

THE Lyceum Banner

Founded 1890. Official Organ of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

A SPIRITUALIST MAGAZINE FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

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

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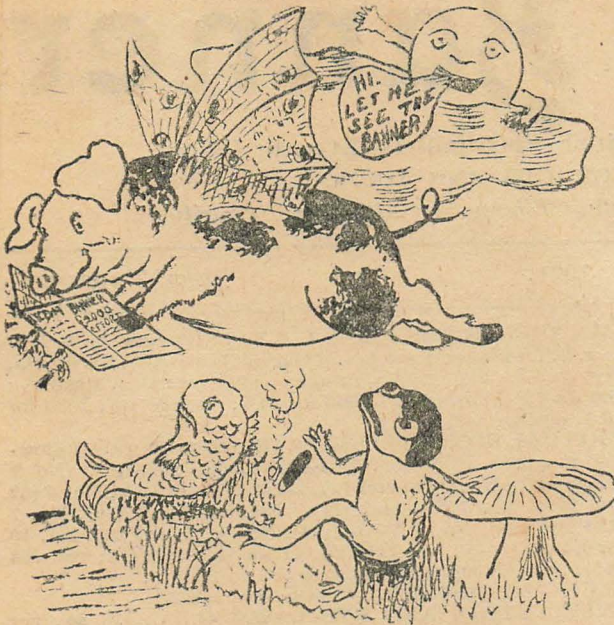
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FIND THE FAIRY.

Wiggledy, diggledy, woggeldy, we,
A pig with wings on, how can that be,
The man in the moon wants his Banner you see,
And the pig has jumped up right out of the sea.

Poor Froggy was smoking a big fat cigar,
A swim in the water was better by far;
For he's feeling quite ill, and wanting his ma,
To say he will never more steal from his pa.

I wonder whatever the world has become,
With the pigs in the air, and a moon that's begun
To shout for the Banner, and make a cloud run;
Is this what the people call "Kingdon come."

O no! it's a picture of how fairyland
Can make such great wonders we don't understand;
So look for the fairy, who has now lost her wand,
And made topsy turvy, this wonderful band.

For the Bairns.

My Dear Little Girlies,

Our Editor has asked me to write a short article especially for you, and as I am only a slightly bigger girl myself, I have hopes that I may interest you.

I am going to write to you about a verse of poetry. How many of you have ever heard of Charles Kingsley, the great writer; the author of that charming fairy tale, "The Water Babies"? He also wrote a stirring tale of the adventures of Elizabethan sailors, "Westward Ho," and "Hypatia," a sad tale of the sacrifice of a clever, heathen (worshipper of many Gods) woman to the hatred of some cruel Christian Monks. Well, this verse of poetry, which I am going to write about, was also written by Charles Kingsley. It is:—

'Be good, sweet maid, and let who will be clever;
Do noble things, not dream them all day long;
And so make life, death, and that vast forever,
One grand, sweet song.

All of us would like to be clever, but cleverness is only the lot of a few, a very few, people. However, there is one thing that is far greater than cleverness. It is something which causes us to be more loved. What is this important thing? It is "goodness." All of us can be good if we only wish to be so. We can all be noble, if we wish to be so. That is the point, "if we wish to be so." Nobility does not mean that we are to belong to that class of people who live in grand houses and have plenty of money, or be able to tell who our great-great-grandfather was. Nobility lies in doing the things that are right, and in being kind and thoughtful towards others at all times. I know that there are quite a number of you who dream of all the great things that you would like to do and yet, when

you have the opportunity of doing a little kind action, you do not always do it. For instance, when your mother wishes you to go on a little errand for her, you will pout and grumble, although, if someone else asked you to go, and give you a penny for going, then you would go. Now, would it not be nobler to go that errand for mother with a smiling face and a cheerful spirit, than to dream about the very big things which you would like to do. "Do noble things, not dream them all day long." I do not mean that you ought not to have large ideas, but if you can master the smaller things, then you can gradually develop into doing the larger things.

There were once two sisters. One was very clever, and everybody admired and petted her; but the other was just an ordinary girl, like you or me. As these two girls grew to womanhood, the first one took every honour at school that came her way, while the other was only just like all the other ordinary girls. But, those who came in contact with the two girls soon found out that the clever one was proud and sharp-tongued. She thought that because she was clever that everyone ought to do as she wanted them to do. On the other hand, the ordinary sister was gentle and thoughtful, always ready to do a good action and say a sweet kind word to any one in distress. As time went on, the clever one found that when people were in trouble, it was to her sister that they went. They did not come to her. The sweetest smiles and the loving glances were for her sister. So by painful experience, she found that it is not cleverness alone that makes us beloved, but a gentle, kindly spirit, and that the way to make "life, death, and that vast forever one grand sweet song" lies in being loving, good and noble beings.

I have chosen as my nom-de-plume (pen-name), the word "Felix." This word is the Latin word meaning "fortunate." Why do you think that I have chosen this name? I will tell you my chief reason. It is because ever since I was a tiny girlie, smaller than any of you who will be able to read this page for yourselves, I have been guided and watched over by the spirits, and have known it. We are all guided by the spirits, but everyone is not fortunate enough to know it. I have seen my father controlled by my spirit brothers, and heard them speak. I should not have known them, only for this, because they had passed over before I was born. The Hindoo doctor, who is my father's chief guide, has magnetised me many times, and so prevented me from being ill. Then, when I was married, the angels approved of and blessed the union, and at the present time I owe my good health to the patient and untiring ministrations of a genial Scotch doctor, who is in the spirit, and to the other spirit friends who have helped him in his ministry. I feel that I would not be doing my duty, if I did not refer, also, to the spiritual guidance that I have received, in addition to the physical health I now possess, and I feel that I ought, to try and spread the Truth broadcast. Therefore, it is in honour of these kind spirit friends, that I am writing this article to you, so that I may testify to their goodness, and urge you little girls to be good, and so attract kind and loving spirit friends to you, who will be only too willing to help you to do good and to be good.

Each of you have the knowledge that there are angel guides who help and protect you, and you could each of you truly call yourselves by the name of "Felix." Please, let the good and true angels lead you to that which is good and pure. Fight against all that is evil. Try to be kind in the home and also outside the home. You may not always be able to help with work, but one thing there is that you can always do, and that is to give a bright, happy smile, instead of doing things to hinder, which you do when you are bad-tempered and cross. You have no idea how much easier it makes mother's work seem, if her little girl gives her a sweet smile and loving kiss. Such things are like food to mother and help her ever so much. All of you who have not done this in the past, start right here and now and see if it does not make your own life and the lives of those you come in contact with, brighter and happier. Try it.

My kind, loving and helpful thoughts go with this letter to all the little girlies who read it.

Remember! Be good, sweet maids.

FELIX.

My Dear Little Pets,

For a wonder we are going to tell a story, about a little girl who found out a great deal more than she ought to have done. Now little Nelly was a most curious child, always listening to other people's conversation, peeping into cupboards and drawers of other people. This habit was growing so strong, that it began to annoy her dear mother, so it was decided at last to teach her a lesson. One morning Nelly watched her mother put a parcel away into a cupboard, and did not tell her

what was in it. Little Nelly was thinking and wondering whatever could be tied up so carefully, and put away. Perhaps that will be a new doll for my next birthday, or a new dress that mother does not want me to see before I go to my next party. "I do wish I knew what it was." I think I will ask mother to tell me. No, I don't think I will after all, because she would only say, "Little girls should not be so curious." But I must see what is inside that parcel even if I have to get up very early to do so. Early one morning she awoke before the usual time, so decided now is the time, everybody will be asleep, and even if not, no one will take any notice of me. She quietly slipped out of bed, and down stairs; climbing into a chair she reached the precious parcel down, and carefully untied the string, and opened the paper, underneath was another string, and more paper, still another string, and paper; she thought there must be something very precious to need such careful treatment. At last she got to the end of the papers and a beautiful box was there. Oh what a beautiful box, it must be so lovely inside, I will just take one little peep, then wrap it all up again just as I found it. The lid did not come off so easily, but at last with a good pull, out came the contents, and poor Nelly what a forlorn little girl it was. That beautiful, lovely box, what a fraud it was. Why it was nothing more nor less than soot, and pepper, mixed together, and what a table, and what a frightened little girl it was. To make matters worse, somebody was coming, and there was no time to clear away, or go and wash herself. "What shall I do, oh what can I do, to undo the mischief I have done." Tears of repentance could not undo what she had done, and it was all because of wanting to know something that really was no business of hers. "Oh Mother, Mother, do forgive me, I will never, never, do it again if you will forgive me." Mother was very sorry to do it, but the little girl had to be punished, before she could remember to mind her own business. Now I wonder if we have got any little girls or boys like Nelly. I think not, at least not after reading this, because we shall be quite sure now that little girls and boys cannot possibly know everything, until they grow up to be men and women, then they will know more, but not even then can they get to know all they would like to know. That is one of the beauties of life; there is always something hidden from us, so it makes us always into scholars, learning lessons in the school of life and never being able to say we know everything, because we never shall.

AUNTY.

For the Children.

(A little article from the President, Mrs. M. E. Pickles.)

BY THE SEA-SIDE.

I am addressing my article, this month, to all Lyceumists under 10 years of age, because so many have asked me why I don't write something they can understand; so I am going to try. I know the Liberty Group students will forgive me for diverting my attention from them to our younger children. As I write, the weather is glorious. There has been a little sharp frost and now, in the middle of the day, the sun is shining and sending out warmth to help nature to look her best. I have had a ten miles' walk through country lanes, and emerged close to the sea, in front of a huge bay. The sea was near, but as smooth as a lake; we could see clearly the hills on the other side outlined against the blue sky. My attention was drawn to a large number of fishing smacks out at sea, the sun making the sails look like silver. It was a very beautiful picture indeed. On the promenade were big canvas bags filled with mussels, and the fishermen were busy mending their nets. Have you ever watched the seagulls? in the chase after each other the sea-gulls snatch the morsel of food from their neighbour's beak. I have watched them and it has been both amusing and interesting. I must not forget to tell you what the lady with whom I stayed related to me about these wonderful sea birds, and the intelligence they show.

A seagull will dive down for a mussel, fly high up in the air, then drop it on the rocks, and the full force of the fall breaks the shell; the bird then pounces upon the fish, and, before you have time to think, it has flown back into the air, and is enjoying the meal to its full extent.

THE EGG-GATHERERS.

I was once on a holiday, at Bempton, just outside Scarborough; one of the homes of thousands of seagulls. At that place live a different kind of these wild birds amongst the great white cliffs. They were much larger birds than we see at the

other seaports, and we had a chance of measuring one that we found dead. The bird measured $1\frac{1}{2}$ yards from tip to tip of its wings. Twice a year men scale the cliffs for eggs, and these men are born cliff-climbers. That is, their fathers and grand-fathers followed this special trade or calling, which an ordinary man would not do. Big pieces of wood called stakes, are driven into the ground at the top of the cliffs, and thick ropes securely tied to them, then one of the ropes is fastened round an egg-searcher's body and he is gently lowered. Sometimes he is swinging in mid-air, then he is stepping on to a ledge and collecting the eggs ready to bring them to the surface; a feat, a marvel in itself proving that only men born to that special trade could accomplish.

IN THE COUNTRY.

We must leave the sea now, and see what the country has for us, just at this time of the year. I noted the open buds on the hedges of some early spring flowers, too, in many a secluded corner. I looked amongst the rocks and noticed the tiny moss putting on its brightest green, which recalled the lines:

"The granite rocks disorganise
To feed the hungry moss they bear,"

showing the near kinship of the two lowest kingdoms of nature. The great mother heart beats and pulsates with perfect accord and unison with ours, but somehow we children fail to understand, how or why she reveals so much to us. You know the story of the shepherd who could only count three, yet he knew every sheep in his great flock, could tell when one was missing and knew which particular sheep was absent. How he knew, he could not explain, but it was sufficient for him that he knew. A little boy was once sent to meet me at the station, I asked him where he lived, he could not tell me, but he could take me straight to the door, and it was a house in a long row exactly like all the other houses; I asked him how he could find it and he could not tell me. These are puzzles, are they not? We learn but we don't know how we learn. We wonder sometimes how our mothers know as much as they do, and we are prone to forget that long since, they were in the class that we are in now, and have passed these lessons by, yet, in spite of this, we often pride ourselves on our superior knowledge.

Let us draw a mental picture of a great and loving Father and in the centre let us place Mother, and somehow we feel she is in touch with all the great family of children she has reared, for she is nature, and Father at the top is intelligence, then we see a far wider vision, and lo—the picture before us is universal, the Father Mother Spirit pervading all, everything and everywhere. How beautiful these lines I just remember:

I saw a happy mother and a group surrounding her,
That knelt with costly present of frankincense and myrrh;
And I thrilled with awe and wonder, as a murmur on the
air
Came drifting o'er the hearing of a melody of prayer.
By the splendour of the heavens and the hush upon the sea,
And the majesty of silence, reigning over me,
I can feel the angels' presence, and humbly bow the knee,
And we lift our hearts and voices in gratefulness to Thee.

ALL LIFE IS SACRED.

I looked up in my walk and overhead was a mighty airship from Barrow, and my prayer was that these wonderful inventions in the future may not be used for the destruction of life, but for its preservation. Children, we are Lyceumists, give me your promise that this shall be your motto and guide, "Render all life sacred." For the picture I have presented to you conveys to us the great mother heart and a father has given all we have, and we pour back into mother nature all our gifts, but to have them replenished again and again.

Think of the lovely words in our Manual; think, too, if you can, of the men and women who have penned those lines, they have laboured for our sakes, and now we are going to make up our minds to labour for others. I am just a little wee bit older child than some of you, but I know no higher pleasure than serving the Movement we all so dearly love. I feel that you will join me in this service, and, working together, we shall raise the standard of efficiency by pulling shoulder to shoulder in the greater service of the angels.

MARY E. PICKLES.

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The Education Scheme.

ENTRANTS FOR THE EXAMS.

Since our last article five more Lyceums have entered the Scheme and the totals up to date are:—for Grade I, 887; for Grade II, 162; for Grade III, 38; for grade IV, 10; and for Grade V, 8; making a grand total of 1,105, and including 81 Lyceums.

To last month's list of the Areas' numbers add 2 to Area B, 2 to Area F, and 1 to Area E.

To the D.C.s' List, add 2 to the Southern Counties D.C., 2 to Halifax and Huddersfield D.C., and 1 to Leeds D.C. Revised and complete lists will appear next month.

THE EXAMINATIONS.

These take place on 20th March (or the day before or after, where special permission has been granted); and last for not less than one hour, and not more than three hours.

HINTS TO CANDIDATES.

(a) Before the Exams:—

(i) Know your HANDBOOK well; especially important names and dates, and "essentials" to Lyceumists.

(ii) Know the MANUAL selections; and the meanings of all difficult words and phrases in them.

(iii) Read and note all that your admission-card tells you.

(b) At the Exam. itself:—

(i) On the little slip (stuck on the foolscap writing-paper), fill in all the particulars asked for; using your admission-card to help you.

(ii) Then fill in particulars asked for on the foolscap itself.

(iii) Do NOT put your NAME on any part of the writing paper; (you'll read why later).

(iv) Read the instructions on the back of your question-paper.

(v) Only answer as many questions as are asked for; selecting those you can do best.

(vi) BE SURE to put the number of the question in the margin, by the side of, and in front of, the first line of the answer.

(vii) Leave a few lines empty after each answer. Then, later on, if something occurs to you that you have omitted, you have room to add it.

(viii) Write on both sides of the paper and use ink. Any papers written in pencil may be rejected; for the sake of the Examiners' eyesight.

