future occasion when considering the question of "Man: Whence and Whither?" So far we have only noticed the forces of the earth as contributing to the constitution of man; though in regard to the assertion that man is a microcosm of the boundless universe, as set forth in our "Lyceum Manual," it is necessary that we consider his relationship to the solar system, which, being a unitary body, we may look upon its contribution to man's psychic or astral forces as being representative of the other solar systems composing the boundless universe.

THE COMPOSITION OF THE SPIRIT BODY.

It has often been stated by clairvoyants and advanced spirits that there are many layers or strata of the material composing the spirit body, varying in degree of refinement from the innermost near the ego or soul, outward. These layers may be called, collectively, the astral spirit, from the fact that it is not a single original element, like the soul, but a combination of all the imponderable elements of the solar system. Its first emanation, as a vital essence, is from the sun, and the planetary system. Hence its name "astral," from "astrum," a star; it is also derived, in part, from the great organic life of the earth.

These different grades of astral matter composing the spirit body are acted upon by the solar and planetary changes, and thence they affect the health and mind, influence the character, and constitute the links of connection by which the planets act upon the

individual's life, for as the astral body is composed of so many forces in the solar system, so it is subject to the influence of changes occurring in every department of Nature.

When we consider that the emanations from the sun, moon, and planetary system, the various emanations given off by the earth in the different seasons of the year, contribute to form the essence of the embryonic being before it sees the light of day; when we further consider the inherited tendencies of mind and body imposed on the life-germ by parental law; that the physical substance, mental temperaments, employment, and thoughts of the mother combine to impress the unborn child, we shall begin to realise what a complex and sensitive organisation the spirit body is.

THE DETERMINING QUALITIES OF MEDIUMSHIP.

It is the nature or quality of this spirit body, this concentration of all force, motion, and imponderable essence that resides the determining qualities of mediumship, whether it be to lift ponderable bodies, materialise spirit forms, produce spirit lights, writing and photography, and other forms of spirit communion. This spirit, or astral, body accompanies the soul at death. The more refined portions are nearest the soul, the outermost coarser layers are left behind if the earth life has been of such a spiritual nature as to entitle the departed soul to take its place among the wise and good in the spirit spheres. The coarser layers appertain to the earth life, and so adhere to all earth-bound spirits, and are gradually cast off as the spirit progresses out of its earth-bound conditions. Upon this spirit body are impressed the character and motives of the soul's actions, hopes, and fears, vices and virtues which it has gathered up in its process of growth during its earthly career which determine its degree of spirituality, whether it be high or low, gross or refined, whether it has qualified to dwell with the angels or grovel in sensuality.

The impressions made on the spirit body by the earth's experiences can be tapped, as it were, while in this life, and read off by spirit people, and at times by the psychometrist, to the marvel and amazement of the subject. Not a word, thought, or deed which has helped to make the sum of human life but what is impressed upon the spirit body!

AN ANGEL OF GOD.

In conclusion we may briefly sum up the result of what we have been able to learn concerning man as follows: Man is truly a microcosm, or a little universe, and as such he is the conservator of all vital forces, and the image of all objective forms, the embodiment of all subjective ideas, the connecting link between all existences lower and higher than himself in the scale of being. What he now is (a denizen of earth) the angels of God have been, and what they are he is destined to be, the two halves of his dual nature—male and female—re-united, enriched with their separate experiences, shining in the heavens in their resplendent beauty—an angel of God, with whom there is neither marrying nor giving in marriage, but a re-union of the several halves as one perfect being, to prosecute its studies of the matchless wisdom and love of God as displayed in His works that await His children in the eternal heavens, lost in wonder, love and praise!

Life and Labour in the Spirit World.

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

(Continued from September issue, page 149).

SOCIAL LIFE IN ZENCOLLIA.

In walking through the streets of beautiful Zencollia City, I have observed the perfect freedom of its inhabitants, the undisguised manner of living, the open frankness, and the confidence each one seems to repose in his neighbour, and also the unceremonious hospitality of each household; for every passer-by is welcome to enter, rest, refresh himself, and examine whatever excites an interest in his mind.

I have noticed this because at first it appeared very strange to me—so at variance with the customs of mortals, who shut themselves in their homes, becoming sometimes exclusive and ceremonious in their bearing toward others.

But I have learned that while it would be unwise and unsafe for mortals to leave their homes open to the inspection of every curious passer-by, and imprudent in the extreme for them to invite every stranger into their households, it is quite safe for them to do so in the spiritual city of Zencollia, whose inhabitants are pure and spotless, who have become purged from all gross and carnal appetites and habits, who do not gossip and slander, who love each other, whose families are bound by the closest ties of tender sympathy and affection, and whose lives are so pure, so devoted to the welfare of others, they have nothing to conceal.

Every home is a shrine of prayerful praise; every family bows at the altar of Infinite Wisdom; each inhabitant has some lesson to repeat, or some experience to rehearse to the new-comer into these high spheres, that will be a guide to his feet; every habitation contains something of interest to the stranger who may have but recently ascended to Zencollia. And there is no risk in entertaining the stranger; for no impure, selfish, worldly-minded spirit can enter Zencollia; he could not breathe its refined atmosphere, the brilliancy of its light would blind him. For while it is true that exalted spirits can descend to lower spheres or conditions, where grossly minded spirits dwell, surrounded by the darkness which their mental state throws off, and their minister to the necessities of those earth-bound spirits, yet it is impossible for those spirits to ascend to the upper heights as it is for mortals to pierce the heavenly worlds with their material bodies; for as the physical keeps you down to earth, so the weight of passion keeps those spirits down.

Therefore, no impure spirit enters Zencollia, and none who dwell there fear to entertain the stranger, for all the inhabitants of the celestial city are possessed of clear vision, and they can readily read the interior thought and desire of whoever comes into their presence.

The dwellers in that city associate together in groups, all working for the common good; each obeys the law which all assist in framing; everyone contributes to the welfare of the people, the beautifying of the city, the maintaining of free, open schools of instruction, and in upholding a good government.

I have often thought of the beauty and glory of this sweet life, wishing that I could cause mortals to view it as I do,—to view and to emulate, to bring down something of its happy conditions to earth; for then there would be no need of prison-walls, no cause for corporeal punishment, but love and justice would reign supreme, and the millennium, long foretold by prophet and seer, dawn upon the new earth.

INTERIOR VIEW OF ZENCOLLIA.

Zencollia, "City of Light," the sight of thy white walls, gleaming in the distance, recalls a vision of the beautiful streets, so unlike the city streets that mortals know. No jarring noise disturbs the serenity of thy palaces; and yet the ceaseless murmur, the ever-present appearance of active, energetic life within thy limits, proclaim that therein is found sentient, individualised, conscious existence.

The edifices so beautifully constructed of shining material, artistically adorned with carvings of exquisite grace and symmetry, do not crowd and elbow each other for want of space; but each building stands within its own enclosure, surrounded by garden plots and banks of emerald green. Lofty trees, whose umbrageous foliage furnishes a cooling shade, and scattered here and there, giving an aspect of natural beauty to the scene. The very streets, though paved through their centres with polished stones, are fringed on either side with grassy leaves and nodding flowers, which no careless foot seeks to trample down.

And yet it is a city, vast and magnificent. Its massive buildings, its countless inhabitants, all mark the difference between it and the town or country. At regular spaces great plots, enclosing flowery beds of every variety of colour and perfume; tiny lakes and gushing fountains; gleaming pavilions, furnished with rustic seats and tables; small groves of shady trees, tiny grottos and fairy glens, where birds make music through all the sunny day—are kept under constant care and cultivation for the enjoyment of all who wander therein; and it is no uncommon thing for groups of harmonious spirits to gather together in one of these gardens, and spend an hour in that communion of soul expressed in the singing of hymns, the exhortations from inspired lips, or the encouraging words given from one to another, that lift the spirit nearer the Infinite Light that pervades in some measure all space and permeates all life.

A CONVOCATION OF WOMEN—EQUALITY OF SEX.

I have recently attended a convocation of women in one of these city gardens, earnest, noble, true-souled women, who met together to discuss plans and devise measures for the welfare of their sister-women upon the earth.

In the realm of spirit, our societies are not confined to one sex; there is no exclusiveness; woman is not considered incompetent to discuss questions of life with man. Men do not meet in club or bar-room to revel in scenes they would blush to have their sisters witness, neither do women have their sorosis, that the gentlemen cannot enter, nor sewing circles where gossip and slander are woven into the garments they fashion, with their pernicious and malicious influence.

Each convention, every organisation, is founded upon the polished square of Equality, and membership is freely extended to male and female alike; thus rounding out the perfect circle of harmonious

life. But this convocation of which I speak, composed entirely of women—tender, helpful, loving women—who have witnessed the struggles and the sorrows of those whom mortals call lost, but whom angels know shall yet be redeemed to honour and virtue, was called together because it had become evident to thinking minds that the so-called progress of humanity will remain but a sham, until society awakens to the fact that while one outcast remains outside the closed door of fraternal sympathy, while one poor sufferer is refused the helping hand or kindly word to encourage her onward toward the pathway of goodness, it is an agency of intolerance and worthy the name it bears.

(To be continued).

For the Boys.

Conducted by Geo. Fred Knott.

My Dear Chums,—

I am delighted to express my happiness concerning the interest in the puzzles. Will all correspondents kindly note replies should be sent to the address at the close of our page? To obtain a Merit Card solvers must have three-fourths of the answers correct.

I thank W. Woodward for his solutions and hope his Lyceum will be successful. Robert Whitehead sends me a nicely written letter. I think some of the Merit Cards have gone astray, so I have sent Robert another one for September solutions. A. Appleton is a good guesser, all the answers being correct. I am glad to have my first letter from F. Critchley, which is a painstaking effort. J. Dolphin likes the Boys' page. He will see I have met his wishes for more puzzles. If I dare, I would like to write some of the names of those who reply in full. Perhaps, when we have a Roll of Chums to correspond with and meet each other, I shall know you all better. Will Miss Parkinson or W. Tomlinson tell me to whom I am to send the Merit Card? H. Edwards and E. Anderson, also win Merit Cards. N. Haley again sends a nice letter. He has been very persevering with his solutions, and his efforts at school denote a useful career in the future. I am glad you are a chum, Norman. To A. Owen I am very grateful for a cheery letter from one who knows the ways of boys and how mischievous they are. I think boys only get into mischief when they have nothing else to do. It is energy mis-applied. Sometimes it is the only way of finding out what things are. An aunt once came to our home from a country district. My brother and I were making an awful noise. The aunt said, "If you don't make less noise I'll get the 'fire-potter' to you." We didn't know what a fire-potter was and so we kept on making a noise until we found out. The aunt jumped up, seized the poker, chased us round the table and gave each of us a prod with it. We knew what a "fire-potter" was then. We didn't want to disobey the aunt but we did want to know what a "fire-potter" was, and, like many older people, we gained our knowledge through suffering. I sometimes think our Editor has given me the Puzzle Department to keep me from getting into mischief. Now for the solutions of last month's puzzles.

(1) North East Lancashire, Mr. Cyril Batley. (2) South East Lancashire, Mr. Arthur Lord. (3) Accring-

ton, Mr. Redmond. (4) Bacup, Mr. Harry Hall. (5) Barnsley, Mr. A. Littlewood. (6) Birstall, Miss Eva Hares. (7) Earsbane, Mr. A. Sampson. (8) Castleford, Miss Rooke. (9) Earby, Miss N. Warrington. (10) Fleetwood, Mr. John Moore. (11) Bolton, Mr. David Cooke. (12) London, Peckham, Mr. Clarkson.

Merit Cards have been sent to the ten successful Lyceumists for their solutions.

With apologies to the secretaries, I am taking their surnames again as the answers to the puzzles. All names will be found in the list of Lyceums. Here they are:—

1. What do we see in wintry weather?
2. A noted living explorer.
3. What ladies like to go to.
4. Something essential in candle-making.
5. What separates you and I.
6. A common Welsh name.
7. A boy's name.
8. Something we obtain from trees, and a room in a hospital.
9. What robbers break.
10. A famous poet.
11. What every boy should be able to do to solve these puzzles.
12. The part of an apple we first touch.

When sending solutions, please give the name of Lyceum and Secretary.

Let us now continue the "Growth of Poverty." In the fifteenth century, men travelled about the country on horseback and slept at night at hostels. To denote where these houses were, a long pole was hung over the door and a bush hung on the end of the pole. A hostel-keeper placed a sign over his door with the words painted on it, "Good wine needs no bush." In this way hotel and inn signs came into use. The prices charged for seven men and their horses for staying one night was one shilling and a penny for food for the men; tenpence for the horses and twopence for beds.

The labourers' golden age existed at this time. A peasant could earn in thirteen weeks work enough to keep himself, wife and family a whole year. His wages were fourpence a day. Bread was a halfpenny a loaf, beef and mutton a farthing a pound, and pigs only fourpence each. Potatoes, tea, coffee, and cocoa were unknown.

The common people of England became very poor through a demand for wool, both in this country and on the continent of Europe. People were hounded from the farms to make room for sheep. Previously the gentry had tried to enslave the people and keep them on the land; now, they were driven off the soil, houses and villages being broken up, and the poor farmers wandered aimlessly about the country, as very few men were required to tend the sheep. In this way, the tramp became a part of English life and remains with us to-day, still not wanted and despised. This was how the unemployed problem really began. In some places where 200 men were formerly earning a good living on the farms, only two or three men were employed with the sheep.

Bishop Latimer, who was a very good man, tells us that when he was a boy, his father paid four pounds a year for his farm. When he became a man the same farm was sixteen pounds a year. To compare these sums with present prices you must multiply by twelve.

Now, boys, you perhaps wonder how money has decreased in spending-power or value. King Henry the Eighth was on the throne and a great spendthrift.

He stole the monasteries from the monks and debased the current coin by adding alloy to the silver. A shilling then was equal to twelve shillings now. The alloy was a cheaper metal which was mixed with the silver, making the actual value of a shilling come down to threepence. Prices went up enormously. The wages only slightly increased and the poor became very poor indeed.

Within a few years the buying power of money had gone down to one-third; in other words, sellers required at least three of the new shillings for what one of the old ones would have bought.

To show how this would affect all workers who depended upon a weekly wage, we might imagine a labourer's balance sheet for the food for his wife, children, and himself.

Before the rise in prices, about 1500 :—
Weeks Wages :

s. d.		s. d.	
7 days at 4d. ...	2 4	7 loaves of bread...	0 3½
		1 lb. butter ...	0 1
		3 lbs. cheese ...	0 1½
		4 lbs. meat ...	0 1
		4 gallons beer ...	0 2
		Rent and fuel ...	0 3
		Balance ...	1 4
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	2 4		2 4

After the rise in prices, about 1550 :—
Weeks Wages :

s. d.		s. d.	
7 days at 6d. ...	3 6	7 loaves of bread...	0 10½
		1 lb. butter ...	0 3
		3 lbs. cheese ...	0 4½
		4 lbs. meat ...	0 3
		4 gallons beer ...	0 6
		Rent and fuel ...	0 9
		Balance ...	0 6
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	3 6		3 6

When we think of the many people without home or work and the few who were working, we can see the anxiety of the poor at this sorrowful period.

Your sincere chum,
GEO. FREDK. KNOTT,
22, Gowers Street, Rochdale.

In Memoria, etc.

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.

ACCRINGTON (Abbey Street).—The Secretary of this Lyceum, Mr. Redmond, passed away on September 20th, in his 59th year, after short sickness.—B. Eastwood, Conductor.

