

# THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 400. Vol. XXXIV.

JUNE, 1924.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

## HIS CALL.

God calls the little children  
And softly bids them come,  
They follow in His footsteps  
To their eternal Home.  
He leads them gently onward  
And upward into light,  
For all the little children  
Are precious in His sight.

So tender is His bidding,  
They do not want to stay  
Where sin and want and sorrow  
Are seen from day to day.  
But ever onward, upward,  
To realms of glorious light  
In spheres of beautiful sunshine,  
And never heard of night.

From Glory unto Glory  
They form a happy band,  
And in the Heavenly Kingdom  
Arrayed in white they stand,  
So ever onward, upward,  
Man grows supernally,  
Until we all in concord,  
Shall live eternally.

M. BRIGGS.

## Our Education Article.

### THE SPIRITUALIST LYCEUM.

BY A. T. CONNOR.

Perhaps the most important of all the beginnings of Modern Spiritualism was the inauguration of the Spiritualist Lyceum. On 25th January, 1863, Andrew Jackson Davis delivered an address at Dodsworth Hall, Broadway, New York, in which he described how Spirit children were tended and trained and taught—and his audience was so impressed with his description of child life in the Summerland (as he named the Children's Sphere), and of the methods adopted to develop the child-mind, that they there and then decided that what was good for Spirit children must be good for Earth children, and that Lyceums modelled on the Summerland system should be established at once. To show their belief that example is better than precept, the Dodsworth Hall Lyceum, with Dr. Davis as Conductor, was established that very day.

### CHILDREN IN SPIRIT LIFE.

From the writings of Andrew Jackson Davis, Mrs. Mary T. Longley and others, it is possible to build up a fascinating picture of the happiness of life in the Summerland. As we know, "What men call death" is only a change from physical to spirit conditions of life; and young children survive physical death just the same as adults, and enter spirit life where they left off in their earthly life—as Spirit children. At first sight it seems a terrible thing for these little ones to be taken away from all they have known and loved, and ushered into another, and strange, set of conditions. But they are never allowed to feel forsaken or neglected; their transition is superintended by loving workers on the Spirit side, who meet and welcome the little strangers, and attend to their well-being and comfort. Neither are they left, as so many Earth children are left, to the care of anyone who is willing to take charge of them—instead, the greatest care is taken by the Spirit Elders in selecting for this guardianship only those who are eminently fitted for children's work. If the child's mother is already in spirit life, she, if worthy and capable, is allowed to take charge; if not, someone is appointed who will know just what is best for the child concerned. The Spirit Mother, or Spirit Guardian, takes the child to its spirit home in the Summerland, and there it takes up its abode in surroundings lovelier and happier than it could have experienced on Earth. Its companions are children like itself, and every care is taken

to guard it from any taint of evil. Should it have developed or acquired any evil tendencies during its sojourn on earth, no pains are spared until such spiritual weeds have been eradicated. The child-memory is short, and, in the midst of its new happiness and its new interests, the child soon forgets things that are not continually brought to its notice.

But one thing the child is not allowed to forget—that it is a human being; and to this end the Spirit Guardians sometimes bring the children back to their earthly homes so that they may learn the lessons of earth-life and get a correct idea of earth-conditions. They are often allowed to remain for days, and sometimes, where the conditions are favourable, are able to communicate with their parents or friends, and thus prove that physical death has not in any way interfered with their conscious individuality.

### SUMMERLAND LYCEUMS.

The children grow up into men and women, just as Earth children do, and increase in wisdom and stature. They progress very quickly, more quickly than would have been possible in earth-life. The principal reason for this is that, in the Summerland, education is understood and practised as the process of drawing out and building up the child's mentality: the system of education is adapted to the needs and capacity of the student, and learning is made pleasant and easy. The Summerland schools are called Progressive Lyceums, and the method of teaching is mainly by object lessons, even the surroundings having been so arranged as to play their part in the scheme. The whole object of the lessons is to develop the spiritual powers of the mind, to keep the child spiritually healthy and to train his powers of observation and reasoning; and the aim of the teachers is to make the lessons not only instructive, but interesting. There is nothing whatever in the nature of "cramming" or of arbitrary teaching. Certainly there are what might be called teachers (in the Lyceums they are called Leaders), but their work is very different from that of earthly teachers. When they have given a lesson on any subject, they are called upon to answer any questions that may be asked by their pupils—as authority does no come with position, but from knowledge; for although in this material world those who are not born great may have greatness thrust upon them, in the spirit world every individual must achieve greatness. For their object lessons they are able to materialise from the atmosphere whatever is required to drive the lesson home; and the children are taught how to concentrate and thus materialise any object desired for their games, etc. When history is being taught, the teachers produce panoramas illustrating the subject or period under review—something, we may suppose, in the nature of present-day cinematographic exhibitions. In this pleasant way the young minds are stored with useful knowledge, all of it thoroughly understood by the students, and all of it essential to giving them a comprehensive grasp of life and its problems. But not only are the children taught these necessary lessons; they are taught also the duty and the beauty of goodness, and of the happiness that attends on helping others. They are taught the difference between happiness and pleasure—that while pleasures, which come from without, may and generally do depend on the will or the conduct of others, their happiness, which comes from within, is dependent entirely on themselves. Thus are they developed in love and wisdom, and prepared for self-sacrificing work wherever required.

### EARTHLY LYCEUMS.

The aim of the earthly Lyceums is to be as nearly as possible a copy of the heavenly Lyceums—but it will easily be seen that Earth conditions make anything like a perfect copy an utter impossibility. The Spirit children know all about the continuity of life—the Earth children have to be taught about it. The Spirit teachers know about the exercise of mental powers, and are able to exert them on behalf of their pupils—the Earth teachers, as a body, do not understand their mental powers, and therefore are not able to use them. The Spirit Lyceums meet in large and beautiful halls, surrounded with beautiful gardens—the Earth Lyceums have very often to hold their classes in rooms too small to allow proper seating accommodation for all the children. The Spirit Lyceumists know nothing

—or have forgotten all—about pain and sorrow and poverty and hunger, while about these the Earth Lyceumists know far too much. And as the conditions of working differ to such an extent, so must the possibilities and results of working. But if we cannot have an aeroplane as a means of travelling, we must be content with a horse or a donkey, or, in the last extremity, with "shanks's pony." And in this spirit many earnest souls determined that, although it was impossible to produce a perfect copy of the Summerland Lyceums, yet much could be done, even under adverse conditions, for the children of Earth. So the Lyceum at Dodsworth Hall was followed by many others, both in America and in England, the devoted workers doing their utmost to fit the children for the trials and troubles of earth-life. In the words of a resolution of the London District Lyceum Manual Revision Committee: "The object of Lyceum teaching is to instil in children, at the earliest age, the knowledge that they are immortal spirits; and of the *Lyceum Manual* to teach them as such how to conduct their lives on the highest principles and the purest moral code"—and this is the key-note of the teaching.

#### THE LYCEUM SYSTEM.

The Lyceum is not at all like an ordinary Sunday School, although the Lyceums meet on Sunday. The members assemble with the idea of helping each other to study, and therefore a large part of the session is devoted to discussion of the various items on the Session Programme. The officers are the servants, and not the masters, of the other members, and are elected annually by the Lyceumists of twelve years old and upward. The Conductor fills the place of the Sunday School Superintendent, and it is his duty to see that the Lyceumists get the greatest possible benefit from each lesson. The other officers—Musical Conductor, Guardian of Groups, etc.—have each an appointed task, and the success of the Lyceum and its sessions depends on how these realise the importance of their duties—and act up to the realisation. For purposes of particular studies, the Lyceum is, where possible, divided into Groups according to age, and these Groups (or classes) are in charge of Leaders. Andrew Jackson Davis's ideal was a Lyceum of twelve Groups, each containing twelve students, which he described as follows (the name of the Group being given in italics):

"The first Group is called the *Fountain* Group. Next, a *Stream*, flowing from the Fountain. Then a *River*, into which the Stream widens. Next, a *Lake*. Then to the *Sea* and onward into the *Ocean*. Now we joyously behold a *Beacon* on the *Shore*. Then a *Banner* of progress is seen waving in the free air. At this point we look above, and discover a new *Star* in the heavens. Then an aspiring *Excelsior* spirit enters the heart. And, lastly, having passed onward from the Fountain, we begin to realize internally something of the *Liberty* of the sons of wisdom, truth and righteousness."

In practice, Groups are formed according to the membership of the Lyceum concerned, and the Leaders of these Groups are appointed as set out in Article 6, sec. 8, of the Constitution for Spiritualist Lyceums, to "superintend the studies of their respective Groups and endeavour to widen the outlook, and develop the thinking powers, of the minds under their charge." Their work is to see that education does not deteriorate into mere instruction, as it is realised that, as Lord Avebury wrote in his article on Education (in "The Pleasures of Life"), "it is far more important to cultivate the mind than to store the memory. Instruction is only a part of education . . . Studies are a means and not an end."

The *Lyceum Manual*, which was compiled from various sources by Mrs. Emma Hardinge Britten, Alfred Kitson and Harry A. Kersey, is the official text-book of the Lyceum Movement, and is used at every session. In addition to the usual religious exercises, the session consists of a Silver Chain—a short poem of which a set number of lines is read alternately by the Conductor and the Lyceum. Next, a Musical Reading—a hymn such as "Trust in God and do the Right," with prose or metrical readings between the verses, connecting the verse sung with the verse about to be sung. Then, a Golden Chain—a series of paragraphs or sentences read alternately by the Conductor (or an appointed substitute) and the Lyceum. The rule is that one or all of these should be fully discussed—anything in the nature of debate being forbidden. As the Silver Chains teach moral lessons, and the Golden Chains deal with such subjects as "The Teachings of Spiritualism," "Spiritual Gifts," "The Religion of Humanity," "Brotherhood," "Truth," "Purity," etc., it will be realised what a grand work the Lyceums are trying to do. In most Lyceums the Golden Chain is followed by marching and calisthenics (exercises calculated to increase the gracefulness of the body): The marches all have a psychic meaning, and similar marches are performed by the Summerland Lyceums.

After the marching the Lyceumists go to their various Groups for a stated period of study; and when the Groups have broken up a hymn and benediction bring the session to a close.

#### THE LYCEUM UNION.

The first attempt at forming a Lyceum in England was made at Nottingham, in 1866—but the three oldest Lyceums are Keighley, founded in July, 1870; Sowerby Bridge (October, 1870), and Batley Carr (May, 1882). From 1882 onward, the movement gradually spread, and in 1886 there were enough Lyceums to justify an annual Conference. In 1890 (the year of the formation of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union) there were fifty Lyceums in existence, and to-day there are about 270 affiliated to the Union. Alfred Kitson, of Hanging Heaton, Yorks., was Hon. Sec. from the first Conference in 1886 till 1901, when he became full-time Secretary, a post he held till failing health compelled his retirement in 1919. In 1886 Mr. Kersey (Newcastle-on-Tyne) generously accepted the financial risk of publishing the *Lyceum Manual*, and continued until in 1901 the Union was strong enough to take over the responsibility. Space will not allow any detailed account of the organisation and activities of the Union, but mention must be made of its enterprising and successful Publishing Department. The Union now owns its own official Journal, *The Lyceum Banner*, which, under the editorship of Mr. G. F. Knott, is doing splendid work for the Movement; it publishes the *Lyceum Manual* and a number of other educational books and pamphlets; and it conducts an Education Scheme for those who wish to pursue their studies more deeply than is possible at the ordinary Lyceum session. The Scheme is divided into six Grades—the Oral Grade, for children under ten, and then up to the last, the Speakers' Preliminary, which is the stepping stone to the Speakers' Diploma issued by the Spiritualists' National Union. With each Grade the minimum age of the candidates advances by two years. The Education Committee, of which Miss Mary E. Kitson, B.A., is Hon. Sec., conducts yearly examinations, and has published an Oral Grade Primer and three Handbooks covering the work of the Scheme, as well as a pamphlet of Hints to Tutors and Students. This year (1923—1924) close on 2,000 Lyceumists are studying in one or other of the six Grades.

#### A CALL TO DUTY.

It will be seen that the workers in the Lyceum Movement are doing their best to live up to the Summerland ideal; but the harvest is great and the qualified labourers are few, and the work being attempted is a clear call to duty to all who have convinced themselves of the truth of spirit return and of the life after death. There is room, and need, for thousands of Lyceums in this country. Who will join in, and help in the great and honourable task? These who cannot teach can attend and study, and thus encourage others. In the Summerland, says Dr. Davis, the wise men and women who dwell there "educate not only those who are children in years but also in matters of knowledge, thought and principle." So all will be welcome, and when at last Lyceums are spread all over this and other lands, and all full of earnest students, the Movement of Spiritualism will become a mighty instrument for the formation of character and the attainment of perfect manhood and womanhood.

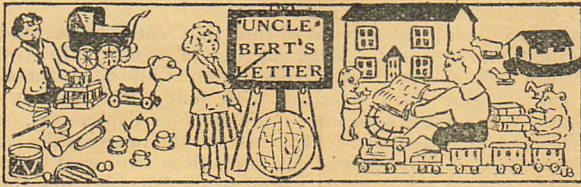
#### UNITED DISTRICTS COUNCIL REPORT.

Last year's Conference created a precedent by discussing the U.D.C. report, and in the discussion the sex question was tackled—perhaps not so boldly as some had wished; but yet there is cause for satisfaction that the subject was discussed, and accepted generally as a legitimate part of Lyceum education. As a result, Miss Margaret Lawton has written a special series of Nature articles for the Guild Page in *THE LYCEUM BANNER*, and the rudiments of the subject are being taught to all who wish to learn.

The discussion of our Internal Education Scheme has been continued—and the Council regrets that the calls of business have deprived us of Mr. Owens' valuable services in this direction. One discussion dealt with psychic phenomena, with special reference to their manifestation with children, and had the writer of "Child Mediums" been present, part of that very misleading pamphlet might have been rewritten.

The growth and expansion of the Lyceum Movement has also been considered, and steps have been taken to secure discussion, by the Lyceums and the District Councils, of the future organisation of our Union.

A. T. CONNOR, President.  
J. SHUTTLEWORTH, Hon. Sec.



MY DEAR BOYS AND GIRLS,

Summer Suns are glowing over land and sea;  
 Happy light is flowing, bountiful and free.  
 Everything rejoices in the mellow rays;  
 All earth's thousand voices swell the psalm of praise.  
 What a beautiful conception of summer joys, those words bring to our minds. You boys and girls enter into this spirit of sunshine when you romp off to the fields and parks to enjoy your game of cricket or rounders: both these games have a wonderful lesson in them, a lesson which runs right through each. What is it? "The lesson of seeking OPPORTUNITIES."

You are standing with a bat in your hand, waiting, what for? The opportunity of hitting the ball as far as you can, and what is the bowler or feeder doing, waiting for the opportunity to get you out, and then all around you are fielders, they too, are waiting for opportunities of catching you. You see how this one lesson is continually repeated throughout these games. This is not the end; there are others who stand and watch, noting the play, or taking record of the score, or in other words, recording the progress of every opportunity taken. The keynote of success then in these games is to be ready, at all times, in all places.

I am afraid sometimes some of us are not always ready. Day after day, in our lives little or big opportunities are given us to do a good turn to someone, to say a kind word, or to give a sweet smile, but they are like some of the cricket balls we get, they come so quickly that we are not prepared to accept them and they get us "middle stump" and we hear the cry, "How's that, umpire?" OUT! It is too late. We have missed our opportunity.

Ah! but wait a minute there is to be a second innings, we have another chance of making good, we know where we failed last time, here then is our golden opportunity of doing better this time; and so you boys and girls can carry the lesson from your games into your everyday life.

In your school life yesterday you failed to get all your sums correct; then take the opportunity of doing better to-day.

Yesterday, you had a chance of doing an act of kindness, you missed it, look out for the chances which will come your way to-day.

Some of you have toys or books you have grown too old for. Think of the joy and sunshine these will bring to some of the little boys and girls in poorer districts who are not so fortunate as you, and seldom get toys given them, except perhaps at Christmas time: here's a chance for you then.

The Manual is full of instructions about these things; read S.C. 4—41—69, and put them into practice. This is the way to score boundaries or get rounders in the game of life, and a good pearl to help you on your way is DO IT NOW.

MANCHESTER.

We had a wonderful time with our Lyceumists in Manchester, but as I know their Secretary intends sending an account to the BANNER I will leave the reporting side to him.

First then, I must express our appreciation to the various Lyceumists of the district for the great loving welcome extended to us on every hand, secondly, I must congratulate them on their ENTHUSIASM in the work for little children; it was this enthusiasm led by a strong band of workers, amongst whom were a large number of young men and women, which made our Special Mission such a success, together with the help of the spirit world, we ourselves being but the instruments used for the service of God.

The first greeting we received was one of welcome from one of our energetic co-workers, the second from a Tram Conductor who told me to stick fast. Perhaps he thought I was Uncle Stiekfast. The third was by the friends who put up with us for the weekend, otherwise kindly entertained us, it was Home from Home. Then we visited Rochdale, where we were met by the Editor, together with Lyceumists from Rochdale and Bury. The Editor, after showing us over the Rochdale Church and his office, allowed me to play on his brand new typewriter, also resurrected the family rocking horse and other toys for our amusement.

Between these jolly intervals we did a little practical business the outcome of which I hope you will share later.

