

THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 376. Vol. XXXII.

JUNE 4th, 1922.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

The Cleverest of all Insects.

(Continued).

BY THE WONDERMAN.

You have learnt how the clever little ants build underground cities made up of gallery upon gallery. I am going to tell you of some even more wonderful things ants do.

Ant Eggs.

When the queen has married and bitten off her wings, she begins to lay her eggs, which are carefully looked after by the workers. When it rains, the eggs are carried from the lowest gallery to one higher up, so that they are not swamped. When the sun shines the eggs are carried into the top gallery or even into the open, so that they receive more warmth. The mother Ant goes on laying eggs from time to time and the workers keep the batches separate. When the egg is hatched a tiny white grub comes out. We call one of these grubs a larva and more than one we call larvae.

Ant Chrysalises.

The larvae are looked after as carefully as human babies. The worker ants feed them with liquid food so that they grow bigger and change into chrysalises. In this chrysalis stage the young ant goes on growing, but does not take any food. Men collect these "ant eggs" for birds and goldfishes. When the perfect ants are formed, the workers help them out of their coverings and soon teach the young ants their duties. Newly-born males or queens prepare for the wedding day and the workers begin their duties.

Ant Cows.

Ants like honey better than anything. Now there is a tiny insect called the honey dew or aphid which feeds on the juice of plants and changes the juice into honey. The little brown ants climb trees or plants to get the honey from the aphides. They approach the little creature gently, caress it, stroke it and then tap it with the antennæ so that it parts with the honey. These ants sometimes make little tunnels in the plants and imprison the aphides there, so that they have a good supply of honey. The yellow ants seize the aphides and carry them into their own city in the ground, where they are milked by their owners like dairymaids milk cows. More wonderful still, the worker ants look after the eggs of the aphides as carefully as they look after the eggs of their queen, and they make sure of a plentiful supply of honey.

Ant pets.

These clever ants keep other insects in their homes too. They even have pets just as we have dogs and cats for pets. They play with them and fondle them and the pets seem to enjoy it too. Besides the aphides which make the honey, the ants keep a queer kind of insect which has nothing more to do than store up honey for the ants. The honey ants are so helpless that if one falls over it cannot get up without help. They are just live honey pots. They live in Texas, Mexico and Australia.

Ant rice and ant-barns.

There are ants which actually grind their own flour. They collect grains of corn and seeds of flowers and store them in their barns. What they do to prevent the seeds sprouting no one knows exactly. They seem to let the seed begin to sprout, then carry them into the sunshine to dry and crush them into flour which they store for the winter.

One kind of ant even grows its own crops. A seed called the ant rice grows round the nest and all other growths are bitten so that only the ant rice grows. When ripe, the ants gather the seeds and take them into their underground granaries.

Ant slaves.

There are some strong fierce ants, called Amazon ants, which

make war upon those weaker than themselves. They seem to agree upon the time of attack, run along the ground in swarms and with their keen scent find the nest of the enemy and rush upon it. The ants in the stormed city come out to fight and others seize as many of their own larvæ and chrysalises as possible and quickly climb trees or tall grasses, out of the way. The Amazons are always the victors; they enter the city, kill all the adult ants and carry off the eggs and larvæ that remain. The stolen chrysalises grow in their new home and the baby ants become slaves of the Amazons. They do all the work, even to feeding the big Amazons.

Blind Ants.

The terrible Driver Ants of West Africa, even war on man. As they move along in great swarms, they eat everything possible, living or dead. They are blind and generally travel at night. Everything before them is destroyed—flies, spiders, poultry—even pigs and big snakes. If the Drivers travel by day, they build tunnels with great skill and speed. They even cross streams by making bridges of their own bodies. When they are on the war path, men even have to give up their houses.

A time ago there was a terrible pest of ants on the Island of Grenada. A reward of £20,000 was offered for their extermination. They swarmed down the hill sides and filled every field and road. Rats, mice, birds and reptiles were attacked and eaten. When they reached streams of water, the leaders rushed in and myriads followed until a bank of dead bodies was formed. Then the others passed over. Fire did not exterminate the pests. The flames were put out; they rushed into the flames in such numbers. No man received the reward. At last a frightful storm destroyed the homes and drowned the ants.

Ant huts.

There are some terrible insects, bigger than ants, but much like them, called Termites. They build homes like big mud huts, on which a man can jump without breaking them down. They can eat anything except minerals or metals and can inflict painful wounds on man with their terrible bites. Their homes are full of underground galleries, like those of the ants, and may be more than three times as tall as a man. There are as many as 2,000 species of ants in the world. They live in all parts except the extremely cold. In England we are not pestered with the more destructive kinds.

When the warmer days come, go into the woods and watch our little wood ants. They are quite harmless and you can learn much from them. During the winter, they sleep. All ants have little bags of poison. The destructive kind can throw out poison a distance of two feet. A handkerchief lightly brushed over a colony of common wood ants will be found to be charged with acid. Ants are beneficial as scavengers, but sometimes they enter houses, and if not dealt with soon, they are hard to rid.

Fable of the Ant and the Grasshopper.

A nest of ants had been busily occupied all through the summer and autumn in collecting for the winter, and they had carefully stored it in the wonderful underground chambers of their home. Thus, when the winter came, they had plenty of food to eat.

One cold day a grasshopper, who was almost starved with cold and hunger, came to the ant-hill and begged that the ants would give him a little food to save his life.

One of them asked how he had spent his time during the summer, and whether he had not saved up anything for the winter. He replied: "Alas! gentlemen, I spent all my time in singing, playing and dancing, and never once thought about the winter."

The ant answered: "Then we have nothing to give you; for people who play all the summer must expect that they will have to starve in the winter."

Suggested New Oral Grade in the Education Scheme.

Compiled by A. T. CONNOR for the Education Committee.

The Education Committee has come to the conclusion that our Lyceum children should not have to wait until they are ten years old before being introduced to some facts and aspects of Spiritualism not usually touched on in the ordinary Lyceum Session. But the Committee recognises that, to children under ten, writing is often a task, and that many candidates at a written examination would not be able to do full justice to their knowledge. So it has been decided to hold an Oral Examination (at the same time as the written examination) for Lyceumists under ten; and the appended Oral Grade Syllabus has been drawn up.

The children should be asked to learn the Silver Chains at home, and recite them at the Lyceum as Individual Efforts; whilst the Summaries and "Catechism" could be studied in the ORAL GRADE GROUP. The Questions and Answers might also be learned at home—by learning two a week the child could go through them all about three times a year, and then have time for final revision. (It might be found more suitable to take three or four of the shorter answers for one week, and give one or more weeks to each of the longer answers.) The language used is as simple as possible, but it has been found impossible to avoid altogether using difficult words and expressions; and it has been left to the Grade Leader to explain, and see that the children thoroughly understand, all that is taught. Notes suggesting explanations have been added after some of the answers.

Further information can be obtained from the ORAL GRADE SECRETARY, MISS ALICE HESP, 10, Cross Flatts Drive, Beeston, Leeds.

ORAL GRADE SYLLABUS.

SECTION A: SYLLABUS:

LEARN Silver Chains 15, 19, 55 and 100;
STUDY the Summaries in Section B, and
LEARN the Answers to Questions in Section C.

SECTION B: SUMMARIES:

S.C.R. 15—*The Spirits' Mission*—teaches us that our loving Spirit Friends come to us at all times, when they see that we need their help; and always leave a blessing with us. We must not think of them as being so far away that they lose their love for us, or do not know that we need them; nor even that they do not hurry at once to answer our call. They have made it their mission to do loving and sympathetic work amongst those still living in Earth-life—and we are full of joy at having found this out. They answer every call "thrice gladly," when they know that we are in sorrow or trouble, and they feel that they are fully rewarded if we make them welcome, accept their loving help, and try to make ourselves fit to live in constant communion with them.

S.C.R. 19—"Home"—teaches us that a nice house, with nice pictures and grand furniture, do not (of themselves) make a home, *unless* all the people who live in the house love each other, and try to do things that will bring pleasure and happiness to everybody. Even a bird's nest can be a home, if love rules the actions of the birds.

S.C.R. 55—*Hope on, Hope Ever!*—teaches us that we should never give up hope, no matter how dark things may seem; for brightness may come at any time. No matter how badly others may treat us, God accepts our LOVE. It is hard to be poor while others have more than they need, or to be sneered at by nasty people who wish to hurt us—but from these sorrows of the present we must turn to our ideals of the future, which will fill us with renewed hope. The darkest night is *always* followed by bright morning, full of fresh life and fresh hope; and we must always hope for the time when we shall all love one another, and be *real* brothers and sisters, thus making this Earth a happy "home" (of the kind of which S.C.R. 19 teaches us).

S.C.R. 100—*There is no Death*—teaches us that we, as Spirits, *cannot* die; that "what Men call Death" is only the change from life *with* a physical body to life *without* a physical body. Life is ever changing (as the seed changes into a plant, and the plant goes on till it produces a flower), and, if we like to try, we can go forward (even in Earth-life) to higher and higher states of life. This Earth-life seems just like a sleep, from which we awake into Spirit-life. So do not let us think of our friends as "dead"—we know that they are *alive*, and that they have only gone

from earthly homes to spirit homes (from which, as we are taught in S.C.R. 15, they gladly come to help and encourage us).

SECTION C: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

1. What is a Spiritualist Lyceum?
A Spiritualist Lyceum is a school for Spiritualists, whether young or old.
2. What is a Lyceumist?
A Lyceumist is a member of a Lyceum, but a *true* Lyceumist is a student member.
3. What do you mean by a student member?
I mean a member who *studies* the Lyceum's teaching, and seeks to learn all possible about the beginnings, the pioneers, the progress and the aims of the Lyceum Movement.
4. How does the Lyceum system help us?
It develops and trains the thinking powers of Lyceumists, and widens their outlook on life.
5. Who started the Lyceum Movement?
Andrew Jackson Davis, in Dodsworth Hall, Broadway, New York, U.S.A., on January 25th, 1863.
6. Why did he start the Lyceum?
Because, in a vision, he had seen the Lyceums for children in Spirit-life, and thought that what was good for them must be good for people in Earth-life.
7. Did he start any other Lyceum besides the one at Dodsworth Hall?
We do not know; but he wrote articles about Lyceums in the Spirit World, and the proper training of children.
8. Are there many Lyceums in America?
There are only a few, considering the size of the country. The Lyceum system flourished better in England.
9. Where was the first British Lyceum started?
At Nottingham, in 1866.
10. Who is the Father of the British Spiritualist Lyceum Movement?
Alfred Kitson, of Hanging Heaton, Batley, Yorkshire.
11. Why is he so called?
Because it was through his devotion, and by his example, that the Lyceum Movement gained its first hold, and its present strong position in this country. He is a noble exemplar to ALL Lyceumists.
12. What do you know of Alfred Kitson and his work?
He founded Lyceums, and helped to organise Lyceums opened by others. He was Secretary of the Annual Lyceum Conferences, from first in 1886; Honorary Secretary of the Lyceum Union from its formation in 1890 till 1901, and General Secretary from 1901 till 1919—altogether thirty-three years of devoted active service. He is still ADVISER to the Union.
13. Has he written anything for Lyceums?
Yes. He wrote "Outlines of Spiritualism for the Young," and presented the copyright to the Union; and combined with Mrs. Britten and Mr. H. A. Kersey to produce THE LYCEUM MANUAL. He was also manager and editor of THE LYCEUM BANNER from 1902 till 1919. When there were no MANUALS, he wrote Golden Chains and other Readings, and sent copies of these to all who asked for advice or help.
14. In what way is Alfred Kitson a noble exemplar?
Without thought of reward or fame, he has devoted his life to the service of others, especially children, and to the spreading of the Lyceum Cause.
15. Why should Lyceumists be grateful to Mr. Harry A. Kersey?
Because, when the Lyceum Movement needed a MANUAL, and had no money to get one, Mr. Kersey provided the money, and at his own risk published THE LYCEUM MANUAL in 1887 and THE SPIRITUAL SONGSTER in 1888, presenting the copyright of these to the Union in 1901. (NOTE.—"Presenting the copyright" means that he gave the books to the Union as their own property—as a free gift.)
16. What is THE LYCEUM MANUAL?
It is the text-book of the Lyceum Movement, and deals with Spiritualism as a Science, a Philosophy and a Religion.
17. How can Spiritualism be called a Science?
Because investigators of Spiritualism collect and study facts about MAN and his survival of physical death. (NOTE.—SCIENCE comes from Scio—"to know." An Investigator is one who collects and studies facts, so as to find out the truth for himself. SURVIVE means to "live after.")

18. How can we claim that Spiritualism is a Philosophy?
Because students of its facts are able to form ideals of the PLAN OF NATURE, and of the Power (or Mind) behind the Plan. (NOTE.—All houses are built to a plan. If you examine a church and try to think out on what plan it was built, and the reason for that plan being followed—and also if you try to imagine what kind of person (or power, or mind) worked out the plan—you will be doing something like what philosophers (*lovers of wisdom*) are doing about Nature. BUT you must remember that God is NOT a person.)
19. How can we claim that Spiritualism is a Religion?
Religion is Man's idea of the relationship between himself and God—and Spiritualism teaches that God is our Father, and that all Men are Brothers. It also teaches us that we must "worship God by doing good" (S.C. 93).
20. What is God?
God is Infinite Spirit—all Life, all Love, all Wisdom and all Power.
(NOTE.—INFINITE means "having no limits"—of any kind.)
21. What is Man?
Man is a spirit, working through a physical body on the earth plane, and through a spirit body on the spirit planes.
22. Should Man fear Death?
No. Death is only the change from life with a physical body to life without a physical body, and does not affect Man the Spirit in any way.
23. What happens to children who pass into Spirit life?
They are taken to the Summerland, the children's home in the Spirit World, and put under the charge of Spirit Guardians, in company with other children like themselves.
24. Do they go to school in the Summerland.
Yes, they are taught in Progressive Lyceums, of which our own are a copy.
25. Do they ever grow up?
Yes, they develop very quickly, and grow in wisdom and love. Their Spirit bodies also grow as on earth.
26. Do they ever return to earth conditions?
Yes, they are often brought back to earth conditions, so that they may learn the lessons of earth life. They are sometimes able to communicate with their parents.
27. Do they ever have to work?
Yes. When old enough, and wise enough, they are put to the work for which they are best fitted.
28. What kinds of work are they put to?
Some are sent to guide and help us, through mediums; others are sent to teach spirits living in spiritual ignorance.
29. What is a medium?
A medium is a man or woman who is able to lead his or her body to the spirit friends, to be used for speaking or automatic writing, and in many other ways.
30. Has Spiritualism any creed?
Not in the usual meaning of the word creed, but there are certain principles in which all Spiritualists believe.
31. What are these Principles?
The Fatherhood of God;
The Brotherhood of Man;
The immortality of the Soul and its Personal Characteristics
The Proven Facts of Communion between departed Human Spirits and Mortals;
Personal Responsibility, with Compensation and Retribution hereafter for all the good or evil deeds done here;
And a Path of Eternal Progress, open to every Human Soul that wills to tread it by the path of Eternal Good.
32. Where did Spiritualists get these Principles?
From the Spirit World, through the mediumship of Mrs. Emma Hardinge Britten.
33. Why are you a Lyceumist?
Because I wish to study the facts of Spiritualism; to study and try to understand its philosophy; and the try to live its religion. All religion has relation to life, and the life of religion is to do good.
34. What is the Lyceumists' pledge?
With the help of God, and the angels, we will ever try to realise by our devotion to love, truth and justice the Divine ideal here upon Earth. (G.C.R. 148).

