

THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 378. Vol. XXXII.

AUGUST, 1922.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

The S.N.U. Annual General Meeting.

The Lyceum Representatives at the S.N.U. Annual General Meeting and International Conference were Mr. C. J. Williams, Mrs. M. E. Pickles and the General Secretary. Mr. Kitson sent a letter of explanation of his absence, with an expression of goodwill for the success of the meetings.

The S.N.U. Meetings took place in the Caxton Hall, on Saturday July 1st, and were presided over by Mr. G. F. Berry, of Worcester. A very good representation of Churches and Subscribing Members were present. Quite a number of foreign Spiritualists were also present and were invited to seats on the platform, with applause.

Mr. Yates, the Secretary, could not attend through a serious breakdown in his health, and Mr. E. W. Oaten, who is ever ready to assist in the welfare of Spiritualism, occupied the breach, and undertook the secretaryship of the Conference.

A sincere vote of sympathy was sent to Mr. Yates, with the hopes of the Conference for his early recovery to health.

The reports were speedily passed through. Questions were asked about Study Groups, Exponents, Full-time Secretary and Summer Schools. Under the Exponents scheme "a professional worker was described as one who receives payment for platform work on behalf of an affiliated Church."

Dr. Warne, the President of the National Spiritualist Association, U.S.A., was asked to speak on the methods of Summer Schools prevailing in the U.S.A. He said that Lyceums were started in America and appropriated by us, paying a tribute to the work and growth of Lyceumism in England. The largest Camp in America is at Lily Dale. The Hydesville Cottage has been removed to Lily Dale and rebuilt there. The people attend there for three days a week, and sometimes longer. During the 12 weeks the Camp is open about 15,000 people pass through the Camp and all sorts of activities prevail of a social and religious character. Dr. Warne also spoke of the Morris Pratt Institute for the training of Mediums and Speakers. "If we could only save Spiritualism from some Spiritualists, he had no fear. Psychology is the study of the soul with the soul left out."

On the question of a national S.N.U. badge, the resolution was defeated by a large majority.

The closer relations of the S.N.U. and the B.S.L.U. was confirmed.

It was decided to advertise for a full-time Secretary.

The President's address dealt largely with the Seven Principles and the attitude of the Churches of various sects who seemed anxious to embrace Spiritualism and yet retain the dogmas. Mr. Berry described this as an impossible position.

Mr. Berry was re-elected President and Mr. E. W. Oaten Vice-President. Mr. T. H. Wright continues as Treasurer.

The Conference accepted the No. 2. Building Scheme for the pooling of Church Funds to enable Churches to build sooner.

There are 104 Churches in the S.N.U. without Lyceums.

On the Saturday Evening a Reception was given to the Overseas Delegates to the International Conference.

The singing and music was greatly enjoyed, but there was not much chance for personal chats as the time was occupied by short welcome speeches from the many Foreign Delegates. Some spoke in their native tongue, with or without interpreters, whilst others spoke in English. A warm feeling pervaded the whole assembly. When speeches could not be understood, we could feel the spirit of the message conveyed and each speaker was greeted with applause.

Amongst the Delegates present were representatives from U.S.A., Holland, Denmark, Belgium, France, Spain, and South Africa. Greetings were sent from Middle Europe.

SUNDAY AT QUEEN'S HALL.

ADDRESS BY DR. WARNE.

During the morning an address was given by Dr. Warne: "Does Spiritualism contain the Essentials of a World Religion." Here are a few quotations therefrom. "Religion is too subtle to be voiced in humanity's inadequate vocabulary—mere words are too cold, too feeble to give expression to its inner power."

"It is amazing that men think they should defend God; 'Humanity is steadily escaping from ancient superstitions'; 'Religion is universal—theology is exclusive. Religion is humanitarian—theology is sectarian. Religion unites mankind—theology divides it. Religion looks to the moral worth of a man—theology to his creed and denomination. Religion is love as all embracing as God's love—theology preaches love and practices bigotry. Religion means the conscious relation between man and God and the expression of that relation in human conduct.' After showing the similarity of the principles of the N.S.A. and the S.N.U., Dr. Warne concluded by saying, 'God sends His teachers unto every age, to every clime and every race of men, with revelations fitted to their growth.'"

CHEVALIER CLEMENT DE ST. MARCO.

During the afternoon, the Chevalier spoke on "Spiritualism as a Factor in International Relationships." He is the Secretary of the International Bureau, through whose efforts the Conference was carried through successfully.

The importance of his subject is shown by the manner in which it tends to influence all human activity. The tendency of a nation to consider everything from its own point of view is similar to selfishness. The importance of possessing heart and reason constitute true human worthiness. Then only can a human being with a human heart be happy and share his happiness with others. The same moral evolution can be seen in the development of collective consciousness in civilized nations.

Every practical Spiritualist circle is in fact an international meeting, not because of the living taking part in it, but because of those on the other side who take part in it. In such manner Spiritualism contributes to the ethical improvement of mankind.

Agreed international relations between Spiritualist Associations constitute one of the strongest factors for improvement and development of our ideas. The Danes assert that Spiritualism must be religious and assert that Christ is the central figure of history. In France the subject is insisted as a science. The object of the International Bureau is to collate these and other views, and create a common basis.

The Bureau is acknowledged by the League of Nations, and its periodical is included in the list of international publications issued by them. There is an International University in Brussels, and the International Bureau was invited to establish a professorship of Spiritualism in that university. We enthusiastically accepted, and the first Lecture has been given there.

Spiritualism opens our minds to reflection, criticism and self-possession, which are the first moral qualities, and without these true character and sense of responsibility cannot exist.

SUNDAY EVENING MEETING.

Mr. Berry presided. The Lyceumists occupied the orchestra and made a splendid setting to the platform, where sat the International Delegates and the S.N.U.E.C.

Mr. Beversluis (Holland) spoke of the necessity for an International Spiritualist Union and arising from the Conference will probably spring a permanent body which will eventually grow into a Union of Spiritualist Associations from all over the world, to be blessed by the presence and guidance of delegates from the spirit-world too.

Sympathetic mention was made of the passing of Dr. Ellis T. Powell.

Dr. Warne spoke of the happy thoughts the meetings had awakened and showed that there were many things came from the spirits which were not trivial, but had helped to shape American history.

MRS. M. E. CADWALLADER.

With a pleasant smile and a winning personality, the greetings of the American Lyceums was conveyed to the meeting by Mrs. Cadwallader. She also spoke of the enthusiasm of Sir A. Conan Doyle, and the great crowds who had gathered to hear his addresses. There was also an interesting story of "listening in" related and how it could be used to propagate Spiritualism, when people would have to listen or turn off their "receiving sets."

Mr. W. E. Oaten regretted the absence of Sir A. Conan Doyle

who had made every human effort to be present. (The boat was delayed by fog at sea.) If Sir Arthur could have arrived, there was a tremendous ovation awaiting him and it would have been a splendid climax to a great day in the history of Modern Spiritualism.

MONDAY: SOUTH PLACE INSTITUTE.

MR. STANLEY DE BRATH.

Mr. De Brath, who is clever and well-learned, but unassuming, gave a delightful chat on the Monday morning in the South Place Institute. The story was of a Russian medium's visit to Paris where paraffin-wax moulds of materialized hands were produced. Mrs. B. Mackenzie supplemented the paper by a brief report of a personal visit to the medium at his home in Warsaw. Mr. De Brath was smiling all the time he replied to the bombardment of questions, which were all very interesting and lucidly dealt with.

DR. ABRAHAM WALLACE.

During the afternoon, Dr. Wallace dealt with the subject of "Psychic Science and the Detection and Repression of Crime." This was a most interesting paper, the strong point being the doctor's aversion to capital punishment, and the help psychics could give in the detection of crime, but for the fact that it would cause, under the present laws, another crime to be committed by the legal authorities. Many questions were asked and answered.

THE FINAL RALLY.

Just before the commencement of the arrangements, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle entered the room and received a great ovation. He was accompanied by Lady Doyle and two of their children.

Sir Arthur expressed his great regret that he was unable to be present at the Queen's Hall meeting; and if an aeroplane could have carried him there in time he would have travelled that way. He referred to the physical loss of Dr. Powell, the sickness of Mr. Yates, and the shadow resting over Mr. W. Hope, stating that all efforts should be made to protect the credentials of honest mediums.

A recital of his tour interested the large audience. Sir Arthur said, "the Church and the Press could not for ever go on overlooking this great movement. They must disprove our facts or else admit them."

Mrs. Crear, a coloured missioner from the Ohio District, spoke of "this visit to God's own country," and won the good feelings of all present.

Mrs. M. A. Stair made an appeal for the F.O.B. and Sir Arthur started the response by handing a cheque for £100 to Mrs. Stair.

A LYCEUM RECEPTION.

The London Lyceum District Council gave a Reception on the Tuesday Evening to the Lyceum Representatives at Clapham. Mr. Williams, Mrs. Pickles and the General Secretary attended as guests, along with Dr. Warne, Mrs. Cadwallader, Mrs. Crear, Mr. Engholm and others.

Short speeches were made by the prominent Lyceumists and Dr. Warne.

Thus ended the meetings and greetings of a very busy and hopeful week-end.

Whilst no definite opportunity was given for direct Lyceum propaganda, that part of the work was never long unmentioned and Spiritualists are gradually recognising the utility and necessity for Lyceum education.

CHAS. J. WILLIAMS	} B.S.L.U. Delegates.
MARY E. PICKLES	
GEO. FREDK. KNOTT	

THE SPIRITUALISTS' NATIONAL UNION, LTD. Fund of Benevolence.

Report of Income for the month of June.

T.D., Birkenhead, £1 1s.; Councillor Appleyard, £1 1s.; B.S.L.U., Conference, £1 10s.; per Mr. Yates, 10s.; Mr. Orr, £1 1s.; Mr. Venables, 10s. 6d.; Total, £5 13s. 6d. I am sincerely thankful for these donations. Disbursements for June £42 10s.

Truly many can help the few and make the lives of our old workers happy in their evening tide.

Sincerely and gratefully yours,
MARY A. STAIR.

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 July), 1,311.

LYCEUMS represented (on 21st July), 128.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

We wish each Guild member and all other Lyceumists enjoyable times during their holiday; and hope that, at the end of their merrymaking, they will feel refreshed, physically and mentally, and ready for the work of the autumn and winter months.

Just a few members, to whom new badges were sent after the February examinations, have not yet sent in their threepences. Is it necessary to say more?

When you read this, the closing date for the essay competition will have passed. We *hope* to be able to announce the results in our next issue; but we make *no promise*.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OUR MEMBERS.

The rest of our Page this month is being devoted to our various contributors. We take this opportunity of tendering our very sincere thanks for the interest shown and help given.

Mr. Wm. Woodall (South Shields) will next month conclude his Aquarium Articles; which have been so interesting and instructive. But he has kindly promised us another series, on a subject that will appeal to many, viz., articles about herbs—when and where to be found, and their medicinal virtues.

We have pleasure in giving Miss M. E. Lawton's reply to the following paragraph (which appeared in the June BANNER, in Mr. Woodall's letter)—

"A curious natural phenomenon 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 prevent the roots from expanding.

Could Miss Lawton explain this?"

THE REPLY:—"I have been trying to discover all the possible causes for the tree's strange behaviour; though, of course, I am somewhat at a disadvantage in being unable to see the tree in question.

The roots of plants have such wonderful powers of overcoming obstacles, that I do not think we can blame the presence of the three large stones for the lack of leaves. Had the stones damaged the roots, I'm inclined to think that the tree would have produced leaves at the expense of the flowers. Without leaves, the tree will be unable to form any reserve of food to be used during next winter and spring. The production of flowers only enables the tree to produce seeds for new plants, but it does not keep up the life of the parent tree itself, and I think that with the plants, as in other forms of life, 'Self preservation is the first law of nature.'

I prefer to blame some external cause for the absence of leaves. It is possible that the leaf-buds have been present, but through opening out too soon have been spoilt by frost. Again, some blight may have attacked the leaves and destroyed them, even before they were fully developed. Even now, I think it quite possible that some dormant buds may grow so that the leaves may be replaced. If no leaves appear, the tree can't manufacture a reserve store of food, and so will cease to live. You see, the roots absorb from the ground moisture which contains the necessary gases and food properties in soluble form. The moisture is carried from the roots to the leaves, and there, by combining with other gases absorbed from the air, food is manufactured by some chemical process in the leaves. This manufactured food is carried by other tubes, from the leaves down to the roots again, and there stored until needed for use in the growth of the plant. The tree can only work successfully when both roots and leaves are working harmoniously. With roots alone, the moisture absorbed is useless. It is for this reason that I think the roots are not damaged, but that only the leaves have suffered. The next few months should show whether or no the tree still retains the power to produce leaves. I shall be pleased to hear how the tree fares."

In our last article we referred to a letter received from a Guild member in New Zealand, Miss E. Evans. We have pleasure in giving it here, and think most of our readers will enjoy learning of native-life in the far-away land.

LIFE IN THE BACK BLOCKS OF NEW ZEALAND.

The Maoris are the native people of New Zealand, but at present there are few of the real tribes left. The name of the tribes round where we live is Ngataporos. At a first glance they reminded me of the "real gypsies" we see at home, but looking further they are quite different. The women are very sa'llow and dark-skinned, with very fuzzy matted hair; the lower part of the mouth (the chin) tattooed, which is very peculiar with these, for spidery lines run all over the chin. They dress in very bright colours with shawls, generally to carry their babies on their backs; and wear no shoes, generally being barefooted. The men are dark-skinned, and have black hair and deep brown eyes, and are, generally speaking, good-looking.

In olden days these people lived on high hills or high ridges, as there was great strife between the different tribes. Their living places were called "pas," and I think it was practically an open-air life. Round this land were several "pas," one on a very high hill; and it is very well preserved. The name is Rangitoto—*Rangi* meaning *sky*; *toto*, *piercer*, hence *sky-piercer*—which is very suitable as a piece of land is jutting from the top to a great height. There are deep hollows where they lived; also gun-pits and entrenchments (which were for security), and cooking stones. A battle was fought on a piece of flat land below called Kahou Flat—*Kahou* meaning *devil*. There is a hollow tree where they put a whole lot of dead, and bones and remnants of clothes were found, and not far from the house is a huge grave supposing to be a young Maori officer who was a great favourite with the tribes. The Maoris in the country now generally have a cemetery on the top of a hill and live down below it. When there is a death in a family they have a "tangi," and all neighbouring Maoris go to it. They have a kind of feast, and on the night of the funeral they make most hideous noises with old cans and tins. It is most weird. They are most passionately fond of children, but old people they dislike and practically leave them to starve if helpless in any way. In these tribes they generally have a head man or a chief, and he chooses the man and wife, and they are obliged to marry owing to custom, but they think nothing of getting married six or seven times.