(ix) Only tell what the question asks for. Writing matter that is off the subject, no matter how true or how well expressed, gains no marks, and wastes precious time that is needed for the other answers.

TO SUPERVISORS.

You will receive the foolscap question-papers, and full instructions, about a week before the examination. Please despatch the Candidates' written papers AT ONCE, after the examination. (OBTAIN POSTAGE STAMPS BEFOREHAND).

TO SECRETARIES.

(i) Before the exams. begin, please fill in all possible on the form sent with the receipt for the guarantee-fees, and hand it to your Supervisor(s); also the postage for exam. papers.

(ii) Provide your Supervisor(s) either with a writing tablet, or sheets of foolscap, to give to students requiring more than the official (four-page) sheet supplied.

(iii) Read the next paragraph.

FOR RESULTS.

Any Lyceum may learn the results of the examinations (for their own candidates), before Conference, if they will do the following:—

(a) Send to the Education Secretary a sheet of paper on which are written (each on a separate line) the names of their candidates. At the top put the Lyceum's name.

(b) Rule columns, and head them as follows:—

(i) admission-card number; (ii) candidate's name; (iii) marks obtained; (iv) class.

Fill in (i) and (ii); leaving (iii) and (iv) blank

(c) Enclose an envelope addressed to your Lyceum Secretary,

and bearing a 2d. stamp. In the top left-hand corner write "FOR RESULTS." Then, as soon as the Education Secretaries receive the marked papers from the examiners, they will book up the results in the record-books, and also enter them on your own private list, which will then be posted at once to you; (probably the last week in April, or early in May.)

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS.

The full lists will be posted up at the Conference, and MAY appear (if space allows) in the June "Lyceum Banner." Certificates are handed to the delegates at Conference.

CLASSES AND PASSES.

The following standards have been adopted this year:

(i) Honours with Distinction, 90% to 100%.

(ii) First class, with Honours, 80% to 89%.

(iii) First class pass, 70% to 79%.

(iv) Second class pass, 55% to 69%.

(v) Third class pass, 40% to 54%.

(vi) Failure, below 40%.

THE EXAMINERS.

The big number of entries has necessitated an increased staff of Examiners, and the committee has been fortunate in obtaining the willing help and co-operation of the following well-known workers, who all readily consented to give their time and labour to help on such a worthy Scheme. Each Examiner is a member of our Lyceum Guild.

For Grade V. Mr. E. W. Oaten, (Manchester).

For Grade IV, Mrs. Percy Street, (Reading).

For Grade III, Mr. W. Gush, (Huddersfield.)

For Grade II, Mrs. M. Gordon, (London).

Mr. C. J. Williams, (London).

For Grade I, Mrs. J. Greenwood, (Hebden Bridge).

Mrs. Percy Street, (Reading).

Mr. J. Bell, (Stockport).

Mr. J. Jackson, (Reading).

Mr. J. Stewart, (Glasgow).

This is our list on the day of writing (27th February); but we are confidently expecting the consent of three other competent people in Glasgow.

THE MARKING OF THE PAPERS.

(i) The papers of candidates of the same age in Grades I and II, will be marked by the same examiner, to ensure complete fairness.

(ii) The examiners will adopt the same standard of marking, working according to the Committee's instructions sent on to them.

(iii) No examiner knows whose papers he (or she) is marking. Therefore there is perfectly impartial and uniform assessment of marks. The Education Secretary removes the slips from the candidates' papers before despatching them to the examiners. Therefore there are no names, only numbers, on the papers sent.

When the marked papers are returned, the Secretary sorts out and re-attaches the respective slips and can then enter up results, and prepare the lists.

ANSWERS TO ENQUIRERS.

(i) "Where are the examinations held?" In your own Lyceum's room; or wherever arranged by your own Lyceum. Do you read the "Banner" carefully? We've answered this before!

(ii) "Are the exams. oral or written?" Written, of course. This too has been explained before.

(iii) "Are Grade I questions in simple language? Ten-year-olds are easily duped by hard words." The mental grasp and vocabulary of ten-year-olds was carefully considered in the drawing up of the questions; and words whose meaning are clear, simple, and definite, have been used.

TO ALL CANDIDATES.

The Committee wishes each candidate success in the examination; and that each tutor will feel proud of his (or her) pupils.

On behalf of the Education Committee,

MARY E. KITSON, (Education Sec.).

17, Bromley Rd., Hanging Heaton, Batley, Yorks.

Our Lyceum Guild.

Leader: MARY E. KITSON, B.A.

(Membership is open to Lyceumists, of both sexes, between the ages of 10 and 100.)

Guild Motto:—"We live to learn, and learn to live."

OUR ESSAY COMPETITION.

Nineteen Guild members entered this competition and the results are now to hand. Here are the judge's comments:—The papers, on the whole, are creditable; but most of them are not well apportioned, devoting three-quarters of the essay to one idea, and either omitting many essential ones, or dealing with them briefly and hurriedly. Just a few avoided this. The best ones dealt *equally* with (i) "We live to learn," as applied to the physical, mental, psychical, and spiritual aspects of our life; and then with (ii) "and learn to live," treated in the same way.

Several were good, but incomplete in application. One or two *quoted* too much, and gave too little of their *own* ideas; whilst some did not keep to the subject.

TO THE COMPETITORS.

The best essay really came from No. 89 (Mr. A. Collinge, Moston), but he exceeded the limit of 500 words; and so space prohibits its publication.

We therefore give the second one; sent in by No. 238 (Mrs. Rawlinson, Burnley, North Street).

The standard required (85%) to entitle the writer to a star on the badge was purposely made a very high one. Therefore those who tried, and have not this time succeeded in winning the star, must not feel discouraged; for only one paper is below 70% and some are 80%, therefore there is every hope for better luck next time.

If any competitors desire their papers to be returned, please send on a stamped, addressed envelope for the same.

Will the winners of a star please send their badges for the addition of the same; and give (i) name, (ii) number, (iii) Lyceum, (iv) home address.

We here give our thanks to all who tried, and our congratulations to the winners.

WINNERS OF STARS.

(i) Mr. A. Collinge, Moston. (iv) Miss E. North, S. Shields.
(ii) Mrs. Rawlinson, Burnley. (v) Mr. J. Whittles, Dewsbury.
(iii) Miss G. Halliday, Halifax. (vi) Miss R. Prince, Southport.

OUR NEXT COMPETITION.

(a) Subject.

On page 21 of the February issue, under the heading "Letter Box," was a letter from the Joint Education Committee. Look it up and read it; then express your own ideas on

- (i) What is the spiritual urge in our Movement? or
- (ii) Why should I work for Spiritualism?

(b) Conditions of Competition.

- (i) The essay must *not* contain more than 500 words.
- (ii) Write on one side of the paper only.
- (iii) Post it to the Leader not later than 31st March (this allows time for the judge to correct them. Results will be given in the May LYCEUM BANNER).
- (iv) On the outside of your envelope, in top left-hand corner, write "Essay Competition."
- (v) Only Guild members may compete.
- (vi) Give name (and whether Mr., Mrs. or Miss) and number.
- (vii) Enclose a stamped addressed envelope *if* you want your essay to be *returned*.

GUILD CLASS REPORTS.

Our classes are flourishing, increasing in number, and doing good work.

Will all who have sent in reports please accept our thanks and good wishes. We hoped to give the reports, but space forbids it this month.

DONATIONS.

Will each kind giver of a donation to our funds please accept our appreciation of the gift, and our sincere thanks.

FOR NEXT MONTH.

It is with regret that we cannot give the usual articles this month, and we here tender our apologies to the contributors. WHEN we can afford a Guild Supplement we can publish all that we should like. As it is, we must hold over until next month, (i) Miss Lawton's nature article on "Catkins" ('Pussykins' as a dear little girlie once called them); (ii) Mr. Woodall's article on "News;" a short poem (which is helpful to all workers) sent on by Mr. Everett.

"WE LIVE TO LEARN, AND LEARN TO LIVE."

(Essay by MRS. RAWLINSON, Burnley).

Let us consider the first part, "We live to learn." Instantly the thought flashes through our minds, Do we? Are we always ready to be taught? Are we ready with open minds to receive new truths, new aspirations? Are we, day by day, trying to develop the gifts with which God has endowed us? Are we, as members of a "Progressive Lyceum," Progressive Lyceumists?

Why, the very word "progressive" is an embodiment of our motto, to be going forward, looking ahead, always learning, the bright star of hope leading us, and success our goal. Our Lyceums are splendid training schools where young or old have the opportunity of unfolding their gifts.

(i) We learn that we must care for our bodies; that they must be kept pure and clean, fit temples for the soul to dwell in.

(ii) We also learn to cultivate a well-balanced mind.

(iii) Then again we are taught to develop our psychic gifts, and having learnt to control those powers, to use them for the benefit of mankind.

(iv) We are also taught that a beautiful life comes from within; that we are all parts of that stupendous whole, whose body nature is, and God the soul; that thoughts are living forces, therefore our thoughts must be pure. From pure thoughts there will be born kind and noble actions, clean words, and love towards each other. Then will the spirit within the human frame expand, grow in beauty. Its grandeur will be reflected in the physical body, and, like the rays of the sun, will give light, joy, strength and power to many a wearied and struggling traveller, who comes within its influence.

The Education Scheme is another avenue of learning, whereby, step by step, we may gain knowledge, to fit us for wider fields of labour. We must also read good books, and seek what recreation will be helpful to our physical bodies. Our mistakes and disappointments should only make us more determined to succeed. Let us cultivate the power of observation, and of reasoning. The flowers, birds, and rippling brooks, all speak to us. Let us listen, thus we shall "Live to Learn."

We next come to the second part, "And learn to Live." This, fellow Lyceumists, is the practical side of life, to use aright the knowledge we have gained. It teaches us to be Lyceumists not only on the Sunday but every day of the week. Think for a moment what our lives would be, if we only lived up to our Lyceum teachings! Each thought and action would be prompted by Love. When we put into practice the "Brotherhood of Man," then we shall indeed have learnt the secret of how to live. We shall then know that true happiness comes by making others happy. Therefore let us practice what we preach, and be worthy members of our Lyceum Guild.

OUR MEMBERSHIP.

(i) All the EXAMINERS of candidates' papers in the Education Scheme are GUILD MEMBERS.

(ii) In January we enrolled 125 new members, which is a record now, but will be broken before next January.

(iii) Our total to-day (27th February) is 707; these members belong to 89 Lyceums.

(iv) Six other Lyceums have responded to the prompts of the "Spirit of the time," and now have Guild members.

(v) Is YOUR Lyceum one of these 89?

(vi) Lack of space prevents our giving the list of Lyceums this month.

TO BECOME A MEMBER.

Send to the Leader, at 17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Batley (Yorks.), for a form of application and list of rules. Enclose 1d. stamp and addressed envelope.

BY THE WAY.

If any Lyceumist will send a copy of the "Lyceum Banner" for March, 1920, to Miss G. Butterfield, 41, Autumn St., Horwich, Nr. Bolton, she will gladly refund cost and postage.

The General Secretary regrets that pressure of work has prevented immediate replies to correspondence and orders, since January 1st.

The SPIRITUAL SONGSTER and OFFICERS' MANUALS are sold out, a new supply is expected shortly, when waiting orders will be met.

If any Lyceum has any accounts or orders still open and sent to Mr. James Tinker, will they kindly communicate at once with the General Secretary, as his accounts will shortly be closed. Lack of stocks prevented delivery and all waiting orders have been met.

SHEEP TO FOLD: BIRDS TO NEST.

Sheep are shelt'ring in the fold:
Birds are nesting from the cold:
Sheep and birds and the herds,
To bed gone till the dawn.

Twilight creeps across the sky
Bringing night so very nigh,
That we, too, have to do
Like the rest,—seek our nest.

Like the sheep—the young and old,
Like the timid birds and bold;
Daytime over, find our cover,
Free from harm, safe and warm.

God who draws the nightly curtain,
Giveth back the sunbeam certain;
So don't sorrow for the morrow,
All is right, day and night;
All is best, work and rest.

H. HALLETT. B.

"God is Love, that Love surrounds me
In that Love I safely dwell,
It is above, beneath, within me
Love is mine and all is well,
God is Love, pure Love,
God is Love, sweet Love,
That Love is mine and all is well."

If you are handsome do handsome things: if not, supply the deficiency of nature by your virtues.

A poor spirit is poorer than a poor purse.

Courage to think is more than courage to act.

Thoughts are blossoms of the mind and words are the fruits of desires.

Truth, whether in or out of fashion, is the measure of knowledge and the business of understanding.

As the mind governs the hand, so must the men of intelligence direct the operations of labour.

A sound faith is the best divinity, temperance the best physic, and a good conscience is the best law.

Superabundance is a burden and want a misery.

A life without animation is a life of death.

No state ever long flourished where education was neglected.

It is not the quality of the meat, but the cheerfulness of the guests who make the best feast.

Mr. Hanson G. Hey passed to the higher life on the 28th February. The B.S.L.U. sent a floral wreath and was represented at the funeral on March 4th as a tribute to his long and earnest work for Spiritualism.

Phrenological Delineations.

To help the Funds of the LYCEUM BANNER and increase its sales and popularity, Prof. T. Timson, F.B.P.S., of Leicester, has kindly consented to fill a column each month with Phrenological Delineations of Lyceum children under 14 years of age.

Parents desiring to help the BANNER and wishing to have a Reading, must send photo of child and 1s., also 2d. stamp for return of photo. Readings will be given in this journal as space permits, and in rotation as received.

Prof. Timson performed a similar service for the LYCEUM BANNER in 1893, and Psyche at a later date. Attention is drawn to the Advertisement on the back page of this issue.

All communications to be sent to G. F. Knott, 39, Regent Street, Rochdale, and marked "photo" on the top left-hand corner of envelope.

DELINEATIONS.

By Prof. T. TIMSON, F.B.P.S., M.S.P., London, from Photo.

"The child is the Repository of Infinite Possibilities":—

Andrew Jackson Davis, M.D.

(1) MASTER THOMAS EDMOND HENDRY, Leeds.

This is a boy of a good all round Vital Constitution, and should evince a fair physical development, Bone and Muscular and Nutritive System.

He has a very full head and the Brain is well marked in Will and Determination to gain his desires and to have his own way, even so young. He has a broad head and considerable temper when excited, which may be trained to working and Mental energy, as his Brain force should be large in whichever direction it is applied. He is very wide between the eyes and rather too flat and should be carefully watched in his breathing, that he may use; to expand, the Nasal cavities, keeping his mouth closed while sleeping, or Adenoids and Nasal Catarrh may injure his brain functioning and weaken his future capacities for education. He should be clever in Schooling, he is wide awake to all that is going on around him, will have a splendid Memory for Form, Patterns, Shapes and Designs, could become a Cabinet Maker, Designer or Draughtsman, a good Organist, should learn to sing and recite. He is impulsive in affections, fond of pets and animals and has indication of fine Mediumship abilities for later careful cultivation and training and these are of a distinctly marked character.

(2) M.S.

This is a girl of distinct Mental and Psychic capabilities, she should have every care, opportunity and attention for physical development, to qualify her for future Mental and Nervous demands upon her vitality. She has a large frontal Brain and the upper regions are also very distinctly marked, hence, her organism is definitely impressible and receptive of the finer intuitions and psychic susceptibilities. She is particularly keen in observation and notices all things around her, all her ordinary senses are on a high grade and will require but very little toning up to give her a clear circuit through the medium of her intuitions and susceptibilities into the transcending current of the psychic and spiritual (Mediumship) which would then evolve into Inspiration, Presentment, Psychometry and Clairvoyance. She is certainly a child of a very definite, Mental bend, all her affections being clearly presented and her characteristics leaning to gather knowledge with a desire to impart the same to others and to exercise and influence among her fellow creatures. She would succeed as a Teacher, Milliner, Mental Nurse and a Florist.