DURBAN NATAL.—I am sorry to say our Lyceum has lost another member, Aleck Milne, aged 17 years. He had suffered some time from heart failure.—T. Wheatley, Sec.

SHEFFIELD (Attercliffe).—I am sorry to announce the passing on of Doris Ingram, aged 13 years. "May the angels lead her to their spirit home."—E. Pegg, Sec.

Lyceum Banner Portrait Gallery.



W. T. DAVIES, CARDIFF.

There being no Lyceum District Council for South Wales, and the Editor being desirous of giving isolated sections of the Lyceum Movement the opportunity of being represented in the Portrait Gallery, the Cardiff Lyceumists were invited to select a representative, and their choice was their devoted secretary, Mr. W. T. Davies, whose portrait we are pleased to present to our readers.

The importance of the Lyceum Cause was recognised in Cardiff more than twenty years ago, when a Lyceum was opened in connection with the Queen Street Spiritualists' Society. The Lyceum was enrolled a member of the Lyceum Union on April 15th, 1893, being No. 39 on the Lyceum Union's Roll Book.

Its staff of Officers were devoted and energetic, and the Lyceum flourished for a number of years, but ultimately began to decline, and finally lapsed.

The Welsh Spiritualists do not appear to trouble much concerning the training of the children in the FACTS and teachings of Spiritualism, as distinct from the BELIEFS of Christianity. There are only a few Lyceums in Wales. This dearth of interest in the Lyceum work is all the more puzzling to account for owing to the fact that the Welsh are regarded as a very religious people. Perhaps when they thoroughly realise the importance of educating their children in the facts of spirit communion, the spirit teachings concerning true religion, and the spiritual philosophy which supplies the key to the mysteries of life and being, they will become ardent workers in the Cause, and so compensate for the present indifference.

The subject of our sketch was born at Merthyr Tydvil, in 1891, and was brought up in the Baptist faith, although his mother was a Spiritualist, and a medium,

and sat regularly at a circle, of which Mr. Scott, a well-known gentleman in South Wales, was also a member.

They removed to Cardiff in the year 1900, when Mr. Davies attended the meetings held at the Spiritualist Society in Castle Street, and there began to learn of the truths of spirit communion and teachings concerning life in the spirit world.

When the Lyceum was started, he attended its sessions and was elected its secretary, a position he has held for two years.

He is well-known in South Wales, having won a Senior Scholar's Silver Medal for singing.

Girls' Own Corner.

BY MRS. JESSY GREENWOOD.

SESSION PROGRAMME.

NOVEMBER, 1915.

Date.	Opening Hymn.	S.C.R.	Mus. Reading.	G.C.R.	Closing Hymn.
Nov. 7	99	100	237	131	392
Nov. 14	97	82	219	130	396
Nov. 21	387	83	226	144	398
Nov. 28	371	373	224	121	356

Pearls.

NOVEMBER 7.—“Be as a tower that, firmly set, shakes not its top for any blast that blows.”—*Dante.*

NOVEMBER 14.—“Come what may: Time and the hour runs through the roughest day.”—*Shakespeare.*

NOVEMBER 21.—“Generosity, gratitude and tranquility, are the strength and splendour of the soul.”—*Seneca.*

NOVEMBER 28.—“A clear conscience is the testimony and reward of a good life.”—*Seneca.*

Love is an absorbing topic and always secures an audience, or so it seems, judging from the great interest this corner is arousing in various Lyceums. Perhaps the most impressive moments of a girl's life, and a boy's too, are those when for the first time the springtime of Love has awakened within them new emotions, and how to analyse or even understand the meaning of such feelings, is a greater enigma than any other domestic matter. The watchful parent knows the signs and anxiously awaits developments. Both boy and girl can find any amount of excuses to get into each other's company, and all kinds of little plans are made, or as Uncle Harry Kersey used to say of the girls, “they are spreading their nets,” meaning that all the actions of the girls were the outcome of this overmastering passion—Sly glances, pretty blushes, winning smiles, etc., short walks together, embraces, the first kiss, all of which, in cold print, seem lifeless but not so to those two. Truly a happy time if the consent of the home folks has been obtained and the hearthstone is open to either of them; otherwise it is a stolen pleasure. Courtship, then, is a time for learning each other's temperaments, before the next and most serious step is taken—that of marriage.

Lately I saw a picture which made me wonder if either party had foreseen the unhappy fix they were in, whether either had given even a hint, during courtship, of bad temper, cruelty, and marital unhappiness. A woman was standing before a clergyman who had called to make enquiries about her soldier husband. She was

bandaged about the head and had a badly disfigured face, the little child, too, seemed to have suffered from the father's bad treatment. “Your husband has gone back to fight, then, Mrs. Malone. How is he getting along?”

Well, sir, if he fights those Germans as well as he did me, he'll come back a General!” What sort of love that is, I am at a loss to say, but it seems as if a woman's love is different to a man's. I think no girl would willingly tie herself to a brute of a man, if she could foresee the certain result. Girls have been talked to by their mothers and advised to give up a boy who liked to drink, had his outbursts periodically, but no! he promises faithfully to give up the drink AFTER THEY ARE MARRIED, and she believes him before everyone else. Supposing she put him on his trial for six months, it is only a short period compared to years and years of misery later? “Oh! No, he will be altogether different when we get into our own home,” says the girl, and she decks herself gaily for the altar, speaks her vows, and is not long in realizing her mistake.

I knew one sensible girl who happened to become engaged to a widower with three children. She considered the whole matter well before getting married, and entered on her duties bravely. A week only, showed she had been miserably sold by a man who came home one evening drunk and like a maniac. Furniture was smashed and bad language used, not at all like that used when courting, of course, and, at last, one of the children cried, “Get under the table, mother used to do.” Like a sensible woman she got out of the house FOR EVER.

Much depends on the type of girl who is to be chosen for a partner. Many giggling, silly wenches, are no good to anybody, dolls dressed up to fascinate, most like wasps, gaudy and smart, but have an awful sting for the poor fool who thinks they are in earnest. It makes one sick to see such masquerading as women. Let every girl who reads these lines consider well the part she is playing.

LOVE.

Love, TRUE love, is sacred, pure,
For its object, much will endure.
E'en sacrifice a LIFE for good,
E'er strive to gain a loftier mood.
Love, 'twas planted by the Divine,
Within each soul. Thy heart and mine
Respond to aims of lofty height,
And, aspiring, gain its might.
Love SURPASSES passion's snare,
Its dreams are peaceful, light as air.
Fascination can NE'ER compete,
Love is of God—holy and sweet.
Love, 'tis a shining, sacred stream
From heart to heart, a radiant gleam
Shining through life's rugged way,
To that great eternal day.

—E. MOULT.

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 for adults. Cloth 1/9 post free; Blue and Gilt 2/9 post free. From the Lyceum Union Office, 17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury.

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,

I'm so delighted this month that I just don't know how to express my thoughts and feelings! Why? Well, the past month has been generous indeed; and so far, is the red-letter month of the year; for to our post-bag it has brought eleven letters of interest and encouragement; eighty-six new members; and, at last, after months of pleading, three stories! So numerous are the very welcome letters, and still more welcome stories, that the rest of our page must be devoted to them, for you all to enjoy (and try to do likewise); so I'll close my chat with giving a hearty welcome to all new members, and hoping they will not only practice the aims of the Guild, but will also let us hear from them.

DEAR FLORA BELLE,—I was very pleased to become one of your Bluebells. I have been to Southport for my holidays. It is a very beautiful place. I had a donkey-ride; and went on the bowl-slide; and in the paddling-pool.

While I was at Southport, I went to Hawkshead Street Lyceum, and did the marching and calisthenics. I also gave a pearl, and said a recitation, called "God bless the little children." I saw thousands of soldiers on the promenade, doing their drills. I remain, Your loving Bluebell, Lily Staley (No. 3,908, West Melton Lyceum).

(Many thanks, Lily, I'm pleased you had such a good holiday. Write again, sometime.—F.B.)

DEAR FLORA BELLE,—I am very sorry not to have written to you before, but somehow or other I felt that I did not like; but when I saw how other Bluebells were writing, I thought it was time I tried to write to you. Our Lyceum has won the banner this year, and we are very proud of it. We are going to have a social evening in October, to celebrate the winning of it. I am in the Excelsior Group and we have a very nice teacher, and some very nice and interesting lessons. I will tell you all about the social when I write again; from your loving Bluebell, Clara May Chappell (Ramsden Street Lyceum, Huddersfield).

(I congratulate your Lyceum on its success; and shall be pleased to hear again from you.—F.B.)

DEAR FLORA BELLE,—Thank you so much for the Bluebell cards. The children were so pleased with them. There were some who were very disappointed by not receiving one, so I promised them to write to you about them, to ask if you think them too young to be enrolled as members. Their ages range from five to seven years.

Our children are very busy just now, preparing for our Anniversary, and a concert to follow soon after; so when this is over I hope and feel sure you will be receiving some nice letters from some of them. I am sure it must make you feel very happy when you receive letters from the children. Nothing gives me greater pleasure than when I am in their company. May God's blessing be with you in your labour of love for the children is the sincere wish of yours fraternally (Mrs.) Alice Wattle (Southampton Lyceum).

(Sincere thanks for good wishes and kind letter.

I wish the Anniversary and concert every success, and shall be delighted for the letters to come. No child is too young to join if able to understand what joining means and binds it to do.—F.B.)

DEAR FLORA BELLE,—I am sending you a few names for the Bluebell Guild from our Lyceum (Empress Hall, Holker Street), who would like to become Bluebells. Please accept us as such. Hope we may be able to send some more in the future. I am, Yours sincerely, Ada M. Lawton (Barrow-in-Furness).

(Pleased to have letter, and members. Cards have been sent on.—F.B.)

DEAR FLORA BELLE,—I am again writing to you, but this time I have some more new members for you, and I know you will be pleased to receive them. They are from Hull, Holborn Street Lyceum. Will you please enrol them on your Bluebell Guild? I was reading a paper the other day (I believe it was the "Daily Mirror,") and I came across a piece of poetry, which struck me very much. I am sure the one who wrote it must have passed through much the same experience as that of the poor Belgians—it seems to voice what must have been their feelings when the war broke out. I don't know whether you would care to have it, but I am sending it to you. Wishing you every success in your work, I remain, Your loving Bluebell, Queenie Wilson (Hull).

A FRAGMENT.

Sweet bird a-singing on the tree,

Your song is blithe and gay;

Alas! that strife and war might cease

For ever and a day.

The green leaves whisper by the gate,

The gate that saw him pass;

And like a host of crowned heads

Are daisies in the grass.

But far away I hear them boom,

The huge guns. Ah! dear God—

My soul goes wandering up and down

Beside the broken sod.

Sweet bird a-singing on the tree,

Your song is blithe and gay—

Yet ever as the cadence falls

The guns boom far away.

—PATTY HONEYWOOD.

(Sincere thanks for all the good things—letter, poem, and new members. Hope to hear from you again.—F.B.)

MY DEAR SISTER,—I am so pleased to be able to send you a few names to be enrolled as Bluebells from our Lyceum; also to tell you how we get along at Shipley. Last Saturday, the Spiritual Church here held its Anniversary Services. This week-end, on the Saturday, we had a grand ham tea, and a concert followed, in which some of the Lyceumists took part; and also some of the Church members. You see, we help each other all we can. I'm also so pleased to tell you that Shipley Lyceum has won the Silver Shield of the Bradford Lyceum District Council. Therefore, I as one of its conductors, am too overwhelmed with joy to be able to express it in words. How proud I am to be a Spiritualist! I will try to get some of the other Bluebells to write to you. I remain, Your loving Bluebell, Edith Tordoff (Shipley).

(Hearty congratulations to your Lyceum. Glad to hear of its progress and success—also to welcome new members. Shall look for letters to come.—F.B.)

DEAR FLORA BELLE,—Being a member of the Bluebell Group at Slaithwaite, I thought I would write you a letter. On October 3rd, we held our Lyceum Day, which proved a success. In the afternoon the services were taken by the children, and the leaders gave short addresses in the evening.

On Saturday, October 16th, we are having a social and presentation of the second prize, which we won in the Halifax and Huddersfield Banner Competition. The prize is two pictures of the banner, one of each side. I remain, Your loving Bluebell, Wilfred Shaw (3,902, Slathwaite).

(Glad to have your letter, and good news of Lyceum—F.B.)

DEAR FLORA BELLE,—Our Bluebell Group is progressing steadily. We are taking for our lessons "Physiology," and when the end of December comes (that is the time when our office expires as leaders of groups), we shall have finished the first chapter (Digestion). We have decided that the Bluebells shall write an essay upon this chapter, and ask you to be judge; also to put the essays in the "Banner," if not all of them, the best, as I have promised a Lyceum Badge to the winner. I am enclosing you a short story, just a little bit of it was told to me a while ago, so I thought I would put it together in my own words, and it would be a good illustration for Golden Chain Recitation No. 102, "The Three Rules." I wonder how many take this recitation to heart, as most of us are apt to forget at times, and we pay back as we have received! Your loving Bluebell, Violet Shaw No. 3894, Slaithwaite).

THE GOLDEN RULE.

There were once two farms, situated not very far from each other. At one of these farms lived a man who was mean and selfish, and did not like anyone to prosper but himself, and would do all in his power to hinder the other farmer from making any progress. Time went on till farmer Number Two became very poor. His crops were scanty and his cattle died. Eventually he had to leave the farm, almost penniless. The farm remained empty for a considerable time, until at last a stranger, passing through the country, paused and thought what a pity such a place should be empty; what good crops the land would produce if only cultivated! He made enquiries, then bought the place. After it had been thoroughly cleaned, he settled down and commenced to work. The people in the district told him what kind of a person his neighbour was, but he smiled and said, "If he annoys me, I will kill him." This made the people stare, and they left him, to watch the events. No sooner had the newcomer commenced his work than farmer Number One began his mean tricks, but this never angered the newcomer in the least, who always paid him back by deeds of kindness. If his neighbour's crops were scanty, he would try to cultivate the soil until the crops were better; if the cattle happened to be ill, he would go and help him to tend them, until they were better; always practising the golden rule, "Good for evil." At last the man was quite overcome by his kindness and asked to be forgiven for all the suffering he had caused. This he freely did. The people, seeing the change, said, "We thought you said you would kill the man if he annoyed you." "So I did, and so I have done. I have killed the selfish man, and now you find a good man in his place, showing you that good will in time overcome evil if we are persistent in our efforts, as the only real failure is in ceasing to strive." (V. Shaw, Slaithwaite).

(Delighted to have your story, which is just "a

Bluebell" one; also letter. Will do my best re the essays. Good luck to all.—F.B.)

DEAR FLORA BELLE,—I am a member of the Birkenhead Lyceum and I am writing to ask you if you will receive me as a member of the Bluebell Guild. I have been a Lyceumist for the last three or four years, and really cannot tell you how fond I am of Lyceum work. I read in this month's "BANNER" that you are inviting stories from Bluebells, and I enclose one. Perhaps the next one I try will be better. I am very fond of writing and always have been, so I hope you will smile on my effort, even if it is not worthy of printing. I will do my best to uphold the object of the Guild, as I endeavour to uphold the splendid morals of the Lyceum. Hoping that next time I write I shall be able to sign myself as a Bluebell, I am, Yours sincerely, Winifred Wilkinson.

(Your card has been sent on. A hearty welcome to the Guild; and sincere thanks for the splendid story, which will appear next month.—F.B.)

