

THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 382. Vol. XXXII.

DECEMBER, 1922.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

Greetings.

The President and General Secretary of the B.S.L.U. give their very cordial greetings to the Lyceumists everywhere and hope they will have a splendid Christmas, and enjoy fuller opportunities for everything which is good during the New Year.

Christmas Stories.

BY THE WONDERMAN.

Christmas! Snow flakes, a blazing fire, jolly parties, pretty children in pretty frocks, nuts, chocolates, apples, oranges, crackers, dollies, tin soldiers, Noah's arks, fairy tale books! That is the picture Christmas brings. Christmas Eve is the night of mystery. Then the spirit of St. Nicholas, who went about placing coins and gifts secretly in the homes of poor people, comes to everybody, to fathers, mothers, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters and friends.

Evergreens.

For thousands of years people have adorned their homes with evergreens at the time we call Christmas. Long before the birth of Christ this custom was carried on. About the time of our Christmas, the Romans held a festival when rich and poor, citizen and slave, made merry. In the last days of the festival, people used to send boughs and other presents to their friends. Once, Christians were forbidden to decorate their houses with evergreens because it was a pagan custom.

The Druids or priests of the Ancient Britons used to place boughs of evergreens in their dwelling places during the winter. This was to give shelter to the woodland spirits until the following spring when all trees would be covered with foliage again.

The Mistletoe.

The mistletoe which is seen in every home at Christmas was revered by the Druids and the Britons. It was important in some of their religious ceremonies. At the beginning of the year, the priests and crowds of people went into the woods to search for mistletoe.

This plant lives on other plants and takes food from them. The mistletoe which grew on the oak was revered most. A priest would climb the tree and cut down the mistletoe with a golden knife, whilst other priests held a white cloth in which they caught the sacred plant. Then the priests gave pieces out to the people who put them in their homes for good luck.

There is a Scandinavian legend about the mistletoe. Loki, the God of Evil, slew Balder, the Beautiful, with an arrow of mistletoe. Later, the mistletoe was dedicated to Balder's mother as a sign of peace so long as it did not touch the earth which was Loki's kingdom. This may be the reason for the saying that mistletoe will bring bad luck if it touches the ground. Perhaps it is why we always hang mistletoe from the ceiling.

The Fir Tree.

No party is complete without the Christmas tree, with its shining tinsel, its lighted candles and lanterns, and its pretty toys.

Martin Luther, a German preacher, was tramping home one Christmas night, through the forest of fir trees on the Hartz Mountains. The beauty of the great firs, the shining stars above, and the gleaming, crisp snow underfoot, he could not forget. When he reached home he tried to tell his wife and children how beautiful it was. He cut down a young fir tree in the garden and lighted its branches with candles, to give them some idea of the beauty he had seen. That was how the fir tree became our Christmas tree. When the German Consort married Queen Victoria the use of the fir tree at Christmas became more popular in England.

The Fir and the Holly.

Long, long ago the trees in the forest boasted of their green leaves. Each said, "Look at me! My leaves are more beautiful than any." Only the fir and the holly were silent. The other trees went on quarrelling. The Master heard them and entered the forest. He found out what was happening and said,

"The oak, the ash, and the chestnut shall lose their leaves for a season each year. The fir and the holly shall keep theirs. The fir shall have points and the holly shall have prickles for protection against enemies." Ever since that the trees have had to lose their dresses for a time each year, but the holly and the fir have ever a green dress.

The Yule Log.

The Druids were supposed to keep up an everlasting fire. The Ancient Britons used to re-kindle their own fire once a year from that of the Druids.

Every Christmas, until about the beginning of last century, a log was thrown on the fire but taken off again before it was burnt away. It was stored away till the next year and used at Christmas to kindle the fire.

The Anglo-Saxon used to celebrate a feast in winter when they burnt a large log of wood. The burning of this log may have been changed to Christmas Eve.

The Waits.

In the 13th and 14th centuries bands of minstrels were attached to the courts and cities. Besides singing and playing, they had to guard the streets at night. They went about in small parties, carrying torches, and calling the hour at every corner. Later their places were taken by watchmen who had no singing duties, but who sometimes sang for their own amusement on Christmas Eve. So we have the waits and carol singers keeping up old customs.

Christmas Puddings and Mince Pies.

Years ago, it was the custom of bakers to present small yule cakes to their customers. They were generally made in the shape of little images, to represent the baby Jesus. At Rome, it was the custom to present the Pope with boxes of sweetmeats in such a shape as to represent the manger in which Jesus lay.

Our Christmas puddings and mince pies may be made as a result of these customs.

If the Christmas pudding could talk, what tales it would tell us. Its ingredients have come from all parts of the world—raisins, sultanas, candied peel, spices, almonds, sugar, suet! It brings a message of good will from workers of all countries.

CHRISTMAS PUDDING.

Once again the pudding we make;
Once again the spoon we take;
All the family gives a stir,
Merry Christmas comes again,
Is the cry o'er hill and plain,
Have some pudding, will you, Sir?

Homely daughters and prospective wives often wish for a simple guide to dainty dishes. Here is a simple pudding for Christmas:

$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of Bread Crumbs.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of Flour.
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of Currants.	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of Suet, minced.
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of Raisins.	2 oz. Syrup.
$\frac{1}{2}$ tea spoonful of nutmeg.	A pinch of salt.
1 tea spoonful of Baking Powder.	2 oz. Candied Peel.
4 oz. Brown Sugar.	A little mixed spice.

A little milk.

Method.—Make crumbs from white part of bread, soak crust in cold water for an hour; squeeze as dry as possible with a fork, mix it with the syrup and sugar and nearly half a pint of milk, add the fruit (cleaned), the peel cut in small pieces; mix the flour, bread crumbs, baking powder, spices and salt together, stir to the syrup, etc.; put in a greased pudding basin and cover with greased paper, or put in a cloth. Steam six or eight hours, or boil for five or six hours. The longer the pudding cooks, the darker and better will it become.

There are two splendid small books on cookery and confectionery, i.e., The County Cookery Book. The Economical Confectionery Book. The cost is 6d. each or 8d. post free. They may be obtained from John Albinson, Printers, Chapel Street, Oldham.

Our Education Page.

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

EDUCATION SECRETARY—(Miss) M. E. KITSON, B.A., 17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Batley (Yorks.).

ORAL GRADE SECRETARY—(Miss) A. HESP, 10, Cross Flatts Drive, Beeston, Leeds.

THE ORAL GRADE EXAMINATION.

(i)—No FEE is being charged for the children who take the Oral Grade Examination.

(ii)—A Special Certificate, suitable for a child, will be issued to each successful candidate.

(iii)—Lyceums entering children for the Oral Grade should, if possible, appoint an Oral Grade Supervisor—to hear the S.C.R.'s and ask the questions of the children, in a separate room from the one used for the written examinations.

(iv)—Send the name and address of the Oral Grade Supervisor; and the list of Oral Grade entrants, to Miss Hesp. She will forward full instructions how to conduct the examination.

(v)—The Oral Grade Primer is just the book for children's groups in the Lyceum—quite apart from the examination. In one Lyceum, at least, the Liberty Group is using it, and finding its information helpful and interesting!

TO LYCEUM SECRETARIES.

(i)—Please send in lists of candidates, and fees, by 21st December.

(ii)—If there are any Oral Grade candidates, study the above paragraph.

(iii)—See the instructions given in last month's BANNER; and also on the printed letter sent with the examination form.

(iv)—Give ALL the particulars asked for on the examination form.

OUR APPEAL FOR FINANCIAL HELP.

In response to this appeal, one Lyceum—ordering Handbooks to the value of six-shillings and sixpence—instructed its Secretary to send on ten shillings, "the balance to go to the Funds."

If many Lyceums follow this example, the adverse balance will be considerably lessened.

A Lyceumist sent for his Handbook and paid three shillings and sixpence, writing, "The extra three shillings is a very small donation for the Education Scheme Fund. It is better than nothing, and I feel will be only one of a number of small donations. I hope there will be many." (So does the Committee!)

We thank those who have already helped, and those who have promised donations.

SUMMARIES OF "MANUAL" SELECTIONS FOR EXAMINATION.

It is not claimed that these Summaries are the only correct interpretation of their respective MANUAL selections. They are only given as ONE interpretation; and as hints to help tutors and students—showing how summaries may be prepared.

When using them, students are advised to compare them with the actual MANUAL reading or recitation. As nearly as is possible (in the space available) the summaries appear in relation to the order of the MANUAL sections of the Programmes (given in September) for groups or Weeknight Classes. Some for each Grade will be given each month.

SUMMARY OF S.C.R. 66—THE ANGEL GUEST.

(For Grade I.)

We must, first of all, note that this Silver Chain does not deal with Spirit communications (such as we get at circles, etc.); but with Spirit Communion (mutual intercourse, when, seeking for strength, guidance and blessing, we raise our spiritual nature into direct touch with spiritual influences.) The poet describes the conditions necessary for this communion:

We must be "pure of heart" (or the bright spirit friends will not be able to get into harmony with us); we must be "sound in head" (must thoroughly understand what we are doing and why we are doing it—or our foolish thoughts will attract others than the friends and influences that we want); and the Divine Love which is part of our being must make us bold to break through the Veil and find those we love (as fear, or doubt, or nervousness on our part may raise up barriers through which our loved ones may not be able to break). Our consciences must be clear of wilful wrongdoing; our memories must be free from any cloud of regret for acts of hate or spitefulness; and we must be able to feel at peace with everyone and everything.

In this state of complete calmness and peacefulness, we are able to reach out "in the silence," and soul communing with soul, obtain spiritual strength and grace.

SUMMARY OF G.C.R. 108—THE LYCEUM.

(For Grade I.)

The Lyceum is a School in which we obtain an education which is broad and harmonious. Its object is to develop all our mental and spiritual powers, in their proper order, and to the proper extent. This is done by removing wrong ideas, and providing the mind, as it develops, with teachings that it can understand and accept. Its training is of two kinds—physical and mental. The physical body is developed, and the brain exercised, by carefully arranged marching and calisthenics. The mental nature is developed by teachings that cause the students to exert all their mental powers in questions and discussion. The recitations and responses teach great truths, which are fixed in the memory by repetition, thus improving the mind. The chief principle of our system is harmony—expressed in music and singing. The Lyceum method differs from other methods in that it is in agreement with the laws of nature, allows differences of opinion, takes everything in nature into account, and promotes interest through variety. It also teaches a religion of reason, beauty, truth and goodness. Its aim is the spiritual, moral and intellectual elevation of its members and of the world at large. It is our duty, therefore, to devote ourselves to the realisation of its highest ideals.

SUMMARY OF G.C.R. 137—THE NATURE OF SPIRITUALISM.

(For Grade II.)

Spiritualism is a science, a philosophy and a religion. It treats of the spiritual nature of man; and, as Spirit is the moving force in the universe, it deals with nature in general. As a science, it is based on facts collected in every part of the world, and proved under scientific tests; and it searches for truth in every phase of life. As a philosophy, it studies man and the universe from the physical, mental, psychical and spiritual points of view. As a religion, it gives us a noble ideal of God, urges us to act up to our own highest ideals, and spurs us on to spiritual growth and purity of life.

Spiritualists are those who believe in the continuity of conscious individual life, and that departed Spirits can and do communicate with us—and who also believe that this knowledge places on them the duty of cultivating their noblest faculties, and improving in goodness and wisdom.

Man is the highest type of being that has yet lived on Earth. He is a threefold being, physical body, spirit body and spirit (or soul). By the physical body the soul is brought into contact with the physical world. The spirit body is a copy of the physical body; it outlives the change called death, and is the body through which the spirit works on planes other than physical. The spirit is the Ego—the intelligent, heavenly and immortal part of man—a spark from the Divine—(or, God in Man).

NOTE.—In the Lyceum Movement, or the LYCEUM MANUAL, the term "soul" is NEVER used to refer to the spirit body (See the new edition of the LYCEUM MANUAL).

SUMMARY OF S.C.R. 51.—LIFE'S BUILDERS.

(For Grade III.)

The first verse deals with ordinary building work, and it is pointed out that, whether in fashionable or poor districts, the united efforts of the builders have the same result—each workman loyally plays his part, and day by day the building increases in size and perfection. In the remaining verses a spiritual meaning is applied, and we are taught that in our lives we are building "mansions" (of character) and urged to make our buildings strong, beautiful and enduring.

We may devote our lives to self-sacrifice for the welfare of others, or merely for our own benefit and glory; but all our actions and all our teachings are the materials from which our viewless (unseen) mansions are being built. Therefore we should strive to build nobly, refusing to use doubtful ways even to good ends, and our motto should be that we prefer plain truth to a gilded lie, and poverty to riches obtained by swindling or other forms of robbery.

We should lay our foundations on the Rock of Love, and make our lives a beacon tower of enlightenment and encouragement to others, thus earning sweet blessings from the weary and disheartened. We should make even duty look beautiful by the way we perform ours; and whatever our station in life, and whatever our gifts, we should use these worthily—the beauty of our work showing how well and truly we have builded. Every part of our building, from the foundation to the rafters, must be built of the very best materials (in other words, every action of our lives must be good and worthy—so that our characters may be perfect), and we should build so that the strength and beauty of our characters will seem heavenly to others, and will give

them visions of the Spirit World and of the beautiful homes in that land "where there is no night."

NOTES.

2nd verse: "Carve our cross."—Seems to mean, take up unpopular causes, and so be persecuted (have nasty things said about us; perhaps be put in prison; have our lives made miserable by the nasty actions of others). "Crown of glory."—May mean the martyr's crown, won through being persecuted; or may mean becoming a famous person (and used as a contrast to "carving a cross"). It is not clear which meaning is intended.

4th verse: "Beacon."—A fire lighted as a guide or a signal.

6th verse: "Supernal."—Celestial (heavenly).

NOTE TO SUMMARY.—The S.C.R. may also be applied to Lyceumism—our Movement being taken as the Mansion, our District Councils as various rooms in that mansion, our Lyceums as the builders, and our Lyceumists as the materials—each striving to be so perfect that the mansion will be strong, beautiful, useful and enduring.

SUMMARY OF M.R. 223.—MINISTERING ANGELS.

(For Grade III.)