(3) Master E. E.

This is a boy with a fine combination of both Physical and Mental capacities. He is not large in the Physique and possesses toughness, wiryness and tention more than substance and flesh.

He has a very well proportioned Brain which is of a distinct Mental capacity, with excellent endowments for intellectual and psychic attainments. He has remarkable 'Will,' as well as executive push and force of character. His Brain is distinctly wide and high as well as long and forward, given fair health he should achieve a very clear position as his Language is large, also his Spirituality and Moral Organs. He could easily be trained in Spiritual and Psychic Science and Philosophy. He also possesses a very good Commercial and Literary capacity. He will make a good Book Stationer, Speaker and Writer, and could succeed as an Architect and Musician, but he will require careful training in 'Stick-at-it-iveness' or 'Continuity,' thoroughness, regularity and punctuality, 'a place and a time for everything,' or he may become very changeable, impulsive,

irritable. He is affectionate and sympathetic in response to the same influences.

T. TIMSON.

Golden Chain Recitation. WHAT IS TRUTH?

Con.—What is Truth?

Lyc.—The quality or state of being true; conformity to fact or reality, as of a statement to facts; words to thoughts; motions or actions to professions; exact accordance with what is, has been, or shall be.

Con.—Does Truth ever change or vary?

Lyc.—No, but man's opinions or conceptions as to what is true may change or vary.

Con.—What do you consider to be the chief cause of the wrong conceptions of what is Truth?

Lyc.—The degree of our ever-expanding intelligence, and on the depending on the evidence of our senses to inform us correctly as to the real, and the seeming real.

Con.—Will you please give me a case in point?

Lyc.—Man's five senses led him to believe that the physical body is the real man, and that at death he ceases to exist. Thus the evidences of the senses was accepted as Truth as to the period of man's life.

Con.—Is there any evidence to the contrary?

Lyc.—Yes, the evidence of spirit communion, by which it is proved that the physical body is the outward covering of the real man.

Con.—Has the evidence of the senses had any other misleading effect on man's opinion of his real self?

Lyc.—Yes, his desire for a continuity of life led him to believe that the physical body would, at some future date, be resurrected or come to life again.

Con.—From whence arises the desire for resurrection?

Lyc.—From a love of family and friends, and all whom the affections hold dear.

Con.—How has man regarded the promptings of his inner being concerning his spiritual nature?

Lyc.—Assuming that the physical body was the real man he has asked the question,—“Has man a soul?”—a something possessed by the physical man.

Con.—What do you consider to be the Truth as to the real man?

Lyc.—That the real man is the Soul, or undying Self, which possesses a physical body for its use in this world, and also possesses a spirit body for use in the spirit world.

Con.—Has the evidence of man's senses misled him as to what is Truth in other aspects of life?

Lyc.—Yes, they led him to believe that this earth was the only world God had made. That the sun was made to give light to the earth people by day, and the moon to give light to them by night; and the stars were made to decorate the sky during the night.

Con.—What do you consider to be the truth regarding the reaction of the earth and the heavenly bodies?

Lyc.—That the sun was created many millions of years before the earth, and is the centre and controller of the planets that revolve round it, our earth being one of its planets.

Con.—Has the belief of the earth being the only world made by God had any effect on man's conception of the nature and character of God?

Lyc.—Yes, it has led man to base his conceptions of God after the style and order of earthly kings and rulers who, surrounded by their courtiers are flattered with servile homage and laudations as being superior beings, having the lives of their subjects to dispose of as fancy, caprice, or passion may prompt. Similarly, they thought God to be a superior King or Ruler of the world having full power to do and act as He pleased with the lives and destinies of all nations, favouring some and punishing others, for example, favouring the Children of Israel, and being the enemy of the other nations.

Con.—Have such conceptions of God had any effect on religious forms of worship?

Lyc.—Yes, those nations who claim to be specially favoured of God, also claim that their religious systems are the only ones acceptable to God as being true, and that all the others are false and displeasing to God.

Con.—What has resulted from such claims of religious superiority?

Lyc.—Religious bigotry, persecution, and wars to destroy the so-called enemies of God.

Con.—What do you consider to be the highest conception of God attained by man?

Lyc.—In character, God is Love and Wisdom; In power, God is to all worlds and system of worlds what our sun is to the solar system. He is the creator, controller and centre, sustaining and guiding all the worlds of His creation to fulfil wise and definite purposes according to His Divine will and plan.

Con.—What do you consider to be man's relation to God?

Lyc.—That each human being is an off-shoot, or emanation from God, and hence is referred to as being a “Divine Spark.” If so, man's relation to God is that of a child to its parent. Therefore, all human beings are angels in the process of unfoldment; all are sons and daughters of God, heirs of eternal Life, Love, and Wisdom. Let mankind put on one side all religious bigotry, intolerance, and oppression as being obstacles to its progress.

ALFRED KITSON.

EASTER THOUGHTS.

Easter buds and Easter blossoms,
Easter thoughts to us you bring,
Bidding us press through brown earth clod,
And with Hope, spring-born to sing.

Higher hopes and aspirations,
You would urge us cultivate,
Pierce through gloomy superstition,
To where knowledge true doth wait.

Have us soar on wings of progress,
Doubt and fear leave far behind,
Till companioned by bright spirits,
“The Great Question” be defined.

Shed the bonds of orthodoxy,
Burst like buds through creedal night,
Cast around us heavenly lustre,
From our lives now grown more bright.

Gone are dead sectarian branches,
Tendrils new of Love instead,
Teaching earth-bound men are brothers,
That in truth there are no dead.

Easter buds and Easter blossoms,
Spring doth this same truth proclaim,
Just the petals fall and scatter,
But true life goes on the same!

Mrs. URRY,
Bournemouth Lyceum.

A QUESTION.

Little friend, will you be mourning
When you know my spirit's flown?
Will the red sun, goldly dawning
Find you weeping all alone?

Little friend, will you be weeping
When you know that I am dead?
With the mystic shadows deep'ning
Silently around my head.

Little friend, will you be sitting
With a tear-dimmed, saddened eye,
Lonely, waiting for the meeting,
In “the sweetest bye and bye?”

Or, will you rejoice in gladness,
Knowing then, that I am free,
Never more to taste earth's sadness;
Living, through eternity?

A. G. M.

GATESHEAD, Rectory Hall.—Mark Hall, age 25, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Hall, 10, Curzon Street, passed to higher life on February 6th, 1921, the result of War Service (late R.M.L.I.) and a leader in our Lyceum.—J.A.H. Sec.

The sympathy of all who have met Mr. and Mrs. Hall at Conferences and other Lyceum gatherings, will be felt by them when we remember the long connection of Mr. and Mrs. Hall and family with Lyceum work.—Ed.

MEDIUMSHIP FOR THE MILLION.

By PROF. T. TIMSON, F.B.P.S., M.S.P., London.

(Continued).

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It has been presented as an injurious practice to develop and encourage Mediumship and frequently during the history of the movement, spasmodic and unfounded proclamations have been made from press and pulpit as well as the platform, that Mediumship induces sickness of body, disorder of brain and Mental derangements. There is some truth in the statement, but "half of the truth is worse than a whole lie."

It has been the deceitful method of turning good into evil repute, the facts are that in every direction of study and development, Health should be the first consideration, and Personal Hygiene should be observed to keep the body and all its functions in a normal healthy state, so that the Brain and Nervous System may function together in a uniform manner, as the body has a tremendous influence upon the Brain in Health and disease, hence, Andrew Jackson Davis founded the remarkable system of Lyceum Calisthenics to fulfil the injunction from his guides, to promote a system of Health Culture among the children of the cause, for it must be remembered that the educational system of that age was in a most deplorable condition of indifference to health and physical culture, so much that no system whatsoever appeared to furnish any means to cultivate health, and it is only of recent years that the varied schools have adopted, for the elementary students and the children of the masses, these first essentials of education; singular to say these have all come into the schools since the promotion, teaching and propaganda of the Lyceum principle.

There appears to be a similar condition of indifference, to ignore the psychic gifts in our educational system of to-day; we need not wonder at this, seeing that the Brain is the organ of the mind, and is the physical instrument of Inspiration and Mediumship and is the instrument that has been the most neglected in its study by the scientific and learned societies; yet, it is a patent fact to have all its organs functioning in a healthy manner gives power, strength and length of life to the possessor from a psychic point of view. "Exercise strengthens the Constitution," from a mental and psychical, or mediumship view, the same is equally true, and to neglect the use of our Magnetic forces and proper study of our particular Psychic and Spiritual relations means sooner or later some early congestions which affect the Nervous System as well as various Brain areas through becoming stagnant through want of exercise.

The key to the selection of the problem is, before setting about the development of Mediumship we should have some knowledge and guidance and experience of the Natural Laws and the Spiritual Laws operating, and Co-relating, one with another, and a Natural Selection of the particular type and class of the development we possess and the Mediumship we should cultivate.

All are not Healers, all are not Speakers, neither Seers, nor all Prophets; but each should find their own station and work therein with all their might, for labour in each brings Health, Strength and Length of Life as its reward.

Natural Selection and adaptations apply the same in man in his beatitudes and gifts, as man willingly and commercially recognises in the animal world as genius and species:—the Cart Horse and Carriage Horse; the Bull Dog and Shepherd Dog, according to their kind.

T. TIMSON.

A COLLIE'S SAGACITY.

Mr. Nicoll, cattle salesman, sold at his mart, at Cambridge, a collie dog, which had recently come from Forfar. The collie was shipped to Ireland. The man who had bought the dog acknowledged receipt of the dog. A few days afterwards he telegraphed to Cambridge that the animal had disappeared. Soon after, the dog entered the shop of the Cambridge salesman, having crossed the channel again on one of the steamers.

The animal was again shipped to Ireland to his new master, but as he had no taste for Irish soil, he was found again in a few days at the shop in Cambridge. The remarkable thing was that the dog should have chosen the right boat at the crowded pier at Londonderry and show a greater partiality for Cambridge than his old home in Scotland.

From the LYCEUM BANNER, November, 1893.

WARNING!

(TO LYCEUM SECRETARIES AND OTHERS.)

The General Secretary has had a complaint about a young man, with an introductory letter, using the name of Richard Brittain and asking for lodgings and money. He states he is a Lyceumist and Medium, a painter, and hails from Bradford. Lyceumists are warned against having dealings with him as he is a fraud.

THE FUTURE OUTLOOK OF THE LYCEUM.

Lyceumists have the privilege of receiving spiritual instruction. Our methods are organised and based on scientific lines. The Lyceum provides a vent for the development of the innate possibilities which, through judicious training, may be quickened into activity. We are inherently endowed with natural, physical, mental, and spiritual powers. Each child should be made aware that he is in possession of them. They have also in some degree a mediumistic element which the sensitive can direct into a groove of usefulness or they can degrade so sacred an office through selfish motives robbing it of its beauty and worth.

The Lyceum has catered for the different interests creating outlets for the expansion and providing a variety of intellectual studies. These are modes of expressing their individuality and demonstrating a stronger and more magnetic personality. The present workers in the Lyceum are the promise of the future builders and outlook, their work and then their practical spiritual life will be influenced in edifying our Sunday School in this age. The future success and spiritual progress depends upon each one exercising his efforts, and then universal co-operation with our arisen workers will bring the desired results. What do we desire in our present and future school of thought? Let us advocate a bright, healthy and advanced principle with a practical basis. That the student can build a super-structure, immovable, indestructible, a beacon light inextinguishable and radiating throughout all the ages to come—Lyceumists, arise to your responsibility, visualize, construct and materialize the noblest and loftiest ideal that your mental capacity can create and in moments of spiritual inspiration produce the soul expression in whatever form you can give it: recognise you are channels fit yourselves to be used by the higher intelligence: aspire to become responsive to the higher rates of vibration. The workers of to-day will pass into higher spheres of spiritual activities. Who will succeed them? Our teachings are of a progressive nature, our future outlook vast. We earnestly appeal to you who are in possession of this knowledge and power. Divert such into avenues of spiritual and active service to your kind. It is your duty and your privilege. You will not work alone. Bands of spirit helpers will aid and inspire you. The pioneers and reformers of the past, the arisen Lyceum workers have paved the path of freedom we now tread. We do not work in vain. In the past, and present, the worker has won anon and anon and we shall win. You are the builders of the future Lyceum. Let us each strive to make the future outlook a greater spiritual success. Each age will naturally become more evolved. C.B.

LETTER BOX.

Dear Sir,

Seeing that the vote is to be taken again on the "Ego," as whether it should be spoken of as "soul" or "Spirit." I would like to ask just a little space in the "Lyceum Banner," as this little correspondence may be useful to Lyceumists in arriving at their decisions. I will quote briefly from that book that every Lyceumist should possess, viz., "Helps to Study the Lyceum Manual." On page 34 we find as a definition of the word "Soul," the following: "The Deific portion of the Human being; The Divine Spark; The Ego or real self." I think I have quoted sufficient from that one. Now we turn to page 36, and we find the word "Spirit" explained thus: "Spirit is to the Spirit World what matter is to this world, namely, the substance of which everything is made. Let this suffice for the word Spirit and now we go to the next clause on page 36, and find that the "Spirit body" is the body which serves the soul in the Spirit-Life, as does the physical body in this life.

And now I would appeal to all Lyceumists to get this little book and study it, and further if we are to take this book and use it as it is meant, a Dictionary on the Lyceum Manual, we have the answer, "Soul." I would like to hear other Lyceumists' views after they have read the book mentioned.

A. H. COLES, Bournemouth.

The British Hirundines.

(The Swallow Family.)

By JAMES KNIGHT.

My Dear Bannerites,

Some years ago, I gave in the BANNER several articles on the four distinct birds belonging to the Swallow family. I then gave a promise that some time I would tell you something more of their habits and wonderful doings.

The reason I have chosen this family for our talk is that these birds are very great friends of the farmer and the gardener, clearing house, barn, fields, stream, wood, and garden of all manner of flying insects—these forming their food stuff. In this way then making life very much more comfortable for the cows, sheep, horses and other animals about the farms. The four birds comprising this family are: the House Martin, Sand or Bank Martin, the Swallow, and the Swift. All four are beautiful and interesting birds; and I hope to make you—as I am, *lovers* of the Swallows. To know anything worth knowing of bird life, their habits and ways, you must spend days—and nights too, very near their nesting places, taking up positions where you can best observe every action, without *alarming* the birds. I have sat in a waterproof overcoat, within three feet of a lark's nest two days and a night, my overcoat pockets were filled with food for myself, and tit-bits for the birds. At first the parents were very shy and wild, but by keeping very quiet and still, the lady lark ventured to approach the nest, then enter it, then carefully take stock of the intruder; then, finding there was not very much to be alarmed at, away she went and brought his lordship who needed a lot of persuading that they might go on with their work; by and by, her ladyship would pick up grubs and maggots from my outspread coat. To be successful it needs patience, persistence, and kindness.

THE HOUSE MARTIN.

These birds arrive in this country about the second week of April—a few days later than the Swallow, as they are not able to fly so fast as the Swallow or the Swift. They spend the first two weeks in recuperating after their long and exhausting flight over land and sea for more than a thousand miles. Many thousands cross the Mediterranean Sea, then on through France and Spain, across the English Channel, leaving en route vast numbers which, in a few days, cover the whole of Europe; after resting some time, where food is to be got, they visit their old nesting place, and, if they find their last year's nest in decent condition, they set to work doing necessary repairs, cleaning out, and filling in a new lining composed of bits of straw, grasses, feathers, and sometimes of moss interwoven with wool. To obtain suitable material for lining their nests they search the country for miles. I have seen them skim over and even light on the backs of cows, horses, and sheep, plucking out a beak full of hair or wool, and even taking downy feathers from young chicks and ducks.