Additional Music for Lyceum Songs.

These extra tunes are offered to Lyceum Conductors, and to Musical Conductors, as a means of extending the range of songs available for Lyceum-singing; and as a means of introducing more variety in the music.

The alternative tunes that are suggested for those songs that have a tune already provided, will offer a pleasant change; and will also increase the usefulness of many songs that are exceptionally rich in moral and spiritual teaching; while the interchange of tunes to various songs will give opportunities to use favourite tunes even more than before.

By a careful use of the Metres given many other pretty tunes may be chosen, and adapted, and to those persons who may possess other metric Tune Books such as, Hymns, Ancient and Modern; Cheetham's Psalmody, Church Army Tune Book, etc., etc., or Hymn Tune Leaflets of any kind; the opportunities to give variety in music will be enormously increased. Good music is a vital necessity to Lyceum success, and the quantity of good music available can never be too large, and, while there is much good music in our "Songster," there is still a large quantity outside of it available for our use, if we just know how to choose it, and adapt it to our requirements. The use of the Metres is our greatest help in this; and nearly all tunes have Metre-signs given at the beginning.

If this attempt to enlarge our musical list proves helpful to any Lyceumist, or encourages other musical-minded Lyceumists by the trouble expended upon it, I have no doubt that our Editor will always be ready to accept and use any contribution sent to him if he considers it at all useful to Lyceums and Lyceumists generally.

Supplementary and Alternative Tunes to the Lyceum Manual, for the use of Musical Conductors

B=Bristol Tune Book. S.=Songster.

S.S.S.=Sacred Songs and Solos. S.H.=Spiritual Harp.

	No. in Manual.	No. in Tune Book.	Metre.	No. in Manual.	No. in Tune Book.	Metre.			
2	..	92S	..	LMD	61	..	532B	..	CMD
3	..	593B	..	8884D	63	..	403B	..	LM
4	..	572B	..	8s & 7s	64	..	200B	..	8787
6	8887D	66	..	69B	..	LM
12	..	60S	..	8 & 7s	67	..	92S	..	DLM
13	..	110B	..	7s	68	..	111S	..	8s & 7s
14	..	160B	..	7s & 6s	69	..	181SH
15	..	83B	..	LM	71	..	572B	..	8787
16	..	374SSS	..	6s & 5s	72	..	507B	..	6—7s
17	..	129B	..	11s	73	..	822B	..	8s & 7s
18	..	572B	..	8s & 7s	74	..	172B	..	6—7s
20	..	19SSS	..	PM	75	..	52B	..	CM
21	..	204B	..	8787	76	..	111S	..	8s & 7s
22	..	570B	..	8s & 7s	77	..	570B	..	8s & 7s
23	..	614B	..	LMD	81	..	22B	..	CM
24	..	361B	..	CM	86	..	52B	..	CM
26	..	227SH	..	PM	89	..	58B	..	CM
28	..	357B	..	CM	91	..	570B	..	8s & 7s
30	..	204B	..	8787	92	..	572B	..	8s & 7s
31	..	532B	..	CMD	99	..	120S	..	8s & 7s
33	..	204B	..	8787	100	..	90B	..	LM
35	..	66SSS	221	..	110B	..	7777
36	..	357B	..	CM	227	..	572B	..	8s & 7s
37	..	361B	..	CM	315	..	438B	..	6s & 5s
39	..	570B	..	8s & 7s	324ct	..	75B	..	LM
43	..	120S	..	8s & 7s	408	..	513B	..	7s
46	..	26S	..	8s & 5s	412	..	439B	..	6s & 5s
47	..	474B	..	7s & 6s	413	..	204B	..	8787
53	..	111S	..	8s & 7s	417	..	792B	..	7s
57	..	110B	..	7777	421	..	361B	..	CM

ALBERT WRIGHT, Rochdale.

The General Secretary regrets that two Newcastle Lyceums were listed as not having paid their Contributions, in the list issued in the May Statistical Returns. The Lyceums were Benwell and Rutherford Street.

The complete returns up-to-date are 228 Lyceums, 2,096 officers and 11,107 Lyceumists. A gain of 25 Lyceums and 3,111 Lyceumists during the year.

The Star.

BY ADA GALPIN.

The first time he remembered seeing the Star was many years ago when as a little lad he lay on a weary bed of sickness. He had lain there for such a long, long time, that with the coming and going of faces and dreams, he had lost all count of time, and then one evening, just before the lamp was lighted, he saw the Star. His mother, weary and spent, watched by his bed. At last he opened his eyes, and although he felt so tired and weak, his head had stopped throbbing, and the something had been lifted from him that had made his body and limbs such a heavy weight. His eyes seemed to see things more clearly, and he felt he was going to be well again. His mother, too, sitting in the chair had altered. She seemed thinner and so pale, her eyes were closed, but she was not asleep because as the child moved, her eyes opened and she put out her hand to soothe him. Between the laths of the Venetian blind, he could see a tiny bit of sky, and oh! such a big beautiful star. "What star is that, Mother?" the child asked. The mother looked at her child, saw the dawn of reason returning into his baby eyes, followed his gaze through the corner of the window, and saw just an ordinary star in an ordinary sky, but as she looked again at her son, the tears of thankfulness for her child's recovery trickled down her face. "'Tis the Star of Hope, little son," she said, and she knelt in thankfulness to God. What funny things grown up people will do. Here was his mother, calling his star "Hope," kneeling to say her prayer, and crying all at once. It was not even bedtime so why mother should say her prayers, and why she should cry, quite puzzled him, and so he went to sleep again, still wondering and entirely forgetting the star. Until—he was a boy at school. Quite a big fellow he was; twelve years old. He had been at school for some months, and not far away, not more than a half a mile there was an orchard. You never saw finer apples and pears than those growing there. He and three other boys planned to slip away after lights out, and raid the orchard. They could not buy such fruit even if they had not already spent all their money, and it didn't seem fair that the fruit should be there all these long weeks growing bigger and riper. Perhaps no one belonged to the orchard, or else they would have picked the fruit before now. All the other boys were asleep, he had promised to keep awake, and then when the time came, he was to waken the others. He had promised a little too much, for hardly had he laid his head on his pillow when off he went to sleep, and dreamed. He dreamt he was bidding goodbye to his parents again as he left them to go to school, but his mother was crying and her face was thin and pale, that it recalled memories long forgotten. And what was it mother said? "'Tis the Star of Hope, little son." Angrily, the boy crept from his bed saying to himself what a silly dream, and how babyish fellows' mothers were for crying, when, glancing out of the dormitory window he saw "The Star." But how it had changed! Bright and clear as crystal, and as hard and cold. Sternly it seemed to shine on him. "Listen! You are about to do a mean and dishonest action; think well my lad, before you do it." Sternly the voice spoke to his inner consciousness, and the meanness of the contemplated action dawned on him. He looked up at the Star again, and the tears that had filled his eyes softened the starshine, and his mother's voice seemed to ring in his ears "'Tis the Star of Hope, little son." "Oh I thank thee, my Father, that this my child is restored to me." Why of course that was what mother had said the night he started to get well after the fever.

Years passed again, — and the memory of the Star grew dim along with many of his boyhood dreams. His mother too had passed away, and when he thought of her, he pictured her as one of God's angels waiting at the Throne of Mercy to welcome her loved ones home.

He met and loved a beautiful girl. It was several years before he could ask her to marry him, years of hard work and strivings for things that seemed almost unattainable, and nothing but his youth and hopefulness, and the patient encouragement of his sweetheart enabled him to keep on. At last the time came when he could offer her his love and protection. He met her one evening as he returned from work. She had been to the next village on an errand, and they met in the dusk of the evening as each was hastening on their way through the stile. How it happened neither could say. The hand clasp, the look of love more eloquent than words, and she was folded in his arms. A wave of thankfulness surged through his heart, gratitude to

God that such a woman should be given to him. He raised his eyes to Heaven, and there through the interlacing boughs of the pines he saw, set in the indigo blue of the sky, his Star. "Look, little sweetheart," he said, pointing out the glory to her. "Why it's the evening star," she answered. "How brightly it shines on us. Dear beautiful star, share our joy with us, and may our love prove as pure and clear through our lives, as your beauty is to all who look upon you. "Why dear heart," he whispered. "You are as full of fancies as another dear woman was whom I knew years ago," and he told her his memory of his mother. "Then I will call the Star, your mother," she said, "and whenever you're cross with me, or I've done something I ought not to have done, or we are downhearted or discouraged, which of course we never will be, or something nice has happened and everybody is good and kind which they always will be, we'll tell the Star, your Mother, for she will understand." "But the Star is not always shining, silly child," he said. "No, but it is there, and I'll like to think of it watching and helping us."

How well he remembers it all as he sits in his room to-night. The world has prospered with him, his wife whom everyone loves, is walking in the garden, in the soft twilight. Over her head and shoulders she has thrown a soft filmy shawl, and as he catches a glimpse of her beautiful ethereal face, it comes as a shock to him, how frail she is looking. He reasons with himself that she always did look pale, but did she always look so sad? He kept her plentifully supplied with money, although her needs are not great. She has all her heart can desire that lay within his power to give her; whence came the sorrow, that was eating her heart away? He turned to his writing, trying to banish the sad face of his wife. He was busy at his sermon for the morrow; he must speak of hope and cheerfulness, and future joys, for in the weary round of the parish-ner's lives, the Sabbath was welcomed as an oasis in the desert. His thoughts would not be lead into philosophy but returned again and again to the sad face of his wife. "A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief." The words seemed to burn into his brain, but he knew they were not appropriate for his text, for many of his people had cause to realise the meaning of those words. It was strange how the sentence haunted his thoughts and brought back the sadness of his wife. Could it be that she was acquainted with grief? "and they hid as it were their faces from him." How strange his thoughts were to-night, as he sat so quietly in his room. Glancing upwards his eyes were attracted to a faint light hovering in the darkened corner, a shimmering glow as the light reflected upon water will sometimes throw on a darker object. Slowly, as he watched, the light grew more distinct until it shone as a star. Rising to his feet, he clasped his hands in amazement, for the centre of the light gradually resolved itself into the features of his mother. "Mother mine" he whispered "My Star of Hope in the life Eternal, is it possible you can return to your loved ones on earth"? "Help me then, if you may, for I who have achieved much in the world's opinion, have failed where even the humblest succeed. Help me, oh help me to bring the joy of life to her who is dearer to me than all else." A peace as of understanding passed over him, and although the tears flooded his eyes, they were not the tears of grief. Calmly through his mind came again the words, "And they hid as it were their faces from Him," and he beheld himself, as those silent witnesses of our lives may have beheld him.

A very busy man, always working for the common good, ambitious for his parish and his own fame, he had neglected the dear little woman of his choice. All the best of his achievements, all the glory of his name, all the wealth that had accrued to him, he had proudly given her, but unthinkingly had withheld those kindly glances, those little sweet actions, and confidences that make a loving woman's life complete. The star faded as it passed toward the window, and he following, looked out and saw his wife still in the garden, resting on a bench in the corner. Swiftly he unlatched the window that opened on to that side of the garden, and walked out. The grass deadened the sound of his footsteps as he came at the back of the bench, and he paused, for he heard his wife's voice, she was praying. "And I thank Thee, oh my Father for all the benefits Thou hast bestowed upon us, I thank Thee for all the kindnesses Thou hast made it possible for us to do, but oh! if Thou wouldst repay Thy servant for any labour done upon this earth, give me my husband's love. Hunger and thirst of the material body, could I endure, but starvation of the Soul is a harder cross than I can bear. Oh Star of Love and Hope shine on my way. Help me,

oh help me I pray thee." A frightened gasp burst from her as she felt the presence of someone near, and quickly turning she found herself face to face with her husband. A look of shamed reproach came to her face as she realised he must have overheard part of her prayer. A flush of pain and entreaty was in his eyes as he opened his arms to her, and there, hiding her face in the fold of his coat, she heard him ask for pardon. "Look up, little woman, let us begin life together again as we did years ago, I will be the hewer of wood and the drawer of water, and in the eventime you shall teach me the sweet songs and the poetry of life. "But what would anyone think who heard you praying to a star? They would believe you were a pagan," "A pagan? no," she answered, "I was not worshipping the star I was asking its help, for sometimes when the Evening Star has not been lighted, and I have felt so lonely, a beautiful light has come to me, and in it I could see your mother's face." My Star of Hope, and my Star of Love I will share with you, but I cannot give them up."

And so in the Eventide of their lives, the Star of Hope and the Star of Love shines upon them, and upon us all, for the Kingdom of God is not afar off, neither are the stars set in the Heavens alone for if we would only try to realise the beauties of Life that are around us, listen to the songs of Nature as it throbs out its music day by day, look for the star shine of love that dwells in the depths of our dear ones eyes, whether those eyes are dimmed with age or wide and clear with the innocence of childhood, we would understand that God watches over us and all is well.

TO LYCEUMISTS IN AREA A.

Dear Mr. Editor,

Perhaps you will allow me to express my thanks and regret to the many friends in the districts comprising the above area. I have had four happy years, and only business ties, accentuated by loss of my wife, compelled me to refuse nomination at present. Will those Lyceumists who asked me to stand and those who nominated me without asking, accept my sincere appreciation of their continued confidence, and, perhaps another year I may be better able to respond to them.

Much rather would I have carried on the great work but it would have been unjust to all since I could put in so few Committee attendances. I was deeply sorry that my Scottish constituents failed to elect Mr. Shaw, who is a Lyceumist par excellence, and a thorough business man to boot.

The Northern parts require a native representative sometime. Aberdeen (Bon Accord) has a Lyceum to be proud of, but then how many other Lyceums have a Conductress like Mrs. Kemp? I wish that all Lyceumists could realise the serious interest officers and members of the Management Committee take in their welfare. Many busy hours have I shared at the Council board, but nothing seems too difficult to tackle for the children's sake. I bid my recent colleagues adieu, and wish incoming M.C. similar pleasures, and even harder work than we enjoyed together, yourself included, Mr. Editor.

Yours fraternally,
J. LAWRENCE.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ABERDEEN (BON ACCORD) LYCEUM.

Not yet two years old this Lyceum is an aspirant worth keeping an eye upon. The most northerly of our company is not the coldest nor the smallest. I have attended three sessions, and improvement has been marked each time.

An attendance of nearly twenty adults is an encouraging token. Punctual in opening, attentive, well disciplined, prompt and definite in their responses, there was little to find fault with. But the wonderful feature was their physical exercises. Mrs. Kemp, Conductress, is an expert, particularly in the Calisthenics. The series is her own, and of a nature calculated to benefit and strengthen every muscle and joint, while being so graceful and pleasant. A few little tots of five years old or so went through them like trained soldier-men.

The music reminds me of that at Edinburgh, quick and inspiring, ensuring a full display of body carriage, rhythm and precision. Three girl violinists accompanied the pianist, making a sweet and uplifting combination.

But Aberdeen is a city of vim and musical fire. A few hours before going to the Lyceum, I saw pass the Hall door, the Highlanders marching to Church, preceded by a band, which included seventeen pipers. Need we wonder that our Lyceum methods find favours among such people.

JAMES LAWRENCE.

The B.S.L.U. Education Scheme.

THE EXAMINATION CERTIFICATES.