In this M.R. the verses and Conductor parts must be considered as a whole. The Connective Readings introduce and beautifully explain the verses, and the combined teaching is that though we grieve for our "dead" friends because our physical eyes can no longer see them, we no longer look on the grave as their "last home," for we know that they have gone to the Spirit World, from which they often visit us, comforting and cheering us. They are constantly around us; and could we only see them, we should be able to recognise friends and loved ones. With their help, some of us have had the "mists" of materialism swept from our psychic vision, and are able to see and recognise them, to our deep and glad surprise. Death is thus robbed of its sting and the grave of its victory, and continuity of life for all is assured; for THEY live on, and so shall we. Our beloved spirit friends are with us night and day, and only psychic blindness divides us from them, and prevents us seeing them in their glorious beauty.

NOTES.

1st verse: "They are winging."—Does not mean that they are flying—is only a poetic symbol. Refers to their journey from the Spirit world.

"Unseen harps."—Another symbol. Refers to the harmony which is necessary for Spirit companionship (See S.C.R. 66, and Summary).

2nd verse: "Seraph."—An Angel—here means our Spirit visitors.

SUMMARY OF M.R. 236.—TRUST IN GOD.

(For Grade III.)

Life's pathway may seem long and dreary; it may be rough with misfortunes and dark with sorrows, but there is one star which will make even the weariest path bright for us—our trust in God. We must not try to escape from our troubles by planning or doing anything that is unworthy or "underhand"; whether losing or winning we must always "play straight." We must not let ourselves be led astray by faction, sect, or party feeling, nor by the arguments of would-be "leaders," but in all cases decided and do what we think is right. We must not let ourselves be led into wrong-doing, just because it looks attractive or because it has been a custom, or the fashion, or the teaching of a particular "school" (sect). The one simple rule that will always guide us aright, and shed light and peace on our path, is to follow our ideal of right. We may be hated, slighted, loved or flattered because of our actions or our power to act; but we are not to heed what others may do or say, either for or against us—we must just trust in God and do the right. This is the teaching of the verses. The Readings add to, and explain, the teaching.

NOTES.

2nd reading: "Moral hero."—One who has the courage to do what is right—no matter how he himself may suffer for what he does.

3rd Reading: "Vicissitudes."—Changes, trials and troubles. "Adversity."—Ill-luck; when everything turns against us.

"Accord."—Generally means agreement; here means "will join in giving."

NEXT MONTH will be given the summaries of Numbers 138, 142, 203, 208 and 211.

TEXTS, etc., for EDUCATION STUDENTS.

- (i) *Syllabuses for work*, for all Grades—2d. per copy, 1s. 6d. per dozen.
 (ii) *Oral Grade Primer*, for children under 10, 4d. per copy, 5d. post free, 3s. 6d. per dozen.
 (iii) *No. 1 Handbook*, for Grade I., 4d. per copy, 3s. 6d. per doz.
 (iv) *No. 2 Handbook* (revised and enlarged) for Grades II., III. and IV., 6d. per copy, 5s. 6d. per dozen.
 (v) *No. 3 Handbook*, for Grade V., and for Investigators, 1s. per copy, 10s. per dozen.
 (vi) *Helps to the Study of the Lyceum Manual*, for all Grades and for Conductors, Leaders, Tutors, and all Lyceumists, 2d. per copy, 1s. 9d. per dozen.
 (vii) *How to Prepare for the Education Examination*—(being a reprint of the article in September's issue), supplied on application, if postage is enclosed (1½d.).

N.B.—(i)—Please do NOT cross postal orders; and make them payable at Batley (if sent to the Education Secretary).

(ii) Please put 2d. on a letter if it weighs more than one ounce.

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.

STOCKPORT, Central.—In loving memory of Evelyn Greening. Passed to the higher life on Nov. 7th. She loved the children. Dearly loved by all Stockport Lyceumists.!

SALE, Roebuck Lane.—It is with deep regret that I record the transition of one of our Lyceumists, Lilian Higgins, on November 3rd, after a short illness.—D. Jones, Sec.

Life and Conduct.

By C. A. M.

"Do not act as if you had ten thousand years to throw away. Be good for something while you live and it is in your power."
 —Marcus Aurelius.

One of the responsibilities that life places upon us is the necessity for constant action and individual endeavour. We cannot, even if we would, stand still, we must either go forward or backward, we must be progressive or retrogressive. Stagnation is not permissible, and to an active thinking mind must not be tolerated. To go backward is, to a progressive mind, unthinkable, to go forward is the only course open.

In building up a satisfactory individual life and character an ideal is an absolute essential. In formulating an ideal or mentally picturing the goal to which we aspire, we must not be afraid of aiming too high, for though in a brief earthly span we may not be able to realise all we could wish, nor accomplish all that we set out to do, yet we may take heart from the knowledge that death does not bring to an end our opportunities for the fulfilment of our ambition, but rather opens the door to greater opportunities, and intensified, increases and stimulates us with higher hopes of attaining the goal of our desire. If our desires are good, our ambitions unselfish, our strivings towards better things sincere, our thoughts pure and lofty, then, we cannot fail in ultimate realisation and attainment. Therefore—

AIM HIGH.

"Set your mind on something lofty,
 Strive some noble work to do;
 Then success and sweet contentment
 Surely shall abide with you."

It does not necessarily follow that in setting up, and reaching out towards an ideal, that we shall become impractical and other-worldly. The possession of an ideal to strive for makes life worthy. A man or woman without an ideal is like a ship without a compass and not knowing where lies its destination.

Due consideration must be given to the physical body and its requirements. Care and attention are necessary if it is to function properly and these must be given so that it may be vigorous, virile, and strong. We must do our best to build up bodies that will be able to sustain whatever reasonable demands may be made upon them. This is best attained by remembering and putting into practice the injunction to,—"Keep the

currents of life pure by pure habits," for then, "Thy being shall be healthful."

One thing not to be forgotten in the conduct of life is the saying of the Roman Orator, Cicero, to this effect,—"Food for the mind is as necessary as food for the body." We should be as careful in the choice of books and reading matter generally as we are in choosing our friends, for it is hardly possible to gauge the extent of their influence upon our life and its ultimatum. Discrimination and careful selection are essential, for in building up a character unsatisfactory materials must be rejected and only the best and lasting must be allowed to form part of the structure. We must ever keep in mind the fact that we are not building for a day only, but for a future that is illimitable and infinite. If we keep in mind the knowledge that we shall be what we ourselves determine to be, then I think a realisation will quickly come that *purity of mind, nobility of thought, and sincerity in all our dealings with others are ideals that cannot safely be neglected* and in moulding our lives upon the Divine Trinity of Purity, Nobility, and Sincerity, we shall be embodying principles in our lives that will help us onward and assist us along the path of progress and human achievement. The majority of us do but fill what we consider to be lowly positions in life, and to most of us life is an uphill fight all the way, and we do sometimes lose heart a little and think that the things we do and the work accomplished is very insignificant when we compare it with others, but we must remember that every little act, every thought, every endeavour to uplift each other, every service rendered in the spirit of good-intent benefits not only the individuals directly concerned, but the whole human race. There is nothing so small that it does not matter. All the great things in life are accomplished by giving careful and constant attention to the innumerable little things that crop up day by day. If we fill the places we occupy in the Divine Scheme of things to the best of our ability then there can be no need to fret and complain because we cannot accomplish more.

Let us make up our minds that our lives shall be lived so that we shall be able to face death with a calmness and tranquility of mind that nothing can disturb and with a trust in God that will come as the result of a good life. May we keep in remembrance that man is a spark of the Divine Goodness and Love, seeking expression through matter, and may we this day make up our minds to give free and full expression to the outside world of the God force within us. It is also incumbent upon us to do what we can to help others to self-expression, to be examples, to lead and persuade others to travel by the shining path, a narrow one it is true, but a straight one nevertheless, the path of upright, conscientious living that leads at last to peace of heart, ultimate happiness, Heaven and God. Let us give some part of our lives to the important work of uplifting the human race by taking an interest in the social reformation, which most of us believe to be vitally necessary in order for real world-peace to be established on a basis of equity, justice and mutual understanding. In our lives and in our teaching let us emphasise the exigency of a spiritual life, the nearness of the spiritual world, and may we strive to realise in practice a modern adaptation of an old commandment, which says:—"Remember thou the weekdays to keep them holy." Reach out to the Infinite Spirit in thought and live in harmony and at-one with God and Man. We can, each one of us, whether boy or girl, man or woman, help to make the world better each day by kind thoughts, kind acts, unselfish behaviour, speaking quietly and gently, and considering other people's feelings as well as our own.

Each day is a little life. It is dependent upon us to live our lives so that on our entry into the higher life it shall not be a time of repining and sorrow, but a time of joy and happiness as the reward for a life well, truly, and nobly lived.

We may not, in our respective spheres in life, be able to accomplish a great deal, but if we use the powers and talents we have in trying to attain to a lofty ideal and at the same time render willing service in the upliftment of humanity to a higher plane of being and doing, then rest assured that we shall not have lived in vain and the personal consciousness of having done our duty will undoubtedly bring a satisfaction of heart and mind that could not be gained by any other means and our welcome will be a happy and a joyous one when we pass to our "homes beyond the river."

"Doing nothing for others is the undoing of oneself. We must be purposefully kind and generous, or we miss the best part of existence. The heart that goes out of itself gets large and full of joy. This is the great secret of the inner life. We do ourselves the most good by doing something for others."—*Horace Mann.*

C.A.M.

UNITED DISTRICTS' COUNCIL.

The half-yearly Meeting was held at Holborn Hall, Hull, on Sat. and Sun., October 21st & 22nd, 1922. Mr. A. T. Connor presided. Delegates were present representing B.S.L.U. (2), Bolton, Bradford, North East Cheshire, North East Lancashire, South East Lancashire, Leeds, Sheffield, and Manchester and Salford Lyceum District Councils.

Mrs. M. E. Pickles opened with an invocation.

Letters were read from North East Cheshire, N.E. Lancashire, Britten Memorial, Teeside *re* Oct. Meeting, 1922. Leeds D.C. Hull and (London and N. E. Lanes) (nominations).

Re North East Cheshire and future U.D.C. meetings: Moved that we ask Mrs. Ennon to act for us in this matter and report the discussion *pro.* and *con.*

The President introduced Mr. Jewitt, the Conductor of the Grimby Lyceum. We allowed Mr. Jewitt to state his case *re* help for the purposes of forming a D.C. for the East Coast.

Mr. Jewitt stated the position as it stood locally and that they had been granted all the help the Church and Lyceum could give locally and had been granted four Sundays per year to use for propaganda for Lyceum work. They were in need of co-operative help, such as a D.C. could give but were in a very isolated position, as regards D.C.'s. Mrs. Brown of Hull, supported Mr. Jewitt. It was decided that Mr. Jewitt take the matter in hand and ascertain the requirements of the East Coast *re* the needs for a D.C., and if satisfied that a D.C. is needed as the results of his enquiries to apply to the B.S.L.U. M.C. for permission to form same.

If a new D.C. was formed more convenient for Hull Lyceums they would be allowed to withdraw from Leeds D.C.

In the event of an Eastern Counties' D.C. being formed the officers were empowered to send one or two representatives to help to inaugurate same.

Re Harmony and Disputes, Mr. Jones said that all Lyceum-ists should be efficient Church members and workers and it should apply vice versa and that all should shoulder the responsibilities of the management and government of the respective bodies." M. E. Pickles said that more detailed reports should be presented to the districts and to educate them to the usefulness of the U.D. Council.

Mrs. Sharples offered to type the Minutes and it was accepted. Several delegates spoke *re* disputes and the settlement of same.—Carried.

REPORTS: Treasurer's and Balance Sheet was read by the Sec.-Treasurer which showed an Income of £24 10s. 3d. Expenditure £19 12s. 2d. Balance £4 18s. 1d. Carried.

A resume of the year's work will be prepared by the Sec. and presented to the Annual Meeting.

Conference report given verbally by Sec., who spoke *re* the presenting of a jewel by Miss Morse to the Movement and the effect upon the Conference of the curtailing of the discussion of Presidential Address, through misunderstanding, and in his opinion had same been fully discussed valuable time of the Conference would have been saved.

D.C.'s should take note of the new areas as published and what suggestions or amendments they have to offer to forward same to the Gen. Sec., B.S.L.U. The Movement had again decided to continue the Area System as this was the most democratic form of representation the movement could have and it was the duty of the D.C.'s to make this a success.

We are of opinion that insufficient consideration was given to Presidential Addresses at Conference. We therefore recommend that the discussion in future be limited to one hour.

The Secretary was instructed to keep in touch with S. Wales and render what assistance he can by correspondence.

Mr. Owen spoke of the new grouping under the Amended Area system. Delegates were asked to take the matter back to the D.C.'s and to discuss same and any suggestions or amendments to forward same to Gen. Sec., B.S.L.U., as per the lists in the October BANNER.

D.C.'s are asked to pay more attention to Parliamentary procedure and to educate their delegates in the same.

Election of Officers: Mr. A. T. Connor and Mr. Shuttleworth were nominated for offices of President and Secretary respectively.

Mr. Owen declared Mr. Connor and Mr. Shuttleworth elected.

B.S.L.U. Education Scheme: Miss Kitson spoke to this and asked delegates to keep it to the fore in their D.C.'s and she would be prepared to answer any questions which might be put. The new Oral Grade Handbook was introduced and met with hearty approving.

Mr. Owen spoke *re* pushing the literature of this Section and that by a little co-operative work this section could be made self-supporting.

We accepted the statement made by the Education Sec., and placed on record our appreciation of the work done by the two Secretaries and that we bring this matter into prominence in our D.C.'s and use our best efforts to bring this scheme to a successful issue.

Credential Report: Officers 2, B.S.L.U.M.C. 2, Delegates 8, Visitors 5, Total 17. Pooling, £1 1s. 6d. per head.

Re Leaders and its definition as applied to the Lyceum Movement: Sec. outlined the position: That the point at issue was "were officers leaders?" Answer had been made that they were not. The question was not regarding "Group leaders" but the general word "leader." The appellation had been made by the B.S.L.U. After this had been discussed a census was made as to the general usage of the word. Four Councils applied the word to Group leaders and 7 included all elected officers. It was decided "that Sec. report *re* this to the N.E. Lancs. Council and to further report the same to this Council.

Re Disputes: Sec. outlined the position as regards the N.E. Lancs. districts and stated that same had been forwarded to this Council in the hope that as a result of the discussion, something might be done regarding the situation and machinery outlined with a view to these being settled in their early stages. A general debate ensued upon this and it was agreed that delegates report this matter fully to their D.C.'s and ask for Lyceums in the case of any contentious point to first bring the matter to their D.C.

