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Official Organ of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.



THE LYCEUM BANNER.

A Monthly Record of Lyceum Work & Progress throughout the World

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Lyceum Banner Portrait Gallery.

MR. EDWARD WALSH (Horwich.)

Our subject was born in 1872 at Accrington. His parents, being Congregationalists, deemed it wise to train him likewise. Spending his childhood in this mode of teaching, he finds it a difficult task to forget his various teachers and tenders to them his best respects.

In the early part of manhood he became a little acquainted with the teachings of spiritualism. The ones to convert him into its philosophy were Ernest Marklew, Mr. Swindlehurst and Mr. Bibbings. While Mr. Wild and Tom Tyrrel convinced him of its phenomena.

Soon after his investigations regarding "Man's Survival after Death," he became acquainted with a young woman whose past faith taught her that spiritualism and its followers were of the devil. Owing to her misconception of our teachings naturally led our subject back to his old train of thought.

However, as time passed by, there was a turn of the tide, this same young woman came in close contact with a spiritualist, who happened to work partners in a weaving shed. This friendship caused her to change old ideas for new ones, bringing her mind to a fuller development by reason. She then began investigating for herself, which was the means of bringing our Lyceum worker back into the fold of research after their matrimonial knot had been tied. They are both deeply indebted to each other, for its teachings have drawn them closer together, as on through life they go.

Five years elapsed before our Lyceum teaching became known to him. The first one he saw was at Darwen, whose method of training intensified his desire to know more. Anxious to be a Lyceumist, he became a regular attender at Carter Street Lyceum, Accrington, his first conductors were Mr. and Mrs. Derbyshire, along with Will Edwards. After gaining a little knowledge in this respect, he became

acquainted with Council work of the N.E.L.L.D.C., holding office as assistant D.V.

Owing to a change of employment, he, along with his wife and two children (Eddie and Ivy), came to reside in the vicinity of Horwich, a matter of ten years ago. We gave him a hearty welcome in our Lyceum, which was in a very weak state at that time. He at once set to work along with a few other helpers to build and strengthen Lyceum work in Horwich, for which we are grateful.

Becoming a District Visitor for Bolton, he urged them to form into a Council, which they did, success crowning their efforts. An election of officers took place, our subject being appointed secretary for the D.C., retaining such office for three successive years. He has also been a help-mate for our society, once being elected as President, also Financial Secretary, an office his wife now holds, and at the present time officiates as minute secretary.

It is to him we owe thanks for bringing Horwich Lyceum in close contact with council work, conducting our business, concerning our Lyceum, systematically that is, according to Parliamentary Rules.

He has been a conductor for our Lyceum for four terms, and always a big advocator of Shield and Singing Competitions for general efficiency. His wife assisted him in his good work, she being a conductor, too, for twelve

months. Though many times in the past our Lyceum ebbed and flowed, he still stuck to the gun of duty, along with Mr. Frost and others. To-day, we as Lyceum scholars worship past memory, and pray that his lofty spirit may still help us in our fight for truth. His heart and soul is in the Education Scheme of the B.S.L.U. May his efforts in this respect be amply repaid by ourselves becoming, as far as possible, ardent students, ever holding his motto for a Guide, "The Workers Win."

Just one more item. He holds office to-day as Lyceum Secretary. Trusting that his efforts on behalf of the children will create a glorious harvest, I desire always to remain, a Lyceum Scholar,

ADA ELKIN.



MEDITATION No. 2.—WILL-POWER.

By GEO. WM. SHARPE, of Birmingham.

When the mystical vision was being given to me the "Still Small Voice" said, "The form you see is Will and He is riding in the chariot of Knowledge." Let me say here, when in visions of enraptured thought, I sit in contemplative calm and watch and meditate upon the symbolism of the visions that reveal the great mysteries of life and being; and I yearn to know the truth. At those times, the screen of matter slowly fades from my view, and leaves for me the essence of the worlds of SENSE and REASON.

Now for the explanation of the first portion of the vision; the form I saw representing Will; Why should he desire to ride in the chariot of Knowledge? Because there are some people who do not cultivate their Will-Power, but are always impulsive, always doing things which are surprising to themselves, as they are painful to others. When something arises to upset their mental equilibrium, out comes the hasty word, the angry retort. When a person loses mental control, the cruellest epithets are often directed to those, whom, inwardly, he or she cherishes most dearly. Why? Because they have not trained their Will to be armed with Knowledge. So you see, it is good for us to try and cultivate a strong Will.

We are familiar with people of strong thought, excellent ideas, and yet who never accomplish anything worth mentioning. And why is that? Because their thoughts are not things. Again you ask why; and say, "Have you not used statements in the 'Ways of Lilies' which lead us to understand that, 'THOUGHTS are THINGS'?"

The reason why I paid attention to this phrase is because I want to show you that, in order that a given thought should materialise and become a THING, there is a connecting link required between the thought (or mind plane), and the thing (or material plane). So you see, in the case aforementioned, this connecting link is wanting, between the world of thought and the world of matter. Their ideas fizzle out like the froth on a glass of soda-water. It is life which connects mind and matter. The connecting link between the thought plane and the physical plane, where thoughts become things, is the life plane or the vital principle. Man's faculty of acting consciously on the material plane, through the medium of the vital principle, and thereby giving his thoughts expression in the material or physical form, is Will. Will-power is the strongest power on earth. Will-power, too, means command of yourself. As a matter of fact, Will-power is of little use unless interlinked with other qualities such as duty, determination, knowledge, etc.

Generally speaking, all human activities result from the interaction of four active, or positive, faculties, namely:—(1) DESIRE; (2) CONSCIENCE; (3) REASON; (4) WILL; or I may say the Knowledge of Will. The first two are subjective faculties belonging to the sub-conscious mind. The latter two are objective, and belong to, and form part of, the conscious, or waking, mind. Desire may be defined as the Ego's effort at self-expression; while the Conscience is the divine, or moral guide of Desire. Thus Reason is the architect or organiser; Life is the builder; and Matter is the material. Mind and Life in co-operation constitute the WILL-POWER; thus Will-power is man's SPIRIT PART; KNOWLEDGE is the METHOD by which the goal of

TRUTH is reached. Now I hope you will try and understand what I have told you in reference to Will-Power.

How grand and encouraging is the knowledge that every good thought, kind action, and noble effort by you, Boys and Girls, is helping you to strengthen and educate your Will Power.

So, "to KNOW, to WILL, to DARE, to be SILENT," is full of practical wisdom. Do not forget the MOTTO given to you last month about TEMPER. Take this month for your meditation, "THOUGHTS, BY THE POWER OF WILL, BECOME THINGS."

(The "Bluebell Page" itself is this month unavoidably crowded out.—THE EDITOR.)

The Harmonising of the "Lyceum Manual."

By A. T. CONNOR.

It is to be regretted that an explanation of the drastic alterations made in the Lyceum Manual should have been delayed, not only until the publication of the new edition made protest difficult, but until a motion condemning the alterations had been endorsed by the United District Councils by ten votes to none. It looks very much like confession after discovery, and tends to create a prejudice in the minds of those who oppose the new departure. It is also a pity that the U.D.C. report in the BANNER was so worded as to convey to the Movement no idea of what had taken place.

Miss Kitson's article in the April BANNER, with the exception that it is a series of purely dogmatic statements, is open to very little objection, unless that perhaps it might have done more good had it been published whilst the Revision Committee were considering the alterations. At the same time it is only fair that the other side of the question should be presented to Lyceums before their delegates are instructed for the Conference voting.

The most serious objection to the new edition is that it "scraps" hundreds of Manuals, some newly bought, some in perfect condition. Either each Lyceum must procure a complete set of the new Manuals or Conductors must be prepared to have two sections of their Lyceum reading out contradictory answers to the same question. Such a change, with such an effect, should not have been carried out without submission to the whole Movement.

Miss Kitson claims that the old Manual contained many contradictions in the use of "Soul" and "Spirit." I can't find any in the strictly "Spiritualist" part, and in fact, G.C.R. 137 states that "the term 'soul' is synonymous with that of 'spirit,' and is often so used." Perhaps, however, Miss Kitson is contrasting our Golden Chains with the Silver Chains, in one or two of which "Soul" is used. But these latter are moral and not Spiritualistic teaching, and have always been so understood. The result of the "harmonising" has been merely to substitute "soul" for "spirit" in some of the Golden Chains, and leave out "soul" in S.C.R. 2—because the revisers think (or, rather, claim to know) that only Man has a soul! This is, indeed, knowledge.