DEAR FLORA BELLE,—I am very sorry I have been so long before writing to you. But here is a letter at last. I hope you do not think I have ceased to be interested in our page, for certainly that is not so.

You have been asking for stories, and I have written just a short one, which I hope will teach some little boy or girl a lesson. It is not a fairy-tale, but a TRUE one. I hope you will be able to spare room for it. I will try and write again soon. Please accept my best and loving wishes, Yours fraternally (Mrs.) Eliza Moulton (No. 2,987, Stockport).

(I greatly appreciate your kind letter, and am glad to give such a beautiful little story to the other Bluebells. Sincere thanks.—F.B.)

DISOBEDIENCE.

Mrs. Belford was exceedingly fond of her little boy. In fact so fond was she, that she would not hurt his feelings by making him do anything he did not want to do. When she called him from play, he generally answered, "All right, in a minute," and sometimes those minutes were very long ones. So long were they sometimes, that he quite forgot he had been called. Mrs. Belford had become so used to it that she would have been surprised if he had obeyed her instantly. However, there came a day when she wished her boy had been different, dearly as she loved him.

When Harry (that was his name) was about seven years old, Mrs. Belford was taken seriously ill and for some time confined to her couch. One day, as she awoke from a doze, she found the room full of smoke, and looking about, saw that the hearth-rug was on fire. Of course she called Harry, being unable to do so much as to roll up the rug, or carry water. "In a minute," he cried, and went on with his play. Soon, the covers on the chairs caught fire, and it was spreading rapidly. "Harry," she called again, but her voice was husky, and the smoke nearly choked her. She managed at last to get up, but the effort was too much, and fainting, she fell to the floor.

All at once, Harry bethought himself that he had been called. He picked up his marbles, and as he turned to go home, saw smoke issuing through the doorway. He was no coward however, for he went right in and up to the couch, where he expected to find his mother. He quickly summoned the neighbours and soon the fire was mastered, but not before it had done some damage to the home. When the doctor came and saw the condition of Mrs. Belford, he looked very grave indeed, "It is owing," he said, "no doubt to the exer-

(Continued on page 189).

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THE LYCEUM BANNER :

ALFRED KITSON, Editor.

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OFFICE HOURS.—The following are the business hours at the Lyceum Union's Office:—

On Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, from 8-30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 8-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7th, 1915

Lyceum Notes and Comments.

We are pleased to learn of the opening of the Elland Lyceum, which is holding its sessions at 10-30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Will the friends at Brighouse, Halifax and Sowerby Bridge pay the Elland Lyceum an occasional friendly visit, and render them any service in their power? There is the making of a strong Lyceum at Elland. A few years ago this Lyceum won the first prize—a special Banner—three years in succession. It only needs a little help to give it a first place in the ranks of the Halifax and Huddersfield District Council again.

A Lyceum has been opened at Ferndale (Glam.). And the friends at Southport (Wright Street), and Whitley Bay, have the formation of a Lyceum under consideration.

Will friends who have suitable pieces for Golden Chain Recitations, and Musical Readings please forward them to the Lyceum Union's General Secretary, 17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury, with a view to having them inserted in next edition of *The Lyceum Manual*?

Two more pioneers of Spiritualism have been promoted to the higher life, Mr J. B. Tetlow, Manchester, on September 23rd, and Mr. William Proctor, the blind medium of Barrow-in-Furness, on October 11th. Both of them highly gifted mediums. Brief sketches of their labours for Spiritualism, with portraits, appeared in our contemporary the *Two Worlds*. The ranks of the exponents and demonstrators of our teachings and phenomena are being thinned. Who is going to worthily fill their places?

We are in receipt of two poems composed by Mrs. Beecher Stowe, neatly printed in colours, making an

artistic border. The proceeds of sale are to be devoted to Her Majesty Queen Mary's, "Work for Women" Fund. The author is very anxious that all Lyceums should help by taking quantities. Price 2d. each, post or carriage free. All orders should be addressed to Mrs. A. Beecher Stowe, 40, Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham.

Re THE LYCEUM BANNER Portrait Gallery, and Lyceum District Councils The LYCEUM BANNER is desirous of giving the Lyceum District Councils the preference of selecting their own Representatives. Will they please do so now so as to be in readiness when their turn arrives? We shall endeavour to take them in the following alphabetical order: *December*, Halifax and Huddersfield; *January* (1916), Leeds; *February*, Liverpool; *March*, London; *April*, Manchester; *May*, North-East Lancashire; *June*, North-West Lancashire; *July*, Nottingham; *August*, Scotland; *September*, Sheffield; *October*, South East Lancashire; *November*, Stockport; *December*, Teeside; and *January* (1917), Tyneside.

The Psychic Photographs presented in this issue offer splendid testimony of the continuity of life beyond the change called death, which should be of great value to thousands of mourners for those slain in this awful and cruel war. The ministers of the various religious demoninations are being anxiously questioned by sorrowing members for some evidence, some proof of the continuity of life, and they are unable to supply the desired proof. Now is the chance of the Spiritualist to show those psychic photographs as evidence that their dear ones live and may be commended with if they will but give the desired conditions.

The photo on the first page has a deeper significance. There are a class of people who admit the continuity of life for adults, but deny it for infants. This is a sore trial to the mother mourning for her darling child whom she may never see again. But here is evidence of a little boy who passed to the spirit side of life when only *three days old* having grown to a fine young man in the spirit world, which proves that physical death has no power to arrest the growth of the spirit body, and the unfoldment of the soul's latent faculties and powers. It is owing to this fact that our Lyceum movement was founded. Andrew Jackson Davis, like St. John on the Isle of Patmos, was able to leave his earthly body for a short time, and in his spirit body visit the homes and schools of the children in the spirit world, and so bring back with him an account of the system of training and instruction the children in the spirit world received. To all mourning parents we would say that the evidence that Mrs. Pugh's little child continues to live and grow in the spirit world, is evidence that your darling, or darlings live and grow, and you will one day meet and greet them as fully matured young men and women. Dry your tears, Oh, mourning parents, for beyond the veil of death your loved ones await you in the morning land of eternal life and happiness.

[We much regret the Lyceum Reciter and D.V. Reports are crowded out.—Editor].

(Continued from page 187).

tion of trying to get to the door," and he feared the case was far more serious than it was at the beginning. When he heard this, Harry burst into tears and cried, "It is all my fault, doctor. Mother called me and I went on with my play and finished my game of marbles." He was severely reprimanded by the doctor, but he had ALREADY learned the lesson of obedience. Needless to say, in after years he was a different boy and was quick to answer his mother's first call. Experience is often the best teacher. (Mrs) E. Moulton, (Stockport.)

DEAR FLORA BELLE,—I have often thought of writing to you. I happen to be a Bluebell and have lost my membership card. It would be rather interesting to know if there is such a thing as a BLUEBELL REGISTER. I know numbers and particulars are as nothing, and principles are everything, but I have been asked by several Bluebells whether I am a Bluebell and what was my number. I have had to confess I don't know. Still I have never forgotten that I am a member of the Bluebell Guild. Wouldn't it be interesting to have a list of members printed with particulars as to Lyceums and circulated among the members of the Guild. I wonder who the first Bluebell was. Somebody must be lucky enough to have a card bearing the number 1., and somebody will soon be having a card bearing the number 4,000. Just imagine—4,000 Guild members! I wonder where they all are? If every one could be located just now and a cord connecting each one drawn, I guess the cord would go right round the earth. I trust the influence of every Bluebell is being used in promoting gentleness and kindness and in furthering the happiness of others. With love to yourself and to all other Bluebells wherever they may be; Yours sincerely, Alice Hesp.

(Very pleased to have your letter. Thanks for it, and the good wishes. Yes, there is a record of all Bluebells, their names, and numbers. Sorry about your lost card. A new one could be supplied if you sent penny stamp for postage. You will see that this month we have passed number 4,050! Will remember your queries, and answer same later. No room this month).

I am pleased to have a list of new members from Stockton-on-Tees, and I heartily thank Mr. J. W. Harrison for them, and also for his promise to send a supplementary list. I do hope their Lyceum will grow strong and active again after its period of depression.

Your Loving Sister,

FLORA BELLE.

WEST MELTON LYCEUM.

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 3968 Annie Oxley. | 3973 Joseph Armitage. |
| 3969 Maud Wooding. | 3974 Walter Armitage. |
| 3970 Doris Wooding. | 3975 Hannah Thirkell. |
| 3971 Marion Wooding. | 3976 Mrs. Thirkell. |
| 3972 Harry Wooding. | 3977 Hilda Kenning. |

BARROW-IN-FURNESS LYCEUM.

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 3978 Mrs. Dobson. | 3986 Nellie Small. |
| 3979 Mrs. Garner. | 3987 Ida Eccles. |
| 3980 Ada Lawton. | 3988 Theodosia Dobson. |
| 3981 Eveline Dobson. | 3989 Mr. Dobson. |
| 3982 Lizzie Lawton. | 3990 Mr. Fowler. |
| 3983 Lizzie Ackroyd. | 3991 Mr. Moore. |
| 3984 Clara Ackroyd. | 3992 Thos. Lawton. |
| 3985 Maggie Lawton. | 3993 Philip Brown. |

HULL LYCEUM (Holborn Street).

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 3994 Evelyn Rushton. | 4005 Jack Armitage. |
| 3995 Ethel Gorrard. | 4006 Mary White. |
| 3996 Nelly Pilgrim. | 4007 Hilda Housam. |
| 3997 Fred Pilgrim. | 4008 Gertrude Latimer. |
| 3998 Fanny Walker. | 4009 Annie Jeffreys. |
| 3999 William Cawkwell. | 4010 Harold Tyler. |
| 4000 Cissie Cawkwell. | 4011 Olive Smith. |

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 4001 Robert Cawkwell. | 4012 Vera Smith. |
| 4002 Ina Hogg. | 4013 Sophie Hart. |
| 4003 Eva Foster. | 4014 Robert Hart. |
| 4004 Robert Rutherford. | |

SHIPLEY LYCEUM.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 4015 Miss H. Oldfield. | 4029 Grace Horn. |
| 4016 Miss Holdsworth. | 4030 Mr. Oldfield. |
| 4017 Miss S. Holdsworth. | 4031 Mr. Coles. |
| 4018 Miss M. Winterburn. | 4032 Mr. Cloughton. |
| 4019 Miss D. Barker. | 4033 Mr. H. Hutchinson. |
| 4020 Miss N. Rayner. | 4034 Master Cloughton. |
| 4021 Ivy Barker. | 4035 Master H. Cloughton. |
| 4022 Florence Myers. | 4036 Master J. A. Tadman. |
| 4023 Lily Scott. | 4037 Master C. Barker. |
| 4024 Harriet Thornton. | 4038 Joshua Thornton. |
| 4025 Carrie Earnshaw. | 4039 John Hingly. |
| 4026 Hetty Stead. | 4040 James Padgett. |
| 4027 Emily Padgett. | 4041 Willie Hodgson. |
| 4028 Maud Padgett. | |

BIRKENHEAD LYCEUM.

- | |
|--------------------------|
| 4042 Winifred Wilkinson. |
|--------------------------|

STOCKTON-ON-TEES LYCEUM.

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 4043 Ethel Cannon. | 4050 Frank Harrison. |
| 4044 Hilda Jones. | 4050 Edward Westbrook. |
| 4045 Dorothy Hunter. | 4051 James Carter. |
| 4046 Evelyn Hunter. | 4052 John George Harrison. |
| 4047 Rosa Westbrook. | 4053 John Wright Harrison. |
| 4048 Lily Harrison. | |

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

The Executive Council of the above Union visited the Leeds Psychological Society on October 9th and 10th, when all the members were present with the exception of Mr. Hargreaves, and Mr. Doble, who sent a letter regretting inability to be present owing to change of situation.

This visit recalls vividly to mind the fact that on March 26th, 1887—more than twenty-eight years ago—the third Conference of Lyceum workers was held at the Leeds Psychological Hall, to consider the best ways and means of helping on the Lyceum movement.

Among the friends present on this auspicious occasion were Messrs. Hunter and H. A. Kersey (Newcastle), Mrs. Yeeles (South Shields), Messrs Boardman and Stewart (Openshaw), Mr. Crutchley (Miles Plattling), Messrs. Smith, Illingworth, Thresh and Amler (Bradford), Mr. James Robinson (Beeston), Mr. A. E. Brooke (Halifax), Mr. Blackburn (Idle), Messrs. B. Lees and Gaukroger (Sowerby Bridge), Messrs. Kitson, Shore, and Miss Atkins (Batley Carr), Mr. and Mrs. Craven, Mr. Lingford and Mr. Stansfield (Leeds).

The one absorbing topic was the need for a Lyceum Manual. Lyceums were having to make use of hymn-books from which to select Silver Chain recitations. Copies of Golden Chain recitations were supplied by Mr. Kitson, and the Lyceums were memorising them. Copies of Musical Readings were similarly supplied by Mr. Kitson, along with instructions in marching and calisthenics. The Lyceum Movement was languishing for a Lyceum Manual containing the above items, published at a price within the reach of all.

In September, 1886, Mr. Kitson had been invited to open a Lyceum at Newcastle-on-Tyne. During the visit he learned from Mr. Kersey that that gentleman had in preparation a Lyceum Manual of about sixteen pages for the use of the local Lyceum. Mr. Kitson embraced the golden opportunity to solicit Mr. Kersey to amplify it, and print an edition sufficient to supply the growing demand of the movement. The consent of Mrs. Emma Hardinge Britten having been obtained to amplify the sixteen page Manual, Mr. Kersey devoted himself to the task imposed upon him by the exigencies of the movement to compile the English Lyceum

Manual. The book not being quite ready when the above Conference was held, Mr. Kersey went to the trouble to get a book made up and bound in imitation of the English Lyceum Manual he had in hand, which would contain 75 Silver Chain recitations, 33 Golden Chain recitations, 11 Musical Readings, and 13 Lyceum Songs. The Conference was highly delighted with the good news, and urged its speedy appearance.

The demand was what had been prophesied for it, 1,000 COPIES WERE SOLD IN NINE MONTHS; a second edition of 1,000 WAS SOLD IN FOUR MONTHS. The Lyceums rapidly increased when there was a suitable Manual for their use. It is almost impossible to estimate the good done by my esteemed co-worker, Mr. H. A. Kersey, in supplying the Lyceum Movement with a Manual at cost price; and in the fulness of his generous heart, he was not long in supplying the Lyceum Movement with a Spiritual Songster. Sometime the Lyceum Movement will recognise its great indebtedness to its benefactor, Mr. Harry A. Kersey. Let us hope the recognition will not be deferred till he has been promoted to the higher life.

The new hall lately leased by the Psychological Society adjoins the Leeds College of Music in Cookridge Street. It is situated on the ground floor, and well lighted from above; and also supplied with electric lights.

A tea and social were promoted in honour of the visit. The members of the Executive could only partake of the tea, and exchange greetings with the friends, promising themselves a fuller acquaintance on the morrow, as a large amount of business waited their attention.

The following reports were presented and considered: The General Secretary's, the Lyceum Banner, the Treasurer's, and also those of the Finance, the Literary, and Education Committees.

It was decided to grant one guinea towards defraying the cost incurred by the S.N.U. in sending Spiritualistic literature to the soldiers at the front.

A motion to grant two guineas towards funds for a Motor Ambulance to be presented to the Red Cross Society failed to secure the necessary support to carry it to success.

It was decided to consider favourably a revision of the terms of printing the LYCEUM BANNER, necessitated by the increase of prices of the material used, and also increase of wages caused by the war.

Important recommendations were offered by the Finance Committee which had to be deferred till the next meeting.