They are very dirty and untidy in their homes, having no method whatever. They are very rough too. Picture a good sized wooden house. In one room is perhaps a table, but no chairs. They just squat about on the floors, hardly a rag on their backs. In the next room are bunks, or shall I say, a few old blankets bundled in heaps, perhaps several families living and sleeping in this one place. What an atmosphere! But they are most happy and seem to enjoy life immensely. They eat fish mostly when procurable, and also they have native foods. At a certain time of the year they gather "kraker" berries from the trees in the bush, also they cook sow thistles, like cabbage, and call it "puka." Then there is maize. They get cobs and place them in a running creek and leave them until they are absolutely rotten, then they fetch them out and cook them. It looks most awful food, but these maoris enjoy it and have stews with it. Pig hunting they are fond of, as there are heaps of wild pigs here in this district. They just use a knife and have a dog or two, and get great sport. Some of these pigs have huge tusks, but the Maoris are very plucky and just corner the pig and stab it. Of course there is an art in doing the deed. They are also good sheep-shearers and get most of the shearing work at the different sheep stations. They go from place to place in gangs, the men with some of their wives who help to cook and sort the wool and do easy jobs for the men. That is reckoned to be their harvest time. For the remaining part of the year they just do odd jobs, growing potatoes and maize, and perhaps doing a little ploughing.

Another peculiar custom is rubbing noses. When they greet each other they don't kiss as we do, but shake hands and rub noses, it looks so funny seeing a man and woman rubbing noses in the street. On the whole they are a very kind-hearted race, and much can be learned from them regarding the medicinal powers of nature in the bush. But they do not particularly like the white people to learn; and another drawback is their language, which is quite different from ours. In olden days they obtained all their dyes from different trees, also the ink for tattooing their faces.

Most of the old Maoris know every track and ridge in the district and it is quite interesting to ride round with them. They certainly make life more pleasant in the back-blocks as

they know all the best places in the land and the best crossings in the rivers and creeks. They are most dependable in that way.

OUR NATURE ARTICLE.

FLOWERS AND THEIR INSECT FRIENDS.

By MARGARET E. LAWTON.

Summer-time, to us, means flower-time, when the plants vie with each other in producing beautiful and fragrant blossoms. To the plants, flower-time means the chance of bringing into world baby-seeds, which, in turn, will grow up into beautiful plants.

A flower contains either stamens, with heads full of pollen grains, or a stigma which leads to a little box full of plant egg-cells—the part of the plant that is often called the seed-box. Many flowers contain both stamens and stigma. Now, in order to make a seed, some of that pollen dust must be carried to the ripe stigma. When the pollen touches the stigma head, a little tube grows from the grain, to an egg cell, and a baby-seed is born. Afterwards the flower fades, and then, when it is strong enough, the baby-seed is freed, so that it has room for growth. It is possible for some pollen to reach the stigma of the same flower, but the plants try to prevent this from happening, because the strongest seeds are formed when the pollen from one flower is carried to the stigma of another flower, as from one buttercup to another one.

This carrying of the pollen from flower to flower is very often done by insects, and so a very wonderful partnership is formed between the plant world and the insect world. The flowers develop beautiful colours and attractive smells, as advertisements to the insects, telling them that their help is needed. Then the insects visit the flowers, and work for them, and in return the plants supply their visitors with sweet nectar.

Small, crawling insects find they are welcomed by many white or yellow flowers, like the buttercup. The red, blue, and violet coloured flowers want cleverer insects, such as bees, butterflies, and hover-flies, and these flowers often hide their nectar so that only these long-tongued insects can reach it. The insects show a wonderful sense of smell and colour, and may often be seen keeping to the same kind of flower, and passing over others of a different smell, colour, or shape.

Then some flowers seem to prefer evening insect visitors, and so we have night scented flowers, and others, like the evening primrose, and the white campion which only unfold at dusk. These flowers are usually visited by moths, which seem to be able easily to see the pale-coloured flowers in the evenings. Honeysuckle is a favourite flower with the moths, and its smell is most attractive in the evenings when moths are about. Butterflies and bees seem to prefer red, pink, and some brown flowers. Wasps like the reddish-brown flowers, whilst bees and hover-flies can distinguish the blue and violet colours.

The large and brightly coloured flowers, even though they grow singly, can be easily seen by the insects. Smaller flowers find that they become more noticeable when they group themselves together, either by the flowers growing in clusters, or by the plants growing in crowds. In the parsley and chervil family, the flowers grow in little clusters, and the clusters group together to make a large, flat-topped mass of flowers, the little stalks growing like umbrella spokes from the main stalk. In the daisy family, one daisy "head" holds about a hundred tiny yellow flowers, surrounded by a collar of white signal flowers, whose only work is to attract visitors.

The flowers seem to spare no trouble when inviting insect visitors, but the insects have to do their share of work before enjoying a nectar feast. The nectar is generally stored in glands, called nectaries, and their position in the flowers is one of the most wonderful features of plant life. It is almost impossible for an insect to reach the nectary without first either crawling over, or rubbing against, the stigma and stamens. True, one sometimes finds a flower which a lazy insect has robbed, by biting through the back of the flower, instead of entering it in the proper manner. Not only must an insect rub against the stigma and stamens but many flowers are so made that the visitor rubs *first* against the stigma, and then covers itself with the yellow pollen dust. At the next flower that insect visits the dust is rubbed on to the stigma, and then more pollen is gathered for other flowers. In some flowers tiny insects could reach the flowers without doing the necessary work first, and so, sometimes, as in dead nettles, these unwanted guests are prevented from winning the nectar by a trap ring of fine hairs in the flowers.

Every time you find a fresh flower, try to find out how it attracts insect visitors, and still protects itself from unwanted

guests. Almost every type of flower has its own particular method, and the companionship between insects and plants is really amazing.

Our last post brought us the following essay from Brighton. It was read at a Lyceum Session, and written by Miss Annie M. Robinson, a Guild member. Here it is for you all to enjoy.

ESSAY BY A GUILD MEMBER.

CHILDREN IN SPIRIT LIFE.

Spiritland is not a place of mists peopled by shadowy forms, but a very real place where spirits lead active useful lives, where buildings are solid, and the trees, lakes and rivers as real as ours on earth, only more beautiful and delightful to the eye, and the flowers more perfect and sweeter scented than any we see here below. We know too that spirit people inhabit real homes with gardens, and have all that is necessary to enable them to lead happy lives working for the benefit of others.

It has been proved that children do survive death. The soul, being immortal, lives on for ever, whilst the outer garment or the body only is laid in the grave. The soul goes on progressing in love and knowledge much more quickly than before, not being hindered by ill-health and bad social conditions. All spirit children are met by loving spirit friends and guardians on leaving the earth life, none ever feeling lonely or overlooked. They are given into the care of their earthly mothers if they are thought fitted for the work and have gone to spirit land before them.

Children grow and develop much more quickly than on earth. The grace and purity of their bodies and minds are reflected in the expression of their features; those having passed to spirit land in infancy having faces of dazzling beauty. They meet together according to their ages to learn their lessons in schools called Progressive Lyceums, and are taught by angels from advanced spheres who instruct them by means of object lessons. These are most interesting and instructive too, the teachers seeking to draw out the powers of their pupils, rather than cram knowledge in, as is done on earth. The Rev. Vale Owen describes what he had given him from the Summerland by an advanced spirit, relating to their work and play there. He saw about 50 children, ranging from 10 to 16 years of age. They had just finished their lessons and were standing, talking and laughing, round a beautiful fountain with rippling waters splashing over, and decorated with large animals. This fountain was situated in a large open space with arbors at the sides. The children decided in playful mood to put their lessons into practice. Having been taught in the lower schools the creative principles relating to grasses, fruit and flowers, they wished to apply their knowledge to the animal kingdom and boldly decided to de-materialise the whole fountain and re-create the whole affair with they themselves inside the animals. The first part to them was simple, as they were quite expert. But to re-create the animals with the children inside presented them with a difficulty. They persevered, however, and succeeded; but they could not see that the animals were not quite perfect in outline, greatly to the merriment of the elder spirits present. When the children had finished making all the noises they thought peculiar to the animals of which they were inside, they gave one united whoop in chorus and proceeded to dematerialise the menageries. The alligator, we are told, was the first to fade into invisibility by their will-power, and inside him were five children. They stood and looked at each other in surprise and then burst into laughter, realising that in their extraordinary effort they had used up the whole of their spirit garments and were there standing naked. If such a thing had occurred in earth life they and their on-lookers would probably have felt ashamed, but we have to realise that in sphere 7 where these children were, there is no sin, therefore no shame. To re-clothe them again, as they had been before their great game, the elder ones present arranged the children before them and with their united will-power soon accomplished it. The re-erection of the fountain and the statuary on the little island was accomplished in the same way.

Thus we know that the children work together to help and please each other, thereby growing in love and harmony. They often come back to the earth plane and when the spiritual environment is suitable can stay for days in their parents' home, sometimes communicating with them and helping them with the knowledge of immortality. To many sorrowing parents in the depths of despair at losing their children by death, this knowledge has been a blessing, bringing back hope and sunshine to their lives. As an instance of this, a man lost his only child after a few days' illness, and he felt life was not worth living. He wandered out one evening, intending to commit

suicide, but hearing singing from a building near, something impelled him to go inside. It was a spiritualist meeting and the speaker singled the man out almost immediately. He said, "There is a little girl with you," and proceeded to give a description. He added, "She is in great distress over some trouble you are in and she keeps saying, 'Daddy, don't do it. Daddy, don't do it.' " The man seemed overwhelmed, and at the close of the meeting he asked the speaker some questions, saying that he had gone out that night intending to end his dejection and misery by throwing himself in the river. Now that he knew his darling was not lying in the grave, but was alive and watching over him he felt he could live on now, secure in the knowledge that she would meet him in the Summerland when his work on earth was done.

It is known of course by many that people visit the spirit spheres in their sleep. The most interesting are the descriptions of the places set apart for children. One of them is a large building where children permanently passed over in Spiritland meet those who are taken there in their sleep-time. For the time the latter are clad only in their spirit bodies and meet the others on equal terms, although in earth life they were paper-boys, match-sellers and others recruited from the ranks of poverty. People wonder sometimes where these little gutter children, despite their wretched conditions of life, learn to bear each others' burdens and to do kindly acts of consideration and thoughtfulness, but we know that they are taught in the elementary schools of heaven to which their souls have been summoned when their weary bodies lay asleep in poor attics and dark doorways. Angels of high estate come to talk to them at this "college" as the children call it, and instruct them in things that will help them in their life on earth. On awakening to consciousness they do not always remember where they have been, but some of the truths gained remain in their minds, helping and sustaining them in their time of trial. This is a merciful provision for strengthening and helping children and adults along the highway of earth life and one worthy of a kind and beneficent God. When children have passed to Spiritland in infancy, they have missed the lessons earth-life has to teach, and so to a certain extent they have lost something, but they are allowed to return at intervals to earth in the care of a more advanced spirit, to gain the knowledge they did not get before. This enables them to enter into our lives and trials when they are sufficiently advanced to come back to us as guides and helpers. Little black children having lived a more natural, healthy life on earth are frequently sent as guides to mediums, although one often hears disgust expressed that such should be the case, forgetting that neither caste nor colour of skin counts in Heaven, and that we are all equal in the sight of God. Thus the spirit children learn that by working unselfishly to benefit others and in a happy spirit of unity, they make their own spirit bodies grow more beautiful and perfect, ever reaching up higher and higher.

"Mighty souls are working with us,
Holy hands clasp ours;
Not alone we do the labour,
Planting truth's fair flowers.
Wave the banner! out before us
Lie the spotless years,
Angel helpers bending o'er us,
Wave it from the spheres."

ANNIE M. ROBINSON (Brighton).

Mrs. M. E. Cadwallader, the Editor of the "Progressive Thinker," was also present, and her pleasing personality added charm to the meetings.

Numerous readers of the LYCEUM BANNER have asked for Mrs. M. E. Pickles to continue to contribute her articles and the Editor is approaching the Past President with a request to keep in touch with Lyceumists in this way.

The first delivery of the Revised Edition of the Lyceum Manual has been received. A few waiting orders have been sent out. Further orders will be dealt with in rotation when the new stocks are in hand.

Dr. Warne, the President of the National Spiritualist Association, U.S.A., gave a nice little tribute to the pioneers of the Lyceum system in England, at the S.N.U. General Meeting when asked to say something about Summer Schools.

The Ego and Evolution.

BY JAMES LILLEY.

The following article has been held up for many months through lack of space. As it dealt with matters submitted by Mr. Connor, the text has been submitted to him so that the reply could appear in the same issue.

The "Soul and Spirit" controversy arises again. As the definition of these terms has been decided by a Referendum it is inadvisable that the matter should again be discussed in the columns of the "Lyceum Banner." The Liberty Groups will find therein a theme of discussion which may prove helpful to inquirers.—ED.

Sir,—I have read with great interest "The Ego and Evolution," by A. T. Connor. At the head of his concluding article he invites the readers of the above to express their opinion on the above subject. I should like to say a few words on such an important and mystifying subject.

With regard to the origin of life we know as much to-day as our forefathers did. If we study Evolution by Darwin, Spencer and Wallace, we do not obtain the origin of life, but the process of life from the speck of protoplasm through the various stages up to man—the highest form of life yet known.

Man at first had little of what we call psychical life; to avoid his enemies, to secure food, to perpetuate his species were his first thoughts; what rudiments of reason, of memory, emotion, of volition he had, were conceived for the accomplishment of these ends in the most effective way. Alfred Russell Wallace, the great Naturalist and Spiritualist, thinks that there was an influx of the psychical or spiritual into man in the transitory period of his growth. When was that transitory period? If you read Man's Survival After Death, by C. L. Tweedale, you will find that dogs see spirit forms. How do we know but what other animals see spirit forms as well? In my opinion the psychical has always existed both in the lower species and in man.

I am inclined to think that man has always been man; because if you believe in the theory of Evolution, you are bound to believe in Atavism, i.e., throwing back, which would mean that occasionally amongst the human family there would appear traces of the lower species.