Sec. gave his annual report. Stating *re* annual returns and drawing D.C.'s attention to the resolution passed Dec. 1920, *re* time limit for same—Reminding delegates to call Area meetings early in March to allow their Area Representatives to give them their report of the year's work—Of the advisability of sending in a motion to Conference *re* S.N.U. Representatives, viz.: "that Gen. Sec. and one member of the incoming E.C. be elected, etc., etc. Of the Internal Education Scheme being recommended to be printed as a pamphlet and some being bound in the new edition of the MANUAL, so that all Lyceumists may have access to same. Expressing general satisfaction of the year's work. *Re* the S.C.D.C. and the question of affiliation. The £2,000 Effort, and of D.C. Secs. sending in the names of their appointed representatives.

Miss M. L. Stair, and Miss A. Sharples were appointed Auditors.

Mrs. M. E. Pickles spoke *re* the £2,000 Effort and the seeming cessation of activities and asked the Council to use their endeavours to stimulate this and to bring the effort to a successful issue.

INTERNAL EDUCATION SCHEME.

Sec. 7, Group lessons. The use of observation trays is recommended and the need for leaders to meet regularly to discuss lesson plans and to make such plan of progressive thought. Mr. Owen spoke *re* the developing of the powers of observation of the Child and submitting the child to varying tests of such development.

Mrs. Pickles spoke *re* observation trays and of the lasting effects such lessons have on the child. Miss Kitson spoke of the Kindergarten notebooks, pencils and crayons, saying that by the use of these things the child can make real the lessons which have been given and when models are made of the lesson you can turn back at any time and you will find that the child can visualise that particular lesson and that it fully remembers the same.

Re difficulties and objections. These are mainly from parents and are made against homework. Agreed for adoption and that we recommend to D.C.'s the classes for leaders as outlined above.

Eight Morals, use and abuse of Sex passions, and relationships. That subject may be introduced by illustrations and references to the mineral, animal and vegetable kingdoms then to the Human Kingdom. Mr. Owen spoke on Adolescent Age, and the broaching of these matters. The time is past when reticence is the attitude of any progressive movement. At this age the child is conscious of two things—God and Sex (God and Man). That in the past too much reliance had been placed upon keeping the child innocent—really ignorance. We have not been fully prepared to answer the questions the child may ask and when the parent has shirked or neglected this duty, the knowledge upon this which then comes to the child is not always clean and good. The child is naturally inquisitive and *will* get to know. Parents ought to teach their children the mysteries of sex and birth—but often parents themselves require teaching *re* this question. The psychology of the child has to be taken

into consideration as the natures of children differ. Natural outlets ought to be provided for the outlet of passions which are part of human beings viz.: by games, dancing, etc., etc. That instead of parents awaiting opportunities for the imparting of this teaching, advantage ought to be taken of any natural happening in the home or family (births, etc.). The Co-op. Women's Guild Movement are now taking up this work. Mrs. M. E. Pickles spoke to an article she had written upon these matters, that we must take the initiative and proclaim these facts to the movement. That it was needed knowledge for humanity and parental education will have to be provided for. J. K. Jones spoke *re* a class which they had had in Sheffield and the subject was introduced by botany. Others spoke to the subject in general—that it was not a matter of teaching altogether, but a recasting of the general knowledge the child had in some instances already gained—to make clean the subject and to help them to realise that same was a natural process and was for use—not abuse.

Mr. Owen stated that this question had been broached time and again—he had approached various leaders of the movement *re* the writing of a small book on this subject, but they had all dropped the matter—having decided the time was not yet ripe for such—but now it is time something was done. The male and female elements of engineering, electricity, were advanced as examples of the attractive, mating, repulsive and diffusive force of the subject. "*Sex abuse is love misused.*" That we need efficient writers to write primers upon this subject.

We are of opinion that there is an urgent need for education upon sex passion and relationship, and call upon all D.C.'s to seriously consider the importance of immediate attention being given to the subject.

The best thanks of this Council were given to Holborn Hall Lyceum for the invitation and arrangements and labour on our behalf.

Mrs. Brown and Mr. Smith replied on behalf of Hull.

A MASSES OPEN SESSION was held in Holborn Hall of all the Hull Lyceums. The Conductor welcoming the delegates said: "There are moments and experiences in the lives of every one which are more than usually pleasurable and delightful. I can assure you the present is such in my case and affords me no small amount of pleasure and satisfaction to offer to the Council a hearty welcome to the city of Hull, the birthplace of Wilberforce, the slave emancipator and also of Andrew Marvel, that illustrious and incorruptible patriot, and trust that your visit here will be the means of an impetus to strengthen all Lyceumists and leaders in Hull city. May the motto of your Conference be, "In all things essential—Unity. In all things doubtful—Liberty. In all things—Charity." We shall each endeavour to render your visit enjoyable, memorable and profitable." The President suitably replied and appointed Miss M. E. Kitson as Conductor. The delegates conducted the various readings. The evening service was conducted by Mrs. M. E. Pickles, Miss M. E. Kitson, Miss A. Sharples, Mr. J. S. Shuttleworth. All spoke upon the ideals and the education of the movement. Mr. Connor presided. Mr. Connor expressed thanks to all who had contributed to the visit. Miss V. Hogg rendered a solo at the evening service in a pleasing manner.

J. SHUTTLEWORTH, Sec.

LONDON DISTRICT.

The quarterly meeting will be held at Peckham, on Saturday, 16th December, at 6 p.m. Will Delegates and Associates please make a special effort to attend? Business of vital importance will be considered.—A. T. Connor, Sec.

BOUND VOLUMES OF THE "LYCEUM BANNER" FOR 1922.

The LYCEUM BANNER Department stocked 50 bound copies of the 1921 LYCEUM BANNER. 20 of these are still (very still) in stock. The Lyceum Librarians are negligent or not in existence. Only one Library possesses a copy. Delegates may see this copy if they visit Daulby Hall, Liverpool, on the occasion of the 1923 Annual Conference.

Copies of the 1922 Volume will be on sale early in January. The price is 5s. 6d. post free.

As a book of reference on the Education Scheme it will be found a helpful book.

THE LYCEUM BANNER:

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

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

Terms to Lyceums and Societies:

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

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DECEMBER, 1922.

Prophetic Vision.

The majority of people in the world will be glad to see the close of 1922, with its horrors of unemployment and starvation. 'Man's inhumanity to man, makes countless thousands mourn.' 'Peace on earth, good will to men' has been a mockery. We have many lessons to learn yet before the dawn of brotherhood. It is largely the innocent who suffer. 'Evil is wrought by want of thought as well as want of heart.'

With the end of the year approaching, many people will be taking stock of past methods and making resolutions for the New Year. The festive season is coming round and we shall sow a few wild oats and then be good for evermore, until about the seventh of January.

It is one of the comforts of life that we cannot get outside the psychic aspect which makes all right-minded people look to the holidays for a little pleasure.

Then we turn to the serious things of life again. Thoughts wander round the home, the social and religious things of life. What a world of bewildering perplexity we seem to be living in. How complex the many problems that touch the human side of things. It is thought that only the mighty brains of a genius can fathom the deep intricacies that face mankind. A way out of the turmoil must come and it has been left to clever people to solve the riddle, not only of the Universe, but of the little star we call the earth. And not only the earth, but the welfare of each human being.

The greatest problem is the beginning and the end of life, if we leave out the mystery of life itself.

Between the beginning and the end we find ourselves faced with the mystery of death. The Spiritualist is in the happy position of being able to answer the eternal question of survival by means of spirit communion and evidence. For what purpose is the continuity of life thus established? The clever man dies and loses his body. There is no further chance of using his physical frame again. But we find he possesses another body through which he functions and lives his life. What more useful purpose can a minister (who has loved his vocation for the good he could do) find than continuing in the service of God among his people. The minister can only perform his continued service on earth through the inspiration he can give to some human soul engaged in similar work to that which was fulfilled by him on earth. There is the trance condition which can be produced through some mortal medium lending the mind and body to the spirit of the minister. No denomination, except Spiritualism can religiously open the door to the unseen for the pure inspiration of truth. All other aspects of religion can only receive the inspiration which co-ordinates with the doctrines and dogmas of peculiar beliefs.

The Spiritualist stands free, under the canopy of God's love to receive the inspiration of truth, unfettered by any human authority, or previous conception of religion, creeds or principles.

Whilst we keep our minds fixed on this side of the grave there is no hope for the progress of the world. Human genius seems to know no morals when invention makes a new machine to increase, instead of lessen, the labour of mankind. Spiritual genius is an emotional factor which produces dreamers, poets and prophets.

The gift of prophecy is the richest gift in the world. All things that are made are first woven on the web of the mind and there we see the finish of our labours before we begin.

There is no other system of thought on earth can open its minds to the unfettered inspiration of fundamental truth like Spiritualism can, for humans have decided in all other systems that the scope of man is limited by the chain of rules, dogmas, creeds, principles, and sectional methods which limit the scope and place barriers to unconventional development, however true the foundations may be. The doctrinal walls of bigotry and narrowness of vision place the adherents in a mental fog where they can only get a hazy glimpse of real truth. Immediately they attempt to move, the fog-horn of authority yells beware! The mind must dwell on petty things which have no purpose and so human beings have become an echo of their real selves. Men shout and laugh and grumble. Their thoughts are echoed on the breeze! and now we find a race of grumblers.

It is no wonder when we realise that the door of inspiration has been closed for fifteen hundred years, except for an occasional gleam which shone across the world but did not touch the fog-bound minds of men.

We learn that spiritual genius is a divine insight into the purpose of life. Through the influences, guidances, wisdom and love of spirit-people we find the true spirit of real and full life depends on the forces of life rather than on the substance which life operates through.

It is definitely known that the spirit operators have the gift of prophecy: hence the superiority of their wisdom and the verification of their laws. Men combine, but spirits harmonise. The individual efforts of men leads to competition, but the individual efforts of spirits are to place amongst mankind a feeling of brotherhood which does not rob the person of his individuality, but brings him nearer to his neighbour in all the ideas to which they both respond. Just think what a change would come to industry and commerce if the fundamental and spiritual principles of personal responsibility, compensation and retribution was the aim of employer and employed. Lack of trust prevents this. Competition thwarts it. A circle could not produce good mediums if accord did not prevail.

The strongest incentive to individual effort is found in social and religious pursuits. The world lacks vision. The Spiritualist has got it, but the application must take place in earth before man can see that "as a man sows, so shall he reap."

The Spiritualists have a mission and that is to show the difference between our method and all others. Others generally agree to differ, but we agree to agree and so we build. There are many phases of mentality and spirituality to be learned, but the little we know will enable us to circulate the wisdom we possess.

If no other place is desired the Lyceum can always be provided with the utility of service. The children yearn for the larger excitement which the coming years will yield.

Elsewhere in this issue a very important theme is touched: the problem of sex-passion and love.

It is much better to prevent an immoral complaint by judicious instruction in hygiene and health than deploring results which parents and guardians could have largely prevented by a careful preparation of young persons for the physical changes which are taking place during adolescence. The knowledge imparted conveys parental prescience and gains the respect and confidence of children towards their parents.

The methods to be adopted would not be rightly understood if they were inserted in the BANNER, and must therefore be provided in some other way: With the larger advent of modern girls into social and industrial life there is a greater necessity to face this question and guide our young people.

The progress of the race and the dawn of practical brotherhood depends largely on an educated motherhood to give the growth and practice of principles which are eternal and work towards the harmonies of God's laws.

"A country of true homes is a country of true greatness." The domestic relations are explained in G.C.R. "Home Affections." The social life is explained in "Our Rights." The religious growth and vision is taught by studying "The Aim of Spiritualism."

Good citizenship depends on a broad outlook by which we can understand the feelings of those for whom, and with whom, we work and play. It is the aim of the Lyceum Movement to provide the facilities for study and development to remove "man's inhumanity to man," poverty, starvation, disease and premature death by opening the avenues of inspiration to awaken the mind of man to the spiritual and prophetic vision of life, facing the mysteries which perplex and finding in the pursuit of knowledge and wisdom the fulness and joy of eternal progress.

To Platform Aspirants.

In response to requests made by Lyceumists, one of the Movement's public workers has contributed the following article in the hope it may assist Lyceumists who feel the urge to the public advocacy of Spiritualism.

The Liberty Groups of the Lyceums are a very useful means of commencement. The Golden Chain Recitations contain the necessary subject-matter, an explanation of the chief points form the basis of the speaker's remarks.

The first consideration is the room in which the meeting is held. In a small room no acoustic difficulties will occur: the only consideration necessary is that the speaker must choose a position where he can be seen by all his audience and if artificial light is used, it should illuminate the face of the speaker.

The audience should not be put to any unnecessary physical strain in order to see the speaker and also be comfortably seated.

The subject chosen should be one which can be fully explained, unless he is introducing a subject of enquiry in the Liberty Group with a view to obtaining information from some persons present at the meeting who will have the opportunity of giving an answer to the problems introduced.

The subjects dealt with in the Liberty Group can usefully be of controversial character and form the basis of good discussion.

The subjects dealt with from the public platform should be constructive with a definite purpose in view.

The platform, should not be too high or too low: about 3 feet high in a room which hold 200 people and rising gradually to 5 feet in the largest hall.

The subject chosen must be one which is within the mental grasp of the audience.

The method of dealing with a subject can be subjected to the following rules:—

- 1st.—Explanation;
- 2nd.—Application;
- 3rd.—Result.

The most interesting course is to give the title of the address and preface the explanation by stating the reason for giving such an address (like the preface to a book). This prepares the audience for the subject, draws the thoughts and forms a crowd into a group which concentrates its mind on the subject to be dealt with. A Chairman often produces this effect when he appeals for sympathy for the speaker. The concentration of the audience has been thus obtained and it is the appointed task of the speaker to retain it.

It is a wise thing to clear the air passages of the nose and throat before commencing to speak. The head is modestly bent before the usual laudatory remarks by which the Chairman introduces the speaker. Then as the man of the moment rises before his audience, his face rises before the people and a smiling or serious vision meets the gaze of the listeners. Quiet reigns and the moment of importance has arrived. The subject is announced in slow clear tones with a slight emphasis on the most important words.

What shall the subject be?

One of the Golden Chain Recitations is chosen, or it will perhaps be wisest to choose one which nearly all new Speakers choose for themselves: "What is Spiritualism?"