The agreement with the General Secretary was finally agreed to, signed, and witnessed.

It was pointed out to the meeting that there is room in the Golden Chain Recitation section of the LYCEUM MANUAL for 51 more items; and in the section for Musical Readings there was room for 58 more items. So it was agreed that an appeal be made in the LYCEUM BANNER for those Lyceumists having suitable pieces for either, or both, of those sections to be invited to forward them to the General Secretary with a view to their insertion in the next edition.

The Education Committee presented its Syllabus for Study Groups. It was decided that it be printed in sheet-form and copies be enclosed with each parcel of the LYCEUM BANNER at the rate of two copies to each parcel.

The following were elected as a Committee to consider a revision of the Lyceum Union's Constitution, in readiness for the 1917 Lyceum Conference:—Messrs.

Latham, Owen, Stewart, Mrs. Greenwood, and Miss Heap.

Applications for membership received from the Mexborough and Auckland, N.Z. Lyceums, were considered and endorsed.

Mr. Geo. Fred Knott and Mrs. L. Nurse were appointed the Lyceum Union's Representatives to the United Lyceums' District Council at Rawtenstall.

More time is urgently needed for the rapidly increasing business of the Lyceum Union. On the above occasion the whole of the Saturday evening and Sunday, from 9-45 to 12-30 were devoted to business matters. Therefore it was decided to convene the next meeting, to be held at Accrington, on January 8th, 1916, at 4 p.m.

SUNDAY—LYCEUM OPEN SESSION.

The Hall was crowded with Lyceumists and friends when the Open Session was called to order at 2-15 p.m. There was much enthusiasm manifested by the members and officers from the local Lyceums. The following representatives were invited to a seat on the platform: Miss Nellie Ingle, Secretary to the Leeds Lyceum District Council; Mrs. Hayland, of Armley Lyceum; Miss Woodhead, of the Bethel Street Lyceum; Mr. W. H. Venum, of the Castleford Lyceum; Miss Hurley, of the Easy Road Lyceum; and Mr. Mitchell, from the Yeadon Spiritualists' Society.

Mr. Ernest Vickers, President, extended a cordial greeting to all friends.

After the opening exercises, "button-hole" flowers were presented to the male members of the Executive, and "sprays" for the female members were presented by a little girl on behalf of the Lyceum.

Mr. Reuben Latham was invited to lead the S.C.R. "Speak the best we can," and offered some helpful and suggestive remarks on the same.

The Musical Reading, "Home Affections," was ably led by Mr. Stewart. Questions were invited, but none being asked, Mr. Stewart commented on the value of the home and all the sweet memories that centre round it, making it the most sacred spot on earth.

The Golden Chain Recitation, "The Aim of Spiritualism," was led by Mr. Knott. One scholar asked what was meant by, "It does not make the means the end." Another scholar asked what was meant by, "It calls God Father, not King;" and a third one wished for an explanation of, "Nor a lie sacred though uttered by those the world calls sacred." These were dealt with in an interesting manner that seemed to satisfy the questioners.

The marching and calisthenics were ably led by Miss Alice Hesp, but lack of space for the Lyceums prevented an elaborate display, and want of time curtailed the evolutions. But what was given was good, and an eager audience watched every movement.

Pearls were numerous, and those giving them made some witty hits in explaining their meaning, which evoked applause from the audience.

These were followed by vocal items. Miss Hurley, of Easy Road Lyceum, sang "Homeward." Two little girls ventured to face the audience and sing "Open the door for the Children," the audience joining heartily in the chorus. "The Wheel of Progress" was recited by Edmund Moore. Other items were "The Fairy Autumn," "The Rainbow," "Fairy and the Flower," and "I remember."

Mr. Owen briefly addressed the Lyceum on the letters composing the word "PSYCHO." P stood for "Preparation," S for "Service," Y for "Youth," C for

"Courage," H for "Humanity," and O for "Optimism." Each word was elaborated, amplified and united in a connective whole. The children were very attentive to the whole process, and heartily applauded at the finish. Mr. Owen concluded his address by reciting Mrs. E. W. Wilcox's poem entitled "Which are You, a Lifter or a Leaner?"

The session was brought to a close by the singing of "God bless the Lyceum evermore."

THE EVENING SERVICE

was fairly well attended, and ably presided over by the President, who remarked that it was a fact that death does not end all. On leaving this world they enter a spirit world. A. J. Davis had been able to visit some of the places in the spirit world, especially where the children were cared for. He had seen their work of instructing them; then had founded similar schools on earth called "the Children's Progressive Lyceums." Hence the importance of the present movement.

After the opening hymn, "Hark, I hear the angels," and prayer by Miss Heap, the Vice-President, Mr. Knott, was called upon to address the meeting, who remarked that the movement of Spiritualism was not making the advancement it ought to do, and proceeded to trace the cause of the trouble, not to Spiritualism, but to the indifference of the Spiritualists. He made an earnest exhortation for earnest devotion to the propagation of their teachings and do their share in maintaining the truths of Spiritualism in a fit and proper manner.

Miss Dickinson sang "Sweet Golden Age," which the audience fully appreciated, joining in the chorus.

Mrs. Nurse, in a speech full of pathos, spoke of what Spiritualism and its teachings of sweet reasonableness concerning a God of Love, personal responsibility and progression, had done for her; how it had transformed her whole life; how she had attended a meeting out of curiosity; had received a test by Mr. Inman, which proved to her that death did not end all. She commenced to search and study the teachings the angels taught. Then she attended the Lyceum and found her true sphere of labour among and for the children. What Spiritualism had done for her it could do for others, and for the children. She appealed for the children to be cared for and given the teachings from the angels.

Mr. Stewart, on being called on for a speech, remarked upon the hall, and complimented the local friends on the transformation they had effected in so short a time. He proceeded to relate some of the hardships the old covenanters had to endure for their fight for religious freedom. He then remarked on the change that was coming over people concerning Spiritualism. Its teachings were permeating the best literature and magazines. Coming to the Lyceum teachings it was not like the Sunday Schools, which was described by a scholar as a "place where they suffered for righteousness sake." The Lyceum had helped him to broaden his sympathies by its teaching the Brotherhood of Man. It had also taught him to test the worth of all his words and actions by their helpfulness to others.

Miss Allison sweetly rendered "Star of the East." Mrs. Greenwood, under the control of her guide "Earnest," gave a good, heart-searching address which appealed to her audience. In order to win an entrance to the "Homeland" they must act and live the angel part while here on earth, and not leave it till the eleventh hour and think they could then be transformed and made pure in heart and mind, and fit company for the angels. She appealed to the fathers and mothers to be

careful of their words and conduct in their homes, which were of the first importance in their good effect on the lives of their children. She closed her address by reciting a poem on "Love and Sacrifice."

After Mr. Kitson had addressed the meeting, the President thanked the local friends on behalf of his Executive for the cordial welcome extended to them, and hoped much good had been done by their visit.

A. KITSON, Gen. Sec.

OLDEST PIECE OF WRITING.

Sumerian Tablet in University of Pennsylvania Records Deeds of Babylonians.

A number of ancient Sumerian tablets, recording the deeds of the Babylonians thousands of years ago, have been deciphered by George A. Barton at the University of Pennsylvania Museum. One of these tablets, which tells how a farmer rid his field of locusts and caterpillars, is dated 4,000 B.C. and is the oldest piece of writing extant, according to an announcement made by officials of the museum. The farmer, Doctor Barton's translation says, called in a necromancer, who "broke a jar, cut upon a sacrifice, a word of cursing he repeated, and the locusts and caterpillars fled." For this service he received a tall palm tree.

That a canal was constructed in Babylonia nearly 5,000 years ago is shown by another tablet dated "The year the Divine Naram-Sin opened the mouth of the canal Erin at Nippur." Naram-Sin was a king in Babylonia and is supposed to have financed the construction of the waterway which gave Nippur transportation facilities with the rest of the world. A third tablet, dated 3200 B.C., records the transfer of land and a quantity of grain for bronze money. Gold and silver were known at that time, but were not used as currency.

Questions and Answers.

Under this head Lyceumists may ask questions bearing on the teachings of the "Lyceum Manual" and matters appertaining to the Lyceum Movement in general. All correspondents must give their full name and address, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith with the Editor. Letters should be addressed to the Question and Answer Department, the Offices of the Lyceum Banner 17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury.

Dear Sir.—Under the heading of questions and answers in last month's BANNER you say in answer to question No. 4, "This is a remnant of the old theological idea of the location of heaven." "The spirit world," by that I mean the spirit spheres is *not* "round about us," but the spirit people from the spirit spheres are often with us as spirit guardians. I have been cradled, as it were, in the Lyceum, and have always understood that the spirit world is round about us, and if it be as you say then I would like to ask, "Where is it located?" I am sincere in asking you this question for a clearer conception, because I love my *Lyceum Manual*, and love to digest its spiritual meanings.

Yours in the search of Truth,

MISS ADA ELKIN, Horwich.

Answer.—I think Miss Elkin will readily perceive that if heaven were "*amidst the stars*" it could not be round about her as she has "always understood." So in any case she is faced with the problem of "Where is the Spirit World?"

As we dealt with this question two years ago in our articles on AFTER DEATH WHAT? Perhaps it will be worth while to repeat what we then wrote—as there is no sign of the articles being reprinted in pamphlet form—as our answer to Miss Elkin's question.

THE SPIRIT SPHERES.

The spirit-world is not located beyond the highest star as portrayed by the vivid imagination of the fervid preacher,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The LYCEUM BANNER, Oct., 1913.

A SPIRITUALISTS' WEDDING AT ACCRINGTON.

On Saturday September 25th, at the Unitarian Church, Mr. Hubert Thompson and Miss Nellie Ormerod, both of China Street Lyceum, were married by Councillor J. T. Ward, of Blackburn.

Brief Delineations of Character.

By Prof. Timson, Leicester.

Brief delineations of character, talents and spiritual gifts will be given to readers of "The Lyceum Banner," from Photo, lock of hair, or hand-writing. All applicants must state age and sex, and enclose six penny postage stamps along with the coupon. Those who desire that their photos should be returned to them must enclose a stamped, directed envelope. All communications must be addressed to Prof. T. Timson, 3, Museum Square, Leicester.

JOHN THOMAS WOOD, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

You have a good capacity for fluency and eloquence, and as a speaker; you should become inspirational, clear and concise in dictum. You have order, method, system, and arrangement; you could also succeed as a psychometric medium and a writer and author. You have a good insight into general knowledge. You have excellent gifts for organising, lecturing, and public work. Confidence, executiveness and business-like, with a good progressive element. "No stick in the mud" about you. You ought to give a good account of your gifts one of these days. Work up with the Lyceum. You don't like "Swank," go ahead.

F. TAYLOR, CASTLETON.

You have a highly developed mental, motive, temperament, adapted to a good degree of psychic and mental faculty of a varied and comprehensive order.

You are naturally a speaker, writer and an authoress, but you need careful and systematic training. The better the instrument the greater necessity for training and discipline, culture and fitness, to respond to the psychic and mental infusions and impressions. You are a born teacher and student, also a public worker of no mean capacity, and I reflect upon similar persons now members of Board of Guardians, and others holding public positions who once were obscure till we found them out and inspired them to progress. Get on the right lines and speed ahead and success is the logical matter of fact of cause and effect in life.

ALFRED COLLIER, DEWSBURY.

You have a good physique, a well developed bony frame, good muscular system, good respiratory organs (lungs). Cultivate deep breathing, daily exercises morning, noon, and evening, five minutes each, fully inhale and fully exhale at each breath, and do it rhythmically and easily. You should become a good normal as well as inspirational speaker. You have a strong will, excellent executive abilities, and ingenuity, mechanical and engineering capacity. A manager, lecturer, and demonstrator, examiner and healing mediumship. You need more enthusiasm, and a rousing up to put forth your fuller energies, or you will fail to fulfil your better part, and only achieve a part of your "triple career," physical, mental, and spiritual responsibilities. Go ahead and make the most of your opportunities in self-culture in Lyceum and Society, and you should become a valuable worker, not a stereotype model.

MISS M. MC., GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE.

You have much capacity for educational work, you also evince strong self-will, you have excellent tastes and good sense of harmony in music. You are suited to take charge of a school, college, or business. I would not advise a small or retail shop. You have some very marked characteristics and very strong likes and dislikes, but you are a woman of sound sense and not given to whims and fancies or emotionalism. You have much of your father's mental traits, and will be at times very positive and firm in decision; the "head to rule the heart" matrimony will be a serious problem with you mentally. You have originality of ideas and sometimes give your intimate friends an occasional spasm in ventilating your own opinions. Carefully study the scientific side of Spiritualism. See "Two Worlds," September 24th, "Man Know Thyself," then write me again.

MRS. YULES, GLASGOW.

You have excellent Healing-Mediumship. No! I am afraid that many mediums shed or exhaust their magnetism and

suffer from "Auronemia" in consequence, and lack of proper scientific methods. Controls are not all "past masters" in the art. Mediumship, like aeroplaning, needs a good pilot, trained and experienced. Read Andrew Jackson Davis' "The Physician," Vol. I. Every society should possess his five volumes, "The Great Harmonia." His first volume is devoted to health first and foremost before any advance upon further efforts. It is too often ignored in childhood and adult for other aspirations that topple over through lack of health. You have a warm affectionate disposition and could have been a successful maternal nurse or a matron of a nursing home or a hospital. You have capacity for a speaker.

TOM SMITH, LEEDS.

You are a bright, intelligent young fellow, and should be jealous to guard against all effects liable to intrude on your health. You are not of the "hardier mould." You are enthusiastic, excitable, quick, intense, and cannot brook restraint and suspense very well, you are in too big a hurry to get at the top, you should establish a purpose in "a life career," you are liable to be too versatile and "jack of all trades." You need more "stick-at-it-iveness." You are keenly observative, intelligent and intuitive, in fact your temperament is alive, alert, electric, and magnetic and psychometric. You are a born psychic. Put the brake on, study life's map, and take the short cuts and the line of least resistance, curb impulse and don't waste life's petrol.

M.W., KINGSTON.

You have excellent mental grip and could employ your mind upon useful study and become a capable student. You also have large sympathies and would evolve public interests and could engage in public service and duties. You have taste, artistic refinement, and fair ambition, with a good sense of the practical, suitable and utilitarian virtues. You are not fastidious, but critical and particular; you have high ideals and are quick to see a point, should be scholarly and make up your mind to go in for Self-Culture. You could succeed in music, the art of elocution, and voice culture, or in clerical and secretarial duties, in trade outfitting and millinery is most fitting to your adaptation.

MR. G. CADMAN, OLDHAM.

A good bony frame, needing muscular training to balance and fill it out. Beware of liver troubles and kidney weakness if pure diet is not regular and mixed. Avoid fats, pastry, and cheese, also sugar. You are of a receptive temperament, and need to cultivate more positive and less negative magnetism. You could become a good trance speaker. Remember that mediumship varies in kind, degree, and volume of power in every person, as does musical faculty and capacity. No two ever were or will be identically equal, so study yourself, leaving others the freedom to do likewise. There is a lot in you that needs training to give good results. Go in for Lyceum work, and do it methodically and systematically throughout. Cultivate your will by overcoming obstacles and difficulties; be calm and cool in opposition, but have a goal in life and aim, or a career mapped out for life's voyage and go ahead. Speaker, teacher, carpenter.

MR. H. CLAUGHTON, SHIPLEY.