The idea that man sprang from monkeys is absurd. Dennis Hird says in his pamphlet, "From Brute to Brother," p. 5. "If your friends try to veil their ignorance by asking you if you can believe that man is descended from the apes, you may inform them that Evolution has never taught that man has descended from any living apes. And you may remind them of the historic discussion of 1860, which Samuel Wilberforce, then Bishop of Oxford, held with Professor Huxley. Finding the facts rather powerful, the witty bishop asked Huxley whether it was on his grandfather's side or his grandmother's side that he was an ape. Huxley replied: 'I asserted, and I repeat, that man has no reason to be ashamed of having an ape for his grandfather. If there was an ancestor whom I should feel shame in recalling, it would be a man, a man of restless and versatile intellect, who, not content with an equivocal success in his own sphere of activity, plunges into scientific questions with which he has no real acquaintance, only to obscure them by an aimless rhetoric, and distract the attention of his hearers from the real point at issue by eloquent digressions and skilled appeals to religious prejudice.'"

They are both dead now, and years have rolled away since that discussion, but it has been shown that Huxley was right and Wilberforce was wrong; and that brilliant piece of wit has only demonstrated to the world that a very clever bishop may be a great fool.

Mr. Connor quotes spirit, soul, mind and ego as synonymous terms which, according to Spiritualists are misleading. "The Soul is the spirit-body, a superphysical counterpart of man's physical, which, when seen, is often referred to as a 'ghost.' The spirit of man is that which is often termed the 'ego' or thinking part of man, which, so far as psychic science is concerned, is a mystery and formless, but which animates the soul." J. H. McKenzie, who says in his book on "Spirit Intercourse," p. 23, "He considers it, however, as certain, that it (the soul) had an individual existence before birth into the physical body, but such proofs as one could term scientific are not yet forthcoming." If that is so does it not lead one to think that man has always been man, monkey always monkey, and the Duck-mole always a Duck-mole, etc.?

If one reads about the ego in "The Physics of the Secret Doctrines," by William Kingsland, after reading the above,

one wonders what the next explanation will be when Sir Oliver Lodge and his scientific colleagues prove that the Ether which fills all space is animated.

As a teacher in the Lyceum I am out to discover truth and promulgate it though the sky should fall.

The above are rambling statements, but if they will create thought and cause them to be discussed in our Lyceums, my object of Pro and Con will have been achieved.

THE EGO AND EVOLUTION.

FURTHER REMARKS BY A. T. CONNOR.]

I am obliged to the Editor for allowing me to add a few remarks to my essays that appeared in the last three issues of last year's BANNER. In the main I agree with what Mr. Lilley says, but two or three of his points will bear further consideration, which may help in attaining his "object of pro and con." In the region of OPINION there is always plenty of room for friendly discussion—as we each form our opinions from our experiences, and experiences differ. But at all costs we must resist the temptation to choose experiences that seem to confirm our already formed opinions—and reject the others. What we can and must do is to combine our experiences and try to form from them opinions that are justified by them all.

In his second paragraph, Mr. Lilley speaks of "the process of life from the speck of protoplasm through the various stages up to man." In his fourth paragraph he seems to cast doubt on Evolution (which he has defined in his 2nd par.) because of the necessity for a belief in atavism. To my mind that is not a very great difficulty. MAN has become a fixed species, the same as the horse, the dog and other species. In the early days, when species were becoming fixed, PHYSICAL atavism was doubtless common; but now, even in the lower animals, it is seldom or never heard of. On the other hand, we have what seem like cases of partial MENTAL atavism, when men reproduce characteristics of the lower species. There is the ape-faced man; the hawk-faced man; the bull-dog-faced man—and phrenology claims that their features are typical of their mental natures. Further, if Man was always Man, and the Monkey always Monkey, etc., the "process" of life has not been by evolution but by a series of creations—for the story of the rocks tells us that "in the beginning" life forms were very simple, and progressed by successive steps to the present complex forms with which we are familiar. And the Creation theory is dead.

Mr. Lilley has not quite grasped my remark about "spirit, soul, ego, etc." In my essay I was dealing with MIND, and said—"In psychology, *spirit, soul, mind*, and *ego* all have the same meaning, and stand for that within us which knows, feels and wills." This statement should not be misleading to Lyceumists, as in S.C.R.1, God is referred to as the Soul of the Universe, and in S.C.R.2, as soul of the sparrow and the bee—in neither case can we refer to a spirit body. Also, in the new (1922) MANUAL, G.C.R. 137 tells us that "in the Lyceum Movement or this Manual the term soul is never used to refer to the spirit body."

I am sorry that this question of Soul and Spirit has been raised again. Outside Spiritualism the two words have been used as interchangeable terms. They are both old words with well established meanings, and it is no part of Spiritualism to change the meanings of words. The trouble in this connection is that we have taken these words with accepted meanings and tried to give them new meanings—thus leading to confusion and controversy. Spirit and Soul are almost synonymous, but there is a difference, as will be seen from the following sentences: "The spirit of the age"; "the spirit of progress"; "esprit de corps"—"the soul of honour"; "the soul of compassion." In the first three, "Spirit" is used as an underlying vital principle—in the last two, "Soul" is a manifestation. A man who is "the soul of honour" manifests in his life that underlying spirit or principle which dictates our conduct in dealing with others. Finally, a psychometrist ("soul-measurer") doesn't give us the measurements of our spirit body, but describes our character: the manifestation of our soul-development. Spirit is the "spark of Deity"—Soul is the manifestation of that Spirit as an individuality. In some way this "spark" has been projected into matter (or, as some contend, matter is a form of spirit manifestation), and we now find the spirit manifesting through a physical body on physical planes, and through a spirit body on the spirit planes. Evolution is generally accepted as the method of progressive manifestation.

The M.C. meetings at Belper proved a great success, and the local friends gave the Committee a great welcome.

THE LYCEUM BANNER:

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

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

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AUGUST, 1922.

Hands Across the Sea.

In the great City of London there has been a gathering of people from many lands. Some of those who attended had travelled thousands of miles over land and sea. All the men and women were Spiritualists. Some of them could speak the English language and told us the story of Spiritualism as it is known in their countries. Others were able to use interpreters (men or women who knew and could speak the foreign tongue and translate the words into English.) The remainder spoke in their native language and very few could understand the words expressed.

One clever man was there who had sent the invitations to people in other lands, and we all felt grateful to him for arranging and circulating the news which made the meetings possible.

Prominent people were exchanging address cards and periodicals they had brought with them to the meetings. Many who receive these journals and records will not be able to understand or read the papers which they receive.

The Editor confesses his ignorance of other languages and will be glad to learn the names and addresses of Spiritualists in England who are linguists or have come to England from other nations, so that the Movement may have the benefit of their knowledge. There are papers being received from Denmark, Holland, Germany, Belgium, France, Portugal, Spain, The Argentine and other countries.

The countries in which Lyceums are strongest are England and the United States of America. Other countrymen are showing interest in this scheme of education for the children of Spiritualists, but the subject is not studied the same way in all countries.

Some nations study Spiritualism from a purely scientific standpoint; some from the Christian aspect; some from the religious foundation and some from the general aspect of the subject.

The only link which has existed up to the present has been by means of an International Bureau, situated in Brussels. Arising from the Congress, there is going to be a closer link than before, and the Spiritualists of many lands are going to try and find a common basis of principles by which the Spiritualists of the world can spread this great knowledge and power which has been revealed to mankind by the spirit-world.

One of the great difficulties is the language barrier and many people are earnestly hoping this can be overcome in some way by the adoption of a common language or the introduction of an artificial or combined language, like Esperanto, Volapuk or Ido.

One thing is certain, the barrier must be overcome and the babel of tongues cease, whatever else happens, before we can understand each other. The adoption of some kind of international language is an essential part in the programme of international Spiritualism, before the common people can come together under one banner and display their solidarity to the world. When spirits of other nations come to us, we find the same language difficulty facing us. How nice it will be when the spirits come to our meetings from other lands. It is very interesting to hear from human lips the story of life abroad. How splendid it will be when we can understand the language and symbology which emanates from the world of spirits.

From a slight study of Esperanto, the inference was drawn that it could be the means of overcoming international misunderstandings. Each person interested would learn his own language and the neutral Esperanto, which is taken from the existing languages of the world. This would mean each person learning two languages instead of many.

The fault remains that many people do not consider that this method is the solution and a common neutral language is not likely to be successful or adopted.

After all is said and written, the Congress of Spiritualists just concluded has shown the seed of future possibilities and powers. It almost reads like the description given by Davis to the powers of a child, "capable of infinite potentialities" and the repository of a great brotherhood at last springing into existence which will not only unite mankind but strengthen the links which hold God, spirits and men in the realm of eternal progression, working along the channel of harmony and peace towards heaven and goodness.

Where men have walked with angels the love divine can grow. Our conversation with our fellow-men is tempered by these higher thoughts and shapes our minds to things sublime. We stretch our hands and minds across the seas and find responses in minds of men that vibrate to the commonweal and therein lies the secret of our hopes. No colour bar or intellectual stream divides us now. "All are but parts of one stupendous whole, whose body nature is and God the soul." And thus we know the International Congress has not been in vain, but opens the door and widens the vista of larger and deeper friendships, overcomes the time and distance to find a common hearing in the bosom of mankind. Separate, we starve; united, we live. We feel warm in the company of our fellows and joy in the presence of the angels. We open our eyes to the beautiful world which awaits us, face the evils which confront us and shape our minds towards concord, amity and love. The sects dissolve in finding life's ideals.

TO LYCEUM SECRETARIES.

The attention of Secretaries and others is called to the following notes which are issued under the instructions of the Management Committee.

In view of the Constitution not providing for the emergency which has arisen in Area A., through the continued illness and resignation of Mr. Hall, a new Election will be put in operation for the election of a Representative of Area A., to serve on the Management Committee till the 1923 Conference.

A few local differences have been referred to the M.C. during the last year. These matters have taken up much time and could have been dealt with by the District Councils. The M.C. instruct Lyceums or individuals who may have a grievance to use the machinery of the District Councils before approaching the M.C.

The Membership Certificates are not yet to hand, but will be issued to newly affiliated Lyceums when in our possession. The Conference decided on a Retaining Fee of 3s. 6d. (to be repaid on the cancellation and return of the Certificate).

All the old Certificates are now out-of-date, and the M.C. request the return of the old Certificates. The new Certificates will bear the original date of affiliation.

Lyceums are requested to remember the annual Lyceum Foundation Day (last Sunday in January) and Pioneer Sunday (last Sunday in March) when making their yearly plans.

The eligibility of one of the S.N.U. Representatives having arisen since Conference through a decision on which an opposite view has been expressed concerning the definition of "the Body of the Conference," the M.C. have agreed to confirm the appointment of Mrs. M. E. Pickles, as the B.S.L.U. Representative (along with the General Secretary) to sit on the S.N.U.E.C.

Mr. Alfred Kitson's Autobiography will be on sale shortly. The price will be 5s. 6d. post free. 56s. per doz., post free.

The Editor regrets his inability to publish the official organ at the usual time owing to industrial troubles. Particulars of the next issue will be found on the Front Page Cover.

Our Education Article.

(THE B.S.L.U. EDUCATION SCHEME).

TO ALL LYCEUMISTS.

In the June BANNER we read:

"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."

So there is plenty of room for propaganda work for the 110 Lyceums and 993 Lyceumists who proved themselves last February to be out for progress and education!

Continue your own studies, and take every means to interest others in the work, to see its value, and to begin their studies.

TO CANDIDATES FOR 1923 EXAMINATIONS.

TAKE CARE OF this issue and of all the succeeding ones. You will need them for reference, and find them helpful in your work.

The examinations are fixed for 18th February, 1923. When your holiday is over, settle down at once to a systematic course of study—steady and without cramming—and you'll be quite ready for the examination, and for scoring high marks.

THE NEW NO. 2 HANDBOOK (FOR GRADES II., III., AND IV.)

The old edition being sold out, the whole book has been revised and re-edited, and brought up to date.

Explanatory notes have been added to the difficult sections; and the section on the 'Rise and Progress of the British Lyceum Movement' has been re-written and enlarged, to include much vital matter formerly omitted.

The Handbook is now ready; price sixpence per copy, 5s. 6d. per dozen, post free.

We should advise *all* students above Grade I. to obtain a copy, as it will be the basis for the questions set on the Handbook section of the Syllabus.

THE ORAL GRADE.

Full particulars of the Oral Grade will be sent round next month to all Lyceum Secretaries.

The Oral Grade Primer is not yet ready; but we hope to be able to make a full announcement next month.

TO ALL STUDENTS AND CANDIDATES.

As August is the holiday month, and many Lyceumists do not see their BANNER (being away from home, or the Lyceum suspending its order, or—in cases—being closed for the holidays) we are purposely withholding the first of the series of articles promised in the June issue. They will begin next month, and continue up to the time of the examinations.

IMPORTANT.

The Schemes of Work will appear in the September issue. They plan out 16 weeks of work. If arrangements have been made for classes to begin (either on Sundays or during the week) the first week in September, the sixteenth week will end just before Christmas, by which time *every* item in the Syllabus will have been studied *twice*. This will leave six weeks in the New Year for final and thorough revision.

LETTER FROM MR. ERNEST VICKERS.

The inception of the Education Scheme is primarily due to Mr. Ernest Vickers (for particulars see article in the new edition of No. 2 Handbook), who has served in former years on the M.C. and is a past President of the B.S.L. Union.

We are therefore glad to be able to publish a letter from him; and it should encourage present students, and spur on other Lyceumists to take up the work of education and progress.

A MESSAGE FROM A. J. DAVIS.

Dear Miss Kitson,

Several times of late I have been honoured by visits from our 'Lyceum Founder,' Dr. Andrew Jackson Davis.

Sitting in a powerful circle with Colonel and Mrs. Cowley at their home in London, I was amazed on one occasion to see clairvoyantly the form of Dr. Davis build up in a rich aura of blue and purple, in the close vicinity of the cabinet.

He appeared radiantly happy and conveyed by thought vibration that he was very pleased with the progress being made by the Lyceum Movement, and especially with the educational side.

There, he affirmed, is the strength of the Movement, and it is gradually evolving to the status intended by him at its inception.

The sacrifice and devotion of those piloting the movement continues to give him intense pleasure, and he desired me to convey his appreciation to the quarter responsible for the progress made.