Now comes the preface. This must be pointed and have direct emphasis on the necessity for consideration of the subject. The speaker is a Lyceumist and has become a leader, hence the following introduction will supply the need.

"Spiritualism has come into the world as a force which supplies the link between Time and Eternity." In a quiet, slow, musical voice the words Spiritualism, world, force, link, time, eternity, are intoned in a slightly louder voice. The slowness of the words, with the varying depths of the voice, start the vibrations of sound in a rolling motion over the room.

As an experiment, breathe slowly on the hand and the feeling is warm. Blow the breath on the hand and the feeling is cold. The effect is the same with the acoustics of a room and the feelings of an audience.

A successful speaker must be attractive and affable. A few experiments before a mirror will be sufficient. Robert Burns once wrote: "O wad some power the giftie gie us, to see ourselves as ithers see us." The mirror supplies the need.

Take a seat some distance from the mirror, think the Chairman has just introduced you while your head is slightly bowed, then quietly rise before the imaginary audience and see the reflection. Many speakers and singers spoil their efforts by the facial contortions they assume before audiences. The contortions become the centre of the audience's thoughts and the value of the words is lost.

Similar remarks apply to the dress. A sober effect with one

central point of attraction is the best style for the platform. The central point may be a flower, a locket or a badge. Musical people often accomplish this effect with the length or the style of the hair.

The subject of the address is "Spiritualism." The first aspect is to explain what Spiritualism is by having memorised the Seven Principles. These can be explained separately and short illustrations are introduced to explain each Principle. These must be thought out and memorised beforehand. If the memory is flighty (most sensitives have this condition) it will be advisable to use notes to keep the mind to the subject.

The application of the Seven Principles are next dealt with and finally the result is shown in the changed life of Spiritualists which will eventually influence Society.

It is not the purpose of the writer to do the thinking for the prospective speakers so the details are not filled in.

The wealth of matter in the subject may be shown in the varying experiences of different speakers.

God, as the source of life, leads us to the cosmos. We see order and law in the universe. Love is the sublime Force which prompts the inspiration of all human effort towards harmonial expression.

The Brotherhood of Man leads to a study of the many ways adopted by the religions of the world.

The Immortality of the Soul has always been a human belief.

It is proved by Spirit Communion. Here we enter the vast domain of mediumship with all its mental and physical phenomena.

We learn from intercourse the principle of Personal Responsibility is true: That Compensation and Retribution are relative conditions reflected in the minds of human beings and spirits as the result of previous conduct and the sensations of right and wrong.

We touch the fringe of Spirit-Life and are made aware of higher realms of thought and being; thus the path of Eternal Progress opens out before all who wills to tread in saintly ways with holy thoughts and earnest love of inspiration and aspiration.

There is an endless story to be told in relating the connecting links in life's unfolding search for truth. Ministering angels help along the way. Inspiration dawns and the speaker gradually grows to feel in tune with his subject. The audiences will feel the rhythm of his thoughts as the speaker reveals the mental pictures before the minds of his hearers. Hard work becomes easier. The hand, the eyes and the poses of the speaker gradually adopt a happy co-ordination. The voice falls and rises in resonance in response to the desire of the soul. Timidity disappears and after many trials, he finds a fearless courage has awakened.

As a final guide to the answering of questions which may arise it will be found that each question contains its own answer. If a Lyceumist understands the words used in the question and can relate one word to another he is able to provide the answers as they are required. Conductors of Lyceums will find this a useful method of replying to questions on the readings in the Lyceum.

Here is a sample question:—

"What is the meaning of 'We come with our harps of gold from the far-off Summerland'?"

Explain the principal words:—We, harps of gold, far-off, Summerland.

"We" means angels; angels are spirit messengers.

"Harps of gold" does not really mean golden harps. The words are poetically used to mean words of wisdom and harmony which convey music to the soul, *i.e.*,—a feeling of contented peace and religious joy in our immediate surroundings.

"Far-off" does not mean distant but is the nearest approach in human language which can be used to show the conditions in spirit-life or Summerland are much different than the conditions which exist in earth-life.

The "Summerland" is a word used to describe and explain a condition which locates the feelings of religious joy which fill the thoughts of Angel Messengers when they are at-home. They bring their sweetness to blend with the earth-people so that they can be filled with the happy conditions which prevail in the spirit-world. By this means we are able to link up the words and feel the real meanings the human writer wished to convey when he wrote the poetic inspiration as the result of spiritual impression upon the poet's mind.

As a means of obtaining the fundamental information necessary to be a good Spiritualist advocate I commend the B.S.L.U. Education Scheme to all aspiring public speakers. This method of study will also improve the public delivery of chairvoyant delineation.

G.W.

Our Lyceum Guild.

(worked in conjunction with the Education Scheme).

Guild Leader and Education Secretary—

(Miss) MARY E. KITSON, B.A., 17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Batley, Yorks.

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

Guild Aims:—To develop ourselves—physically, mentally, psychically, spiritually.

(For a copy of the Aims and Rules, for further information, or for application forms, apply to the Guild Leader).

GUILD MEMBERS (on 19th November) 1393, representing 131 Lyceums.

RETROSPECTIVE.

Looking back over the work done by members since this year begun, the Guild feels proud, and takes this opportunity of thanking each member who has in any way contributed to the success of the Guild.

It tenders special thanks to those who have contributed articles; to the competitors in essay-writing; to those who have sent donations and subscriptions; to those who have done propaganda work and won new members; to class leaders and teachers; to those who studied for the examinations:—in short, to ALL who have been ACTIVE and LIVE Lyceumists and members.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

On the day of the 1922 examinations (last February), there were 1162 Guild members. Of these, 534 had sent in their names as candidates; 422 actually took the examinations; and 379 were successful.

By the way, 379 new badges were sent out to these; but 61 recipients have not yet paid for them. (Sixty-one threepences would swell the Funds nicely. Please pay up THIS year; and let our accounts be up to date and straight).

During this year, 259 new members have been enrolled; many of whom were successful candidates in the last examinations.

PROSPECTIVE.

During the coming year there should be some important developments in the work of the Guild. One ambition that should soon be realised is a special (enamel) badge, and an "All Grade" certificate for each member who has passed through every Grade. Watch for further announcements.

Then, too, we must create a new section of the Guild for Junior Lyceumists who pass the Oral Grade. Further particulars will be given later.

Other plans are being made too, to increase the utility of the Guild in many directions.

NEW SERIES OF ARTICLES.

Beginning with next month's issue, we hope to give our readers three distinct series of articles by well-known members, whose previous work has been much appreciated.

The first series will be by Mr. Wm. Woodall, who will write about "Herbs—when and where to find them; and their medicinal value." We already know of several readers who desire such a series, and we can promise them instructive and helpful articles.

The second series is intended to help our student-members, who desire to know more about the early days of Spiritualism, and the value of the knowledge obtainable. Mr. A. T. Connor is contributing a series of articles on "Advent: The Beginnings of Modern Spiritualism," which deal in an interesting and able manner with the story of the Fox Family, and the value of their work as pioneers.

The third series is to be written by Mr. J. Tinker, on "Lyceum Ideals," and will appeal to all Lyceumists of a thoughtful nature; who have "the gift of discontent, to keep them driving forward and up, for ever striving for something better in the days hereafter."

DONATIONS.

Will our generous Freeman (who is also a very active Guild member) who recently sent ten shillings to the Guild, please accept our appreciative thanks? He modestly desires his name to be withheld—and this is not his first "offence" in generosity and modesty.

TO RECENT COMPETITORS.

Will the successful writers of essays please forgive us for not publishing more of the winning essays. The Education Articles need so much space that our Guild Articles must not be very long for some months.

OUR NATURE ARTICLE.

MOSESSES.

BY MARGARET E. LAWTON.

The moss plants are usually very tiny, but they are wonderfully sturdy, and seem able to make their home wherever it is possible to obtain moisture and a resting place. We may look for them on old walls in undisturbed gutters, in the woodlands and on the damp moorlands. Always the mosses seem to be amongst the pioneers of the plant world. Whenever a bare spot changes to a plant home, it is the mosses that lead the way. When a few generations of moss plants have lived and decayed in the place, it becomes a healthy resting-place for wind-sown seeds. Thus the barren ground becomes one of nature's gardens—thanks to the efforts of the lowly mosses.

Mosses are found living in colonies—many hundreds of separate plants crowding together to form a "cushion." The tiny plants have no roots, no flowers, and no veins, so that they are very different from the plants that we have thought about previously. Each tiny plant consists of a slender stalk surrounded by tiny green leaves, and ending in some fine fibres or hairs. In some mosses the stalks are so weak that the plants can only remain upright by growing in crowds, and leaning against each other. The fine fibres at the ends of the stalks are not roots, for they don't provide the plants with food, but just hold them in place. In fact, some of the mosses that live in streams only have the fibres when they are very young plants.

In all other plants the flowers have provided the baby seeds which grow into new plants. Let us see how the new moss plants are formed. There are two ways. On some moss plants a few leaves have on them "brood bodies" each of which, when it is separated from the plant, can grow into a fresh plant itself. The other way, reminds us of seeds—although it is not quite the same. On some of the plants the leaves at the top form a reddish-brown rosette. These are the father plants. On the mother-plants the leaves crowd together as though in a bud. The insects do not visit the moss plants, but the drops of dew or rain act as messengers. These messengers do not carry pollen grains, but very tiny little bodies from the "rosettes" to the "buds." Afterwards a slender brown stalk grows from the mother bud, and at the top of the stalk is a brown cup called a capsule. Hundreds of capsules may be seen on a bank of moss. Each capsule contains many very tiny little brown spores, and on dry windy days the capsule opens and the spores are shaken out. If the spores are lucky they fall into a nice moist home and commence to grow. They are not quite like seeds, because it is not a new plant that first grows from a spore. Each spore sends out a net of fine green threads. Buds form amongst the threads. Each bud sends down some fibres to take a hold in the home, and then the little moss-plant grows up into the air. When the little plants are established, the green threads wither. Quite a large cluster of moss plants may grow from the one spore.

In the other plants the roots provide much of the food by absorbing it in moisture from the soil. The moss plants have no roots, but the leaves do the work and can absorb both moisture and gases. Even moss plants cannot live without moisture, and they take wonderful care so that no moisture is wasted. On damp days, the leaves spread out, but in dry weather they close around the stalk so as to keep what moisture they hold. Often in woods, you may find large soft cushions of feathery mosses. On top, those cushions are quite dry, but underneath they are often really damp. During the war, bog moss was used for dressing wounds—because it was found to absorb more easily than cotton wool.

Mosses are so easily found, that they deserve much more of our notice than we usually give to them. There are several hundred kinds, some being not green, but cream, pink, or red, or brown in colour, and many are of very beautiful shape. They are brave plants, too, for mosses will face life in the cold northern lands where larger and seemingly stronger plants could not thrive, and our mosses are at their happiest when the other plants are enjoying their winter "rest."

LYCEUMS IN MEMBERSHIP.

Lyceumists are on the lists of those Lyceums which they attended at the time when they joined the Guild; except in the few cases in which they have written to say they now attend a different Lyceum, and to ask to be transferred to its list.

The following list was correct on 19th November.

54 members	(one Lyceum)	—Bolton (Bradford Street).
49	" "	—Cardiff (Central).
44	" "	—North Shields.
33	" "	—Collyhurst.

31 members (one Lyceum)—Plumstead.	
30 " " " —Bristol (United).	
28 " (two Lyceums)—Batley-Carr; Moss Side (Raby St.).	
26 " " " —Brighton (Old Barn); Heaton and Byker.	
25 " (one Lyceum)—Mansfield.	
23 " (two Lyceums)—Huddersfield (Ramsden Street); Sowerby Bridge.	
22 " (four Lyceums)—Halifax (Alma Street); Moston, Peckham, South Manchester.	
21 " (two Lyceums)—Lancaster, Southampton (Cavendish).	
20 " (one Lyceum) —Lincoln.	
19 " (four Lyceums)—Caerau, Nottingham (Mechanics); Reading, S. Shields (Fowler St.).	
18 " " " —Newcastle (Rutherford St.); S. Shield (S. Eldon St.); Stockport (Central); Walthamstow.	
17 " (two Lyceums)—Burnley (North St.); Jarrow.	
16 " (one Lyceum) —Preston (Progressive).	
15 " " " —Preston (Lancaster Road).	
14 " (three Lyceums)—Bradford (Ivy Rooms); Dewsbury, Ilford.	
13 " (six Lyceums) —Bolton (Deane Rd.); Chesterfield, Chester-le-Street, Hirst, Sheffield (Centre); Ulverston.	
12 " (eight Lyceums)—Horwich, Hyde, Normanton, Rochdale (Regent); Rurcorn, Sunderland (Victory); Tottenham, Winnipeg.	
11 " (three Lyceums)—Eastwood, Nelson, Wallsend.	
10 " (five Lyceums)—Attercliffe, Barrow (Dalkeith St.); Kingston, Marsden, Southport.	
9 members—8 Lyceums.	4 members—8 Lyceums.
8 " —5 " "	3 " —6 " "
7 " —4 " "	2 " —11 " "
6 " —6 " "	1 " —21 " "
5 " —5 " "	

It will be interesting to note how many of its Guild members enter for the examinations from each Lyceum; and to compare examination lists with this one. The Guild hopes that all its eligible members will take the examinations, and so help to redeem their promise; and also to encourage other Lyceums to take up the study of Lyceum teachings.

Essays on Reasoning.

By A. T. CONNOR.

XI.—FALLACIES.

In Logic, a FALLACY is not a falsehood, nor even a wrong opinion. It is a wrong method of reasoning, which is sure to lead to wrong conclusions. So the investigator needs to be very careful in the arrangement of his syllogisms, and in reasoning from his premises, that he does not reach a conclusion that the premises will not justify.

There are many ways of arguing wrongly, and one of them is the USE OF WORDS WITH AMBIGUOUS MEANINGS (that is, words which might be used with two or more meanings). Take the word "clairvoyance." In Psychical Research, clairvoyance is understood as a power of the human mind, which enables the clairvoyant to foresee the future or look back into the past. In Spiritualism, a clairvoyant is one who can see and describe Spirit forms with such clearness and accuracy that the descriptions are recognised. So a Psychical Research student and a Spiritualist might discuss clairvoyance—and each have a different idea of what the discussion was about. It is necessary, then, that we should have a clear definition of every term we use—and let everyone else understand exactly what we mean.