You have an active and energetic temperament. You are wiry and close knit in fibre and nerve tissue and not likely to carry much fat. You are of a progressive type and ready to go on and not to be a "Stick in the mud." You are suited for a normal and an inspirational speaker. You have an intellectual lobe (forehead) adapted for educational and literary work, and should decide upon a public sphere of service and duty.

You are too cautious and a bit too precise in some things, and liable to forget natural laws of health, remember the body and its condition react upon the mind and the spiritual in man also.

Your studies should give you the "Rock bottom principles of health" of your body, brain and psychic powers.

You are alive to all around you and ready for emergencies; you have all the necessary faculties sufficiently developed to carry you to a forward position.

Take no heed of criticism, and don't waste time with oppositions, but double your energies by self-training and await the fitting moment to put on all your propelling power to move upward, and leave all hindrances behind.

Cultivate a fuller hope and more of the "creature comforts."

Physiognomy and Psychometry are in your scale of capacities.

A. WATTLEY, SOUTHAMPTON.

You have a very good working temperament, and will be able to give a good account of your stewardship. You are earnest, consistent and progressive. You could succeed in calisthenics, nursing, speaking, psychometry and character delineation. You are thorough and clear headed, and have excellent push. Your face and head is of a type of longevity. Your ancestors (other things equal) are a long-lived stock, and of a hardy race. You are magnetic, solid, reliable and industrious with a high gift of intuitiveness and ingenuity. You ought to make a high effort and work up to your goal. Your public spirit is good and willing.

W. H. VERNAM, YORKS.

You are capable of higher and fuller personal, social and educational development. You have a good capacity for detail and attention to method, time and duty. You could become a successful student of mental science and psychic subjects. A psychometrist, phrenologist and healer; but first put your own self into fitness by training, and the spirit friends can better work through a well-toned instrument than through a "man in a muddle." You have the capacity for a speaker and an author. I discovered the late James Allen, late editor of *Light of Reason*, and author of 19 books. I sent him forth to lecture and to write. I found him in obscurity and in need of help. He followed my advice and has left behind him a unique record. Go and do likewise. Cultivate, train and prepare yourself a fitting vessel for spirit control of a higher mental and ethical order, and be a light for others in the path of this life, first in Lyceum, Society and in public work.

The LYCEUM BANNER
DELINEATION COUPON,
November 7th, 1915.

TRIPLE SCIENCE COURSE.
PHYSIO—META—PSYCHICS.



- Do you wish to be physically fit in muscle?
- Do you wish to possess a trained brain?
- Do you wish to make the most of yourself?
- Do you wish to have a sound mind and will power?
- Do you wish to have a good memory?
- Do you wish to possess strong concentration?
- Do you wish to possess strong dual will power?
- Do you wish to cultivate the Tripple Alliance?
- Health, strength and control of body, brain and mind?

We offer you unequalled opportunity for *Personal Training* for a *Future Career or Occupation*, by *Natural Selection* and *Scientific Adaptation*.

It means *Survival of the Fittest* in the Right Vocation. Health, Strength, Character, Talent, Prosperity. The Science of the late Presidents of America, Grant, Garfield, Lincoln, etc., "*The King of the Sciences Phrenology*."

Sir Alfred Russell Wallace, LL.D., D.C.L., F.R.S., in his work, "*The Wonderful Century*," says:—

"Phrenology is a true science—step by step the result of observation upon the connection between development and function. In the coming century Phrenology will assuredly attain general importance. It will prove itself to be the true science of mind. Its practical use in education, in self-discipline, in the reformatory treatment of criminals, and in the remedial treatment of the insane, will give it one of the highest places in the hierarchy of science."

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY.
THE WORLD'S GREAT CHALLENGE.

We have gained a record of 33 years public service and highest recognition of expert efficiency by unsolicited testimony of all the old pioneers who passed away in the end of last century, the Fowlers, Wells, Burns, Brittons, etc., etc. Write to Prof. Thos. Timson and Madam Timson.

Proprietors: The Hydro and Phrenological Institute, 3, Museum Square, Leicester. Established 1880.

EDUCATION NOTICES.

The Education Committee of the B.S.L.U. desire to call the attention of Officers and Leaders of Lyceums and District Councils, to the Education Scheme commencing in the December issue of the LYCEUM BANNER.

A syllabus of the Examination Scheme will be forwarded, with an explanatory notice, to all Lyceums and District Councils.

Group-lessons, Subjects for discussion with reference books, and a list of suitable Text Books will be issued shortly.

Numbers of Hymns, Readings, &c., along with title of Subjects to be studied will be found in Mrs. Jessie Greenwood's Lesson Plan, by her kind permission.

The subject matter will be published in the official organ monthly when a reference book is not quoted.

A pamphlet on the objects of the Lyceum movement is in course of preparation.

The Education Committee earnestly hope for the support of all concerned, as the success of the scheme now depends upon the support of all Lyceums.

GEO FRED KNOTT,
22, Gower Street, Hon. Sec.

Correspondence.

DELINEATIONS OF CHARACTER.

To the Editor, LYCEUM BANNER.

Dear Sir,—I am pleased to see the delineations of character in the LYCEUM BANNER, by Prof. Timson. As yet I have not seen any "fortune-telling" in them. I think it will be soon enough for Mr. Bell and others to complain when it actually appears. In the meantime, these delineations will make the BANNER more interesting to its readers, especially our young men and young women, who have the prospects of life before them.

W. J. TAYLOR, Gateshead.

To the Editor, LYCEUM BANNER.

Dear Mr. Kitson,—In reference to Mr. Jack Bell not being agreeable to Prof. Timson giving delineations of character, in my opinion, as a Lyceumist, he is not doing anything wrong. There is a tendency of them being very helpful to many Lyceumists in letting them know what they are fitted for, and so enable them to put their talents into practice and do a lot of good in the world. There has been many a noble man and woman gone to their graves without having discovered what they were capable of doing. I hope and trust Prof. Timson may do much good by revealing to Lyceumists what they are cut out for, but not, as Mr. Bell says, introducing fortune-telling into the movement. I hope all will ever try to live up to the teachings of our *Lyceum Manual*. A. DALSLEY, Leeds.

Dear Sir,—After reading Mr. Jack Bell's letter, and then carefully reading the delineations in last month's LYCEUM BANNER, I fail to see any cause for his "regret and disgust" with the same. He could not do better than use one of the coupons, and then judge on the result of the reading of his characteristics. If he wishes to develop his talents that will be of benefit to himself and humanity, he should learn what they are. He who remains ignorant of his gifts or talents will be blown about by every breeze of opinion. Ignorance leads to sin, sickness, sorrow and death. The progressive Lyceumist will soon find that his powers depend upon the harmonial development of his mental talents. He will be able to live looking steadfastly through the workings of nature up to nature's God.

J.A.B., Hull.

To the Editor, LYCEUM BANNER.

Dear Mr. Kitson,—In reference to Mr. Jack Bell's letter re delineations of character, I would add my appreciation of them as a guide to those who are doubtful in which direction their talents should be applied. He speaks of keeping Spiritualism pure and free. I endorse that sentiment with all my heart and soul. But can he tell us what is wrong with the delineations? To define a person's characteristics, and point out his talents is not foretelling coming events. Will Mr. Bell please tell us what there is unscientific in delineating character from photo and handwriting? Can he explain how and why it cannot be read from photo and handwriting? When he has answered these two questions I have a few more to ask.

A BRAMALL, Slaithwaite.

To the Editor, LYCEUM BANNER.

Dear Mr. Kitson,—I am in unison with Bro. Jack Bell, and others, about keeping our BANNER pure and free, but I cannot agree with him with regard to delineations of character by Prof. Timson being classed as fortune-telling. Having sent a photograph to Prof. Timson, I believe my delineation came under the science of Phrenology, of which Prof. Timson has a fair knowledge, or our officials would not have taken the course. Anyhow, I am pleased with the nature of it, and it corresponds with what I was told at one of our churches by one of our respected speakers. As for the fee charged, I am informed that it is to cover cost of printing and postage. Phrenology, said Dr. Alfred Russell Wallace, is a science of the future which has been greatly neglected. I think the delineations may be the means of rousing some of our leaders in our Lyceums when they are told, by learned men, that they are capable of certain possibilities. I also wish to say that I sent my photograph to test the nature of the delineations more than anything else. As to it being the thin end of the wedge to prostitute psychics, I would gladly join hands with our brother to drive it out if I thought so.—Yours respectfully,

ROBT. HALSTEAD, Burnley.

To the Editor, LYCEUM BANNER.

Sir,—Referring to the letter by Jack Bell in your September 5th issue, I was much surprised at the nature of his comment respecting the Delineations of Character, by Prof. Timson, as advertised in the BANNER. I was pleased to note that he had the good sense of taking the responsibility of his comment personally and does not appear to have involved anyone else as his accomplice.

Probably no other person would have ventured to expose their ignorance to such an extent; there appears to be a type of deficiency as regards discretion, which is the marked feature of his remarks.

His authoritative tone ("I am not pleased at any such arrangement being made") appears to indicate that no one else had the right to be pleased, as though he held the ruling predominance of pleasure amongst the people he had to associate with.

Following the above remark he has taken a more arrogant attitude by stating:—"It is the last thing in the world that any Lyceumist would desire (I am sure) that our official organ should be the means of introducing fortune-telling into the Lyceum ranks." In this instance, he has gone far to expose his most extraordinary personal capabilities of knowing and delineating the desires of all Lyceumists, without either consultation or instructions to write on their behalf, and has had the audacity to add in brackets (I am sure); a person with such extensive qualifications has evidently missed his natural calling and has at present an opportunity and ample scope for putting his skill into practice.

There appears to be quite a contrast from a man who endeavours to acquire the knowledge of the general desires of his associates and a man who endeavours to give brief delineations from a technically acquired knowledge obtained by years of study and investigation, which for an extensive period has been approved of by certain people of intelligence.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN LODGE, Nottingham.

To the Editor, LYCEUM BANNER.

Dear Sir,—I was more than amused at the outburst of Mr. Bell. As a matter of fact, the very subject had been under discussion in our Liberty Group. It is a fact that cannot be denied that, apart from a few (who could easily be counted on the fingers) we have no mediums that we could trust with the future of the cause. But we shall have to get them from somewhere before long. And I should like Mr. Bell to tell us of a more suitable place than the Lyceum to find the "material." I have heard a suggestion that, "A few mediums, whose qualifications are beyond doubt, should be asked to visit the Lyceums and diagnose the qualifications of the members, so that each could be trained in their strongest gift. Yet strange to tell, as soon as one offers his services, he is dubbed a "fortune-teller," and you are asked to discourage such wicked work. To cut a long story short, I am greatly pleased that I did not take Mr. Bell's advice, but deliberately sent to Prof. Timson, with the result that, where I doubted my capabilities, now I know that I can be of service to the cause, and incidentally to mankind. The delineation of character could not possibly be more correct. My friends all say that it is fine. But the last item, "swimming," touches me on the tenderest spot in my nature. I am in my element when I am in a bath among learners, age and sex are no object with me, as long as a human being wants to learn to swim. I must be there; and

if Bro. Bell cannot swim, I should like to have the pleasure of teaching him, just to let him know that I think no worse of him for expressing his own opinion.

C. R. Illingworth says, "We desire the LYCEUM BANNER to maintain its usual high standard of excellence." Just so. And, at the same time, we want the Lyceums to be what they are intended for, viz., training grounds for workers in every branch of the movement. He styles himself "an obscure Lyceumist," and the reason that I differ in opinion with him is that I am a "Progressive" Lyceumist, and I am intent on Progress, and therefore I feel no qualms of conscience in asking advice from one of the finest men in the movement. Again expressing the opinion that Prof. Timson is filling a long-felt want, I remain, yours sincerely,

ROBT. HY. RUTHERFORD,
Holborn Hall (Hull) Lyceum.

THE SPIRITUALISTS' MOTOR AMBULANCE.

To the Editor, LYCEUM BANNER.

Dear Sir and Brother,—Will you kindly allow me to state to your readers that, in accordance with a suggestion made by Mr. W. H. Evans, of Merthyr Tydfil, a movement has been set on foot for the Spiritualists, without distinction of party, to provide a Motor Ambulance for presentation to the British Red Cross Society, for which the sum of £250 is required. The appeal for funds has been made in *The Two Worlds*, and at this date some £75 has been raised. I wish our Lyceumists to join in this humanitarian effort and would respectfully suggest that you allow me to invite all Lyceums to respond. The smallest contributions will be gratefully accepted. The writer has accepted the work of Hon. Treasurer, and all cheques and remittances can be made to him, to the Motor Ambulance Fund, crossed "Motor Ambulance Account," and payable to the Union Bank of Manchester, Ltd., Corn Exchange Branch. As all Lyceumists believe in humanitarianism no doubt they will welcome this opportunity of demonstrating their belief in a practical manner.—Respectfully yours,

J. J. MORSE, Editor of *The Two Worlds*,
Oct. 20th, 1915. 18, Corporation Street, Manchester.

Lyceum District Councils.

BRADFORD LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

SHIELD PRESENTATION.

A well-attended concert, for the purpose of presenting the Shield, was held at Shipley Rooms, on Saturday, October 23rd. A long and varied programme of vocal and instrumental solos and duets, recitations, and two sketches were ably gone through by members of the various Lyceums in the district, and thoroughly enjoyed.

The President presented the Shield to the Conductor of the winning Lyceum, Shipley, and the Banner to the third Lyceum, Harker Street, at the suggestion of the second Lyceum, Ivy Rooms.

The Vice-President, Miss Preston, presented the Adjudicator, Mr. Henry Barnes, with a copy of the Officers' Edition of the *Manual*, on behalf of the Council.

Our thanks are given to all those who helped to make the evening a success, and our sincere apologies to those who came prepared and willing and for whom there was not time.

Our next Council Meeting will be held on Sunday, Nov. 14th, at Ivy Rooms. A good attendance of delegates and friends is desired.

WM. BARNES, Secretary.

LEEDS LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The last quarterly meeting of the above Council was held at Heckmondwike on Saturday, September 25th. A good assembly of delegates, associates and friends were present.

The meeting was opened by the singing of "Shoulder to Shoulder," after which our President, Miss Hesp, gave a hearty welcome to all. The minutes, correspondence and reports were all accepted.

The most important business was, that we commence a Competition of Merit the first Sunday after Whitsuntide, 1916, and that the Lyceum winning the silver bell be awarded a certificate also.

Another important motion was, that we have a Field Day Demonstration in 1916. Any Lyceums wishing to give invitations are requested to do so as early as possible.

The next quarterly meeting will be held at Liversedge, on Saturday, December 11th, 1916.

NELLIE INGLE, Sec.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The quarterly meeting of the above Council was held at Daulby Hall, Daulby Street, Liverpool, on Saturday, October 2nd, when sixteen members were present.

Mrs. Raymond presided, and in opening the meeting extended a welcome to several who had not previously attended such a meeting.

Arising out of the Secretary's report, it was resolved to write to the B.S.L.U., protesting against the delay in issuing the outline lessons and also their publication in the LYCEUM BANNER.

The District Visitor reported the opening of a new Lyceum at St. Helens, and said he hoped they would very soon be affiliated with the Union and take a part in the work of the D.C. In view of his work on War munitions preventing him from fulfilling his duties, it was resolved to appoint an Assistant D.V., Mr. John Thompson being elected.

It was decided to cancel the Session Competition for the current year and consider the appointment of a new Judge at the December meeting.

The U.D.C. agenda was considered and discussed, and it was resolved unanimously to oppose the motion from N.E.L.L.D.C.