At a sitting for "direct voice" at the same residence, with Mrs. Johnson as medium, my father spoke for some time on Lyceum matters. He confirmed the appearance of Dr. Davis and stated he was in attendance at the seance. He further stated that Dr. Davis and himself wished me to attend the Conference at Manchester as it would greatly uplift me and I should be strengthened for the journey. Since coming home father has again spoken to me in "direct voice" and said how pleased they were with the sympathy and goodwill shown to me by all members of the conference. I think I might close this short narrative by assuring all Lyceumists that the spirit people are working with them in their Cause, and at all times by adopting a prayerful attitude the strength necessary to reach a successful conclusion will be acquired.

Yours fraternally,

ERNEST VICKERS.

THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE, 1922-1923.

Conference has again re-elected the members of the Committee; and the Committee, its officers.

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE, AND ORAL GRADE SECRETARY: Miss Hesp, 10, Cross Flatts Drive, Beeston, Leeds.

EDUCATION SECRETARY: Miss Kitson, 17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Batley (Yorks.).

ASSISTANT SECRETARY: Mr. Connor, 19, Oakhurst Road, Forest Gate, London, E.7.

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE: Mrs. Pickles, Messrs. Williams, Knott, Owen, Kitson, Latham.

Essays on Reasoning.

By A. T. CONNOR.

VII.—INVESTIGATION.

So far, we have confined ourselves to the methods of obtaining fresh knowledge from knowledge already in our possession. We must now consider how we are to discover the facts from which to build up our syllogisms. If either of the premises of a syllogism is wrong, the conclusion also is wrong; so we must make sure that our premises are correct. As has often been stated, the philosophy of Spiritualism is founded on facts discovered through investigation; and therefore, if we make any mistakes in our investigations, it follows that the premises from which we argue are incorrect, and our philosophy (the conclusions deduced from our premises) is wrong.

Spiritualism claims that its philosophy is founded on 'the proven facts of communion between departed human spirits and mortals.' How are we to prove these facts? The answer is not nearly so easy as some might be inclined to think. An investigator may attend a Spiritualist meeting or a seance, and there get described to him someone whom he had known in former years, but who is now 'dead.' The description may be perfect, as regards form, features and personal characteristics, and even as regards intimate historical facts—BUT if the investigator takes this as conclusive proof of Spirit Return, he is assuming far more than is justified by the facts. All that has been PROVED is that the medium concerned is able to give him an accurate description of his 'dead' friend. Much more than that is demanded by the wise investigator.

The first thing he will do will be to make full inquiry about the description, which *could* have been given from personal knowledge or from inspection of a photograph, or might have been only the result of clever mind-reading (a phase of psychometry). It would be possible that the clairvoyant might know the investigator and might have known his dead friend. Again, the clairvoyant might have had an opportunity of seeing a photograph; and the historical facts might have been learned in some other way than that claimed by the medium—that his dead friend was present and speaking. All these questionings have to be answered, and even after the investigator has satisfied himself that the clairvoyant either did not know him or had not known his friend; after proving beyond reasonable doubt that she could not have seen a photograph; after having become convinced that only he and his friend knew of the intimate personal facts mentioned by the medium—even after all this, Spirit Return has not been PROVED, although the investigator has gone a long way towards proof. There still remains as an explanation the acknowledged fact of mind-reading—that the medium may only have been describing a mental picture; and this is an

explanation that must not be lightly brushed aside, for the fact of psychometry is too well established.

The next step for our investigator is to compare notes with other investigators, when he will find that, although there are many cases where mind-reading might easily be accepted as a reasonable explanation, there are many other cases where mind-reading could not explain what took place. He will hear of cases where the person described was not known by the person to whom the description and other particulars were given, and where inquiries had to be made in distant parts of the country—parts not known to the medium; he will hear of cases where the medium could not possibly have known the meaning of the cryptic message delivered, but which was perfectly plain to the person who received it. He will perhaps attend at materialisation seances, where the form of his friend will "build up" before him; he will perhaps sit with a photographic medium, and find the photograph of his friend beside his own; he will perhaps attend at a trumpet seance, and hear the voice of his friend addressing him in the old familiar and well-remembered manner—or he will hear or read of similar experiences that have befallen competent and reliable witnesses, and he will reason within himself that all these things cannot be due to chance, or coincidence, or mind-reading. He will first of all satisfy himself that the phenomena are not caused by the medium or the circle; he will next satisfy himself that there is in operation a human intelligence apart from that of the medium—and finally he will admit that the independent human intelligence is that of his friend. And as his friend is "dead," and as his friend's body is lying in the grave, the only conclusion he can possibly come to is that it was only the physical part of his friend that died: the REAL friend—the intelligence, the individuality—is still alive. He will have become convinced of Spirit Return.

There is one thing that the honest investigator will always keep in mind, and that is, that he is not investigating in order to find proofs of some opinion (whether for or against Spiritualism) at which he has already arrived—but to find out what is true, no matter what that may be, and to accept that truth, no matter whether it confirms or contradicts his previous opinions. The investigator must always remember that our phenomena form the basis of our philosophy, and that we are restricted in our philosophy to conclusions that have been logically deduced from scientifically proved premises. Every proposition that we use in our syllogisms must be capable of scientific proof, and every term we use in our propositions must bear a meaning that is understood and accepted in the common use of the English language. It must never be forgotten that such terms as *spirit*, *soul*, *mind*, *ego*, etc., have an accepted meaning to "the man in the street," and that, if we use these terms with special meanings coined by ourselves, "the man in the street" will misunderstand us—and be inclined to scoff.

The true object of investigation is to find out whatever can be discovered, and to draw from our discoveries all the opinions, or all the theories, that they justify. And the investigator will do well to bear in mind the rule laid down by Professor T. H. Huxley, that in looking for the cause of phenomena we must prove (1) that the supposed cause of the phenomena exists in nature, (2) that this cause is capable of producing the phenomena observed, and (3) that no other cause could produce the phenomena. With these conditions to guide him, and with the rules of the syllogism to keep him straight in his reasoning from the phenomena which he has observed, the investigator will always know that he is on safe ground, and that his conclusions are reliable guides to further investigation.

(To be continued.)

Flies.

BY THE WONDERMAN.

How can a fly walk upside down?

You have often seen a fly walking on the ceiling or running up a smooth pane of glass and have wondered how it could hold on. By examining a fly's foot with a powerful microscope, it has been found that it is made up of two little pads, upon which grow some very fine, short hairs. There are more than a thousand of these hairs on each foot-pad, so it is impossible to imagine how very fine they are. They are hollow with trumpet-shaped mouths. Behind the pad is a little bag filled with liquid glue. When the fly steps it presses this sticky substance through the hollow hairs and out of the trumpet shaped mouths. As soon as the glue reaches the air it hardens so that the fly walks along by gluing itself to the surface. Just as you would try to remove a moist postage stamp by lifting up one corner first, so the fly lifts its foot in a slanting direction.

Where do flies go during the winter?

Most flies live their lives in spring and summer and then die. Some may be able to find a warm cosy corner where they can hide for the winter. They hide in quiet, warm places about the house, in fields or stables, where no one will find them. Some of them, we hope, are removed in the spring cleaning. These flies do not feed, they simply sleep as the squirrel, the bear, the tortoise and the hedgehog do. A warm day may come in winter and the fly may be awakened. Then the fly may feel hungry and go out for food. He may return at the end of the day, or more probably the returning cold will kill him. Very few flies get through the winter. Most of them are worn out and ready to die at the end of summer. Others are killed by a fungus which settles on their bodies, drives roots into their insides and kills them. Those we see dead on the window pane, swollen, with a little halo on the glass about them, have been killed in this way.

Do flies lay eggs?

As nearly all the flies now living will die at the end of summer, it seems strange that next year we shall have just as many as ever. The reason is that the female fly lays an egg that changes into a chrysalis and remains in this form until spring. The warm days then bring out the young fly which has been forming whilst the outside covering seemed just a dead substance. Millions and millions of flies lay eggs in the autumn. The first touch of cold causes the insect in the chrysalis to stop growing and to sleep in winter. If the eggs hatched at the beginning of winter, the flies would all be killed with cold.

Where do next year's flies come from?

The fly in the chrysalis does not begin to grow until the warm weather comes. At the right moment it bursts open its brown shell, dries its wings and flies away. When you see a little fly and a big fly, it does not mean the little one is a young fly; it is a different kind from the big one. As the weather gets colder, the flies get sleepier. They do not brush up their wings and clean their feet as in the earlier summer. They are more easily caught and tumble into the milk jug more easily. Their children are not seen till the following spring.

Is a fly stronger than a man?

Yes. If we compare the size of a fly with the size of a man and the strength of a fly with the strength of a man we shall find that for its size, a fly is really stronger than a man. It is not strength of muscle which has made man powerful, but skill. If we weigh the bodies of different animals that are made of muscle and compare with the weight of brain of the animals we find that the higher in the scale and nearer to man we go, that it is brain which counts and not muscular strength. Animals in general are the superior of man in muscular strength, but it is mind which counts. The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, but to the wise who use their brains.

How many ways can a fly see at once?

A fly can see in nearly all directions at once. We can only see distinctly in one direction at once. If we look straight before us we cannot see things at the side without moving our eyes.

There is one direction at least in which a fly cannot see. One part of its eyes must lie against the fly's head and in that way, the fly cannot see. If the eyes are rounded and not flat, an insect or animal can see in many directions at the same time. While looking in one direction, the fly can see movements farther round the corner, though perhaps not quite so distinctly. The field of vision is very large.

A precious stone is often cut into many little faces or facets in order to receive light coming from many different directions and to make the stone shine or sparkle. The eye of a fly is made of a number of tiny flat facets. A male has 1,200 facets on each eye, and a dargon fly has as many as 17,000. It is these facets which enable the fly to see in so many directions. The house fly has 8,000 chances of seeing food.

Are flies deaf?

Many creatures with wonderful powers of touch smell, and, sight are entirely deaf. Most of the lowly creatures are deaf. With the higher animals the sense of hearing is very important. The fly cannot hear at all. By experiments it has been found that most insects take entirely no notice of sound.

The highest string of a violin has been scraped an inch away from bees gathering honey but they have taken no notice. It was thought that perhaps they could hear very highly pitched sounds. Some of the senses of insects are more wonderful than ours but in the senses of hearing the flies, bees, ants and wasps are much inferior to us.

Why do flies not mistake artificial light for sunlight?

Most insects fly towards the light. An insect flying towards an artificial light like [gaslight really supposes it is flying towards the light of day. As time has gone on however, many insects have learned to know artificial light. In the case of the fly, years have brought about a great change. Once flies did not know any difference between artificial light and sunlight. Now we do not see house-flies dash against the flame and destroy themselves. Moths have not learnt the lesson yet.

Do flies do harm.

The habits of flies are extremely dirty; they settle on all kinds of refuse and their feet are always laden with filth. They settle on the sugar and on the jam and leave the dirt on the food we eat. Though the amount one fly can carry seems very small it is enough to poison the food. Many babies die every year through food poisoned by flies. It is unfortunate that flies have learnt not to throw themselves against artificial light.

The Management Committee at Belper.

A musical welcome was accorded the M.C. by the Belper Lyceumists prior to the business meeting. Short speeches were made on behalf of the Belper Lyceum and the Members of the M.C.

Mrs. M. E. Pickles, the retiring President, asked Mr. Williams to sign the Presidential Roll and handed him the specially-bound, oak tree designed, tree calf Manual, which is the Union's permanent recognition of the Presidential office. Mr. Williams, on assuming office, briefly responded and said he would do his utmost for the welfare of the Union.

A letter was read, conveying Mr. Hall's resignation as District Visitor and Area Representative, owing to ill-health and the necessity for rest and a period of recuperation. The resignation was accepted with regret and the wish for a complete recovery to normal health. Mr. Hall has rendered signal service to our cause in the north and his help is remembered.

A sincere vote of sympathy was sent to Mr. R. H. Yates and hopes for his recovery.

It was agreed that, as the Constitution did not provide for the emergency which has arisen in Area A, a new election be held for the election of a Representative to succeed Mr. Hall and fill the office until the 1923 Conference.

The Manchester and Salford District D.C. are being asked to appoint a local representative to sit on the Britten Memorial Committee.

The Gen. Secretary was instructed to put a note in the official organ that Lyceums or individuals having a grievance must use the machinery of the District Councils before appealing to the M.C. for a decision.

A request was made for a definition of the word "Leader" as used in the Lyceums. A leader is defined as a person in charge of a group. (See Article 6, Section 8.)

The applications of Parkgate, Kirkcaldy, Long Eaton, Craghead, Cwm and District, were endorsed. Coventry (Lockhurst Lane) was deferred for three months.

Mr. J. Bell was re-elected the Secretary for the £2,000 Effort. Various Committees were formed for the facilitation of the Union's affairs.

It was decided to call the attention of Lyceums to the annual celebration of "Foundation" and "Pioneer" Sundays.

Arising out of a discussion of the ruling and definition of "the body of the Conference," it was agreed that Mrs. Pickles' appointment as the B.S.L.U. Representative to the S.N.U.E.C. be confirmed by the M.C.

Various persons were nominated and will be approached as probable Trustees to act on behalf of the S.N.U. for the new Lyceum Trust. Further particulars will be given later.

Offers of book, music, etc., were gratefully accepted and are being dealt with.

Mr. Kitson's Autobiography will be ready shortly. The price is fixed at 5s. 6d. post free, 5s. 6d. per dozen post free. The book will be advertised in the Spiritualist press.

The question of supporting the Guarantee Fund of the S.N.U. has been referred to one of the Committees.

The next meeting will be held in Nottingham on October 14th and 15th.

A very hearty vote of thanks to the local Lyceum, Church and friends terminated the meeting.

Whilst the M.C. finished their business on the Sunday morning, the Lyceum held an Open Session and welcomed the presence of Mrs. M. E. Cadwallader, the Editor of the "Progressive Thinker," and a very interested Lyceumist from America.

Mrs. Cadwallader had been attending the International

Congress and paid Belper a visit to meet Mr. Smedley, Mr. Kitson, and the M.C. She told a very interesting story to the happy children and the children gave some renderings of very pretty songs. During the day, when the introductions were being played the children were humming the music and eagerly thrilled the room with a spontaneous joy. The M.C. were delighted.