I am driven to the conclusion that our revisers have not themselves reached a very clear idea of what they mean by "soul" and "spirit." Miss Kitson says the soul is not objective, but the G.C.R. 137 states

that it is *ethereal*. Ether is substance, and objective. She also says that "spirit," because derived from *spiritus*, breath, cannot mean the Ego. But it is an acknowledged fact that all these old occult terms had a threefold meaning. "Spirit" means (1) the breath, (2) the life of which the breath is an expression, and (3) the Ego, or inherent principle of which life is a manifestation. The general acceptance of Spirit as the vital principle underlying everything is shown in such expression as "the spirit of progress," etc. A man who is the "soul of honour" manifests in his life that underlying spirit or principle which dictates our conduct in dealing with others. "Soul," in this expression, is a manifestation; in Spiritualism, it is the manifestation of the spirit. In common English it only denotes personality. "Not a soul was saved"—does not refer to the Ego, but to the personality expressed through the physical body, having been destroyed.

The word "spiritual" means "of the spirit." A spiritual man lives according to the dictates of his spirit, ego, real self—hence we who teach this mode of life are called Spiritualists. Our revisers show their confusion of thought by retaining the word "spiritual" in their new edition, in passages where it can only have the above meaning. In G.C.R. 108, the "glorious aim" of the Lyceum is "the spiritual, moral and intellectual elevation of its members." If spiritual refers to the spirit body, the expression is ridiculous. Is it an oversight that we are told in the same G.C.R. that "that which is right is always delightful to the healthy spirit." Or are we to imagine the spirit body clapping its hands? Then in G.C.R. 105, which is Mr. Kitson's own special creation, we are told that bad souls "dwell in spiritual darkness." If this does not mean that the spirit eyes cannot see, it means that the individual is spiritually undeveloped: hasn't realised the truth of its spirit existence. If the latter, then the Spirit is the real Man, according to Mr. Kitson. We are also told here that "spirits" communicate." If this means "spirit bodies," I contend that the body is only an instrument, and not the worker. If it doesn't mean spirit bodies, then Mr. Kitson contradicts himself in his own G.C.R.—and that through defining the soul as "our very self." Finally, if "spiritual" has any connection whatever with the spirit body, then all who have spirit bodies are spiritual—thus placing on the same level the most advanced and the most degraded inhabitants of the Spirit World.

These arguments, chosen at random from many, show that there is a very emphatic "other side" to the case stated so dogmatically by Miss Kitson, whose attention I should like to draw to her sixth paragraph. In it she says the Spirit World is inhabited by "SPIRITS, who possess spirit bodies. Possession implies an owner . . . the SOUL." Logically, this means that the Soul is the Spirit—thus bearing out the suppressed portion of G.C.R. 137. As she says, this point need not be laboured.

THE REPLY.

At Mr. Connor's request, his MS. was submitted to me with the suggestion that I should write a reply to the points raised; the same to be published after his article, hence the following:

In regard to Mr. Connor's first paragraph, let me

state that the Report of the U.D.C. meeting was printed as it was received, therefore the BANNER is not to blame if a wrong impression was made. As for the voting results, packed Parliaments are by no means new in history. As for the "scrapping of Manuals" objection, let me say that each new edition has improved and enlarged on previous ones, and to be logical, Mr. Connor must wish all editions to be yet just like the first edition. Heaven forbid;—for ours is a *progressive* movement. Efficient conductors have found, and will continue to find, ways to meet the temporary difficulty.

Mr. Connor implies that the G.C.Rs. are the only strictly "spiritualist" part of the *Manual* (which is news), and as he can't find any contradictions there in the use of "soul" and "spirit," I'll give one or two—(space forbids more or explanations)—the part of 137 he quotes is incorrect and misleading and does not appear in the new edition, and in the old *Manual* 136 and 137 are contradictory; as are first and last part of 129, and 109 and 112 and 147. There are others, and also in the other parts of the *Manual*.

Let me inform Mr. Connor that the harmonising does far more than "merely substitute 'soul' for 'spirit' in some G.C.Rs. and leave out 'soul' in S.C.R. 2." This will be proved by comparing the following numbers in old and new *Manuals*:—

S.C.Rs.—11, 12, 16, 17, 26, 28, 33, 34, 40, 44, 51, 55, 58, 60, 64, etc., etc., etc.

M.Rs.—207, 208, 210, 214, 220, etc.

Lyceum Songs.—301, 309, 312, 319, 321, 326, etc.

The lists are too long to give in full, but the preceding proves that more than G.C.Rs. and one S.C.R. are revised!

"In common English," "ethereal" rarely means composed of ether, as known to scientists, but is synonymous with heavenly, etc. The rest of that paragraph contains some of the very things we are out to reform as applied to terms used in connection with our religion.

"The old occult terms had a three-fold meaning"—the biblical terms are old and occult, and give the term "spirit" not 3; but 19, meanings; which will take some harmonising. (See Cruden's "Concordance of the Bible.")

According to Mr. Connor's next paragraph, all who teach the spiritual mode of life are called Spiritualists;—as all religions teach it; the obvious conclusion is that people of all religions are Spiritualists, which is indeed good news!

As for the "oversight in G.C.R. 108," I said last month that further harmonising was necessary. I am glad Mr. Connor is corroborating my statement.

A spiritual life means one fitting us for the higher spheres of the spirit-world, and therefore its use is correct. Souls in spiritual darkness are those unfitted, as yet, for the higher spheres, and hence are spiritually undeveloped, but are in most cases aware of their existence in the spirit-world. Mr. Connor's argument is entirely ungrounded. "Spirits communicate" is brief for "the inhabitant of the spirit-world communicate," hence the rest of that paragraph is obvious quibbling. But the same fallacy causes the argument about my quoted statement, and as Mr. Connor evidently cannot understand "condensed statements," I will put the offending statement in full, when it reads, ". . . to its inhabitants, who

possess spirit-bodies, and are therefore spoken of as spirit-people; or, briefly, as spirits."

I am charged twice with being dogmatic. Consider the following logical deductions:—

material or		
(a) Physical <i>body</i> .	(c) <i>Soul</i> is the <i>body</i> of the inner spirit.	(e) <i>Spirit</i> is the <i>body</i> of the inner soul.

material or		
(b) <i>physical</i> world; of same nature as the <i>body</i> .	(d) <i>Soul</i> -world; of same nature as the <i>body</i> .	(f) <i>Spirit</i> -world of same nature as the <i>body</i> .

Mr. Connor's standpoint is given at (c) and mine at (e), (d) is the logical deduction and gives his position, if he is consistent; as (f) gives mine. Hence, logically, he is a "soulualist," and I am a "Spiritualist." Hence, if stating the truth is being dogmatic; then, and then only, I am guilty.

MARY E. KITSON.

A National Holiday Rendezvous.

At the last meeting of the U.L.D.C. I was requested to submit to you a scheme for the establishment of a National Holiday Rendezvous, which was presented thereat by the Liverpool D.C.

As briefly as I can state it the scheme is as follows: In the U.S.A. they have what are termed "Camp" assemblies throughout their more favourable summer months, at which Spiritualists and Lyceumists congregate. While exactly similar meetings are probably not possible in the more variable British climate, it is nevertheless possible to adapt the idea to our own particular requirements. To accomplish this, many matters will need to be considered, and the following items are submitted merely as a basis, and are not to be considered as in any way arbitrary or final.

1. *Geographical situation*.—This would have to be such as would be within relatively easy access of a largely populated area, and yet in surroundings that would be healthy, attractive, and offer facilities for enjoyment and pleasure to satisfy a variety of tastes.

2. *Conduct and control*.—There are two possibilities, the Bohemian and the Aesthetic. Under the first there would always be the risk that persons who have not attained a reasonable degree of self-control would commit indiscretions that would reflect unfavourably on the movement. The Aesthetic need not be either stiff or severe, but should provide an atmosphere of natural grace and a well-ordered and tactfully managed house would surely allow full opportunity for all essential enjoyment without being unduly restrictive.

3. *Capital cost*.—This item would, of course, depend upon so many things that only a vague estimate can be submitted. It may, for convenience, be divided into four sections:—

(a) Provision for first year's rent, light, taxes, etc.	£150
(b) Furnishing, etc....	£300
(c) Management for first year	£200
(d) Provision for contingencies	£150
Total	£800

4. *Raising Capital*.—There are at least two ways in which this might be done:

- (a) By floating a fund from Lyceumists and Spiritualists.
- (b) By utilising part of the funds of the Lyceum Union.

Of these, the former is probably the soundest, as it spreads the interest in the rendezvous over the widest possible area.

5. *Maintenance*.—On the estimate given above this would be £350 per annum. If we assume

- (a) Accommodation for 30 visitors,
- (b) A season lasting 17 weeks,
- (c) An average of 20 visitors per week,

we have a total of 340 visitors per session, which would mean a payment of £1 per week by each person, without board. The actual charge, however, would probably be considerably less, as it is conceivable that the average number of visitors would be more than 20 per week, and that visitors would stay at the rendezvous outside the actual season. If the aggregate number of weeks' occupancy came to 500, then 14/- per week would realise the £350. Experience alone would be the final arbiter of charges, but in order to secure the firm establishment of the place, it is probably worth while paying a little more for the first few years.