Sometimes they find that Sparrows have taken possession of their old nest, and even sometimes, after a furious fight capture newly built ones. The making of which the Martins have put in *eight to twelve* days right down hard work. When this happens the Martins select a fresh place and begin building over again, but this nest is never so well constructed as the first one, there being every evidence of *overtime hurry*.

The Martins begin building their nest early in May. The outer shell is formed of clay loam, cow-dung, bits of straw and fine grass. The clay loam and cow-dung is freely mixed with saliva until it becomes a sticky paste, with this paste and the bits of straw and fine grass, both birds, in a most wonderful way hook their feet into the wall, and pressing their tails firmly against the wall obtain a fulcrum, which enables them to go steadily at work for about two hours, at break of day. The rest of the day is spent in hunting food, bathing, recreation and amusement. By this method they manage to build about half an inch per day, which by next morning becomes hard and dry. Thus they build day by day until the lovely mansion is ready for the lining. I hope you see the wisdom of this method of building, for if they tried to finish it in a day or two, the whole structure, being soft and heavy, would collapse and tumble down. I hope you have all seen a Martin's nest. It is a splendid structure, strong, roomy and comfortable. When the outer shell is ready Lady Martin stays at home, whilst Lord Martin becomes very busy. It is estimated that about this time he flies over 100 miles a day, hunting food for himself and wife; also gathering all manner of nice soft warm material

for lining and furnishing the new home. The Lady selects and places these materials just where she wants them. If his Lordship brings anything unsuitable, I give you my word he soon knows about it, for she goes for him and hammers him till he screams for mercy, and promises to be more careful.

At last the nest is finished after 10 or 12 days hard work. In another week the Lady has laid four or five, and sometimes six, bluish white eggs. In 13 or 14 days the young birds are hatched. Both Lord and Lady Martin take turns in the hatching, and also in the feeding and cleaning of the young ones. Whilst the hatching is going on, the bird at liberty, besides bringing food to the one sitting, gets more clay loam and makes a number of knobs, like the knobs on doors or drawers, and places them on each side, and also below the entrance hall to the nest. The one sitting is supplied with material for making similar knobs on the inside also near the entrance hall. These knobs have generally been thought to be intended to ornament the nest, to give it a rustic appearance, but closer observation will disclose a wonderful wisdom and forethought in providing these structures, which, later on, enables the young fledglings to climb to the next opening, to be fed by the very busy parents, who have now to provide food for five very hungry youngsters. The young ones are thus enabled to look about them, and see their parents at work. By and by they venture outside the nest, it is then these outside knobs come in very handy for their young feet to grip and hold on by, whilst they get their wings into working order. A few days later the mother will "playfully" push one off its knob, down it goes, fluttering and screaming, followed by the happy parent who brings it safely back to the nest; this goes on until the brood are able to fly short distances, then the parents refuse to feed them at the nest. It is a fine sight to see the old ones skimming slowly along with the young ones doing their best to keep near enough to be fed whilst on the wing. In this way they learn how to capture their own food, and to develop their flying powers. You must remember each member of the Swallow family only partake of *living insects on the wing*.

One other lesson these young ones have to learn, which I feel sure they, at first, do not like—that is, taking a bath: the old one whilst being followed makes its way to a pond or river, then plunges headlong into the water, coming to the surface several yards away; the young one is so intent of catching its parent that it is in the water before it can stop; but if the ducking is not satisfactory it is deliberately plunged into the water; this goes on until they rarely miss a day in taking a bath.

Just so soon as the young ones are able to provide for themselves, they are not allowed to re-enter the nest; but are allowed to remain near, whilst Lady Martin cleans out the home, adds more lining, and prepares for another brood. This second brood, and so with a third, are catered for by the whole company, thus making the work of feeding very much easier for the parents. Martins are by far the least agile of the four species; their wings and tails are shorter than the Swallow, and therefore they are not capable of such surprising turns and quick and glancing evolutions as the Swallow. They neither mount as high nor travel as near the surface of the ground or water. They breed the latest of all the Swallow kind, sometimes well on in September, if they can obtain sufficient food. As the summer declines and food becomes scarce the flocks increase in numbers daily till at last they swarm in myriads around the villages and sea shores of the South of England; from here they gather into large flocks and again cross the sea making their way mostly to North Africa. They come in the spring in thousands, but return in millions. What becomes of this great increase. Many, for some reason, do not leave our shores. I was at St. Anne's on January 1st this year and I saw in Lord Ashton's park three Martins, and a Swallow (there might have been more). They seemed quite happy and able to find food.

(To be continued).

Mr. James Knight, 375, Lever St., Bolton, wishes to buy a bound volume of the "Lyceum Banner" for 1912.

Mr. Reg. Bowmer, c/o 21, The Pavement, Chadwell Heath, Essex, missed many copies of this paper during the war. If any Lyceumist has either of the above to spare for cash, and will communicate with Mr. Knight or Mr. Bowmer they will be very grateful.

Our Scotch Lyceumists are increasing their efforts, with good results.

THE LYCEUM BANNER:

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

SECRETARY AND EDITOR, MR. G. F. KNOTT.

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SUNDAY, MARCH 6TH, 1921.

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The Lyceumism.

When A. J. Davis gave the Inaugural Address in Dodsworth's Hall, it was with the intention of commencing a world system of education for young people, applicable to any country or any religion. As the great religions had their own form of tuition, the newly revealed system did not appeal with the same force as it did to those who were looking for wider ideas on progressive lines, hence the new system only attracted the attention of people who had departed from the "is now and ever shall be" idea of revelation. The Lyceum method of tuition has a great attachment for Spiritualists because it is in consonance with their own inner and outer manifested experiences. With other religions, it opens out too large a field of inquiry, as they are surrounded by doctrinal walls which encompass, and in some ways oppose, a larger interpretation of the spiritual aspect of the Universe.

Spiritualism gives breadth and scope for all the possibilities of human and spiritual imagination and genius being encouraged and developed. In the Lyceum, we have an opportunity of studying the child from its infancy. It comes into the Lyceum in the arms of its parents. Whilst the Lyceum is primarily a children's sphere, there is an adult influence guiding the policy. This influence is also open to an influence from spiritual sources. In all these phases there is a human element. A healthy body is essential to encase the transient mind and give it a positive expression of personality. The personality is greatly influenced by examples: hence we find a similarity of expression and action. If a child is born in India, he would learn the Hindoo language of his caste. If the example of Spiritualist parents is a good one, the children will be relatively good. Home life is an important factor because the Lyceums do not generally have the child a member until four or five years of age.

What shall we do for these children? Our service depends on how far we understand their natures. The moon may appear to a child as a broken balloon. The fanciful nature lends itself easily to fairy tales. We don't believe in these things because they are so far back in our natures, we have forgotten the early days when many of us could see spirit-children and visions of spirit-life. They live in a world we know not of.

The value of teaching children is that they teach us. Some read our thoughts, others sense our mental attitude towards them. It may be we are fortunate enough to get the vibrations of their thoughts i.e., come down to their level: when this happens their is a good prospect of appealing to their imagination and winning their consideration of our ideas. A dog or cat shows signs of instinctive dislike or pleasure when coming in contact with individuals. The child possesses an instinct to which is added an evolutionary advancement we may call

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

INSTITUTED AT OLDHAM, MAY, 1890,

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United Lyceum District Councils.

President: Mr. A. T. Connor, 19, Oakhurst Road, Forest Gate, London, E.7.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. J. Shuttleworth, 8, Shaftesbury Road, Darwin.

desire. The purpose of the Lyceum is to cultivate the desires for goodness, truth and beauty. The basic principle of all Lyceum effort is harmony. If any action does not produce harmony, let it pass away. This is the standard test. If a number of children promise to produce a pleasant little play and one does not learn his part, the play becomes a failure, and so, if the play must be made a success, a new little actor is introduced who will harmonise and success is the result.

Test your Lyceum conduct by the harmonial law, make it blend and feel the increased power of united effort. That is perhaps the first Lyceum lesson we have to learn. We gradually merge into services, blend our personalities and yet find our individual place in the scheme of things. The Lyceum learns us we all have potential powers to assist in the Lyceum, no matter what our ages or abilities are. If we cannot sing or recite, we can give out books. If we are not born conductors, we can support those who occupy the position. The harmonial law is a positive force we can generate, with large powers and definite results. Sympathy, friendship and love are binding forces, which give life a great charm.

Lyceum methods of comprehension awaken the understanding to a large concept of human powers and spiritual growth. The inventive faculty is dependent on inspiration, genius and spiritual insight. The mind of man encompasses thought, will, conscience, soul and spirit. There are sub-conscious, supraliminal and subliminal states. There is the day-dreamer and the night-dreamer, the normal and influenced clairvoyants, the test, trance and physical mediums, the psychometrist. The greatest of all is the prophet, who is the true seer, and can define results before they happen, and so guide us all aright.

In the regular scheme of human life and welfare the above human attributes are barely considered. It is in the Lyceum where these powers can be brought out, so that when our students enter the broader walks of life, they may influence the world with their knowledge and power to improve the status of mankind and provide a progressive world with saner relationships and wiser council.

A wider knowledge of human powers and spiritual guidance will levitate the material world we live in to-day to a higher concept of existence, than the ideals which are at present being held before the human race.

Spirits bright are ever nigh,
Filling earth and air and sky,
Bringing truth and joy and love,
From the fount of God above,

B.S.L.U. £2,000 EFFORT.

A circular of appeal for support of the above effort is being prepared. Mr. Jack Bell, 97, Chatham Street, Stockport, has been appointed Secretary to deal specially with this Fund. All donations must be sent to the Union's Treasurer, MR. R. A. OWEN, 119, Chatsworth Avenue, Aintree, Liverpool.

Book Marks and Pencils are on sale by Mr. Bell, the pencils will sell at 2d. each and are 11s. a gross to Lyceums. The Book-marks are 1d. each, sale price; and 6d. a dozen to Lyceums. Orders will be filled in rotation. They are offered to Lyceums to assist them to raise their quota of £10 per Lyceum, so that the Trading Department of the B.S.L.U. may have a financial basis.

LIST OF DONATIONS.

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Daulby Hall Lyceum	10	0	0
M.C. Members Donations	10	0	0
Runcorn Lyceum	10	0	0
Still required	1970	0	0

Will Secretaries note Mr. J. Bell is the Secretary, to whom applications concerning this Fund must be made and all donations should be sent to the Union's Treasurer, Mr. R. A. Owen.

By the time that the March "Banner" is published all Lyceums and District Councils should have received the necessary circular issued by the M.C. re the above Effort. If not, I should be glad if they would write to me at once.

The orders for the Pencils and Bookmarks are coming to hand very slow and as I have on hand at the present time some 45 gross pencils, and about 5,000 bookmarks, immediate deliveries can be promised.

I would like all Lyceumists to ask themselves if they and their own particular Lyceum is doing their share towards this great effort. IF NOT WHY NOT? When this is done we shall be able to supply any Lyceum requisite.

There are three designs in Bookmarks, by the time this is published; one plain with £2,000 Effort on it, another with the photograph of A. J. Davis, and another with Mr. Kitson's photograph.

Please note that the firm known as "The £2,000 Effort" require cash with all orders.

J. BELL, Hon. Sec.,
£2,000 Effort.

THE EAR.

The sense of hearing is second only to that of sight. The ear, as we see it, is not actually the organ of hearing; in anatomy, this portion is spoken of as the Auricle. It collects the sound which is then passed down the external auditory passage at the end of which we have the tympanum or drum, and beyond this to the tympanic cavity. In this cavity is the hammer attached to the tympanum, then the anvil and stirrup, a series of small bones which are called by the above names as their shape or action resembles such articles. They convey the movements of the tympanum to the oval fenestra which then vibrates, and the sound is conveyed through the inner ear to the brain. From the middle ear, or tympanic cavity, there is a tube connected with the trachea or wind pipe, called the eustachian tube.

It will be seen at once that this organ of sense is of very delicate construction and when any disturbance in it is detected a medical man should be consulted, wax should be removed from the ear very carefully, never use anything with a point for this purpose. It is a bad practice, as is the putting of wadding into the ears. Should this be done when in a draught, remove the wadding when getting into a room of proper temperature. The wadding will heat the ear and therefore care must be taken not to remove it in a cold temperature. It is very dangerous to box children's ears, the tympanum or drum may be injured by this means. Violent sounds such as firing cannons and shouting into the ears are also to be avoided, and care should be taken not to get the feet damp, as this affects the ears. Pure air and proper ventilation are also necessary to avoid disorders of the organ of hearing.

BIRKENHEAD,

A POETICAL PRAYER.

By W. GEO. WHEELER.

The voices of the Dead bring back again

Dear Lord of Love,
Bid us to hear them in our holiest sleep,
Bid us to hear them when in grief we weep,
Bid us to wait for them in silence deep.

The faces of the Dead bring back again

Dear Lord of Light,
Bid us to see them in our waking hours,
Bid us to love them as we love God's flow'rs,
Bid us to give them joy with all our pow'rs.

The spirits of the Dead bring back again

Dear Lord of Life,
Bid us to walk with them in friendship rare,
Bid us to taste their joy beyond compare,
Bid us to know them more divinely fair.

THE POWER OF DIVINITY.

He who does not see God within himself will never find Him outside of himself; but he who sees Him within the Temple of his own soul will see Him in the Temple of the Universe.

When one feels the inward yearning towards that which is better, fuller and more satisfying than one's material conditions engender, the God Power, in my opinion, is within calling for outward expression and recognition. We often feel smothered, shackled by our surroundings! We yearn for all that is beautiful, pure, inspiring and uplifting. When we realise that this is our higher nature calling for development and striving to obtain the means for the necessary expansion, then do these longings cease to be vain and unpointed desires, and become well-directed, well-appointed, orderly endeavours. We realise the God within us and seek to give Him expression.

As this realisation of Divinity grows within us, we see to a greater and greater degree the workings of God in all our natural surroundings. We see Him in the bare, rocky crests of the mountains and the green, fertile, grassy plains of the valley; we see Him in the broad rays of the summer sun, and in the quiet silvery light of the moon, as it covers all the earth with its gentle subdued glow. The mountain stream rushes over rocks, boulders and precipices; we seem to hear His voice whispering of beauty and love unbounded. The birds singing in the trees, the murmuring of the gentle zephyrs through the green leaves and thick grass speak to us of happiness. The placid mountain, the broad breast of the slow-flowing, mighty river speak of Peace, while the restless sea, with its foam-tipped waves, and its monotonous beating on the shore, speaks of Divine motion and mighty purpose, endless, strong and enduring.

The goodness of God soothes our troubled souls, and the truth strikes us that Life is not purposeless and vain, and that man is not a worm, crawling on the face of the earth. We delve behind the masks of our fellow-men, and rest not until we find the God within them. We realise that his restless strivings are not objectless, but that in time the Divine Will will conquer and stand forth glorious and undefiled.

Before closing these few remarks, I would like to give a quotation from H. G. Wells' book, "Mr. Britling sees it through." It is the thought of a father, bereaved of his first-born by the cruel fate of war:—

"Religion is the first and the last thing, and until man has found God and been found by God, he begins at no beginning, he works to no end. He may have his friendships, his partial loyalties, his scraps of honour. But all these things fall into place, and life falls into place only with God. Only with God, God, who fights through men against Blind Force, and Night and Non-existence; who is the end, who is the meaning. I must tell all my world of Him. And before the coming of the true King, the inevitable King, the King who is present whenever just men forgather, this blood-stained rubbish of the ancient world, these puny kings and tawdry emperors, these wily politicians, and artful lawyers, these men who claim and grab and trick and compel, these war-makers and oppressors will presently shrivel and pass like paper thrust into a flame."