In the afternoon Mrs. Freer conducted the Lyceum. The programme included a chorus, "Happy Children." It was followed by others at intervals, "Little Pilgrim," "Sheath the Sword," "Till the Love of Angels," and "Rain and Sunshine." Songs were given by L. Wheeldon, D. Wheeldon, A. Varley, M. Jephson, J. Helk, A. Chadwick, and J. Freer. Recitations were said by V. Hill, J. Quipp, H. Tomlinson, N. Day, W. Hawkins, L. Wheeldon and F. Tomlinson. A Duet was rendered by D. and E. Hawkins.

The children were trained by Mrs. Hawkins and Mrs. Freer. Mr. Wigley gave a welcome to the M.C. and Mr. Williams replied and introduced the members of the M.C. to the audience.

Miss Elliott gave a brief little speech in which she expressed her pleasure to be at Belper with the M.C., as it was a place from which many pioneers had helped to lay the foundation on which the Movement had grown. The Lyceum was described as a place where knowledge and education is provided that other denominations do not make opportunity for. Our children can sing, recite, etc., and take the Education Scheme of our Movement.

Mr. Burrows conveyed the greetings from Halifax to Belper and spoke of the link which binds all Lyceums with an advisable stimulation. He spoke of the encouragement of the desires which build and appealed to parents to interest themselves in the welfare of their children.

Mr. R. A. Owen spoke of the old associations and the linking up of friends which will make the visit a memorable one.

The singing of the children gave us all great pleasure. Mr. Owen purposely made an error to test the children's attention and perception. It was noticed quickly and the children smiled. The parents' eyes twinkled and Mr. Owen continued by a reference to theology. He spoke of bliss and blisters as rewards and punishments of the outworn creeds. The Lyceum gives a chance to children to develop their inner powers and we shall feel the value of the meeting, not in the spoken word, but in the esoteric force created. Many adults don't get beyond the objective phenomena which they and the child needs. The Lyceumists will grow to the desire for mental growth. By this means we shall live in concord and peace.

At the Evening service Mr. T. F. Smedley presided and made all feel welcome in a busy service where all were kept to time so that all the speakers could be heard.

Mr. Williams dealt with the lack of good speakers in the Movement. He personally felt the lack of the power he may have possessed. Our efforts are being concentrated on producing Lyceumists who will be able to propagate our principles in an efficient manner and be of public service to the community. Some Spiritualists have had to correct erroneous teachings. We are endeavouring to train children to know all the meaning and philosophy of Spiritualism.

Arthur Chadwick sang to us sweetly the "Story of Love."

Mrs. M. E. Cadwallader charmed the congregation with her smile. (An asset of personal charm which makes many friends.) She said: "there is no religion which has not been founded on spirits. In comparative religion it is hard to see why anyone doesn't accept Spiritualism." Mrs. Cadwallader spoke of the religious fervour necessary to get the highest and best out of mediumship.

"Thoughts often linger round the wonderful alphabet which enables children to understand life.

The value and utility of Spiritualism gives a pleasure in devoting life and service to our glorious message. The tribute of national service deserves our grateful appreciation."

The choir rendered the anthem, "The Lord is Almighty."

Mr. G. A. Mack gave a concise tabloid speech on the Education Scheme. "Are you interested in the Scheme. If not, why not?"

Miss Nellie Kelk sang "The Lord is Love."

Mrs. M. E. Pickles visualised a banner on which was inscribed

"Keep the Banner flying, hold it straight and high:
And we will print upon it, Men Shall Never Die."

Speaking of the sacredness of mediumship, Mrs. Pickles said "Woe betide the prostitute of mediumship." Turning to the boys and girls, she said we must retain them and use any kind of social effort in agreement with our principles to keep them

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The Aspiration for a World Religion.

MR. ALBERT J. EDMUNDS'S "NEW DISPENSATION"
CATECHISM.

J. RUTHERFORD, Roker-by-the-Sea.

*"Heaven is not reached at a single bound;
But we build the ladder by which we rise
From the lovely earth to the vaulted skies,
And we mount to its summit round by round."*

Mr. Albert J. Edmunds, M.A., Cheltenham, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., has done valuable service as a Higher Critic, and his numerous works, notably "Buddhist and Christian Gospels," "History Simplified," the "Return of Spirit-Myers," the poet philosopher, articles on the "Armenian version of Mark," have been received with high appreciation by thoughtful minds. Mr. Edmunds, I may mention, is well known in literary circles in the North of England, having, many years ago, sojourned,—while engaged on an important Mission,—in Sunderland. He has just issued a new Catechism, his aim being to prepare the way for a "World Religion." Perhaps there never was a more opportune time to present a true guide to the real spiritual interpretation of life than the present when, owing to the great war, degeneracy is unhappily rampant in all parts of the world. Spiritual life, it need hardly be said, has its laws—laws which bring strength and joy to those who obey them. All the treasures of the universe of life are free to those who can use them, but they elude the grasp of a selfish hand, being reserved for the pure in heart. While questions of merely personal advantage hold our thoughts, we cannot make progress in the interior life. The law of cause and effect is absolute. "Whoever a man sows that also shall he reap." There is thus the necessity of recognising ends. "The end," said Bro. Lawrence, of mystic fame, "we ought to propose to ourselves is to become in this life the most perfect worshippers of God we can possibly be, as we hope to be through all eternity."

This Catechism by Mr. Edmunds, I regard as a very fine achievement; the spiritual laws of grace are brought within a brief compass, and this beautiful wisdom is, I believe, in strict harmony with the inspirations of the "Inner Light" of the soul. Old theological superstitions which have caused so much controversy and bitterness are passed by, unheeded, the author dwelling on the serene heights where love and truth have their abiding peace. The Catechism, Mr. Edmunds states, was drafted in 1918 for a child, who was wrestling with that of the Episcopal Church, and it was revised in 1921. "It is the result of half a century of study and thought upon the great problems of Religion. The small contribution of one human lifetime towards the establishment of a World Religion." The "Guide" is in the form of eighteen cards for easy handling.

We cannot, through considerations of space, give many quotations, but one or two may be allowed to show what important truths may be conveyed in a few simple brief sentences. It must be remembered however that no set of rules, no book, no teacher can do everything for the pupil. The disciple of the Higher Wisdom must exert his own faculties through quiet meditation, and he will then assuredly find himself developing new powers, and mounting to elevated spheres of thought with wings as an eagle.

Mr. Edmunds does not follow the example of those Idealists who affirm the complete non-existence of evil; on the contrary, he believes it an actual thing—something to be wrestled with and overcome. Life as the continual witness of the Divine Presence,—ensouling all things,—makes man the Master, instead of being dependant upon them. In one of the "Instructions" it is asked:

What is evil?

Anything that puts the body above the Soul.

When do we first meet with evil?

Millions of years ago, in the rocks.

How so?

We find in the strata, far back in the ages of geology, the skeletons of centipedes, flying crocodiles and other monsters, with that lust for torture and murder which is evil at its worst.

Then evil enters with the construction of the universe?

Yes; it is the ground-floor wherefrom the soul delights to spring upward by continual rebounds.

How do we know that things are improving?

Because the world-ruler has dropped the wings from the crocodiles, so that they can't fly through the windows and attack us.*

"What ancient thinkers regarded Nature as an experimenting power?

The Greeks.

What did they call this power?

The Demiurge.

What is Pessimism?

The doctrine that the Demiurge is evil, and that his will is done on earth.

What is Optimism?

The doctrine that evil is turned into good by God, whose will is done in heaven.

Will heaven ever come to earth?

Christ and his friends have determined that it shall."

The Religion of the Future will be built, to some extent, upon the spiritual bases of the Past, and will perpetuate in more perfect forms every divine element found in the ancient Faiths, which have swayed and shaped the destinies of men. The Religions of the Past were, I believe, more than the creations of blind men, groping in darkness for certitude and hope; they were the response of man's heart to the attraction of God. The statement of Ephesians (IV. and VI.) contains the vital truth of religion—"There is One God and Father of all, who rules over all, acts through all, and dwells in all." (Dr. Weymouth's version). The evolving spirit of man finds certitude and satisfaction as it becomes God-conscious. The future religion, under the dominion of Reason, and the "Inner Light" have no dogmas of "Substitution" or "Scape goats," but will build on perfect ethical principles, and its disciples will obey each impulsion of the Divine will, breathing the atmosphere of the inmost heavens. The Catechism's teaching on "Conduct" is eminently practical:

"If we are to go on living after death, what ought we to do while here?

We ought to keep down the animal nature as much as possible, and cultivate the other part of us, the part that thinks and prays.

What do we call this?

The mind when it thinks, and the soul when it prays.

Where does it come from?

The mind or soul has grown up gradually from the life in animals and plants.

What do we call this gradual growth?

Evolution.

Who made the soul?

It isn't finished yet, but an infinite Being, whom we call God, has been making it for millions of years.

What is generally believed about the soul?

Brahmin, Mazdean, Jewish and Christian thinkers have always held that the soul is the son of God.

How can we help the soul to grow?

By thinking more about others than about ourselves, and by keeping the body healthy through simple food, air, water and exercise.

What happens if we don't live aright?

We go into the next world like dwarfs, and have to begin to grow all over again."

Thus we are led to understand that any one who attempts life's pilgrimage in the hope that he may happen on something good without obedience to God's laws is bound to meet with crushing disappointment.

Mr. Edmunds holds that Jesus of Nazareth was greater than Buddha "because he was the first religious captain to come back after death and make us full sure that we have a heaven to go to." Buddha, who was the great prophet of the Hindus, "forbade anger, and taught love to enemies and the Golden Rule five hundred years before Christ. He taught his disciples to use their minds by sending out thoughts of love to all men and to the different kinds of animals."

"What do the Holy Scriptures of the Buddhists teach about the man who sends out loving thoughts?

He sleeps in peace and wakes in peace,

He dreams no evil dreams;

He is dear unto mortals and immortals,

The angels watch over him;

Fire, poison, sword can harm him not;

Quickly his heart is calmed;

The look on his face is peaceful,

And he is not afraid to die.

What practical good did Buddha do?

He forbade five hurtful trades.

Name them:

Traffic in Arms.

The Slave-trade.

Butchery.

Liquor dealing.

Poisons.

*The invention of bombing airships is a reversion to the pterodactyl, and may yet destroy mankind.

Why is Buddha great?

Because he was the first to found an international religion, that is, one for all mankind."

We must beware, adds Mr. Edmunds, "of comparing one religion at its lowest with another at its highest. If we compare 'Christianity' of the Crusades and the Inquisition with the Buddhism of Buddha, we do Jesus an injustice; and if we compare the Christianity of the New Testament with modern idolatries, forbidden by Buddha, we do Gotamo an injustice.

The Sacraments of the "New Dispensation" are Music and Silence and Human Service. It builds its temple of peace and power on the impregnable rock of Law and Love. In the mind of God, Law and Love are never separate, and in the life of man they should be continually united. Law is the counterpart of love, and whenever this is forgotten law becomes tyranny and love a vain imagination. When they are pulled against each other a crowning tragedy ensues: God disappears from human view, and men wander in dreary deserts, where hope becomes an elusive mirage and life a vapid and worthless thing. God is the foundation fact of all existence and the goal of all progress. We know ourselves and we know God, when we can say with Ernest Crosby:—

I split a grain of common sand,
And behold! within there lay
The vaulted universe bespangled
By the uttermost Milky Way.

I delved in my narrow soul, and lo!
At my being's inmost core
I saw the eternal Godhead glow
And the heavenly hosts adore.

Mrs. M. E. Cadwallader, the Editor of the "Progressive Thinker," the most popular weekly Spiritualist newspaper in U.S.A., and a keenly interested Lyceumist, has sent the following letter to Lyceumists in England. We wish her a good voyage and happy return with pleasant memories of the English visit.

Dear Lyceumists,—

I am returning on the "Baltic" July 22nd, and regret not being able to accept the many cordial invitations received to visit different Lyceums.

During my stay I have met a number of your earnest workers and members of your executive, as well as visited some of the Lyceums and Societies. In all I found a spirit of helpfulness which makes for good.

The Lyceum Cause is well worthy of sincere devotion and fidelity. Andrew Jackson Davis, our beloved founder, said to me: "Many have enthusiasm, some devotion, but few fidelity." Nothing we can do in the Cause of Spiritualism represents as much as the Lyceum, for that is the recruiting ground where seeds sown reap a rich harvest.

May all your labours bring fruition, bountiful in the coming years.

Sincerely yours in the service,

M. E. CADWALLADER.

(Continued from page 129.)

within the fold. By and by they will understand that mediumship is an attractive power which does not pass away. Clairvoyance is a spiritual vision and is a naturally endowed gift. Clairaudience has given us back the names of our loved ones. Transfiguration and materialisation build for us the discernible forms of knowable people. They kiss our faces and love us still.

The children sang, "Rain and Sunshine," delighted us all and pleased themselves.

Mr. Kitson paid a tribute to all Belper and praised the children for their hearty singing. "To keep young," said he, "mix with the children." When reproving, remember the things you did when of the same age and bear with them, but keep in touch with the children's sphere.

Mr. Kitson expressed his pleasure with the support which Belper was giving to the Education Scheme and mentioned that Mr. and Mrs. Mack had now passed, with splendid results, through all the five grades of the Scheme. His eyes filled with joy as he told of the love and service his daughter was putting into the Scheme, forsaking her nights and holidays for the same cause for which he had given his life. "This education gives me an inward joy in its growth and I know that these meetings have been an inspiration to the M.C."

BIRTHS, IN MEMORIA, AND MARRIAGES.

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

ARMLEY.—AKROYD—WARRINGTON.—On June 3rd, at Armley Spiritualist Church, Wilfred Akroyd, of Armley, to Lucy Warrington, of Burley; officiating minister, Mr. Baldwin, of Armley. L. FIRTH, Sec.

NORMANTON.—BELLWOOD—SEVERN.—July 1st, at the Parish Church, by the Vicar, Rev. Clement Bird, Willie Easton, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bellwood, to Doris Mary, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Severn, all of Normanton.

CAERAU.—Our sister Lyceumist, Miss Margaret J. Jones, whose physical remains were placed back in their own element, on Tuesday, June 6th, 1922, aged twenty-one years. Mr. John Connolly officiated at the House, and Mrs. Florence Brooks at the Graveside. Present space does not permit to express in words the great revelations that flowed from both speakers. Our Lyceum turned out in full numbers to serve in appreciative thoughts of kindness and sympathy. Each child carried a bunch of white flowers, and wore their colours arranged for them according to their group. We wish to thank all who made great efforts to make everything a success.—Robert Williams, Sec.