(i) The certificates for successful candidates, and the marked answer-papers of all candidates were despatched (per post) to the Lyceum Secretaries during the first week in May. Should anyone not yet have received his (or her) paper, etc., please communicate with the Education Secretary.

(ii) Of the 110 Lyceums represented in the examinations only 23 have not yet sent on the postage on the certificates. Will the Secretaries of these 23 Lyceums please refund the money at an early date.

CORRECTIONS OF EXAM. LISTS.

The Education Secretary much regrets that errors have crept into the published lists; and offers sincere apologies to the candidates affected.

LIST OF CORRECTIONS.

Grade.	Lyceum.	Candidate.	Marks.	Class.
IV.	Moston.	E. Elliott.	72	First.
IV.	S. Shields (Fowler Street)	E. North.	85	Honours
III.	Plumstead.	E. Davis.	47	Third.
I.	Coventry (Broadgate).	A. Cooper.	90	Distinction
	" "	O. Grunan.	66	2nd.

IMPORTANT TO 1,923 CANDIDATES.

At the April Meeting of the Education Committee, the following alterations were made (for fuller details see Education Report in May issue).

- (i) The pass standard for Grades III., IV. and V. was raised to 50% from 40%.
 - (ii) A child who has passed any Grade and won 70 or more marks may take the next Grade, even if under the minimum age.
 - (iii) No Interim Examinations will be held this year.
 - (iv) An Oral Grade, for Lyceumists under 10, is to be added to the Scheme.
- (Full particulars of this new Grade appear elsewhere in this issue).

THE NEXT EXAMINATIONS.

The 1923 examinations are fixed for 18th February. Full instructions to Secretaries will be given month by month in this paper.

PREPARATION FOR THE 1923 EXAMINATIONS.

A. A series of articles—to help students, tutors and conductors—is being prepared to appear in this paper (after the July number, which will be devoted to Conference matters).

The series will include—

- (i) Session and Group programmes for each Grade.
- (ii) Programmes for week-night classes.
- (iii) Notes on, and summaries of, the "Manual" selections (per Grade).
- (iv) Notes on the Handbook articles.
- (v) How to prepare for Grade IV.
- (vi) Extracts from the Examiners' Reports.
- (vii) Typical questions (for practice-work in answering by candidates).

B. Meanwhile, all candidates are advised to read through the Handbook and Manual selections *again and again* in order to become familiar with the general ideas. This is an excellent preparation for more detailed and intensive study later; and can be done in odd moments at home; as well as in the usual way in the Lyceum Session.

SPECIAL PRINTING FOR LYCEUMS.

Lyceums requiring Special Printing of Star Cards, Special Hymn Sheets, Tea Party Tickets, Membership Cards, etc., should write to Wadsworth & Co., The Rydal Press, Keighley, for estimates, and submit samples of the Printing required.

Prompt attention is given to Lyceum Orders.

THE LYCEUM BANNER:

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

EDITOR: G. F. KNIGHT, D.N.U.

Terms to Lyceums and Societies:

Twelve copies, 1s. 9d.; 18 copies, 2s. 7½d.; 24 copies, 3s. 6d.; 36 copies, 5s. 8d.; 42 copies, 6s. 1½d.; 48 copies, 6s. 8d. All orders for four dozen copies and upwards are supplied at 1s. 8d. per dozen. All parcels sent post free. Accounts due quarterly: March, June, September, and December. Single copies, 3d. post free.

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SUNDAY, JUNE 4th, 1922.

Children.

Out of the everywhere the children come. And the world receives them into its arms. The most sacred looks on earth and the sweetest scenes are portrayed in cots and palaces when the babies have uttered their first cry and are nestling by the sides of the adoring mothers. Home is at last complete and the sweetest of earthly joys prevail.

With consummate skill God weaves through nature the entrancing thrill of love, with children as the symbol of unity. Two minds with but a single thought; two hearts that beat as one.

How to link the hearts of all humanity in the absorbing thrill of a spiritual love, in the cause of God is an ideal worthy the quest. From the family to social life is but a step to those who feel the cosmic instinct, but what a jump it is for many people to make.

Narrow, selfish individualistic desires have swamped many souls in the survival of the fittest. Material ends are not the final goal of man. 'Tis there we fell and placed a material pall before our spiritual vision and shut out the glory of the higher things in life.

In our dim sight we have made heredity and environment strong factors in the government of life, but we have only seen these things by human sight. God fills a place beyond these limitations of a human world. Source of our life, we take our birth from Him who orders all things well and yet we fail because we do not comprehend and blame our forebears for our faults.

If we but look behind the cause of things we see that human ignorance has caused our woes. The Tower of Babel still exists and the chatter of our diverse tongues holds progress back. The harmonies of God vibrating through all time, within His laws, peal to the music of the spheres. Few are the humans who have caught the strain and martyrdom has often been their fate.

Small wonder that the human will, without the vision of the soul, has sought for nothing but material gain, but now the veil is lifted and we see the ray of light: God moves within us in a strange mysterious way, his wonders to perform. And so, we breathe eternal life and through us comes new life again.

O, how the soul exalts with joy, when in our homes there comes the offspring of our love. . . . To what a world the children come. What discord, horror, hell, have men been making to plunge therein the childhood of the world.

To us, who know the joys of human love that carries us o'er the bridge of death and brings to earth the spirit spheres, who live within, and see the sordid life of earth, our tasks are clear.

The children of the world are yearning for the light. They ask for truth, for purity and peace. These virtues must be first in us ere we can teach our children right. And so the children lead. Out of their innocence can we hope to shape our world that is to be and through the genius of the soul find inspiration for our goal.

Slowly by God's hand unfurled
Down around the weary world,
Falls the darkness, oh how still
Is the working of His will.

Holy truth, eternal right,
Let them dawn upon my sight;
Let them shine serene and still,
And with light my being fill.

Thus we find the inspiration to teach our children the beauties of nature and they will adore us for the knowledge we possess and the charm of our association will lure us into the realms of delight and joy.

Angels are with us. They will pierce the physical barrier, the spirit will overcome the flesh. We shall feel, aye and see, the nearness of those about us. We at least behold the dawn. With the Lyceum as our vineyard we move in the garden of God touching the souls of children as we move with them, according to their understanding, through the vistas of life.

'Tis no dream of idle fancies,
From the world of spirits brought,
Who are playing games of chances,
That will quickly come to nought,
But 'tis truth, from the Eternal,
That is winging now its way
Back to earth, from worlds supernal,
Changing darkness into day.

These words are written that young children may not be forgotten; that leaders may be encouraged and an impetus be given to all who are interested in education by realising the value of encouraging sweet thoughts in the minds of young Spiritualists, who shall one day move in the larger life and carry with them some of the sweetness, concord and peace in which they entered their homes and the Lyceum.

Great souls are filled with love,
Great brows are calm,
Serene within their might, they soar above
The whirlwind and the storm;

YOUR MISSION.

BY GRACE PARRISH (Ilford Lyceum).

Each one of us sent into this world has a mission to fulfil. Although each may differ a little from the other, it is nevertheless our duty to see we carry it out to the best of our ability. We cannot all be at the top of the ladder. Someone must be at the top, but we are all able to help another in some small way to gain the end he is aiming for. Circumstances may prevent us from reaching as high as we should like; we may be weak and lack confidence, where another hits straight at the goal, but it is within the power of every one of us to speak a kind word, to do a little kindly act, to remember that these little acts never die, and although we may be forgotten as far as our material form is concerned, the act still remains an act and is often repeated by its memory.

There are too many people in the world who are always complaining because they cannot help others in the way they would like. Usually they say, "You know I should like to help so many poor souls, but I really cannot afford it." Money is the only thing that enters their heads. It never occurs to them that money only supplies the material wants. More people suffer from the want of spiritual comfort. Are we not all able to give some help in this direction? If not, we should be.

Some of us would stand a very poor chance in the spirit world if God counted our life's work by the money we had given to different charities, etc. All we are asked is to do the best we can according to our station in life—not put off till to-morrow what we can do to-day, but as the old saying says, do the work that lies nearest us. Perhaps it is not always pleasant, but it is the unpleasant things that count.

It does not require much self-sacrifice to do what is nice to us, therefore it cannot be such a credit. Fortune or good works never ran after anybody yet, so don't sit still with your hands in your lap waiting for it. It is up to every one of us to realize our mission in life here and now, and do all the little kind acts that come our way, remembering that out of little seeds came great flowers.

Influx of the Inmost Spirit on the Organism.

THE GOLDEN THREADS ENRICH LIFE EVERY
SECOND OF TIME.

BUT DISLOCATION OCCURS IN CRIME, INSANITY,
ETC.

SERENE SELF-POSSESSION OUR PARAMOUNT DUTY.

JOHN RUTHERFORD, Roker-by-the-Sea.

"And I heard (in the height) a voice say: I AM.
In the recluse, the thinker, the incurable and the drudge,
I AM. I am the giver of Life, I am Happiness.
I am in the good and evil, in the fortunate and the unfortu-
nate, in the gifted and the incapable, alike; I am not one more
than the other.

The lion roaring in its den, and the polyd on the floor of
the deep, the great deep itself, know ME.

The long advances in history, the lives of men and women—
the men that scratched the reindeer and mammoth on bits of
bone, the Bushmen painting their rude rock-paintings, the mud-
novels clustering round mediæval castles, the wise and kindly
Arab with his loving boy-attendants, the Swiss mountain-
herdsman, the Russian patriot, the English mechanic.

Know ME. I am happiness in them, in all—underlying. I
am the Master, showing myself from time to time as occasion
serves.

I am not nearer to one than the other; they do not seek me
so much as I advance through them.—EDWARD CARPENTER.

The flute of the Infinite is played without ceasing, and its
sound is love:

When love renounces all limits, it reaches Truth.

How widely the fragrance spreads!

It has no end, nothing stands in the way.

The form of this melody is bright like a million suns: in-
comparably sounds the vina, the vina of the notes of Truth.

From Kibar Poems, translated by
RABINDRANATH TAGORE.

Our great Seer, Dr. A. J. Davis, has, in the "Temple,"
written: "The Spirit is physically present and manifested in
the nerves of affection, intellectual sensibility, and in the self-
conscious volition of the higher or wisdom faculties. Its great
white, visible throne is the wondrous cerebrum and the grand
congressional chamber, the 'corpus callosum.' Being highest
in the temple of consciousness and government—exalted above
every other principality or power in man's body—the Spirit-
principles and energies impregnate and saturate with interior
life every particle, every organ, every fibre, every force, every
ether, and every essence within or about the individual organ-
ization."

Thus there is no mental operation in health in which the
golden threads of the inmost spirit are not present; nothing
produced but by their joint action under the direction of its
central personality. This central divine principle is God's
breath in the soul—capacity to cause, to create, to assimilate,
to be. This ideal power underlies all faculties; interpenetrates,
fuses, directs them all. This thinks, this feels, this imagines,
this worships; this is what glows with health; call it what you
please,—will, personality, individuality, character, force of
being, but recognise it as the true spiritual energy which con-
stitutes a living soul. There is no such thing as faculty which
has not its root in this personal force. Without this, thought
is but insanity, and action, fate. Men do not stumble and
blunder, and happen into Iliades, and Æneids, and Divina
Commedias, and Othellos, in a drunken dream of poetic in-
spiration, but work and grow up to them.

While it is true that the divine etherium saturates every
faculty of the mind in health, this cannot possibly be the case
in crime, insanity, suicide, etc. The links in these unfortunate
cases connecting the Godhead with the moral and spiritual
organs have been broken. "A disturbance," says Dr. A. J.
Davis, "of a 'relation' between the fluids and the ethers, or
between the essences and the mind principles, may confuse
sensibility, produce catalepsy, kindle up the light of somnam-
bulism, induce abnormal mediumship, light up with lurid fires
the chambers of the imagination, people the subjective con-
sciousness with monsters and generate haunting intelligences
with tormenting voices, and, in the end, in overthrowing the
last 'relation' which before subsisted between the reason, in-

tuition and the more interior Spirit. The verdict is insanity."

To one who reflects on the nature and capacity of the human
mind, there is something inconceivably awful in its pervers-
ions. Conceive of a living soul, with the seeds of faculties
which infinity cannot exhaust, as it first beams upon you in
its glad morning of existence; quivering with life and joy;
exulting in the bounding sense of its developing energies;
beautiful and brave, and generous, and joyous and free,—the
clear pure spirit bathed in the auroral light of its unconscious
immortality; and then follow it in its dark passage through
life, as it stifles and kills, one by one, every inspiration and
aspiration of its being, until it becomes a dead soul entombed
in a living frame. It may be that a selfish frivolity has sunk
it into contented worldliness or given it the vapid air of
complacent imbecility. It may be that it is marred and dis-
figured by the hoof-prints of appetite, its humanity ex-
tinguished in the mad tyranny of animal ferocities. It may
be that pride has stamped the scowl of hatred upon its front;
that avarice and revenge, set on fire of hell, have blasted and
blackened its unselfish affections. Where, in this hard mass
of animated clay, wrinkled by cunning or brutalized by selfish-
ness, are the power and joy prophesied in the aspirations of
youth?

"Whither hath fled the visionary gleam?

Where is it now, the glory and the dream?"

Mental health consists undoubtedly in the self-direction of
mental power, in the capacity to perceive its own relations to
objects and the relations of objects to each other, and to choose
those which will conduce to its enlargement and elevation.
Disease occurs both when the mind loses its self-direction, and
its self-distrust. When it loses its self-direction, it surrenders
itself to every outward impression; when it loses its self-
distrust, it surrenders itself to every inward whim. In the
one case, it loses all moral and intellectual character, becomes
unstrung, sentimental, dissolute, with feebleness at the very
heart of its being; in the other, it perversely misconceives and
discolours external things, views every object as a mirror of
self, and, having no reverence for ought above itself, subsides
into a poisonous mass of egotism, conceit and falsehood.

What is the remedy for these dark conditions? What
suggestions can be made to those whose organic systems are
not, even in a small degree, controlled by the inward Spirit?
The path of "control" is interesting. "The physical body
(including its vital force or soul)," remarks our reliable Seer,
A. J. Davis, "is first the master and sways the spirit itself;
at last the inmost golden spirit become absolute and supreme.
For many rudimentary years the body has the lead and control.
Because for a period the outer mechanism is the source of
power, not the essences of the auroral spirit, but the energies
of the spiritual body. The body of the spirit is different from
the spirit itself. Man's physical body is designed by nature
to mould, weave, manufacture, the spiritual body; but the
spirit itself is inmost and is intimately allied to the perfect
and supreme. It could not be created; it could not be
destroyed. It never had a miraculous beginning; it will never
experience a miraculous end. The golden inmost, that which
is at once heat and light, love and wisdom; which is pure and
good, sacred and divine, essentially impersonal and infinite,
is an eternal wavelet of that divine ocean which

'Lives through all life, extends through all extent;
Spreads undivided, operates unspent.'