It is, I hope, scarcely necessary to enumerate the many advantages which would accrue to the movement and the inestimable benefits which would ensue upon a visit. During a week or fortnight at the N.H.R., in addition to the usual benefits obtained from a holiday, visitors would meet workers and others from various localities, discuss with them the problems of Society management and conduct of Lyceums. Views could be exchanged upon the many intricate problems of organisation and propaganda. Educational lectures and other items of interest could be arranged. Prominent exponents and demonstrators would probably be among the visitors, and would, I feel sure, place their gifts at the disposal of their fellow guests, within reasonable limits. And so one might continue through a lengthy list.

Every Lyceumist and District Council is not only invited, but urged, to give the question serious thought; discuss it, criticise it, help to make the scheme complete and practicable. Then feel how deep your pocket is and decide how much you are prepared to do, so that when a favourable time arrives we shall be fully prepared for the successful foundation of the National Holiday Rendezvous.

ERNEST A. KEELING.

The Chums' Page.

Conducted by Geo. Fred Knott.

MY DEAR CHUMS,

I am sorry to write that the awarding of Merit Cards will cease after this month as the stock is finished. It has been decided not to print a fresh supply at present. If my chums want some puzzles to solve without any award, send me a letter and I will issue them.

William Lindsay's comments on food and his criticism of my ideas will be very welcome. Thoughtful progress is made by

discussion. Yes, William, I have met Mr. Charley, but my visits are just a hop from town to town and home again, so I do not see a great deal of anyone. I have met a few Bluebells and all enjoy the correspondence. You are sure of a welcome if you wear the badge and visit any Lancashire Lyceums.

Annie Wild has won a card once more. Sorry the last was broken in the post. That trouble happens to many. I am sorry Edward Walsh's name was omitted from the winners last month. He does not become cross with trifles and we are old friends, so all will be well. As it needs three correct answers for a card, Harold just misses one this time. George A. Mack points out an error in the first puzzle. Yes, George, the second "a" should be "n." Glad to have a response from you. The puzzles will be used shortly. Your answers are all right.

The last letter is from a regular puzzler, an inquirer about Esperanto. I am very glad, Annie, you have won one of the last batch of Merit Cards. Perhaps we shall resume when times are more normal. Let me know what you think about the pamphlet. I do hope when Mrs. Finlayson reads this, when the "Banner" reaches South Africa, her dear husband will have recovered his normal health. The spirit people can do wonders for us. Edwin Nicholls sends an interesting request for information about Esperanto. It's in the air very much just now and I would like to see it come to earth and make its presence known among the people of the world. When the war is over many people will be making pilgrimages to the graves in France and Flanders. If you know how to speak Esperanto and wish to go, there are many students of this neutral language who will be happy to meet you and assist in finding the graves of your loved relatives. I am sending Harold two pamphlets. I do not find in the published lists any follower of the "Green Star," the badge of the Esperantists, in Brownhills. The nearest class is in Birmingham. Illness prevented my studies a few years ago, but I am hoping to resume them again shortly. There are many Lyceumists and Spiritualists dotted about the British Dominions. Space prevents further details in this paper, so further information must be by individual correspondence.

JOKING AND DONKEYS.

Some years ago I was reciting an old rhyme called "Nothing but Butter." The tale in the rhyme is about an old English wooden warship, which also carried merchandise. In the hold there were many firkins of butter. The cannons were made of brass. Meeting a French warship, they commenced to fight. There was a new sailor, an Irishman, on the English boat and he was afraid. Whilst all the others were busy fighting, the Irishman hid in the hold behind the butter. It happened that some of the French shots entered the hold and the butter was splashed on the face of the man hid behind them. The Irishman, covered with grease, rushed up to the deck and shouted, "Fight on! boys; Fight on! be jabers, it's only butter they're firing at us." When the recital was finished everybody was laughing at the joke and its recital except one man. I asked him after why he didn't laugh too. His answer was, "Well, you see, I'm an Irishman."

Most of the jokes are at someone else's expense, and sometimes hurt their feelings. Unconscious humour is the best. If we make a joke let the laugh fall upon ourselves. People will perhaps think us foolish, but we shall not then hurt anyone else.

I once knew a lady who had to ride in an invalid's chair when going out. Sometimes I pushed the chair. I also had a dog, which, when fastened to the chair, would pull it along the street and delight in doing it. We were all three going up a steep hill when we met a friend, who said, "You would do with a donkey." I replied, "We've got one." The friend asked, "Where is it?" I replied again, "It's at the back; can't you see how willing it's working?"

For the first time in his life a man was occupying the chair at a public meeting. He was an old man. This is what he said. "Well, my watch says it's time to start; I've never done this job afore, so my speech 'ull be like a jackass' gallop—short and sweet. Awm heart and soul in this 'ere subject, but as this chap's come to tell us a' about it, aw'll ax him to start." The joke was upon himself, and upon the poor old donkey. Why a donkey should be made the butt of our fun I could never understand. I have ever found him the most patient, faithful, hard-working, friendly, and sure-footed of animals we have domesticated. One of the most charming life-studies I have ever seen has been a well-groomed, properly-nourished donkey, carrying a neatly dressed boy or girl on his back, being patiently driven along a country lane with loving care and guidance.

Your Sincere Chum,

GEO. FREDK. KNOTT.

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

The Executive Council's Annual Report.

Messrs. J. Wadsworth & Co. have amicably replied to the vote of thanks from the Conference for their efforts on behalf of our Union's publications.

A LYCEUM BANNER sub-committee was appointed to decide on the size and price of THE LYCEUM BANNER. Owing to the shortage of paper, and its continual increase of price, the reduction of its pages and increase of price had to be effected.

Your Executive Council regretfully had to decline an invitation to visit Newcastle-on-Tyne, owing to heavy expenses and restriction of train service. A visit to the city where Mr. H. A. Kersey laboured so devotedly for the Lyceum movement, and brought forth the Lyceum Manual and the Spiritual Songster, would have delighted all concerned.

We regret Mr. Vickers resigned from the Executive Council on account of health and pressure of business. Mr. J. K. Jones, being the next on the list, was invited to fill the vacancy.

A new supply of Lyceum Badges has been obtained. This emblem of mutual recognition continues to meet with an ever-increasing sale. It is gradually being adopted by Spiritualists in general.

A new edition of 10,000 copies of THE LYCEUM MANUAL has been printed, and the linotype plates for the same have been purchased, which will save both time and money in the production of future editions.

We have considered the question of Advertisements for THE LYCEUM BANNER, but no action has been taken in the matter.

There has been no definite action taken with the John Ainsworth Trust. We suggest that the Lyceum Union's Trustees take over the said Trust, on behalf of the Lyceum Union, when the transfer takes place.

It has been deemed advisable to raise the prices of the Lyceum Union's publications by 25 per cent., or threepence in the shilling, to meet the increased charges.

Miss M. E. Kitson has been appointed Hon. Assistant Secretary to the Lyceum Union for the purpose of taking the minutes, so as to leave the General Secretary free to facilitate the business at the Council meetings.

Your Executive Council accepted the Manchester Lyceum District Council's invitation to hold the 1918 Conference in Manchester. The Co-operative Hall, Dawning Street, has been engaged for the Conference Sessions and meals. Manchester is centrally situated, which, in these times of restricted travelling facilities, is a decided advantage; and our friends there merit our warmest thanks.

Our expression of thanks has been accorded to the Spiritualists' National Union for its assistance toward legalization of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

We have decided to issue a new Lyceum Hymn Sheet for Harvest Festivals, in response to numerous requests.

Through depletion of Stock it has been necessary to obtain a small overdraft at the Bank. The release of suspended orders for goods will quickly overcome the deficit, as we have now obtained a supply of publications.

The publication of necessary educational matter was

(Continued on page 56).

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

THE LYCEUM BANNER:

ALFRED KITSON, Editor.

Terms to Lyceums and Societies:

Twelve copies, 1/4; 18 copies, 2/-; 24 copies, 2/7½; 36 copies, 3/11; 42 copies, 4/6; 48 copies, 5/-. All orders for four dozen copies and upwards are supplied at 1/3 per dozen. All parcels sent post free. Accounts due Quarterly: March, June, September and December.

Terms to Lyceums abroad, 1/6 per dozen copies, post free. 1½d. for every additional copy.

Send your orders not later than the 23rd of each month.

Annual subscription, post free, 2s. od. To Canada and the United States, 48c. U.S. currency or postage stamps taken.

Office—19 Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, near Dewsbury.

OFFICE HOURS.

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

SUNDAY, MAY 5th, 1918.

The Lyceum Conference draws near, and promises to be one of the best attended for some time past, judging from the number of applications for Credentials. No doubt the central position of Manchester has done much to determine Lyceums to be represented.

Credentials, along with copies of the Agenda, will be sent in due time to all the Delegates. Delegates should be careful not to "leave them at home," as they can only pass the barrier, guarded by the Credential Committee (Messrs. Will Edwards and George A. Mack) by producing their Credentials for inspection before being allowed a seat in the area reserved for them.