FELIX.

Spiritualism and Psychic Healing.

By W. GEORGE WHEELER, L.P.I., Diploma (of the Brighton Phrenological Institution).

Man is a spiritual and a psychic being; he is a flash, a thought, a spark from the Immeasurable—Immortal Mind. These wonderful psychic forces and soul revelations, are the result of faculties within himself, mystical indeed, yet not so mystical as to lack scientific evidence, since they have their proof in their manifestation through the cerebral structure.

Yes, Phrenology has its psychic side, and it has made clearer the wonderful spiritual-self so long known to the mystics of the East, as well as the soul-awakened thinkers of the West.

Spirituality is a beautiful and wonderful faculty. They who have developed it do not doubt the great evolutionary unfolding of the soul, life in its fuller and broader sense here and beyond; the Continuity of Life on a higher plane. When this faculty is awakened the soul life unfolds, and the individual meditates on the Divinest. When combined with the faculty of Hope, the happy Spirit rises to blissful heights, and mere material things cannot stay its progress. May we not reconstruct some words of Herbert Spencer's, and apply them to the faculties we have mentioned: priceless by their derivation; priceless in their intrinsic coherence; priceless as supplying a moral want; priceless as satisfying an intellectual need.

These mighty faculties we maintain, tone and beautify the whole nature of Man, imparting as it were, a new-born life. When the physical organism is at its lowest, it is possible for the soul to reach a glorious altitude. An illustration occurs to the writer. Some years ago he was acquainted with a spiritual nature dwelling in an unhealthy body. She suffered physical pain, even torture, yet was conscious of the Divinest. Her wonderful psychic forces gave her untold happiness; she triumphed over pain.

The awakened soul, in a healthy body, goes forth to bless and heal his fellow. Some years ago the writer was visiting among the poor in London, and became deeply interested in a boy, slowly dying of consumption. The little fellow felt pain in different parts of the body, and the writer, full of sympathy and compassion, rubbed the suffering parts with his hand, with concentrated attention. Power went out of the operator, but the boy was relieved and happy. Who can deny that the awakened soul has a Divine Life stored up within himself—life that may be imparted to others. Said a mother—"My little girl always feels happier and better whenever you call to see her."

A lady informed me that one of her medical advisers possessed this psychic influence; whenever she heard his footsteps her nervous disorder was greatly alleviated. The writer was asked, years ago, to dine with a certain gentleman. His little daughter was crying with severe headache. He took her into his arms, passed his fingers soothingly over her forehead and through her hair—in a few minutes she was quite well. It is not infrequent that health and healing comes to those who concentrate, in spiritual confidence, for recovery. A lady informed me she had been ill and practically given up by her doctors, half-blind and lame, broken in body. She linked herself up with spiritual healers, and was restored.

It sometimes happens that the healer comes from afar, from beyond the veil. Mrs. Booth Tucker was some years ago, on board a ship, ill and apparently dying, distressed in regard to her work. It was then her beloved mother, the famous Mrs. Booth—long since departed—came to her, comforted and encouraged her sick daughter and enabled her to recover her health and resume her work. Joseph Leicester Lyne, during an illness, perceived Angel-faces, and heard exquisite music which his attendant could not hear. To the psychic nature, to the awakened spiritual soul, there comes wave upon wave, from time to time, of healing force and cheering comfort.

BIRTHS, IN MEMORIA, AND MARRIAGES.

Ordinary intimations will be inserted as follows:—Not exceeding twenty-four words, Free. 6d. will be charged for every additional nine words. Poetry 6d. per line. Payment must accompany all intimations of more than 24 words, or they cannot be inserted. In Memoriam for any previous year will be charged 1/- for 24 words, and 6d. or additional 9 words. Poetry 6. per line.

BIRMINGHAM, Handsworth.—To Mr. and Mrs. J. Smith, a Son, on Feb. 13th, 1920. Love finds its expression in ideals that become real.



Miss Annie Scoggings.

BRIGHTON SPIRITUALISTS' CHURCH LYCEUM.

Like poets, it might almost be said that Lyceumists are born, not made; and although Miss Scoggings received religious instruction at a Chapel Sunday School in Brighton, from the age of 5 to 14, she could never bring herself to the acceptance of such an unjust and unsound belief that someone else could take on her responsibilities or atone for any of her shortcomings.

Her advent in to the cause of Spiritualism dates back some 15 years ago, when her aunt and uncle, who were Spiritualists resident in New Zealand, came over to England in 1905 and introduced her into Spiritualistic circles. The first speaker that she heard was Mrs. H. Boddington, who was giving an address at the Compton Hall, Brighton, and Miss Scoggings was particularly impressed with the philosophic side of the movement. She eagerly sought to know more about the subject, and received a good deal of guidance and sympathetic help from Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Clarke, of Brighton. She was one of the 13 Lyceumists who were present at the opening of the Brighton Lyceum on January 13th, 1907, and has remained steadfastly in the work since that time. She has occupied offices as Conductor, Treasurer, Group Leader, and is Guardian for the present year. By her practical and helpful remarks in the discussion of our Silver and Golden Chain recitations, she has a stimulating effect in encouraging others to talk and express their thoughts and ideas, and at the time when our Lyceum had an excellent Discussion Class, Miss Scoggings was well to the fore in the Debates. She has also occupied offices as Minute Secretary, Bookstall Attendant, and Treasurer of the Parent Society, which position she holds at the present time.

It is the busy people who generally find opportunities for doing still more, and music, literature, including Shakespeare, elocution, botany and other subjects are among her category of studies.

Miss Scoggings is also a student of Phrenology, and kindly allowed me to examine her phrenological developments. One of her aspirations is to become a public speaker in the cause of Spiritualism and Lyceum work, and I can assure her that she has qualities of brain that will enable her in time to equip herself with a good deal of efficiency in this direction. She has aptitude in acquiring knowledge, and is more studious than the

average person, her mind being strongly concentrated on thought reflection and reasoning. She is in no way superficial, likes to see beneath the surface of things, is keenly critical, analytical and intuitive, will look carefully for the motives of others' actions, and being of a cause-seeking turn of mind, she will not always follow the beaten track. She decides between herself and her ideals rather than between herself and others. She may need to guard against being over cautious, for she is inclined to ponder unduly over her thoughts and plans, and may not carry her ideas into execution with sufficient promptness. She is also not as confident as she may sometimes appear to be to those around her. Generally she has a clearer vision of others' characters and motives than they have of hers, and may consequently sometimes be a little misunderstood. She has a particularly strong sense of justice and duty, and will aim to adhere to whatever she conceives to be in accordance with the principles of right conduct. She is of a very persevering disposition, and commands our respect for her diligence, enthusiasm and zeal in whatever cause she desires to espouse. R. BANKS.

Brotherhood—How?

The very word "Brotherhood" to-day seems to impinge the mind as a Euclid proposition does to a despairing school-boy—a problem necessitating and compelling assiduity.

On every hand we find diffidence to the desired state of being and the term remains in our minds as an ideal, a principle, an individual ambition. Perhaps individual ambition does not seem to align itself to Brotherhood but when wedded to co-operative action becomes an important factor toward the attainment of our purpose. In itself, and if segregated from all ideas of co-operative energy, it becomes a miserable failure, no matter how idealistic our thoughts may have been.

To-day, we find people, who revel in the word nationalism but shudder at the mention of internationalism. The foreigner, because of his very standing as such, must be kept at a safe distance as though he were an uninterred criminal, secretly armed "to the teeth" with weapons of mortal destruction. The thought reminds one of the story of two Englishmen in Paris, one of whom accidentally collided with a Parisian whilst strolling on the Boulevards. Whereupon the Englishman became very wrath and assailed the remark "I wish you foreigners would look where you are going." M. 'Poilu,' turning with a benign smile kindly reminded him who was the foreigner.

The word too often implies alienation, so often indeed, that, the implication almost becomes a fundamental in the usual chain of thought. On the other hand, however, is it oft that we regard such men as Christ, Paul, John and Daniel as foreigners? Or again, do we many times think of Socrates, Aristotle, Swedenborg and Tolstoy as aliens? Does it not then appear, that when we come to learn of the work of these men such ideas of estrangement become nullified? If we must reply in the affirmative our problem is considerably modified. The existence of those men who, because of their great lives and labours, we revere, gives us the justification of hope and trust not only in our own child of infinite possibilities, but also in the "foreigner's" child of equal embryo. This being so, reflection on certain facts would be of further assistance.

The continents of this sphere of ours may be divided into countries by man-made boundaries, or frontiers, nation may fight nation and the victors annex territory, but the soul of man knows no frontiers. Man is *not* foreign to man. The territory in which he has his earthly habitation may be annexed, but he himself remains the same—body soul and spirit of the natural and divine order.

In the past, nations, especially those most imperialistic, have in their educational programmes been teaching too much militarism, too much hatred of other nations and too much intention of their respective selves to become the pre-dominant empire in this world of ours. We find that the child-mind has been more or less trained to such a line of thought, and that many years of arduous labour must accrue before these ideas can be obliterated.

What then is our part to play? In the first place, individual ambition. In our everyday life whenever opportunity offers, we must show that our teaching of the "Brotherhood of man" is also practical and our actions must, of necessity, be conclusive proof. In this way, we can labour individually and progress to our attainment. Secondly—co-operative action by combining in our efforts to show to the masses that something, and that something very worthy, can be achieved by mutual reciprocity. In the third place, but by no means the least, the responsibility

of the training of the child. Thoughts of imperial aggression, annexation of neighbour's territory, and military domination must be kept away from the child-mind and the futility of their existence always explained should interrogation demand it. Instead, we must teach Brotherhood in its truest sense—no mere flippant reference will suffice. Its constituents must be thoroughly explored and its truths mastered. Of necessity, Angelic companionship and guidance takes precedence. Their omnipresence gives us great encouragement to progress in our efforts because of their divine leadership. Under their inspiration we must teach the child, as it grows old enough to understand simple economics graduating in time to a study of material laws and the process of governments and legislation. This is of great importance, as on account of material affairs, human brotherhood will be accomplished in a large measure along the road political. The citizen of to-morrow must be so given a footing in life that he and she will understand their environments, and their preceding knowledge will place them in the position of being able to improve the material state of being. To their minds must be conveyed the highest thoughts of social welfare and emancipation.

Having thus performed our duties to the child we may look to the future with a large optimism. We shall see a grander and a nobler world. By co-operative action and energy, not only amongst ourselves, but with mankind the world over, we shall win through. When we can say with real affirmation that "My brother is my keeper and I am my brother's keeper," when we can demonstrate our sincerity of purpose by purity of action, then our spade work must surely produce an amity of purpose, the goal of which will be the zenith of our aim—universal brotherhood. During the interim, as a result of our gradual emancipation, we shall find unequivocally that the avenues of approach open to the denizens of the higher life will be infinitely wider and purer and the reward of our labours will be a closer companionship with ethereal forces. We shall have a Spiritualism, so elucidated, so pure, so grand and divine that it will become a haven, yea, an eagis of an athenium in the affairs of men.

Let us then repeat with Longfellow his "Builders," and by repeating, cherish his sollicitation.

All are architects of Fate,
Working in the walls of time.
Some with massive deeds and great,
Some with ornaments of rhyme.
Nothing useless is or low,
Each thing in its place is best,
And what seems but idle show,
Strengthens and supports the rest.
For the structure that we raise,
Time is with materials filled,
Our to-days and yesterdays
Are the blocks with which we build.
Truly shape and fashion these,
Leave no yawning gaps between,
Think not, because no man sees,
Such things will remain unseen.
In the elder days of art,
Builders wrought with greatest care
Each minute and unseen part,
For the Gods see everywhere.
Let us do our work as well,
Both the unseen and the seen,
Make the house where God may dwell,
Beautiful, entire and clean.
Else our lives are incomplete,
Standing in these walls of time,
Broken stairways, where the feet
Stumble, as they seek to climb.
Build, to-day, then, strong and sure,
With a firm and simple base,
And ascending and secure
Shall to-morrow find its place.
This alone can we attain
To those turrets where the eye,
Sees the world as one vast plain,
And one boundless reach of sky.

J. D. BELLETT.

CONFERENCE BILLETING.

Mr. R. Latham, 178, Colne Road, Burnley, has been appointed Organiser and Billeting Sec., to whom (when credentials are issued) applications respecting billets must be addressed. All accredited members of the Conference *must* apply for accommodation, otherwise none will be provided.

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THE TWO WORLDS.

THE PEOPLE'S POPULAR SPIRITUALIST PAPER.

Edited by E. W. OATEN.

"The Two Worlds" is acknowledged as the *newspaper* of the Spiritualist Movement in Great Britain.

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The Seven Principles of Spiritualism.

As quite a long paper could be written on this subject I will try and make this one as short as possible and deal with each in rotation.

The Fatherhood of God:—As God gave us this life it is only natural that we should look upon him as our Father. You should look to him as you would look to your earthly father, being obedient to him and endeavour to please him at all times, and by so doing you will find a great amount of pleasure in all your work.

The Brotherhood of Man:—As I tried to explain in my last paragraph, that God is our Father and it was through His divine source that we were given this life it is only right that we should look upon each other as brothers and sisters, and therefore being bound to each other by this great bond of Brotherhood it is each one's duty to treat one another as brothers; giving good for bad, help the fallen, cheer the sick and suffering, etc., and thereby show brotherly love to all around you.

Immortality of the Soul:—One of the many great teachings of Spiritualism is the immortality of the soul, it teaches that this earthly body is only the encasement of our spiritual body, and governing these two bodies is the soul, the divine spark, or part of God Himself; therefore if this be true as we believe it is, then God is within us, and as He is immortal then our souls are immortal also.

Spirit Communion:—It has been proved many times that our dearly loved relations and friends whom we thought dead are here around and about us, and that it is quite possible to communicate with them by developing the gift of mediumship which was given us for that purpose.

Personal Responsibility:—So you see great responsibility rests with each one of us. We should then look after our bodies and keep them clean and healthy, as it is the habitation of the soul. And there is the gift of clairvoyance, clairaudience, etc., which each one should develop, and by so doing you will be able to help those who are ignorant of the great truths of Spiritualism, and you will then be of great service to all around you.

Compensation and Retribution:—We, as Spiritualists, do not believe in a Hell, a personal Devil, or a God who watches the creatures He created tortured in everlasting damnation, but in a God of love, the infinite Spirit of love ruling over the great universe He created, and we also believe that heaven and hell states of happiness or misery dependent upon the good or evil within the soul of each one of us.

Eternal Progress:—Eternal progress is the growth of the spiritual body—the ever-desired rising to that height where man ultimately is so purified, refined and spiritualised, that it is beyond the power of human mind to conceive, or human tongue to utter.

Now that I have done my best to describe these seven principles of Spiritualism, I would just like to say that all should work and believe in all these principles teach, thereby doing the will of our Father, God.

LOUIS HITCHCOCK.

BRADFORD (NATIONAL) SPIRITUALIST CHURCH AND LYCEUM,

MANCHESTER ROAD (End of Ripley Street).

The above Lyceum will hold Annual TEA and CONCERT SATURDAY, MARCH 19th. Tea on tables 4-30. Concert 7-30. Adults 1/9, Children 1/- W. C. Longman's Concert Party.