OLDHAM CENTRAL.—Mrs. Sybil Glossop passed to higher life at Mosfield, Hale, Altringham.—Ed. Norbury, Sec.

SOUTH SHIELDS. Fowler Street.—In loving memory of Jim Cable, who passed to the higher life, August 16th, 1917. "Until the day breaks and the shadows flee away."

WAKEFIELD.—In loving memory of Kathleen Mary, the dearly loved daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harding, who passed to the higher life, July 9th, 1918. "Bright Spirit Star."—J. Hargate, Sec.

District Council Reports.

BRADFORD DISTRICT.

A meeting was held at Boynton St., on Sunday, July 16th. A good number of Delegates present. Minutes of last meeting read and adopted, also Correspondence. Delegate's report from B.S.L.U. Conference passed. Decided to form a Sub-Committee: Two from each Lyceum to work for another Field Day in 1923. Five new Associate members were made.

Open Session in the afternoon, conducted by our Vice-President, Mr. Robinson, a good session was enjoyed.

Evening Service well attended. Mr. Aked in the chair. Miss Stair, Mr. Naylor, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Hargreaves and Mr. Teal addressed the Meeting. Mr. Teal moved a Vote of Thanks to Boynton St. friends, seconded by Mr. Hill, which brought an enjoyable day to a close. Next Meeting at Milton S.P.L. Rooms, Whetley Lane Board School, on Aug. 20th.—E. AKED, Secretary.

LEEDS DISTRICT.

The Leeds Lyceum District Council Quarterly Meeting was held on Saturday, June 10th, at Liversedge. Mr. A. Collier presided. Invocation, Mr. Downs.

In opening the Meeting the President gave a hearty welcome to the Birstall Representative and hoped it will not be long before Birstall joined the Council seeing as they had started a Lyceum. He also welcomed all delegates and Associates and would like them to keep their minds on business so they may deal with all on the Agenda. Minutes, Correspondence, Reports accepted; Competition Business agreed. President's action be endorsed. Open Council. U.D.C. Invitation for next meeting to be held in the Leeds District. The President appealed to Delegates to go back to their respective Lyceums and see what could be arranged in this matter.

Interchange and Visiting: Agreed this be left till next meeting. Date and place of next meeting be left with Secretary to arrange. Mrs. Harding moved and Mr. Down seconded a vote of thanks to local friends and it was accepted by Mr. C. Hirst on behalf of Liversedge Lyceum. Officers 2; D.V. 1. Lyceums

Represented: Dewsbury, Liversedge, Normanton, Armley, Wakefield, York, Spen Lane, Holborn Hall, Hull, South Elm-sall, Leeds Psycho.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Castleford, Lower Oxford St., on Saturday, Sept. 16th, at 3-30 p.m. Business: Minutes, Correspondence, Reports, Competition Business, Associate Members, Open Council, etc. Tea will be provided. A. W. HARDING, Sec.

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD DISTRICT.

The above named Council held their Annual Demonstration in the Moston and Blackley District on July 1st, 1922, headed by the Middleton Junction and Whit Lane Prize Bands. The inclement weather had a great effect on our numbers walking in procession. The following Lyceums were represented:—Moston, Newton Heath, Princess Road, Cheetham Hill, Pendleton, West High St., Raby St., Collyhurst, Maskell St. All Lyceums assembled at Amos St., Moston at 3-15 p.m. The Middleton Junction Band led the singing of "Hall of Progress" which was sung heartily by all Lyceumists and friends. Our President, Miss Elliott and Vice President, Mrs. A. E. Bentley, Mr. Knight and Miss Sharples' D.V., led some 500 Lyceumists to the Rochdale Road Recreation Ground for Marching and Calisthenics. The Whit Lane Band provided us with excellent music for Marching. Mr. Hood of Moston conducted the marching and Miss Sharples led the calisthenics. Before leaving the Grounds the Middleton Band played "The world is full of Music." All Lyceumists and friends joining in the singing, ably conducted by Mr. Collinge. Every Lyceum must be congratulated for the splendid Banners, Badges and Flowers, etc., which provided a grand sight for the people in Blackley district. Cameras were very busy taking photos, etc., of the children whilst going to the Blackley Co-op. for Tea. At 5-15 p.m. all sat down to a good Tea catered for by the Co-operative Society.

After Tea the following programme made a pleasant Evening, Miss Elliott presided: Song by Mrs. Oliver, of Moston; Song and Duet by Messrs Green and Cooper and Misses Halliday and Brown, of the Black and White Concert Party. Recitations by W. Pitts, D. & P. Haith; Dainty Dances by Bessie Tapp, Lily Brennan, Dora Piggott and Edith Ogden, of West High St. Lyceum. Pianist, Mr. Garner. Every good wish to all Lyceums and District Councils brought our Demonstration at 10 p.m. to a close. C. A. LLOYD.

NORTH EAST CHESHIRE DISTRICT.

ANNUAL OUTING.

The 2nd Annual United Outing of the above Council took place at Howe's Farm, High Lanc, Woodley, on July 8th. The Party which comprised 183 Lyceumists from Stockport Central, Macclesfield, Hyde, Glossop, Baker St. (Heaton Norris) and Ashton, met for tea at 4-30. The day's festivities were greatly marred by the inclement state of the weather.

Keen interest was evinced by the children and adults in the Sports which were held at 6-30 p.m., there being events for all ages. Taking all things into consideration, this outing was very successful and many thanks are due to all those who worked so splendidly for the children's sake.

MARY MALTBY, Sec.

SOUTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

The quarterly meeting of the above Council was held at Todmorden (Roomfield Buildings) on Saturday, June 17th. Mr. Wright (President) in the chair.

Lyceums represented 8. Delegates present 14. Credential Officer, Mr. Hayes. Minutes and Correspondence passed as read. President's Address accepted.

The President in his Address expressed his pleasure at being able to preside over a council where progress was being made and remarked that encouragement should be given to Lyceumists to join the Guild, and that Leaders of Lyceums could do a wonderful amount of good by assisting, wherever possible, Lyceums in need of help, and suggested that Lyceums and Churches should make an effort to combine.

D.V.'s report accepted. Conference Delegates' Report accepted.

It was decided to hold a United Picnic in Heywood Park on Saturday, September 2nd. William Street Lyceum agreed to provide hot water at a charge of 3d. per head; the proceeds to go to Council Funds.

Time and place of next meeting to be arranged by Lyceums and Secretary. Vote of thanks to Todmorden friends for catering and entertainment.

T. DIXON, Sec.

TEES SIDE DISTRICT.

Our Quarterly Conference will be held at West Hartlepool at 10-30 a.m. Usual procedure will be dealt with.

ALBERT H. COLBOURNE, Sec., Pro. Tem.

LONDON DISTRICT.

The quarterly meeting was held at Baker Street on Saturday, 15th July, Mrs. Mary Gordon presided. The Lyceums were well represented, and much important work was done. Hampton Hill and Lewisham Lyceums were admitted to membership. Mrs. Gordon in the course of her Presidential address, announced her forthcoming visit to America, and tendered her resignation. This was accepted with regret, and the delegates united in wishing Mrs. Gordon godspeed. Mr. C. J. Williams (V.P.) was appointed to act as President till the A.G.M. The various reports were accepted, the only question raised being on the Conference delegates' report, Mr. Connor being asked to explain why he had moved a resolution different from that sent up by the Council. Mr. Connor explained the circumstances, and pointed out that the Council had given him full discretion. After a reference to the minutes, Mr. Connor's explanation was accepted, and his action at the Conference confirmed. Messrs. Polmere, Williams and Fidler were appointed a Committee to arrange a meeting of Conductors and Leaders to discuss Lyceum work.

On Sunday, 16th July, the Executive visited Kingston. There was a very interesting and instructive session. At the evening service Messrs. Clegg, Williams and Connor pleaded for greater support for the greatest educational movement in the country.

A. T. CONNOR, Hon. Sec.

District Visitors' Reports.

BOLTON DISTRICT.

On May 21st I paid a visit to Horwich Lyceum. We had a prompt start, with 37 present. One or two late. Opening song fair. Silver Chain and Musical Reading nicely explained. Pearls, recitations and songs very good. Marching and Calisthenics splendidly performed. A great improvement on the past few months. After opening song, singing very good. Discipline fair.

On June 18th I paid a visit to Bradford Street Lyceum, Bolton. We had a prompt start, with 52 present. Four came late. Opening song fair. Silver Chain well explained. A number of questions were asked and good answers given. Marching and Calisthenics, room for improvement in both items. Groups: In the Liberty Group, Mr. Batten introduced a very interesting subject, "The Mystery of Life," which, I was given to understand, would be discussed for two or three Sundays. I am sorry that I could not attend all the discussions. Singing fair. Discipline rather lacking. This Lyceum is advised to look after the young children a wee bit more.—F. Jones, D.V.

Special Reports.

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

BRADFORD, Laisterdyke. On July 2nd we held our Open Session, which was well attended by Lyceumists and friends. Conducted by Mrs. Babbs. The following programme was rendered: Duet, Miss Jessie Berry and Minnie Geldard; William Jacques and Miss Annie Berry; songs by Mr. Belford, "The Better Land"; Miss Lilian Long, "Meet me here"; recitations by Miss Alice Berry, "For his sake"; Mr. Henry Barnes, "A Surprise"; Miss Winnie Long, "What next"; Edward Thompson, "Under the greenwood tree"; readings by Fred Metcalfe and Jack Mansfield; and a piano solo by Fred Babbs. The highest praise is due to our Leaders for their endeavours in the success of our Lyceum, and we are making good progress in our new room.—J. Babbs, Sec.

CLAPHAM.—A reception was held at St. Luke's Hall, St. Luke's Road, on Tuesday, in honour of the visit to London, for the Spiritualists' National Union international congress, of the president, Mr. C. J. Williams, the past president, Mrs. M.

E. Pickles, and general secretary, Mr. G. F. Knott, of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union. The meeting was also honoured by the presence of the American delegates, Dr. G. B. Warne, Mrs. Cadwallader, editor of the "Progressive Thinker," and Mrs. Bertha Crear, who came direct from the American Embassy (Tuesday being Independence Day), Mr. Pngholm who is associated with "Light," Mrs. Stair and many notable members in the Lyceum movement. They were ably supported by the London Lyceum District Council, whose president, Mrs. M. Gordon, presided. Interesting speeches, recitations, songs, etc., were given and made the time pass very pleasantly. Refreshments were served during the evening. Thanks are due to the artists and to all who contributed to the success of the evening.—*Vide local Press.*

Craghead.—We held our Anniversary Services on July 9th and 16th, and it was very successful. Chair was taken by Mr. Isaac Bulmer. The children were a credit to themselves and the movement. Mr. P. Cahill very ably conducted. Miss M. Willey was the accompanist and rendered two pianoforte solos with credit. Miss J. Barker rendered a solo. Mrs. Patterson, of North Shields, gave some very good advice, also some clairvoyant descriptions which were all recognised.—Mrs. Bowerbanks, Sec.

DEVONPORT.—Our Lyceum treat took place on July 17th. We took 52 Lyceumists, 15 officers and workers and 15 visitors in the country in char-a-bancs. The weather was delightful and we were able to have games on the green. After tea the scholars raced for prizes. The expenses of trip and tea for Lyceumists were met by the officers and workers. Everyone expressed approval and enjoyed themselves thoroughly. We hope that next year our Lyceum will grow in numbers, so that we shall see the good of our efforts in Devonport.—L. Warn, Sec.

DUNSTON.—We held our Annual Trip to South Shields on Saturday, July 22nd. The weather was fine and we had a most enjoyable day. The Lyceumists all took part in sports arranged for them on the sands. Thanks to the members of the Fowler Street Spiritual Church, who let us have the accommodation of their Church for the children's tea, we concluded a very enjoyable day.—Isaac Davidson, Sec.

FLEETWOOD.—On July 2nd we held our 11th Anniversary Services, conducted by our Conductor, Mr. Batley, and our Assistant Conductor, Mr. Jordan. Mr. Jordan said he was proud of the Lyceum to-day and the way it had progressed, because when Mr. Batley and Mr. Jordan first started the Lyceum we only had six members; now we had about 140 members on the roll. We also had the pleasure of a visit from Mr. G. Cole, of Grimsby Lyceum. His greetings and words of encouragement were much appreciated. Recitations were given by Phyllis Jordan, Elenor Rogerson, Kitty Pearson, Norah Harriss, Edna Shaw, Ethel Davidson, Leonard Haran, Eileen Thompson. Solos, Mrs. Cook, Mr. Cook, Mr. G. Cole and Mary Wallbank. Pearls were a great success and we had a pleasant session. Evening services were again conducted by Mr. Batley and Mr. Jordan. Solos from Mrs. Cook and Mr. Cook. We had a very good attendance of Lyceumists and friends. The sessions were enjoyed by everyone present. Best wishes and fraternal greetings to all Lyceumists and Lyceums at home and abroad.—Mrs. Pitcher, Sec.

HEBBURN-ON-TYNE.—On June 11th and 18th we held our first Anniversary, which was a great success. Mrs. Brown, of the parent society, in the afternoon, and Mrs. Petrie, of Sunderland, in the evening, both gave encouraging remarks. Recitations and solos were given very effectively. Mrs. Smith, of Jarrow, presided on the second Sunday, and great praise was given to the Conductor, the Musical Conductor and John Smith, who so willingly helped us with the violin. 12 new members were enrolled.—J. Causby, Sec.

HULL, Holborn Hall.—June 22nd was a very auspicious occasion, when Mrs. Leng, Past Conductor, unfurled our new banner, of which she was the designer. Mr. J. Smith, also a Past Conductor, took the chair, and made reference to the various ups and downs of our Lyceum, and paid tribute to old workers.

Mrs. Leng asked and answered the questions, What is a banner? Why should our Lyceum have a banner? Is it an emblem of war and are we out to fight? Yes, we are out to fight for truth. During the singing of 360 Mrs. Leng unveiled banner and Mr. Smith dedicated same, after which Mrs. Leng explained its meaning. Several spoke about its beauties, and after a few words from Mr. Carr, our oldest Lyceumist, a very interesting ceremony was brought to a close.—M. J. Brown, Sec.