A tabulated list of nominations for the Electoral Areas and the result of the voting will be found on another page. Allowance must be made for the system adopted, and the absence of the new Constitution to guide Lyceums in securing the written consent of their nominees, and recording their votes by the actual number of votes cast for and against the candidates in the Lyceums in their respective areas.

Lyceum Secretaries who have sent in their usual reports will find in the following notice, published in our last issue, page 45, at the head of the column of LYCEUM SPECIAL REPORTS, full explanation for their non-insertion.

PUBLIC NOTICE

is hereby given that, owing to the great demand on our limited space for the insertion of the Annual Reports, Conference Agenda, Statistical Returns, and Balance Sheets, we shall be unable to insert any Lyceum Reports next month. Only those reports will be in order for insertion in the June Banner which deal with Open Sessions, etc., held on or between the last Sunday in April (28th) and the third Sunday of May (19th). All such reports must reach this Office on, or before, Wednesday, May 22nd.—Editor, L.B.

I have marvelled at the apparent indifference paid to the above, as fully one-half of the monthly reports have

reached me and gone into the W.P.B. I wish to assure all that notices appearing in THE LYCEUM BANNER are intended for observation.

Now with regard to Lyceum Reports for our June issue. Please remember that "only those reports will be in order for insertion in the June BANNER which deal with Lyceum Sessions held on or between the last Sunday of April (28th) and the third Sunday of May (19th). All such reports must reach this Office on, or before, Wednesday, May 22nd.—EDITOR, L.B."

We learn with pleasure that Lyceums have been reopened at Barry Dock (South Wales), Earlestown, Hucknall, and Platts Bridge. We anticipate applications to join the Lyceum Union will be forthcoming from them in due course. The number of federated Lyceums is now over two hundred. We want all the non-Union Lyceums, that are properly constituted and officered, to become members of the Union, and take part in its management. Forms for application for membership may be obtained from the Lyceum Union's General Secretary, 19, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Dewsbury.

We learn with deep regret that Roy Banks, of Brighton, who, as a C.O., has served three successive prison sentences amounting to nearly two years, has just been sentenced to another period of two years' hard labour by a Court-martial held April 3rd, 1918. He told his judges that he was "a Spiritualist who has for one of his principles 'The Brotherhood of Man,' and for seven years has endeavoured to instil this principle into the minds of young people." Truly the days of martyrdom for conscience's sake are not past and gone. The Lyceum movement has many martyrs in its ranks, one of which is Roy Banks.

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.

GREAT HARWOOD.—Passed to Higher Life on April 29th, Thomas Baxter, aged 73, late of Barrow-in-Furness, an old pioneer. He knew to where his footsteps were wending.—Louie Holt, Sec.

WALLSEND-ON-TYNE.—In loving memory of Fred Eko, who passed to the Summerland, May, 1917. Ever remembered by his loving wife and children.—Advt.

Marriages.

Ordinary intimations will be inserted as follows:—The first twenty-four words, free. Sixpence for every additional nine words, or part of nine words.

GREAT HARWOOD.—On March 30th, at the Parish Church, William Edwards, of St. Helens, to Mary Alice Holt.—Louie Holt, Sec.

HEYWOOD (William Street).—On April 8th, Miss Gertrude Hulme to Wilfred Rooks, of Mossley (both Lyceumists).—Mr. Knott officiated.

MRS. LEE,

136, Westminster Road,

Morecambe, W.E.

Near Sea and Pier.

Piano.

3-3-18

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union will hold its Twenty-ninth Annual Conference on Saturday, May 18th, 1918, at 3 p.m., and at 10 a.m. on May 19th, in the Co-operative Hall, Downing Street, Manchester.

A Grand Public meeting will be held in the same hall on Sunday evening, May 19th, at 6-30. Addresses by Mr. G. F. Knott, *President*, the President elect, Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. Pickles, Miss Hesp, and Messrs. Kitson (Gen. Secy.), Owen, Batten, and Jones.

CONFERENCE AGENDA.

1. Opening exercise and Welcome.
2. Appointments.
3. Minutes of last Conference.
4. Correspondence.
5. Presidential Address.
6. Unfinished Business on the Agenda.
7. Reports.
8. Elect Officers:—
President:—Mrs. Jessie Greenwood, Miss Alice Hesp, Mr. Ernest A. Keeling, Mr. Geo. Fredk. Knott.
Vice-President:—Mr. Harry T. Batten, Mr. Myers Clegg, Mrs. Jessie Greenwood, Mr. John K. Jones, Mr. Ernest A. Keeling, Mr. Geo. Fredk. Knott, Mr. Robert A. Owen, Mrs. M. E. Pickles.
Treasurer:—Mr. Thomas H. Wright.
9. *Elect Auditor*:—Mr. George A. Mack, Mr. Thistlewaite, Mr. Robert E. Griffiths.
10. Elect Representatives to other Conferences (if any).
11. Select place and date of next Conference.
12. Motions: (a) To amend the Constitution (not oftener than once in five years); (b) to amend the Bye-Laws; (c) General.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

No. 1.—“That this Conference views with grave disapproval the action of the 1916—17 and 1917—1918 Executive Councils in failing for two years to announce that Lyceums with less than 30 members are entitled to monthly reports in the LYCEUM BANNER equal in length to those of Lyceums buying 48 copies, and instructs the new Management Committee to see that this announcement is made at once, at the head of the Reports columns of the BANNER, and continued until the regulations governing Lyceum Reports are altered.”

No. 2.—“That this Conference, strongly resents the action of the 1917—18 Executive Council in reducing the size of the BANNER by 4 pages, and thereby its value and usefulness as an official organ, thus refusing to carry out the specific instructions of the 1917 Conference to retain the journal at its former size and increase the price, and instructs the new Management Committee to see that the new resolution is carried into effect.”

No. 3.—“That the definitions of the words ‘Soul’ and ‘Spirit’ accepted generally by the Spiritualist Movement, be restored in all reprints and new editions

of the *Lyceum Manual*, and that, if possible, this correction be made in the edition now in hand—or, alternatively, that errata slips announcing this restoration be printed, and forwarded to all past and future purchasers of the present edition, until the change can be effected.”

No. 4.—“That individuals entrusted with the issue of B.S.L.U. official publications (excepting the LYCEUM BANNER) be forbidden to use these publications as a means of disseminating personal views on the subject of Spiritualism.

No. 5.—“That amendments to the suggested Trust Deed be now considered.”

We submit the above motions for consideration at the Annual Conference, May 19th and 20th, 1918.

London Lyceum District Council—

J. FORSYTH, *President*.

A. T. CONNOR, *Secretary*.

RESOLUTION SUGGESTED BY THE SOLICITOR.

“That the Management Committee be empowered to take the necessary steps to transfer and vest all existing funds of the Union (with the exception of the sum of £400, which shall be retained by the Management Committee as working capital) to and in the six Trustees appointed at the last Annual Conference; such funds to be held by the Trustees under and subject to the powers and provisions and upon the trusts contained in the Trust Deed.”

PEACE BY NEGOTIATION.

That this Annual Conference of Spiritualist Lyceum delegates assembled, are of the opinion that the time has arrived, in the interests of all nations, when peace by negotiation should be immediately effected. We therefore earnestly pray that all Leaders of all Nations will see their way clear to use their influence to obtain such an end.—*The Executive Council*.

13. Notice of Motions for next Conference.

14. Votes of thanks to retiring Officers, Executive Council, Auditor, the Local Society and Lyceum.

15. Closing exercises.

CONDITIONS OF ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

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

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

3. That local friends provide free hospitality for the Officers, Executive, and the Delegates.

ALFRED KITSON, *General Secretary*.

P.S.—All those who require a meat dinner must send their *meat coupon* to Mrs. Annie E. Bentley, 37, Shakespeare Street, Stockport Road, Manchester, on or before May 13th. Otherwise arrangements have been made for vegetarian dinners and the usual Tea for 3/9 for the three meals.—A.K.

[We much regret to have two pages of matter crowded out of this issue.—EDITOR.]

(Continued from page 53).

endorsed in order to facilitate the work of the Education Committee.

The absence of the printed Constitution, the abnormal times, and the general disarrangement of business affairs of the country have interfered with the normal conduct of the Union's affairs. Under these circumstances we have adopted the best means possible to meet the wishes of the Lyceums and control the Union's business.

A number of Lyceums have necessarily lapsed during the year, owing to various causes. We feel sure a portion of them will re-open as soon as conditions are favourable. The Barrow-in-Furness (Abbey Road) Lyceum has amalgamated with the original one held at Dalkeith Street. The two Lyceums at Brighton have similarly combined; as also have the two Shildon Lyceums.