The Secretary was instructed to convey to Mr. Cretney the sincere sympathy of the Council and the hope that he will soon be restored to complete health again.

A joint session of the Birkenhead, Star of Progress and Daulby Hall Lyceums was held on Sunday afternoon, which proved most enjoyable, while in the evening the Council officers conducted the services, when the claims of the Lyceum movement were forcibly presented by Mr. Alick Ross, R. A. Owen and Mr. E. A. Keeling, presided over by Mrs. Raymond. Songs and recitations were rendered by representative Lyceumists.

E. A. KEELING, Hon. 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.

SOUTHAMPTON (Cavendish Grove).—On October 17th we held our Anniversary. The morning service was conducted by Mr. Blake, the children taking their part in singing their beautiful hymns. Recitation, "Invitation to the Lyceum," by Arthur Hendy (very good). A duet by Misses Long and Allen.

In the afternoon we had a service of song entitled "Spirit Return." The narrative was read with deep expression by Mr. Sydney Penton. The following Lyceumists taking part in the service: Duets by Master Stevens and Miss Dawson, Marie Allen and Winnie Trimmer; recitation "In Memoriam," nicely rendered by Connie Baverstock; solos by Frank Reeves, Elsie Stevens, and Gladys Hendy. Then came the naming of the infant, Ruth Spicer, receiving the spirit name of "Hope." Mr. Blake addressed the children before closing.

At 6:30 the church again was full. Mr. Blake taking the service and the children taking their parts: Duet, Misses Long and Allen; solo, Miss Dawson; recitation, "Children," beautifully recited by Winnie Trimmer.

I am sure all who heard each Lyceumist in singing and reciting will give Mrs. Penton great credit for the interest she takes in the children. We thank the friends, Miss Pilbrow, Mrs. Lane Crook, and Mr. Baker, who helped to make the day successful.—Alice Wattley.

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 October 29th

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, November 24th, to ensure insertion in the December 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, October 3rd, we held our Open Session under rather depressed conditions, through the passing on of our Secretary, Mr. Redmond, after a few days' illness. Opening hymn 335, invocation by the conductor, silver chain 84, musical reading 204. Questions were asked on the various readings, and the conductor answered them to the best of his ability. Miss Smith gave the recitation No. 377 from the *Manual*, and Misses Parkinson, Hargreaves, and Redman sang together "Nearer my God to Thee." Mrs. Ireland sang 207, and Mrs. Eastwood 312, then Miss Whittle was appointed Secretary for the remainder of the year. We brought the Session to a close with hymn 354.—B. Eastwood, Conductor.

ACCRINGTON (China Street).—We held our Open Session on Sunday, October 3rd. Invocation from the *Manual* by Miss Lillian Lee. Recitation by Miss E. Jackson, S.C. No. 82 by Willie Smith. M.R. No. 220 by Mr. T. Fazakley. Recitation by Mrs. Thompson. Song No. 47, by Mr. Battley. Song No. 409, by Miss A. Gorton. Marching by Miss A. Gorton, calisthenics by Freda Greenhalgh. A few very pointed and appreciative remarks by A. Kitson on the unveiling of photo of our late Conductor, Mr. J. Holmes, and his presence with us in spirit, also pointing out the consolation in our *Manual*, also very complementary remarks on our marching and calisthenics. A few very able remarks by W. Edwards, Esq., we closed a most enjoyable session with song No. 311.—H. Marfleet, Secretary.

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND.—Our Lyceum has only been opened sixteen months, but it is the largest in the Dominion. We have an average attendance of 35 every Sunday, and it is surprising how well the children attend, even in wet weather. Mr. Kirke, our Conductor, is an old Yorkshire Worker, is earnest, and his untiring energy enthralls all of us to greater efforts to do good. We also have some fine teachers who are devoted to their classes. We had, recently, Mrs. Morrison, who is approaching us in New Zealand, and we are hoping to hold some "open air sessions." We send our greetings to all.—Nellie Katz, Secretary.

BIRKENHEAD (Bridge Street).—On Sunday, September 26th, we held our annual election of conductor, Miss Wilkinson being chosen for the post. Many thanks were given to Mr. J. Thompson for the excellent way in which he has worked the Lyceum up to its present standard. I am pleased to report that the Lyceum continues to improve, slowly but surely, and if we keep a standard of perfection forever in view we hope to go onward and upward gathering fresh inspiration, greater strength, and more knowledge each time we meet together.—Winifred Wilkinson, Secretary.

BLACKPOOL (Albert Road).—On October 3rd we held our usual Open Session, and all the children came forward with their recitations, pearls, songs, etc., and we enjoyed our first Open Session of the winter months. On Sunday, October 17th, Stanley Garlick, the Lyceum Guardian, passed to the higher life and is greatly missed by his comrades in the Lyceum. As Guardian for two years he performed his duty well, and a tribute was paid to him by the school and Church in the form of an anchor wreath, while his mother will be consoled by the knowledge that he still lives and has not forgotten her.—H. Swan, Secretary.

BOLTON (Bradford Street).—On September 25th we held our opening social for the winter months, and it was a great success. Harlow's Progressive Band was in attendance, and all present spent an enjoyable evening. Last Sunday evening a service of song entitled "A True Briton," was given by the choir, and connective readings were read by our assistant conductor, Miss E. Roe. In the afternoon the address was given by our late conductor, Mr. Isherwood. His subject was "Has Christianity Collapsed," and it was both instruc-

tive and interesting. The Lyceum is now becoming very prominent, and it is showing in a practical manner what it can do for the Society.—J. Grindrod.

BOLTON (Commission Street).—Great effort is being put forward in our Lyceum in trying to bring individual Lyceumists to realise the genuine points of our movement, by which we intend to make it, as the *Manual* tells us in nearly all the readings, interesting and instructive, so that those whom we associate with may benefit in some small way thereby. On Sunday, 10th October, we had Mr. Batten with us. On being asked to conduct our Liberty Group he took the subject of "Inspiration. A good discussion followed, and which, I think, proved very instructive to all of us. We have started a Minstrel Troupe on Tuesday nights to find entertainment for the winter season.—David Cooke, Secretary.

BOURNEMOUTH.—I am pleased to report steady progress, the children showing a keen interest in the work and effort of the Lyceum. There is a healthy competition amongst the scholars to increase the number of children attending by the introduction of comrades. Our hopes for the future are sustained by the practical support rendered by the Parent Society.—Edith Blake.

BRADFORD, BANKFOOT.—On Sunday, October 3rd, we held our Open Session, when the following helped to make it a success: Recitations by Alice Fernihough, Eleanor Lodge, and Norman Haley; readings by Miss A. Lodge, Miss Turnbull, Mr. Wetherhill; solos by Hilda Croft, Ruth Fernihough, Ethel Lodge, Mrs. Ridley and Mr. England. We send our sympathy and love to our brother, Mr. England, in his severe illness, and wish him a speedy recovery to health and strength again.—A. Haley, Secretary.

BRADFORD (Boynon Street).—We held our Open Session on October 3rd, when the following took part in making it a success: Recitations by Olive Bell and Phyllis Pollard; songs by Ivy Hill, Miss Plum, and Mr. Taylor.—Mr. Greenough, Secretary.

BRADFORD, EAST BOWLING (Harker Street).—We held our Open Session on Sunday, October 3rd, which was very well attended by scholars and friends. Recitations were given by the following: Misses May Berry, Annie Carter, Lily Clayton, Gladys Pammenton, Annie Berry; Solos, Miss Annie Ward, 344 in the *Manual*, and Mr. Wills, "How cheerful the thought" which was very well appreciated. We had a few pearls which brought out one or two good lessons.—R. Wilkinson, Secretary.

BRIERFIELD.—On Sunday, October 3rd, we celebrated our Harvest Festival with splendid success. Our speaker being Mr. Davis, of Manchester, who gave two splendid addresses to the upliftment of our movement. Also a few of our Lyceumists sang in the afternoon, "Oh scatter seeds of loving deeds," and in the evening "Heart Flowers." A most enjoyable day was spent, one to be remembered. On Monday night a sale of fruit was held for the benefit of our funds.—Robert Dilworth, Secretary.

BRIGHTON (Manchester Street).—Our Liberty Group was indebted to Mr. Reggie Banks, who gave us an excellent paper on "Man's Relation to Natural History," which was well received. A song by Miss Rattenbury, and a recitation by Gwennie Rhoades, were much appreciated. Mr. Walter Howell, the visiting speaker for the day, treated the members present to some most interesting, instructive and humorous remarks. Mr. Cager conducted the Session, Mr. Rhoades conducted the marching and calisthenics, Jimmy Rhoades accompanied the band, etc. I am glad to say that we are recommencing our discussion class on October 29th, and our Treasurer, Mr. Roy Banks, has most kindly consented to lead it with a paper on "Vegetarianism."—C. Moorey, Secretary.

BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA.—The successful competitors for the prizes offered by Messrs. Mills Tanner, T. Reinhold and J. F. Bostock are Arthur Humphreys, Vincent Reinhold and Edward Reinhold. The prizes were for an essay on "The search for truth." Mr. Mills Tanner has offered another prize for the best essay on a story which he told in the Lyceum, and Mr. J. F. Bostock has also offered three prizes for the three best essays on the pearl, "Many pebbles in the streamlet's track have changed the course of mighty rivers." We have had the pleasure of having visitors from Darra, where a Spiritualistic movement is afoot. We wish them every success in their undertaking.—A. E. Sampson, Secretary.

BURNLEY (North Street).—We held our Open Session on Sunday, October 3rd. I am pleased to say that a greater number of items were contributed than usual, our young men setting a good example. Marching and calisthenics were ably

gone through. We are also learning the rod drill, which is of great benefit to the Lyceumists. Recitations were given by Willie Smith and Ella Sutcliffe, and four of our little boys sang for us. We also had a duet by Miss Laycock and Mr. G. Wilkinson; solo, Miss Griffen. We had a great surprise from the young men's side as they came forward and sang "Watchman" for us, which was greatly enjoyed. We send hearty greetings to all Lyceums, and remember the boys who are away.—Beatrice Griffen, Secretary.

BURY, KING STREET (off Rochdale Road).—On Saturday, October 4th, the Band of Hope held a social and entertainment. Songs by Misses H. Minshall, E. Duckworth, J. Gregory, S. Howarth, I. Kaye, J. A. and A. Henderson, and M. Henderson; recitations, Ettie Myers and Alfred Henderson; concertina solo, S. Jackson. On Sunday, October 17th, we held our Open Sessions, a good attendance all day. Songs were given by Messrs. E. Duckworth, H. Metcalfe, Misses C. Henderson, A. Wood, and Mr. H. Minshall; recitation by Ettie Myers, Misses A. Wilson and Moasley. Reading, Willie Berry; concertina solo, Mr. Fletcher; duets, Misses J. A. and A. Henderson, Mrs. Berry and Miss E. Roscow; quartette by Misses J. A. A. and M. Henderson, and Mr. Howarth.—Jos. Wood, Secretary.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, CANADA.—We held our Open Session on October 3rd. The programme was very interesting, consisting of solos by Mrs. Garrard, Miss Copeland, Miss Brown and Miss Garrard. Jack Pilkington gave a recitation, and readings were given by Mrs. Hill, Mr. Cadman and Miss Hill. The marches and calisthenics were successfully gone through, as also were the G.C. and S.C. recitations. I am pleased to report that we are making excellent progress. Since we opened on July 4th, we have doubled our membership. Our picnic on September 11th was very successful, between 30 and 40 members and friends taking advantage of the outing, and all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The progress made in the past is a great incentive to the officers to push on and not be satisfied until the Calgary Lyceum is the strongest in Canada.—W. Brown, Secretary.

CHESTERFIELD.—On Sunday, October 10th, we held our usual Open Session, which was very well attended, and also very much appreciated by all present. The following gave recitations: Clara Booth, Lily Driver, Conny Riddler, Lily Marriot, Cissy Driver, Frances Slater, Alice Delicate, Doris Briggs, Lena Elliot, Evelyn Elliot, Mrs. Widdowson, and Mr. Heath; also pianoforte solos by Mrs. Widdowson and Mr. J. Hobster.—Edwin H. Widdowson.

CRÉWE (Mill Street).—An Open Session was held on the 3rd October, when solos were rendered by Misses A. Buxton (Macclesfield); G. Baggaley, E. Jones, and Lizzie Purcell; recitations by Miss E. Jones and Mr. Colin Shingles (Macclesfield). On the 10th October the daughter of our conductor and ex-Secretary, Mr. and Mrs. P. Gawthorne, was named by Mrs. Shearsmith (Manchester). Earthly name Irene, spirit name "Daisy."—Gwennie Baggaley, Secretary.

DEWSBURY.—On Sunday, October 3rd, we held our Harvest Thanksgiving services. Two splendid sessions were held. In the evening Mrs. Ward (Castleford), addressed in a very appropriate manner, a very large audience; she also named a child, its earthly name Hilda, spiritual name "Hopeful." On Monday following a social was held; afterwards the fruit was sold in a very reasonable manner. This brought a memorable harvest time to a close.—Mr. J. Whittles, Hon. Sec.

DUNDEE (Ratray Street).—On Sunday, 17th October, we had the pleasure of a visit from Mr. J. M. Stewart, of Glasgow, to our Lyceum. There was a good attendance of children, and Mr. Urquhart conducted. Mr Stewart addressed some very interesting and helpful words to us, encouraging us to go forward and keep up the highest standard of excellence. With increased numbers the session was very successful, and a keen interest was taken by the youngest members.—May Henderson, Secretary.

EDINBURGH (77, Queen's Street).—We re-opened our Lyceum after the summer vacation on 3rd October, when we held our half-yearly business meeting, the principal nominations being Mr. Niven, Conductor; Miss Neilson, Miss Winifred Copley, and Mr. Rankin, Assistant Conductors; Miss Neilson, Treasurer; Miss Winifred Copley, Secretary; Miss North, Musical Conductor; Mr. Cant, Assistant Musical Conductor; Miss Blaik, Librarian; Miss Ada Copley, Calisthenics Leader; Miss Ella McLennan and Master George Smith, Marching Leaders; Miss Barbara Smith and Mr. Woolfson, Guardians. On Sunday, 24th October, we had a visit from Mr. Stewart, of Glasgow. He spoke very encouragingly of

our Lyceum, and gave an interesting address to the Lyceumists.—Winifred Copley, Secretary.

FOLESHILL.—The Lyceumists are to be congratulated on the interest taken in providing such a charming and lengthy programme for our October Open Session. It is pleasing to note the increasing number of members who take part in these diversions. The programme was somewhat as follows: Winnie Oughton recited a piece which shall (here at least) be as nameless as it was unclassical. Gracie Martin gave quite a lengthy poem; Esme Neal then said "Consider the Lilies of the Field"; "A Vesper Hymn" was eloquently recited by Margery Neal, followed by classical selections by Lucy and Jenny Lee, and Clifford Ellis and Lizzie Neal gave a patriotic piece entitled "The War Song." Other items followed, which ended the programme.—G. Starr Bambrick.

GREAT HARWOOD (off Westwell Street).—On Sunday, October 3rd, we held our Open Session, the scholars choosing their own reading. The silver chain was by Wille Thornley, the musical reading by Rachel Baxter, Elizabeth Ann Hindle, and Arthur Holt. The golden chain by Ada Waterhouse. Marching and calisthenics were gone through, but there is plenty of room for improvement. We had recitations from Irene Bullen, Mrs. Smith, and John Robert Thornley; songs from the *Manual* by Elizabeth Ann Hindle, then four scholars sang together, namely, Edith Bullen, Ada Waterhouse, Herbert Baxter, and Arthur Holt. Taking everything into consideration we had a very pleasant session.—Louie Holt, Sec.