JARROW.—We have held successful Lyceum Anniversary Services. Mr. Dawson, of Wallsend, took over the services on the first Sunday and spoke well to the children. Second Sunday, Mrs. Dodds, Felling, took over the services. The singing and recitations of the children reflected the greatest credit on the conductor and organist, who worked hard to make the services a success; also their leaders. Solos were sung each Sunday by Miss Gladys Havelock, Miss Rosie Riches Mrs. Lamb, Miss Elizabeth Stephenson, Maria Bigley, Kitty and Mary Potts, Mary Stephenson, Doris Lamb. Recitations by Miss Jenny Bigley, Miss Margaret Estine, Phyllis Potts, Ruth Bigley, Margaret Bigley, Doris McLeod, Evelyn James, May Richardson, Ellen Walton, James Shepherd, James Adams, Andrew Wake, George Lamb. Mrs. Dodds presented the youngest Lyceumist who took part with a large ball. Anthems were sung by the Lyceum Choir. Thanks to the Lyceumists, Conductor and Organist, for their untiring efforts to make success assured. We had a good audience at each service. Mr. Lawrence has also paid us a visit.—Mrs. A. Overton, Sec.

LANCASTER.—We have held our Open Session, which was well attended and enjoyed by all. Mr. Kirk, our Conductor, is tireless in his efforts to get the very best out of the Lyceum, and invites all elders to take a turn at conducting. By so doing they get more confidence and will in the future be better able to fill the position, should they be called upon to do so. On Saturday, June 24th, we went by special train to Bay Horse, for our annual Summer Outing. The party consisted of about 70 children and 43 adults. A large programme had been prepared for their enjoyment, but the inclement weather again spoilt everything. Despite the rain the children enjoyed themselves and are living in hope that next year we will be favoured with more seasonable weather. It is the intention of the committee to finish the sports programme at the first favourable opportunity nearer home.—W. H. Freeman, Sec.

LEICESTER, Silver Street.—On June 25th we held our Anniversary. In the afternoon we had the interesting ceremony of naming a baby. The day was a great success. July 1st the children had their outing. On July 16th we had another special Sunday, with the naming of another baby, the father and mother of the child being old Lyceumists, and a solo was rendered by Mrs. Rogers, entitled "The old sun dial." We spent a splendid session, and we heartily thank all the friends who were present.—A. Hurst, Sec.

LINCOLN.—On June 2nd we held our Annual Special Effort, the speaker for the day being Miss F. Norwood, of Sheffield. Recitations and solos were rendered by Lyceumists, both morning and afternoon. In the evening, after a very able address by Miss Norwood, we were favoured with a quartette by adult Lyceumists. Altogether a pleasing time.—A. Bailey.

NOTTINGHAM, Mechanics' Hall.—Lyceum Anniversary June 25th. An original production, composed by our Conductor, Miss Rayner, entitled "God, from Atom to Angel," explaining the wonderful work of God in the formation of the earth and the spirit spheres, and the evolution and transformation of life in the vegetable, animal, human, and spiritual kingdoms. Most of the Lyceumists took individual parts, from the little cell of life of two and a half years of age to the earth at sixty-five. All parts were creditably rendered. We had a very successful day; good audiences, good collections, and visitors from surrounding Lyceums.—O. P., Sec.

OLDHAM, Central.—On June 26th we held our Election of Officers. On July 2nd we had the naming of the baby of Mr. and Mrs. Roberts, the ceremony being performed by our President, Mr. Standish. In the evening he gave a few words of consolation to our Secretary, Mr. Norbury, and family, who were mourning the loss of a relative. On July 9th Open Sessions and Flower Service, which proved a great success.

STOCKTON, Cecil Street.—On July 9th we held our Anniversary Services. In the morning we held a Lyceum Service, at which the children rendered recitations and solos. In the afternoon we held our Open Session, when the Lyceumists gave a good selection of pearls, recitations, solos and duets, which were too numerous to mention individually.

The evening service was also conducted by the Lyceumists, who rendered, to a good and appreciative audience, two anthems, beside the usual Lyceum and Church Hymns.

On Monday it was our annual Distribution of Prizes and Musical Evening. The most important feature of the evening was the presentation to the Rose Group of a beautiful Banner which was promised to the Group which had the largest number of attendances.

Altogether a most enjoyable week-end was spent, which was also enjoyed by numerous friends who gathered to give the Lyceum a hearty welcome.—Geo. Neale, Jun., Sec.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—On Sunday, July 9th, we held our Anniversary at 3 and 6.30 p.m. The services were conducted in a most beautiful manner by Miss V. G. Rayner, of Nottingham. A hearty welcome was extended to many Lyceumists from Mansfield, Shirebrook, Hucknall and Nottingham, who helped to make our meetings such a success. We also held a parade at 2 p.m. until 3, Calisthenics being done on the Market Place before a large number of people. Mansfield Lyceum kindly lent us their banners for the parade.

Tea was provided for all visitors. In return, however, a collection was raised by Mrs. Brown, of Nottingham, and we have £2 14s. 6d. towards a large silk banner. The other collections amounted to £6 17s. We are hoping now to help other Lyceums as they have helped us. Best wishes to all.—E. Carr.

WINNIPEG, CANADA. On July 2nd we held the Open Session, which was well attended. Mr. Wm. T. Brown, our Conductor, being sick, the session was taken over by Mr. H. Forrest, a past Conductor. He officiated to everyone's satisfaction. Pearls were rendered by the following: Ella Crawley, Edna Brown, Olive Forrest, Flo Higley, Millie Crawley, Dulcie Dent, Sylvia Parkinson, Winnie Brown, Leighton Rogers, W. Chadwick, Fred Benson, Mr. H. Forrest, Harold Brown, Mrs. J. Higley, Viola Dale and Mr. J. Higley. We were then favoured with a chorus from the intermediate girls' class, "Open the door for the children." Pianoforte solos from Irene Kobb and Flo Higley, and two vocal solos from Mr. H. Forrest and Margaret Aitkens. A very pleasant session.—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 Aug. 23rd.

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 Sept. 6th, to ensure insertion in the September 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.

NOTICE TO NEW SECRETARIES.

There is a constant change of Secretaries taking place in Lyceums and many are taking such positions for the first time. It is necessary that certain methods should be followed to facilitate correspondence and payments being dealt with properly.

The name of the Lyceum should be stated in all cases.

When replying to invoices or accounts the numbers on the statements should be quoted, unless the form is enclosed.

Lyceum reports for the "Banner" should be written in INK and on ONE SIDE of the paper only, and on a separate sheet of paper (not less than 7 × 5 inches).

The price list of books, etc., supplied by the Union are all advertised on the coloured cover of the Lyceum "Banner."

Any errors in the List of Lyceums should be sent to the Editor as soon as noticed.

The number of words in the reports are governed by the number of "Banners" ordered by each Lyceum. Special reports are inserted subject to the extra words being paid for. (See the heading of Special Reports).

The charge for Adverts, is on page ii. of the cover.

District Council Secretaries and District Visitors are requested to make their reports as concise as possible, in view of the possibility of being crowded out and delay being caused by their non-insertion.

Lyceums writing for answers on general questions should enclose a stamped addressed envelope if a reply is desired.

ACCRINGTON, Pearl Street.—We held our Open Session on July 2nd. We opened by singing No. 372, Silver Chain Recitation 27, M.R. 212, G.C. 120. All very well read by Lyceumists. Marching and calisthenics were done very well. Next came a solo by Mrs. Chambers, one by Mr. Houghton, Miss Crabtree and the Secretary. Pearls were also given.—Miss S. J. Wilmington, Sec.

BACUP.—We held our Open Session on July 2nd. The usual programme was gone through and songs were sung by Misses L. and E. Taylor, H. Ashworth, Mrs. Carter and Miss Clayburn. Pearls were given by Mrs. Ridehalgh, Miss E. Taylor and the Assistant Conductor, Mrs. Tattersall.—B. Lord, Sec.

BARROW, Ramsden Street.—We held our Open Session on June 18th. Recitations were given by the following Lyceumists:—D. Groves, W. Groves, E. Nock and W. Chisholm.—Mrs. Nock, Sec.

BEDWORTH.—Open Session July 2nd. Recitations given by P. Alsop, M. Wood, B. Farndon, M. Gallimore, K. Gravette, E. Adams and F. Ison. Lyceum hymns were also rendered.—Miss C. Rowe, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—Open Session July 2nd. Recitations by Esther Dunn, Eva Williams, Molly Wilkinson, George Holehouse, Charles Ellis and Mr. Dunn. Solos by Doris Dunn and Mr. Taylor. Organ solo by Miss Barr. Pearls were up to the usual standard and very good. On Saturday, July 22nd, we held our Annual Picnic to Thurston, by motor 'bus and char-a-banc. We had glorious weather and a good tea. Races and games were held, and everyone seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. A lot of elders did more rushing about after football, cricket ball and rounder ball than they had done for a long time before.—Mrs. M. E. Thompson, Sec.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter Street.—On June 25th we held our Annual Flower Service. The room was beautifully decorated for the occasion. In the afternoon we had a visit from Preston Progressive Lyceum, who joined us in our usual Open Session, and a right good time we had together. The marching, calisthenics, recitations and solos, etc, were excellent. A letter was also read from our old scholar, Mr. George Grime, now of U.S.A., who hadn't forgotten our Flower Service. A tea was provided for over 60. At 6.30 a grand Service of Song was rendered by over 40 Lyceumists, the room being crowded, and the service a great success was the verdict of everyone present. Great credit was given to the Leaders.—Mrs. A. Robinson, Sec.

BLACKPOOL.—We held our usual Session on July 9th. 77 present. Mr. Lord conducted. Opening hymn No. 393. Beautiful invocation. Silver chain 54, musical reading 207, golden chain 125. Readings were discussed. Questions asked and answered by our own and visiting Lyceumists. Marching and calisthenics very good. Greetings were exchanged between Shipley, Rishton, Clapham, Marsden, Hammerton Street, Burnley, Bolton and Blackpool. A splendid session.—R. W. Singleton, Sec.

BOLTON, Bradford Street.—July 16th was the Lyceum's day. Open Session was held in the afternoon. The opening song was No. 314. Mr. Hibbert gave the invocation, silver chain No. 81. We had No. 321 for musical reading, the Lyceumists giving their own connective readings, and golden chain No. 133 was taken. Mr. Hibbert conducted golden chain and gave expression to helpful thoughts. Pearls, recitations and a song were given by Lyceumists and visitors. Marching and 1st series of calisthenics were gone through, and we sung No. 303 for closing song. Mr. Hibbert gave benediction. He also took the evening service right well. Fraternal greetings to all Lyceumists and Lyceums.—M. E. Scaife, Sec.

BRADFORD, Boynton Street.—On July 2nd we held our Open Session. Recitations, readings, solos and duets were given by the scholars, and we had a good time.—Mrs. Ward, Sec.

BRADFORD, Harker Street.—We held our Open Session on July 2nd. We had a very nice school. Recitations and solos were given by the children.—Miss P. Stead, Sec.

BRIGHTON, Shakespearean Theatre.—We were delighted with a surprise visit and some words of encouragement from Mr. Ernest Vickers on Sunday, the 9th. Sessions well attended and going strong. On the 16th our late Conductor, Mr. Roy Banks, gave an interesting address upon "Memory and how to acquire it."—Herbert Everett.

BARROW, Ramsden Street.—On July 2nd we held our Open

Sessions. Recitations were given by the following Lyceumists: Daisy Groves, E. Pratt, Nellie Ogg, E. Broadbent, E. Huddleston, T. Brown and W. Groves.—S. Nock, Sec.

BURNLEY, North Street.—We held our usual Open Session on July 2nd, when a good attendance of Lyceumists were present. The following members rendered solos and recitations:—Mrs. John Laycock, Mr. A. M. Latham, Ada Dugdale and Ernest Crabtree. Each item was admirably rendered, causing a very harmonious feeling throughout the session. We offer our greetings to all Lyceums at home and abroad.—May Wagner, Sec.

CAERAU. On Sunday afternoon, July 2nd, we held our Special Lyceum Session. On the visit of Nurse Gramham, of Bristol. Pearls of an exceedingly high order were given by both young and old, whilst recitations, solos and duets were very nicely rendered, under the very careful training of our Lyceum Conductor, Mr. Edward Jones. Master Evan Rees, our young nightingale, rendered two very excellent solos. We thank every one who took part in this session, as on this occasion many elderly people had to be turned away, owing to scarcity of room.—Robert Williams, Sec.

CHESTERFIELD.—On July 2nd we held our Open Session, when the following Lyceumists contributed to an excellent programme:—Recitations were given by May Wheatley and Lizzie Siddall; stringings by Mr. E. Hobster. Interesting addresses were given on the lesson running through the recitations, etc., by Messrs. Gill, Bown, Tattersall and Welsh. A pianoforte solo, given by Ethel Wale, was much enjoyed, and brought a most interesting and instructive session to a close.—Nancy Matthews, Session Minute Sec.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—On Saturday, July 1st, we held our Lyceum Annual Outing, Haverigg being the place chosen. The climatic conditions were very unfavourable, but this did not damp the ardour of our spirits. Motor was taken to Askam and special accommodation was provided by the railway company from Askam to Millom. Upon our arrival at Millom rain was still falling, but the friends there placed the Lyceum room at our disposal and helped in every way possible to make our visit an enjoyable one. The catering was admirably carried out by Mrs. Edwards and Mr. Fowler, of Millom. Games of all kinds were played and a series of marching and calisthenics were given, under the conductorship of Mr. Legge, which were greatly appreciated. We arrived home at 9 o'clock, after a very pleasant day. About 60 Lyceumists and friends made the journey.—W. Travis, Sec.

DARLINGTON, High Northgate.—On July 23rd we held our Open Session, and the Lyceum rendered a Service of Song in the evening, entitled "Into the Light," which was well appreciated by a good audience. Mrs. Marley was the reader.—R. P. Christopher, Sec.

DEVONPORT.—Our Lyceum is still going on well, steadily growing in numbers and sadly in need of *Manuals*. We are having our Lyceum Outing on the 17th of July.—L. Warn, Sec.

DEWSBURY.—On Sunday, June 29th, we held our election of officers. The result was as follows:—Conductors, Mr. J. H. Collier, Miss E. Shearman and Mr. C. Phillips; Librarian, Mr. Ernest Whitworth; Registrars, Miss Rosy Sheard and Miss Alice Ellis; Secretary, Mr. Ernest Whitworth; Treasurer, Mr. Joe Whittles; Guardians, Miss Dorothy Bentley, Miss Edith Brown, Miss Mattie Nixon and Master Leslie Hartley; Captain of Guards, Master Harry Collier; Guards, Master James A. Stott and Roy Collier; District Visitor, Mr. G. Peel; Delegate, Mr. E. Wilson; Musical Director, Mr. J. Whittles.