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES—MARCH 20TH.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. Hendry (nee Lydia Lonsdale) of Armley, wishes to thank all Lyceum Scholars and friends of Theaker Lane, Armley, and Bradford and Heckmondwike for all kind thoughts and sympathy sent to her child Thomas Edmund Hendry during his illness, and is pleased to say he is now on the way to a speedy recovery. "Open the Door for the Children."

SPECIAL REPORTS.

Under this heading, Lyceums whose reports exceed the words allowed in the Table as shown in Rule 3 may have them inserted in full by enclosing 6d. for every extra nine words.

ABERAVON & PORT TALBOT.—On Jan. 30th we held our Anniversary, which was a great success, and was appreciated by all present. Lyceum scholars rendered songs and recitations. Our President, Mr. Radcliffe, took the services for the day, and was very successful in his venture.—H. S. Underhill, Sec.

BOLTON, Henry Street.—On Feb. 6th we held our Annual Election of Officers. The offices were filled by the following: Conductor, Miss Webster; Assistant, Miss F. Inman; Lit. Sec., Miss F. Inman; Minute Secretary, W. Bearman; Guardians, A. Green and E. Eyres; Liberty Group Leader, Miss Webster; Junior Groups: Girls, E. Holden; Boys, E. Green; Musical Conductors, Miss M. Greaves and Miss Horrocks; Treas., Miss Webster; Marching Instructor, Mr. Turner. On Sunday, Feb. 13th, Open Session; we had a grand time.—W. Bearman, Sec.

DARLINGTON, Northgate.—We closed the festive season with a Re-union Social, kindly given by our Guardian, Mrs. Whitfield. A very pleasant evening was spent amongst old and present Lyceumists. Greetings are sent to all absent Lyceumists, both in England and abroad.

On Feb. 6th, we held our Quarterly Open Session. Our conductor, Mr. Simpson, ably conducted the afternoon session, over 100 being present. The Service of Song entitled "Spirit Return" was rendered at night. Truly we are progressing rapidly in numbers and efficiency.—M. Sinclair, Sec.

HETTON AND DISTRICT.—Our Lyceum took the afternoon and evening services on January 30th, in memory of Andrew Jackson Davis, the Founder of the Lyceum Movement. We went through the afternoon session as recommended by the M.C. At the evening service we were fortunate to have our D.V., Mr. W. Hall, with us, who gave some valuable information in connection with the Examination Scheme. Then followed the life story of Andrew Jackson Davis by our Conductor, Mr. Thos. Best. Solos and recitations were given by the younger Lyceumists. Mrs. Hall, our Assistant Conductor, presided.—Mrs. I. Ross, Sec.

MACCLESFIELD.—Amidst an array of flowers and the sun softly stealing through the windows, we held our Special Session in commemoration of the 58th Anniversary of the Lyceum Movement. Parents and friends were invited and we had a glorious time. We had the formal programme as laid down in the December issue of the LYCEUM BANNER. Solos were contributed by Miss Gladys Jackson. Recitations by the Misses Essex and Bamford, and a duet by Miss Jackson and Miss Eva Holland. By a special collection we were able to contribute £1 2s. to the Lyceum Fund, which we wish every success in its efforts for the Light and Truth. Thanks are due to all our Officers and Leaders for the success of the Session. Our compliments to all Lyceums.—Edward Pilkington.

MANCHESTER, MOSS SIDE, 66, Raby Street.—On February 13th, we held our Second Musical and Shakespearean Festival in the usual Large Hall; scenes were taken from "Winter's Tale," "Merchant of Venice," "Much Ado about Nothing," and "Othello," those taking part being Mr. R. A. Gilbert, Mabel E. Baker, Roy Morgan, Gertie Hyland, Gertie Bell, Florence Foster, Fred Clarke, Douglas Burgess, and Stanley Woodfine. Songs were given by Madame Mac-

Farlane, Miss Peggy Davies and Mr. Victor Furnish. At 6-30, the speaker was Miss C. E. Andrews, of the New Thought School, Manchester, subject: "The Magic Power of Thought." It was very fine, and appreciated by a splendid audience. Soloist, Mrs. M. Foster. Collections very good. Hospital Sunday collection—£1 4s. 1d. Altogether an excellent day.

On February 18th, a dance was held in the large hall in aid of Mr. Gilbert's Shakespearean Class. There was good attendance and everyone had a jolly evening.

On February 20th, the speaker at the Liberty Group was Mrs. Margaret Norbury, of the Women's International League, whose subject "Women's International League and its Work," was very enlightening and enjoyed by all. Greetings to all Lyceumists.—M. E. Baker, Sec.

NOTTINGHAM, Mechanics' Hall.—January 30th, Open Session to celebrate the founding of the Lyceum Movement, and Distribution of Prizes, the programme, as given in the BANNER, was followed in every particular, interspersed with recitations. Mr. Fraser Hewes (President of our Society) presented the prizes to 29 successful Lyceumists; the younger ones who had started during the year were presented with prizes by their leader, Mrs. Bostock.—O. Peel, Sec.

PORTSMOUTH.—Our Annual Tea and Prize-giving was held on February 16th, and was well attended by members and friends. After tea some time was spent by the children in games, followed by a concert; an excellent programme was arranged by our Conductor, Mr. Harry, including dances and recitations by the younger members, many of whom are under ten years of age. The songs by elder members and friends were much appreciated. Many Officers and friends of the Parent Church were present, including the two Vice-Presidents, one of whom, Miss March, presented the prizes. We have thereby interested many parents and children, who will help to swell our ever-increasing membership.—R. B. Long, Sec.

READING.—Saturday and Sunday, February 5th and 6th, were red-letter days for the Reading Lyceum, as we were honoured by a visit from the Southern Counties Lyceum District Council. The weather was cold but fine, and an enjoyable time was spent by all. We were very pleased to receive the expression of good will from the other Lyceums which the delegates had been charged to deliver. The meetings, which were of a most harmonious nature, were presided over throughout by Mrs. P. R. Street. The Council conducted the whole of the Sunday Services. We trust it will not be long before the Council again meets at Reading.—A. M. L. Lawrence, Sec.

SHILDON, Newlands Avenue.—On February 20th, we held an Open Session. Our Conductor, Mr. Smith, presented the children with prizes, consisting of books, for attendance. After the distribution, Mr. Smith, assisted by Mr. Bland, unveiled the photos of two Lyceumists who fell during the war; there was a good company present and each seemed pleased to see something to remind us of those ever with us though not in the body.—Thos. Jones, Sec.

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORTS.

BOLTON DISTRICT.

The Annual Meeting of the above Council was held at Bradford St., Bolton. The President, Mr. Walsh, occupied the Chair. In his address he laid very great stress on all Lyceumists to take up a study of the B.S.L.U. Education Scheme, and to become members of their respective churches and to be active workers therein.

All Lyceums in the district were represented, minutes and correspondence were accepted. Treasurer's Report showed a balance in hand of £5 7s. 0d. District Visitor reported that he had visited all Lyceums and found all satisfactory. U.D.C. Delegates' Report accepted. Adjudicator gave his final report declaring Horwich the winners of the Shield for the 3rd year in succession. Miss E. Roe presented the Shield to Miss Doris Ward the conductor. Election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mr. Walsh; Secretary, E. Woodward, Daisy Hill; Treas., Mr. Hibbert; D.V., Mr. Charnley; Adjud., E. Woodward, Leigh. A Social took place the same evening for the benefit of the Council, a good number of Lyceumists and friends taking part. The Council wish to thank all Lyceumists who helped to make it a success, a vote of thanks was made to Miss Roe for services rendered as Secretary to the Council, also to Bradford St., friends for their splendid catering.—Ernest Woodward, Sec.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD.

Annual Meeting held at St. Peter's St., Huddersfield, on Feb. 6th, 1921. The following business was gone through:—

Minutes of last Annual Meeting; correspondence and Balance Sheet was accepted. The Election of officers was as follows: President, Mr. T. Ellis, Huddersfield; Vice-President, Mr. Bramall, Slaithwaite; Secretary, Mr. Manning, Hebden Bridge; Treasurer, Mr. Kershaw, Halifax; District Visitor, Mr. Aekroyd, Huddersfield; Assistant D.V., Mr. Burrows, Halifax; Auditors, Mr. Wilby, Halifax; and Mr. Gibson, Huddersfield; Delegate to the Halifax and Huddersfield District Committee, United District Council and B.S.L.U., Mr. Gibson, Huddersfield. That Mr. Manning be nominated as area Representative by this District, followed by the minutes of Last quarterly Meeting held at Halifax, which were passed as read. Agreed that we hold a Competition this year on Lyceum Efficiency to be adjudicated on one full session by November. That the District Council take up the Easter Celebrations on Easter Monday with the District Committee and hold a Mass Session in the morning. The financial statement for the year 1921 was accepted. Also the District Visitor's Report and statistical returns. A Vote of Thanks was passed to the retiring officers of the Council.

J. Manning, Sec.

LEEDS.

The General Meeting of the Council was held on Saturday, Feb. 12th, at Heckmondwike. The President, Mr. Kitson, occupied the Chair. Opening Hymn "Open Wide the Gates." The President, in his address, said the Hymn in itself was an inspiration. Very pleased to meet us all again and hoped we should take for our motto, "The Greatest Good for the Greatest Number," and in his remarks told us something which the Management Committee had done in regard to the £2,000 Effort, that was carried at last Conference, and one Lyceum had sent on its £10, and hoped we should take this back to our Lyceums and try and follow likewise. Minutes, Correspondence, Reports, accepted. Mr. Downs, Dairycoates, Hull, elected Field Day Secretary; agreed that first Committee Meeting be held on behalf of Field Day at Leeds Psycho, date to be notified later. A resolution was carried that each Lyceum in our Council hold a Tea, Concert and Social Evening, and the proceeds to be sent to General Fund which is very low. Re Annual Meeting of Delegates for all Lyceums in each Area with the Areal Representative; that same lay on table till next meeting so that all Lyceums have time to discuss same. Election of Officers: Mr. Kitson, President; Vice, Mr. A. Collier, Dewsbury; Treasurer, Miss Kitson; Secretary, Mr. A. W. Harding; D.V., Mr. Vernam; U.D.C. Delegate, Mr. Downs; L.D.C. Delegate, Mr. Vernam; Delegate to Conference, Mr. Harding; Areal Representative, Mrs. Begg; B.S.L.U. Officers agree to nominate Mrs. Pickles as President, Mr. Bell as Vice, Mr. Owen as Treasurer. Competition Business, agreed that Mr. Downs be Adjudicator. Next Council Meeting to be held at South Elmsall. Associate members (2). Agreed that Mr. Lunn and Mr. Downs be Auditors. Mr. Kitson moved our best thanks be given to all officers for their services during the past year. Lyceums represented, Armley, Batley Carr, Castleford, Dewsbury, Easy Road, Liversedge, Normanton, Heckmondwike, Wakefield, Leeds Psycho, South Elmsall, Daisycoates, Hull, Holborn Hall, Hull, Areal Representative, D.V., and 8 Associates. After the business a Social Evening was given by local friends. A very enjoyable time was spent.

During the interval Mr. Kitson was asked to present the prizes that had been won by old and young Lyceumists. A good sum was realized for general Fund. £1 8s. 2d. —A. W. Harding, Sec.

NORTH-EAST CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, February 12th, 1921, at Hyde Spiritual Church, the above Council held their Annual Meeting, Mr. Marston presided. Opening Hymn, Invocation by Mr. James. Hearty welcome to all delegates and associates. A good attendance, seven Lyceums being represented and over thirty Associate Members were present. Also Mr. Shuttleworth, representing the U.D.C. and Mr. Hopper the N.E. Lanes, D.C., the former expounded the necessity of the U.D.C. to D.C.'s, and also dwelt upon the Education Scheme and its aid to Progression. Minutes and Correspondence were accepted. Treasurer's Report showed a balance in hand of £5 9s. 7½d. District Visitor reported a visit to Glossop, Blandford Street, Stalybridge being willing to open a Lyceum it was arranged that every possible assistance should be given by all Lyceums of D.C. Glossop Lyceum were elected members; also eleven new Associate Members made. The Secretary reported Glossop had been opened during the Quarter, thanks to the Council's valuable assistance and was progressing slowly but surely.

The following officers were elected for the present year:— President, Mr. Dransfield (Ashton); Vice-President, Mr. Dean

(Ashton); Treasurer, Mr. Bowden (Hyde); Secretary, Mr. H. Gill (Stockport); Assistant Secretary, Miss Maltby (Glossop); District Visitor, Mrs. Ennion (Stockport); Auditor, Mr. Sander-son (Stockport); Delegate to U.D.C., Mrs. Ennion (Stockport); Delegate to Conference, Mr. Bowden (Hyde). The question of joining the U.D.C. was gone into again, and it was unanimously decided to join. It was decided that the Annual Outing should take place, all arrangements to be completed by a sub-committee and results made known at the next D.C. Meeting. Subscriptions increased: Lyceums to 5s., Associate Members to 1s. 6d. The Secretary urged all present to speed up their respective Lyceums with view to raising the £2,000 required to establish the Trading Department. Vote of Thanks to local friends for excellent Tea provided. Mr. Hopper exchanged greetings between the N.E. Lanes. D.C.'s. A worthy meeting closed at 7-15 p.m. followed by an evening of jollification. Please note change of Secretary and address.—H. Gill, 119, Chapel St., Edgeley, Stockport.

NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE.

The above Council held the Annual General Meeting on Sat., Feb. 19th, at Burnley, Hammerton St. Lyceum. Opened with singing "Shoulder to Shoulder." Invocation given by President. Messrs. Hopper and Ball appointed credential officers; Sec. read Minutes of last meeting and Minutes of Conference Committee. All adopted. Correspondence adopted. President's address; spoke on Education and that fuller advantage should be taken of same; the financial position of ours and the £2000 Scheme; The greater work of the Movement; The Conference and the various resolutions made and passed at Keighley. Address accepted and deferred to No. 8 on Agenda. Reports, Balance Sheet and Auditors, showing turnover of over £65, and a gain on year's working. Cottage Mortgage down to £2. Resolved that we realise on our present holding and use funds to establish a holiday home and headquarters in a more central position. D.V. Reports given and accepted. Voluntary visiting list compiled by Sec., and adopted. Election of Officers: all officers re-elected. Business re Conference detailed and nominations accepted. All meeting places fixed up for 1922. Next Meeting, Nelson, May 7th. Lyceum fees paid in under new list. Notice re Associates pooling scheme. Mr. Anderton elected vice Mr. Ball as delegate to the U.D.C. at Nottingham, March 5th and 6th. Area Representatives adopted for recommendation to the N.E.L.L.D.C. Lyceums. Matters re Conference discussed and all left open to nearer the time. Votes of thanks accorded to local friends closed a meeting at which good work was done, leaving our forces more consolidated to carry on. Credential report: E.C., 4; Dele., 37; Associates, 10; Visitors, 5; total, 56. Pooling exes. 8s. per head. Millom Lyceum were cordially welcomed to this D.C., thus completing the chain of all Lyceums under Area C.—J. Shuttleworth, Sec.

SCOTTISH DISTRICT.

The above Council held their Annual Business Meeting in Edinburgh on Sat., Feb. 5th. Mr. J. W. Stewart was re-elected President but, thinking it only fair to let the honours go round, appointed Mr. A. Newton in his stead. Mr. D. Niven was re-elected as D.V., and Miss M. Drummond was again appointed Secretary and Treasurer. Owing to the B.S.L.U. and U.D.C. increased fees, we have had to increase ours to 3d. per member. All Lyceums in this Council were advised to encourage the B.S.L.U. Education Scheme in their Societies. Our D.V. gave a good report, two new Lyceums having opened on Sunday, Feb. 6th, one at Lochgelly and one at Aberdeen. It was decided to have Associate Members of the D.C., a minimum fee of 2s. 6d. being payable. This might prove to be a help in districts where there are no Lyceums. Although progress is slow in Scotland, it is steadily advancing. Societies and Lyceums are over such a scattered area, that it is hardly possible for one D.V. to visit each, even once a year. However we try to overcome this difficulty by corresponding, and every effort is being made to spread the Lyceum Movement in Scotland.—M. Drummond, Sec.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT.