GLASGOW (Bath Street).—On Sunday, 26th September, we held our Open Session, which took the form of a Flower Service, the flowers afterwards being taken to the Eastpark Home for Infirm Children. Mrs. Jessy Greenwood, who was present, gave an address to the children on "The Ladder of Life," which was greatly appreciated. A good selection of pearls were given by the pupils, and recitations by Misses Ethel Rennie and Hannah Thomson, and Masters Lawrence Kitson and Wm. Shaw. Miss Bessie Rainey, assistant conductor, conducted the service very ably. On 29th October we are to have a Halloween Social, at which a number of the children and elder members are expected to appear in fancy dress.—James Shaw, Secretary.

GRIMSBY (Strand Street).—During the past month we have opened the Lyceum in the morning, which has been a success, also continuing with the afternoon session. On Sunday, October 3rd, we held our Open Session, in which the whole of the Lyceumists took part. More interest is being taken in the Lyceum by Society members, and their help is appreciated by us. During the present crisis the greater part of our Lyceumists have left the town owing to the conditions of the fishermen being altered, their services to the nation, as mine sweepers, etc., demanding their being stationed at other ports. We send them all our greetings, and though they are absent our thoughts go to them.—D. Jewitt, Conductor.

HIRST.—On Sunday we held our Open Session, which was well attended. Recitations were said by Lizzie and Nellie Ainsley, R. Minto, D. Elliott, A. Montgomery, M. Charlton, Maggie Charlton, J. Elliott, J. G. Ferguson, J. Ainsley and E. Todd. Solos by Mrs. Johnstone, Madge Clark, and Lizzie Minto. Pearls by R. Minto, R. Johnstone, A. Montgomery, J. Elliott, M. Charlton, M. Clark, T. Elliott, and T. Hedley. One of our Lyceumist, Corp. J. Fotheringham, sent some lovely cards from France to be distributed to the children as prizes at a future date. We thank him very much. Calisthenics and chain march ended an enjoyable session.—Mrs. A. M. Stoddart, Hon. Secretary.

HUDDERSFIELD (St. Peter Street).—On Sunday, October 3rd, we held our Harvest Festival and Open Sessions. We had a good display of fruit, etc., the much appreciated gifts of members and friends. In the afternoon we had our session. Pearls, recitations, marching and calisthenics were much enjoyed. At the evening service we had a large audience to hear what our locals had to say about our harvesting. I hope that some good seed was sown. This brought another pleasant day to a close. I am also pleased to report that we had Mr. Wright, of Sowerby Bridge, to visit us while on his way to Slaithwaite on Sunday, October 17th. The Lyceumists enjoyed his few words that he spoke to us.—John Midgley, Secretary.

HYDE.—On Saturday, September 25th, we held our first social of the season, it was well attended and was a great success. We were indebted to Mr. S. Jackson, who played the piano for the dancing and accompaniments; also to Miss Nora Kelly, who is a gifted elocutionist, and gave a rendering of two poems by Ella Wheeler Wilcox, which were greatly

appreciated. Miss K. Hill obliged us with the song entitled, "Wonderful Rose of Love." Half the proceeds were devoted to a fund we have on hand for providing comforts for our boys at the front, two of which have been wounded. Our collection every fortnight now goes to the same worthy cause.—E. Douglas Kelly, Secretary.

KEIGHLEY.—On Saturday, October 2nd, we held our anniversary tea and concert, when about 120 persons sat down to tea, which was ably presided over by the elder Lyceumists. After tea a capital concert was provided by the concert party of the Lyceum, followed by a sketch entitled "Paddy's Mistake," the parts being taken by Misses Walker and Midgley, and Mr. E. Summers, Mr. Midgley, Mr. Pullen, and Mr. W. Summers, which caused much merriment. On Sunday we held our Anniversary Services, which were conducted by Mr. Stewart, of Glasgow, which were very well attended. In the morning an Open Session was held, when Mr. Stewart gave a few encouraging words to the Lyceum. Mr. Summers presided over the services.—E. Shackleton, Secretary.

KRUGERSDORP, TRANSVAAL.—On Sunday, 5th inst., we held our Open Session, when all spent a most enjoyable afternoon. Miss May Connolly gave a pianoforte solo, Miss Bessie Connolly gave a song, Mrs. Finlayson gave a reading from "Outlines of Spiritualism for the Young." A dialogue was given between Misses Edith Eastmure and Eileen Connolly. Recitations were given by the following: Winnie Eastmure, James Finlayson, Bertie and William Harris, and the remainder gave pearls.—W. J. Finlayson, Secretary.

LANCASTER.—This has been an eventful month with us. At our Open Session prizes which were offered for the best recitations and solos, were closely contested. Mrs. Wilkinson, of the Morecambe Lyceum, who visited us, and was asked to judge, was ultimately constrained, in conjunction with our conductor, to award second prizes also. On Saturday, October 16th, the Lyceum held a harvest thanksgiving service, with a view to getting more new *Manuals*. A very nice and varied entertainment was presented by the Lyceum and friends, and it was felt we deserved a larger patronage; but we most heartily thank all who assisted us in either gifts of cash, fruits, vegetables and flowers, circles, concert, performance and patronage.—J. Sayle.

LEEDS (Bethel Street).—On Sunday, October 10th, our Lyceum visited the Leeds Psychological Church on the occasion of the Executive Council of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union's visit. Very pleased to see a good attendance of Lyceum scholars and friends, and I am pleased to report that our Lyceum numbered thirty-five. Recitations, pearls, and solos were responded to in an able manner, in which Elsie Beckwith, of our Lyceum, sang "Home Sweet Home." We had a good time together. I hope that other Lyceums had the same.—A. Beckwith, Secretary.

LEICESTER (Queen Street).—On October 3rd we held our Open Session, when the following Lyceumists took part: Recitations were ably given by Misses Annie Clarke, Alice Clarke, Ada Clarke, E. Wicks, and Master and L. Crossley. Solo by Miss P. Goldsmith; duet by Misses Amy Copeland and Lily Smith. Misses A. Clarke and Revell ably conducted the session, which was very good.—Mr. J. Wicks, Secretary.

LEICESTER (Silver Street).—On Sunday, October 3rd, we held our Open Session, the same being conducted by Mrs. Whitmore. The ceremony of naming the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Westby should have taken place on this day, but I am sorry to record the little babe was too seriously ill, so we went through the Open Session as usual. Marching and calisthenics were under the directorship of Mr. R. Bowmer, these being performed excellently, after which we were favoured with recitations from Lily Buckle, Mr. Bowmer, Mrs. Tuckwood, and Nellie Buckle, and a duet (No. 386 M.) by Cissy Jones and Winnie Russell. A very interesting and enjoyable session ending with a recitation from Mr. Cecil Watts.—F. Smith, Secretary.

LINCOLN.—Sunday, October 3rd, we held our Open Session. We had a very good attendance. The programme was ably assisted by the members. Recitations and solos were rendered by Alice, Elsie, and Eva Tomlinson, Paul Cotten, Miss K. Crawshaw and Violet Hill. We are very pleased to say we have had some fifteen boys join our Lyceum just lately, several of them taking part in the session. The Lyceum is growing very rapidly, and we hope it will continue to do so.—William Tomlinson, Guardian.

LIVERPOOL (Romer Road).—On Sunday, October 17th, we were presented with a set of flags for marching by Mr. Evans, one of our members, and it was a great improvement on the

drill, as the children seemed so pleased with the present. We also adopted the plan of taking the sessions' lessons from the BANNER, and it was a feature of interest, as one and all knew what was expected by the conductor, and we hope that it will bear good results among the children. One notable feature about the session was the pearls, which were mostly taken from the *Manual*. We enrolled two new members.—J. Malley, Secretary.

LONDON, BRIXTON.—We are pleased to report good attendance and responses, also pearls and individual efforts. We have welcomed two or three new members and our little sister Nellie Wallis, who has been absent for some time owing to illness, is with us again. On the 11th, 12th, and 13th inst., we are to have a Church Bazaar, which is to be opened on the last day (Saturday) by the Lyceumists with a cantata entitled "Daisy Darling's Dream." We hope to welcome many old friends from all societies. Admission by programme each day 3d., or three days 6d. Opening at 5 p.m.—Miss V. Appley, Secretary.

LONDON, KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—Our first Harvest Festival and Open Session was held on October 3rd, and a very tempting display of fruit and flowers was most charmingly displayed, and afterwards given to our wounded heroes at Kingston, as a slight recompense of our grateful thoughts of their valour. We also had a surprise visit of our new President, Mr. Forsyth, who with Mr. West ably took the platform and gave an address. We had recitations from Allan Brown, Nellie Foreman, Florrie Brown, Ivy Lewis, and Ivy Chambers. Pearls were choice. Marching and calisthenics good. Connie Brown, Dolly Foreman, and Ivy Chambers rendered solos and duets at the evening service, assisted by other Lyceumists.—Fred I. Miles, Secretary.

LONDON, MANOR PARK.—On Sunday, October 10th, we held our monthly Open Session, when Mr. Coote visited our Lyceum for the first time. We all very much enjoyed the interesting story he told us, and the instructive lesson that followed; and are looking forward to his next visit, for he has promised to come again soon. The individual efforts were very well rendered, as was also the marching and calisthenics, conducted by Mr. Hurrell, and led by Mr. Youle. I am glad to be able to report the general progress as most encouraging.—L. Goater, Secretary.

LONDON, PECKHAM.—On October 3rd we held our Annual Election of Officers, when the following were elected:—Conductor, Mr. Richards (4th year); Assistant, Mrs. Turner; Secretary, Mr. Clarkson; Treasurer, Mrs. Clarkson; Guardian, Mrs. Smith; Leader Liberty Group, Mrs. Boddington; Delegate, Miss Clarkson; Librarian, Vera Smith; Captain, Charley Williams. On the 17th, our usual Open Session, when we had a visit from Mr. Cotterell. He presented the two Prizes he had promised for the best marching, the winners being Vera Smith and Fred Duggan, he being Leader for marching. The efforts and pearls were excellent, and considering the few workers we have, we are making splendid all-round progress, as well as new members. Our Lyceum Invitation Social, November 13th, All are welcome.—G. Clarkson.

LONDON, TOTTENHAM.—We hold our usual session every Sunday and pass a very pleasant time together. Our Lyceum does not grow as we should like it to, but we are looking forward to the glorious time when this awful war shall cease, and the Brotherhood of Man proclaimed universally. We have had several visitors lately, Mr. and Mrs. Clegg, Mr. Selge, and an old Lyceumist in Sergeant Meadswell, and shall be very pleased to welcome any Lyceumists who are away from home. We greatly regret the loss of one of our best workers in Miss Kathleen Jones, through removal from Tottenham. On November 11th we start our series of Socials, to which we give a hearty welcome to all friends.—(Mrs.) C. Hassell, Secretary.

LONDON, WOOLWICH and PLUMSTEAD.—The above Lyceum is experiencing very difficult times just now. The Conductor and Secretary having to resign owing to being unable to attend. Strenuous efforts are being made to keep going, but up to the present things look like us having to close down till after the war. Hope to report better news in the next issue. Now VOLUNTEERS please come forward!—H. Wattlely, Secretary.

MANCHESTER (Beulah Street).—On Saturday, October 16th, we held our annual Entertainment and Potato Pie Supper in aid of the children's prizes. The entertainment was a great success, and highly appreciated. The following Lyceumists ably took part in the successful entertainment:—Misses A. Winson, Lucy Kahill, L. Owen, E. Owen, M. Richmon, E. Topham, M. Ellis, and Master John Owen. Miss Owen gave selections on the organ, and "Praise the Lord" was ably rendered by the choir. Mr. Coulthurst, one of our esteemed Lyceumists, gave a recita-

tion, which was highly appreciated. The evening entertainment closed with a sketch by Miss Topham and Miss F. Owen. The pies were given by members and Lyceumists, and the financial returns were highly satisfactory.—Mrs. Owen, Secretary.

MANCHESTER, PENDLETON (Ford Lane).—On Sunday, September 26th, we had a service of song entitled "The Road to Heaven," arranged and conducted by Mr. F. Johnson, assisted by the following Lyceumists:—Misses Jennie Littler, Evans, Halliday. Mr. Stanley Butler officiated at the piano. Mr. Wilfred Halliday occupied the chair. We thank Mr. Johnson for the services he rendered to us. On Sunday, October 3rd we had our election of officers:—Mr. Kay, Conductor; Mr. C. Lloyd, Secretary; Mr. Sharples, Treasurer; Miss Lowe, Assistant Conductor; Miss Halliday, Assistant Secretary; Guardian, Miss Green; Conductors of Marching, Mr. O'Neill and Mr. Sharples; Sick Visitors, Misses Clara Royle and Nellie Boyd, Messrs. S. Butler and E. Openshaw.—C. Lloyd, Secretary.

MEXBOROUGH, CENTRAL HALL (West Street).—This Lyceum has been going now for about six months and is making fairly good headway, with an attendance from 30 to 60 scholars. Good progress is being made in marching and calisthenics. On Sunday, October 10th, officers were elected as follows:—Mrs. Wimpenny, Conductor; Mrs. Woodward, Assistant; Mr. A. Woodward, Marching Conductor; Mrs. Hoyes, Conductor of Music; A. E. Cory, Guardian; Ivy Adthead, J. H. Cory, Guards; Miss Thompson and Miss Stubbs, Grop Leaders; Mr. W. Woodward, Secretary and Organist; Mr. J. W. Oates, Treasurer; Mrs. Woodward, Mr. E. Wimpenny, Auditors.
—W. Woodward, Secretary.

MIDDLESBROUGH (Waterloo Road).—We held our Harvest Festival on Sunday, October 17th, and I have pleasure in saying that we think it was a success. I would also like to state that I think it was a better display of fruit, etc., than we have had for a number of years. The chair was occupied by Mr. Edwards, who also gave the reading. Solos were favourably rendered by Miss Hilda Fairbridge, and Master Wm. Croft. A quartette by Miss R. Tuffin, Miss J. Lofthouse, Mr. Geo. Mattock and Master A. Edwards was very well received. Sale of fruit, etc., was held on Monday, October 18th. We have much pleasure in welcoming Master Percy Johnson from Shildon.—C.W.B., Secretary.

MIDDLETON (Gilmour Street).—On Sunday, October 3rd, we held our Open Session again in the evening, which was well attended by old Lyceumists, as well as friends from Heywood (William Street), Coronation Street (Oldham), Mitford Street (Manchester), Penn Street (Rochdale) Lyceums and were all represented and we had quite a good time together. Pearls, recitations, solos which we had were of a pleasing nature. Hoping to have some more evenings of the same kind in the future.—J. Liddle, Secretary.

NELSON (Vernon Street).—On Sunday, October 3rd, we held our annual Harvest Festival and Open Session. The singing and responses were well rendered. About 125 persons took part in the marching and calisthenics. Recitations were given by the following:—Ida Middlebrook, Frank Haythornthwaite, Jim Parkinson, Alice Sanderson, Leslie North, George Haythornthwaite, Mary Carr, Wilfred Middlebrook, Willie Eyre, and a song by Mr. R. Pearson. On Sunday, October 10th, at 11 a.m., Mr. A. Wilkinson, Burnley, gave an address on "Literature," which was good, but questions and comments were not up to the usual standard. On Sunday, October 17th, Mr. Frank Wilkinson, Burnley, gave an address on "Life on board ship," which was very good.—Leonard Greenwood.