DONCASTER, Wood Street.—We held our Open Session on July 2nd. It was conducted by Miss Violet Batty, assisted by Messrs. Armitage and Ballard, who gave group colours during session. Three bouquets were presented to Mrs. Longbottom, Mother of the Church, Mr. Bates, Father of the Church, and Mrs. Gosling, Mother of Lyceum. The three youngest Lyceumists presented them:—Masters A. Crossland and L. Gomersall, and Miss F. Gomersall. Mr. P. Ballard closed with prayer.—Miss V. L. Batty, Sec.

EARBV.—On July 2nd, Open Session. Recitations by Granville Millward, Ivy Goode, Elsie Clark, Marion Nichol, Mrs. Hancock, Alice Greenhalsh, Lottie Foulds and Alice Bannister. Violin solos were given by our Nelson friends, and we spent a pleasant afternoon together.—E. A. Dwyer, Sec.

HIGH SHIELDS.—During the past month we have had some very instructive sessions, preparatory education scheme work being thoroughly debated. Individual efforts have been up to usual standard, the call for solos being responded to

by the Misses Doris Wilson and Flo. Parker, and Masters Rob. Wilson and Leslie Thornton. Recitations were given by Miss Evelyn Wilson and Lily Young, also Master Stan. Parker.—John Parker, Sec.

HORWICH.—On July 2nd, 1922, we had the naming of a baby in our Lyceum. The ceremony was a lesson in itself, both to young and old. All the Lyceum children stood in a semi-circle around the parents. Each child held a beautiful flower, which they placed on the sweet innocent flower of earth. At this time all joined in the singing of "Gather bright flowers." The children and flowers were arranged by Ivy Walsh and Annie Purchas. The most beautiful part, the "naming ceremony," was performed by Doris Ward. It touched the hearts of all present. Best wishes for our new Lyceumist.—Annie Purchas, Sec.

HUDDERSFIELD, St. Peter's Street.—On July 2nd we held our Anniversary Services, when Mrs. Ramsden, of Bradford, was the speaker. She gave a very appropriate discourse at each service. Ladies of the society kindly arranged dinner and tea, and Mr. Arnold kindly came from his own church to conduct us, and thus carried out our second principle, "The Brotherhood of Man." The whole day thus turned out a successful one, in spite of inclement weather.

HULL, Holborn Hall.—July 16th was Lyceum Day. Afternoon Open Session and Distribution of Certificates to those who entered Education Scheme. Evening was filled with recitations, solos and violin solo by the various Lyceumists. Special appeal was made by Conductor for collection for Children's Trip, with very good results.—M. J. Brown, Sec.

HULL, Metropole.—We are still making some progress. We have moved to our new rooms and have started holding meetings on Sunday evenings, to keep our elder Lyceumists in touch with the Movement. Our new rooms are Cobden Hall, Albion Street. A hearty welcome is given to all.—G.M., Sec.

LEEDS, Psycho.—Election of Officers, July 2nd.—The following were elected for the next six months:—Conductor, Mr. Essam; Assistant Conductors, Miss E. Beckwith and Mr. Hunter; Treasurer, Mr. Russell; Secretary, Mr. E. Lewis; Captain of Guards, Mr. West; Guardian, Mrs. Essam; Musical Director, Miss E. Hudson; Assistant Musical Director, Mr. H. Russell; Marching Conductors, Miss E. Smithson and Miss N. Brooke; Delegates, Mr. Russell, Mr. Ted Hancox and Mr. E. Lewis; Leaders of Calisthenics, Lillian Daisley and Arthur Daisley; Guards, Mary Exley, Mary Orman, Olive Gascoigne, Master Harry B. Smith and Fred Waters; Sick Visitors, Mr. Russell, Mr. Gascoigne, Mrs. Essam, Mrs. Land and Miss Eleanor Brown. On Sunday, July 8th, we held our Flower Sunday, and I am pleased to say we all spent an enjoyable time. The Lyceum Choir again rendered their services, under the direction of Mr. J. Smith.—Mr. E. Lewis, Sec.

LEIGH.—25th June, Open Session, conducted jointly by Messrs. Blackshaw and Seddon. 100 present. Questions and discussion on musical reading and silver chain excellent. Children in grand form. Our free socials have aroused greater enthusiasm.—T. Gregory, Sec.

LONDON, Clapham.—Have much pleasure in reporting continued progress. One of our members, Mr. Vane, kindly presented us with a beautiful large framed photograph of our Founder, Andrew Jackson Davis.—A. L. Duke.

LONDON, Hounslow.—On June 25th we held our Quarterly Lyceum Sunday. Quite a happy time was spent. Mr. Miles was the speaker in the afternoon and evening.—M. Weller, Sec.

NORTH LONDON.—On Saturday, July 8th, the Lyceumists congregated with subdued excitement at Liverpool Street Station, and proceeded from thence to Broxbourne for their outing. Following a sequence of very wet days, the justice of Providence blessed us with comparatively excellent weather, rain merely falling during our tea-time. Enjoyment ran riot, with rambles and romps, races and rounders, but none were too tired to attend the following day's session, which maintained its usual standard.—C. Drinkwater, Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—June 4th we held service of song, "Into the Light." Chairman, Mr. G. Humphreys; reader, Mr. A. Edwards; quartettes, Messrs. A. and E. Edwards, Mrs. Dickenson and Miss A. Drew; trio, Misses I. Galloway, N. Duffield and Mr. A. Edwards; solos, Maisie Brown, Clara Lofthouse, May Newton and Lawrence Ford. All praise due to Misses V. and E. Bonsor for the manner the above were trained and prepared.

Open Session, July 2nd. Attendance good. Pearls good. Recitations excellently rendered by Mr. Roeson, Mr. Ingham, Madge Abbott, Edith Pearson, Ronald Sowerby, Marjorie Hudson and Bessie Sowerby.—Albert Colbourne, Sec., *pro tem*.

NEW MANCHESTER.—On Whit-Saturday we held our Annual Picnic to Middlewood; it was a great success and we had a most enjoyable day.

On July 1st we had an Elders' Picnic to Disley, and in spite of a little rain we enjoyed ourselves immensely.—B. Jackson, Sec.

NEWPORT, Central.—On July 2nd we held our Half-Yearly Meeting and Election of Officers:—Conductor, Mr. W. N. Rowe; Assistant Conductor, Miss Young; Secretary, Mr. H. Folkes; Guardian, Mrs. Gamlin; Librarian, Miss Pitman; Treasurer, Miss Gamlin; Musical Conductor, Mrs. Gordon Thomas; Captain of Guards, Mr. Hodge; Girls' Guard, Miss Pugh; Boys' Guard, Mr. Taylor; Group Leaders: Fountain Group, Mr. H. Folkes; River Group, Mrs. Ensign; Ocean Group, Mr. Read; Beacon Group, Miss Probert; Excelsior Group, Miss Young; Liberty Group, Mr. Rowe; Auditors, Miss Young and Mr. Read. Our Lyceum is progressing by leaps and bounds.—H. Folkes, Sec.

NANTYMOEL.—Lyceum increasing in numbers of children, but lacking in elders; help needed badly in this direction. Last month a very pretty and instructive dedication service was held at the afternoon session, very ably conducted by Mrs. Piper Evans, of Mountain Ash. The child dedicated was our Conductor's son, Cecil Ernest Redwood, spirit name Freeman. Pearls, verses and silver chain recitations were given in plenty, and I must here pay a tribute to the children for their floral display and also the way they conducted themselves during the session. Greetings and kind thoughts to all Lyceumists.—Wm. Redwood, Sec.

PRESTON, Lancaster Road.—We held our Open Session on July 2nd. We had a good gathering and a nice time together. The readings were gone through in a nice manner and we had good discussion on them. The marches and calisthenics were nicely done. A good number of Lyceumists contributed with songs, etc. A morning well spent.—Rd. Smalley, Sec.

QUARMBY.—We held our Open Session on July 9th. It was an instructive session and enjoyed by all.—Alice Ollerinshaw.

READING.—The last two months have been marked with a steady increase. Our Lyceum, though good, has not yet reached the standard required. Individual efforts have been excellent. We are now working for improvement in the Lyceum as a whole. Our object will be achieved in due course.—C. R. Churn, Sec.

ROCHDALE, Regent Hall.—We held our Open Session on July 2nd. Conductor, Mr. A. Hudson; Marching, George Jenkinson; Calisthenics, Edith Robinshaw; Pianist, James Marsh. Solos were sung by Mrs. Dawson, Bertha and Lilian Dawson; duets, Gertrude Dawson and Dorothy Richards; Ruby Wilkinson and Bertha Dawson. Recitations by Eric and Alec Jenkinson. The golden chain was read by Mr. J. Farrow; silver chain and musical readings were read by several of the Lyceumists. A good number of pearls were given. A. Eastwood gave the invocation, and the session was closed by Miss Isherwood giving the benediction.—Agnes Firth.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—This Lyceum is shewing progress since my last report. The Children's Yearly Outing has been given; the Anniversary Services have been most excellently rendered. A choir has been formed of over forty members, conducted by Mr. R. Hales. July 2nd, Open Session was conducted by Mr. F. Smith. A number of recitations were given, and all but one of them to the credit of the girls. July 16th we had our Advisor, Mr. Alfred Kitson, with us at both sessions. In his honour the afternoon session was open session, conducted by Mr. J. K. Jones. Mr. Kitson spoke of the benefit he had received during the marching and calisthenics, which were most ably conducted by Miss E. Stanford. Mr. Kitson congratulated the Lyceum's success in the recent examinations and urged us to further efforts in the future and spoke to the smaller children about the Oral Grade.—C. H. Saxelby.

SHEFFIELD, Centre.—On July 2nd we held our Open Session. Solos and recitations by the following Lyceumists:—Carrie Hopkins, Alfred Hopkins, Grace Garfitt, Eric Organ, Vera Spooner, Miss Graville, Mr. Spooner, Harry Romanes,

Stanley Betts and Benjamin Betts. We had a good attendance and we all spent a happy time together.—Mrs. H. C. Organ, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Heeley (Gifford Road).—On July 2nd we held our Lyceum Propaganda Day. Pearls, recitations and solos were ably rendered by Lyceumists at 2-30 and 6-30. Very pleasant and interesting sessions enjoyed by all present.—George Porter, Sec.

SOUTH ELMSALL.—On July 4th we held our Election of Officers:—Conductor, James Coleman; Assistant, George Kelly; Secretary, Miss Isobell Dawson; Treasurer, Mr. Roberts; Librarians, Elsie Eyre and Ernest Hinchcliffe; Calisthenic and Marching Conductor, Miss Dorothy Poxton; Delegate, George Kelly. We give our heartiest thanks to retiring officers.—Miss I. Dawson, Sec.

SOUTH MANCHESTER.—The above have been having a very busy but pleasant time and success has attained our efforts in every direction. On Sunday, July 9th, the Liberty Group was taken by Miss Sharples, on "The Divine Order," which was enjoyed by all present.

I am sorry to report the passing away, after much suffering, of one of our oldest members, Mrs. Parker, and trust that we shall still have her guidance and sympathy with us.

On Sunday, July 23rd, we had the pleasure of Mr. Collings, of Moston, who gave us a paper on "Study Spiritualism's Needs," which was very much appreciated.

On Sunday, September 10th, we held our 21st Anniversary Services. The speaker will be Mr. A. Kitson. Will all Lyceumists keep this date in mind?—Albert Hope, Sec.

STOCKTON, Brunswick Street.—We held our Open Session on July 23rd with a fair attendance. Hymn 341, invocation by our Conductor, S.C.R. taken by children; M.R. 211; G.C.R. 4. Questions rather slack. Marching and calisthenics excellent. Pearls and recitations from children and adults were good. Our D.V. was present and spoke to the children and gave some instructive advice. His report regarding the session was very encouraging.

The evening service was taken by the Lyceum, with a service of song, entitled "Rest at last." Mrs. Williams, Conductor, read the connective readings very clearly and effectively. The effort put forth by the Lyceum was greatly appreciated by a very good audience.—A. Hickman, Sec.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.—On July 2nd the children took the church services, when they gave a Lyceum Open Session. The following Lyceumists took part:—Misses J. Ackworth, A. Mordaunt, M. Mordaunt, K. Mordaunt, A. Pitt, A. Williams, M. Jones, V. Pearson, N. Elwin, D. Peacock, P. Peacock and Mrs. Wilson. Boys: F. Williams, S. Pitt, C. Pitt, S. Coates and A. Wilson. Chairman, Mr. Dawson. Clairvoyants, Mrs. Waters, Mrs. Twinn, Mrs. Pitt and Mrs. Wilson. All were Lyceumists.—Jas. Robbie, Sec.

WEST MELTON.—We held our Lyceum Session on 2nd July. We opened with 406, "Angels come to me." There was a good attendance of children, the greater number taking part. Recitations were given by D. Pamluna, C. Gray, N. Rawlinson, E. Stacy, E. Thornton, M. Elliott, W. Rawlinson; readings by M. Stacey, M. A. Speight, Kathleen Sykes, J. Farrer, T. Turner, J. Paskell and Thomas Paskell. Mr. Lee gave pearls. J. Staley, recitations. G. Pamluna, B. Rawlinson, M. Lee and Nellie Rawlinson conducted marching and calisthenics, bringing our session to a close, after having a good time with the children. Never give up the right way.

[Secretaries are requested to write reports in ink.—Ed.]

WEST PELTON.—We held our Open Session on July 2nd. Recitations and solos, etc., were given by the following Lyceumists:—Hampsen Carr, Dolly Meakin, Harold Milford, John Robinson, Annie Robinson, Maggie Laverick, Jenny Fleming, Willie Laverick, Miss Grey and Mr. Edward Gransbury. A very enjoyable time was spent. Best wishes to all Lyceumists.—Mrs. Meakin, Sec.

WOOLWICH AND PLUMSTEAD.—We are still maintaining interest in the sessions. We have established a Liberty Group, conducted by Mrs. Drury.

On Sunday, 6th July, we had a fine session, on the occasion of the visit of the D.V. and the Assistant D.V., and also a fair number of visitors. The pearls, recitations and singing were very good. We had a most enjoyable Outing to Avery Hill on July 8th, about 60 persons being present, and although the rain spoilt the sports, we all thoroughly enjoyed the outing.—H. Watthey, Sec.