The Annual Meeting was held at Chesterfield, Feb. 13th, 1921. Mr. J. K. Jones presided and a very successful meeting was held. Credential Report: Officers, 5; Delegates, 10; Associates, 4; Visitors, 4. U.D.C. Report, out of which the following motion was resolved: "That the question of Associates, or Subscribing Members to the U.D.C. be left over and taken back to Lyceums, reports to be brought back to next meeting." Resolved: "That in future the Banner and Bell be competed for by Lyceum Efficiency, and not on a Field Day Demonstration." The scheme to be drawn together by the President, Secretary and

D.V. Financial, Delegates' and D.V.'s Reports were given and accepted. It is good to note that all Lyceums seem to be able to report progress in the right direction. Election of Officers for the next twelve months as follows: President, Mr. J. K. Jones; Vice-President, Mr. H. Heath; Secretary, Mr. C. H. Saxelby; Treasurer, Mrs. Bruce; D.V., Mr. C. E. Welch; Area Representative, Mr. J. Bell. The Open Session was conducted by Council President, Evening Service by President and Delegates.—C. H. Saxelby.

SOUTHERN COUNTIES.

The Annual General Meeting of the above Council was held at Reading on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 5th and 6th. Business meeting was held on Saturday, 5th, at 3 p.m. The reports given by the District Visitor and Secretary were very encouraging and inspiring. During the year, Quarterly Meetings had been held at the following towns: Brighton (North St.); Brighton (Brotherhood); Bournemouth and Portsmouth, all of which were well organised, and great credit is due to the local workers of these towns for their untiring efforts on behalf of the D.C. The enthusiasm displayed by the Delegates from all Lyceums throughout the year contributed largely to the success that had attended the efforts of the E.C. The Treasurer's Report showed a substantial balance in hand, which was most encouraging seeing that this D.C. covered such a vast area, making the travelling expenses of the E.C. a considerable item, with the increased rail-fares and postage. We have a balance in hand of £3 11s. 0d.

The Election of Officers: President, Mrs. Percy R. Street (Reading); Secretary, Mr. A. H. Coles (Bournemouth); Treasurer, Mrs. A. Taylor (Portsmouth); District Visitor, Mr. E. Cager (Brighton); subject to the confirmation of the M.C. B.S.L.U. Delegate to next Conference, Mr. A. H. Coles.

As will be seen from the Election of Officers, the E.C. is well divided as far as can be. Following the election of officers, Mrs. Street assumed the Presidential badge, amid acclamation and congratulations. This badge being the Lyceum Brooch taken out of the rolled gold frame and set in gold with a further mounting of gold and blue enamel and gold letters, the initial letters of this D.C., with the word President set in a scroll, thus making a very pretty and worthy Badge for our President.

Sunday was devoted to Propaganda work when all speakers were Lyceumists, viz., Messrs. J. Goodwin, E. Cager, A. Coles, A. Lawrence, J. Jackson, and Percy R. Street, all of which urged parents to see that their children received the right and proper education, at least from a religious point, a training that would draw out all that was noble, good and pure, such could be had at the Lyceums where the teaching was of a gentle, kind and loving nature, and not the cramming system as adopted in our day-schools of to-day. A most fitting climax to the services was the dedication of a child, This service was indeed very impressive and ably taken by Mr. Percy R. Street. So successful were these meetings that a net balance of £7 7s. 0d. was carried to our General Fund, and our best thanks are due to the Parent Church at Reading and Bournemouth who both gave the whole of the collections to the fund of the D.C. at the same time bearing all expenses of the visit. A noble lead and interest in the Children's Movement.—A. H. Coles, Hon. Sec.

SOUTHERN COUNTIES' PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS TO THE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Dear Fellow Workers,

I think you will agree with me when I say that we may look back upon the year 1920 with some satisfaction, in as far as it relates to the Cause of Spiritualism. We have seen evidences of growth of such a nature as to lead us to a certain conviction that the long battle to secure recognition has at length turned in our favour. The publication of the Vale Owen Script, the National News articles of Dr. Ellis Powell, and the continued labours of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle have had a most striking effect upon public opinion. All these activities with their attendant publicity have brought large numbers of enquirers into our churches, with the result they are enrolled as members. This means added responsibilities with regard to the training of the children. These new members have in many cases decided that their children cannot continue to be taught doctrines that they—the parents—have ceased to regard as representing Divine Truth, and therefore enquiries are made concerning the Lyceum. Are we ready to receive these young people? is the question we must ask ourselves. Have we the right teachers and the best methods? I am sure that the Lyceum methods are capable of securing the best possible results if rightly applied. Our work as a District Council is to secure for every Lyceum an efficient teaching staff. Men and women, as I said to you last year, filled with the love

of the work, and possessing sound knowledge, with power to impart it. The finest appeal we can make to secure the children of new members is to show by practical demonstration, the effect of the Lyceum training in the lives of those who have the care of the children. Where possible get the teachers from the ranks of the Lyceum itself. The importance of the Lyceum is often not recognised by the parent church. Indeed it is looked upon as somewhat of a nuisance, and there results a great deal of interference of such a kind that the teachers are hampered in their work. This must be avoided at all costs. The Lyceum is by far the most important work that is being done in Spiritualism to-day. The whole future of our cause, if not indeed the destiny of the nation itself depends upon **THE CHILDREN**.

The labours of this Union have been blessed during the past year. Our Quarterly Council Meetings have added to our strength by their success. We want to see every church in the south with a Lyceum attached to the Council. It is to be deplored that there are churches in our area who have apparently made no effort to start a Lyceum, and who are quite content to drift along in fancied security without any extra responsibility. One day the awakening will take place, and what they think they have well-built will be crumbling away, because there are no children coming forward to take the vacant places in the ranks. I am firmly of opinion that those who neglect the call of the children in our cause are faithless stewards of the Truth, and will reap a sad and bitter harvest in the world to come. My year of office has passed pleasantly and I would like to thank you all for your loyalty and help. Our Secretary, with the most thankless task of all, has worked like a Trojan. Mr. Jackson, the D.V., has most successfully performed the duties of his important office and the same may be said of Mr. Taylor, our Treasurer. All have done their utmost to make the work of the Council an influence in the Lyceums of the South.

We are co-workers with those in spirit life whose labour it is to care for the children. They can see more clearly than we can the needs of the hour, is it not therefore our solemn duty to seek more frequently than we do their help and guidance? This is not a question of being forever running to circles and sittings. We have within us the powers, that properly used, unite us with the world beyond. Let us then endeavour to bring our souls and minds into tune with the Divine Life and beget harmony in every thought and deed; then there will be no question of our contact with the spirit world, we shall be the constant partakers of a veritable 'Communion of Saints.' The Children's Cause is big enough, noble enough, for us to lay aside all thoughts of self and devote ourselves to the training of citizens of the next generation, so that this world will in very truth be "a world fit for heroes to live in," or in other words "a world in which the philosophy of Spiritualism and the training of the Lyceum has objectified in conduct of greater morality, greater service, and greater love one to another."

CICELY A. STREET.

TEES-SIDE DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Conference of the above Council was held in Darlington Psychological Hall, Blackwell Gate, on Sunday, February 13th, 1921. Opened the day of labour by singing No. 398 from the Lyceum Manual. Invocation being given by Mr. G. Neale (Stockton). Chair was taken by the President, Mr. C. H. Roeder (Middlesbrough). President, in his address, welcomed the Associates, Delegates and Representatives most heartily. Welcome was also given to the Council by Miss Airey, the Conductor of the Darlington Lyceum. This being replied to by the Vice-President (Mr. Smith, Shildon), Minutes of past Conference were adopted. After a deal of discussion it was ultimately resolved to hold the next Annual Field Day in Darlington on August the 1st. All arrangements were left to the E.C. Treasurer's Report showed a balance in hand of £6 17s. 7½d. Secretary's, Auditors' and Delegates' reports were all accepted. Good response in numbers. 18 Delegates, 73 Associates and 9 E.C. Election of Officers:—President, Mr. Brown (Stockton); Secretary, E. W. Buckingham (Middlesbrough); Treasurer and District Visitor, Mr. G. Edwards (Middlesbrough). Every Lyceum was represented. Best thank were tendered towards the retiring officers. Next Conference at Brunswick Street, Stockton, May 8th. A pleasing incident was performed during the afternoon session. A Lyceum Manual being presented to Mr. Riley, an old and established worker for the Children's Movement, for his good work on behalf of the Council. A good session. Evening's Service was conducted by Mr. C. H. Roeder (Middlesbrough), Mr. Smith (Shildon), Mr. Edwards (Middlesbrough), Mr. G. Neale (Stockton), Mr. R. Brown (Stockton), who spoke very earnestly upon the Lyceum and its work.—**E. W. Buckingham, Sec.**

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD.

Annual Meeting held at Collyhurst Spiritual Church, Saturday, February 12th. A good attendance; eleven Lyceums represented, 21 delegates and 2 associates. Officers present: Pres., Mr. Kay; Sec., Mr. Garton; Treasurer, Mrs. Bentley. Mr. Kay, pres., in the chair. Business: election of officers: Miss Elliott, Pres.; Mrs. Bentley, Vice-Pres.; Mr. H. Taylor, Sec.; Mr. Bentley, Treas.; Miss Sharples, D.V.; Assistant D.V.'s, Mrs. Hunt, Mrs. Gershaw, Mr. Garton, Mr. Hope. Delegate to U.D.C., Miss Elliott; delegate to Conference, Mr. Garton. Treasurer's report good. Auditors report and all other reports accepted. It was also mentioned that it was our D. Visitor's (Mrs. Bentley) 21st anniversary in that office without a break, which is a life's work in a noble cause. Raby Street were admitted to Council, also a number of new associate members. After meeting we spent a pleasant evening together in the form of a Social Evening. The members of Collyhurst entertained all delegates and associate members to tea.—**H. Taylor, Sec.**

LYCEUM REPORTS.

- RULE 1.**—Reports must be written on one side of the paper only. Commence the Report by stating the name of your Lyceum, and sign your name at the end.
- RULE 2.**—Record only the events occurring after February 23rd.
- RULE 3.**—Lyceums taking 1 dozen copies, 25 words; 2 dozen 50 words; 3 dozen, 75 words; 4 dozen copies and over, 100 words. Additional words to be paid for at the rate of 6d. for every nine words. This Rule does not apply to Lyceums numbering fewer than 30 members.
- RULE 4.**—All Reports must reach this Office not later than March 23rd, to ensure insertion in the April issue.
- RULE 5.**—Colonial Reports, if posted to the Lyceum Banner within 7 days after the events reported, will be inserted in the next issue after receipt at the "Banner" Office.

ACCINGTON, Paul Street.—On February 6th, 1921, we held our Open and enjoyable Session. We opened at 10-30 by singing 341 out of the Manual. S.C.R. 78 very nicely read. M.R. 212. G.C. 119. Marching and calisthenics very nicely gone through, especially by the young Lyceumists under the conductorship of Miss F. Greenhalgh. We closed our session by singing 306 and benediction by Mr. Fazakerly, our conductor.—**Mr. Oswald Cahill, Sec.**

BARROW-IN-FURNESS, Dalkeith Street.—Founder's Day was celebrated by an enjoyable Open Session. We had an encouraging number of interested visitors. The Society kindly forfeited one service so that Miss Morse might give clairvoyance to the Lyceumists. Miss Morse added interest by reference to her interviews with Dr. Davis.—**B. Walker, Sec.**

BARROW, Ramsden Street.—On 6th February we held our Open Session and First Annual Distribution of Prizes for attendance. Several of the Lyceumists rendered special efforts. Mr. W. Edwards, of Accrington, presented the books. Many of the parents attended. We received many valuable hints from Mr. Edwards, and enjoyed a good Session.—**Mrs. Nock, Sec.**

BEDWORTH.—Open Session, January 30th. We celebrated the 58th anniversary of the Lyceum Movement. Mr. Rowe unfurled a banner and presented it to Banner Group. Recitations were given by Phyllis Richards, Florrie Ison, Ivy West, Ada Davis, Annie Tebbit, Harriet Marston, Harry Tedds and Arthur Tedds. Banner Group also sang "Wave the Banner."—**Miss C. Rowe, Sec.**

BIRKENHEAD.—We held our Open Session on February 6th, conducted by Mr. Dunn. It was very satisfactory and well attended. The opening hymn was 303, Silver Chain 56, Musical Reading 226, Golden Chain 128. Recitations were given by Daisy Hallet, Lizzie Sumner, Florrie Leighton, Lily Leighton, and Harriet Sumner.—**R. Lane, Sec.**

BLACKBURN, ST. Peter Street.—On January 30th, we held our usual Open Session; over 200 people were present, including a number from neighbouring Lyceums. The Opening Hymn 412 was sung with plenty of life; the various readings being very ably gone through. 110 took part in the marching. Prizes were afterwards distributed to 29 scholars for good attendance. They had at least 22 attendances out of 100.

Our late Conductor, Mr. J. Entwistle, ably distributed them. Afterwards our Lady President, Mrs. Pickles, of Blackpool, kindly spoke a few words to us, not forgetting a few of our scholars who recited voluntarily. A very enjoyable Session brought to a close with Hymn 403.—Mrs. Robinson, Sec.

BOLTON, Bradford St.—Our Lyceum is progressing favourably, new members being enrolled every week. Guild classes are being formed to encourage the Lyceumists to take more interest in their work. We have started an Organ and Renovation Fund, having a variety of Entertainments on Saturday evenings. We give our heartiest invitation to all Lyceumists and Friends.—James Worthington, Sec.

BRADFORD, Ivy Rooms.—Feb. 6th, Anniversary Day; recitations rendered by scholars, enjoyable morning. We also held a Lyceum session in the evening, much appreciated by audience. Conductor, Mrs. Fernley.—W. Simpson, Sec.

BRADFORD, Laisterdyke.—Grand Opening Session on Feb. 6th, conducted by Mr. Belford. Songs, solos and recitations were given by Miss Dixon, Miss Cook, Miss Tordoff, Mrs. Babbs, Master Thompson and Wooler. We held our Lyceum Anniversary and Prize Distribution on Feb. 13th, the Prizes were given out by our Conductor, Mr. Barnes. Our speaker for the day, Mrs. Hirst, of Wyke, gave us some kind and encouraging remarks. Our numbers are increasing every Sunday and our motto is progression for all.—James Babbs, Sec.

BRIGHTON, The Old Barn.—Our Annual General Meeting took place on Sunday morning, February 13th, when offices were filled as follows:—Conductor, Roy Banks; Assistant Conductor, Miss A. Scoggins; Guardians, Mr. H. Everett; Secretary, Mrs. Dingley; Treasurer, Miss Ruby Panther; Drill Instructors, Mr. E. Cager and Miss Winnie Jeffries; Librarian, Ronald Kelly; Hon. Musical Conductor, Mrs. Meikle; Pianoforte Assistants, Miss Rosoman, Mrs. Banks, Queenie Rhoades, May Dingley, Ruby Panther, Jack Parsons, and Mr. Fredk. Curry; Lyceum Representative to Parent Society, Roy Banks; Group Leaders, Miss Winnie Schofield, Mrs. Banks and Mr. Everett; Captain of Guards, Mr. Reginald Jacobs; Guards, Basil Kelly, Malcolm Everett, Charles Rhoades, John Dixon and Mr. Cager; Auditors, Mr. R. Gurd and Chas. Hill.