NEWCASTLE, BENWELL.—On 3rd inst. we held our Open Session, conducted by Mrs. Rutherford, who spoke to the children on "Two Little Shoes," which was very attentively listened to. We had recitations from Misses Rutherford, Brown, Bell, Carr, McVinnie, Richardson, Masters Manghan, Turnbull, Richardson, and Mr. Hamilton, who gave us "Betty and the Bear," which brought this glorious session to a close. On the 17th inst. our Conductor put questions to the Lyceumists in reference to the above, and was answered to satisfaction, which proved that the little ones had paid great attention to our speaker. We are sorry to part with our Secretary, who has joined the Army. But we hope he will soon return is the sincere wish of our Lyceum.—Mr. Dodgson, for Mr. Scott (junr.)

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, HEATON AND BYKER.—On Sunday, October 3rd, we held our Open Session, conducted by Mr. B. Westgarth. Recitations by Arnold Patterson, John Wardle, Lily Eke, Mary Wardle, Lavinia Wardle, Gordon Sandam, Fred Eke, Edward Patterson and Mr. Eke. Pearls, Mrs. Wardle. Solo, Miss Hughe. Musical Reading 212, "Manual," by Mr. Eke, Alice Eke, Lily Eke. Reading by Mr. Sandam.—Mrs. Robt. Hunter, Secretary.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE (Rutherford Street).—On October 3rd, we held our Open Session, when we had the usual good number of individual efforts. Our Conductor, Mr. G. S. Dawson, having resigned his position, we had to make a few changes owing to other officers being elevated in consequence thereof. The new officers being:—Conductor, Mr. R. Finley; Assistant, Mr. McEwan; Guardian, Miss I. Sinton; Captain of Guards, Miss M. Goss. I am very sorry to record that another member of our Lyceum has been wounded, viz., Bro. John I. Finley, and now lies in hospital in France. We have enrolled several new members lately, great interest being shown in this by the children, as there is a special prize for the one who introduces the most during the year.—Alexr. Dawson, Secretary.

NOTTINGHAM (Mechanics' Hall).—We held our Open Session on Sunday, September 26th, when we were favoured with the following items, which were very ably rendered:—Violin Duet, by Mr. Rayner and Pupil (Miss A. Peel); Song, "Only Tired," by Miss Doris Vann; Dialogue "The Way to Light" (composed by Miss V. G. Rayner) by Miss V. G. Rayner, Phyllis and Hilda Hartwell, Amy and Jessie Reynolds, Charles and George Bradley and Arthur Pepper, and a Violin Solo by Mr. Rayner, accompanied by his Pupil (Miss A. Ball). Conductor, Miss V. G. Rayner.—O. Peel, Secretary.

OLDHAM (Elliott Street).—On Saturday, October 2nd, we held a social in the above rooms, which passed off exceedingly well. On Sunday, October 10th, we held our Harvest Festival; it was a glorious set out, Mr. Hamer was the speaker, and a splendid time everyone had. In the afternoon, he spoke on common things like apples, lemons, onions, etc., telling of their uses. In the evening he spoke on several flowers and their uses. The choir rendered an anthem entitled "Sing Praises unto God." This went well, and the evening closed in a fine manner.—J. W. Slater, Secretary.

OLDHAM (Union Street).—On September 26th, we held our Harvest Festival, which was a great success. We had a good selection of fruit, and we thank the friends who gave them. Our choir rendered two anthems, and a solo was given by Mrs. J. Woods. The speaker was Mr. Standish. Clairvoyances were given by Mrs. Leonard. On Monday, the 27th, we held a Fruit Banquet, which proved very successful. October 10th was our Open Session. Recitations were given by Frances Rooks, Melassa Rooks, John Woods, Solos by Hannah Baguley, Annie James, Annie Chappell, Mrs. Wm. James, Mrs. J. Woods, Robert Roberts, Richard Woods, and Arthur Stansfield. In the evening, Mr. Lester addressed the meeting.—F. Grimes, Sec.

PONTYPRIDD (River Street).—On Sunday, October 3rd, we held our Harvest Festival services. Mr. Jones, of Cardiff, gave an address and clairvoyance in the afternoon and evening. Mrs. Hughes also gave clairvoyance in the evening. Both services were a success. On Monday we held a social for the purpose of selling the fruit, etc., and every one enjoyed themselves. Afterwards we had an entertainment.—Florrie Bowden, Sec.

PRESTON (Clarke's Yard).—October 3rd, Open Session. Recitations by the following:—Lizzie Chambers, "Home thoughts from Abroad"; Edie Salthouse, "Looking on," unfinished but recited by sister, Elsie Salthouse at her request; Alice Spencer, "A drummer boy of Kent"; Norman Jackson, "A ballad for a boy"; Miss Cartmell, "Charity"; Will Margerison, "The flag of the free"; Nellie Spencer, "Good-night"; Sydney Margerison, "Foreign lands"; Mabel Cartmell, "The children's hour"; Quartette by Miss Beetham, Miss Moorby, Mr. Margerison, Mr. Tomlinson, "Beautiful home, so bright and fair." Solos by Mr. R. Cartmell, "Never give up the right way"; Bert Tomlinson, "In happy moments day by day." October 10th, owing to an accident we could not hold session, so we attended Lancaster Road Lyceum.—Ellen Savage, Sec.

READING.—On October 3rd Mrs. Laurence gave a stirring address, the subject being "Recruits." It was followed by a solo, which was sweetly rendered by one of our youngest members, William Churchill. October 10th, a helpful address was given by Miss Lovelock. Solo, "The Holy City," by Mrs. Tomlinson. October 17th, Mr. Ford gave an address upon "Our Responsibilities." It created a strong desire in the hearts of those present to go forward. Solo by Kathleen Mason. The few words of counsel and advice given by our Conductor, Mrs. P. R. Street, at the close of each session are looked forward to with the keenest interest by both old and young and are greatly valued.—R.D.

RISHTON (Eachill Road).—On Sunday, October 10th, we held our Open Session, which was well attended. It being our Harvest Festival, the hall was nicely decorated with fruit and flowers, and must have inspired the children to come forward and do their part in helping to make up a pleasant session. Recitations by Lizzie English, Rita Ormerod, Eva Dewhirst,

Amy Waddington, Florence Dewhirst, Doris Jones, and James English. Duets by Amy Waddington and Elsie Ridgeway, Mary P. Haughton and Ivy Dixon, Eva Ormerod and Mr. Cooke. Solo by Winnie Jones. Also marching and calisthenics, and readings were gone through, which brought our session to a close. May we as leaders, and teachers, be helped by the angel's friend.—Eva Ormerod, Secretary.

ROTHERHAM.—On Sunday, October 3rd, we held our Open Session, there were several absent, but a good time was spent. Several recitations and address by Conductor. In the evening a new service of song written by Conductor Marklew, entitled "The Foster Brothers" was rendered. Solos by Miss Bunker and Mrs. Wilson. On Tuesday evening, Mr. Marklew read the story to the wounded soldiers at the hospital. October 12th, we again entertained them with songs and recitations, which were much appreciated by the soldiers and the hospital staff. We have been requested to repeat our visit.—E. Peat, Secretary.

ROYTON (Spring Garden Street).—On Sunday, October 3rd, we had an Open Session, which was well attended, many strangers being present, also visitors from other Lyceums. Silver chain, and golden chain recitations were well rendered. A recitation was given by Miss A. Jones, and a solo by Miss C. Grindrod. During the session a portrait of Pte. W. Baguley was unveiled by our youngest Lyceumist. Our brother was a good Lyceumist, and well liked amongst our members. He fell in the Dardanelles on August 21st. The portrait was subscribed for by members and friends. Much vigour was put in the marching and calisthenics.—P. Barrow, Secretary.

SHEFFIELD, ATTERCLIFFE.—On Sunday, October 17th, we held our usual Open Session, a large number being present. We were pleased to have Mrs. Jones, of Rotherham, with us, who offered the prayer. We had several recitations, and a solo was rendered by Eric Whitely, who is only 3½ years of age. In connection with our Church we are commencing a Study Group, under the tuition of Mr. Gush, we are looking forward to great things, and hoping we shall be successful.—E. Pegg, Secretary.

SHEFFIELD, HEELEY.—On Sunday, October 17th, we held our 14th Lyceum Anniversary Services in the Meersbrook Vestry Hall. Mr. R. A. Owen, Liverpool, was the speaker for the day. In the afternoon we held Open Session and the prizes were distributed. In the evening, Mr. Owen gave a splendid address on "The coming race." On Sunday, October 24th, the following officers were elected:—Secretary, Mr. S. Smith; Assistant, C. Oliver; Treasurer, Mr. Truelove; Conductor, Mr. Stevenson; Assistants, Mr. E. Vickers and G. Magness; Guardian of Groups Robert Whitehead; Librarian, Mrs. Porter; Musical Conductor (none elected); Captain of Guards, Vernon Jenkinson; Guards, Willis Oliver, Cecil Whitehead, W. Bowmer, Gladys Norwood; Sick and Absentee Visitors, Mrs. Porter and Mrs. Jenkinson.—S. Smith, Secretary.

SHILDON (Newlands Avenue).—We held our Harvest Festival on Sunday, October 3rd. The Church was beautifully decorated. During the session pearls were given by Miss S. A. Smith, J. Wilson, and J. Riley. Recitations were given by E. Hunter, E. Hutchinson, S. Riley, A. Hutchinson, and S. A. Smith. Solos were rendered by Miss Gardiner, and J. Wilson. A number of questions were asked, and ably answered by our Conductor, Mr. J. Smith. There was a large attendance of scholars, and I am sure every one tried to make the session a success.—J. M. Kirkbride, Secretary.

SHIPLEY (Market Buildings, Teale Court)—We held our Open Session on Sunday, October 3rd. Mr. Claugton was the Conductor, and the following scholars contributed to make it a success:—Solo, Miss Winterbottom, "Over the River of Light"; Masters W. Claugton and A. Indman, "The Happy Spirit Land"; Misses Rayner and Barker, "There's Rest for you at Home." Recitations by Miss Ivy Barker, and Master H. Claugton, and a Dialogue by Masters A. Indman and C. Barker entitled "The Presence of Angels." Mr. A. Hayton, a visitor, then addressed us for about 15 minutes, giving us some very interesting experiences during his Spiritualistic career, after which he brought the session to a close with prayer.—H. Claugton, Hon. Secretary.

SLAITHWAITE.—On October 3rd, we held our Lyceum Open Session, conducted by Miss A. Shaw. The afternoon session was taken by the children. Misses M. Kennedy, M. Baxter, A. Hoyle, L. Kennedy, P. Baxter, and A. Coldwell favoured us with singing and reciting. Messrs. J. Farrington, W. Farrington, E. Hoyle, J. W. Kennedy, gave recitations, reading and singing. At night the session was taken by the Liberty Group. After singing, readings, discussion (which there was plenty of), calisthenics and marching, short addresses were given by Mr. A. Bramall and T. B. Coldwell, Miss V. Shaw, and E. Norris;

solo by Miss A. Shaw; Miss E. Norris was the organist.—A. Bramall, Treasurer.

SOUTH SHIELDS (South Eldon Street).—On October 10th, we held our Harvest Thanksgiving, the hall being nicely decorated with fruits, vegetables, and flowers. The members all tried their best to make it a success, and succeeded in doing so. We did not get so many visitors as usual on such occasions, but we have the sympathy of all members of Parent Society, who give us a free hand in our work. I am sorry to report that our Guardian resigned her office. She was succeeded by her sister, Miss L. Wilson.—Wm. Woodall.

STOCKPORT (Lyceum Church).—We held our Harvest Festival Services on September 26th. Mr. R. Owen, of Liverpool, was the speaker. Friends from Hollinwood paid us a visit, one of whom sang a solo in the afternoon. In the evening we were assisted by Mr. Hallworth and a few friends, with their instruments. Miss Brooks, of Pendleton, sang a solo. On October 2nd, we had another Social. A pleasant evening was spent in dancing. Miss F. Pickthall and Mr. Hallworth performed the music gratuitously. Mr. E. Hall carried out the duties of M.C. On October 3rd a successful Open Session was held. Mrs. Moore, late of Rawtenstall, sang a solo "Homeland.—J. H. Marston.

SYDNEY, N.S.W.—Our Lyceum is going along nicely, and growing every Sunday, with both adults and children; though we have lost some of our members through the war. Cordial greetings to all Lyceums in England, etc., with best wishes for self.—A. J. Bush, Secretary.

TORONTO, CANADA.—We held our Lyceum session on September 26th, at 7 p.m. The meeting was opened by singing "Oh give thanks to Him who made." Mrs. Stier offered up prayer, after which Lyceum recited "The Origin of the Lyceum," then Theo. Williamson recited. Solos were sung by Marjorie Leonard, Elsie Appleton and Mr. Decks. Then Lyceum had for musical reading, "Never give up the right way." Then Lyceumists went through their marches and calisthenics, after which the congregation congratulated the Lyceumists on their progress. Mrs. Stier gave a few remarks and messages. We closed the meeting by singing "Praise God."—P. Stier, Sec.

WALSALL (Bradford Street).—On Sunday, October 10th, we held our Special Lyceum Services, which I am pleased to say were a great success both financially and otherwise. Mr. Taylor, of Birmingham, gave addresses and clairvoyance both morning and evening, and the children rendered special hymns for the occasion, a solo entitled "The Evening Star," also being given by Miss G. Ware,—one of our Leaders. This very interesting and enjoyable service was brought to a close with the children's hymn, "The Homeland March," which was given at the special request of a number of friends who were present.—D. Allen, Secretary.

WEST MELTON.—On Sunday, October 10th, we held our Harvest Festival, when there was a nice array of fruit, vegetables, etc. On Monday, October 11th, we had a tea and social, was marred by a regrettable accident to an old lady, Mrs. Clark, who fell down the steps and broke her arm. We extend our heartfelt sympathy, and hope for a speedy recovery. Otherwise all spent an enjoyable evening. On Sunday, October 17th, we held our Open Session, Mrs. Watson and Mr. Kenning spoke to the children on Musical Reading 212. Recitations were given by Mrs. Watson, Mrs. Staley, Mr. Kenning, Lily Staley, Eva Ryder, Annie Wilkinson, and Jennie Armitage. A good session.—W.R.

WAIHI.—On Sunday we held our Open Session. Pearls of wisdom were given by most of the children and an exhibition of Indian Club swinging by Miss Hilda Hearn was exceptionally good. Lengthy poems by Miss Winnie Pike, Masters Norman Morton, Edward Hearn and Leonard Pike. Addresses were given by Mr. Champness and Mrs. Morrison, the medium then occupying our platform, then gave an address and a few numbers and colours of the children in the Lyceum, after which she presented the prizes. Our Lyceum has increased largely lately, so much so that it is necessary to hold our Lyceum in a larger hall. We have every hope of it still increasing. Wishing all success in the good cause.—Winnie Morton, Secretary.

WINNIPEG, CANADA.—On October 2nd, we held a Social as several of our Lyceumists are leaving us for the old country, namely Mrs. Ormerod and Mrs. Stephenson. Our best wishes go with them. On October 3rd, we held our Open Session, at which a good number were present. Recitations by G. Sumerbidson and R. Spenceley. Song by Miss Hancock. I am sorry to report that our Secretary, Mrs. Vernon, was taken ill during the session. We hope she soon will be well and able to return to the old country, as she is contemplating doing soon. We wish all a safe and pleasant voyage.—H. Forrest, Conductor.