Our ideal should be to be controlled by this divine power,
and not, except under very exceptional circumstances, by
spirits or external influences. Indeed, we can never fully
realize and reverence a great mind,—never grow through a
reception of his spirit, unless we keep our individuality
distinct from his. In the case of a large and diseased mind,
the caution becomes more important. For instance, the poet
Byron, in virtue of his superior force, breaks into the nature of
his readers, so to speak,—passes into the very core of their
moral being,—makes them live, in thought, his life,—
Byronizes them; and the result of the conquest is a horde of
minor Byrons, with their thin dilutions of misanthropy and
licentiousness, not half so good as the original Peter and John
they have delivered up. "It was nae great heed itself," said
the old Scotchwoman, as that of Duke Hamilton rolled from
the block, "but it was a sair loss to him." The danger to
individuality, in reading, is thus not that we repeat an
author's opinions or expressions, but that we be magnetized by

his spirit to the extent of being drawn into his stronger life, and losing the expression of our particular individuality. No man is benefited by being conquered. Our personality may be small, but we must say of it, as Touchstone said of Audrey, his wife, "A poor thing, sir, but mine own."

The disease of feebleness of personal being arises, I believe, through encouraging a negative mental attitude. This absorbs external influences, good and bad, and too often harbours discordant thoughts until they occupy the entire mind, to the exclusion of everything else. A man in the positive state, on the other hand, is not a hypnotic subject or a medium, but keeps his own individuality intact, and throws off unfavourable impressions, so that they do not gain possession of the brain. One in the positive instead of the negative condition will have untold advantage in whatever he undertakes. He exhibits a fine self-confidence, springing, not from self-conceit, but from an intense identification with his object, which lifts him altogether above the fear of danger and communicates an almost superhuman audacity to his will. Persons in the negative state may go down to the grave without having known, during a long life, what thought is, opinions and views having been imposed upon them from without. How many live in miserable superstitions, victims of every quack in religion, politics and literature, their minds mere collections of chips and hearsays, feeling their degradation, yet preferring it to the labour of mental effort! This slavery of the soul, these chains clanking upon every utterance of opinion, can only be broken by the strength within. By seeking wisdom we attain the state of serene self-possession. It is the idealist within—the breath of God—which prompts us to aspire to perfection and truthfulness of character. And these can only be attained by working for others—for their emancipation from silly sectarian dogmas, and for their all-round culture, happiness and joy.

On all sides God surrounds you, staring out upon you from the mountains and from the face of the rocks, and of men, and of animals.

Will you rush past for ever insensate and blindfold, hurrying breathless from one unfinished task to another, and to catch your ever-departing trains—as if you were a very Cain flying from his face?

Resume the ancient dignity of your race, lost, almost forgotten as it is.

Our Lyceum Guild.

Leader: MARY E. KITSON, B.A.

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

Our Aim:—To develop ourselves (i.) physically, (ii.) mentally, (iii.) psychically, (iv.) spiritually.

[For a copy of Our Aims and Rules, or for further information, or for form of application, please apply to the Leader—(Miss) M. E. KITSON, 17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Batley (Yorks.).]

LYCEUMISTS in membership (on 21st May), 1,230.

LYCEUMS represented ,, 122.

TO GUILD CANDIDATES.

The Lyceum Guild heartily congratulates the 379 members who have been successful in the examinations; and welcomes the 40 candidates who have joined the Guild after learning their results.

PROMOTIONS.

The new badges earned by the 379 members were sent out with the certificates and papers, to save the winners the trouble of applying for them. A new badge costs threepence; so each member receiving one was asked to send on that amount. At present (21st May) 157 have already forwarded their threepences; and no doubt most of the others will have done so before you read this.

ESSAY COMPETITION.

In the three competitions already held, seventeen stars have been won. It is a pleasing fact that all the winners have been successful in the last exams., and have won promotion. (Their stars, of course, appear on their new badges).

THE NEXT COMPETITION.

Members are now invited to enter the new competition. If

you win 85 per cent. or more of the marks, you are entitled to a star on your ribbon badge.

Subjects.

For PROBATIONERS.—An original story, illustrating the teachings of S.C.R. 93, "Deeds, not Words."

For NOVITIATES.—A summary of the teachings of M.R. 203, "The Voyage of Life."

For INITIATES.—Write "Connective Readings" (each one not to exceed 100 words) after each verse of S.C.R. 51.

For ASSOCIATES.—Essay on "The True Purpose of a Lyceum Session!"

For FELLOWS.—Essay on "Spiritualism as a Study Movement."

For FREEMEN.—Essay on "A Freeman's Duty to the Guild."

Rules for the Competition.

(i.) You must be a Guild member.

(ii.) Write on one side of the paper only.

(iii.) Enclose a slip of paper giving your name and address, Guild number, Lyceum attended, and last Grade passed (if you are not a Probationer).

(iv.) Do NOT enclose a letter.

(v.) On the top left-hand corner of your envelope put the word "Essay."

(vi.) Enclose an entrance fee of sixpence. (This includes the cost of returning your essay, and of the new badge—if you win a star).

(vii.) Post your essay not later than 27th July. (This gives you two months to write it).

(ix.) The results will be announced in the September issue (if possible).

[The Leader reserves the right of publishing any winning essay.]

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

Miss E. Evans has again written us from New Zealand, and sends interesting accounts of the natives. We hope to publish these in a later issue.

OUR NEXT GUILD ARTICLE.

Because the July number will be full of conference matters the space allowed to the Guild will be needed. Therefore there will be no Guild Page in July's issue. Our next article will appear in the August BANNER.

CONCERNING THE NATURE ARTICLES.

Dear Leader,

I should like very much to express the appreciation that the Nature Articles by Miss Lawton are receiving here.

The information contained in them is valuable to gardeners, giving them a better scientific knowledge of the roots and plants that they come in daily contact with.

Some gardeners near here are very much interested in them and are testing their accuracy. In the article on evergreens the statement that these trees extract a greater degree of nourishment from the soil than do other trees in winter is now receiving their attention. They have a pear tree that has been very unsatisfactory as a fruit bearer for some years past.

The article has drawn their attention to some evergreens growing near, with the result that they have come to the conclusion that they are robbing the pear tree of nutriment. They have removed the evergreens and are awaiting results with interest. Various other articles also have helped them greatly.

A curious natural phenomena is to be seen here just now. A hawthorn tree without a sign of green leaves, and with dead looking branches is heavily laden with blossoms; the only tree about here in bloom (for we are always about a month behind places further south). A gardener here says that it is caused by three large stones near the tree that prevents the roots from expanding.

Could Miss Lawton explain this?

I remain, yours fraternally, Wm. Woodall.

OUR NATURE ARTICLE—LEAVES.

BY MARGARET E. LAWTON.

It is the leafy month of June and all the countryside is radiant with the varied shades of green. The grassy carpet of the hills and meadows, the green of the hedgerows, and the shady mantle of the trees, are all made up of countless green

leaves. In the search for the brighter-coloured flowers, the leaves are often unnoticed; but, were it not for them, the flowers could not give us their beauty, for the leaves are necessary to the plants.

The roots anchor the plants in the soil, and the root hairs at their tip absorb moisture from the ground. This moisture is carried up to the leaves by the veins. The leaves breathe in gases from the air, and these gases, with the moisture, are used by the green matter in the leaves to make food. When made, other veins carry this food to the various parts of the plant, sometimes to be stored up, as in bulbs or in turnip and carrot roots. Thus the leaves are busy little workshops, and if the work is well done, the plant is healthy and the leaves are of a good green colour.

In order that this food-making may go on, the leaves must have sunlight. Put a plant into darkness, and the leaves will become yellow, food making will cease, and the plant will first weaken, and then die. That is why every plant carries its leaves up to the sunlight, and so arranges them that each one receives as much light as possible. This influences the shape of the leaves and their arrangement on the plants. It is the cause of "toothed" leaves. The grass plants can live closely crowded in the meadows, because the light can penetrate amongst the long narrow leaves. In the hedgerows, and on the roadsides, the leaves often form a rosette, so that each receives light, and on the trees the leaves so arrange themselves that little light is wasted on the ground below. It is this need for light that prevents other plants from growing in the shade of thick trees.

The food-making gives to the leaves still more work. Much of the moisture taken into the plant cannot be used and so passes out through tiny pores in the leaves, in the form of water vapour. This giving off of water vapour goes on continuously. To prove it, cover a plant with a glass, and in a day or so, the glass will seem "steamed." In dry weather, no more moisture is being taken into the plants to replace that given off, so that the leaves grow limp and soft. This is noticeable when plants are cut, and left without water for a time. When given water, the leaves become firm and the plants freshen again. Gardeners are careful that their plants do not droop for want of water, but wild plants have to depend on the rain, and so make sure that not too much water vapour passes from them. In dry, sandy, or windy places, where water is scarce, the leaves are usually small, hairy, or rolled, as in heather plants, so that little surface is exposed to the air. In desert lands we have plants such as the cactus, where the stem is thick, green, and fleshy to store water, but the leaves are reduced to spines. Most trees shed their leaves in Autumn when the ground is frosty, and the root hairs cannot absorb much moisture, whilst evergreens have thick, leathery or waxy leaves, as in the laurel and holly plants.

The need for water is so important in the making of the food, that the leaves themselves help to carry the raindrops to the roots. During rain, the ground directly beneath a sycamore tree is almost dry, and yet, in a circle around the tree, the ground is wet. The leaves act as gutters carrying the raindrops from leaf to leaf, to the tips of the branches, there to fall to the root tips waiting in the ground. In most trees the branches spread out about as far as the roots. Even in smaller plants, there is the same gutter system, and the leaves conduct the water to the roots in the soil.

When we think of how necessary the plants are to us, and to birds and animals, we can realise a little of the wonder of plant ways, and we find that not one of these "ways" has developed without there being an excellent reason for it.

THE CONSTRUCTION, STOCKING AND MANAGEMENT OF THE AQUARIUM.

By WM. WOODALL.

CRUSTACEA.

Young people having a day at the seaside do not consider their enjoyment complete unless they have the excitement of hunting crabs amongst the rocks; but how few pause to study them and endeavour to find out their specie, habits, &c. About the most common all around our coasts is the *Green Shore Crab*. This may be found varying in size from a small button to about 6 inches across.

If you should desire to keep a few of suitable size you would need a very shallow tank with a sand bank rising out of the water. The crabs like to leave the water. They are also very voracious and would soon kill and devour other inhabitants

of the tank. You might try one or two of the smallest in a tank with other animals.

The last pair of legs is rather flatter than the others, proving it to be a link with the Swimming Crabs, although not a swimmer itself.

Swimming Crabs are generally known by the name of "Fiddlers." They are also very voracious and will devour smaller crabs that come in their way. One of the most beautiful in appearance is the *Common Velvet Fiddler*. Its body is covered with very fine hair, velvety to the touch, chocolate brown in colour, with the legs and claws striped with scarlet and blue.

About the smallest of British Crabs is the *Pea Crab* which, as its name implies, is very small. It has to seek protection not only from its enemies, but also from the waves. Here we see how nature enables even its smallest creatures to adapt themselves to circumstances. This our crab does by taking lodgings with a species of mussel.

They live together and no doubt the mollusc will eat what the crustacean leaves.

Another crab to seek shelter for its defenceless body is the *Hermit or Soldier Crab*. The back part of the body of this crab is soft, so it has to seek protection. This it does by inserting its body into an empty whelk shell; it dearly loves a battle, that is the reason it is called a soldier. Hermit crabs may be found near low water amongst the rocks; or dredged up from the bottom of the water. It has a peculiarity in the formation of its nipping claws, one being larger than the other.

It uses the larger claw for defence and also to hold its food, pulling it to pieces and feeding itself with the smaller one.

The *Hairy Broadclaw Crab* is a very interesting little crab in the aquarium and would well repay study. It may be found at low water clinging to the underside of stones.

The underpart of the body is like shining porcelain, the antennae are very long, the claws also large in proportion to the body.

Although closely resembling the crab at the front, it much resembles the lobster at the back, having plates upon the last joint.

It does not move about much in the water but is continually waving its claws about, catching animalculae with the tufts of hair upon the claws, and so feeding itself.

The *Spider Crab* may be known by the shape of the head as it is narrower than other species. About the commonest of this specie is known by the name of the *Sea-Toad*.

They are all very sluggish in their habits, so much so, that weed and zoophytes grow upon their shells, at times completely covering them.

The *Edible Crab* is too large for the aquarium and very slow in its habits.

The shells of crabs do not grow larger with them, so it is necessary for the crab to cast its shell at times. When this occurs it has to hide from its enemies until the new growing shell becomes hard.

The Lobster is too large for our purpose, but Prawns and Shrimps belong to the same family and are very suitable and interesting, moving about in a very elegant manner until they become a prey to the Anemones, etc.

Shrimps may be obtained easily by means of a drag net, or if you see a shrimper at work you can have the pick of his bag for a small tip. Shrimps are very delicate in colouring and their bodies are nearly transparent—very different from the boiled ones in the fish shops.

The *Æsop Prawn* is a very beautiful animal, tinged with green, and with scarlet lines. It is hump-backed. In Shrimps and Prawns alike the eyes are very noticeable; when a light is brought near it reflects like two balls of fire. The effect in the dark when a light is brought near is very startling. No doubt this is an arrangement by nature for some good purpose, perhaps in its defence.

The *Sand-hopper* is very common all around our coasts. Many people mistake sand-hoppers for shrimps which they closely resemble. They bury themselves in the sand as the tide recedes. If you take a walk late at night upon a wet stretch of sand you may be startled by the noise they make as they jump about in thousands.

The *Shore-jumper* is a near relative of the Sand-hopper, the only difference being in the front pair of legs which take the form of claws. The pools of water left by the tide is a good place to obtain them.

Upon the rocks below high water mark may be seen many small white objects fixed firmly to the rock as though part of itself. These are *Barnacles*, sometimes called Acorn-shells. These are very lively and interesting in the Aquarium but will not live long unless taken out of the water periodically. The Long Necked Barnacle is another specie; this has its shell fixed at the end of a long stalk or neck. When the Barnacles open their shells and obtrude what looks like a feathery plume that acts like a net to catch animalculae as food, they look very well indeed. In the old sailing ship days when vessels were at sea for months at a stretch, the sailors thought them anything but lovely as they covered the wooden bottoms of their ships and retarded their progress. They took a great deal of removing when an opportunity offered to carreen the ships, as the writer knows from experience in his younger days when he often saw jungles of Barnacles and weed affixed to the ship bottom.

ESSAYS ON REASONING.

By A. T. CONNOR.

V. Syllogisms.

The value of a SYLLOGISM depends on the care with which its three propositions are made and examined. Some propositions are very deceptive in appearance, and the unwary reasoner runs a great risk of being led astray. In Logic, every proposition means *just what it says*—and nothing more. For instance, take the proposition that "some Spiritualists do not study our philosophy." The careless thinker is liable to jump at once to the conclusion that "other Spiritualists *do* study our philosophy." But the proposition *does not say so*, and therefore all we can argue logically from its statement is that some do not study, while with regard to the remainder we are unable to state whether they do or don't. This is a most important point, and failure to observe it has been the cause of many students of various subjects being sadly misled. In logical reasoning we must take each statement as *all that can be said* (as far as each syllogism is concerned), and refuse to allow anything to be added, whether from our own or other people's knowledge. For we must ever remember that we only use formal logic in building up our own arguments, or in examining those of an opponent or an advocate of some particular case. In ordinary writing, the strict logical form is seldom or never used. Let us put the foregoing proposition into a syllogism, as follows:—

"The study of our philosophy is necessary for the proper understanding of Spiritualism; some Spiritualists do not study our philosophy; therefore some Spiritualists are not capable of attaining to a proper understanding of Spiritualism."