Getting back to Manchester, we had a ripping time with the children from the various Lyceums, arrangements for the day being carried out with great success to the credit of Messrs. Hamer, Hope and Taylor, together with the band of workers I have already mentioned.

Sunday was a day of Spiritual Praise and success. The lesson of it I will pass on to all. "Get enthusiastic in helping the children's cause and make the world ring with our teachings." Ever remember we are Lyceumists out and out, and the foundation of our belief are the Seven Principles of Spiritualism, which are both broad and wide enough to cover all we need. The following Sunday we assisted our Hampton Lyceumists in their Anniversary Services, again having another happy day, meeting the Kingston Lyceumists, including Uncle Smiles, who is a talkative Uncle beloved by our London Lyceumists. We are now considering plans for our next Mission which is likely to be in the Midlands, and a visit to Yorkshire at a later date. I am sorry time and distance prevent us from accepting all invitations received.

S.O.S.

The interest and work connected with this page is increasing monthly, and according to reports received from the various centres, is meeting a great need amongst the children. Each issue means an average cost of six shillings, including postage, etc., which so far with the exception of one or two small donations has been a personal expense to which I have no objections, but in order to increase the number of prizes now required, I would like those interested to share. For example, this month, over fifty efforts have been received. I am only in the position to give two prizes. Therefore the need speaks for itself. All my services are free, and I do not wish to have to make any further appeal, as I know it will clash with other efforts. I leave it for your consideration.

COMPETITIONS.

Prizes this month for the best PENCIL SKETCH FROM NATURE (post card size, not traced).

"Liberty Section" Essay on S.C.R. 82.

RULES.

Name in full, age, address, also Conductor's name and address.

Write replies one side of paper only.

Open to all Lyceumists. Prize to those not over 14 years of age.

"Special Mention" to older members.

Address as below, closing date June 18th.

Prizes only for Competitions, not Puzzles.

Enclosed stamped addressed envelopes if replies are required.

Prizes last month awarded to:—

Harold Batty, Laisterdyke, age 11.

Kathleen Clarke, Battersea, age 14.

Liberty Section awards:—

Mr. Greaves, Bacup; Miss R. Weedon, Wisbech; Mr. S. Briggs, Cheetham; Miss Gunn, Battersea.

Correct answer to Puzzle No. 5:—

God speed the right.

Sing altogether.

Annie Hall, Dunkinfield; Kitty Morris, Bolton; Nellie Dean, Bury; Rowland Middleton, Rochdale; Raymond Midgley, Huddersfield; Robert Melton, Hyde; Frank Wright, Clapham; Harold Laisterdyke, Daisy Devereux, Grimsby; Molly Lampon, Brixton; Fred Whitehead, Newton; John Shoot, Grimsby; Kenneth Hamer, Marjorie Brownston, Muriel Lamb, Annie Hope, Muriel Booth, Fred Pitt, Sth. Manchester.

PUZZLE No. 6.

My first is in cat, but not in kitten,  
 My second's in Uncle, but not in ankle,  
 My third is in Cinema, but not in theatre,  
 My fourth's in tea, but not in dinner,  
 Of my fifth we all possess two,  
 My sixth is in apple, but not in plum,  
 My seventh's in chair, but not in table,  
 My eighth is you but not me,  
 My ninth's in cricket, football and tennis,  
 And my last is in hat, but not in cap.

(Fred Kirby, Kingston Lyceum).

Greetings from Manchester and District, Battersea, Hampton, Kingston and Bowes Park.

2, Villiers Road,

Osterley, Middlesex.

With love,

UNCLE BERT.

## United Districts Council. PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

To the District Council Delegates assembled at Hyde, on Saturday and Sunday, 8th and 9th March, 1924.

Comrades all,

The announcement in the February issue of the *Lyceum Banner*, that the number of affiliated Lyceums at the end of 1923 was 268, brought forcibly to my mind the question—"How is the Lyceum Movement going to be governed when the Union's membership has increased to (say) 1,000 Lyceums?" And this question, which must be considered some time in the near future, and which I should like this Council to discuss and attempt to answer, either now or at some subsequent meeting, started me off on a line of thought which embraced our own Council, the District Councils and the Annual Conference, and lent additional importance to our present activities and to the resolutions on organisation submitted last October by Liverpool D.C.

Of course, each of these subjects is much too big to be fully treated in the limited time at my disposal. But I thought that, if I brought the subjects briefly and in necessarily meagre outline before you, and if you thought them worthy of being reported to your Councils, the consequent discussions in the various Districts would bring forth ideas that could not but be helpful in any consideration of our future organisation.

To take the Liverpool resolutions first, it is inconceivable that any General Secretary would be able to look after the affairs of 1,000 Lyceums, and yet have sufficient time to edit the *Banner*. Apart altogether from attending to correspondence and dispatching goods ordered (already a heavy burden), the *Banner*, of necessity, would be much larger, would have to deal with and satisfy more varied interests, and would demand more time for efficient editing. The work could not be done by one man, and we are faced with the problem of what changes would be necessary and how these changes could be brought about. Should we leave the General Secretary to purely secretarial work—answering correspondence, arranging for business meetings and for Conferences (a heavy task, with over 1,000 prospective delegates to arrange for) and representing us on the S.N.U. Executive and other bodies—and hand over the editorship of the *Banner* to an official who would also be manager of the Publications Department, and in charge of all the purely business transactions of our Union? Or how would you suggest that the problem might be solved?

The appointment of an Editor-Manager might pave the way to the application of Liverpool's other suggestion—the appointment of a Chairman. The business manager would be the right person to preside at all business meetings of the M.C., and all that would be left would be to test his or her fitness to conduct a Conference. But then, with the changes in organisation that a very large number of Lyceums and a correspondingly large number of prospective delegates would necessitate, the character of Conference might be so altered that the problem would solve itself.

Last Whitsuntide, with 236 "Home" Lyceums, 145 Lyceumists (including the M.C.) attended Conference—but 370 delegates were entitled to attend. In the same proportion, with 1,000 Lyceums, over 1500 delegates would have to be taken into consideration, and even if only fifty per cent. of them attended, the problem of billeting 750 (even at their own expense) and providing adequate hall-accommodation for the Conference sessions, would be greater than most Lyceums or Districts would be willing to tackle. To avoid this it might be found necessary so to alter the character of Conference that there would be little, if any, increase in the number attending. The problem here is, how the alteration could be made without involving injustice to any section.

The only solution that suggests itself is the division of the Union area into Provinces, somewhat on the present Area lines: the North-Western (or Lancashire), Yorkshire, North Eastern, Scottish, Welsh (or Western), Midland and Southern Provinces. These would send delegates to Conference in the proportion of 5 to every 10 or part of 10 Lyceums, and the delegates would be chosen from and by the D.C.'s in each Province pro rata to the Lyceum strength of each D.C. Supposing the scheme in operation, and taking the Jan. 1924 *Banner* List as a basis—Lancashire, with 5 D.C.'s and 68 Lyceums, would send 35 delegates, representing N.E. Lancs. (14); Manchester (7), S.E. Lancs. (6), Bolton (4), and Liverpool (4). The seven Provinces, schemed out in this way, would send a total of 135 delegates; and as the number of Lyceums increase, the Conference delegation could be kept within workable limits by reducing the number of

delegates allowed per ten Lyceums, or some other method equally effective and equally fair.

Another problem is the amount of time that would be devoted to the Conference business. With our present membership, two days are not sufficient to allow full discussion of all the business, so we can imagine the congestion with four times as many Lyceums. What is the solution—more days for Conference, or less business to be discussed? The first is not practicable, as very few delegates could attend for more than two or at most three days; and in the second, which is practicable, lies the danger of the Movement being deprived of its democratic nature and basis—which must be preserved. Yet if Conference is to be confined to two days, some method must be devised by which much that is now done in Conference shall be done elsewhere, and only submitted for Conference approval and adoption. The safest practical solution would appear to be that each Union Lyceum would hold its A.G.M. in January, when resolutions could be drawn up, and sent for discussion to the D.C. meetings in February. Adopted resolutions would be sent by the District Secretary to the General Secretary early in March and published in the *Banner* for April. The Conference delegates in each Province could then meet on the third week-end in April (as a Provincial Council), discuss *all* of these resolutions and vote on them—a record of the voting being forwarded to the General Secretary. At Conference, the total votes for and against each item would be declared. If the voting showed a decisive majority either way, the result would be adopted—should the voting be very close, Conference could be given the power to decide whether a limited time would be allowed for re-discussion and a new vote on the subject concerned. In this way Conference (which would really be the Grand Council of the United Provinces) could dispose of all its "business" items on Saturday, when the Business Manager would preside; and reserve matters of education, philosophy, etc., for discussion on the Sunday, with the Union's President in the chair. Thus could be preserved for our President his dignity as head of a religious and educational movement.

With 1,000 Lyceums, and (it is hoped) a majority of Lyceumists in the Education Scheme, the present organisation could not cope with the necessary clerical work. The Education Committee could still be elected by Conference, with power to initiate policy, draw up syllabuses and set questions. But each Province would have to conduct its own examinations—receive entries; prepare and forward admission cards and all examination requisites; appoint examiners, tabulate results and forward them to the national Education Secretary for publication.

There are many other changes which would become necessary—the D.C.'s and even the M.C. would be affected—and the problems of finance and of local, district and national administration would require deep and impartial consideration; but time will not allow for any more outlining, so I can only hope that these problems will be raised in discussion, and during the discussion we should bear in mind that one of the objects of the U.D.C. is to collect, consider, initiate and disseminate ideas or projects that may be beneficial to the Movement. So we must think nationally.

A. T. CONNOR.

## The Adventures of Prince Trueheart.

(OUR LYCEUM GUILD SERIAL STORY FOR CHILDREN).

An Allegory.

BY ALFRED KITSON.

(Author of "The Garden of the Heart," etc., etc., etc.)

CHAPTER VIII (continued.)

"Oh dear! Oh dear! It hurts. Let me get up," he cried imploringly, "It wasn't me that did it. I'm sure it wasn't. Do let me off and I'll never do it again," were his cries as he wriggled and twisted on the cushion.

"You sit ill-at-ease in the place of honour I have conferred upon you, my young friend," blandly remarked his master. The on-lookers roared with laughter. He had played them so many tricks that they were pleased to see the biter bit.

"Oh, let me get up, please! I don't want to sit in this place of honour," cried Mischief in dismay. "Indeed I don't. Please have Prince Trueheart brought forth and placed on it. It will do him good." This was a lucky remark as it diverted his master's attention from himself and reminded him of the object of their being assembled there.

"It is well known to all here," said old Mumbo Jumbo, "that Prince Trueheart visited my castle yesterday, and in default of complying with my request he was removed to one of the cells, being securely chained. I have learned by my wonderful arts and powers of magic that he is at liberty. He must have had an accomplice, and I have summoned you before me to learn who it is. And whoever he be, his head will pay the price of his offence. Each one of you will be conducted, in turn, into a dark room, and a magic bell rope will be placed in his hands which will refuse to ring except when the culprit pulls it. Now to the ordeal."

One by one they were led forth, put to trial, and brought back without the magic bell giving one single tinkle. When the last one returned, the old rogue commanded them to hold up their hands for him to inspect their palms. These he examined very carefully, as if looking for some magical sign. And so he was, the sign was soot, with which he had smeared the end of the rope, knowing that the guilty party would be afraid to grasp it for fear of being found out. "The ordeal is past, the magical bell has not rung, so I must consult my arts of magic to reveal the mystery to me." As they heard these words, they all breathed a sigh of relief.

But when Prince Trueheart heard them he repeated, in the same disguised voice,—

"We have set the prisoner free,

So that he may live to punish *thee*, *THEE*, *THEE!*"

This filled all their hearts with fear and consternation, and caused a general commotion. A search was made for the intruder, but in vain. Dismay was in all their hearts, and the old charlatan quaked with fear.

The Prince, well satisfied with the result of his search, retraced his steps, and following the course of the other passage ultimately came to a large iron door. He had no sooner opened this than a deep, angry growl assailed his ears. He placed the lamp on the floor, held the door ajar with his left hand, and gripped his good sword ready to defend himself. He had only just done so when a large man-eating tiger made a dash for the door-way. No sooner did its head appear than it was cloven in two with his sword. Then its mate set up a hideous howl of rage at seeing its mate killed and made a spring at him, but as quick as its movements were, the Prince's sword was quicker in descending on its neck, and it fell on to the body of its mate with its head almost severed from its body. He then passed through, and dragged the dead carcasses away, feeling he had two enemies less to meet.

#### CHAPTER IX.

We must now return to the Princess. The reader will have gathered from the opening chapter how she had been abducted from the royal palace and carried away in the night. When Prince Trueheart overlooked them in the forest, she struggled frantically to free herself, feeling quite sure that if she could only reach his protecting arms she would be safe. But despite her efforts, she was passed from Ignorance to Selfishness, who bore her off to his castle. In it, wealth and affluence were observable on every hand. Rare pictures hung on the walls; statues of rare skill and workmanship, evidencing good judgment and taste; gold and silver vases and rare bric-a-brac were artistically arranged. The rooms were furnished and upholstered in the same costly style, so that the Princess was surrounded with all the comforts that the ingenuity of man could invent, and yet she could not rest. She felt that all the elegance with which she was surrounded was out of place and not in harmony with her nature. Every article was surrounded with an atmosphere, or aura, which spoke of plundered homes, blighted prospects, ruined lives, oppression, sighs and tears. The Princess was keenly sensible of these conditions, and would have preferred to dwell in a lowly cottage, with bare walls and plain furniture, if they had been obtained by honest means. The other inmates were aware of a feeling of unrest and dissatisfaction, but did not know the cause of it. Selfishness felt this most of all, and was under the impression that more wealth, possessions, higher offices of state he could hold, were the only means whereby he could obtain a feeling of contentment. Therefore he bent his energies, skill and cunning, to devise schemes of greater duplicity and oppression whereby he could increase his wealth. But the more he gained, the more he failed to attain contentment, until he finally decided to carry off the fair and adorable Princess Mab, for the possession of whom he had often sighed, and whose hand in marriage he had sought to win but had always been rejected. And now that she was in his power, he flattered himself that she would lose her dislike of him, give her hand in marriage and share his riches.

There was staying at the castle a calm, quiet, sweet-natured maiden, named Patience, who had received scant courtesy and treatment from the servants and retainers, who, when she learned that Princess Mab had arrived, begged very earnestly to be allowed to wait on her. No one offered any objection, as they all wished her out of their way, and thus her request was readily granted.

The Princess received her very cordially, and felt that in her she would have a friend and a confidant, as their natures were sympathetic.

The Princess was thoroughly fatigued with the rough, uncere-monious mode of travelling, and when she was left alone, she felt quite desolate and dejected, and in her loneliness gave way to tears which felt to relieve the oppression of her heart.

The maid tried to comfort her with the assurance that her Royal Sire would come to her rescue, with his army, and punish her enemies.

To these remarks she shook her head, and said that he was too old and feeble, and that if she were rescued it would be by her brave Prince Trueheart. And her tears began to flow afresh at the thought that perhaps he had perished at the hands of the knight.

In the midst of her tears her would-be lover made his appearance in a faultless dress; his breast covered with medals of valour. The scabbard of his sword, which was studded with gems, clanked on the floor as he advanced towards her. It was his intention to win her by dissembling; he would bow his knee, raise her pretty hand to his lips and kiss it, and pour forth a well-studied speech of love and devotion. She cared not for his rank and riches, and shrank from him. Her cold reception chilled him, and he changed his tactics and said in his most gallant tones, "What, my sweet and adorable Princess in tears? I pray you put them on one side for they suit you not. Such eyes of unfathomable depths were made to send forth love's magnetic glances, and those ruby lips are curved for the joyous ripples of laughter and smiles."

"How can I dry my tears, or satisfy the filial cravings of my heart," she asked, "when I am stolen from my parents, and all comforts of my home?"

"If the lovely Princess will but look with favour on my humble self, she can be the possessor of all I have. She will have but to command, and her slightest wish shall be obeyed. Deign then to receive the love I offer you and make me the happiest man in the world."

"Mock me not, with your wealth and profession of love, while you treat me in this cruel manner. You received my Sire's hospitality, and repaid it by stealing his only child and carrying her away in the night leaving them without knowledge of my whereabouts or fate."

"I plead guilty to all you charge me with, O! most lovely and charming Princess," answered the knight. "My great love for you is my only excuse."

"And you expect to possess by force that which you cannot honourably win?" she questioned.

"That is so, O! fair Princess," he answered. "And now that I have succeeded, I pray you will look favourably upon me, and you shall be arrayed in dresses made of the most costly fabrics, resplendent with rare gems, you shall have gilded carriages drawn by snow-white ponies such as no other in the realm possesses, and all the homage your heart can desire."

(To be continued).

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#### THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The Annual Conference will be due to meet on the 7th and 8th of June. There are some very important decisions to be made which it is hoped will make the future of the whole movement in its various directions solidly united in the presentation of national policy.

Encouragement should be given by all Churches for the full opportunities to Lyceums to make Spiritualists and the adult Lyceumists who have become convinced of Spiritualism should support the Churches in membership and discipline.

When we think of the early meaning of disciple and discipline it will help us all to realise that we are disciples of Spiritualism which links us with the Spirit world, under whose guidance we have been taught many new truths and laws of life. Our future success depends on harmony, diversity in unity, and concord in all. Thus will our Conference have good results.