BRISTOL, Providence Hall.—On Sunday last it was decided to establish a "Guild Night" for members. Great enthusiasm was shown and a dialogue "Sleeping Beauty," was arranged to be worked up in conjunction with the Guild Classes.—A. Ayliffe, Sec.

BURNLEY, Hammerton St.—On Jan 23rd, we held our Lyceum Day, when we had Miss Edith Elliott, of Manchester, with us. In the afternoon we held an Open Session. There was a large attendance and the various items of Lyceum work were splendidly demonstrated, being thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by all present. The children responded well with songs and recitations. It was one of the days which will live in our memories and give us renewed strength to carry on for the children's sake. In the evening Miss Elliott gave an address on "The Origin of the Lyceum."—Annie Crossley, Sec., pro tem.

BURNLEY, North St.—On Feb. 6th our Lyceum was well attended by adults and children, the latter being congratulated on their good marching. Prizes were presented and a few well chosen words spoken by our conductor, Mrs. Rawlinson. It was very pleasing to see a few visitors, one being Mr. Smith Watson, a past conductor of Burnley, Hammerton St., also Mr. John Griffin, an old Lyceumist, on a visit from Toronto, Canada.—E. Poppleton, Sec.

CHESTERFIELD.—On Feb. 6th we held our Open Session and the following Lyceumists obliged: Mr. Tattersall, A. Beckett, Connie Ridler, Harry Briggs, Ethel Wale, Olive Leggett, Kenwood Widdowson, Frank Leggett, Sidney Slater, Nancy Gill and Jack Leggett. Mr. Widdowson brought the session to a close with a Farewell Message to two of our Lyceumists who are leaving for Australia.

On Feb. 13th, we had the S.L.D.C. with us, and at a well-attended Open Session, the following kindly contributed: Mrs. Tattersall, Mrs. Widdowson, Nancy Mathews, Marion Horton, Olive Leggett, Mr. Rawlinson, Mr. Saxelby, Mr. Ballard, and Harry Briggs.—J. J. Hobster, Sec.

COVENTRY, Foleshill.—Feb. 6th, Open Session; recitations by Miss Lucas, Masie Barnam, N. Lee and Connie Hutton. Solo, Miss Lucas. Feb. 19th, Lyceum Concert; a great success.—Mrs. E. M. Hutton, Hon. Sec.

DEWSBURY.—We held our Open Session on Sunday, 29th Jan., at which we celebrated the Anniversary of our Movement.

Mr. C. Phillips conducted the special session arranged. All readings and responses were well rendered and much light was gained by the several comments made; many Pearls given. Solos by Misses Stott and Brown; recitation by Mr. W. A. Begg. We were pleased to know, through Mrs. Thornes and Mr. Baldwin, that many old workers were with us in the spirit. Marching and calisthenics smartly gone through. Mr. Baldwin gave us an interesting lecture on "Slum Life" before the close of a real good session.—E. Wilson, Sec.

EARBY.—We held our Open Session on Feb. 13th. Songs and recitations were given by the Lyceumists, we spent a good time together.—Mrs. E. N. Hodgson.

GT. HARWOOD.—We held our Open Session on Feb. 6th, opening with Hymn 391 from the Manual. The following took part in various readings:—Silver Chain 3, Maggie Fish; Musical Reading 299, William Parkinson and Tom Hodgson. Golden Chain 105, W. Parkinson. Recitation was given by Dorothy Hurtle, duet by Mrs. J. Hodgson and Alice Banks, and solos by Florence Hurtle and Maggie Fish. We had our District Visitor, Mr. Holland, with us and he spoke a few words of help and encouragement.—A. Waterhouse, Sec.

GRIMSBY.—On Sunday, 30th Jan., joint session of Society and Lyceum. Prizes were presented to the scholars by Mrs. Nicol, Vice-Conductor. Special mention of the Anniversary of the Founding of the Lyceum Movement during the Service. Feb. 6th, Open Sessions well attended. Solos by Misses M. Barron, H. Shoot, Mr. Cole; recitations by Mrs. Fox, Misses E. Barron, N. Hockley.—Gladys Powell, Sec.

HOLLINWOOD.—Byron St.—We held our Open Sessions on Feb. 6th. Our General Sec., Mr. Knott, taking our evening service, and we had something to think about. Miss Shaw, a Lyceumist, rendered a beautiful solo and Mr. Dixon gave some convincing proof at our evening circle. Thanks are due to the above for the great success our Lyceum Open Sessions realized, financially and spiritually. We are looking forward to our Secretary visiting us again.—H. Taylor, Sec.

HUDDERSFIELD, St. Peter's St.—On Saturday, Feb. 5th we held a Social and Dance which was well attended and proved a financial success. On Feb. 6th, we had a visit from our District Council. In the morning they held their business meeting and in the afternoon we had our Prize Distribution. Our Conductor, Mrs. Oliver, gave the prizes and spoke a few words to each recipient. It was a real pleasure to see the tiny ones toddling up to the rostrum. Recitations, pearls and duets were rendered by the Lyceum scholars. In the evening, Mr. Ellis, the new President of the District Council, gave the address and thus brought an enjoyable day to a close.—Ernest Gibson, Sec.

LEEDS, Armley.—On Sat., Sunday and Monday, 29th, 30th and 31st Jan., 1921, The Lyceum of the above church celebrated their 26th Anniversary. On Saturday there was a Tea and Concert given by Lyceumists, which proved a huge success. On Sunday, the chair was taken by Mr. Kitson, Advisor to the B.S.L.U., subject, "The Origin of Spiritualism." At each service there were record attendances. Monday was conducted by local speakers, thus ending a remarkable week-end at Armley.—Mrs. H. Middleton, Sec.

LONDON, Ilford.—On Sunday, Feb. 6th, we held our Open Session conducted by Mr. A. T. Connor. We were pleased to have several visitors but hope to see more on future occasions. Pearls were well rendered by everyone present. A very interesting and instructive session. Sunday, 13th, Mr. Hall conducted; recitations by Mr. Hall, Eileen Connor, Moira Connor, Hamish Spence, Alfie Hall. Duet by Reg. Bowmer and Miss Parish, who also officiated at the piano. Wednesday, 16th, successful Social in and of Lyceum Funds at Manor Park Library Hall. Dancing, musical items, games and refreshments enjoyed by all.—Reg. Bowmer.

LONDON, Manor Park.—We held our Annual Festival and Prize Distribution on 27th January. Mr. T. Brooks honoured us by presenting the Prizes. Songs, etc., kindly rendered by various Lyceumists and friends, were very much appreciated, and we enjoyed a very successful evening; the children enjoyed their tea immensely, thanks to the most able assistance of our lady friends. We take this opportunity of thanking our friends in general for their kind help both pecuniary and personal. We should like to name them all here, but space will not permit. Still progressing.—L.B.

LONDON, Plaistow.—Pleased to announce that we had a visit from Mr. Simons, who gave an encouraging address to the

children. All visitors will be made welcome. Mr. Manning has been elected Conductor once more.—B. Manning, Sec.

LONDON, Tottenham.—We held our Open Session on Feb. 13th, a great number of Lyceumists and visitors were present. The marching and calisthenics were gone through and are getting better. Nurse Graham spoke some encouraging words. Silver Chain 79 and Musical Reading 214 were next taken; a great number of pearls, recitations and solos were rendered by Lyceumists. We closed with Hymn No. 338. Altogether we had a most successful month.—Nellie Winter, Session Sec.

LONDON, Woolwich and Plumstead.—This Lyceum had their Annual Tea and Prize Distribution on January 27th and very enjoyable Social and Dance with games for the younger Lyceumists. It made the evening's pleasure all too short. Mr. E. G. Dixon, J.P. distributed the Prizes, and gave us the free use of Invicta Hall for the evening. Our roll is being added to every week and we are proving the truth of our Motto, "The Workers Win."—W.R.

MANCHESTER, Ardwick.—We held our Election of Officers on Jan. 31st. The following officers were elected: Conductor, Miss Entwistle, Assistant, Mr. R. Storey; Secretary, Mr. H. Storey; Treasurer, Mrs. Holden; Leaders, Mr. G. Dixon and Miss Savage; Guardian, Marion Tracey; Librarian, Annie Jones.—H. Storey, Sec.

MARSDEN.—We held our Annual Tea and Concert, also Prize Distribution, on January 29th. Our dear friend Mr. Kitson kindly presented the prizes. The programme consisted of songs, duets, recitations, dialogues, and a musical play, given by the young Lyceumists, entitled "Jessie's Dream," the efforts were greatly appreciated by all present. Quite a financial success.—Martha Varley, Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH, Grange Road, West.—We celebrated the Anniversary of the Lyceum on the 30th January. Special Reading, Hymns, Musical Readings, were chosen for the Service, Mr. Chas. Roeder, our Conductor of many years standing in the past, stated many interesting facts in relation to the growth of the Lyceum; then he gave us also a brief history of Middlesbrough Lyceum, referring to its birth, growth and development.—E. W. Buckingham, Sec.

NEWCASTLE, Rutherford St.—On Jan. 30th we held our Quarterly Lyceum Session by taking the platform at the evening service. Bro. Huckle conductor took the Chair. Recitations by Mr. Secker, Mrs. Proud, Miss Heath, Bolton, Huckle and Price, and Master Price. Solos by Mrs. Wilkinson, Misses Heath, Turnbull, Nichol. Musical reading by Lyceum, a Band of Spirit Children (seen by Conductor). Asked by special request for song "Angels lead my Footsteps" to be sung by Lyceum.

Feb. 6th, we held our Open Session. The conductor asked for sympathy for D.V. Bro. Hall, of Gateshead, in his sad loss in the passing on of one of his sons; the Lyceum all stood in silence for a few moments. We had good array of talent, with pearls recitations and songs. The Conductor's remarks in the Musical reading and Silver and Golden Chains were listened to attentively and he gave all a hearty invitation to our Thursday Guild Rally. Membership roll now 80.—G. Sample Dawson.

NOTTINGHAM, Parliament Street.—We held our Open Session on Feb. 6th, when we all passed an enjoyable afternoon. Pearls were beautifully rendered by young and old Lyceumists, solos were also rendered by Miss Ada Bullivant, Doris Iliffe, Lillian Fell, Mr. K. Vardy; recitations were given by Kitty Billington, Arthur Pepper and Mr. Lane. Mrs. Rose, Speaker for the day, gave a few remarks on the usefulness of the Lyceum for young and old.—K. Vardy, Sec.

PRESTON, Lancaster Rd.—On Jan. 30th we celebrated the Anniversary of the Lyceum Movement. We had as our conductor for the day, Mr. Batley, Area Representative; a very good day. Our Open Sessions were splendid, a great number of Lyceumists took part. We also had a good number of visitors at the afternoon and evening sessions. We had a record day both financially and spiritually, and hope to reap the benefit of the day later.—R. Smalley, Sec.

QUARMBY.—We had a very instructive Open Session on Feb. 13th. Conducted by Mrs. Armitage; recitations were given by Misses A. Lancaster, E. Armitage and George Lancaster Mr. Wallace and his daughter from St. Peter St., favoured us with a duet. A pleasant afternoon was brought to an end by singing Hymn 404.—H. Baxter, Sec.

ROTHERHAM.—We held our monthly Social on Feb. 16th, which was a great success. The programme included a special

dance by Miss Burton and Miss Foster, a comedy act by W. Hartley, violin solos, dancing and games, which were thoroughly enjoyed. Miss Ethel Stanley won the Shuttlefeather competition, and last but not least the Lyceum gave an exhibition of the 1st series of calisthenics which was a credit to every performer.—Ron. Ainsworth, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—Jan. 30th, Foundation Day Session was held according to Banner Instruction. The Session as a whole was one that could be placed among the best ever held in connection with this Lyceum. The tone of the session was such that one seemed to receive a Spiritual Blessing by just being present. The conductor was Mr. F. Smith, assisted by Mrs. Saxelby, and Mr. Ballard, who deserve great commendation for the manner in which they grappled with their subjects. The marching and calisthenics were indeed such as one could expect in such a heaven and I believe a vast number of children of the advanced sphere marched with us. Towards the close of the session we were favoured by having representatives of the Yorkshire District Council with us, Mr. Ackroyd and Mr. Ben Taylor making good use of the few minutes they were allowed to speak to the children.—C. H. Saxelby, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Centre, Paradise Square.—We held our Open Session on Feb. 6th; it was well attended. A good number of recitations, duets and pianoforte solos were rendered by Lyceumists. Marching and calisthenics were gone through. Altogether we had a session which was enjoyed by everyone present.—Mrs. H. C. Organ, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Heeley.—On Jan. 23rd, we held our Lyceum Day. Open Session at night, when Mrs. Crowder of Sheffield, named two babies. Open Session on Feb. 6th. A good time was spent.—Geo. Porter, Sec.

SOWERBY BRIDGE.—We held our Annual Distribution of Prizes on Sunday, Feb. 6th. We had with us our friend and speaker for the day, Mr. Gilling, who kindly presented the prizes. Before the prize-giving we held a very good and enjoyable Open Session. Recitations were given by Misses Robinson, Clegg, Barrett, Hollas, Dunnington and Wilson and Master Whiteley. A song by Mrs. Sutcliffe, pearls were also given and a very interesting talk by Mr. Gilling.—W. Wright, Sec.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES, Brunswick St.—On Jan. 30th our Lyceumists rendered a Service of Song entitled "Spirit Return," which was greatly appreciated by the audience. Feb. 6th was our Open Session, when the scholars gave pearls, recitations and two duets.—E. Wells, Sec.

SUNDERLAND, Victory.—On February 6th, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Crookland was named John Robert Crookland. Ceremony by Miss Hills.—J.S.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—A very enjoyable evening was spent in the above named Church on Tuesday, Feb. 8th, when a Social was held. Two Lyceumists, Norah Carr, aged 5 yrs., and Bennie Miller, age 6 yrs., added to the programme by giving two recitations, both well rendered. Refreshments were provided by leaders of our Lyceum. The latter part of the evening was devoted to games. A profit of 30s. was made, this to go to our Lyceum Fund.—Miss E. Carr.

WELLINGTON, New Zealand.—The members held a Picnic at Island Bay on Nov. 27th. We had swimming and games and races and had tea on the beach. The Lyceum progressing finely. We are busy practising for our Anniversary Day. We are very pleased with the photo of Mrs. Harris Roberts in the Lyceum Banner. We are joining the Guild when we receive results of the last examination.—Mary Atkinson, Sec.

WINDHILL.—We held our Open Session during February, songs, recitations, duets and a pianoforte solo were very much enjoyed; pearls were given and a good session was held.—E. Alderson, Sec.

WINNIPEG.—We held our Open Session on Feb. 6th; a splendid attendance. Recitations by Ella Crawley, Silvia Parkinson, Maud Hargraves, Olive Forrest, Evelyn Hargraves and Billy Barnes; solos by Mr. C. Forrest, Mrs. Crawley and Mr. H. Forrest; it is a treat to listen to our smaller children giving their recitations. Pearls were given by Helen Lawrence, Verna MacLeod, Ella Crawley, Maude Hargraves, Eddie MacLeod, Mr. Wilson, Mrs. Parkinson and Evelyn Hargraves. On Jan. 30th we held the Anniversary of our Founder, Andrew Jackson Davis, following the plan in the Lyceum Banner. We had a record attendance which shall always be remembered; we are making good progress and having new scholars in our ranks.—Charles Forrest, Sec.]

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