This form, although perfectly clear, is long and cumbersome; so, in an ordinary essay, the statement would appear somewhat as follows:—

"Some Spiritualists, having neglected the study of our philosophy, are incapable of understanding all that Spiritualism stands for."

Here we find only two propositions stated; the third—that the study of our philosophy is necessary to a proper understanding—being present *in the writer's mind*, as a conviction; but not being stated because it seemed so obvious that statement was not needed.

When examining an argument, we must always try to find out what the missing (that is—the *not stated*) proposition is—for by so doing we prepare ourselves for taking another necessary precaution: to determine from our knowledge of the writer's conviction, whether the withheld proposition is true *as a matter of fact*.

A syllogism consists of three (and only three) propositions. The *first two* are called the PREMISES—because they are something *sent out* (or set down) *before*—and the *third*, the CONCLUSION. The conclusion must always *follow* from the two premises; and if either of the two premises is wrong, the conclusion is also wrong. The Materialist, when attacking Spiritualism, argues that *there is no life apart from matter*, and that when the physical body dies the life dies with it. This is the major proposition in all his arguments; therefore, as we know that there is life apart from matter, we determine that all his conclusions are wrong. The Agnostic claims that the phenomena and philosophy of Spiritualism lie outside the recognised limits of provable truths. In this claim there are two errors. In the first place, the Agnostic has fixed his own idea of the limits—which no really scientifically-minded man would do; and in the second place, it has been proved over and over again that our phenomena are actual occurrences, and that our philosophy is founded on the study of well proven facts.

So we can see how necessary it is that the statements in our premises should be absolutely accurate, if our conclusions from these premises are to be in any way reliable.

Premises are of two kinds—the MAJOR premise and the MINOR premise. We already know that the syllogism has three (and only three) terms—each used twice. These are called the MAJOR, MIDDLE and MINOR terms—and the major premise is the one that contains the major term, while the minor premise contains the minor term.

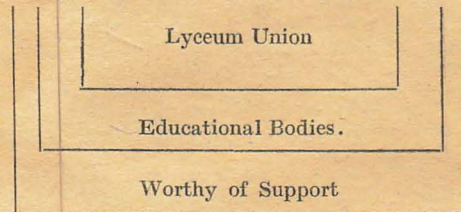
Let us examine a syllogism, and then put the propositions (or premises) into our nest of boxes. (We shall need three this time).

"All educational bodies are worthy of support;

The Lyceum Union is an educational body;

The Lyceum Union is worthy of support."

We see that the three terms—"educational body," "Lyceum Union," and "worthy of support"—are each used twice. Let us now use our boxes. The largest box would be the "worthy of support" box; next would come the "educational bodies" box, and lastly the "Lyceum Union" box—as thus:



"Worthy of support" (in the largest box) is the major term; "educational bodies" (in the middle box) is the middle term, and "Lyceum Union" is the minor term. We notice at once that the middle term is only used to build up the argument, and is not used at all in the conclusion; while the major term is used in the first (or major) premise; the minor term is used in the second (or minor) premise—and both are used in the conclusion: the minor term being the subject, and the major term being the predicate, of the final proposition. And even if we altered the order of the syllogism, and said that "the Lyceum Union is an educational body; and all educational bodies . . . etc."—the major premise would still be that containing the major term—the largest box.

The above is an affirmative syllogism, because all the propositions are affirmative (positive). In a negative syllogism the only difference would be that the smallest box would not be contained in the second largest. For instance, if we said that "the Lyceum Union is NOT an educational body," it would follow that (under the conditions of the syllogism which we are considering) it would not be "worthy of support," and therefore the small box would be outside of the other two.

When examining arguments *for or against* Spiritualism, it would help considerably if all students turned the arguments into syllogisms and used the "nest of boxes" test.

To aid us in building up or examining syllogisms, we are guided by a number of rules—but there is no space to allow of dealing with them here. Those who are taking up a thorough study of Logic will find these rules in the text-books, and those who only want to get a general grasp of the subject will be content with a few of the most important.

The first rule we have already considered, that a syllogism must contain three, and not more than three, terms. The purpose of a syllogism is to show that the middle term is contained in the major term; that the minor term is contained in the middle term, and that, therefore, the minor term *must be* contained in the major term. By claiming that "the Lyceum Union" is included in "educational bodies," and that "educational bodies" are included in bodies "worthy of support"—we pave the way to our final claim that "the Lyceum Union is worthy of support." If we used four terms, there would be no middle term with which to compare the other two, for we are allowed only three propositions, as laid down in the second rule—that a syllogism must contain three, and not more than three, propositions.

Now, if we had said that "SOME (instead of ALL) educational bodies are worthy of support"—we should have suggested that some *might not* be worthy, and it would have been open to question whether the Lyceum Union was included in the worthy or unworthy bodies. So, in order to be able to decide definitely about the character of the Lyceum Union, we must say some-

thing that is true (or claimed to be true) about all educational bodies. Then what is true of them will also be true of the Lyceum Union as an educational body (only). This explains the next two rules, which lay down that the middle term of a syllogism must be distributed (used universally; or in its full meaning) at least once in the premises—and that no term can be distributed in the conclusion, unless it is distributed in the premises. It would be incorrect, for instance, to say that the Lyceum Movement is not an educational movement, simply because some Lyceumists do not study.

Again, if our two premises are negative, and merely tell us that certain classes of people or things are not included in other classes, we cannot draw any conclusion. We are only told that they are *not* included in certain stated classes, but of what classes they *may* be included in we know nothing.

If only one of the premises is negative, we are sometimes able to draw a conclusion—but it also will be negative. In the syllogism—“All Spiritualists believe in personal responsibility; NO Orthodox Christian believes in personal responsibility; therefore NO Orthodox Christian can be a Spiritualist”—we see that only a negative conclusion can be reached. To use our nest of boxes—the box labelled “all Spiritualists” would fit into the box labelled “Believers in personal responsibility,” but the box labelled “Orthodox Christianity” would not. Therefore we can not compare them.

The foregoing are the principal rules of the syllogism, and if we only take the trouble to understand and use them, we shall not go far wrong when we start reasoning out problems for ourselves; neither will we be easily deceived or misled when we examine the arguments of others. So long as we refuse to allow more than three terms or three propositions to be considered at any one time; so long as we make sure that all that is meant by our “middle” box is included in our largest box; so long as we remember that two negatives cannot make a positive (in Logic)—any more than two blacks can make a white; so long as we remember that things which are not included in the same class, (such as “Believers in Personal Responsibility”) cannot agree with each other—as far as that classification is concerned—we may feel reasonably confident that we are on the right road to reliable knowledge. And unless we use these rules, we shall be very liable to fall into one or other of the many pitfalls that lie along the investigator’s path.

(To be continued).

OUR ANIMAL FRIENDS.

Animal stories have ever a peculiar fascination to young and old, and more especially to readers of “The Lyceum Banner,” who understood to a fuller degree the relation between man and the lower intelligences. Cats, dogs, horses and pigeons show in many cases a wonderful sagacity and devotion, and the manifestation of these qualities goes to prove that evolution is a fact.

For weeks a strange cat had taken up his abode in our garden, and, as we were possessed of a dog whose pet aversion was the feline species, we did our best to induce the cat to seek another home. A lady of independent means—a great lover of cats—decided to take the animal, and he was sent in a hamper to Skene—altogether a distance of some sixteen miles. The cat duly reached his destination and we had the consolation that he would be treated exceedingly well in his new home. Suddenly, however, we learned of his disappearance, and we vowed that if he came back again, which we thought highly improbable, we would welcome him as one of the household. A week later we were surprised to hear a strange, familiar mewing—our cat had come home. It seems incredible that the cat had travelled all these weary miles for his feet were torn and bleeding; but the fact remains, and he is now the favourite of the household.

ABERDEEN.

THE SHEPHERDESS.

She walks—the lady of my delight,
A shepherdess of sheep;
Her flocks are thoughts she keeps them white
She guards them from the steep.
She feeds them on the fragrant height,
And folds them in for sleep.

RUBY DUNCAN.

District Visitors' Report.

SCOTS. DISTRICT.

Lyceum business is still brisk in Scotland despite the near approach of summer.

On Sunday, 30th April, I was in Dundee and visited the two Lyceums there. In the Lyceum of the Dundee Association of Spiritualists a much cheerier atmosphere prevailed than did on my last visit over a year ago. The number present was small but everyone was in earnest. The Lyceum is run on orthodox lines but the children are specially studied. After the opening exercises the adults retire for discussion leaving the children to go through the remainder of the programme themselves (and very well indeed the little ones do it) returning later to aid in the closing services.

Later on I visited the Excelsior Lyceum and I did get a surprise. Here is a Lyceum which overflows. There were about 100 present and a magnificent orchestra contributed to the harmony. The accommodation is somewhat cramped which did not show the marching and calisthenics to the best advantage, but I could recognise an atmosphere of earnestness and goodwill. The calisthenics were split up into figures, each figure having a separate tune and the movements were performed with *slack* muscles. Even the youngest took part. Lyceums interested in psychic effects should try calisthenics with *slack* muscles—effects would be interesting and agreeable besides being a change. I feel it would be for the general good of the Excelsior Lyceum if the adults kept more in the background and let the children have fuller scope. After all it is the Children's Lyceum!

I also visited two Spiritualist Societies without Lyceums and was most sympathetically received. Four Lyceums in Dundee would be a feather in Dundee's cap!

On May 15th, Hamilton Association of Spiritualists threw open the entire Sunday to the Lyceum, and a most enthusiastic day was spent. The services were in charge of D.C. President, Mr. Newton, and visitors from other Lyceums were present. Hamilton Lyceum under the conductorship of Mrs. Orr is booming—already the room is filled to overflowing: the elders come in the spirit of sacrifice and the children show the results by the earnestness and joy they take in all exercises. On Sunday, August 6th, Hamilton church will again be at the disposal of the Lyceum movement but this time the large Town Hall will be hired. The District Council have been given Carte blanche for the day! The example is one worthy of its kind in Scotland.

I am sorry to announce that Mr. Alfred Newton who has so worthily filled the office of Conductor to the Lyceum of the Mediums' Union Church in Glasgow, for the past 7 years, has been forced (temporarily we hope) to relinquish office owing to ill health. Meantime the work has been shouldered by Mr. Peter Duncan, the founder of the Lyceum.

Kirkcaldy Lyceum has now joined up—adding one more Lyceum to the Scots District Council.

J. STEWART, D.V.

SOUTHERN COUNTIES DISTRICT.

Visited Reading on April 16th, Mrs. P. R. Street, conductor. Commenced promptly with Roll Call after Hymn 391. Invocation and Hymn 407. Silver Chain 99 was taken by the younger members only. Golden Chain 103; M.R. 236; Readings taken by scholars. The Principles were then recited. I noticed children of 6 years of age joining in. This is practised each Sunday. Mrs. J. Jackson gave a lesson on “Making Good.” This is also adopted each Session. A member is chosen the previous Sunday. This should help to develop their speaking powers. After a solo by Mrs. Goodson, I addressed them upon “Harmony.” Session was brought to a close after Hymn 345. Benediction and Vesper.

On the whole, a good bright session. About 80 present, same number being absent, being a very wet day. Every encouragement is given by Conductor. Distance travelled, 180 miles. Week-end Fare, 11s. 9d.

ERNEST C. CAGER,
District Visitor.

District Council Reports.

BOLTON DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above Council was held in Deane Road Church on Saturday, May 13th. Mr. Hibbert, President in the Chair, declared the meeting

open for business, Secretary gave the roll call as follows: 3 Executive members, 7 Delegates, 3 Associates. Minutes of previous meetings were then read and accepted, along with Correspondence.

Mr. Hibbert then gave his address, and urged all present to press forward with the good work, the address was accepted on the motion of Mrs. Johnson and Mr. Walsh. Treasurer's report shewed a balance of 14s. 1d. District Visitor had visited 3 Lyceums and reported that steady progress was being made. Vote of thanks to local friends for their warm welcome extended to all.

ERNEST WOODWARD.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT.

The re-organisation committee, appointed at the last District Council Meeting, met on Saturday, May 20th, at 6 p.m., at Dauby Hall, Liverpool. All the members were present except one.

It was decided to invite all Lyceums in the Liverpool District, to send one delegate to a meeting to be held at Dauby Hall, Liverpool, at 4-15 on Saturday, June 24th, 1922. This meeting will be preceded by a meeting of delegates from the Lyceums at present affiliated with the District Council, to be held at 3 p.m. on the same day, in the same building. The travelling expenses of one representative from each Lyceum in the Liverpool District, whether actually affiliated to the District Council or not, will be paid, so it is to be hoped that all Lyceums will be represented, in order that the views of those Lyceums not affiliated may be heard, and considered, in addition to those of the Lyceums affiliated. This is essential for the consolidation of the forces in the District, in order to take our place in the tide of progress. If any Lyceum cares to send an additional representative this will be allowed, but the Lyceum in question will be expected to pay the travelling expenses of this additional representative only. Associates are cordially invited. The election of the four officers will take place at the meeting, and delegates are requested to consider this matter fully.

Circulars will be sent out, but any one not receiving a copy, due to the addresses of Lyceum secretaries changing, please accept this notification and kindly attend.

The meeting is expected to be over by 6 p.m. Further details may be obtained from the undersigned.

15, Clarence Street, Runcorn. GEO. A. MACK, Sec.

LONDON DISTRICT

The Annual Demonstration of the Lyceums in the London District was held in the The Reform Club's Hall, St. Luke's Road, Clapham, on Sunday, 21st March. All the Council Lyceums sent deputations. The function was most successful, and the arrangements, in the capable hands of Mrs. K. M. Barnard, and the stewards supplied by the Clapham Lyceum allowed the proceedings to be carried through without a hitch. North London Lyceum, specially trained by Mr. W. W. Drinkwater (who acted as Musical Conductor), acted as a choir and led the singing; whilst Tottenham Lyceum led the marching and Calisthenics, which was conducted by Mr. R. Barrington.

There were two competitions, confined to affiliated Lyceums, the results of which were announced by Mr. Connor, as follows:—PEARLS: Trissie Bell (Peckham), gold centred medal; Walter Harding (Walthamstow) and Miss Eva Ashley (Fulham), silver medals. INDIVIDUAL EFFORTS: Doreen King (Tottenham), gold centred medal; Iris Stockwell (Hampton Hill) and Ivy Gaskson (Lewisham), silver medals. The judges were Messrs Barnard, Miles and Williams, and the medals (to Lyceumists) and certificates (to Lyceums) were presented by Mrs. Clegg, the "Mother" of London Lyceumism.

The result of the Silver Bell Competition was read out by Miss Janet Smallman. Seven Lyceums had entered, and competition had been very keen. The total marks obtainable were 100—75 for ordinary session work, and 25 for social, propaganda and educational work outside the session and also for increase of membership and attendances. The marks obtained were—Clapham, 80½; North London, 78; Tottenham, 77½; Walthamstow, 75½; Plumstead, 57½; Peckham, 56½; Kingston, 52½. Mrs. Mary Gordon (London President) presented the bell to Mrs. Barnard, the Conductor of Clapham Lyceum, which will hold it till next year's Demonstration. Mr. Connor proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. W. W. Drinkwater, for conducting the singing, Mr. R. Barrington for conducting the drill, Mr. Cecil Drinkwater for providing the music, Mrs. Barnard for catering, etc., and all others who had helped in

any way. This was seconded by Councillor Clements (Hounslow), supported by Mr. Clegg, and passed with acclamation.