# THE LYCEUM BANNER:

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

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

Terms to Lyceums and Societies:

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JUNE, 1924.

## £2000 EFFORT REPORT.

Dear Fellow Workers,

Still another increase to report of £9 13s. 9d., made up as follows: Newcastle (Rutherford St.) £2; Hull (Holborn Hall) £2 7s. 9d.; Nottingham (Hawarden Terr.) 5s.; Pendleton (Ford Lane) £3; Bury (King St.) £1 6s.; Accrington (Pearl Street) 10s.; Miss E. Midgley (London) 5s.; for which, on behalf of the Union, I tender sincere thanks. At this time it is usual to have a little stocktaking. Since last Conference I have received up to May 20th, £44 4s. 11d. Nineteen more Lyceums have commenced to donate, 3 District Councils and 1 individual donation. I feel that the effort is now drawing more attention to itself and I am very hopeful for the future, but the rate of progress is hardly one to feel exalted about so let us all give the effort a great push during 1924—5 and let us be nearing our goal by next Conference.

29, Kliffen Place,  
Coronation Road,  
Halifax.

Yours very faithfully,  
W. BURROWS,  
Hon. Secretary.  
£2,000 Effort.

## STANDING ORDERS FOR THE CONFERENCE.

Sec. 1. "Parliamentary Rules" of order shall be the authority and govern this Union on all matters not provided for by the Constitution and Bye-laws.

Sec. 2. The Standing Orders Committee of the Conference shall be appointed by the Management Committee with the addition of one member elected from the floor when Conference has assembled.

Sec. 3. The Management Committee shall appoint the following Officers for each Conference, viz.: a Messenger, a Credential Committee, a Minute Secretary, Tellers, and other special Officers as occasion shall require.

Sec. 4. Each delegate shall be limited to one speech on each question discussed, not exceeding five minutes, except by the unanimous consent of the Conference; but the mover of a resolution shall be allowed ten minutes, with the right of five minutes for reply.

Sec. 5. Fourteen days' notice must be given in writing to the General Secretary of all questions to be raised in the Conference relating to the business of any preceding Conference except the last one.

Sec. 6. One person one vote shall be the voting rule on all questions.

In the event of a tie vote the Presiding Officer shall have a casting vote. All Officers, Trustees and Auditors, shall be elected by ballot.

On the request of one member of the Conference, supported by 20 per cent. of the members present, a vote by roll call shall be taken upon any question then being discussed.

Where there are three or more candidates for any single office the ballots shall proceed until one candidate has secured a majority of the votes cast. The candidate receiving the lower number of votes to be eliminated in each succeeding ballot.

## TRANSITION OF MRS. BENTLEY, OF MANCHESTER.

We regret to learn, as we go to Press, that Mrs. Bentley, a Past President of the B.S.L.U., has passed to Spirit life. We offer our sympathetic thoughts to Mr. W. E. Bentley, in the physical loss of his partner, and hope he will feel the sympathy of their many friends. Mrs. Bentley conducted the Flora Belle Page in the LYCEUM BANNER for many years. She also was the District Visitor for the Manchester District for a very long period.

A Memorial Sketch will appear in our next issue.

## INDIVIDUALITY.

Aptitude for observation and perceptive power I bring;  
Curiosity; desire to see and scrutinize each thing.  
To distinguish and identify all objects that you see  
You need the aid and power of Individuality.  
I am the one to notice things, but disregard their qualities;  
In discovery I'm useful, for I note e'en trivialities.  
If you'd make research in science I'm a friend that you will  
need.

While for facts and detailed knowledge to my powers you must  
give heed.

With minutest observation my powers I ever use,  
And shall be most glad to aid you; of course, that's if you  
choose.

## LETTER TO GUILD MEMBERS.

DEAR FELLOW MEMBERS,

Each one of you, who took the Education examinations in February, will now know the results, and have received your marked paper, and your certificate, if you won a pass.

*To Guild Candidates in Exams.*

The Guild thanks each member who took the examination, and so kept one of the promises made in joining.

The Guild congratulates the successful ones heartily, and trusts they will now begin preparing for the 1925 examinations. Also, please try to persuade at least one other member to take up the study of the Education Courses of Work.

To those who did not score enough marks to reach the Pass Standard, the Guild would say that their efforts have NOT been in vain. Their *knowledge* of essentials in Lyceumism is greater than if they had not studied. And, if they note what were their weak sections, and study and practise these in particular, they will pass, and pass well, next time. The Guild trusts each one to try again.

*Your Promotion Badges.*

As you no doubt read in the LYCEUM BANNER for February, (and as appeared in the Guild Report to Conference, in the May issue), the gold *bands* on the ribbon badges to show the Class reached in the examination have been abolished. All the badges now are *plain ribbon*, but by their colour indicate the Grade passed, (though not the Class).

*To obtain your new badge,*

To obtain your new badge, write on a sheet of paper (i) name, (ii) address, (iii) Lyceum attended, (iv) Guild number, (v) Grade passed this year, and results. Enclose 3d. in stamps, and a stamped, addressed envelope, and post to the Leader.

*Children under Ten.*

Children who have passed the Oral Grade may become *Junior Members*, and receive a pink ribbon badge, by sending in the above particulars, but in (v) stating age, instead of Guild number. (Enclose 3d., and the stamped, addressed envelope, for your badge).

*Can any member help the enquirer?*

A Guild member sends the following enquiry. If any one can supply the information, please send it to the Leader, who will forward it.

- 1.—Is there a paper, weekly or monthly, dealing with medical herbalism?
- 2.—Is there an organisation of Herbalists?
- 3.—Does it grant certificates?
- 4.—Does any one know of any books that treat of herbs, and their properties and how they act in cases of disease?

What I want is this:—(question 4) If I take Lungwort and Horehound for a cough, how does it work?"

*Next Month.*

As next month's issue will be devoted chiefly to Report of Conference Proceedings, the space will not be available for our usual Guild Page. Will members, therefore, please note that our next page will appear in the August issue; when will be announced the subjects for the Annual Merit Competitions. (Suggestions for topics will be welcome).

With fraternal greetings to all,  
Yours sincerely,

M. E. KITSON, Guild Leader.

**Baby Plants, and how they are born.**

(The Lyceum Guild Nature Study Article).

BY MARGARET E. LAWTON.

VI. CONE-BEARING TREES.

The simplest types of flowers are to be found on the large and valuable cone-bearing trees. These trees include the Pines, Firs, and Larches and form beautiful forests on the uplands of the northern temperate lands. They can live at great heights, and in exposed places on mountain slopes where other trees could not survive. All of these trees are rich in resin, and valuable for their timber. The Larches also yield turpentine which is stored in the trunks of the trees.

The Pine trees send out many large branches, and grow to great heights: The bark is reddish brown in colour and has a cracked scaly appearance. The lower part of the tree is usually bare, because, in Pine forests, the trees crowd together so that only the upper branches receive much sunlight. The Pine leaves are usually spoken of as "needles" for they are like long green needles with blunted points. The edges of each needle are rolled backwards, so that the leaf seems rounded from above, and boat-shaped, from below. Usually, the needles grow in pairs, but, sometimes, the little bunches hold three or four leaves, held together by a greyish, paper-like sheath. The Pine needles grow thickly towards the ends of the twigs, giving them a brush-like appearance. The Pines are evergreens, and the leaves last for two or three years, after which they fall to the ground and, in decaying, greatly enrich the soil.

The Fir trees are pyramid-shaped, with tall, erect, central trunks, and numerous smaller branches radiating from each trunk. The branches, as they rise to the top of the tree, gradually become shorter in length, so that the youngest branches, at the top, are quite short. The *Spruce Fir* has very regularly arranged branches, and the tip of the central trunk always ends in a sharp, spear-like shoot. In the *Silver Fir* the branches are not so regularly arranged, and the tree has not a pointed tip. The Leaves of Fir trees are quite small, narrow, and flat, but grow singly from all sides of the twigs, and are often almost prickly to the touch. The *Silver Fir* trees owe their name to the fine, silver-tinted mark, which runs on each side of the midrib of each leaf. The Firs, also, are evergreens.

The Larch is the only cone-bearing tree to shed its leaves. It, like the Firs, has a tall central trunk, and long, flexible branches grow from it. In Autumn, the leaves fall, and through out Winter, the tree seems absolutely lifeless. With the return of Springtime, the tree awakens, and its awakening adds much beauty to the forests. Little, brown bead-like growths appear on the twigs. After a few days, these "beads" burst open and from each one grows a tuft of from thirty to forty tiny, slender, leaves, like a beautiful bright green fringe. As the Summer advances, the leaves deepen in colour.

In the *Flowerless Plants*, special parts were produced for the purpose of creating new plants. In the higher forms of plant life, the *flowers* are the special organs of reproduction. The absolutely necessary parts of flowers are the male and female germs. These may be found in separate flowers, sometimes, even on separate plants, or, they may both be contained in one

flower. In these cone-bearing plants, the male and female organs are found on separate flowers, though they are, in some species, both found on the same tree. Beauty of colour, shape, and perfume are only helps in the formation of baby plants, but they are not essential, and in the cone-trees flowers they are missing.

A cone consists of overlapping scales, growing crowded together, from a central stalk. Each cone bears either male or female organs in its scales. Thus, in the cone trees, there are both male and female cones. The male cones grow at the ends of the shoots, in little clusters, and so are in an exposed position.

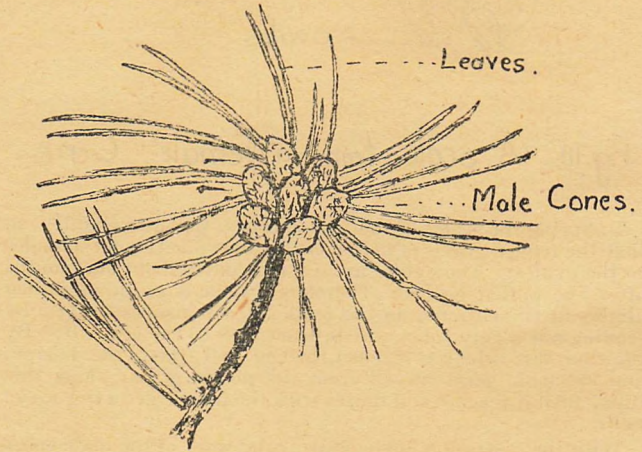


Fig. I. Male Cones on Pine twig.

Fig. 1 shows a Pine twig bearing some of these male cones. Each tiny scale, on each cone, bears two stamens. A single stamen has a fine stalk, supporting a case like head known as an *anther*. An anther corresponds to one of the antherozoid or spermatozoid cases found in the Mosses and Ferns, for it contains the male germs, which are known as *pollen grains*. The pollen grains are like tiny particles of yellow dust. In all of the flowerless plants, the creation of baby plants depended on the presence of moisture, for without moisture, the male germs could not *swim* to the female egg cells. In the cone plants, it is the *wind* that assists in the production of new plants. Since the wind is not always a trustworthy helper, the cone-trees produce large quantities of pollen, and so make allowance for that which does not reach the female cones and is wasted. The pollen grains are minute, very light, and often have air floats attached to help them in their flight.

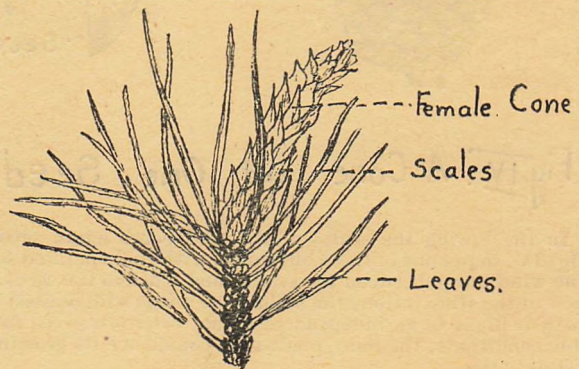


Fig. II. Female Pine Cone.

Fig. II. shows one of the female cones. These grow either singly, or in pairs, at the ends of the twigs, and are longer than the male cones. Usually, the female cones are green or pink at first, but later, become brown in colour. Those on the Larch are of a beautiful rose-red tint. Each scale on a cone, bears two female organs, which correspond to the *egg-cells* of flowerless plants. In these plants, however, the female organs

are known as *ovules*. Fig. III. is an enlarged drawing of a single scale from one of these cones. As shown in the drawing, at the lower end of each ovule—that is the more protected end—there is a tiny passage, which leads to the egg cell.

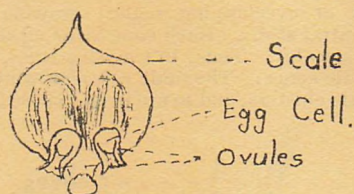


Fig. III. A scale from a Female Cone.

In Spring the scales of the female cones, separate slightly, so that the refined grains of pollen can be blown between the scales to the ovules. The ovules are not ripe until about six months after the pollen grains. Therefore, when a grain of pollen alights at the entrance in the ovule, it commences to *grow* by sending out a tiny tube, which penetrates to the egg cell. By the time this tube has reached the egg cell, the ovule is ripe, and the male germ travels from the pollen grain, along this tube, until it reaches and unites with the female germ in the egg cell.

With the scattering of the pollen, the work of the male cones is completed, and they fall to the ground. With the fertilisation of the female egg, a new stage of life commences for the female cone. Each fertilised ovule now develops into a *seed*, and the cone scales close tightly together again, to protect the seeds until they are ripe and ready for scattering in the following Spring. In Pines and Larches the seed cone scales become hard and woody, but in the Firs the scales are thin, dry, and papery. A seed holds within it, the tiny baby plant, and sufficient food to nourish it until it is self-supporting, so that the time spent by the baby in the protection of the seed-coats is really a resting-stage between its creation, and its birth into active life.

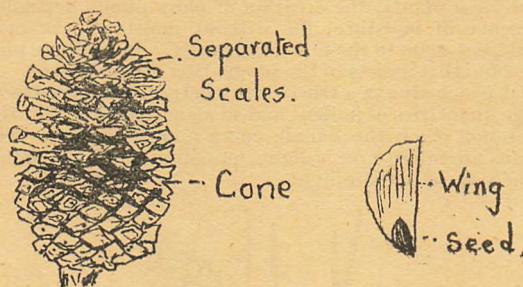


Fig. IV. A Cone and One Seed.

In the Spring the scales of the seed cones again separate. Fig. IV. shows one of these old cones, with the separated scales. The wind blows between the scales, and scatters the seeds. As seen in the illustration, the seeds have *wings* which assist them in their flight to an independent home, where, if given favourable conditions, the baby plant may commence its growth into a stately tree.

(To be continued).

## If Lazy, or not interested, DON'T read these MANUAL REVISION NOTES.

Helpful responses to my appeal for opinions regarding our MANUAL Revision are beginning to come in, and I am very grateful. Two correspondents raise points of general interest to the Movement, and I should like the opinions of other Lyceumists. We don't want the new MANUAL (if we decide to have one) to be the work of half-a-dozen Lyceumists, no matter how capable or sincere or hard-working they may be. To adapt the words of Carlyle—"Not this Lyceumist and that Lyceumist, but all Lyceumists make up the Lyceum Movement, and their united efforts the effort of the Movement." So let us all join in, and each perform his or her fair share of the task before us. I shall not be satisfied until each month brings dozens of letters from Lyceumists who want to help in this great NATIONAL TASK of revising OUR MANUAL—and are sending in suggestions for additions or alterations, or even for the omission of some items now included.

A friend has tried to console me for the lack of response to my appeals, by assuring me that the majority of Lyceumists do not read their BANNER thoroughly, and therefore are not aware that any appeals are being made. But I don't want to believe that, and I want you to join with me in proving that it is not correct. Will YOU? Thanks. The Workers Win.

Mr. J. Taylor, of Newton Heath Lyceum, brings forward the question of the word *dead* as used in S.C.R. 66. His claim is that Spiritualism teaches us "there are no dead," and that therefore the word should, if possible, be left out of the MANUAL altogether. Once again we are up against the problem raised in my March Notes—are we justified in altering an author's words to convey our teachings, even if the altered words leave the author's obvious meaning unchanged? I think it is generally agreed that Tennyson used the term "*the dead*" with a meaning very different from that given by Christadelphians or orthodox Christians. There would seem to be only two alternatives—either to omit the S.C.R. (which would be a pity) or to print the line as at present, with a footnote—"The term '*the dead*' here refers to our spirit friends: human beings who have passed through *physical* death. The Ego never dies." It is unthinkable that any alteration of the words should be attempted. Which alternative would Mr. Taylor, and many others who (as I know) think with him, be willing to adopt?

Mr. J. Whittles, of Dewsbury Lyceum, makes several suggestions, *re* some of which I have referred him to Mr. Kitson. He points out that S.C.R. 92 is used for the Conductor parts of M.R. 227; and also that the teachings of G.C.R.s 138 and 139, concerning early "death," are apparently contradictory. In G.C.R. 138 we are told that "Spirits all tell us that there is a great loss incurred by going to the spirit world before we have reaped the full experience to be gained from the lessons of this life." But in G.C.R. 139, in discussing the development of spirit children, we are told that, "Having no material body to hinder them, they thus escape pain, weariness and disease; their acquisition of knowledge is not of that forced character known on earth; their surroundings are pure, noble and elevating, instead of evil and degrading, from which they are carefully guarded; therefore they progress quicker than on earth.