Fallacies will also arise from breaking the Rules of Syllogism (See Essay V, in the JUNE BANNER)—by using four terms (a word used with a double meaning is really two words); by drawing a conclusion from two negative premises; by failing to distribute the middle term, etc. The careful student will not be deceived by these fallacies, but it is well to keep a strict watch against them, especially when we are doing independent reasoning from our own discoveries.

Again, we must not confuse THE COLLECTIVE AND GENERAL MEANINGS OF TERMS. The Lyceum Union, as a collection of bodies of students, is a great institution; but if we consider it in its general meaning, as a body with a membership of 230 Lyceums and 18,000 Lyceumists, it is not by any means great

—when compared with the membership of other Unions. The student will think of many other instances. But if we confuse the collective meaning of Lyceum Union with its general meaning, and argue that because the Union is great therefore every Lyceum and every Lyceumist is also great, we shall be guilty of a fallacy that may make us look ridiculous. (Of course, it is the aim of every Lyceum, and Lyceumist, to become great—for the sake of the Lyceum Movement.)

Then there is the fallacy of BEGGING THE QUESTION—which means taking for granted what we have set out to prove. For instance, if we set out to prove spirit return, and start off by assuming the genuineness of spirit control, we are really begging the question, for if there were no "return" there could be no "control," and the phenomena produced would have to be put down to some other cause. We are also begging the question if we explain the differences in the phenomena produced at circles (See Essay X) by saying that they are due to differences in the psychic powers of the mediums—we are really stating the same fact in two different ways.

In Essay X we found how unreliable were generalisation and analogy; yet we find many investigators arguing from general rules and very questionable analogies. A general rule always has exceptions, otherwise it would be a law; and if we judge one particular instance from the general rule, we are more than likely to go wrong. Platform workers who give phenomena generally confine themselves to clairvoyance and psychometry; but we must not argue from that that any particular medium falls in with the general rule. Some do healing, and one at least has produced beautiful perfumes. And it would also be a fallacy to argue that because one medium could produce perfumes, others should be able to do the same. "What man has done, that man can do"—really means only that man by doing it has proved that it can be done, but not necessarily by everybody.

The only reliable method of searching for knowledge is to proceed from observation of natural facts by inductive and deductive reasoning, verifying each step as it is taken and before attempting to take the next step. The rules of the syllogism must be strictly followed, and any conclusion that doesn't follow without question from the premises (which should always be verified facts or deductions) should be rejected as worthless. In reasoning by means of the syllogism (for the syllogism is only a means or method of reasoning, and not the reasoning itself), we must take extreme care not to use terms imperfectly understood, either by ourselves or others; we must not attempt to make a general rule out of one particular case or to judge a particular case from a general rule; we must not argue from one particular case to another particular case; we must not attempt to use analogies unless we are absolutely certain that the analogies exist; we must not accept popular beliefs as scientific facts—in short, we must not argue from anything about which we are not perfectly sure, and we must observe all the rules of correct reasoning. If we do this, we shall be able to make many discoveries, all of them useful, all of them verifiable, and all of them calculated to add glory to the Spiritualist Cause.

XII.—CONCLUSION.

As was said at the beginning, these essays have not been intended to take the place of a book on Logic. As a matter of fact, the essays are mostly outlines which can only be filled in by further study. The aim has been to show to all Lyceumists who cared to look, that the study of Logic is not only interesting but is an essential condition of progressive discovery in Spiritualism, and of getting the correct message from what we discover. It has been shown how many pitfalls lie in the path of the investigator; how these pitfalls may be recognised, and how they may be escaped. I am only too well aware how incomplete the essays are. In most cases I have been compelled to confine to a brief paragraph what in a book on Logic would have been given a chapter or several pages; on some points I have not been able even to touch. It has been a labour of love, undertaken in the hope of aiding our Movement to be able to take full advantage of its mighty opportunities, and to present to the world a philosophy founded on facts, and reasoned from these facts by a method which is above all challenge—and if my essays have induced some of our Lyceumists to take up a thorough study of Logic, I shall feel that my labour has not been in vain.

A number of waiting orders for Manuals have been sent out. The books are being gradually delivered in stock and it is hoped that all waiting orders can be met before the close of the year. Attention is drawn to a cheap offer of the best bindings (Harmonised Edition) on page 8 of the Cover.

Spiritualism in Holland.

ELISE VAN CALCAR SCHIOTLING.

On 19th November, 1822, just a hundred years ago, this gifted woman was born. She has been very prominent in spreading the light of Spiritualism in Holland. Elise Schiotling, known as Elise Van Calcar after she had married Mr. Van Calcar, was born at Amsterdam. Gifted with many talents, she made her entrance into the literary world by publishing a novel, titled "*Hermine*." It was written against Calvinism and painted a more spiritual religion. It made a great success and the name of Elise was afterwards known as the name of a promising young authoress. She published two other novels, "*A Star in the Night*," containing a description of Savonarola, the prophet of Florence, and "*The Thirteenth*," containing a description of different clergymen, as they were in those days in Holland. Also other small books. She propagated the Frobel method in the education of children. She was also the first lady who ventured to enter the pulpit to defend and propagate this method.

In the meantime, Spiritualism was born in America. Already in her youth Elise had got knowledge of Lavater and Oberlin, and was acquainted with the idea of communication between the two worlds; but the Rochester knockings did at first not much interest her. In later years she understood that behind the physical phenomena there was a spiritual revelation of great importance; and she decided to give her time and talents for spreading the light of Spiritualism.

Firstly she published a novel, titled "*Children of the Age*," in which she sketched the bad and the good use of mediumistic gifts, and the real Spiritualism as a means to real religion and for brightening life.

But the publishing of this book did not satisfy her. Continually she heard an inward voice, saying: "Publish a Journal!" And at last she obeyed this voice, and began to publish her monthly journal, "*On the Borders of Two Worlds*."

From 1877 till 1904, the year of her death, she has continued in publishing this beautiful spiritualistic journal, notwithstanding misrepresentation and the opposition she experienced, and also the loss of many friends and the decrease of her reputation as an authoress.

Elise Van Calcar has been the pioneer of Spiritualism in Holland. Many years she stood nearly alone in the battle with Materialism and Dogmatism. As a woman of 73 years she began to hold public conferences, to teach people the principles and doctrine of Spiritualism. And till 1903, a year before her death, she has continued to hold such conferences; until corporal weakness made an end of it. She died, aged eighty-two years, at 13th July, 1904.

Spiritualists firstly in Holland, but also in other lands, must keep in remembrance the name of Elise Van Calcar Schiotling as the name of a great pioneer of Spiritualism.

M. BEVEROLIUS,

President of the Union of Spiritualists in Holland.
"Harmonia."

To our Girls

(continued).

BY MRS. M. E. PICKLES.

Experience tells us that many minds think the same things at the same time, and in this article I want to show you that the spirit people are thinking, inspiring and organising on the same lines as we in the physical bodies.

Our Editor is a big boy, with leanings to little boys and girls, as you all know who were accustomed to reading his Chums' Page.

And one day we had a little talk and he was thinking of the same things as myself, and so I forestalled him last month with my article, but that was only the beginning.

I have long wanted to reach our girls who are slipping out of girlhood into womanhood, and I am trying to reach them through the teachers. There is no grander picture for the human eye to see than the girl in her teens, full of life, health and vigour. No wonder that love should be always finding its way to her door.

Some of you are conversant with the facts that we have twice a year a United Districts Council Meeting, and Sunday morning finds the delegates discussing an "Internal Education Scheme" introduced by Mr. R. A. Owen, of Liverpool.

The scheme has been well propounded in every section, and that which took our attention at the last meeting was section 8: Morals.

"Special serious attention should be paid to the use and abuse of sexual passion and relationship. Simple illustrations drawn from the Mineral, Vegetable and Animal Kingdoms will prove a useful method of leading up to the Human Kingdom."

Each representative was of the opinion that as a movement we ought to be taking greater interest in this question and educating our young folks, so that they will be equipped with a knowledge of their own powers and their uses and abuses.

It is not necessary for me to detail the discussion, for no doubt the U.D.C. Secretary will do that, but I discovered that leaders had been thinking the very same things that I had.

I voiced the opinion that if two girls went to a place of temptation, one from the country and one from the city, the country-bred girl would be the first to fall. The training and knowledge which the city girl possessed would be her greatest safe-guard. Women's movements now are continually discussing the sex question and taking active part in training some sections of the community on right lines.

Our Group Leaders must educate themselves up to the task of teaching the girls as they grow up in a clean way. Full discussion should be allowed in Liberty Groups, under a competent leader, for the time has come when we must no longer shelve the subject, but be prepared to teach all who are ready to receive lessons.

The experiences of pure-minded men and women might be given to serve as object lessons, to our youths and maidens, and some day our young people will be thankful for them.

Mother Grundy has made herself heard in the past with loud voice, but she has had her day and she will now depart before great opposition. Many of us have thought and we have planned individually and collectively, and now we find we are being helped from another source.

It has often been the custom after a very trying business meeting, to have an impromptu circle, and seek the advice of those whom we know and are still working in our interest here. And so at the close of a laborious day's meetings, a goodly number of us proceeded to one of our homes. We all relaxed and joined in singing Lyceum Songs, and it felt wonderfully refreshing after the confinement of the day. Soon signs were apparent that we had company with us from the other side, and a little colored friend came through.

She caused all to have a good laugh by her peculiar yet truthful sayings, but she said "she had only come to pave the way for another." And so she departed to allow another intelligence to manifest.

A sturdy pioneer came; one who is proving very active in the interests of the Lyceum Movement. Many questions were submitted to him, and he appeared greatly pleased, at the live condition of affairs. He uttered prophetic words, too, which of course only time can verify. Then one of the officials asked if we were doing any good, discussing what we had been doing that day. He fairly chuckled and said "Why man, we are working for the same thing, and you are voicing our desires."

Then he proceeded to explain to all that the very fact of so many being infused with the same idea proved that the time was now ripe to take forward steps to inculcate in our youths and maidens these great truths relating to sex problems. He said, "To-day you here have set the ball rolling and do not rest until leaders have all caught up the spirit and resolve to do their share."

It has been one of the dearest boons that after long hours of business, many of us have been able to receive instruction in this manner.

In the past the sex question has been a forbidden subject, but now with fuller educational facilities, and the earnest search for truth, the path is opening a little wider.

Girls have made one false step through ignorance, and it has been easy to make more, with the result that countless young women have found an early grave. Many return to try and undo that which caused their physical end, and it is heartbreaking when the cry comes: "Oh if I had but known." Let us all try in unison to teach the beauty of life in its fullness, with a better understanding of the uses of the physical body, for as far as we know, it is one of the finest pieces of workmanship by the Divine Builder, God.

And when the Herald Angels sing Glory to God in the highest, may peace and goodwill reign in all our hearts at the close of 1922.

The Editor regrets that some interesting articles and essays are crowded out. Watch for an article by Uncle Bert next month.

Letter Box.

To the Editor of the LYCEUM BANNER.

"THE BODY OF THE CONFERENCE."

Sir,—

It may interest many of those present at the 1922 Conference to know that I have obtained the opinion of one of the highest authorities in Britain regarding the correct interpretation of the words at the head of this letter, regarding which I challenged the ruling of the Standing Orders Committee.

In writing to the Speaker of the House of Commons I informed him it had been ruled that the words meant the whole of the persons present and asked whether this was correct or whether the words should be interpreted to mean only those persons who were present as delegates and would not continue in any official capacity after the Conference had closed. I added that any expression of his opinion would be greatly esteemed. The reply I received states "the words the body of the Conference" should be interpreted to mean all others than those on the platform, viz., Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, etc."

This justifies my protest at Conference and will, I trust, be of use in the future.

Yours cordially,

ERNEST A. KEELING.

Dear Sir,

I find myself slightly at variance with your correspondent in the November issue of the BANNER, Mr. Harry Jordan, and cannot refrain from commenting upon his views of Esperanto and the sanguinary claims he makes upon it.

Let me hasten to state that I do not differ with him upon his ideals, for do we not all desire to see the world-wide furtherance of spiritualism, and international peace? The extent to which a universal language would assist the former object would be, to my mind, almost negligible; and its ability to produce the latter much-desired condition I utterly fail to see. So far as the spreading of the knowledge of Spiritualism is concerned, the position is not such that any one nation monopolises, as it were, the knowledge of the subject, and to it, therefore, falls the responsibility of disseminating that knowledge throughout the world. Each race, and each country possesses its own adherents and exponents of Spiritualism; and in a subject of such complexity and depth, one is, not unnaturally, more able to expound in one's native language. The necessary international exchange of opinions and discoveries upon the pure science of the subject, encounters but little barrier in the matter of language, the existent system of translation proving quite equal to the task. Far rather, do I think, should we Lyceumists make ourselves masters, so far as we are able, of our own tongue, and study, to the best of our ability, our subject, that we may better be able to bring before our *fellow-countrymen* the wonderful knowledge of Spiritualism. We have an infinitely large field to till before we need focus upon exterior nations.

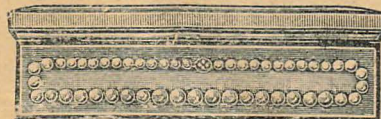
Mr. Jordan's reasoning upon the International peace question seems somewhat illogical, and to ascribe to "Esperanto" the ability to abolish War and Hatred, is altogether illusory. We have the example in our midst, where English forms our own "Universal Language." Therefore, upon Mr. Jordan's reasoning, war hatred should have long ago ceased to exist between the English spoken people; which is by no means the case at present, unfortunately. Whilst a common tongue certainly possesses the merits of being able to convey thoughts of peace and harmony, it is, sad to say, an equally accommodating vehicle for hateful and war-like thoughts. No! the only "Universal Language" capable of abolishing "War and Hatred" is that of "Love," and the language of Love, I am happy to think, already forms the back-bone of Lyceum Teaching—and when the eloquence of that language is heard throughout the world, there will be no need of a "League of Nations," and its Esperanto speaking ministers (?) But, Love, like Charity, begins at home.

Yours very faithfully,

C. DRINKWATER.

There is a report sent by a Lyceumist complaining of a Lyceum Badge being worn by a fortune-teller on a Fairground. These deplorable conditions are condemned by the B.S.L.U. It is one of the dangers of bringing the Cause into disrepute, but once a badge is sold from the Union, its circulation cannot be controlled. It is the duty of every Lyceumist and Spiritualist to keep the badges within the Movement.