Two non-Council Lyceums have promised to join up, as a result of the Demonstration.—A. Connor, Sec.

TEES SIDE DISTRICT.

The above Council held their Quarterly Conference on May 14th, at Brunswick Street, Stockton. Mr. Neale (President) in the Chair. Invocation by Mr. Brown (Vice Pres.). Credential Committee reported attendance of 8 Officers, 14 Delegates representing 8 Lyceums, 9 Visitors and 53 Associates. A hearty welcome was extended by Miss Williams on behalf of Brunswick Street Lyceum, this being reciprocated by Mr. Brown and Mr. Neale. Minutes adopted as read. Seven Lyceums agreed to subscribe 13/- towards a Band Fund for the Field Day on August 1st at Middlesbrough. Lyceums asked to form some scheme to enlarge this Fund. Mr. Riley as Delegate to the U.D.C. tendered his report, this being endorsed with thanks. Decided to hold an E.C. Meeting for Field Day on 2nd Sunday in June. D.V.'s report was accepted as given in the *Banner*—E. W. Buckingham.

NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

Notice of Council Meeting.

The above Council will hold the second quarter's meeting on Saturday, June 17th, 1922, in the Lyceum at Lancaster.

Business to commence at 3-30 p.m. Tea provided by our Lancaster friends. Full representation is requested. Business important. Train times will be issued with agendas.—J.S.

SOUTHERN COUNTIES DISTRICT.

On Saturday, May 6th, 1922 we held our Quarterly Meeting at the Spiritual Church. Tea was provided for Delegates and Friends at 5-15, the President took the chair at 6-15 and opened the session with prayer; 19 delegates and associates were present, all officers, also the area representative, Mr. Ford. The Minutes were read, discussed and adopted. Reports of Secretary, Treasurer and D.V. were given and accepted. Mr. Street, our President, spoke of the interest that had been aroused in Southern Lyceums by the District Council.

The Secretary was elected as Delegate to the B.S.L.U. conference.

Mr. Thurburn, of Reading, kindly offered to provide the District Council with stationery free; this offer was accepted. It was decided to hold our next meeting at Reading, August 20th, 1922. Meeting closed 8-30 p.m. Collection realised £1 11s. 6d.

The Delegates were conducted to the Lyceum Guild rooms in Blagrove Street, where a whist drive and dance was indulged in by about 40 persons, and greatly enjoyed. Supper was provided free.

Sunday Services, Morning Addresses by the D.V. Mr. Cager and our President, Mr. Street.

In the afternoon Lyceum about 95 present. The Conductor, Mrs. Street welcomed the delegates and invited the Council's President to conduct the Session. The various readings were led by the Delegates, and all Lyceum representatives offered greetings and invited to take some part in the Session. 21 Certificates were presented to successful candidates, in the Education Scheme by our D.V. with words of further encouragement. A recitation by Millie Stratton, "I want to buy a Houseboat," and a solo by Elsie Bailey, "Grandmother," beautifully rendered. It was an enjoyable session. Collection, £1 3s. 6d. An enjoyable tea was provided free, at which a collection was taken for the F.O.B. fund.

In the evening about 270 were present. The Secretary offered a few remarks, followed by a very telling address by Mr. Street, which was very much enjoyed by all. Our grateful thanks to Reading for so generously providing all the delegates and friends requirements free, and gave the Council all the collections, which realised the grand total of £8 os. 9d.—John Jackson.

NORTH-EAST CHESHIRE DISTRICT.

The above Council held their Quarterly Meeting at Burlington Street Lyceum, Ashton-u-Lyne, on Saturday, 6th May. There were present twenty-five officials, delegates and associate members from Macclesfield, Hyde, Stockport, Ashton and Hadfield Lyceums. Invocation was given by Mrs. Williams, of Hillgate Progressive Lyceum. Minutes of last meeting were accepted; also minutes of Executive Meeting. Question was

asked re cost of bell, but Mr. J. Bell regretted to say he had been unable to obtain required particulars. Letter from Mrs. M. S. Marshall, for order of "Messenger of Light," was tabled. President, in his address, extended a cordial invitation to all and expressed his pleasure in the knowledge that Baker Street Lyceum, Stockport, had rejoined the Council; also that Mr. Williams, from Hadfield, was present, with a view to joining Council at an early date. District Visitor reported having visited Baker Street, who were holding their Open Session, and had an excellent attendance. Hillgate greatly improved in every way and had some fine officers. Central in good condition, but greatly in need of a much larger room. Mrs. Emmon apologised to other Lyceums for not having visited them, due to illness, but hopes to do so before long. Motion that Council purchase tea and sugar for all carried. It was resolved that each Lyceum should contribute a sum of money or kind towards providing prizes. Sports to be carried out as a whole and not in individual Lyceums. All arrangements to be made by Executive. Each Lyceum to acquaint Secretary of Council number (approx.) who will be present, as soon as possible. Item nine on Agenda, it was decided, could only be dealt with after meeting of Sub-Committee. Next meeting to be held at Macclesfield, on Saturday, August 5th, 1922. Collection realized 5s. 1d. Vote of thanks to local friends for excellent tea and accommodation was given by Mr. Marston. Meeting closed at 7 o'clock.—H. Gill, Sec.

Special Reports

BRADFORD, Laisterdyke.—On May, 6th we held one of the most successful Open Sessions we have had, conducted by Miss Berry. The children responded so well with their contributions that unfortunately there was not sufficient time for the whole programme. Songs by Mr. Bedford, Miss Lilian Long, Mrs. Bilsbrough and Miss Dixon; readings by Mrs. Woodhead, Fred Metcalf and Jack Mansfield. Duets by Miss Winifred Long and Minnie Geldard, Fred Babbs and William Gayquen, Miss Annie Berry and Miss Lily Geldard. Harmony is the keynote here: the result is progress. Each week finds new members added to the roll. (Please note removed to No. 5, Laisterdyke, Late Socialists rooms).—James Babbs, Sec.

PRESTON, Clark's Yard.—We held our Lyceum Day on May 21st. In the morning we had a good session, afternoon and evening we had with us Mrs. Nurse, of Blackpool, the evening meeting was well attended, subject: "Lyceum Training its effects on the Lives of the Children" being well appreciated. Duets were ably rendered by the Misses Dodson, Simmonds Kitchen, Isherwood, Smith, Mrs. Kitchen. Our thanks are due to the Church Choir for leading the singing which helped to make our Day a great success. Mr. Beetham, our new conductor, occupied the Chair. We extend greetings to all Lyceums.—Will Beetham, jnr., Sec.

HIGH SHIELDS.—On April 30th we held our election of officers, all children over 14 voting. The result was as follows: Conductor, Mr. Woodall; guardian, Mr. Musgrave; Treasurer, Mrs. Parker; Secretary, Mr. Parker; Organist, Miss Parker; Capt. of Guards, Mr. Large; Librarian, Miss Codling; Delegate, Mr. Woodall. On Sunday, May 7th, we held our Anniversary Service, which was well rendered by all Lyceumists. The Sunday took the form of a Flower Service and the hall was tastefully decorated, each song and recitation leading up to the one subject, "Flowers." May 14th, the continuation of the Anniversary, was a Service of Song entitled "Into the Light," everything leading up to the title so delightfully that it could not be anything but a success.—John Parker, Sec.

WALSALL.—Attired in white and adorned with old-gold ribbons and rosettes, the children of Walsall Spiritualists' Lyceum were quite resplendent at the special services in the Lilly Hall, in the bright weather, of May 14th. As the special speaker, Mr. E. A. Keeling, of Liverpool, gave two thoughtful addresses, setting out the value of Lyceum training for the young and spoke with the full knowledge of one who is an old Lyceum worker. Mr. J. Venables, J.P., President, occupied the Chair at both services and Mr. V. Lawton (superintendent), Mr. D. Allen (Hon. Secretary), and the group leaders put in a great amount of work. Mrs. A. Keay provided ribbons and sashes for the children and the floral decorations by the ladies and children were effectively arranged. Mr. and Mrs. Hollingshead kindly gave the clairvoyance. The musical selections were rendered by over 80 children and adult vocalists, under the direction of Mr. A. Keay, Mr. Kirby playing the organ accompaniments. The special anthem was "The Lord is King"

(composed by H. Ernest Nichol, Mus. Bac.) and a contralto solo by Miss Ada Wilkinson was given with pleasing effect, followed by a combined chorus. One of the selections was the composition of Mr. W. Lewis, of Walsall, who is an old Lyceum worker. A gift of flowers for the services was sent by Mrs. Simmons and her children, who were recently associated with the Lyceum but have left to live in Wiltshire.

WIGAN.—The Lyceum most ably conducted all the Church Services on Sunday, May 7th. At 3 p.m. the chair was taken by our oldest Lyceumist, Mr. Belshaw, and an address was given by Mr. Wm. Rossiter, who took for his subject: "Man in the Making." At 6-15 p.m. a Service of Song was rendered entitled "Rest at Last." Mr. Walter Marsh read the connective readings very clearly and effectively. Misses Euchus rendered Duets; solos were rendered by Master Charnock, and Mr. Wm. Monks. Mrs. Booth also rendered a solo entitled "Here and There." The success of the day was due to the united efforts of the Lyceumists; all seats being occupied. The whole of the collections were handed over to the Church.—Wm Rossiter, Sec.

WINNIPEG, Canada.—On Thursday, April 20th, Maud (Cissie), the only daughter of our dear Pastor, Mrs. T. Forrest (formerly of Burnley, England), passed to the higher life. All members of the Church and Lyceum will miss her as she had endeared herself to us all during the time she had been with us. From the time she was a child she had been associated with the Salvation Army, rising to the rank of Ensign and graduated as a nurse, being in charge of the Rescue Home at Moose Jaw, Canada, until about 12 months before her passing, when she had an illness which compelled her to resign. During the past 12 months she became associated with us and finally decided to become a Spiritualist, and expressing the desire for her body to be given a spiritualist Burial. This was accorded her and the Lyceum Service was used on the occasion. Her self-sacrificing nature and devotion to others undoubtedly shortened her stay on Earth.—Louis W. Brown, Sec.

LYCEUM REPORTS.

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

RULE 2.—Record only the events occurring after May 26th

RULE 3.—Lyceums taking 1 dozen copies are allowed free insertion of 25 words; 2 dozen 50 words; 3 dozen, 75 words; 4 dozen copies or 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 July 26th, to ensure insertion in the August 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.

(NO REPORTS NEXT MONTH).

ACCRINGTON, Pearl Street.—On May 7th we held our Open Session, which was nicely rendered by young and old. Solos, pearls and duet were nicely gone through.—S. J. Wilmington, Sec.

BACUP.—We held our Open Session on May 7th. Hymn 323, Invocation 86, S.C. 68, M.R. 206, G.C. 105. Pearls were said by Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Tattersall, Miss Alexander, Miss Taylor. Recitations were given by Miss Eva Taylor, Master McKenna, Kitchner Amos, Miss Taylor, Gerty Salsbury. Songs were well sung by Mrs. Carter, Miss Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. Lord. We had some visitors and they told us their time was well spent. A splendid session.—B. Lord, Sec.

BARROW (Dalkeith Street).—On May 14th we celebrated our Anniversary Services in flower-decked halls. Both sessions were well attended. At an enjoyable Open Session, Mr. Gilling, of Collyhurst, distributed attendance prizes and examination certificates. The afternoon's individual efforts were by the younger Lyceumists.

The evening's musical programme was rendered by our senior members. Mr. Gilling appealed eloquently for the Lyceum cause in his address on "The coming generations." The flowers were sent to our sick friends.—B. Walker.

BARROW, Ramsden Street.—On May 7th we held our Open Sessions, when we spent a good time together. The Lyceums

responded well with recitations, pearls and solo. The following took part:—E. Nock, E. Pratt, W. Chisholm, W. Groves, N. Ogg. We also had a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Harland, of Dalton Lyceum. We extend our greetings to all Lyceums.—Mrs. Nock.

BEDWORTH.—On May 7th Special Lyceum Services, conducted by Mr. G. Passant. Special hymns were sung by the scholars. A most enjoyable time was spent.—Miss C. Rowe, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—Open Session, May 7th. Recitations given by Madge Wilkinson, Molly Wilkinson, Arthalla Rolston, Esther Dunn, Charlie Ellis, Christobel Baxter, Evie Williams, Victor Rolston, George Holehouse. Selected story by Mr. Dunn. Solos by Mr. Taylor and Mr. Woodley. Also a good number of pearls. Our Lyceum very capably rendered the service of song, "Into the Light," by W. T. Seddon. Reader, Mr. Thompson, our Conductor. Solos, Dorothy Lindop, Miss Pinches, Mr. Woodley and Mr. Taylor. Recitation, Esther Dunn.

Our Saturday afternoon rambles have commenced.—Mrs. Mary E. Thompson, Sec.

BLACKPOOL.—On Sunday, May 7th, we held our last Open Session until October next. 54 present. Miss E. Shufflebotham conducted. Mr. Wm. Musgrove, a veteran in the Lyceum Movement, made a few remarks on general obedience, and instantaneous response to questions. Pearls were given by B. Barnet, Thora Copestake, Miss Goulson, Esme Westhead, Mrs. Garlick, Ada Weeks and H. Jordan. Duets were sung by Ada Weeks and Mabel Carter. Recitations were rendered by Vera Copestake, Dorothy Copestake, Mabel Carter and Ada Weeks. The Lyceum sang together No. 231 *Manual*, readings being taken by N. Barnet, Vera Copestake and Mabel Carter. A splendid session. All friends are welcome during the summer.—H. J. H. Jordan.

BRADFORD, Boynton Street.—On May 7th we held our Open Session. Reading, Mrs. Ward; duet, Annie Scarborough and Florrie Holdsworth; solo, S. A. Wroe; recitation, Florrie Holdsworth; reading, Mr. Ackroyd.—Mrs. Ward, Sec.

BRADFORD, Harker Street.—We held our Open Session on May 7th. Recitations were given by Lillian Boocock, Minnie Thompson, Harry Stead, Fred Kellett and Maurice Bower. Songs by Annie Stead and Amy Raynor. Duet by Mr. Stead and George Worsman. Reading by Mrs. Leach.—Miss P. Stead, Sec.

BOLTON, Bradford Street.—Our Lyceum is still progressing. The children have taken up plasticine modelling, the elder girls and boys anatomy and the Liberty Group have some interesting discussions. We have greater hopes for better results in the Education Scheme next year. Best wishes and fraternal greetings to all Lyceumists and Lyceums.—E. Scaife, Sec.

BURNLEY, North Street.—On May 7th we held our monthly Open Session. The usual programme of singing, reading, discussion and marching was carried out. Several children sang or recited, after which one of our Conductors, Mrs. Rawlinson, presented the certificates and badges to successful candidates for the B.S.L.U. examinations. I am delighted to say not one of our candidates failed, not even the youngest child. This ought to be an inspiration to others. Best wishes and congratulations to all successful candidates, also our praiseworthy Secretary, Miss Kitson, and her Assistant, Mr. Connor.—Emily Poppleton, Sec.

CAERAU.—On May 7th a Special Lyceum Session was arranged by our Conductor, Mr. Edward Jones, on the visit of Mrs. G. Bull, of Northampton. Pearls of a very high order of intelligence, whilst recitations were recited from young and old. Miss Leah Thomas, Miss Mary Gomer, Irwen James, Miss Stella Rees and Evan Rees. Miss Alice Clarke and Miss Annie Thomas, duet. Invocation given by Mr. Arthur Jones. Great things can be expected of these little ones. People are beginning to take an interest in them.—Robret Williams, Sec.