The following is a list of lapsed Lyceums:—Accrington (Abbey Road); Barrow-in-Furness (Abbey Road); Castleford; Durban (S.A.); Fenton (withdrawn); Johannesburg (Jefte Street); Lancaster; New Bedford (U.S.A.); Radcliffe (Sion Street); Shaw; Shildon (Hydesville); and Winnipeg (Lipton Street).

The following is a list of Lyceums that have been enrolled during the year: Bradford (Manchester Rd.); Brighton (Old Steine Hall); Bristol, Caerau, Chorley; Dukinfield; Eastwood (Notts.); Hamilton; Heaton Norris; Hetton; Leeds (Roxburgh Road); London (Clapham, Little Ilford, and Wimbledon); Manchester (Newton Heath); Marsden; Quarmby; Roughlea; Southampton (St. Mary's Road); and West Stanley.

Your Executive Council has held the following meetings:—Sowerby Bridge, July 14th and 15th, 1917; Roughlea, Oct. 13th, 1917; Sheffield (Attercliffe), Jan. 12th and 13th, 1918; and Darwen, April 13th and 14th, 1918. The register is as follows: Mr. Geo. Fred. Knott, 3; Miss Alice Hesp, 4; Mr. Thomas H. Wright, 3; Mrs. Jessy Greenwood, 3; Mrs. M. E. Pickles, 4; Mr. Ernest A. Keeling, 1; Mr. Robert A. Owen, 4; Mr. Harry T. Batten, 4; Mr. Reuben Latham, 3; Mr. Myers Clegg, 4; Mr. J. K. Jones, 2; A. Kitson, 4.

We desire to record our thanks to those Lyceum District Council who have rendered help to new Lyceums; to the Lyceum District Visitors for their services freely rendered; and to the Spiritualist Press generally for its sympathetic support to the Lyceum Movement.

On behalf of the Executive Council,
GEO. FREDK. KNOTT, President.
ALFRED KITSON, General Secretary

THE "LYCEUM BANNER" REPORT.

When I presented my report of 1917 I entertained hopes of an early cessation of hostilities, a more plentiful supply of paper, and the maintaining of THE LYCEUM BANNER at its normal size and price. Unfortunately, my hopes have not been realized, consequently the scarcity of paper has become more acute, and the prices have soared very high. As a consequence, we had to curtail the size of the BANNER by four pages, commencing with the issue for July, 1917, thus bringing it to its original size;—the only alternative being, no issue at all; as paper is so hard to get.

Commencing with 1918, we had to effect a further decrease of space by discontinuing our quarterly double numbers. This has further hampered our efforts to insert all the reports relating to Lyceums, Lyceum District Councils, etc., which has given occasion for criticism, but failed to evolve any remedy.

The continued rise in the prices of paper so affected the finances of THE LYCEUM BANNER, even at its reduced size, that a loss of nearly £15 was sustained on the issues for January, February, and March, for printing and material. Thus was forced upon us the unpleasant task of increasing the price from 1d. to 1½d. per copy.

I here wish to tender my grateful thanks to the Lyceum movement in general for its splendid sympathetic response to stand by the THE LYCEUM BANNER in its hour of trial. Out of a total of 187 Lyceums on THE LYCEUM BANNER Ledger only three have cancelled their orders.

On the other hand, quite a number of Lyceums have increased their orders so that the sales rose between January and April from 4,475 to 4,950; and for the present issue to 4,900. This is a record all may feel justly proud of. It is not to be credited to one person, but to the Lyceum movement generally. This splendid support merits full recognition in the removal of all restrictions to reports, the restoring of the four pages, and the quarterly double number; and last, but not least, reducing its price to **one penny**, as soon as circumstances will allow.

In conclusion, I desire to return thanks to the Lyceums in general for their loyal support; to the Staff who have never wearied in their efforts to maintain the high standard gained, and have striven to assist me whenever possible by curtailing their articles, often to the annoyance of their readers; and to THE LYCEUM BANNER Committee for its sympathetic support under ever increasing difficulties.

Yours fraternally,
THE EDITOR.

Education Committee's Report.

Messrs. Knott, Batten, Vickers, Kitson, and Miss Hesp formed the personnel of the Education Committee elected by your Executive Council. After the resignation of Mr. Vickers, Mr. Latham was elected to the Committee.

The comments on Education matters at the Hull Conference were duly noted and its instructions followed. This year two grades of study, elementary and intermediary, have been adopted, and syllabuses for each have been sent to all Lyceums in the Union. The first grade syllabus has been made much simpler, and the second, while embracing a recapitulation of the first, deals more specifically with comparisons of facts and ideas, and tends to draw out the students' own powers of thought, expression and originality. The essential principles both in the Lyceum Movement and in Spiritualism claim priority in both grades.

A Handbook for the guidance of students and tutors, containing information on matters essential to the examination and not contained in any other of our publications, has been printed and issued.

All necessary explanation and tutors' notes for grade II. syllabus have been given through the LYCEUM BANNER.

The Examination was held on March 10th, for which 344 applications to take Grade I., and 38 to take Grade II. had been received; 35 Lyceums being represented. Foolsap and question papers were despatched to the local supervisors, the return of which shewed that 188 had taken Grade I. and 29 Grade II.

The results of the Examination will be declared at Conference, to which successful students will be invited for the Sunday Session and presented with their Certificates.

The Committee tender their grateful thanks to Mr. Tinker, who has examined all papers; to all Lyceum Secretaries, Tutors, Local Supervisors, District Councils, and any others who have in any way helped to make the scheme a success.

On behalf of the Committee,
ALICE HESP, Secretary.

British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union
LEGALISATION COMMITTEE.

Another meeting was held in Manchester on Saturday, April 6th. The Trust Deed drafted by the Solicitor was considered in detail along with several suggestions made by him. The Secretary was instructed to ask Solicitor to submit corrected draft and advise re transfer of Funds, etc.

Yours fraternally,
ROBERT A. OWEN, Hon. Sec.

119, Chatsworth Avenue,
Aintree, April 13th, 1918.

Legalisation Committee.

REPORT TO CONFERENCE AT MANCHESTER,
WHITSUNTIDE, 1918.

The Special Committee appointed by the 1916 Conference has met on three occasions during the past year, the register of attendance being as follows:—Mr. Knott (ex-officio), 3; Mr. Kitson (ex-officio), 2; Mr. Keeling, 3; Mr. Edwards, 3; Mr. Latham, 3; Mr. Jones, 3; Mr. Owen, 3.

In accordance with Conference instructions suggested provisions for a Trust Deed was submitted to the movement through the pages of the LYCEUM BANNER. Ensuing criticisms and suggestions were fully considered, and an amended draft submitted to Solicitor for legal presentation. The legal draft with Solicitor's recommendations were carefully considered, with the result that the final draft is complete and to hand. As it will be necessary to separately transfer the existing funds and securities into the Trustees' names so as to vest the same in them, a resolution to that effect is submitted for the confirmation of the Conference, viz.:—"Resolved that the Management Committee be empowered to take the necessary steps to transfer and vest all the existing funds of the Union (with the exception of the sum of £400, which shall be retained by the Management Committee as working Capital) to and in the Six Trustees appointed at the last Annual Conference, such funds to be held by the Trustees under and subject to the powers and provisions and upon the trusts contained in the Trust Deed."

On behalf of the Committee,
I remain, Yours faithfully,
ROBERT A. OWEN, Hon. Sec.

British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.
Education Scheme.

LESSON PLAN FOR MAY.

Date.	O.S.	SCR.	M.R.	G.C.R.	C.S.
May 5	357	I	241	147	345
" 12	363	25	216	139	414
" 19	328	79	225	108	401
" 26	382	66	212	101	386
June 2	414	11	231	123	400

Statistical Returns to the British Spiritualists'
Lyceum Union's Conference, May 18th and
19th, 1918.