The point raised is most important, and I hesitate to express any opinions until I have learned those of other student Lyceumists. Andrew Jackson Davis, in one of his books (as quoted some time ago in *Light*) describes a spirit boy who seemed unable to realise or form a conception of the most ordinary earthly things. But it is a question whether knowledge of earthly things is necessary to spiritual development and progression. I would like to suggest that these two passages should be discussed in every Liberty Group or Lyceum, and that the Group Leader, or the Lyceum Secretary, should forward me a full report of the discussion and a copy of all resolutions passed as a result. I could then publish extracts and summaries in this column,—or, better still, we might be able to induce our genial and long-suffering Editor to allow us space for a discussion.

Before next month's notes appear, Conference will have dealt with the Revision resolutions, and we shall know definitely whether we are to have a REVISED MANUAL or merely an AMENDED REPRINT. If thorough revision is adopted, we shall know also what restrictions (if any) are to govern the work. A new Committee will have been appointed—let us hope, for the full period of Revision, and not merely till next Conference—and we shall be able to settle down to proving our claim that we are a Progressive Movement. In the meantime, all communications should be addressed to—Mr. A. T. Connor, 19, Oakhurst Road, Forest Gate, London, E.7.

### REVISION LIST OF SECRETARIES, ETC.

- Sheffield D.C. District Visitor—Mr. Hadfield, 13, Windmill Terrace, Brightside, Sheffield.  
Edinburgh No. 1 Lyceum—9, Gayfield Square, Edinburgh.  
Brierfield—Mr. Thos. Wane, 70, Berkley Street, Nelson.  
Glasgow, S.M.U.—Miss D. Evans, 16, Whitefield Road, Ibrox, Glasgow.  
Glasgow Northern—Miss J. Stewart, 3, Rolland Street, Maryhill, Glasgow.

## UNCLE BERT AT SOUTH MANCHESTER.

On Saturday and Sunday, May 3rd and 4th, Uncle Bert, paid his promised visit to our Lyceum. He brought Auntie Ruth, and our Cousin Doris along with him.

On Saturday, we had our First Guild Ramble. Uncle arrived prompt at 2-30 and commenced to amuse the children; wearing a small red cap and telling many humorous stories—they seemed endless. He began to show us how to make a smiling face (using his own as an example), needless to say his efforts soon caused all to wear the best smiling faces. At 3 p.m. we left for our ramble, going through Alexandra Park, and Uncle took his first snap photo of us. We left the park, and went along to the fields. As we were walking along Uncle decided he would have a Group Photo of us, so a second snap was taken. Arriving at the fields, having had Uncle talking and causing great fun as we were walking, we burst into song, singing many Lyceum Songs, until we reached an Ice Cream Stall. The "raid" on it very soon exhausted the supply; Auntie here took a hand, and saw that the little children were not forgotten.

Signs began to show the children were wanting tea, so we made our way back to church, where we found our caterer, Miss L. Eastwood and her assistants, had everything ready for the children. Uncle "vanished" as the children were getting their seats; just as they were about to commence—in came a "clown," and for a time tea was forgotten, and laughter again ruled.

Uncle then took his place at the table, and a hearty tea was enjoyed by the children. The elders sat to their tea after the children had finished, they too enjoying the hearty meal.

Mr. J. Hamer (our President), gave the toast to Uncle, Aunt, and Cousin, speaking words of welcome, he reversed the usual order, and said, "to-day we are the *Guests*, and our Uncle, Aunt, and Cousin, are to be our *Hosts*." (Applause). He then presented our Cousin Doris with a beautiful Red Rose, with streamers, ribbons and the badge of our Lyceum. (Applause). Mr. F. Taylor, in seconding the toasts, extended the hearty greetings of *all present*. (Applause). Uncle in replying said he spoke for Auntie and Cousin and hoped we should all continue to have a good and happy time together, and that his mission would be a success. He thanked Mr. Hamer for the beautiful Rose on behalf of Doris.

One of "Newton Heath" Lyceumists presented Auntie Ruth with a bunch of flowers. Great praise for the excellent teas, were given to our caterer and her assistants. About 160 sat down and all children were catered for free of charge.

At 6-30 p.m., all was ready for games; our Hosts took control. Now indeed, Uncle Bert was a clown. Everyone began to laugh, "tears" flowing down their cheeks. A "General Romp" was joined in by elders as well as children: all began to feel young. Uncle was the centre of all, at times he could not be seen for children. Many games were played; the smiling faces were proof of the joy that reigned.

Many took part from several Lyceums in giving recitations, solos, etc. Cousin Doris recited "The Nursery Dialogue."

8 p.m. arrived, and the children's departure commenced with cheering Uncle Bert, Auntie, and Cousin, until their voices began to be hoarse (if children's can). Uncle Bert bade each child good night as they left the church.

At 8-25 p.m. dancing commenced. During intervals our Uncle entertained us with an exhibition of "Grecian Dancing", and a visitor sang us an excellent humorous song which was encored, also a young Lyceumist from "Cheetham Hill" gave an exhibition of toe dancing.

We could not stop the time, so Uncle Bert moved a vote of thanks to the pianist (Mrs. Vernon), caterers and all who had assisted to make the day a success. He spoke of it being a labour of love for the Children's Cause. (Applause). Mr. R. Hope (the Guild Leader) seconded the vote and said: All the labour had been voluntary, and much as South Manchester had worked, he thanked the visitors for their part in coming along. The success was due to all, and it was their attendance that had added to the success. (Applause).

Uncle Bert was then carried, by some of the visitors, shoulder high round the room. The Day of Days, ever to be remembered, was brought to a close with the Last Waltz. The weather was excellent: no rain and plenty of sun and heat.

Mr. J. Hamer assisted by Messrs. F. Taylor, Herbert and Reginald Pitt, and Miss L. Clarke, were M.C.'s for the day. They fulfilled their respective duties in an excellent manner. About 170 were present at the reception. Our Guild received an anonymous donation of £2 2s. per Mr. R. Hope. Our sincere thanks go out to the donor.

Sunday, May 4th, Mr. W. E. Bentley (our Conductor) conducted the Session. All sang "Children's Day," with great

enthusiasm. Mr. Bentley gave the invocation, after which he welcomed Uncle, Aunt and Cousin, to our Lyceum.

## WELCOME.

Mr. F. Taylor then conducted the Special Welcome (arranged by Mr. F. Hepworth) which was as follows:—

The following children took the respective parts. Vina Emery, Lily Emery, Annie Hope, Elsie Pitt, Cathleen Brownston, Lucy Jones, Muriel Lamb, Robina Fitton, Edna Wales, Florrie Jones, Marjorie Brownston, Fred Pitt. Each child wore a sash symbolising the Group it represented; as the children recited they built (with letter cards) ANDREW J. DAVIS, afterwards they faced each other, and formed a GUARD OF HONOUR for the presentation of a beautiful bouquet of roses and lilies of the Valley, which had two streamers of ribbon suitably inscribed.

## FOUNTAIN GROUP.

I rise to greet and welcome you to our Lyceum to-day,  
And trust that you may happy be, while with us here you stay;  
I represent the Fountain Group which stands for Opening Love,  
And from that Fountain's source we catch the incense from above.  
We are so glad to see you, Uncle Bert and Auntie Ruth,  
Who come to us with good advice, to help us in our youth.  
May years of health and usefulness be yours in this world,  
And may your names be oft inscribed on our "Banner" here unfurled.

## STREAM GROUP.

I represent the Stream Group and am glad to come to-day  
To tell you, Uncle Bert, how glad we are you came our way.  
The colour of my sash reveals a reciprocal love,  
And such must be the motive power to higher things above.  
The stream gives indication of the fount which gave it birth,  
And leads the thought to nobler things by simile of earth.  
So please accept our welcome, both yourself and Auntie Ruth,  
And may your work e'er lead us in the path of light and truth.

## RIVER GROUP.

The River Group I represent, and if you do not mind,  
I want to state that River Group thinks both of you are kind;  
You've made a special effort just to see us in the School,  
Where Sunday after Sunday we are taught the Golden Rule.  
I stand for "Love Constructive," which is what we always  
teach,  
In other words it means "We practise what we preach."  
For all your helpful labours in our Cause, just let me say,  
We thank you very much indeed upon this happy day.

## LAKE GROUP.

I'm a member of the Lake Group, and I rise to speak my part,  
And wish to say I greet you here with truly loving heart.  
I represent "Expanding Love," and I would have you know  
Our deep appreciation of your presence we would show.  
Although our Group is placid, being a "Lake" as you'll agree,  
Our *depth of gratitude* is great, as you shall surely see.  
So take this heart-felt welcome, both Uncle, Aunt and all,  
And may you find us ready to respond to duty's call.

## SEA GROUP.

Dear Uncle Bert and Auntie Ruth, in this my little speech,  
I wish to thank you very much for lessons that you teach.  
I represent the "Sea Group," with this yellow sash I wear,  
And all the members of my Group your valued lessons share.  
We welcome you amongst us, for your useful labours prove,  
The motto of our Sea Group, which bespeaks "Ascending Love."  
May angels guard and bless you as you outline God's own laws,  
That you may long be spared to help the children's noble Cause.

## OCEAN GROUP.

My purple sash denotes the Group I represent to-day,  
The vast majestic "Ocean Scene," the mighty water-way:  
It is a fitting simile, for wheresoe'er we rove,  
It carries the significance of "Universal Love."  
To-day the members of our Group would join with comrades  
here,  
In hoping that your work for us continue many a year;  
May your bright and helpful lessons keep us steadfast and alert,  
Your love is "Universal," Auntie Ruth and Uncle Bert.

## SHORE GROUP.

To distinguish one from others, as plainly can be seen,  
I'm decorated with a sash of colour known as green,  
In our Lyceum Movement it conveys a lesson good,  
It means "Love for the Useful" when 'tis rightly understood.  
I represent the "Shore Group," an interesting stage  
Of travel and unfoldment in which we all engage.

With help from such as Uncle Bert and dear Auntie Ruth as well,  
What great advantages accrue, the future sure will tell.

BEACON GROUP.

I represent the "Beacon Group," in our Lyceum to-day,  
Which means "illumination" for all on life's highway;  
This sash of blue now intimates the "Love of Justice," too,  
And makes demands upon us to be loyal, good and true.  
Here I would join the others in the welcome we extend  
To Uncle Bert, our counsellor, instructor, leader, friend;  
Also to Auntie Ruth, we say God speed you in your task,  
And may the future days reveal the blessing that we ask.

BANNER GROUP.

My crimson sash in our Lyceum denotes a "Love of Power,"  
And from the Spirit World around may such increase from hour  
to hour;

Through our receptive organs, may the light of love and truth  
Be poured upon us from above to bless us in our youth.

I represent the "Banner Group," and stand before you here,  
To offer you our hearty thanks for all your labours dear.  
May loving angels guide you as your work proceeds apace,  
And in our heart's affections may you always have a place.

STAR GROUP.

My azure sash of ribbon, when correctly 'tis defined,  
Denotes "Love of the beautiful," expanding heart and mind,  
It represents the Star Group, in the firmament of thought,  
Any many helpful lessons in the Star Group we are taught.  
To-day we are delighted to extend a welcome kind,  
To Auntie Ruth and Uncle Bert, whose work we bear in mind,  
And now that we have seen you, we shall be much nearer when  
We read the various lessons that proceed from out your pen.

EXCELSIOR GROUP.

I rise with greatest pleasure to address this humble rhyme,  
To honoured guests who come to us with truths that are sublime;  
They tell us of our duty in unostentatious way,  
And we are glad to greet them on this special day in May.  
This sash of violet signifies an "All Aspiring Love"  
That ever makes for higher things; the light from realms above.  
In all our earthly studies, may good angels help us on,  
That we shout "Excelsior," and know that we have won.

LIBERTY GROUP.

I represent the summit of our groups as here defined,  
The Group that stands for Liberty in heart, in soul, in mind;  
The sash of white conveys the thought of Love's great conquest  
won,  
The banishing of error's fear, and happiness begun.  
The "Love of Harmony" appeals to our receptive sense,  
And all our energies are turned towards this recompense,  
So with this loyal greeting, Uncle Bert and Auntie Ruth,  
With one accord we will unite for Justice, Love and Truth.

Ethel Emery (age 4) wearing a pale blue sash and white silk  
dress (pale blue and white being our Lyceum colours), after  
saying:—

I'm but a little girl, you see, yet I would like to say  
How glad I am to be with you upon this festive day;  
I speak for all our Groups to-day, and gladly greet you here;  
Where friends have now assembled in the Cause we hold so dear.  
Dear Uncle Bert, we thank you for the sacrifice you make  
To help the little children in our Cause for Love's own sake;  
And Auntie Ruth, we thank you, too, and now I want to say  
Accept, as token of our love, this beautiful bouquet.

presented Auntie Ruth with the bouquet. During the Welcome  
and Presentation the "silence" was so impressive no words can  
express the feelings of those present.

Mr. Beatty then spoke a few words of appreciation of the  
author, Mr. F. Hepworth, of Bury. He also conducted the  
S.C.R. "What I Live for," followed by the M.R. "We all  
Might do Good." Mr. Hamer then conducted the G.C.R. "The  
Religion of Use."

The children gave many recitations, several Newton Heath  
Lyceumists also recited. Between the recitations Muriel Lamb  
(age 11) and Marjorie Brownston (age 11) sang "Angel Care,"  
Annie Hope (age 9) and Cathlene Brownston (age 9) sang  
"Angels Lead my Footsteps," Audrey Tasker (age 8) sang  
"Jesus Bids us Shine," and John Love played a pianoforte solo,  
and Cousin Doris recited "The Wind." Over 100 Lyceumists  
then took part in the marching and calisthenics, which were  
done in an excellent manner under the conductorship of M. F.  
Taylor.

Uncle Bert said "the welcome they had received had taken all  
the wind out of his sails and he found great difficulty to express  
himself." He adopted an unusual way to convey his lesson,  
in the manner of a conjuror. Taking his hat which was,  
apparently, empty, he drew the following letters out of it:  
W. A. T. C. H., each letter conveyed a lesson: W.=words;  
A.=Actions, T.=Thoughts, C.=Character, H.=Happiness.  
Great interest was taken in his lesson.

A surprise for nearly all came next. Our children, through  
Miss Clarke, had written their ideas to Uncle Bert of what he  
was like, and a prize was to be given for the nearest description.  
Uncle read the various descriptions (which caused much  
laughter); he announced that Robina Fitton, age 10, had written  
the nearest, and presented her with a Lyceum Manual.

He paid great tribute to the welcome Auntie, Cousin, and  
himself had received, and said the visit to Manchester would ever  
remain in their memories, as would the kindness and love shown  
by all. Also to those who had had the arrangements in hand.  
Auntie Ruth expressed her deep appreciation and sincere thanks  
for the beautiful bouquet. She hoped it would not be their last  
visit to Manchester. (Applause). Mr. Hamer (our President)  
said he was delighted with their visit, and he was certain that a  
hearty welcome would be waiting for a return visit. The  
church members were delighted with *their* Uncle, Aunt, and  
Cousin.

The Lyceum visitors then gave the greetings of their respective  
Lyceums.

Uncle Bert gave the greetings of Battersea Lyceum; also from  
the L.L.D. Council, saying he had received letters wishing him  
success, and asking him to extend their greetings to Manchester,  
from the London Lyceums.

Mr. Bentley thanked the various Lyceums present and asked  
that the Fraternal Greetings from South Manchester be taken to  
all the Lyceums present. He desired to thank Newton Heath  
Lyceum especially for closing their own Lyceum and coming  
en masse to our session. He hoped Uncle Bert would take our  
greetings back to the London Lyceums and the L.D.C.  
Uncle then announced that he would award Special Prizes to the  
Manchester Lyceumist who sent the best reports of his visit to  
him.

Almost 200 were present, and a very enjoyable afternoon was  
spent together, the session closed with Lyceum Song, "Wave  
the Banner."

Mr. Bentley gave the Benediction.

Mr. A. Hope Presided at the Evening Service. Uncle Bert  
gave a very impressive invocation, followed by "Silent Prayer."

Mr. A. Hope said although he had had the pleasure of being  
with Uncle, Aunt, and Cousin, during the weekend, their  
names were still unknown to him. He was not the only one who  
was curious out of over 260 Lyceums, only a special few had had  
the honour of a visit from them, and out of over 15,000 Lyceum-  
ists he did not think 15 knew him and certainly very few (ex-  
cepting the London area from which he came) had met him. This  
was his first visit to the North of England. He appreciated the  
excellent work that Uncle Bert was doing for the children, and  
welcomed him as one of the sincere workers of our Lyceum  
Movement, and none could give their services to better use  
than for the children. Cousin Doris then recited "The Pedlar's  
Caravan." The Lyceumists then sang "The Hall of Pro-  
gress."

Uncle Bert said: "I have had an excellent time with the  
children during Saturday and this afternoon, now I am to address  
the elders. The reason I adopted the name of Uncle Bert was  
because our LYCEUM BANNER was soaring to the adult level,  
and leaving the child, thus I became Uncle Bert." He then  
spoke on the Lyceum Movement, dealing with the education of  
the child, the responsibility of the elder, and the teachings,  
respecting God. Throughout it was an excellent address, many  
of his remarks being greeted with applause, and laughter; he  
gave a grand outline of our Lyceum.