DONCASTER, Wood Street.—We held our Open Session on May 7th. It was conducted by Miss Violet Batty. Invocation given by Mrs. Gomersall. Solos and recitations given by the following Lyceumists:—Misses V. Batty, B. and F. Moseley, W. and A. Trout, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Gomersall, V. Crossland, A. Johnson, E. and L. and F. Gomersall. It was brought to a close by Miss Violet Batty.—V. Batty, Sec.

ELLAND, Southgate.—May 7th, Open Session. Recitations and songs by Florrie Rae, Annie Aspinall, Nellie Berry, Doris Coldwell, Thomas Aspinall.—Elsie Green, Sec.

GREAT HARWOOD.—On May 7th we held our Open Session. The silver chain was gone through by Catherine Bleasdale. The M.R., Mrs. Hudson, Hubert Norris, Annie Thornley and Edgar Hudson. The G.C., Alice Hopper. Recitations were given by Sidney Hudson, Alice Owen, Alice Howarth, Hubert Norris, Ernest Allen, Maud Hartley and Willie Barrington. Solos were given by Ada Frankland and Mrs. W. Parkinson.—A. Waterhouse, Sec.

HADFELD.—On April 30th we held our Open Session. The Conductor, Miss Campbell, presided over a very large attendance of Lyceumists and friends. The marching and calisthenics were much admired and also the pearls. The singing and a duet by Miss Waterhouse and Master G. Capper were thoroughly enjoyed by all. A few encouraging words were spoken by Mr. H. Chorley, one of our oldest Lyceum workers.—J. Williams, Sec.

HALIFAX, Alma Street.—Open Session, May 7th, Raven Street Lyceum joining. Speaker, Miss Hesp, named child of Lyceumist, presented B.S.L.U. certificates and badges to Lyceumists who took examination. Recitations and readings by Raven Street friends. Marching conducted by Mr. Hill; Calisthenics by Miss E. Reynolds. Time too short for programme.—A. Chapman, Sec.

HORWICH.—On April 23rd we held our Open Session. A good number attended. Questions were answered (by all ages) on 148 Golden Chain. Pearls and solos were given by Mr. F. Jones and Mr. Walsh. Duet, Misses Elsie Purchas and Lily Stokes.

A service of song, entitled "Netty," was rendered in the evening by Lyceumists. Reader, Mr. Turner. Pianist, Mr. Ridgway. Violinists, Mr. Collier and Mr. Clifford. Solos, Mr. F. Jones and Mr. J. Beck (Conductor). Quartette, Mr. Walsh, Miss I. Walsh, Miss E. Purchas and Mr. J. Beck. Mr. and Mrs. Collier gave clairvoyance. Mr. Ferniough and Mr. J. Beck presided.—Elsie Purchas, Assistant Sec.

HULL, Metropole.—Our Lyceum, under the able conductorship of Miss Housam, is making progress. The Lyceumists show great enthusiasm, and all work together to build up a stable religious education. Best wishes to Lyceumists everywhere.—G.M., Sec.

LANCASTER.—On May 7th we held our Open Session, when the following Lyceumists took part:—Recitations by Marjorie Dawson, Emma Bewes, Eva Jackson, Bessie Turner and Harold Dawson. Reading by Mr. Thompson. Duet, Miss Pearson and Miss Bewes. Summer is coming on apace and, judging by the support the children are giving to our summer outing club, they intend having a jolly good time in the near future.—W. H. Freeman, Sec.

LEICESTER, Rupert Street.—On May 7th we had our Anniversary Services. Usual session in the morning. Afternoon, Mr. Masters gave the successful students their certificates, with encouraging remarks. Mr. Frecknall also gave short address. Evening, Mr. Masters and Mr. Frecknall gave short addresses, and the Lyceumists giving their best all day with solos, recitations and action song.

Monday evening we had a grand concert arranged by Miss P. Goldsmith and Master Daniels which was a large success.—Mr. J. Wicks, Sec.

LEIGH TEMPLE.—On Tuesday, May 2nd a Free Social was given to all Lyceumists. Games were indulged in and an enjoyable evening spent together.—F. Gregory.

LIVERPOOL.—Our Lyceum formerly known as Romer Road will in future be referred to as the Liverpool Spiritual Church, owing to change of address.—P. Ihle, Sec.

LONDON, BRIXTON.—A Concert given by Lyceumists on April 29th met with splendid success and appreciation by the large number who supported the Lyceum effort.—W.J.C.

MIDDLESBOROUGH.—We held our Open Session on May 7th, which was well attended. Pearls were received from L. Ford, A. Scott, T. Brown, M. Newton, C. Lofthouse, and numbers from adults. Recitations were good, fully a quarter of an hour being spent, these being given by A. Scott, M. Newton, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Ben Carter, Mrs. Dyer and Mrs. Roeson. Solos were scarce, only one was given by M. Abbott. Our lucky education scholars were tutored by Mr. Roeder, our conductor, whom we congratulate.—Albert Colbourne, Sec.

MOSS SIDE (Raby Street).—On April 30th a good gathering of friends listened to Miss Harrison's paper on "Reincarnation." May 14th. The subject of Human Atmosphere

was introduced by Mr. Garner. Helpful discussion transpired. May 21st. We held our Open Services; speaker, Mr. J. Bell; Clairvoyant, Mr. J. Cathin. An enjoyable day.—Harold Moulson, Sec.

NELSON (Vernon Street).—On May 7th we held our monthly Open Session, which was well attended. At the end of the programme the Certificates and Badges were presented to the successful candidates of the Education Examination.

On May 14th we were visited by the friends of the Keighley Lyceum, numbering about 40. Our own conductor took the morning session, and in the afternoon the Keighley Officers took full charge and we all spent a very enjoyable time together. If these visits were more common we should be moving in the right direction for the realisation of true fraternal love and comradeship.—M. Berkeley, Sec.

NEWCASTLE, Rutherford Street.—On May 21st we held our Lyceum services at which we had present with us Mr. Robson, of North Shields Lyceum, who ably conducted the services and also presented to some of our Lyceum scholars their examination certificates for the Education Scheme. Members of Lyceum gave their services in recitations and solos which ended in a most enjoyable evening for everyone.—E. Wilkinson, Sec.

NEWPORT CENTRAL.—We held our Open Session on May 7th, conducted by Mr. Rowe. Recitations and Pearls by Godfrey Rowe, Kitty Rowe, Hilda Rowe, Misses Fead, Ada Read, Jack Read, Leslie Falkes, Ivor Gamlin, Edgar Jones, Iris Higgins, Molly Oakley, Ruby Oakley, Nina Oakley, Olive Bailey, Lillian Bailey, Helen Smith, Linda Thomas, Nellie Jones. Readings by Mr. Taylor and Willie Rowe. Solos by Miss Probert and Miss White. We had a good Session throughout.—H. Folkes, Sec.

NORMANTON, Queen Street.—On May 7th, Mr. Harding was our speaker and was asked if he would present Certificates to winners of the Education Scheme and he kindly consented to do so. A very enjoyable afternoon was spent.—I. Walker, Sec.

OLDHAM, Elliott Street.—On May 7th we had with us Mr. Gush, of Huddersfield, and we had an enjoyable day together. On May 14th we had Mr. Wright, of Sowerby Bridge. I am very pleased with all the Lyceumists who went in for the Education Scheme, out of the 16 entries only 3 have failed. The rambles started on Saturday, May 20th, we went to Dog-hill and we spent a happy time together.—Victor Slater, Sec.

QUARMBY.—We again held a splendid Open Session on May 14th. Our District Visitor was with us. A very instructive Session.—Alice Ollerinshaw.

PRESTON PROGRESSIVE.—May 7th was Lyceum Day. Afternoon services conducted by Mr. E. O. Mason and Miss O. Ainsworth. At the evening service the Lyceumists gave the Service of Song "Unseen Hands," which was greatly appreciated. May 14th, Open Sunday. Recitations given by Master Jack Mason and Hilda Singleton. The Conductor gave the Certificates for the Education Exam. in which all the sitters passed successfully.—W. E. Mason, Sec.

READING.—In April Report—delete from "presented" to "name" and insert—"given by Mr. and Mrs. Heritage, members."

April and May events:—Excellent lessons have been given by our younger scholars containing real good, original thinking. Swimming, tennis, cricket, paper chases, cycling runs, etc., form our sports programme.—C. R. Churn, Sec.

ROCHDALE, Regent Hall.—Open Session on May 7th; Conductor, Mr. Hudson. Readings by Clara Robinshaw, R. Hudson, Mr. Rayner, Mrs. Knott, Annie Wild, and Edith Robinshaw. Marching conducted by R. Isherwood; Calisthenics by Ada Wild; Recitations by Eric and Alec Jenkinson and Alice Richards. A good many solos and duets were sung by the Lyceumists. The musical directors were Agnes Firth (Violin), and James Marsh (Piano). Very pleased to see so many Lyceumists from Penn Street, and for the few words from Mr. Wright. Mrs. E. K. Firth closed with prayer. There was a large audience.—Agnes Firth.

SHEFFIELD CENTRE.—May 7th. We held our Open Session with a good attendance. Recitations were given by Charlie Newton, Ernest Roberts, Alfred Hopkins, Carry Hopkins, Eric Organ, Grace Garfitt, Vera Spooner and Eliza Spooner. Duet by Eric Organ and Alfred Hopkins. The singing of No. 232 Hymn brought an enjoyable Session to a close.—Mrs. H. C. Organ, Sec.

(NO REPORTS NEXT MONTH),

SHEFFIELD, Gifford Road, Heeley.—On May 1st we held our Open Session. Moderate attendance. Good number of Recitations, Solos, also Pearls were rendered by Lyceumists. A pleasant afternoon Session.—G. Porter, Sec.

SOUTHAMPTON, Cavendish Grove.—We held a splendid Open Session on May 7th. Songs, recitations and pianoforte solos were given by Lyceumists: greatly enjoyed by all.—D. G. Hart, Sec.

SOUTH MANCHESTER.—The Lyceum is still going forward and looking ahead for further success. The success our Lyceum children attained in the recent Examination has given the elders every satisfaction and given them every encouragement to know that this effort was not in vain.

On Sunday, May 21st, our Liberty Group was taken by Mr. J. Garner, the subject being Question No. 2 in recent Examination. This was given in a very able manner and gave much satisfaction to all present, and was very interesting. This Group is open for Friends who would like to give of their best. We held an Open Service on June 18th, 1922. Friends please note.—Albert Hope, Sec.

SUNDERLAND, Derwent Street.—On April 23rd we held our Anniversary Service, recitations were freely given by the children. Solos were sung by Miss H. Petrie, "Anniversary Greetings"; Miss V. Johnson, "Angels lead my Footsteps"; and Mrs. Petrie, "Hail Festival Morn"; A quartette was sung by Mrs. Slimin, Miss Faller, Mr. Watson, and Mr. Slimin, entitled "Garden of the Heart." The chair being taken by Mr. Lowe.

On April 30th we repeated our service which was conducted similar to the previous Sunday. We had the pleasure of having Mr. and Mrs. Hall, of Gateshead, with us. Mr. Hall presided and Mrs. Hall distributed prizes to the children which numbered over 30. A most enjoyable time was spent on both Sundays.—J. Faller, Sec.

WEST HARTLEPOOL, Charles Street.—On May 14th the children took the church services, when they gave a Lyceum Open Session. The following Lyceumists took part:—Misses D. Fraser, N. Elwin, J. Ackworth, M. Mordaunt, D. and P. Peacock, M. Jones, A. Pitt, A. Williams; Boys, G. Wray, S. Coates, S. Pitt, C. Pitt, A. Williams, and F. Williams. Speaker Mr. Kingston; Clairvoyant, Miss Brown.

All praise is due to Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Toft for the way in which they trained the children.—T. Robbie, Sec.

WEST MELTON.—Open Session, May 7th. It is with pleasure I report that our Lyceum grows. Open Session is always greeted with joy and we always have a good time together. Poems and Pearls by the following Lyceumists:—E. Thornton, D. Pennuluna, K. Sykes, M. Staley, N. Rawlinson, R. Elliott, M. Elliott, R. Rawlinson, C. Gray, H. Kenning, T. Pastrel, H. Serville, S. Turner, J. Farrar, J. Staley, J. Pennuluna, and M. A. Speight. Calisthenics and marching conducted by Miss Lee and Miss Elliott. Miss Marion, Alice and Kathleen Stales, visitors to the Lyceum, gave suitable pearls.

WEST PELTON.—We held our Open Session on May 7th, when Education Certificates were presented: thirteen students sat and all passed. The following Lyceumists took part in Session:—Bella Gransbury, Lizzie Dryden, William Milford, Dolly Meakin, Sadie Embleton, John Robinson, Annie Robinson, Mary Simpson, Mrs. Davison, Mrs. Abbott and Mr. Abbott. Sorry to lose our able Conductor, Mrs. Davison, who has left the district. We offer our thanks for her services in the past.—Mrs. Ada Meakin, Sec.

WINNIPEG, CANADA.—We held the Open Session on May 6th, which was well attended; pearls and recitation were given by Ella Crawley, Edna Brown, Florence Higley, Harold Brown, Winnie Brown, Ivy Higley, Sylvia Parkinson, Clive and Harry Forrest. There then followed a naming ceremony of Raymond, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Parkinson, late of Burnley, which was a very pleasing event to some of our new scholars. We had solos from Mrs. J. Higley and Miss Margaret Aitkin. Pianoforte selection, Miss Jonina Sumerlaidson. A duet from Winnie Brown and Jean Benson. Pianoforte Duet from Misses Florence and Ivy Higley; a duet from Mrs. H. Forrest and Mrs. J. Parkinson, and a Quartette from Messrs. Forrest, Brown, Chadwick, and Brown. The marching and calisthenics are showing much improvement.—Louis W. Brown, Sec.

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

Lyceum Districts.

BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT:

- Mr. A. O. Thomas, Lyceum District Visitor, 20, King-street, Darlaston, Staffs.
J Birmingham, Handsworth, 58, Villa-road, 3 p.m. Mr. J. Taylor, 114, Benson Road, Soho, Birmingham.
J Birmingham, Saltley, Alum Rock Road, 3 p.m. Mr. W. Page, 188, Wright-road, Saltley, Birmingham.
J Coventry, Bull-street, (Off Hertford-street), 3-0 to 4-30 p.m. Mr. H. Burrows, Ryburn House, Craven-street, Queensland-avenue.
J Coventry, Broadgate, 3-0 p.m. Mr. J. Dalrymple, 1, Thornhill-road.
J Foleshill, Broad-street, 10-45 a.m. Mrs. E. Hutton, 278, Longford-road, Longford, nr. Coventry.
J Walsall, Temperance Hall, Fryer-street, 2-30 p.m. Mr. D. Allen, 29, Willows-road.
J Wolverhampton, Temple-street, 2-15. Mr. C. E. Hughes, 13, Cousin s-street.