No.	Name of Lyceum.	Total on the Register.	
		Officers	Members
1.	Accrington, China Street	10	47
2.	Auckland, New Zealand	10	32
3.	Bacup, Hall Street	7	43
4.	Barnoldswick, West End	8	47
5.	Barnsley, George Yard	2	34
6.	Barrow-in-Furness	17	72
7.	Batley Carr, Carr Street	7	42
8.	Belper, New Road	20	80
9.	Belfast, Ann Street	8	52
10.	Birkenhead, Bridge Street	7	28
11.	Birmingham, Handsworth	5	30
12.	Birmingham, Small Heath	4	20
13.	Blackburn, St. Peter Street	12	138
14.	Blackpool, Albert Road	11	58
15.	Bolton, Bradford Street	13	35
16.	Bolton, Deane Road	9	31
17.	Bolton, Henry Street	8	28
18.	Bradford, Bankfoot	6	24
19.	Bradford, Boynton Street	10	17
20.	Bradford, Carlisle Street	12	38
21.	Bradford, East Bowling	17	28
22.	Bradford, Manchester Road	10	40
23.	Bradford, Otley Road	6	20
24.	Brierfield, Colne Road	5	21
25.	Brighouse, Commercial Street	6	24
26.	Brighouse, Martin Street	6	30
27.	Brighton, Windsor Street	21	37
28.	Brisbane, Queensland	6	24
29.	Bristol, Thomas Street	6	24
30.	Burnley, Hammerton Street	12	75
31.	Burnley, North Street	14	59
32.	Burton-on-Trent, Horninglow Street	3	30
33.	Bury, King Street	8	49
34.	Caerary, Bridgend	8	40
35.	Calgary, Alberta, Canada	12	177
36.	Cardiff, Castle Street	3	42
37.	Chester, Commonhall Road	4	39
38.	Chesterfield, Oddfells A.R.	14	54
39.	Chester-le-Street, Front Street	5	43
40.	Chorley, Union Street	5	36
41.	Cleckheaton, Old Robin Street	10	36
42.	Clitheroe, off Salford Street	13	31
43.	Colne, Cloth Hall	8	72
44.	Coventry, Bull Street	14	48
45.	Crewe, Hungerford Road	7	30
46.	Daisy Hill, Mabel Street	8	37
47.	Darlington, Bondgate	8	42
48.	Darlington, High Northgate	8	32
49.	Darwen, Church Bank Street	16	84
50.	Dearnley, Rochdale Road	3	19
51.	Derby, Charnwood Street	—	—
52.	Dewsbury, Bond Street	16	76
53.	Dukinfield, Railway Street	6	43
54.	Dundee, Overgate	10	51
55.	Dundee, Rattray Street	14	22
56.	Dunston-on-Tyne, Elison Road	6	42
57.	Earby, Green-end Avenue	5	52
58.	Eastwood, Hill Top, Notts.	4	40
59.	Edinburgh, Queen Street	12	56
60.	Fleetwood, Kemp Street	11	46
61.	Foleshill, Broad Street	11	72
62.	Gateshead, Rectory Hall	16	53
63.	Geelong, Rapie Street	6	24
64.	Glasgow, Bath Street	29	110
65.	Glasgow, West Campbell Street	4	80
66.	Great Harwood, off West Well Street	9	39
67.	Grimsby, Strand Street	—	—
68.	Gurney Valley, near Bishop Auckland	11	33
69.	Halifax, Alma Street	14	84
70.	Halifax, Raven Street	8	46
71.	Hamilton, Barton Street	11	38
72.	Hamilton	9	21
73.	Hanley, Percy Street	12	61

74.	Heaton Norris, Baker Street	3	17	158.	Reading, Blagrave Street	6	105
75.	Hebden Bridge, Hope Street	10	40	159.	Rishton, Eachill Road	11	36
76.	Hetton District	10	62	160.	Rochdale, Penn Street	17	74
77.	Heywood, William Street	15	61	161.	Rochdale, Regent Street	10	68
78.	Hirst, Equitable Stores Hall	10	100	162.	Rotherham, Percy Street	9	68
79.	Hollinwood, Byrom Street	11	75	163.	Roughlea	5	10
80.	Horwich, Beatrice Street	10	90	164.	Royton, Union Street	5	27
81.	Huddersfield, Ramsden Street	16	45	165.	Runcorn, Ashridge Street	11	28
82.	Huddersfield, St. Peter Street	24	46	166.	St. Helens, Church Street	6	24
83.	Hull, Hessle Road	5	41	167.	Sheffield, Attercliffe	10	90
84.	Hull, Holborn Street	16	124	168.	Sheffield, Heeley	—	—
85.	Hyde, Clarendon Street	8	92	169.	Sheffield, Paradise Square	9	41
86.	Jarrow, Market Square	7	39	170.	Shildon, Newlands Avenue	14	43
87.	Johannesburg, Trades Hall	10	48	171.	Shipley, Teal Court	12	45
88.	Keighley, Heber Street	11	70	172.	Slaithwaite, Laith Lane	10	40
89.	Krugerdsorp, Kruger Street	4	20	173.	Southampton, Cavendish Grove	5	45
90.	Leeds, Armley	15	32	174.	Southampton, St. Martin's Road	7	16
91.	Leeds, Bethel Street	16	80	175.	Southport, Wright Street	4	21
92.	Leeds, Cookridge Street	8	42	176.	South Shields, Fowler Street	14	16
93.	Leeds, Easy Road	8	32	177.	South Shields, Robinson Street	—	—
94.	Leeds, Roxburgh Road	6	43	178.	South Shields, South Eldon Street	10	80
95.	Leicester, Queen Street	7	43	179.	Sowerby Bridge, Hollins Lane	23	25
96.	Leicester, Silver Street	6	52	180.	Stalybridge, Chapel Street	—	—
97.	Leigh, The Avenue	16	66	181.	Stockport, Wellington Road	12	54
98.	Lincoln, Coultham Street	—	—	182.	Stockton-on-Tees, New Brunswick Street	5	25
99.	Littleborough, Hartley Street	6	18	183.	Sunderland, Derwent Street	11	34
100.	Littletown, Well Street	—	—	184.	Todmorden, Eagle Street	16	76
101.	Liverpool, Dauby Street	10	59	185.	Todmorden, Halifax Road	7	41
102.	Liverpool, Romer Road	—	—	186.	Toronto, Dovercourt Road	8	38
103.	London, Battersea	8	42	187.	Tredegar, Morgan Street	7	43
104.	London, Clapham	4	20	188.	Ulverston, Oddfellows' Hall	7	33
105.	London, Fulham	10	33	189.	Waihi, Auckland, N.Z.	6	40
106.	London, Upper Holloway	11	30	190.	Wakefield, Kirkgate	12	37
107.	London, Kingston-on-Thames	7	29	191.	Walsall, Bradford Street	12	47
108.	London, Little Ilford	5	25	192.	Warrington, Sankey Street	9	39
109.	London, Manor Park	10	35	193.	Wellington, Kent Terrace, N.Z.	6	24
110.	London, Peckham	6	31	194.	West Stanley, Front Street	6	34
111.	London, Plaistow	10	70	195.	Wigan, Millgate	10	40
112.	London, Stratford	4	38	196.	Windhill, Schoolhill	7	40
113.	London, Tottenham	5	14	197.	Winnipeg, Polson Avenue	9	21
114.	London, Wimbledon	3	17	198.	Wolverhampton, Princess Street	7	36
115.	London, Woolwich	10	21	199.	Yeadon, Tower Hall	6	34
116.	Longton, Stove Road	4	40	200.	York, High Ousegate	4	45
117.	Macclesfield, Cumberland Street	6	38	201.	York, St. Saviourgate	6	25
118.	Manchester, Ardwick	15	60				
119.	Manchester, Cheetham Hill	8	22				
120.	Manchester, Collyhurst	4	35				
121.	Manchester, Gorton (West)	7	16				
122.	Manchester, Moston	8	50				
123.	Manchester, Newton Heath	8	40				
124.	Manchester, Hr. Openshaw	12	60				
125.	Manchester, Pendleton	4	91				
126.	Manchester, Salford	7	41				
127.	Manchester, South, Princess Road	10	86				
128.	Mansfield, Quaker Lane	6	62				
129.	Marsden, Oliver Lane	—	—				
130.	Mexborough, West Street	8	40				
131.	Middleton, Gilmour Street	10	17				
132.	Middesbrough, Grange Road	12	67				
133.	Millom, Main Street	4	30				
134.	Mossley, Abbey Road	—	—				
135.	Nelson, Vernon Street	34	166				
136.	Newcastle-on-Tyne, Benwell	10	71				
137.	Newcastle-on-Tyne, Heaton and Byker	8	42				
138.	Newcastle-on-Tyne, Rutherford Street	12	68				
139.	Newcastle-on-Tyne, Wallsend	5	79				
140.	Normanton, Queen Street	7	31				
141.	North Shields, Stanley Street	7	40				
142.	Nottingham, Burton Street	10	30				
143.	Nottingham, Hawarden Terrace	10	73				
144.	Nottingham, Isandular Road	5	42				
145.	Nottingham, Lamartine Street	7	30				
146.	Nottingham, Parliament Street	5	73				
147.	Oldham, Elliott Street	14	79				
148.	Oldham, Union Street	13	47				
149.	Ossett, Dale Street	10	26				
150.	Padiham, Ightenhal Street	8	28				
151.	Pontypridd, River Street	—	—				
152.	Portsmouth, Victoria Road	—	—				
153.	Preston, Clark's Yard	10	40				
154.	Preston, Lancaster Road	8	41				
155.	Quarmby, Quarmby Road	11	31				
156.	Radcliffe, Ash Street	6	40				
157.	Rawtenstall, Bk. Ormerod Street	10	30				

1751 8760

Blanks indicate no returns.

REINCARNATION AND SPIRITUALISM.