Mr. Hamer spoke of the joy and happiness that came to all  
who were working for the children, and hoped that Uncle,  
Aunt, and Cousin, when they sat round their fireside, would  
always have happy thoughts, never know sorrow or depressing  
thoughts during their earthly lives, and that their harvest in  
the Spirit World would be a grand one. (Applause).

Auntie Ruth spoke of love and kindness shown to them and  
said "we have had a real Lancashire welcome."

Uncle Bert again thanked all for their love and sympathy  
extended throughout their visit, and desired to congratulate the  
workers in having such a grand hostess as Mrs. Hope. He  
thanked her for the excellent manner she had entertained them,  
since their arrival on Friday evening they had been "at home"  
with a mother there.

## Diet—in Relation to Dreams, Humaneness and Higher Thought.

BY HENRY J. BAYLIS.

“He frees himself from selfish acts, renounces them and rejects them, and so he wins comprehension of the Teachings and the joy that comes of it. From this, lofty enthusiasm is born.”

The late E. J. Cross Buchanan said that flesh-eating and wine impedes the higher visions of dreams. “What I have been told, and myself seen, would turn a thoughtful person from eating meat and drinking wine.”

The partaking of flesh and alcoholic drinks are as a rule twin habits, but I do not here intend to discuss the subject of alcohol.

That it is responsible for a low standard of ideals and unethereal dreams is only one of the numerous indictments we find against flesh-foods. They are the embryo and nucleus of much that is undesirable, and, in effect, the very reverse to the true elevation of mankind, and quite separated from the spiritual.

We find in the Talmud and Rabbinical writings that in the first century, and during the lifetime of Christ, fasts were advocated, or ordered, to those wishful of obtaining good dreams. In that age the interpretation of dreams became a public profession.

From great and wonderful India, the land of dreams and fascinations, the birthplace of mystery, mysticism and the occult sayings of great spiritual wealth, unparalleled wisdom and logical philosophy have passed to the West.

This illustrious nation has considered diet an essential part of religion almost from time immemorial. In the search for a true religion, and in the evolution of their race, they found it necessary to incorporate the animal-kind with their own kind, for they were forced to come to the reasonable conclusion “that all life originated from one benign and omnipotent Being.”

With the Hindus, the cow is the most sacred creature, and they would be horrified at the idea of killing or any ill-treatment being meted out to her.

Gautama Sirdartha, better known as Buddha, the great Indian Messiah came in 500 B.C. to instil into this great race and the world generally the falsity of self and far-reaching Humanitarian ideals and ethics. He taught the people by example unconditionally not to slay for food, sacrifice, nor mankind; but to have compassion, thought and care for all.

“Kill not for pity’s sake.” “Life that all can take and none can give.” “How can we hope for mercy if we are merciless?” were among his special appeals and injunctions. He was a gentle, noble and most beneficent teacher, and considered by many to be the world’s greatest humanitarian.

He knew there could be no true emancipator of a people if they did not have thought and care for all living things. He rightly considered that if life was given it should run its course and not be severed at man’s will or caprice. The weaker kind were to be held as a sacred trust, to be protected—not exploited. Man was intended to be the all-highest, and therefore to help raise, succour and protect such mortals and creatures.

Buddha was known as the ‘Happy One.’ Among the races who follow his teachings are the gentle Burmese. It is said they are the happiest people on this planet. Love and compassion are two of their cardinal principles. They live upon the sun-kissed foods that bountiful Nature has so generously supplied, and in adopting this diet they cause no pain or suffering to any living creature.

By their unselfish spirit, their constant, kind and thoughtful acts to their fellows and the lower order of creation, they hope to minimise their re-births into this world and eventually enter into the peaceful and blissful state of Nirvana. To-day nearly 500 million souls, approximately one-third of the world’s population, live and die in the Buddha’s Teachings. A truly spiritual people, for they soar to the highest chord of harmony with the Infinite.

They look across askance at the great western Christian races mindful of the belief that Christ, the founder of Christianity, was an Essene, coming from a gentle, loving, unselfish, and compassionate people—they marvel at their thoughtlessness and inconsistency, and fail to understand the reason why so many followers of Him while believing in His spirituality, uplifting teachings and example, at the same time advocate and take individual part in some form or other in the following:

The unnatural, unnecessary and cruel habit of trapping and slaughtering animals in order to obtain their skins for wearing apparel.

The wearing of feather plumage of any kind—the birds are

chiefly obtained by being shot or ensnared during nesting time, leaving the young to die of starvation.

The partaking of flesh foods, thereby helping to cause pain and suffering to various kind of defenceless dumb creatures.

Flesh-eating custom disseminates, in its far-reaching wake, misery, pain, horror and death to the animal-kind and dehumanization to those who carry out by proxy the unnatural work; there are also risks to the human kind; and unhappy knowledge of all that the system entails to produce—for in its traffic there is complicity.

Let us free ourselves from the yoke of a blood diet—the food of death, and the unnecessary mundane things of COMMERCIALISED Christianity. It is certainly not Christ-like to take advantage for our own selfish ends of that which might even cause the slightest pain or discomfort to any being, or creature.

It is quite a common thing to hear the argument put forward that if we did not slay for food the land would be over-run with these animals. This is erroneous, it would not be so. They are specially bred for man’s wants, not his needs. If there were no demand there would be no supply.

Why are we not over-run with the horse species? Surely we ought to be so, if the argument is to hold good?

Motor cars, motor buses, motor lorries and their various kinds invade our roadways by tens of thousands, nay, by hundreds of thousands; yet in spite of this there is no excess of the horse-kind, any more than there was before the innovation of motor car traffic.

The breeding of cattle of all kinds is governed by the law of supply and demand, to the extent of the number required alive or in slaughtered form by the general public.

Experts and authorities on the subject of food and nutrition state that “No absolute physiological need exists for flesh meat, since the protein (body-building) of flesh-meats can be replaced by other protein of animal origin, such as those contained in milk, cheese, eggs as well as by protein of vegetable origin. Therefore it is quite unnecessary, in fact a grave error to slay for food.”

Shelley said: “The advantage of a reform in diet is obviously greater than that of any other—it strikes at the root of the evil.” Again—“The allegory of Adam and Eve eating of the Tree of evil, and entailing upon posterity the wrath of God, admits of no other explanation than the disease and crime that have flowed from an unnatural diet.”

The clean, healthy, happiness instilling and soul lifting diet is ever praised and adopted by the consistent Christian, the thoughtful Theosophist, the earnest and practical Spiritualist, and the gentle Buddhist.

The Humanitarian, Vegetarian, Fruitarian, Food Reformer propagandist (each having the same meaning and object) is ever active, cheerfully helping, making known, and furthering generally the great ‘Cause’ he represents, whatever creed or sect he may be an adherent of.

Let each of us make Truth our guiding light, be a living testimony, a practical example, knowing surely well that any act or any thing that may or does cause pain, sorrow or suffering to living creatures or degradation to one’s own kind is working in *direct opposition* to that which pertains to the higher calling and spiritual welfare of mankind.—“Man is the aider of the Divine purpose through his intense cultivation of his Divine instincts.”

Any reader desirous of having particulars of the Food Reform diet and humane work may call, or write to the Order of the Golden Age (a philanthropic Society), 153—155, Brompton Road, London, S.W., London Vegetarian Society, 8, John Street, Adelphi, W.C., or to The Vegetarian Society, 39, Wilmslow Road, Rusholme, Manchester. The Secretaries would welcome enquiries and gladly answer any questions, also forward interesting literature on the subject generally.

### PRESENTATION TO RUNCORN SECRETARY.

On April 6th the Runcorn Lyceumists made a presentation of a gold hunter watch, suitably engraved, to Mr. J. E. Jones, the late Secretary, who has since sailed for Australia. In making the presentation, Mr. C. L. Cohen, the Assistant Conductor, said that on behalf of the Conductor, Mr. G. A. Mack, and the whole of the Lyceum, he very much regretted the circumstances that made the presentation necessary. Mr. J. E. Jones, during the time he had been connected with the Lyceum, had done some very valuable work and had endeared himself to all the Lyceumists. In spite of the distance that would separate him in the future, the link of brotherhood would remain unbroken and he sincerely hoped that Mr. Jones would carry on with the good work in the new country to which he was going. Mr. Jones responded in a fitting manner.

## THE CHILD.

By MRS. M. E. PICKLES.

CORRECTIONS.—In last month's BANNER there appears the word "obscured," instead of "observed." Also, "Then the child makes effort to gain control over his own movements" is the correct paragraph.

The conditions necessary for the well-being of the child are certainly cleanliness and pure, wholesome surroundings.

All children are not born healthy, and much suffering is endured through lack of knowledge in the parents. Good, wholesome and sufficient food, but not more than sufficient, is absolutely essential for the growth and health of the body.

Fresh air, too, plays a most important part, and if due care and nourishment is taken during the first five years, a good foundation is laid for the child's life in the future. But if there is a lack of these things in the early years it can never again be made up in after life.

Let us consider the care of the teeth, one of the things which ought to be taught young children. We see so many people to-day with false teeth, and probably if they had been taught this important item in their toilet they would have preserved the teeth right into good old age. It is said that teeth are really outgrowths of the skin, just as nails and hair are.

There is a great simple rule, to which there are no exceptions, and yet we all forget it at times, though it is the greatest of all rules for the health of the body. That if we fail to let the different parts function naturally, they lose the power of looking after themselves.

We have our food prepared, so that we do not need to use our teeth—some people even have the crusts of their bread cut off, and then we wonder why our teeth decay.

Give the child a crust to gnaw at, instead of a dummy to suck, and just as the bone helps to make the dog's teeth become strong and perform their work, so will the crust not only strengthen but clean and keep them white as ivory.

In some cities you may see children running about or standing with bare feet in the cold and wet, yet they come to no harm. That shows that as long as the skin is allowed to do its work for itself in a natural way, there is little chance of falling ill when the skin is chilled. It is only when we cover the skin up and keep it warm, whether it wants to be warm or not, that it loses the power of looking after itself. This is true of every part of the body and every duty of the body. If a healthy man goes on crutches his legs become weak.

If a child's food is digested for him, outside his body, his stomach loses the power of digestion for itself. If we dose the child every night with medicine, to make him sleep, he soon becomes unable to sleep without it.

If other people always do our thinking, we shall become unable to think; hence the necessity to encourage the child to think for himself.

In some places we have lifts to take us upstairs, then we wonder why we get out of breath when the lift is not working and we have to walk.

It is true of every part of the body, as it is true of the body as a whole, that effort is a law of life.

There is a fine saying by a great man, "Thou, O God, hast given all good things to man at the price of labour." This applies to everything; turn to people who cannot stand sun or cold, or fresh air, because they coddle themselves up too much. They have taught their skin not to labour for itself and have made it weak and helpless. How well I remember the time when the sole idea was that the child could not have too many clothes on. The more simple and neat dress of to-day allows the fresh air and skin to meet, and the magnetic currents play their part in making the child sturdy, strong and beautiful and far less prone to catching chills.

## S.N.U. AND B.S.L.U.

We note that a letter has been sent to the *Two Worlds*, criticising the General Secretary for inserting the Inter-relations Report as it is printed in the LYCEUM BANNER.

The Inter-relations Committee is sending a reply to the letter, which we presume will be inserted in the *Two Worlds*, so the General Secretary has left the matter in their hands. We hope the explanation will satisfactorily denote how the misunderstanding has arisen.

## S.N.U.E.C. REPORT.

The representatives of the B.S.L.U. on the S.N.U.E.C. are Mr. A. Kitson and Mr. G. F. Knott.

Mr. Kitson was elected to serve on the Education Committee, but no meetings have been held during the year. Mr. Knott was chosen to serve on the Organisation, Exponents, Parliamentary and International Questions Committees.

The Organisation Committee have dealt with Standing Orders, Church Rules, Amendment to D.C. Associates' Rules, Payment of Fees, Speakers and Mediums serving unaffiliated Churches, Study Groups, Organisation through the D.C.s, Relations of S.N.U. and B.S.L.U., to arrange amicable working and out of which a Joint Committee from S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. was appointed to deal with inter-relations. A report of the proceedings is given elsewhere.

The Exponents' Committee have met to perform the annual duties of examinations. Mr. Skelton has been appointed Secretary to this Committee. The B.S.L.U. comes in touch with this Committee through the Intermediary Diplomas being granted to Grade 5 students who pass the examinations and show promise of speaking ability.

The Parliamentary Committee are investigating proposals for the presentation of a Bill during the present Parliament, and also using the Petition for the legal recognition of Spiritualists and the annulling of the application of the Acts which are used by the courts against the practice of mediumship.

The International Questions Committee is an advisory body to suggest the British policy to be adopted at the International meetings.

The relations of the S.N.U. to the B.S.L.U. has been under discussion at a few meetings. The only definite action has been the passing of a resolution that all adult officers in Lyceums must be members of their respective Churches; your representatives pressed for the Lyceum Conductors, Secretaries and Treasurers being members of their respective Churches, but this was defeated in favour of the above resolution.

One Church has declared the Lyceum meeting in their rooms is not a public meeting. All members of the Lyceum over 18 years of age must be members of the Church before they can vote in the Lyceum, and no adult can take part in the marching without the consent of the Conductor. Your representatives can thus see a hidden danger behind the present methods of the proposed compulsory fusion of the two National bodies.

Regarding the general work of the E.C., there is an increase of the number of Churches and members, but difficulty is being met in obtaining the increased fees adopted by the last A.G.M.

Sir A. Conan Doyle has accepted the position of Hon. President of the S.N.U.

The Trust Deed of the B.S.L.U. is completed and the power to operate the Deed through the six Lyceum Union Trustees has been sanctioned by the S.N.U. on the condition that the Trust Property Secretary is furnished with a report of the operations of the Trust.

An International Spiritualist Federation has been formed as a result of the Leige Conference. Mrs. Greenwood and Mr. Berry attended for the S.N.U. who are now affiliated to the Federation. Mr. Kitson also attended and read a paper on Lyceum Education. Mr. Berry was elected President. Mons. Louis Gastan, of France, was appointed Secretary. The French Vice-President, Mons. J. Meyer, has presented and endowed a house and grounds in Paris for the Headquarters of the Federation.

The S.N.U. approached the B.S.L.U. re the use of the *Lyceum Banner* as a joint publication, but the M.C. of the B.S.L.U. did not think it a wise proposal, and the S.N.U. are issuing a separate journal which is being prepared for sale at the A.G.M.

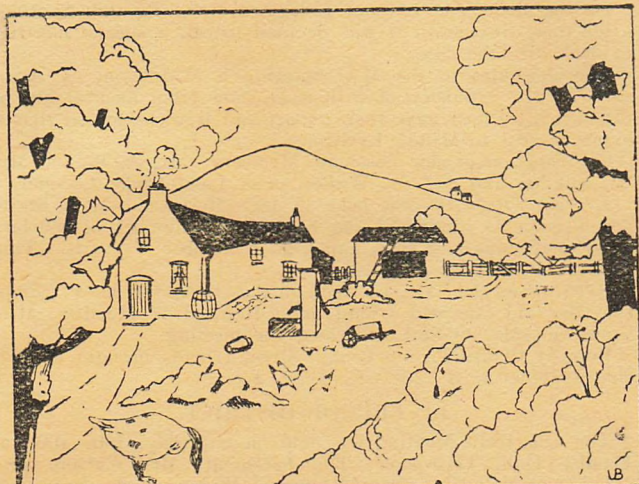
It is a source of regret that the S.N.U. has lost the services of Mrs. Stair as Secretary of the F.O.B. through her transition to spirit-life.

Rules have been adopted for the institution of a Psychic Sciences Section, and a Committee is obtaining data. 2/6 is recommended as the annual subscription.

The alternative vote is being adopted for the Associates Representatives on the E.C. and the exhaustive vote for officers elected at the A.G.M.

Opportunities have been given to get in touch with the Lyceumists and propaganda work has taken place in the various centres.

THE CHILDREN'S PUZZLE.



A FARM-YARD PUZZLE.

Oh! what are we looking at here,  
 A farm where the people are hid:  
 The farmer and daughter are there,  
 So now all you children are bid,  
 To puzzle them out if you can.  
 They're hid in the picture above,  
 Along with the wife who began  
 To hunt up four things which were lost.  
 There's the duck and the dog gone astray,  
 None are where you'd expect them to be;  
 Also look for a sheep and a lamb,  
 And you'll be as clever as me.

THE BOYS WHO MAKE REAL MEN.

Well! boys. I mean you with the bright eye and springing step and the smiling face; great plans for the future are forming in that active brain. You are going to do grand things when you are a man. Whatever vocation you have chosen you intend to be successful in it; and quite right, too. But, in all your calculations, have you planned to have good health? You may think that a foolish question, but I mean it. You have not planned to lose time by sickness, but have you thought how you may avoid it? You supposed sickness was inevitable and that we had to put up with it when it came? Oh, no! the most of sickness might be prevented if we would take the trouble to learn the causes and avoid them. Let us count the cost of keeping well. First you will have to give up that dainty cigarette which you are twirling in your fingers, for it will weaken your nerves, impair your digestion, dull your brain, affect your eyes, throat, lungs and heart, and waste your money. You will have to avoid all use of wine, beer and alcoholic drinks, for science has proven that even the moderate drinker is degenerating physically and cannot endure accidental exposure or severe exertion as can the temperate man. You will have to seek your bed at an early hour, when others are beginning their rounds of gaiety, and rise when they are sinking to slumber.