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BUILDING FUND APPEAL.

Dear Sir,

Having the opportunity to purchase a Chapel and Organ in central position, the Mountain Ash Nationalist Church and Lyceum earnestly appeal to all interested in our great movement to assist us in our effort to purchase the same.

For a number of years we have held our meetings in the local School. At last an opportunity has come to obtain a place of our own. It has been the policy of the Church to engage the best Speakers and most efficient Demonstrators in the movement and to keep the presentation of the subject on the highest Spiritual Level.

We require the sum of £200 to complete the purchase and furnish the same. WILL YOU PLEASE HELP? We feel sure you will assist us.

No Offering too Small or too Large. All will be thankfully received and full list of Subscriptions will be published in "Two Worlds," "Light and Physic Gazette."

Yours fraternally,

A. G. HAYNES, Secretary,
51, Morris Avenue.

Penrhifceiber, Mountain Ash, South Wales.

District Council Reports.

BOLTON DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above Council was held at Railway Street, Radcliffe, on Saturday, Nov. 11th. Our President, Mr. Hibbert, was in the Chair. Fair attendance of delegates and associates. Mr. Hibbert, in his opening remarks, gave a hearty welcome to Mrs. Pickles. Minutes, Correspondence, Reports, Treasurer's U.D.C. & D.V.'s were all read and accepted. *Re* the question of Leaders. The various delegates each gave their opinion with the result that all took it for granted that Leaders included all officers of the Lyceum. Proposed by Mr. Walsh, seconded by Mr. Charnley: "That this Council takes the word Leaders to mean all officers of the Lyceum." (Carried unanimously.) President's Address was accepted with thanks. He sincerely hoped that all Lyceumists would put their shoulders to the wheel and enter for the Education Scheme. Owing to the resignation of the Secretary,

Mr. Dean, of Bury, was duly elected. Mrs. Pickles kindly conveyed the fraternal greetings from N.E.L.D.C. with best wishes for a prosperous new year. She hoped all Lyceums would keep in mind "Foundation Day." Mr. Hibbert replied and returned our greetings. A vote of thanks to local friends for their hospitality brought a pleasant meeting to a close.
E. JOHNSON, Sec., pro. tem.

BRADFORD LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL SHIELD AND BELL COMPETITIONS.

	Punctuality	Order and General Conduct	Shing	Reading	Questions and Answers	Pearls	Group Work	Marching	Calisthenics	Total
Keighley ..	8 ⁵ / ₁₆	13	8 ¹ / ₁₆	8 ¹ / ₁₆	9 ¹ / ₁₆	11	9	8 ¹ / ₁₆		85 ⁵ / ₁₆
Laisterdyke ..	7 ¹ / ₁₆	11 ³ / ₁₆	7 ³ / ₁₆	8 ³ / ₁₆	8 ³ / ₁₆	6	9 ³ / ₁₆	70	5	73 ³ / ₁₆
Harker St. ..	8	12 ¹ / ₁₆	7 ³ / ₁₆	8	6	7	10	7 ¹ / ₁₆	5	73 ¹ / ₁₆
Windhill ..	8	9 ³ / ₁₆	7	7	6	7	9 ³ / ₁₆	6	7	68 ³ / ₁₆
Ripley St. ..	7 ³ / ₁₆	10 ³ / ₁₆	7	6	6	6 ¹ / ₁₆	10 ³ / ₁₆	4 ³ / ₁₆	6	66 ¹ / ₁₆
Boynton St. ..	7 ³ / ₁₆	11 ³ / ₁₆	6 ³ / ₁₆	7 ¹ / ₁₆	6	5	8 ³ / ₁₆	7	4	64 ³ / ₁₆
Whetley Lane ..	5 ³ / ₁₆	10 ¹ / ₁₆	7 ¹ / ₁₆	6	5	12	5	5 ¹ / ₁₆	5 ¹ / ₁₆	64 ¹ / ₁₆

Keighley Lyceum to hold Shield.

Harker St. and Laisterdyke Lyceums to hold Silver Bell Six Months each.

Judges: E. AKED,
E. SHARPE,
W. ROBINSON.

LEEDS DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above Council will be held on Saturday, Dec. 9th at Bond Street, Dewsbury, at 3-30 p.m.

Business:—Minutes, Correspondence, Reports, Competition Business, Associates, Inter-Change Plan, Any other Business, Vote of thanks to Local friends.

Tea will be provided at a reasonable charge. It is hoped all Lyceums will be represented at this meeting and also Associates.
A. W. HARDING, Sec.

NORTH EAST CHESHIRE DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above Council was held at Clarendon St., Hyde, on Saturday, Nov. 4th. Mr. Marston presided. There were 20 delegates and members present from Hyde, Ashton, Stockport (Central), (Hillgate), (Baker St.), and Glossop. Minutes of last Quarterly and E. C. Meetings were accepted and confirmed. Mr. F. Springate was made an Associate Member. Resolved: "that the matter *re* Interchange of Conductors be put into operation at once at the E.C. deal with it for the New Year." D.V. reported (1) Glossop Lyceum still making improvement. General conduct, marching and calisthenics good; (2) Baker St. (Heaton Norris), Marching and calisthenics good; (3) Ashton. Great improvement; numbers increased, more elders than children.

Vice-President (Mr. Marston) reported Hadfield would join the Council as soon as possible.

U.D.C. report given by Mrs. Ennion—not convenient to divide speakers up to staff different platforms. As there were several points of interest, it was resolved that the U.D.C. report be dealt with by the E.C. and a full account given at next Council Meeting. It was resolved as follows: "That we protest against the Area Allotment F. and that the whole of S.E. Lancs. be allocated to Area E.

As there was only one lot of nominations or Election of Officers, it was resolved to ask for further recommendations to be sent for E.C. Meeting.

The Annual Meeting is to be held at Baker St. (Heaton Norris), on Saturday, Feb. 12th, 1923.

The Collection realised 7s. 3¹/₂d.

Correction:—In the report given by the D.V. of the N.E.C. L.D.C. at the Quarterly Meeting in August, the word "numerically" was omitted and should read thus:—"Hillgate Lyceum had deteriorated "numerically."

MARY MALTYB.

NORTH EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING.

The above Council will hold the last Quarterly Meeting on Sat., Dec. 16th, in the Lyceum at Mercer St., Great Harwood. Commence at 3-15 p.m. prompt. Minutes, Corres., Reports, Treasurers, Sec's., D.V. and Assist. D.V., Adjudicator's, President's Address, M.D.C. Report, Elect Adjudicator, Open Council.

Notice of Motion: "That Lyceums take up a collection when officially visited by the D.V. to defray his expenses."

Meeting place required for Feb. 17th, 1923. All other dates filled.

Tea will be provided by our friends at Great Harwood at a nominal charge. A good attendance of delegates and associates is requested.
J.S., Sec.

SOUTHERN COUNTIES DISTRICT.

The above Council decided to hold its November Quarterly Council Meeting in a district where no Lyceum existed, for propaganda purposes, and the Exeter Spiritualist Society placed their Church at our disposal.

Our Meeting commenced at 3-30 on Saturday, Nov. 11th. The President gave the Invocation; Mr. Granger and Mr. Tarr extended a welcome and we all soon felt quite at home. Officers present 4, delegates and friends 19. Telegrams and Letters were read from Delegates who were unable to be present. Area B. Representative, Mr. Ford, arrived during the Meeting. Our D.V., Mr. Cager, could not be present as it meant travelling 400 miles. Minutes, Correspondence, Sec. and Treasurer's Reports were gone through. Our August Meeting (Reading) collections had realised £5 4s. 4d. Our President in his Address gave some helpful suggestions for furthering the work in the Lyceums.

The President accepted the duty of securing designs for the Jewel to be presented by the Council to its past Presidents. Before our Meeting closed the Exeter friends intimated they were starting a Lyceum the following Sunday morning. This closed the business. Collection at this Meeting 17s. 8d.

The Exeter friends provided Tea free to all delegates and friends, 22 sat down to a good repast. A Concert followed and about 200 were present. Special local talent included the Exeter Quartette Party.

On Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m., Mr. Granger, the Exeter President, introduced the Council to the gathering. Mr. Street offered the Invocation. The Sec. outlined the work and progress of the Council, followed by a beautiful address by the D.C. President, "The Way of a Child." About 150 were present.

In the evening 250 had gathered in good time to secure a seat. We were again introduced by Mr. Granger, who expressed the pleasure of having the Council at Exeter. Mr. Street invoked. Mr. Ford, Area B., outlined the work that is being done by our National Body, B.S.L.U., and urged the local friends to keep in mind the Lyceum Slogan "The Workers Win." He urged all to buy the LYCEUM BANNER and other Lyceum publications. His remarks were much enjoyed.

Mr. Street took for his subject: "The Master Craftsman," and introduced the Seven Principles of Spiritualism beautifully and concluded a masterly address amid applause.

The Chairman asked all those present who were interested in the Lyceum, to be opened the following Sunday, to remain after the Benediction and only two left.

Mr. Street pointed out the responsibility of Spiritualists and appealed for help to be given in promoting the interests of the new Lyceum, and assist in making our children real citizens. He also asked them to join the Guild, and become active workers. The success of this Lyceum seems assured, and this Meeting must have encouraged the delegates from the newly-formed Lyceum, Davenport, who were present. The collections at our three Services realised £4 3s. 6d. A number of the delegates had to travel 320 miles, but it repaid us for all the sacrifice made.

On Monday, Mr. Street, for the Society's Benefit, gave his popular Lecture, "The Human Aura," 170 were present and he showed about 50 coloured drawings of celebrities. It was greatly appreciated. At the close, votes of thanks were given amid acclamation for the valuable services rendered by Mr. Street and his Council.

Our Feb. A.G.M. will be held in Brighton.

TEES-SIDE DISTRICT.

We held our Quarterly Conference at Northgate, Darlington, on Sunday, Nov. 5th, 1922. Mr. Roeder, the Vice-President, in the Chair. Invocation by Mr. Edwards.

A hearty welcome was extended to the Council by Mrs.

Christopher, on behalf of Northgate Lyceum. Mr. Edwards answered to same. In doing so, he thanked the local friends, and stated that the deepest gratitude was due to them. Mr. Roeder adopted same, and remarked upon absence of Mr. G. Neale, owing to a recent severe and critical illness. We expressed the pleasure in having learned that our brother had reached the convalescent stage. A symbol of sympathy was shown by all rising to their feet.

The Credential Committee reported the presence of 10 E.C. Members; 16 Delegates; and 33 Associates. 8 new members proposed and accepted from Middlesbrough. Minutes of Hartlepool Conference read and accepted. Mr. Atkinson, and Mr. Jackson elected as Tellers; E.C. Meeting Minutes at Hartlepool read and accepted. District Visitor reported visiting Lyceums at Shildon (2), Darlington (2), Wilton Park, Gurney Valley and Brunswick Street, Stockton. Increased membership on the District over 100. Next Field Day, August 6th decided upon. Gurney Valley succeeding in being the place drawn for.

Benediction by Mr. Roeder. Lyceum Session in the afternoon. S.C., M.R., G.C., well read. A few questions from the G.C. Recitations, Pearls, etc., good. Calisthenics and marching, good; very brisk and health-giving. A notable and very pleasing feature was enacted by four little children, presenting a flower to each of the E.C. Members. Mr. Edwards and Mr. Westbrook at the termination of the Session proposed and seconded a vote of thanks to the local friends. A most enjoyable day.

E. W. BUCKINGHAM.

District Visitors' Reports.

BOLTON DISTRICT.

On Oct. 29th, I paid my official visit to Horwich Lyceum. We had a prompt start with 26 present; 2 came late. Opening Song was nicely sung. Silver Chain, Musical Reading, and Golden Chain were splendidly explained by several Lyceumists. All Oral questions answered by children of ten years of age and under. Marching and calisthenics splendid. Singing very good. General conduct very good. Harmony very good. A very good and interesting session all through.

I paid Henry St. (Bolton) Lyceum a visit on Nov. 19th. We had a prompt start with 45 present; 2 came late. Opening Song, very fair. Silver Chain, Musical Reading, and Golden Chain were explained very well by the Conductor and several Lyceumists. Pearls, and recitations very good. All Oral questions answered by children. Marching, very fair. Calisthenics, good. Singing, very fair. General conduct, fair. This Lyceum is growing in numbers, and will grow in wisdom and knowledge.—F. Jones, D.V.

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD DISTRICT.

During the past six months I have visited almost all Lyceums in my Area, and for the benefit of all Lyceumists concerned would like to give my opinion of Progress.

Cheetham Hill is moving steadily forward in mental efficiency, the children are real live members and did their parts right well. On the occasion of my last visit, singing was not up to usual tone. Marching and calisthenics good. Attendance fairly good. General tone improving.

Moston is in good working order; mental efficiency good. Marching and calisthenics good. Good attendance. General aspect pleasing and progressive. Only drawback being too little room.

Sale. Sorry to report that the condition of this Lyceum is anything but inspiring. There seems to be a sad lack of Elders: the result being that the children who attend lack the necessary guidance. Local Lyceumists help as much as they can but I appeal to Church Members to stand by and have the Children's Welfare truly at heart. Hope on *Sale*. *The Workers Win*.

Salford, West High St. This Lyceum is small but a hive of workers. The general tone improves, the attendances are better and altogether the Lyceum is progressing.

New Manchester. Here too we find a marked improvement. Mental efficiency good, and marching and calisthenics on the up-grade. Numbers also increasing. Pleased to report progress.

Manchester, Ardwick. This Lyceum is greatly improved. The whole of the Lyceum work moving apace, good attendances and real live members. Hope the standard keeps up and we shall have a very fine Lyceum.

Newton Heath. This Lyceum is carrying on in good style, and as a further aid to mental efficiency have started a Liberty

Group which promises well. Pleased to know that Lyceumists realise the benefits to be got from Liberty Groups.

Princess Road. The attendance steadily increases; mental efficiency good. Marching and calisthenics are short but it is a struggle for the Leader with so many small children; with patience the result is sure and worth while.

Baby Street, Moss Side. The Mental Efficiency is very good and the Lyceum has real energetic members. Marching and calisthenics are not up to standard but with effort feel sure could be speedily improved. General tone, good. Attendance good.

Pendleton. The general tone of this Lyceum is good. Mental Efficiency good, but seemed a little slack on my last visit. Marching and calisthenics good. Attendance good. I have not yet had an opportunity of visiting Hollinwood but I hope to do so very shortly. I hope the New Year will see them once again members of the District Council.