Sir,—There are many professed Spiritualists who connect the theory of Reincarnation with the facts of modern Spiritualism. Personally, I have no evidence whatever of pre-existence, nor proof of spirits becoming reincarnated in human flesh, without any knowledge of his past existence as a mortal body. Re-embodiment, yes, physical to spiritual. But to become reincarnated limits man's progression as a spiritual being. For instance, his earthly experiences are of no avail, simply because his progression spiritually has become limited through reincarnation. I must admit, as a Lyceumist, that life is eternally progressive; being such, man can never cease to be spiritually. As earthly beings, we are but halves until we meet our affinity, or other half, either on earth or in those higher spheres of activity called "The Summerland," thus becoming a minor part of the great "Stupendous whole, whose body nature is and God the Soul." The question asked is, "What becomes of us when we attain the highest sphere possible? We are told progression is endless, therefore, as attributes of the "Divine Source of Life," we can never gain the apex. "Do we become absorbed in God? If so, for what use have we lived?" In my estimation, man can never lose his individuality. As truly progressive beings we can only advance so far as our minds are able to conceive.

To summarize these two subjects, "Reincarnation" is merely theoretical and will appeal to me when its revelations rest on the basis of facts. "Spiritualism" is based upon proven facts that can and have been scientifically classed. In trying to weld these subjects together, it is similar to blending Spiritualism with Christianity. Again do I repeat my statement, "No man can serve two masters."

Yours,
ADA ELKIN, Horwich (a Lyceumist).

Publishing Fund Account.

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Stock of Publications, January 1st, 1917					217	17	0½	To <i>Manuals, Songsters, &c.</i> ...					296	7	2
„ Printing & Binding <i>Lyceum Manuals</i> ...	194	5	6	„ Bank Interest ...				2	0	5					
„ Binding <i>Songsters</i> ...		14	10	3	„ Walsall Corporation ...			10	2	6					
„ <i>Lyceum: What is it?</i> ...		0	12	0	„ Sowerby Bridge U.D. Council ...			7	10	0					
„ Linotype, <i>Lyceum Manual</i> ...		27	17	6	„ Income Tax returned ...			5	3	9					
„ Outlines of Spiritualism ...		48	10	0									24	16	8
„ Badges ...		86	19	4	„ Stock of Publications, Dec. 31st, 1917 ...								474	1	0½
„ Adv., L.B., £5; Fire Insurance, 36/-...		6	16	0											
„ Carriage ...		18	17	5											
„ Twine ...		0	12	0											
„ Hymn Sheets ...		2	6	6											
					401	6	6								
„ General Secretary's Salary (½)	109	2	6												
„ Rent, Lighting, &c. (½) ...	17	2	10												
„ Balance to Accumulated Fund Account					126	5	4								
					49	16	0½								
					<u>£795</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>10½</u>						<u>£795</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>10½</u>

Accumulated Fund Account.

		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
To Deficit on General Fund Account ...	147	10	9½	By Balance of A.F., Dec. 31st, 1916 ...	942	11	4½		
„ Deficit on L.B. Account ...	12	16	4½	„ Surplus on Publishing Account ...	49	16	0½		
„ Balance to Next Account ...	832	0	2½						
	<u>£992</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4½</u>		<u>£992</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>4½</u>		

Lyceum Home Fund.

		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
To Balance to Next Account ...	113	18	0	By Balance, January 1st, 1917 ...	108	18	2		
				„ Bank Interest ...	0	4	10		
				„ Sowerby Bridge U.D. Council ...	3	15	0		
				„ Income Tax returned ...	1	0	0		
	<u>£113</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>£113</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>0</u>		

Balance Sheet, December 31st, 1917.

LIABILITIES		£	s.	d.	ASSETS		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Accumulated Fund Account ...	832	0	2½	By Walsall Corporation Stock ...	300	0	0					
„ Lyceum Home Fund Account ...	113	18	0	„ Sowerby Bridge Urban District Council	200	0	0					
„ Due to Bank, Publishing Account ...	161	6	0	„ Outstanding Accounts ...	10	18	0					
				„ Cash in Treasurer's hands, Publishing								
				Account ...	8	7	2					
				„ Lyceum Home Account (Loan & Bank)...	113	18	0					
										122	5	2
				„ Stock Publishing Account ...						474	1	0½
	<u>£1107</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2½</u>							<u>£1107</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2½</u>
				Amount Subscribed for W. A. Parl Fund in Bank, £35 8 11								

February 23rd, 1918.

THOMAS A. WRIGHT, Hon. Treasurer.

Audited and found correct,

(Signed) GEO. A. MACK,
WILL EDWARDS,

Auditors.

RESULT OF VOTING IN ELECTORAL AREAS.

Area	Candidate	Exp. Ks.	Nos. Votes.	Elected.
A	Mr. Jas. Lawrence	(s) 6	55	Mr. Jas. Lawrence (unopposed).
B	Mr. Williams	(s)	194	Mr. C. J. Williams.
C	Miss Sherbourn	(s)	30	
	Miss Clapham	(s)	25	
	Mr. Jackson	(s)	52	
D	Mr. Latham	(s)	5	
	Mrs. Pickles	(s)	3	
E	Mr. Batten	(s) 4	107	Mrs. M. E. Pickles.
	Mr. Lord	(s)	64	Mr. H. T. Batten.
	Mr. Owen	(s)	24	
F	Mr. Harding	(s)	2	
	Miss Hesp	(s)	75	Miss Alice Hesp.
G	Mr. Beety	(s)	2	
	Mr. Burrows	(s)	36	
	Mr. J. K. Jones	(s)	57	Mr. J. K. Jones.
H	Mrs. Bentley	(s)	8	Mrs. A. E. Bentley.
	Mrs. Greenwood	(s)	59	
	Mr. Knott	(s)	30	

No returns from this Area.

The (s) means a spoiled paper.

NOTE.—The President and General Secretary found almost all the Voting Papers had been wrongly marked. The vote was referred to the Executive Council who put the vote to the decision of the Standing Orders Committee. They have ruled the election shall be governed by the number of Lyceum Majority votes cast for each Candidate.

The General Secretary reported an increased demand for the Lyceum Union's goods. Amongst the sales effected, on March 31st, were 1,574 copies of the LYCEUM MANUAL, and 1,061 BADGES. Cash receipts to end of quarter were:—Contributions, £66 8s. 4d.; THE LYCEUM BANNER, £59 10s. 11d.; Sales, £192 7s. 3d. Total—£318 6s. 11d. The meeting lasted from 3-0 p.m. to 9-45 with an interval of 45 minutes for tea.

A social was held in the evening, during which a humorous sketch was given. At a late hour the General Secretary, by special request, presented the prizes to the Officers and Scholars for regular attendance during the past year.

At the Sunday morning Lyceum Session the Conductor, Mr. Sayers; and the Society's President, Mr. M. Harwood, extended a hearty WELCOME to the Executive Council. The Union's President suitably acknowledged the same. A tot of a girl, with flower-basket in hand, presented each member of the E.C. with a button-hole flower as a memento of the visit. The members of the Education and Standing Orders Committees retired to devote the morning to urgent business, leaving the other members to assist at the Session, and the Public Circle, held at 11-0 a.m.

The Open Session held in the afternoon was well attended, and harmonious. Mr. Knott conducted by request. Mr. Owen led the S.C.R., Mr. Kitson led the G.C.R., and Mr. Batten led the M.R. Each one dealt with questions asked by members of the Lyceum. Miss Bibby sang, "Homeland, Good-bye." Flora Belle briefly explained the Aims and Objects of the Bluebell Guild, and invited Lyceumists to enrol as members.

The evening's service was presided over by Mr. Knott, who made a splendid appeal for the study of the religious and philosophical aspects of Spiritualism, and their inculcation in the minds of children. Miss Hesp, Miss Kitson, Mrs. Pickles, Mr. Owen, and Mr. Kitson contributed brief addresses. As a climax to the combined efforts, Mr. Batten, under spirit control, gave a wonderful display of spirit power to produce perfume from the atmosphere, perceptible to the whole audience, who marvelled at the phenomenon. After due thanks had been given to the Darwin friends for their invitation to visit them, and for their cordial reception, the service was brought to a close, and the members wended their ways home mutually marvelling over the events of the evening.

ALFRED KITSON, Gen. Sec.

A Fund for the Amendment of the Witchcraft and Vagrancy Acts.

DONATIONS

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged ...	68	9	2
Tyneside L.D.C., per Miss Lawrence ...	1	0	0
Ladies' Effort, Littleboro', Hartley Street...	0	10	0
A Friend, Rotherham...	0	2	6
Chester, First Spiritual Church Lyceum ...	0	5	0
Brighthouse, Martin Street, per Miss E. Crowther ...	1	0	0
Liverpool, Daulby Street, 11th Donation, per Mrs. E. Appleton ...	0	14	0
Total ...	£72	0	8

ALFRED KITSON,
General Secretary, B.S.L.U.