You will have to avoid luxurious fare and live on simple food. You will have to study the laws of your body and obey them at whatever sacrifice. *It will require moral courage*, but if you've the true manliness, the grit to persevere, in spite of ridicule, your turn to laugh will come when you are in vigorous, useful maturity and look upon others who flung health away in the service of pleasure.

Your vitality is like a sum of money put into the bank at your birth at compound interest. You can squander it in youth and enter manhood in physical bankruptcy; or you can use it judiciously, increase it and begin active life with a capital of vigour that will be the most important factor in your success. In all your plans don't neglect to plan for health.—Bee, Dundee (Ratray Street).

SELF-CONFIDENCE.

In this world most people have the ability to perform great things in certain directions, but they are hindered by a lack of self-confidence.

During every person's life there are times when they are entrusted with responsible tasks which, if performed successfully, will raise them considerably in the estimation of those for whom they are working. If this task is within the limits of a person's ability, and he has the necessary confidence, he will prove himself worthy of the trust shown in him, thus benefiting himself and those whom he is helping.

On the other hand, if he is nervous or doubtful of his ability to succeed, he will probably fail, as the task has not been entered upon with a clear and well-balanced mind. This failure will further reduce self-confidence, and will be followed by others, so that all such unfortunate people will be regarded as incapable, and thus will never attain positions of trust. One thing which greatly reduces confidence is the fear of failure and useless worrying and anticipation beforehand. Thus with such people the greatest troubles which worry them through life are those which never happen, but which their imaginations have conceived through the dread of failure. Then when confidence is wanting to such an extent that they never expect success they are dubbed as pessimists, and most people usually avoid their company.

However, although self-confidence is a great asset, it is like many virtues, it can be carried too far and becomes a vice. Thus it is possible to have too much confidence when we do not consider the possibility of failure; which must come to everyone during life and would be a greater disappointment to those who least expect it. When people are optimistic to this extent they are inclined to become careless in their actions and attempt things recklessly without first making certain whether they are capable of succeeding. The result may be an unexpected failure, perhaps with unpleasant consequences. Thus over-confidence is also to be avoided, and people should be careful not to value too highly or under-estimate their ability.

SYDNEY THORNHILL,  
 Daulby Hall Lyceum.

Births, In Memoriam, 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 9 per line.

BIRTH.

HOWARTH.—To Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Howarth, nee Doris Hope, a daughter, on the 7th of May, at 5, Ash Street, Fails-worth, Manchester.

IN MEMORIAM.

ASQUITH.—In loving memory of Clara Asquith, aged 41, the beloved wife of Joseph Asquith, 20, Derby Terrace, Marsden, Yorkshire, who passed to the higher life after a very short illness on April 27th, 1924; Mr. Harding, of Wakefield, officiating at the interment on April 30th.

Mrs. Asquith was a past Conductor and one of the founders of Marsden Lyceum. Her Lyceum and Guild Badges were placed in her breast so that she could carry their symbols to the Spirit world. Will all friends please accept the heartfelt thanks of myself and children for their kind tokens of sympathy and floral tributes in this our sad bereavement.

" Ah! truly death is not the end  
 Our loved who said farewell  
 Attend as angel comforters  
 And with us dwell.  
 From husband and children.

PARKGATE.—Passed to the higher life on May 1st, Richard Morris, aged 7. Interment conducted by Mr. F. R. Cook, on May 6th. All bearers being Lyceumists.—J H. J.

WEST PELTON.—We regret to report the passing to the higher life of our dear sister and Lyceumist, Miss Hannah Dance, aged 29, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Dance, of West Pelton. The interment was conducted by Mr. Thos. Bogue, of Gateshead, amid a large gathering of friends, Lyceumists and Spiritualists.

## FROM SCOTLAND.

As the Scottish Mediums' Union wish to help in strengthening the Lyceum Movement in Scotland, we have had a propaganda effort which was very successful.

We brought the subject before our Church Executive and they agreed to support us, so we arranged a rally. There were 100 tickets distributed to lapsed Lyceumists and other young persons, who were invited to have tea with us, with a programme of songs, dances and games afterwards.

During the evening an explanation of the Lyceum was given by Mr. Kerr, the President of the Church, and he appealed for them all to join up with us. He stated that the children were not brought up as mediums, but were instructed how to conduct their lives to become useful citizens.

Mr. Newton also addressed the gathering and Mr. Hope, our Conductor, offered a hearty welcome to all to join us.

We trust our experience may encourage others.—Dorothy Evans, Sec.

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## District Visitors' Reports.

**BOLTON DISTRICT.**—On April 27th I visited Horwich Lyceum. They started to time, with 42 present, four being late. The standard of the whole session was good. The will- ingness of the younger children was a pleasing feature and builds for the future, if tactfully cultivated.—G. F. W. Walsh, D.V.

### MANCHESTER AND SALFORD DISTRICT.

*Collyhurst.* Present 36 late 9. Singing very fair. Comments on readings fair. Groups. No marching or calisthenics. Session well conducted. Attention good; discipline good.

*Longsight.* Present 76; late 12. Singing good. Comments on readings fair. Group Sunday. No marching or calisthenics. Session well conducted. Attention and discipline very fair. Guards very attentive. The groups at this Lyceum are a credit, and are excellently well conducted by the various teachers.

*Sale.* A great deal of help is required to put this Lyceum on its feet, and I appeal to Manchester Lyceumists to rally round and help. There were only two adults present on my visit, and I conducted the session, at the request of the Conductor, Mrs. Baker. I can assure Lyceumists that there are some good little workers at this Lyceum and with help would be an asset to the Manchester District. Present 17.

*West High Street.* Present 25; late 4. Singing good. Comments on readings very good. Attention very good. Discipline good. Marching good. Calisthenics very good; three series taken. Excellent system of training the children, who notice the slightest mistake on the part of an adult or officer. A naming of a boy, Donald Dean, was performed.

*Maskell Street.* Present 26; late 4. Singing good. Reading fair. Group Sunday. Attention very fair. Discipline very fair. Session well conducted.

*Cheetham Hill.* Visit of Aunt Ruth and Uncle Bert. Prompt start. Present 34; late 20. Session well conducted. Reading fair. Singing good. Marching very fair, except for cross march, which was badly done. Comments on readings good. Calisthenics very good. Attention good. Discipline good.

The thought has come to me that Lyceums are getting a little stereotyped and are apt to rush through a set session without thinking enough on the varied parts. If the readings were taken a little slower and articulation and expression practised, the young ones would understand a lot better the teachings in the readings.

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## District Council Reports.

### BRADFORD DISTRICT.

Meeting held at Ripley Street Lyceum on May 11th, 1924. A good number of Delegates, Associates, all Officers, two Hon. Life Members and one Visitor attended. Minutes of last meeting confirmed. Correspondence and resignation of President accepted.

Miss Stair of Keighley, the Vice-President, accepted the position of President.

We decided to send a deputation to meet the Keighley Lyceum on Friday, May 16th.

Mr. W. Barnes withdrew as Judge; after discussion Mr. W. Barnes was asked to carry on. The matter relating to the Propaganda Committee left over to next meeting.

Re the Belle Vue Lyceum Delegates attending this meeting, after some discussion it was decided to call a special meeting to deal with the case.

The delegates to the M.C. meeting a Middleton, on April 12th, re the expulsion of Milton Lyceum from membership of the B.S.L.U. then gave their report and it was decided that a letter be sent to Milton Lyceum.

Confirmation of new Associate Members: Mr. A. Bables, Mr. W. Sugden and Mr. A. Waite, all of Laisterdyke Lyceum.

Lyceum Open Session held in the afternoon. Miss Stair, our President, conducted the Session. A number of scholars gave recitations and solos and a good number of pearls. This Lyceum is making progress.

Evening service, Mr. E. Aked in the chair, Mr. G. P. Simpson, our old esteemed friend and Hon. Life Member, Miss Stair and Mr. O'Neil addressed the meeting.

Vote of thanks to our Ripley Street friends brought a good time together to a close.—E. Aked, Sec.

### LIVERPOOL DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting was held on Saturday, 10th May, at Daulby Hall, Liverpool. The President, Mr. Watson, presided over delegates from Runcorn, Wigan, Birkenhead and Daulby Hall. 17 Associates and visitors. Mr. Keeling gave the invocation. Minutes, Correspondence and Reports accepted.

Re the consideration of dissolving the Council, it was decided that the matter be deferred until the next meeting and that the D.C. officers endeavour to discover schemes whereby the interest in the Council may be revived.

Delegates to B.S.L.U. Conference received their instructions. An enjoyable meeting.—Gladys Owen, Sec.

### LONDON DISTRICT.

The quarterly meeting will be held at Kingston, Bishop's Hall, 14 Ames Street (near Kingston Bridge), on Saturday, June 14th, at 6-30 p.m. sharp. Agenda: Conference and other reports; demonstration business, etc.

Will all delegates and associates please note, and do their utmost to attend.—A. Connor, Sec.

### NORTH-EAST CHESHIRE DISTRICT.

The quarterly meeting of the above Council was held on Saturday, May 3rd, at Baker Street, Heaton Norris. There were 27 delegates and associates from Baker Street, Stockport Central, Ashton, Hyde, Denton, Macclesfield and Dukinfield. The minutes of the Annual and E.C. Meetings were passed as read.

The Treasurer reported a financial loss on the U.D.C. meetings held at Hyde on March 8th and 9th, 1924.

The D.V. visited Baker Street Lyceum on April 6th, when there was a good session, the discipline being splendid.

It was resolved to have sports at the Annual Outing and that a Sub-Committee be formed to consist of a representative from each Lyceum.

The invitation to hold the next meeting on August 2nd, at Ashton, was accepted.

The collection realised 5/10.

It was passed that the question of outdoor sports with an interchange of Lyceums be brought forward at each Lyceum.

A vote of thanks was given to Baker Street friends for their kindness in providing tea.—Mary Maltby, Sec.

### NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

The above Council held their quarterly meeting on Saturday, May 17th, at Vernon Street, Nelson. Mr. Batley presided, supported by the whole of the E.C.

Secretary read minutes of last D.C. meeting, which were accepted. Questions were asked re Annual Returns, and it was stated that 1922 figures had been put in in error, and would be amended in the June issue of the *Lyceum Banner*.

Questions were raised re nominations and withdrawals, and it was agreed "that it be a condition in future that persons accepting nomination for any office shall not withdraw without the consent of the Council."

Correspondence read from Rawtenstall, Accrington, Brierfield, P.S.L.U., Darwen, Lancs. Road, Preston.

Re Gen. Sec. that letter be acknowledged and hope he will be able to attend at some future date.

Telegram sent to Darwen expressing good wishes for success at the opening of their new Church.

Secretary to deal with remainder of correspondence which was accepted.

Demonstration report given by Secretary, who tabled all the arrangements that had been made up-to-date, *re* travelling, dining and accommodation. Fleetwood U.D.C. are giving a civic welcome to the Council, and also every facility to make the affair a huge success. Gaumont Graphic are taking a film of the actual demonstration for their topical budget and a special film for the Council as a memento of the day. Numbers were taken for special train. Report accepted.

D.V. Reports were given and accepted.

Credential reports: E.C. 5, Area Rep. 1, Delegates 24, Associates 10, Visitors 5, Lyceum rep. 13 (4 sent word *re* absence). Total 45. Pooling 12/2 per Lyceum. Report accepted.

Resolved that Nelson Lyceum be invited to staff the Demonstration banner and to settle group for same.

U.D.C. Report taken as printed, and discussion deferred until next meeting. The Sec. to send typed copies of the President's Address to all Lyceums in the Council. The expense to be borne by the Council.

Adjudication Panels were outlined by the Secretary, and names of appointed adjudicators given. Panels had been compiled in this particular way to prevent any adjudicator visiting his own Lyceum. Report accepted.

President's Address, spoke *re* child mediums and the Jesuit movement being responsible for same. *Re* Demonstration, Education, Exams. and results, propaganda and organisation. Address accepted.

Conference business. No. 1 motion in N.E. Lancs. name to be withdrawn as same is embodied in the fusion report. Agreed we adhere to our course of action as outlined at last meeting. Secretary to arrange for saloon on the 10-10 a.m. Manchester to Hull for all N.E. Lancs. delegates to join *en route*.

Resolved the Council invite the B.S.L.U. Conference for 1925 to this district.

Votes of thanks were given to our Nelson friends for their labours on our behalf.

A social evening followed the meeting. The proceeds are to be given to the Council funds.—J.S., Sec.

#### SHEFFIELD DISTRICT.

The Annual General Meeting was held at Chesterfield on Sunday, February 24th. Mr. H. Heath presided over a good gathering. Credential reports—E.C., 6; Delegates, 16; Associates, 5; Visitors, 2. Total 29. Minutes of last Annual and Quarterly meeting were accepted and confirmed.

*Re* Easter Demonstration to be held at the Comrades Hall, Sheffield. The following people were appointed sub-committee: Mrs. Stanford, Messrs Organ and Saxelby. *Re* Doll given to Council by Mrs. Chapman, of Barnsley. Lyceum Secretaries must forward the penny lists when complete to Council Secretary. Notice was given of the lapse of the Centre Lyceum, and in connection with that it was resolved "that this Council ask the Centre Society to meet our Sub-Committee with a view to re-opening their Lyceum."

The officers were instructed to meet and consider the present adjudicating scheme; Mrs. Bruce and Mr. Hopkins were elected adjudicators.

Election of Officers:—President, Mr. H. Organ; Vice-Pres., Mr. Peasance; Treasurer, Mrs. Bruce; D.V., Mr. C. Hadfield; Secretary, Mr. C. H. Saxelby. The following delegates were appointed:—Conference, Mr. C. H. Saxelby; U.D.C., Mr. H. Heath; S.D.C., Mr. Rands.

Messrs Organ, Jones and Saxelby, with Mrs. Bruce, were appointed Joint Demonstration Sub-Committee.

Messrs Organ, Jones and Saxelby were instructed to attend Hoyland Common Lyceum on April 6th for official opening.

The following resolutions were carried:—"That the Lyceums in this Council are in favour of the Union President presiding over all the Union's meetings." "That we do not favour the separating of the duties of General Secretary and Banner Editor."

"That we favour the publication of Union Calendar; delegates to report amount of support to April meeting.

Arising out of Area Rep. report it was decided to forward the following resolution to Conference: "That all motions before being submitted to Conference for votes shall be written out on paper and signed by mover and seconder, and read out to the Conference by the Presiding Officer; after which they will be retained by Minute Secretary."

"That this Council adopt the London resolution at Conference as per letter *re* fusion of Churches and Lyceums."

The above Council will assemble on Sunday, June 29th, at the Hillsbro Bridge Hall. Delegates will be met at the Hillsbro

Bridge. Council will commence at 10.30 a.m. prompt. Usual catering arrangements

Council will take services; hope Lyceums will endeavour to be fully represented (two delegates). Lyceums are asked to invite new Associate Members to Council.

C. H. Saxelby, Sec.

#### SOUTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting was held on Saturday, May 3rd, at Gilmour Street, Middleton.

Mr. J. Nurse (President) in the chair.

Mr. Buckley, of Royton, was elected Credential Officer.

Minutes, Correspondence and Reports accepted. From the correspondence it was agreed that we give necessary assistance to Milnrow National Spiritual Church Leaders, in their efforts to form a Lyceum.

The President stated that Leaders of Lyceums should endeavour to put more variety into the sessions than is often shown in many Lyceums, and requested that delegates should bring forward the ideas of each Lyceum, so that we may benefit by the various opinions. He also urged the importance of looking after the social side of the Lyceum to keep Lyceumists interested.

It was decided that the Secretary should write a letter to Miss M. E. Lawton, expressing our appreciation and thanks for the lessons which she has given to us through the BANNER.

The Conference Agenda was discussed.

Credential Report:—11 Delegates, 1 D.V., 1 Associate, 2 Visitors. Report was accepted.

A vote of thanks was given to Middleton friends for entertainment.

The next meeting will be held at Shaw (Lyon Street), on Saturday, September 6th.—T. Dixon, Sec.

#### TEES-SIDE DISTRICT.

An E.C. meeting was held at Darlington Psycho. on Saturday, May 17th. Representatives were present from six Lyceums. Officers present:—President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. There was a good amount of business done and some interesting discussions took place. A greater and livelier interest is necessary from the E.C. and every Lyceumist. Six Lyceums were not represented. Our object in putting in this report is to arouse this interest. Your Council has had to abandon its May meeting, through having no invitations. *Does this concern you?* All enquiries, offers, etc., to Geo. A. Atkinson, 1, Haswell Street, Stockton-on-Tees, Dis. Sec.

#### TYNESIDE DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Conference was held at Victory Lyceum, Sunderland, on May 11th. Mr. Slimin, President, in the chair. The Conference was very cordially greeted by the Conductor. New members accepted were:—Whitley Bay and Plyth Lyceums, and Mrs. Slimin as Associate.

Arising out of the minutes of last Conference, the Secretary reported that nine silver blanks had been added to the Challenge Shield, and that £2 1s. 3d. had been subscribed for Mrs. Young Testimonial Fund.

Arising from E.C. minutes, questions were asked *re* Shield Adjudicators' marking standards.

Conference was pleased to hear that Newbiggen Church and Lyceum were organising a rally on Whit-Monday and wished them every success, and unanimously decided to send a representative who would be prepared to speak if needed.