BOLTON COUNCIL DISTRICT:

- Secretary, Mr. E. Woodward, 483, Leigh-road, Daisy Hill Westhoughton, nr. Bolton.
District Visitor, Mr. F. Jones, 32, Bright Street, Radcliffe.
D Bolton, Bradford-street, 10 a.m. Miss E. Scaife, 127, Ainsworth-road, Elton, Bury.
D Bolton, Deane-road, 10-30 a.m. Miss S. Concannon, 2, Blackburn-road.
D Bolton, Henry-street, 10-15 Mr. L. Turner, 55, Bridge-man-place.
D Bury, 66, King-street, Rochdale-road, 10 and 1-45. Mr. M. H. Hepworth, 312, Hornby Street.
D Daisy Hill, Mabel-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. W. Withington, 3, Wood-street, Westhoughton, nr. Bolton.
D Howrich, Beatrice-street, 10 a.m. and 1-45. Miss A. Purchas, 108, Lee Lane Howrich.
D Radcliffe, Railway-street, 10-30. Mr. J. Butterworth, 1, Church-street East.

BRADFORD COUNCIL DISTRICT:

- Secretary, Mr. E. Aked, 95, Eelholme View, Beechcliffe, Keighley.
District Visitor, Miss Mary L. Stair, 14, North-street, Keighley.
F Bradford, Boynton-street, 10-45 and 1-45. Mrs. Ward, 32, John-street, Lomwoor, Bradford.
F Bradford, Carlisle-road, Ivy Rooms, 10-30 a.m. Mr. W. Simpson, 29, Young-street, Gillington.
F Bradford, East Bowling, Wakefield-road, Harker-street, 10-30 and 1-45. Miss P. Stead, 27, Runswick-terrace, Bankfoot, Bradford.
F Bradford, 432, Manchester-road, 10-30 and 1-45. Mr. F. Ling, 5, Tichborne-road, W. Bowling.
F Bradford, Otley-road, 10-30 a.m. and 1-45 p.m. Miss H. Raistrick, 64, Dover-street.
F Bradford, 5, Laisterdyke, 1-45 p.m. Mr. J. Babbs, 3, Dundas-street, Laisterdyke.
F Keighley, Heber-street, 10 and 1-30. Miss F. Hudson, 29, Fell Lane.
F Shipley, Teal-court, 10-30 and 1-45. Mr. E. H. Coles, 28, St. Paul's-road.
F Windhill, Schoolhill, 10-30 and 1-30 p.m. Miss E. Alderson, 57, Avondale-road.
F Yeadon, Town Hall, 10 and 1-45. Mr. C. W. Elliott, 17, Ivegate, nr. Leeds.
F Skipton, Mr. W. Reynolds, 11, Cumberland-street.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD COUNCIL DISTRICT:

- Secretary, Mr. J. Manning, 5, Hope-street, Hebden Bridge.
District Visitor, Mr. Seth Ackroyd, 118, Rashcliffe Hill, Huddersfield.
F Brighouse, Commercial-street, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Mr. J. Crossley, Bryan Place.
F Brighouse, Martin-street, 10-30 and 2 p.m. Mrs. G. Crowther, 13, Church-street, Raistrick.
F Elland, Southgate, 10 a.m. and 1-45. Miss Elsie Green, 10, James-street.
F Halifax, Alma-street, 10 and 1-45. Mr. A. Chapman, 17, Wilson-street, Commercial-road.
F Halifax, Raven-street, 10 and 1-30. Mr. L. Blackburn, 16, Luton street, Queen's Road.
F Hebden Bridge, Hope Street, 10-30 and 1-45. Mr. G. Nicoll, Bankfoot House.
F Huddersfield, Ramsden-street, 10 a.m. Miss D. Allured, 33, Midland-street.
F Huddersfield, St. Peter-street, 10-30 a.m. & 2-30 p.m. Mr. W. Hirst, 18, Newhouse-place, Highfields-road, Huddersfield.
F Marsden, Oliver Lane, 10-30 and 2-0. Miss M. Varley, The Chain.
F Quarmby, Quarmby road, 10-30 and 2. Miss A. A. Ollerinshaw, 152, Acre-street, Lindley, nr. Huddersfield.
F Slaithwaite, Laith-lane, 10-15 a.m. Mr. F. Barrett, 474, Spurn Point, Linthwaite, near Huddersfield.

- F Sowerby Bridge**, Hollins-lane, 9-30 and 1 p.m. Mr. John Teal, Hoyle House.
F West Vale, Halifax, Green Lane, 9-30 and 1-45. Mr. T. Flintoff, 6, Hoult's Lane, Greetland, Halifax.

LEEDS COUNCIL DISTRICT:

- Secretary, Mr. A. W. Harding, 19, New Row, Thornes, Wakefield.
District Visitor, Mr. J. Downs, 6, Wellington-terrace, Bean-street, Hull.
E Bailey Carr, Carr-street, 10 and 2. Mr. W. Womersley 112, Oaks-road.
E Castleford, Lower Oxford-street, 10-15 a.m. Mr. W. Smith, 48, Cambridge-street.
E Dewsbury, Bond-street, 10 and 1-45. Mr. E. Wilson, 7, Reform street, Westboro', Dewsbury.
E Heckmondwike, Tower street, 2 p.m. Miss R. Wambleton, 2, Wellington-street, Union-road.
E Holbeck, West Place, Elland Road, 1-45 p.m. Mr. A. Beckwith, 9, Milinda Square, Grape-street, Hunslet, Leeds.
E Hull, Dairycoates Dee-street, Hesse-road, 1-45 p.m. Mrs. A. E. Cook, 3, Alma Avenue, Edinburgh-street.
E Hull, Holborn Hall, Holborn-street, Witham, 10-30 and 2-30. Mrs. Brown, 80, Porter-street.
E Hull, Metropole Hall, 2-0. Mr. Martin, 6a, Walker's Square, Sykes-street.
E Leeds, Armley, Theaker-lane, 10-30 and 2 p.m. Mr. L. P. Firth, 17, Ebenezer-place, Tong-road, Armley.
E Leeds, Rockingham-street, Wade Lane (Psycho), 2-30 p.m. Mr. E. Lewis, 13, Sydenham-place, Holbeck, Leeds.
E Leeds, 7, Easy-road, 10-30 and 2 p.m. Miss M. Hariey, 7, Copperfield Place, Cross Green lane.
E Leeds, Roxburgh-road, 16, Selborne-place, 10 a.m. and 1-45. Mrs. Manuel, 57, Beverly-street, Dewsbury-road.
E Littleton, Wall-street, 2 p.m. Miss A. Hirst, Wall-street, Littleton, nr. Liversedge.
E Moorthorpe, Barnsley-road, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Mr. Geo. Kelly, 53, Wesley-street, Moorthorpe, South Elmsall, nr. Pontefract.
E Normanton, Queen-street, 10-30 a.m. Miss L. Walker, 140, Wakefield-road.
E Wakefield, Kirkgate, over Public Benefit Boot Shop (side entrance), 1-45. Mr. J. T. Hargate, 8, Doncaster-road.
E York, Spen Lane, Mr. T. Fowler, 30, Richmond-street, Hallfield-road, Layerthorpe, York.

LIVERPOOL COUNCIL DISTRICT:

- Secretary, Mr. G. A. Mack, 15, Clarence-street, Runcom.
District Visitor, Mr. G. Brown, Prospect View, Weston, nr. Runcom.
D Liverpool, Dauby-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. J. C. Thompson 43, Clifton-road, The Brook, Liverpool.
D Liverpool, Boaler-street, 3 p.m. Miss P. Ihle, 129, Smithdown-road, Sefton Park, Liverpool.
D Pemberton, 10-30, Back Lane, off Ormskirk Road.
D Runcorn, Ashridge street, 11-0 and 2-15 p.m. Mr. C. Cohen, 16, Waterloo-road.
D Southport, Hawkshead Hall, 10-30 a.m. Mr. F. Park 88, Milton-street.
D Warrington, Sankey-street, 1-45 p.m. Mr. James Lawton, 7, Heit-street.
D Wigan, Miners' Hall, Millgate, 10 a.m. and 1-45. Mr. J. Rossiter, 5, Birch-street.

THE LONDON COUNCIL DISTRICT:

- Secretary, Mr. A. T. Connor, 19, Oakhurst Road, Forest Gate, London, E.7.
District Visitor, Mr. Myers Clegg, 82, Studley Road, Forest Gate, London, E.7.
B London, Clapham St. Luke's-sq, S.W.4., 3 p.m. Mrs. K. M. Barnard, 145, Ashmere Grove, Brixton, S.W.2.
B London, Fulham, S.W.12. Lettice-street, Munster-rd. 3 p.m. Mr. F. P. Roberts, 501, Fulham-road, London, S.W.6.
B Hampton Hill, Middlesex, High-street, 3 p.m. Mrs. Kirby, 17, Oak lane, Twickenham, Middlesex.
B London, Hounslow, Adult School—Miss Maud Weller, 15, Hounslow-avenue, Hounslow.
B London, Upper Holloway, N., Grovedale-road, 3 p.m. Miss Janet Smallman, 9, St. Marys, road, Canonbury, N.1.
B London, Kingston-on-Thames, Bishop's Hall, Thames-street, 3 p.m. Miss L. Hart, 131, Waldegrave-road, Teddington-on-Thames.
B Ilford, Broadway, Miss Eva Connor, 19, Oakhurst Road, Forest Gate, E.7.
B Little Ilford, Third Avenue, Church-road, Manor Park, 3 p.m. Miss N. Ashworth, 235, Parkhurst-road, Manor Park, E.12.
B London, Lewisham, Lime Hall, Lime Grove, S.E. Mr. E. E. Young, 25, Mallett-road, Hither Green, S.E.13.
B London, E., Manor Park, Slrewsbury-road, 3-0 p.m. Miss D. Crawley, 20, Raymond-rd., Upton Park, E.13.
B London, Peckham, Lausanne-road, 3 p.m. Mrs. B. M. Bell, 21, Crews-road, Peckham, S.E.15.

- B London**, E., 13, Plaistow, Braemar-road, 3 p.m. Miss T. Manning, 67, Khartoum-road, Plaistow, E.13.
B London, Tottenham, 684, High-road, 3 p.m. Mr. E. Winter, 23, Risley-avenue, Tottenham, N.17.
B London, Walthamstow, 3 p.m. Mr. F. H. C. Ball, 2, Mersey-road, Forest Road, Walthamstow, E.17.
B London, Woolwich and Plumstead, Invicta Hall, Crescent-road, Plumstead, 3-0 p.m. Mr. A. J. Hockley, 65, Pattison-road, Plumstead, S.E.
B Walthamstow, 3 p.m. Mr. F. H. C. Ball, 2, Mersey-road, Forest-road, Walthamstow, E.17.
B Lewisham, Lime Grove. Mr. E. E. Young, 25, Mallett-road, Hether Green, S.E.13.

MANCHESTER COUNCIL DISTRICT:

- Secretary, Mr. Hood, 11, Archer Street, Cheetham, Manchester.
District Visitor, Miss Sharples, 47, Douro street, Newton Heath, Manchester.
G Manchester, Ardwick, 38, Mayskell-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. G. A. Dixon, 31, Roskild street, Co-on-M. Manchester.
G Manchester, Crescent-road, Cheetham-hill, 10-30. Mr. A. Robinson, 12, Clarendon-road, Crumpall.
G Manchester, Collyhurst, Oldham-road, 10-30 a.m. Miss A. Sharples, 47, Douro-street, Newton Heath.
G Manchester, Moston, Ashley-lane, 10-30. Mr. A. Hood, 11, Archer-street, Queen's-road, Cheetham, Manchester.
G Manchester, Moss Side, 66, Raby-street, Mr. H. Moulson, 143, Beresford-street, Moss Side, Manchester.
G Manchester, Newton Heath, Allen-street, 2-30 p.m. Mr. A. Goodwin, 4, Errowood-street, Newton Heath.
G Manchester, Pendleton, Ford-lane, 2-15 p.m. Mr. A. Betts, 62, Duffry-street, Seadley.
G Manchester, Salford (Central), High-street, off Cross Lane, 10-30 a.m. Miss M. E. Cross, 4390, Eccles New road, Weaste.
G Manchester, South Princess-road, 2-30 p.m. Mr. A. Hope, 5, Fern-street, C. on M.
G Sale, Public Library, 10-30 a.m. Mr. J. Shaw, 10, Wolsley-road, Sale, nr. Manchester.
G New Manchester, 377 Oxford-road, 10-30. Mr. G. W. Barrett, 7, Repton-street, Room H., Upper Brook-street, C. on M.

NORTH-EAST CHESHIRE COUNCIL DISTRICT:

- Secretary, Mr. G. Hill, 119, Chapel-street, Edgeley, Stockport.
District Visitor, Mrs. Ennion, 95, Vienna Rd., Edgeley, Stockport.
H Ashton-under-Lyne, Burlington-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. J. H. Mortin, 2, Bethel Place, West-street, Dukinfield.
H Glossop, Fauvel Road, 10-30. Miss M. Maltby, 78, St. Mary's Road.
H Hadfield, Albert-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. J. Williams, 59, Wednesough Green, Hollinworth, Cheshire.
H Heaton Norris, Baker-street, 10 and 2 p.m. Mrs. Downs, 47, Belmont-street, nr. Stockport.
H Hyde, Clarendon-street, 10-30 a.m. Mr. A. Bowden, 11, Walker-street, Denton, nr. Manchester.
H Macclesfield, Cumberland-street, 10-30 a.m. Miss H. Ruston, Rose Cottage, Upton, Macclesfield.
H Stockport, Lr. Hillgate, Crowther-street, 1030- and 2 p.m. Mr. T. Spencer, 3, Jones-square, Hemphaw-lane.
H Stockport, Central, 15b, Lord-street, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Mr. J. R. Wager, 49, Osborne-road.

NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE COUNCIL DISTRICT:

- Secretary, Mr. J. Shuttleworth, 8, Shaftsbury-road, Darwen.
District Visitor, Mr. Wagner, 5, Ivan-st., Queensgate, Burnley.
C Accrington, Pearl-street, 10-30 a.m. Miss S. J. Wilmington, 25, Rutland-street.
C Barnoldswick (West End), Town Head, 10 a.m. Mr. R. W. Shuttleworth, 30, Gjsburn-road.
C Blackburn, St. Peter-street, 9-30 and 1-45. Mrs. Robinson, 38, Harwood-street.
C Blackpool, Albert-road, 9-15 a.m. Mr. R. Singleton, 12, Durham-road.
C Burnley, Hammerton-street, 10 a.m. Mr. F. Duckworth, 25, Duckett Terrace, Burnley.
C Burnley, North-street, 10-0 a.m. Miss Emily Poppleton, 84, New Hall-street.
C Clitheroe, Rechabites Hall, Greenacre-street, 10 a.m. Miss M. Knowles, 46, Taylor-street.
C Colne, Cloth Hall, 10 a.m. Miss E. Hartley, c/o W. Johnson, 61, Knotts-lane.
C Darwen, Churchbank-street, 9-30 and 1-45. Mr. J. Shuttleworth, 8, Shaftsbury Avenue.
C Earby, Greenend Avenue, 10 and 1-45. Miss F. Astley, 25, Shuttleworth-street, Earby, via Colne.
C Fleetwood street, Kempst, 11 and 2-30. Mrs. Pitcher, 12, Darbishire-road.
C Great Harwood, Mercer-street, 10-30 a.m. Miss A. Waterhouse, 55, Church-street.
C Nelson, Vernon-street, 10 a.m. Miss M. Berkeley, Howard Street, Carr-road.
C Padiham, Ightenhill-st., 10 a.m. Mr. John Hood, 116, Burnley-road.