British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

The Executive Council of the above Union held its quarterly meeting at Darwin on April 13th and 14th. Mr. Geo. Fred. Knott in the chair. A large amount of business was dealt with. After considering the business arising out of the Minutes, the following reports were duly submitted, considered, and adopted: The Secretary's General Report the "Lyceum Banner"; Committee of the "Lyceum Banner," Treasurer's, Education Committee, Constitution Committee, Legalization Committee, and Conference Arrangements.

Amongst the correspondence were letters from Huddersfield (Ramsden Street), Bradford L.D.C., Calgary, Nottingham (Miss Rayner), Bury, Glasgow, Rishton, and Stockport (Mrs. Moul), all of which were duly considered.

Lyceum District Visitors' Reports.

Liverpool Lyceum District.

BIRKENHEAD.—29 children and 3 adults present. Singing, reading and explanations fairly good; discipline very poor. This is a fine Lyceum being neglected through shortage of adults. I think it could be improved if the Lyceumists were given the freedom they ought to have in electing their officers.

ROMER ROAD (Liverpool).—This Lyceum is under new leadership. About 18 children and 8 adults present; singing, reading and explanations very good; marching and calisthenics fair. The children are bright and very quick to grasp the lessons in the readings. There is the making of a fine Lyceum here if the adults will work together for the children's sake.

EARLSTOWN.—This Lyceum has just been re-opened. 30 children and 12 adults present. A good session all through, full of enthusiasm and determination to make progress; if they continue as they are doing they will become one of the finest Lyceums in the district.

PLATT BRIDGE (Near Wigan).—This Lyceum had only been open four Sundays when I visited them; 8 children and 6 adults were present; though only few in number they are making progress. With a little outside encouragement and a little discretion in the officers, they will, in time, become a very successful Lyceum.

(Miss) EDITH COLLETTE, District Visitor.

Sheffield Lyceum District Council.

The Annual Meeting of the above Council was held in the Spiritual Church, Attercliffe, on Sunday, March 24th, 1928. The President, Mr. J. K. Jones, presided, supported by members of the following Lyceums: Attercliffe, Chesterfield, Sheffield "Centre," Rotherham, with two Representatives from the Sheffield District Committee. Minutes of the last meeting and correspondence was read and accepted. Election of Officers resulted as follows:—President, Mr. J. K. Jones; Vice-Pres., Mr. Rands; Secretary, and District Visitor, Mr. C. E. Welch;

Treasurer, Mr. W. Rawlinson. Financial Statement:—Balance in hand, May, 1917, 9s. 9d.; Total income for the year (including balance), £2 6s. 5d. Expenditure, £1 7s. 7d.; leaving a balance in hand of 18s. 10d. Afternoon Session conducted by Mr. Rands; Marching and Calisthenics by Mr. Welch; Recitations by seven of the Lyceumists. Evening Service presided over by Mr. Jones; a Lyceumist, Amy Williams, recited, by special request, a poem, entitled "Forget and Forgive." Addresses were delivered by Messrs. Rawlinson, Rands, and Welch, which brought a successful day's work to a close.

CHARLES E. WELCH, Hon. Sec. and D.V.

SOUTH-EAST LANCASHIRE LYCEUM DISTRICT. LYCEUM DISTRICT VISITOR'S REPORT.

I have visited the following Lyceums on behalf of the above Lyceum District Council:—

Heywood Lyceum. Silver and golden chain recitations well rendered. Marching and calisthenics fair. Lyceum progressing satisfactorily.

Rochdale (Penn Street). Readings and responses well rendered. Marching and calisthenics very good. This Lyceum is in a sound condition.

Royton Lyceum holds no session in the morning, but has one in the afternoon.

Shaw. This Lyceum has been closed since July, 1916. (It reported a membership of 5 officers and 19 scholars on May 10th, 1917.—EDITOR.)

Todmorden (Halifax Road). A moderate attendance at the morning session. Their chain recitations were fair. They had a few movements of Swedish drills besides their calisthenics.

Todmorden (Eagle Street). Afternoon: Number of scholars present, 35. Time and order in the marching and calisthenics very good. A splendid session throughout.

Dearnley. Punctual start. Number present, 25. Readings very good. Marching and calisthenics moderate. This Lyceum is bravely struggling on.

Oldham (Elliott Street). Late start. Number of scholars present, 42. Chain recitations, on which questions were invited, very good. Marching and calisthenics good. Order and discipline good throughout the session.

Middleton (Gilmour Street). Start on time. Singing energetic. Chain recitations well explained. Pearls, recitations and solos nicely rendered. More leaders are needed here.

THOMAS RAYNER, D.V.

TYNESIDE LYCEUM DISTRICT VISITOR'S REPORT.

Wallsend. January 6th, present 47. This Lyceum has improved considerably, which I hope will continue. Reading could be improved. Marching and calisthenics good. Pearls and recitations fair.

Newburn. January 20th, present 57. Our President, Mr. Lawrence, and I had a very happy time with this Lyceum. Solos, duets and recitations brought a pleasant session to a close.

Rutherford Street, Newcastle. January 27th, 32 present. Singing good. Readings well explained. Marching and calisthenics smart; good order throughout.

Heaton and Byker. February 10th, 46 present. Reading and responses good, a little more courage displayed in answer to questions would be helpful. Marching fair, calisthenics excellent. Good order well maintained.

West Stanley. February 24th, 34 present. The Lyceum has been re-opened. I arrived just a few minutes before closing time, owing to breakdown of the motor 'bus. I was in time, however, to give a few words of encouragement and hoped that they would progress.

Benwell. March 3rd, 74 present. The Lyceum could do with a few adult workers. Reading and responses good. Recitations and pearls well rendered. Order could be improved.

W. HALL, D.V.

Correspondence.

PEACE RESOLUTIONS.

To the Editor, LYCEUM BANNER.

Sir,—It was with great satisfaction that I read our staunch and loyal brother, J. Winning's, letter in LYCEUM BANNER for March. Also, let me state here and now that I fully endorse

every word and statement contained therein. First of all, allow me to offer my heartfelt thanks, aye, and deepest gratitude to you, Sir, for allowing brother winning's letter to appear in "Our paper."

Now, I must proceed with my reason for writing this letter. I must say that the attitude taken up by the Glasgow Association of Spiritualists I consider deplorable. The news cut deep into my inner being. If we (who have been duped by this accursed canker worm, Militarism!) cannot look to Spiritualists as a body devoting their efforts, by word, by pen, and by deed, to adding their voice to other instituted bodies, "For peace by negotiation," to whom then can we look for help?

Where, in the name of reason, is their moral courage?

Why! they would not even give the speaker, one of their most able and genuine and practical colleagues, a hearing. I want to know, is this what is termed justice; is it legitimate? Is this a sample of all the glorious and noble ideals, of liberty of thought, freedom of expression, of which Spiritualists, gearily speaking, are so fond of preaching about? They usually laud themselves, saying, "We Spiritualists are a broad-minded lot, we are chivalrous, we are fair, we are free from narrow-minded dogmas and subterfuges." Are we? I quote this motto from the BANNER:—

"In things essential, Unity; in things doubtful, Liberty; in all things Charity."

It is quite evident that, by the first clause, it is not essential to the Glasgow Association that peace should be secured by negotiation. It is also plain that the second clause does not apply to them. As to the third, well, if they once knew the true meaning of practical charity, their memory must have lapsed somewhat. At least they did not display these morals in Winning's case.

I wish to state, further, that such treatment meted out to such a faithful brother is nothing short of an insult.

Now, before I close, I wish to put a question to the whole British Spiritualist Lyceumists, both in and out of the Union, "What action are you going to take in this matter, which is of vital interest to individual, national and international life, in all its phases? I am one of the strong soldier Socialists. (A bit inconsistent, that phrase, eh! because I wear khaki; yes, freely do I admit it, but I am a Socialist Spiritualist, out and out, but I have cast my die and must wait!) How long will you, to whom we look to drag us out of this hell fire, keep us waiting? The Militarists will never secure peace on their lines and methods.

Now, I must crave the Editor's pardon for this lengthy letter, praying that angels may guide your thoughts and footsteps.

Fraternally yours,

S. R. GOODMAN (A Dupe to Militarism).

[We thank our friend for his appreciative remarks about the General Secretary and Editor, but must omit the same from his very lengthy letter.—EDITOR.]

How to Live, or True Life.

Life is not the mere living, it is worship. It is the surrender of the soul to God; and it is service. It is to feel that when we die, whether praised or blamed, whether honoured or ignored, whether wealthy or destitute, we have done something to make the world we came to better and happier; we have tried to cast upon the waters some seed which long after we are dead may still bring forth its flowers of paradise. The seed dies, but the harvest lives. Sacrifice is always fruitful, and there is nothing fruitful else. Out of the suffering comes the serious mind; out of the salvation the grateful heart; out of the endurance the fortitude; out of love, joy. If we want to live a really useful life we must keep giving to everybody and everything. What can we give? Why, love. And if we give love we shall find that we are able to give all other kinds of things too. The best lives are lived by those people who are always giving.

K. VON SCHLÄHENREID.