*Reports*:—The Treasurer's Financial Statement was accepted with thanks, as also was report of the N.D.C. and T.L.D.C. Joint Committee, *re* arrangements for the Joint Conference. The D.V. reported having visited Durham (twice), Hebburn, High Shields, Newburn and Benwell, and the deputy D.V.'s., Mrs. Slimin and Mr. J. Stafford, Blackhill and Blyth respectively. These reports were accepted with thanks.

The President here welcomed Mr. Harvey Metcalfe, Lecturer, and Mr. D. Todd to the Conference, and as distinguished visitors granted them full speaking and voting powers. Mr. H. Metcalfe, in responding, expressed his admiration for the Lyceum work.

The other reports, viz., U.D.C. Delegate, N.D.C. Delegate, and Secretary's, were next accepted.

#### PRESENTATION TO MR. WM. HALL, OF GATESHEAD.

Mr. Hall's many friends throughout the country will be pleased to know that at this Conference the Lyceumists of Tyneside District united to express their thanks to Mr. Hall for his many years of long and arduous self-sacrifice for Lyceumism, and as a tangible mark of appreciation he was presented with an oak lounge chair from the Lyceums and a

*Manual* from past and present members of the E.C. Mr. Slimin, with a few well-chosen remarks, made the presentation, and asked Mr. Hall, as he rested in the chair, to realize that he was surrounded by strengthening thoughts of gratitude for services done and by prayers that he may long have strength and health to continue to work with us. Mr. Hall, in reply, thanked all friends and pointed us back to the time when Mr. Kitson opened the Newcastle Lyceum in 1886, reminded us of the persecution of those days with the liberty of to-day, and urged all to work for their Lyceum with the idea of "How much can I do," and not "What will I get."

Mr. Hunter next spoke and expressed the love and esteem of all for Mrs. Hall, who is throughout the district beloved as the Mother of the Lyceums on Tyneside, and as Mrs. Hall was absent through illness, the handbag was given to Mr. Hall, to take to his wife, with the greetings of Conference.

The B.S.L.U. Conference Agenda was discussed and instructions given to the Delegates.

Mr. Robson gave as a notice of motion for next Conference: "That we consider in all details the adjudication for the Shield Competition."

Invitations were accepted for August Conference from Chester-le-Street, and for November Conference from Derwent Street, Sunderland.

Credential Report gave 22 delegates, representing 16 Lyceums, 17 Associates, 7 E.C., 2 N.D.C., and 2 Visitors.

The vote of thanks to the local friends terminated a successful and red-letter day.

Will Lyceumists and friends arrange their Whit-Monday outing to Newbiggen and join in the Rally?—N. E. Ainley, Sec.

#### SOUTH SHIELDS UNITED LYCEUM WORKERS.

The Monthly Meeting was held in Eldon Street Church, on Saturday, April 26th. Mrs. Bell (Vice-President) presided, in the absence of Mr. Woodall (President).

It was decided to hold united sessions in Cambridge Street on June 22nd, 1924, and in Beatty Street on any suitable date in either September or October, and in Fowler Street on December 14th, 1924. The three local Lyceums will take part and at the evening service be assisted by the United Choir, which is making fine headway, under the able conductorship of Bro. N. Ainley.

We held the United Memorial Service for our Bro., Mr. Musgrave, on Sunday, March 23rd, 1924. It was a great success, the crowded hall speaking well for the esteem in which our late brother was held.—J. White, Sec.

## 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.**

**DONCASTER, Spring Gardens.**—On Easter Tuesday a Fancy Dress Carnival was held, in aid of the Lyceum Funds. There was a grand display of fancy dresses. Mr., Mrs., and Miss Ford judged and also provided a number of prizes, with the result that every competitor received a prize of some description. Mrs. Quinton was responsible for the catering and Mr. Towle supplied the music. Everyone had a pleasant and enjoyable time.—W. Moseley, Sec.

**LONDON, Forest Hill.**—We had a splendid session on the occasion of a visit from Grovedale Hall, Holloway, on Sunday, May 18th, when a party of Lyceumists visited us to initiate us in our new work. There were 51 present and the young friends gave an excellent demonstration how to conduct a Lyceum, with really first class marching and calisthenics, which was appreciated by all present. Mr. Drinkwater, their leader, took entire charge of the session, and the visit proved most enjoyable and instructive, our children joining in the programme, will undoubtedly benefit greatly by the practical demonstration given. We were also favoured by two delegates from Tottenham Lyceum. Tea was provided for the visitors, who stayed to the evening meeting, which was also conducted by Mr. Drinkwater. Our united thanks are tendered to all who helped to make it such a success.—E. D. Gentle.

**NOTTINGHAM, Mechanics' Hall.**—April 20th, Open Session and Prize Distribution, conducted by Miss Rayner. Mr. Woodland, of Cardiff, kindly presented prizes to 46 Lyceumists, with encouraging remarks. A baby was named by Miss Rayner and items were rendered as follows:—Violin solo, Joseph Hitchenor; vocal solo, Maurice Farnath; recitations,

Mrs. Baxter, Ada Seaton, Alec Brown; dialogue, "Pearls from the Shrine of Nature" (composed by Miss Rayner), John Billington, Albert Buckley, Charles Woodward, Irene Buckley, Norman Cannon, Eden Cannon, Kenneth Billington, Kathleen Kiddy, Joan Rayner, Maria Baker. The Spandagatta March by the children was given, with floral effects, and a selection by the Lyceum Choir, conductor Mr. Farnath, brought a pleasant afternoon to a close. The absence of Mrs. Boscock, Assistant Conductor, through serious illness, was deeply regretted by all, and kindly thoughts were sent out to her.—O. Peel, Sec.

**NELSON.**—On March 30th we celebrated our Anniversary Services with a session in the morning and evening, and a service in the afternoon. The morning session was of a pleasing character. Items were given by various Lyceumists, also a double christening enriched the session. Afternoon took the form of an ordinary service, whilst the night's session was a great event, amid a large gathering, conductors of past years taking part. Also a rose bowl of beautiful flowers was given, in memory of arisen Lyceumists and past workers overseas. The rostrum was nicely decorated, whilst the power felt amongst us was great. Efforts given by Lyceumists and friends closed a successful day with memories.—Mrs. Parkinson, Sec.

**PARKGATE.**—Our Lyceum is making progress, both numerically and financially, and it is pleasing to report that we have a concert party, composed of Lyceumists, doing good work.

On March 29th we gave a concert for the benefit of the Society funds, which was a means of raising the sum of £3 16s. 8d. This is the third we have given for the Society's benefit, raising nearly £10.

On April 12th we paid a visit to Attercliffe Spiritual Church, to give them a benefit concert, but it was poorly attended.

On April 6th we had the pleasure of the company of the Sheffield District Committee at an Open Session in the afternoon, when we had a good time together, some of them taking part and giving short speeches.

It is with sorrow I have to report the passing on of one of our young Lyceumists, 7 years of age (Richard Morris), who passed away quite suddenly on May 1st, after only being ill a day or so. He was interred in Rawmarsh Cemetery on May 6th by one of our Lyceum officers, Mr. F. Cook, and was carried to his resting place by four members of the Lyceum.

On Sunday, May 4th, Mrs. Lidgett, the Lyceum Conductor, had the pleasure of performing the naming ceremony upon an infant.—J. H. Gothard, Sec.

**SALFORD, Central.**—On 13th April we had the interesting ceremony of naming the son (Donald) of Mr. and Mrs. Dean, spirit name "Light-bearer." Mr. Lee officiated. On 4th May we held our Open Sessions. Many visitors enjoyed a magnificent evening. Recitations, solos, duets and pianoforte items were ably rendered by our Lyceumists. Fraternal greetings to all.—Bennett, Sec.

**BRADFORD, Laisterdyke.**—We held an enjoyable Session on May 4th, conducted by Miss Winnie Long. Recitations, duets and solos by Harold Batty, Marion Ashforth, Mr. H. Barnes, Lucy Farnell, Lilian Whitley, Mrs. Abbott, Mrs. Babbs, Mr. Hollin, Mr. A. Babbs, Miss Lilian Long and Joseph Farnell. Best wishes to all other Lyceums.—J. Babbs, Sec.

**KETTERING.**—The fairy play, "Cinderella," was given by the Lyceum on 15th April, in aid of the Summer Outing. The following were the chief characters:—Phyllis Herbert, Cinderella; Miss Elise Taylor, Crosspatch; Miss Josie Frezner, Proudie; Miss Lily Mitchell, Godmother; Miss Irene York, Sir Hector; Miss Dorothy Gibbs, Prince Charming; Miss Nellie Yeoman, Sir Haliday; Miss Kate Taylor, Herald; with a band of little fairies. The performance was well attended, and was repeated by request for our Church Building Fund. The children carried out everything splendidly and thanks are due to our Conductors, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell.—F. Holland, Sec.

**SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.**—May 4th we held our usual Open Session, when pearls, recitations and solo were well rendered by the Lyceumists.

May 18th, we held our Anniversary Services. All hymns were taken from the *Manual*. Our speakers were Messrs. Jones, Armitage, Goodall, S. Smith, and Mrs. Thwaites and Mrs. Stanford. Music and singing were well rendered, and accompanied by Mrs. Robinson, at the organ, and also string band, under the direction of Mr. Hales and Mr. Armitage. Recitations and solos were well rendered by many Lyceumists and much appreciated by a large audience.

May 18th, 30 certificates gained by the students who sat for examination were distributed by Mr. Jones. Our hearty thanks are accorded to all who took part in any way towards making so great a success of the week-end services.—J. F. Smith, Sec.

EDINBURGH, 9, Forth Street.—On 27th April we held a very successful Open Session. Mr. Oaten, of Manchester, opened by giving us a few encouraging remarks. This was followed by solos by Misses Greig, McCulloch and Mr. Churchill; recitations by Misses Dodson and Cameron, Masters Dodson and Duncan; also an organ selection by Mr. Dodson. All were much enjoyed by Lyceumists and friends.—E. Riddell, Sec.

## LYCEUM REPORTS.

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

**RULE 2.**—Record only the events occurring after May 21st.

**RULE 3.**—Lyceums taking 1 dozen copies are allowed free insertion of 25 words; 2 dozen 50 words; 3 dozen 75 words; 4 dozen copies or over, 100 words.

Additional words to be paid for at the rate of 6d. for every nine words. This Rule does not apply to Lyceums numbering fewer than 30 members.

**RULE 4.**—All Reports must reach this Office not later than June 25th, to ensure insertion in the July 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.

**BACUP.**—May 4th, Open Session and Lyceum Day, conducted by Mrs. Carter. Pearls, recitations, songs were splendidly rendered by numerous Lyceumists. In the afternoon Session again continued, when Mrs. Ingham named the infant daughter of two of our old scholars, Ida Nixon, with the Spirit name of Lily. A most impressive session.—B. Lord, Sec.

**BARROW,** Ramsden Street.—On May 4th we held our Open Session. Recitations: Jackie Howbrook, Ethel May Ankinson, Lily Fenton, Edna Brown, Sam Robinson, Mary Howbrook, Gordon Hazel, Marjorie Chapman, Frank Fenton, Peggie Dixon, Freda Elsie Fenton, Lily Kirkpatrick and David Brown.—L. Brown, Sec.

**BEDWORTH.**—Open Sessions on May 4th. Recitations rendered by L. Chapman, M. Wood, L. Walker, I. West, P. Allsop, B. Farndon, G. Chapman. Songs were sung from the *Manual* by the Ocean and Liberty Groups.—H. Wood, Sec.

**BIRKENHEAD.**—May 4th was Open Session with a very good attendance, and all thoroughly enjoyed the time spent. A number of pearls were given and we were favoured with solos by Mr. Taylor and Elsie Thompson; also a pianoforte solo from Mr. Whitely. Recitations by Charlie Ellis, Margaret Ellis, Iris Durnam, May Stretton, Mabel Proffitt, Ida Hemp-sall, Jessie Makin and Eileen Edwards, all of whom are very young. The adults could do nothing better than follow them.—Millicent Hemp-sall.

**BOLTON,** Bradford Street.—On April 13th we held our Open Session and no doubt it will ever live in the memory of those present. A beautiful orchestral band produced delightful music and harmony and, coupled with the beautiful hymns, one felt merged into spiritual heights. On Good Friday we all went to the country where we had tea and games which provoked much mirth and happiness. We finally completed a most perfect day in the schools by the rendering of songs, recitations and dancing. We each sought our way homeward after the singing of Auld Lang Syne, feeling that our brothers and sisters in Spirit had accompanied us through the joys of the day.—T. Connor, Sec.

**BRADFORD,** Boynton Street.—Open Session, April 6th. Recitations: A. Hampson, J. Hampson; solo duets by Misses Scarborough, Holdsworth, Wroe; readings by J. Schofield, Mrs. Ward, P. Ruby. Enjoyed by all.—Mrs. Ward, Sec.

**BRIERFIELD.**—We held our Open Session on May 4th. Eight children responded, four being under six years of age. Songs and pearls were given by adults. A very pleasing and happy Session well conducted throughout and a credit to the Lyceum. We are climbing the ladder of progression with our watchwords: Forward and Onward. We send our prayerful thoughts to all.—Thomas Ware, Sec.

**BURNLEY,** Hammerton Street.—On May 11th, 1924, we held our Lyceum Anniversary. At 10 a.m. we held our usual Session. In the afternoon we held the Open Session. The following helped to make it a success:—Misses P. Lister, A.

Lomas, A. Barraclough, and one of our youngest Lyceumists, little Mary Hocking. Our speaker, Mr. Squire Spencer, of Blackpool, gave a few remarks to the children. Evening Service was conducted by Mr. Spencer, on "Our Lyceum Children," which was taken to heart by all present. A Red Letter Day.—H. Brown.

**BURY,** Freetown.—On April 27th we held our Open Sessions and Distribution of Prizes to Lyceumists by our Conductor, Mrs. Myers. Pearls and solos were given by Lyceumists and visiting friends. We spent an enjoyable time together.—A. Nurse, Sec.

**CHESTERFIELD.**—On April 27th we held our Anniversary Services when we had with us Mr. G. A. Mack. The following Lyceumists took part in the Open Sessions:—Elsie and Louie Gore, Lilian and Connie Slater, Sidney and Frances Hobster, Kenneth and Avis Bown, Edith and Tom Slater, Marian Wagstaffe, Joyce Godley, Cyril Percival, Wilfred Slater, Kenwood, Widdowson, Rene Marriott, Lizzie Siddall, and Mrs. Baston. Mr. Mack kindly distributed the prizes.

We held our monthly Open Session on May 11th, when we were favoured with items by Frances and Sidney Hobster, Lilian and Connie Slater, Kenneth and Avis Bown, May Wheatley, Marian Wagstaffe, Kenwood Widdowson, John Slater, Lizzie Siddall, Elsie Gore and Cyril Percival.—H. Lee.

**COLNE,** Cloth Hall.—On April 27th, Mr. Ainsworth of Brierfield Lyceum, visited our Lyceum and spoke of the way the Session had been conducted, and said that by visiting other Lyceums we could always learn something and it had been an interesting visit. Fraternal greetings were exchanged.

May 4th, Open Session. Recitations and pianoforte solos were given by several Lyceumists. Both sessions were well conducted.—J. R. Wrigglesworth, Sec.

**EARBY,** Back Green End Avenue.—We held our Open Session on May 4th. Recitations were given by Mary Ennis, Peggie Hunter, Mona Aldersley, Allan Bannister, Jack Foster, Ronald Hunter, Walter Moore. Songs by Dollie Nuttall, Lizzie Clarke, Mary Clarke, Adeline Nuttall, Edna Taylor, Evelyn Taylor, Mary Ennis, Kenneth Dewhurst, Harry Greenwood, Wilfred Smith, Maisie Hunter, Alice Christopher, Christopher Blackburn, Robert Blackburn, Roland Martindale. Solo by Miss Annie Dawson. We spent a good time together.—B. Fryer, Sec.

**EDINBURGH,** No. 1, Lyceum, 5, Queen Street.—On May 4th a Naming Ceremony was conducted by Mr. Iom Tyrrell, of Blackburn. The child, sister of one of our Lyceumists, was named Olive Stephenson. Spirit name, Purity. There was a good attendance, about 100 being present. Special Services are being held on Sunday, 1st June, in the new Church, 9, Gayfield Square, which our parent body, the Edinburgh Association of Spiritualists, have acquired.—J.M., Sec.

**FOLESHILL.**—Open Session, May 4th. Pearls by all Lyceumists; recitations by J. Oughton, A. Rea, C. Hutton, W. Chambers, C. Sanders. Ocean Banner and Star Groups sang from the *Manual*.—Mrs. E. Hutton, Sec.

**FLEETWOOD.**—On May 4th we held our Open Session. There was a very good attendance and many solos and recitations were given by the Lyceumists. We are looking forward to a good time at the Demonstration here, and hope to have a fine day. Greetings to all Lyceums. (Mrs.) F. Benson, Sec.

**GREAT HARWOOD.**—Open Session held May 4th. S.C. was led by Walter Taylor; M.R. by Mr. Baxter, Clara Waterhouse and Willie Barrington; G.C. by Ernest Allen. The following also took part with recitations and solos:—Maggie Nelson, Ernest Allen, Sydney Hudson, Dorothy Hartley, Maud Hartley, Mr. Baxter and Maggie Fish.—H. Baxter, Sec.