I understand Longsight Lyceum continues to move forward, and also that there is every hope of Stretford forming a Lyceum in the very near future. We hope for the success of both. Altogether the movement locally seems improved but still leaves room for improvement. The Council hopes all Lyceumists in the district will take part in the coming Examinations.

A. SHARPLES, 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.

BURY.—On Sunday, October 1st, we held our Open Session. A good number were present, several of whom were visitors from other Lyceums. Solos were rendered by Lyceumists and a very pleasant day was concluded all too soon.

We started the winter sessions of the Guild Class on October 10th, under the leadership and tuition of Mr. Frank Hepworth. The roll call on October 10th numbered 19; returns for the 17th were 22, whilst the 24th showed further increase by registering 32.—Morris H. Hepworth, Sec.

CRAGHEAD.—On October 26th we held our Open Session, when we had a very interesting ceremony in the naming of the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Little, ably conducted by Mrs. Milner, who gave it the name of Joseph Thompson Little, and the spirit name of "Earnest." There was a good attendance.—Mrs. Bowerbank, Sec.

FLEETWOOD.—We held a Joint Session with Blackpool for our Lyceum day on October 21st. Mrs. Nurse, of Blackpool, conducted the session. Our little church was full. Spirit children were welcomed by Mrs. Nurse and Mr. Jordan by the crossing and shaking of hands. Recitations were given by the following:—Phyllis Jordan, Jenny Christopher, Betty Culvert, Mary Moon, James Leadbetter, Ethel Davidson and Winnie Hodgkinson. Solos: Miss Hamlett, Thora Copestake and Mrs. Cook. Pearls were plentiful. Both Lyceums took part in the marching and calisthenics. We had a splendid session.

Musical Evening.—Solos by Mrs. Cook, Thora Copestake, Miss Christopher. Mr. and Mrs. Leadbetter, of Blackpool, were the speakers for the week and Mrs. Nurse and Mr. Jordan spoke a few words. It was a day well spent.—Mrs. Pitcher, Sec.

RAWTENSTALL.—The Lyceum Anniversary took place on October 22nd. Addresses were given by Mr. Batley, of Fleetwood. Open Sessions were held at 10-15 and 2-30, conducted by Mr. Rostron. Evening Service presided over by Mr. J. Scholes. At the open sessions the marching and calisthenics were led by Miss Rothwell. Solos, duets, etc., were rendered by the scholars. During the afternoon there was also the ceremony of naming a baby, which was very impressively performed by Mr. Batley. Good congregations assembled and the anniversary services passed off quite harmoniously and satisfactorily.—W. Rostron.

NEW MANCHESTER.—On Sunday, November 19th, we had a most beautiful ceremony, the naming of the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Barratt, both members of the Lyceum Church. Mrs. A. E. Jones ably conducted the service. Before the naming, Mrs. Jones took the baby and, standing in the centre of the room, the Lyceumists did the chain march, and it was indeed a most pleasing incident to remember. The earthly name of Edward William was then conferred upon the child and the flowers (a white chrysanthemum, a pink carnation,

and the lily of the valley) were placed on the baby, and the spirit name, "Fidelity," was given. The children then presented the baby with flowers as beautiful tokens of purity. We had a most pleasant surprise by a visit from M. Williams, President of the B.S.L.U. Mr. Williams spoke to us of "Brotherhood." Mr. Williams presented the baby with his Lyceum badge, which indeed was a glorious token of love and peace. Thus ended a ceremony which lifted our thoughts far out of material conditions and thanks are given to all who attended. The Lyceum is progressing. Fraternal greetings to all Lyceums.—B. Jackson, Sec.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES, Brunswick Street.—On October 25th we held our Annual Tea, which was a splendid success.

November 5th was an Open Session, which turned out to be our best so far in everything.

November 12th, at the Lyceum Session, we held our Yearly Meeting, with an Election of Officers:—Conductor, Mrs. Williams, was voted back to her position; Guardian, Mr. Hill; Musical Director, Miss E. Cannon; Treasurer, Mrs. Makin; Captain of Guards, Mr. David Turner; Secretary, Mr. George Tuck; Guards, Mr. A. Tuck, Mr. C. Tuck, Mr. Austin Richards, Mr. Westbrook; Leaders: Liberty, Mr. R. Brown, Mr. Thickman; Groups, Mrs. Makin, Mrs. Hill, Miss Tingle, Mr. West, Mrs. Thickman. Pleased to report our Lyceum has made steady but sure progress through the year, and we are looking forward. Fraternal greetings to all Lyceums.—G. Tuck, Sec.

WALSALL LYCEUM SERVICES.

Our autumnal Lyceum Services in the Temperance Hall on Sunday, October 29th, saw a full muster of leaders and children and a picturesque arrangement of children on the platform, with floral decorations, gave an added charm to the gathering. Alderman Grant, J.P., the Mayor of Coventry, was our special speaker, and he was introduced by Mr. J. Venables, J.P., our President. The attendances were so large that many visitors were accommodated in the gallery. They were the largest we have yet had at our special services and constitute a record, there being probably 700 or 800 people present.

Alderman Grant's addresses were delivered, in the morning to the children, and in the evening to all who are interested in Spiritualism. He gave encouraging descriptions of the growth of Spiritualism abroad, which he had noticed in Canada and other places he had visited. He also dwelt on the splendour of the Spiritualist's conception of religion, which recognised all men and women as children of the same God, and spoke of the narrowness of creeds, with their idea that people would find special favour because of certain opinions they had made their own. His references to the great men and women of all ages who testified to the spiritual help and guidance they had, in poetry, and art, and music, were well received, and he said the Bible teemed with instances of spirit return and messages.

A young baritone singer, Mr. J. R. Sheckleton, who is a relative of our President, kindly gave his assistance and contributed the solo, "If I can live," with much musical taste, and Mrs. A. Keay, the wife of our Choirmaster, effectively sang the solo in an anthem specially composed for the occasion. Master Frank Rathbone set an example by his nice singing of the treble solo in the piece, "Moon, moon, beautiful moon."

Mr. Allen Keay trained the children and conducted, and Mr. Kirby officiated at the organ. There was a great deal of arduous work in carrying out the services, which was borne by Mr. V. H. Lawton (the Superintendent), Mr. John Venables, Junr., and the group leaders.

The clairvoyant descriptions, given at each service by a member of Walsall Church, Mr. Evans, of Bloxwich, were very reliable.

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 Nov. 22nd.

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 80 members.

RULE 4.—All Reports must reach this Office not later than Dec. 26th, to ensure insertion in the January issue.

RULE 5.—Colonial Reports, if posted to the Lyceum Banner within 7 days after the events reported, will be inserted in the next issue after receipt at the "Banner" Office.

ACCRINGTON, Argyle Street.—We held our Open Session on November 5th. Opening hymn, 340; invocation by J. Silcock; S.C., No. 20; M.R. 241; G.R. 104. Marching and calisthenics were excellent. Pearls were well done. Recitations by J. Bradshaw, Misses Smith and Barker; solos by Misses Whalley and Penniford, Messrs. Langtree and Brooks; duet by May Bradshaw and Sissey Smith; closing hymn, 346; benediction by Miss Barnes.—J. Silcock, Sec.

ACCRINGTON, Pearl Street.—On November 5th we held our Open Session. Conductor, Miss Greenhalgh. Opening song, 408; prayer by Mr. Fazakerly. 54 in attendance. S.C.R. 53 by Miss Love; M.R. 207 by three young Lyceumists; G.C.R. 138, Miss Cook; songs and recitations were ably rendered by the following:—Misses Lindsey, Turner, Swift, Chambers, Crabtree, Cook, Love, Woolmington and Thompson. A nice time was spent. We can report good progress in our Lyceum, also our Education Class.—S. Wolmington, Sec.

BACUP.—We held our Open Session on November 5th. Opening hymn, 357; invocation 356; S.C. 66; M.R. 223; G.C. 144. Pearls: Miss Alexander, Mrs. Carter and Mr. Ridhalgh; recitations: Eva Taylor, Mrs. Tattersall and Miss Tattersall. We should like to see more of the old scholars.—B. Lord, Sec.

BARNOLDSWICK.—We held our Open Session on Nov. 5th. After part of our usual Lyceum Session, we started with the open session. Songs were sung by Mrs. Harwood, Mrs. Waterworth and Miss E. Bryden; recitations by A. Webster, entitled "Grandfather's spectacles." Mr. Schofield, of Boyton Street Lyceum, was with us and gave good advice to our Lyceum on "Discipline, marching and calisthenics."—R. W. Shuttleworth, Sec.

BARROW, Dalkeith Street.—Lyceum Day, November 19th. We had a good number of visitors and a good attendance of Lyceumists at our Open Session. Pearls, recitations and solos were given by Lyceumists. Our speaker for the evening gave an eloquent address on "Liberty, equality and fraternity." Adults rendered solos.—A. A. Worrall, Sec.

BEDWORTH.—On November 5th, Lyceum Anniversary, conducted by Mr. Hutton. Lyceumists sang special hymns. The day proved a success and a most pleasant time was spent.—Miss C. Rowe, Sec.

BLACKPOOL.—Lyceum Anniversary, November 19th. Speaker, Mr. Alfred Kitson. Morning session splendid, afternoon session, opening hymn 358; invocation by Mr. Kitson beautiful. The unveiling of Mr. Kitson's photograph, presented to the Lyceum by a veteran of the Lyceum, Mr. Musgrove, was a pretty scene. Master Raymond first unveiled the photograph. Thora Copestake and James Leadbetter recited accordingly. Pearls were rendered and solo by Thora Copestake. Splendid session at 6-30 p.m. Solos rendered by Bessie Swan, Thora Copestake and Miss J. Christopher. Mr. Kitson gave an address on "Man know thyself," which was interesting. Mrs. Nurse and Mr. Wilkinson spoke a few words.—R. W. Singleton, Sec.

BOLTON, Henry Street.—Sunday, November 5th, was our Lyceum Open Session. There were a good number present, friends from Deane Road, Bradford Street, Bury and Horwich attended. Solos and recitations were rendered by Lyceumists. Pearls, etc. The speaker was Mrs. O'Keefe, of Liverpool, who made a few remarks on Lyceum work. The Lyceum is growing in numbers and we think we are good candidates for the shield.—Wm. C. Bearman, Sec.

BRADFORD, Boynton Street.—On November 5th we held our Open Session. Solos: Flora Wroe and Mrs. Clark; duets: Mrs. J. Schofield and Miss Wroe, Miss S. A. Wroe and Doris Phillipson. We had a nice time.—Mrs. Ward, Sec.

BRADFORD, Harker Street.—We held our Open Session on November 5th. We had no time for solos and recitations, as we had three namings conducted by Mrs. Sugden, of Wyke.—Miss P. Stead, Sec.

BRADFORD, Laisterdyke.—We held our Open Session on November 5th. 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 songs, &c. Pearls were also given.—J. Babbs, Sec.

BURNLEY, North Street.—We held our Open Session on November 5th, when the following Lyceumists contributed to an excellent programme:—Ada Dugdale, Eveline Clegg, Mary Stephenson, Lizzie Davies, Victoria Mason and Ernest Crabtree. A very pleasing item, which was greatly appreciated, was a recital by Miss Towler, entitled, "A parable of Nature." We spent a pleasant time together. Best wishes and fraternal greetings to all Lyceumists and Lyceums.—May Wagner, Sec.

BURNLEY, Richard Street.—We held our Lyceum Anniversary on November 5th and had a good attendance of Lyceum scholars. Pearls were given, and there were quite a number of them. Recitations and songs were rendered by Misses D. Morrison, D. Halgrave and Mr. Heaton; duets by Misses M. Linton and Crossley, M. Hitchen and B. Crossley, E. Francis and L. Halgrave; a quartette was rendered by Messrs. D. Morrison, E. Frances, E. Francis and L. Halgrave. We had a very good session and the Lyceum is progressing.—J. Marshall, Sec.

CHESTERFIELD.—On November 5th we held our Open Session, when the following Lyceumists contributed to an excellent programme:—Musical items were given by Kenwood Widdowson, Marion Horton, Gladys Machment and Kenneth Bown; recitations: Willie Campbell, Harold Lee, Harry Baston, James Baston, Elsie Gore, Edwin Slater, Sidney Hobster, Lillian Slater, Connie Slater, Marion Wagstaffe, Edith Slater, Linda Heath, Frances Holster, May Wheatley and Lizzie Siddall. A very enjoyable Open Session was ended by a recitation by Hilda Price. Conductor, Mr. Pleasance.—Nancy Matthews, Min. Sec.

DARLINGTON, Northgate.—On November 5th the T.D.C. held its Quarterly Conference here. The afternoon session was well appreciated; several of the E.C. members addressed the Lyceum. Numerous pearls and recitations, including the greeting by Dorothy Day, and a greeting song by Nora Dowling, Florrie Chapman, Dorothy and Nellie Day. Mr. Wilson gave a pianoforte solo.—R. P. Christopher, Sec.

DONCASTER, Wood Street.—We held our Open Session on November 5th. It was conducted by Mrs. H. Taylor. Invocation was given by A. Johnson. The following Lyceumists took part:—Mrs. and F. E. Gomersall, B. F. Mosely, D. Batty, R. Smith, V. A. Crossland and W. Trout. It was brought to a close by Mr. H. Taylor.—D. Batty, Assistant Sec.

EARBY.—We held our Open Session on the 19th of Nov. Recitations were said by Elsie Clarke, Doris Haynes, Agnes Layfield, Alice Bannister, Dolly Nuttall, Irene Graham, Marion Nichol, George Robinson, Harry Greenwood, Henry Tillotson, Jim Waddington. Hymn 312 by Jack Foster and Granville Milward; hymn 341 by Granville and Harold Milward and Henry Tillotson; hymn 375 by Emily Goode, Alice Bannister, Adeline Nuttall and Elsie Nuttall. A pleasant afternoon was spent.—Ed. Bannister, Sec., *pro. tem.*

FLEETWOOD.—We held our Open Session on November 5th, which was well attended. Recitations were given by the following:—Phyllis Jordan, Isabella Church, Sabina Church, Kitty Pearson, Frank Harris, Lily Frith, Annie Berry, Alice Yate, Tom Church and Mary Moon; solos: Mary Wallbank, Annie Berry. Agnes Firth, late of Rochdale, gave a violin solo, accompanied by her sister, Miss Firth. Pearls were plentiful. A pleasant afternoon and a full church.—S. Pitcher, Sec.

GREAT HARWOOD.—On November 5th we held our usual Open Session, opening with hymn 328. The S.C. was given by Sydney Hudson; M.R. was given by Mr. Hudson, Willie Barrington and Herbert Thornley; G.C. was given by Edgar Hudson. We had recitations and solos from Alice Owen, Sydney Hudson, Dorothy Hartley and Ada Frankland, which were enjoyed by all present. Best wishes to all Lyceumists.—A. Waterhouse, Sec.

GRIMSBY.—On Sunday, November 5th, we held two very enlightening sessions. Misses E. Garvey, I. Jewitt, W. Edwards, N. Hockley rendered recitations; also Masters L. Kent, G. Hockley and R. Sutherland, Misses J. Jewitt and N. Hockley sang solos. Misses E. Robinson and I. Jewitt recited a dialogue, and Mr. George Cole and Miss Rose Shoot rendered one of their delightful duets. Our Lyceum children are very attentive; our leaders very eager and willing to help through all difficulties, hence we have very enjoyable meetings.

We are starting a "Help Each Other Guild," to be held every Tuesday night through the winter. We are hoping this will be a successful enterprise.—Mollie Barrow, Sec.

HALIFAX, Alma Street.—Election of Officers, November 19th. Conductor, Miss G. Halliday; Assistant Conductors, W. Burrows and Ed. Knott; Secretary, P. Chapman; Assistant Secretary, Ed. Knott; Treasurer, G. Halliday; Musical Conductors, Mrs. Willey, Edith Smith and G. Halliday; Guardians, A. Pulman, N. Marshall, E. Reynolds and J. Reynolds; Delegates, G. Halliday and P. Chapman; Sick Visitors, E. Reynolds, B. Fawthrop, Miss Holroyd, Mr. and Mrs. Sayers; Group Leaders: Liberty Group, Mr. Wilby; Assistant, Mr. Reynolds; Grade 3 and 4, Mr. Burrows; Grade 1 and 2, Miss Halliday; Oral Grade, Mrs. Wilby; Infants' Class, E. Reynolds; Class of Boys, Mr. Sayers.—P. Chapman, Sec.

HAMILTON, Scotland.—On Saturday, November 4th, we held our first Halloween Party. It was well attended by children, parents and friends. Games were enjoyed by old and young; also songs by Lyceumists. Thanks are due to all friends who helped to make it such a pleasant evening for the children.—M. Orr, Conductor.

HORWICH.—On November 12th we had a grand Open Session. There were a good number of friends from various Lyceums. All the readings and pearls were well explained.

For the evening service we had a service of song, entitled, "Spirit Return," read by our Conductor, Mr. Fred Jones. The singing was nicely rendered by our Lyceum Choir, including solos and duets. We had an enjoyable day all through. We hope all Lyceumists will accept our fraternal greetings and best wishes for a bright and peaceful Christmas.—Annie Purchas, Sec.

LANCASTER.—We held our Open Session on November 5th, when a large number of Lyceumists spent a very enjoyable session. Recitations were given by Annie Smith, M. Dawson, Bertha Dodd, Florrie Dennison and Stan Jackson. Solos were rendered by Eve Jackson, Mr. J. Kirk, Mr. Wilkinson and Miss E. Pearson. A duet by Miss E. Bowes and Miss Jewitt. Mr. Kirk gave an essay on the "Fatherhood of God." Owing to our time being gone, we could not discuss same. We have just held our first Lyceum Social of the season, which was on the occasion of the visit of Mr. F. Hepworth. It proved a great success and speaks well for the winter.

On Sunday, the 19th November, we had a pleasant visit from Mrs. M. E. Pickles and spent a very enjoyable day. Wishing success to all Lyceumists everywhere.—H. C. Stephenson, Sec.

LEICESTER, Silver Street.—On November 5th we held our Open Session. Recitations were given by Miss Lily Lucas and Miss Eva Wicks; duets by Miss E. Smith and Miss C. Jones, Mr. C. Hallows and Mr. L. Smart. I am very pleased to report that we had a nice number of friends present, which is very encouraging to the leader and scholars. We all spent a very enjoyable afternoon.—A. Hurst, Sec.

LONDON.—North London Lyceum enjoyed the privilege of conducting the Church service on the last Sunday evening in October. This was the third opportunity afforded them this year of occupying the Society's platform, which in itself is splendid tribute to the goodwill between Church and Lyceum. With each Lyceum individually determined to uphold the prestige of the Lyceum, the success of the evening was assured, and it was felt that something had been done to strengthen (if, indeed, this be possible) the already strong bond of love between the two bodies. Our gratitude is due to the Church for the practical way in which it manifests its love.—C. Drinkwater, Sec.

LONDON, Tottenham.—During the past month we have added many new names to our register and we seem to be rapidly going ahead.

Come one and all to our Carnival Ball on December 11th, at St. Aldhelm's Hall, Silver Street, Edmonton (7-30 p.m.). It is in aid of the Christmas Tree and Treat to be given by us to the poor children of this district. Send for your tickets now. "A cry from Macedonia, Come over and help us!"—Ethel A. Long, Sec.

LONDON, Peckham.—We had a very happy and enjoyable Open Session on November 18th. Recitations were given by Myrtle Little, Doris Martin, Violet Baker, John Borthwick and Mary Borthwick; songs by Violet Pond, Trissie Bell and Norah Clarkson. The efforts by our tiny tots are delightful.—B. Bell, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Moss Side.—On November 19th we had a big day, with notable workers, having the pleasure of Miss E. Elliott in the chair, and Mr. Geo. F. Knott as our speaker.

He lectured on Spiritualism at our Propaganda Meeting and also answered many questions. Clairvoyance, Mr. C. J. Williams and Miss M. Smith. Due thanks to all.

MOSTON.—On November 12th we held our Open Sessions. At the 6-30 session the place was crowded. The session was a real musical festival, all tunes being composed by our own Conductor, Mr. A. Collinge. Solos were rendered by Miss Walton, Mr. Brady, Mr. Hood, Mr. Marsh, Mrs. Oliver and Mr. Whiteley; duets by Mr. A. Collinge and Mr. F. Collinge, and Mr. A. Collinge and Mr. Oliver; recitations by the Sisters Haith, the Sisters Hamer, Miss N. Daniels and Miss B. Westerman. A special recital by Mr. Oliver was exceptionally well received. Mrs. F. Collinge sang a song, entitled "Fidelity," specially written and composed for the occasion by Messrs. A. and F. Collinge. We had several visitors from other Lyceums, who made very pleasant remarks. I am sure Moston ought to consider themselves extremely fortunate in possessing a Conductor with the versatility of Mr. A. Collinge.—G. A. Hood, Sec.

NELSON.—On November 1st we held our Open Session and had a pleasant time together. There was a naming of a baby by Mrs. Morton. Also we paid an interchanging visit to Colne, Cloth Hall, where we had a warm reception. The response was very good at both sessions. The following rendered items:—Mrs. Leigh, Mr. Owen, Miss Hey, Ivy and Lily Greenwood, F. Haythornthwaite, Master Dean, Ellis James Parkinson and Mr. Pearson. We would like to see more of these visits in the BANNER. We also hope all Lyceums at home and abroad will accept our heartiest greetings.—H. Cockshott, Sec.

NEWPORT, Central.—On November 5th we held our Open Session, which was well attended by Lyceumists and friends. Mrs. Haywood conducted a very interesting ceremony in naming a baby, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, who had been given the earth name of John Albert George, and received the spirit name of "Truthbearer." Our Conductor, Mr. Rowe, conducted a fine session, which was very inspiring. The following took part:—Doreen Taylor, Nellie Jones, Kitty Rowe, Maiser Read, Hilda Rowe, Ada Read, Edgar Jones, Willie Rowe, John Underhill and Mr. Taylor. Clairvoyance by Mr. Taylor. Mr. Hayward said a few encouraging words. A splendid session.—H. Folkes, Sec.

OLDHAM, Central.—On September 29th the Lyceumists rendered good services, morning and afternoon. At 6-30, Ladies' Day, service conducted by our Lady President, Mrs. Standish. Speaker, Mrs. Grimes. Clairvoyance, Mrs. Leonard Grimes. The following also took part:—Mrs. Taylor, Chappell, Ogden, Brufton, Houldsworth, Misses Fielding, Prince, L. Pointon, L. Ogden, E. Chappell and M. Wrigley. It was a success.—Ed. Norbury.

READING.—Our Lyceum is progressing slowly, but surely. We have 14 Groups, having found it necessary to enlarge on the number in A. J. Davis' system. Our Scouts are getting into real working order, showing a zest that is very encouraging. Our girls too are "alive" in their bazaar work.—C. R. Churn, Sec.

ROCHDALE, Penn Street.—On November 5th we held our Anniversary Services. Miss E. Elliott, M.C., of Middleton, was our speaker. We had splendid and successful services. Miss Elliott gave us of her best, both afternoon and evening. An interesting and beautiful ceremony was the naming of a baby girl, to whom was given the earth name of Joan Brown, and the spirit name "Bud of Promise." The choir sang splendidly, rendering the anthems, "All Thy works" and "The earth is the Lord's," in a delightful manner. Our next special event is the Prize Day and Annual Party on December 9th.—E. E. Wright, Sec.

ROCHDALE, Regent Hall.—The Lyceum held their Annual Meeting on October 29th and the following were the officials elected for the next twelve months:—Conductors, Miss E. Dearden and Mr. Eastwood; Marching Conductors, Mr. G. Jenkinson and Mr. T. Rayner; Calisthenics Conductors, Misses Wild, Clegg, Dawson and C. Robinslaw; Guardians, R. Richards, R. Armitage, J. Richards and F. Howarth; Sick Visitor, Mrs. Radcliffe; Secretary, A. Hudson. A good attendance and a gain of 22 scholars on the year.—A. Hudson, Sec.

NEWCASTLE-ON TYNE, Rutherford Street.—On November 5th we held our Open Session. The golden chain, "The Lyceum." Mr. Archbold spoke on "Harmony" and Mr. Dawson, "What is its glorious aim?" It made a pleasant

change. Musical reading, "Angel care." Our lesson from B.S.L.U. Education Scheme. Recitations: Miss Molton, Miss Ruckle, Mrs. Bolton, Miss Anderson, J. Turnbull and Master Price. Solos by Miss Greenwell, Mrs. Proud, Miss Callender, J. Stokoe; Mr. Cowe, pearl; Mr. Dawson, pearl; Mrs. Price, pearl. Good progress and splendid enthusiasm shown.

Week night, Education Scheme, Grade 1, 2, 3, still going strong for February, 1923.—G. Sample Dawson, Sec.

SALFORD, Central.—Service of song, "Spirit Return," November 5th, at New Shaw Street, was a huge success. Accommodation taxed to uttermost. Cordial greetings to all.—Arthur W. Stansfield, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Centre, Trades Hall, Charles Street.—Nov. 12th was our Lyceum Day. We had a good attendance of Lyceumists. Several contributed to an excellent programme, consisting of recitations, duets and solos. Mr. Hopkins conducted the session, which was too quickly brought to a close.—Mrs. H. C. Organ, Sec.

SOUTH MANCHESTER.—The above Lyceum is still continuing to do good work. On November 12th we had the pleasure of a paper on "Human Immortality Proved by Spirit Communion," by Mr. J. Hamer, which was greatly appreciated.

I am sorry to report the passing away of one of our members, Mrs. E. Eastwood, who passed away on November 10th, after suffering much pain, extending over a long period. One more of our pioneers has passed to the beyond. Mrs. Eastwood has been associated with the above Lyceum from its inception, and we know that she will ever be ready to give her guidance and power for progress amongst those who are left behind.

A Memorial Service was held on November 19th in connection with the above Church and Lyceum. The Church was full and many old workers and friends were present. Mrs. Bentley conducted the service in a very able manner.

We hold our Open Services on December 3rd, at 2-30 and 6-30 p.m., the speaker being Mrs. A. E. Bentley.—Albert Hope, Sec.

SOWERBY BRIDGE.—On Saturday, October 21st, we had the Annual Concert, organised by the young men and women, which turned out an immense success. On Sunday, October 22nd, an interesting ceremony took place, in the form of two namings. These were Elsie, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Whiteley, who received a chrysanthemum and the spirit name of "Joy." The second was Peter, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Sutcliffe, who was also the recipient of a white chrysanthemum, and was given the spirit name of "Strength." Mr. H. J. Wright officiated and carried the ceremony through in his own inimitable way.—John Teal, Sec.

STOCKPORT, Central.—November 12th, Memorial Services morning and evening, for our young friend, Evelyn Greening. Our Conductor, Mr. J. H. Marston, remarked on the sweet smiles and loving disposition of our ascended Lyceumist, and her willingness to take any office in the Lyceum. In the evening our speaker, Miss Elliott, officiated at the naming of Bernard Cook, spirit name "Vigilant." She spoke on the better opportunities to advance in knowledge and spirit on the other side of life.—P. Parfit, Sec.

WEST MELTON.—We held our Open Session on November 5th. Maud Elliott gave invocation. Recitations by C. Rawson, D. Peniluna; reading by M. Staley, L. Stacy, E. Thornton, N. Hallworth, J. Kenning, M. Elliott, E. Rawson, Em. Rawson, N. Rawlinson, M. Walton, M. A. Speight; boys, J. Peniluna, H. Seville, J. Farrer and J. Staley. Mr. Lee took marching. Dolly Elliott conducted calisthenics. T. Paskill gave the benediction.—G. Lee, Conductor.

WINDHILL.—We held our Open Session on Sunday, November 5th. Songs and recitations were very much enjoyed.—E. Alderson, Sec.

WOOLWICH AND PLUMSTEAD.—Our Election of Officers on Sunday, 29th October, resulted in practically the whole of the officers being re-elected. We are looking forward to another year of progress. On Sunday, 19th November, the London Lyceum D.C. paid us a visit. A splendid day was spent together, tea being served after the session. Mr. W. A. Melton gave convincing clairvoyance at the evening service, whilst Mr. Connor (Secretary), Mr. Barnard (Treasurer) and Mr. Drury (Conductor) ably upheld the Principles of Lyceum Work.—H. Watthey, Sec.

[In the October issue it was reported "That Messrs. Rainbow and Fidler supported the Conductor." Mr. Rainbow writes he was not present, and his name should therefore not have been included.—ED.]