**HEATON NORRIS,** Baker Street.—We held Open Sessions on April 13th. Recitations, pearls and solos were given by the children. We had visitors from the Central Lyceum. At 6-30 the Lyceum gave a Service of Song entitled "Summerland." We had a very good time and a very successful day.—Mrs. E. Downs, Sec.

**HUDDERSFIELD,** St. Peter's Street.—We held our Open Session on May 4th, conducted by Mr. Garside. We had recitations by Miss Doris Richmond and Vere Pollard, a pianoforte solo by Miss Wallis, a solo by Miss Eva Farnhill and a duet by Miss Beckwith and Miss Doris Richmond.—Miss Elizabeth Farnhill, Sec.

**IDLE.**—We held our Open Session on May 4th, conducted by Miss Stair of Keighley. Recitations by Miss Doris Illing-

worth, May Dawson, Miss Tordoff, James Illingworth and J. R. Marshall. Duet by Mrs. Keighley and Miss Watson. In the evening our platform was occupied by the Bradford Lyceum Executive Council, and the service was enjoyed by all present.—Alfred Illingworth.

LANCASTER.—We held our Open Session on May 4th, and were entertained by recitations from Annie Smith, Nellie Lowther and John Peel, and also a solo from Eva J. Jackson. Our Lyceumists are looking eagerly forward to the Fleetwood Demonstration, also to the unfurling of a display banner on May 24th, for which the children have been contributing for about 12 months, so you see we are very busy and hope that all Lyceums are prospering as we are at present. Fraternal greetings to each and all.—Marion Swale, Sec.

LEICESTER, Rupert Street.—On May 4th we held our Lyceum Anniversary Services, when we had the pleasure of having our General Secretary, Mr. G. F. Knott, of Rochdale, with us. The addresses he gave were both instructive and uplifting, and everyone enjoyed them. The singing by the scholars was very good, and great credit was due to the musical conductor, Mr. Payne. The attendances at the services were very good. Mr. J. Wicks, Sec.

LONDON, Kingston-on-Thames.—Our Lyceum held Open Session on May 4th, on the occasion of a visit from Mrs. Clements, of Battersea, who presented us with a Banner. "The Workers Win," on Green Satin, worked in gold and given to the Lyceum to encourage them in their efforts. Several visitors of the parent Church attended, and six individual efforts were given; one a musical trio, another a duet. Trusting the Banner will be an incentive to help the workers to win.—L. Hart, Sec.

LONDON, Plaistow.—On April 13th we held our 15th Anniversary. Visitors:—Misses L. and E. Davis, of Plumstead, and Mr. Giles, of our Parent Society. Mr. Giles and Miss L. Davis gave some encouraging remarks.—R. Manning, Con.

LONDON, Tottenham.—We offer greetings to all Lyceumists both at home and abroad, and we are pleased to say we are progressing in our Lyceum. On May 14th, 1924, we opened a sports and athletic club; we are hoping to have some fine times together.—Gerald Markham (aged 11 years), Session Secretary.

MANCHESTER, Maston.—On April 20th we held our Open Sessions. There were recitations from boys and girls, also solos rendered by Miss B. Walton, Mr. Brady and Miss D. Walk. The marching and calisthenics were very good. We also had the very interesting ceremony of the naming of the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Smith, by Mrs. Smith, senior. We also had the presentation of certificates to the winners of the B.S.L.U. Education Exams. Greetings to all Lyceums. E. Eden, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Pendleton.—On May 10th we held a very successful May Queen Carnival. The Queen (Miss Elsie Scott) attended by four maids of honour (Misses Spener, Stott, Betts, and Lloyd, two pages (Masters Blackledge and Royle), crown bearer (Master Richards), was crowned by Mrs. J. Pearson, the oldest Lyceumist, amidst gay revelry.—J. Shaw, Sec.

NORMANTON, Queen Street.—On April 6th we held our Lyceum Day, when we gave the service of song "Into the Light," the parts being ably read by our Conductor, Mr. J. Rothery.

On May 17th we held our Lyceum Anniversary, when special hymns were sung and recitations were given by Selena Williams, Winnie Walker, Sarah Burns, Winnie Burns, Elizabeth Dixon, Mary Dixon, Florence Dixon, Gladys Bednall, Lucy Beecher, Harry Rothery, Arthur Lilley, Eric Lilley, Harry Dixon and Kenneth Calcutt; also a solo by Silas Beecher. Our best thanks are given to all who helped to make it such a success.—E. Calcutt, Sec.

OLDHAM, Hooper Street.—On May 6th Miss Edna Crabtree, one of our Lyceumists, was married to Mr. Harold Collins. Mr. Oaten, Editor of *The Two Worlds*, performed the ceremony, and, as this was the first marriage to take place, the Church was decorated with flowers, and packed with friends, some of them never having seen a Spiritualist wedding before. Numerous presents were given to the happy pair, with wishes for a prosperous journey through their married life. Tea was provided for about sixty guests and an enjoyable time was spent in the evening.—A. W. Goulden, Sec.

PORTSMOUTH, Temple.—We held our monthly Open Session on May 4th. Mr. Long, S.C.D.C. Secretary, conducted. Well rendered items by nine members. A delightful session. Life is what we make it.—Miss Amy Higgins, Sec.

QUARMBY.—Open Session held May 11th, when Miss Jury gave a recitation and the three youngest Lyceumists gave a Lyceum song. An afternoon well spent.—A. Baxter.

SHEFFIELD.—On May 11th we held our first Anniversary, with gratifying results of our year's work. Recitations and solos were ably rendered by Lyceumists. We had a good number of visitors present.—Mrs. Jennings, Sec.

STOCKTON, Brunswick Street.—On May 4th we held our usual Open Session. Invocation by Mrs. Williams, S.C. and M.R. were well responded to; G.C. 143 was taken by Mr. Nicolson, of Hexham, the speaker for the day, who discoursed upon it. Marching and calisthenics were splendid. Pearls, recitations and solos were rendered by Lyceumists. Pleased to say our Lyceum is progressing favourably.—G. Tuck, Sec.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES, Cecil Street.—Open Session held on May 4th, conducted by Miss Wood. Good opening. Silver Chain good, well taken by children; also Musical Reading. G.C.R. was fairly well taken, and a few questions answered. Marching and Calisthenics were moderate. Pearls plentiful from girls and Liberty Group. Recitations fair and mainly from girls. Solos very scarce. A very fair session.—Geo. A. Atkinson, Sec.

WALSALL.—Our Children's Lyceum May Services were quite up to the high standard we have set ourselves to reach, and were conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Hudson Wakefield, of Ednesbury. Mr. J. Venables, J.P., President, was in the chair, and the choir and children, numbering about 120, gave an anthem and selections from the *Songster*. Our thanks are due to Mrs. Keay for providing the blue rosettes and sashes for the children. Mr. Keay conducted the musical part of the services. A pretty sight was the presentation of a bouquet by little Freda Smith, for the "Fountain" Group, to Mrs. Wakefield, and this was accompanied by buttonholes given to the President and to Mr. Wakefield, by little Monty Felton. Mr. V. H. Lawton (Superintendent), Mr. John Venables, Junior, and other Group leaders, assisted admirably. Mr. Venables, Junior, also supplied printed orders of the service for the congregation.

WELLINGTON, N.Z.—The Lyceum in Wellington is going steadily ahead, under the leadership of Mr. Webb. We have marching and calisthenics every Sunday, followed by a class or an open session. The attendance is very steady, and the Lyceumists are responding well with pearls and recitations. Greetings to all Lyceums.—Miss S. Kirk, Sec.

WINDHILL.—We held our Open Session on May 5th, with a very fair attendance. The following scholars rendered items: Readings: Misses A. Harris, H. Knight and Mr. Bickel (Conductor); Recitations: Messrs. E. Walton, H. Harris, E. Keighley and Miss M. Sleep; Duet: Masters. J. Wyley and W. Sleep; Trio: Misses E. Harris, H. Knight and M. Hattersley.—D. Feather, Sec.

WINNIPEG, Canada.—On April 6th we held our Open Session. Pearls and recitations were given by the following:—Winnie Brown, Ella Crawley, Sylvia Parkinson, Maud Hargreaves, Edna Brown, Milly Crawley, Ena Luke, Olive Forrest, Dolly Sutherland, Harry Towns, Clara Dale. Songs by Winnie Brown, Mrs. Knox, Mrs. Crawley and Mr. H. Forrest. Piano-forte selection by Evelyn Hargreaves. The Lyceum was very well attended, six visitors being present. This is great encouragement to all officers of the Lyceum to carry on their work. "The Workers Win." Success to all Lyceums.—Helen F. Lawrence, Sec.

#### THE ANNUAL RETURNS.

A list of figures was given in error in the last issue of the *Banner*. The following List gives the figures submitted to the 1923 Conference and the figures they have submitted for 1924. (Taken from Lyceumists on the Registers of the Lyceums at the end of 1923).

The total reported to the 1923 Conference was 14,102. Four Lyceums have been deleted from the last year's List through non-payment of fees. Their membership totalled 181 members. The total in the 1924 List as outlined in the table is 15,558 and includes the membership which was enrolled during 1924.

# The Roll of Lyceums in Membership with the B.S.L. Union.

(This list corrects the list issued in last month's BANNER.)

No.	Name.	Members	
		Conf. 1923	Conf. 1924
<b>BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT.</b>			
1	Handsworth .. .. .	43 ..	50
2	Stirchley .. .. .	— ..	39
3	Wolverhampton, Drummond Street ..	— ..	83
4	Wolverhampton, Temple Street ..	36 ..	—
5	Walsall .. .. .	100 ..	130
<b>BOLTON DISTRICT.</b>			
6	Bolton, Bradford Street .. .. .	95 ..	86
7	Bolton, Deane Road .. .. .	40 ..	47
8	Bolton, Henry Street .. .. .	64 ..	85
9	Bury, King Street .. .. .	45 ..	44
10	Daisy Hill .. .. .	31 ..	37
11	Horwich .. .. .	50 ..	75
12	Leigh .. .. .	49 ..	—
13	Radcliffe .. .. .	50 ..	40
14	Bury, Freetown .. .. .	— ..	34
<b>BRADFORD DISTRICT.</b>			
15	Bradford, Boynton Street .. .. .	37 ..	41
16	Bradford, Whetley Lane .. .. .	45 ..	—
17	Bradford, Harker Street .. .. .	45 ..	—
18	Bradford, 432, Manchester Road ..	39 ..	33
19	Bradford, Otley Road .. .. .	33 ..	34
20	Laisterdyke .. .. .	49 ..	45
21	Keighley .. .. .	64 ..	71
22	Shipley .. .. .	39 ..	30
23	Skipton .. .. .	44 ..	28
24	Windhill .. .. .	42 ..	58
25	Yeadon .. .. .	34 ..	—
26	Idle .. .. .	— ..	46
<b>COVENTRY DISTRICT.</b>			
27	Coventry, Bull Street .. .. .	46 ..	50
28	Coventry, Broadgate .. .. .	48 ..	48
29	Coventry, Foleshill .. .. .	45 ..	48
30	Coventry, Lockhurst Lane .. .. .	35 ..	50
31	Nuneaton .. .. .	— ..	47
<b>HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.</b>			
32	Brighouse, Commercial Street .. ..	72 ..	98
33	Brighouse, Martin Street .. .. .	26 ..	20
34	Elland .. .. .	35 ..	35
35	Halifax, Alma Street .. .. .	76 ..	73
36	Halifax, Raven Street .. .. .	48 ..	65
37	Hebden Bridge .. .. .	70 ..	40
38	Huddersfield, Ramsden Street .. ..	50 ..	42
39	Huddersfield, St. Peter Street .. ..	96 ..	79
40	Quarmby .. .. .	— ..	38
41	Slaithwaite .. .. .	72 ..	60
42	Sowerby Bridge .. .. .	85 ..	63
43	West Vale .. .. .	48 ..	48
44	Marsden .. .. .	43 ..	22
<b>LEEDS DISTRICT.</b>			
45	Batley Carr .. .. .	46 ..	60
46	Birstall, Batley .. .. .	47 ..	46
47	Castleford .. .. .	44 ..	46
48	Dewsbury .. .. .	121 ..	137
49	Heckmondwike .. .. .	19 ..	26
50	Hull, Dairycoates .. .. .	81 ..	93
51	Hull, Holborn Hall .. .. .	73 ..	78
52	Leeds, Armley .. .. .	96 ..	100
53	Leeds, Psycho .. .. .	100 ..	99
54	Leeds, Easy Road .. .. .	132 ..	93
55	Leeds, Roxburgh Road .. .. .	46 ..	—
56	Littleton, Livversedge .. .. .	62 ..	50
57	Moorthorpe (S. Emsall) .. .. .	50 ..	50
58	Morley .. .. .	24 ..	30
59	Normanton .. .. .	42 ..	32
60	Pontefract .. .. .	21 ..	23
61	Scarborough .. .. .	30 ..	47
62	Wakefield .. .. .	75 ..	77
63	York .. .. .	50 ..	42
64	Horsforth (Leeds) .. .. .	— ..	50
65	Cleckheaton .. .. .	80 ..	50
<b>LIVERPOOL DISTRICT.</b>			
66	Birkenhead .. .. .	86 ..	83
67	Liverpool, Daulby Hall .. .. .	78 ..	73
68	Liverpool, Boaler Street .. .. .	48 ..	49
69	Runcorn .. .. .	73 ..	69
70	Southport .. .. .	28 ..	40
71	Warrington .. .. .	73 ..	65
72	Widnes .. .. .	36 ..	—
73	Wigan .. .. .	56 ..	50
74	St. Helens, Corporation Street .. ..	— ..	—
<b>LONDON DISTRICT.</b>			
75	Clapham .. .. .	50 ..	34
76	Fulham .. .. .	31 ..	42
77	Hampton Hill .. .. .	24 ..	23
78	Kingston .. .. .	23 ..	23
79	Little Ilford .. .. .	44 ..	23
80	Manor Park .. .. .	49 ..	48
81	North London .. .. .	47 ..	82
82	Peckham .. .. .	64 ..	61
83	Plaistow .. .. .	50 ..	50
84	Tottenham .. .. .	48 ..	77
85	Woolwich & Plumstead .. .. .	48 ..	50
86	Walthamstow .. .. .	44 ..	48
87	Wimbledon .. .. .	— ..	12
88	Battersea .. .. .	— ..	40
89	Lewisham .. .. .	— ..	50
90	Hounslow .. .. .	21 ..	27
<b>MANCHESTER DISTRICT.</b>			
91	Manchester, Ardwick .. .. .	77 ..	66
92	,, Cheetham .. .. .	42 ..	49
93	,, Collyhurst .. .. .	72 ..	71
94	,, Higher Openshaw .. .. .	— ..	93
95	,, Longsight .. .. .	— ..	102
96	,, Moss Side .. .. .	86 ..	99
97	,, Moston .. .. .	76 ..	73
98	,, Newton Heath .. .. .	83 ..	124
99	Pendleton .. .. .	91 ..	107
100	Manchester, Princess Hall .. .. .	75 ..	78
101	New Manchester .. .. .	41 ..	34
102	Sale .. .. .	48 ..	48
103	Salford .. .. .	40 ..	71
104	Stretford (Deferred) .. .. .	— ..	—
105	Hollinwood .. .. .	— ..	50
<b>NORTH-EAST CHESHIRE DISTRICT.</b>			
106	Ashton-under-Lyne .. .. .	38 ..	61
107	Denton .. .. .	— ..	41
108	Dukinfield .. .. .	— ..	29
109	Glossop .. .. .	34 ..	—
110	Hadfield .. .. .	32 ..	27
111	Heaton Norris .. .. .	50 ..	50
112	Hyde .. .. .	68 ..	59
113	Macclesfield .. .. .	44 ..	49
114	Stockport, Central .. .. .	98 ..	93
115	Stockport, Lr. Hillgate .. .. .	87 ..	36
<b>NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.</b>			
116	Accrington, Argyle St. .. .. .	40 ..	—
117	Accrington, Pearl St. .. .. .	49 ..	58
118	Barnoldswick, Green St. .. .. .	— ..	80
119	Barnoldswick, West End (Resigned) ..	90 ..	—
120	Barrow, Dalkeith St. .. .. .	44 ..	92
121	Barrow, Ramsden St. .. .. .	49 ..	50
122	Barrowford .. .. .	44 ..	47
123	Brierfield .. .. .	50 ..	50
124	Blackburn .. .. .	135 ..	84
125	Blackpool .. .. .	99 ..	79
126	Burnley, Hammerton St. .. .. .	95 ..	84
127	Burnley, North St. .. .. .	197 ..	233
128	Clitheroe .. .. .	45 ..	40
129	Colne .. .. .	80 ..	84
130	Darwen .. .. .	98 ..	114
131	Earby .. .. .	104 ..	159
132	Fleetwood .. .. .	140 ..	200
133	Great Harwood .. .. .	77 ..	80
134	Lancaster .. .. .	94 ..	149
135	Millom .. .. .	42 ..	40
136	Nelson .. .. .	119 ..	150
137	Padiham .. .. .	26 ..	49
138	Preston, 202, Lancaster Rd. .. .. .	46 ..	46

139	Preston, 68, Lancaster Rd.	63	48	212	Nantymoel	49	48
140	Preston, Clarke's Yard	45	19	213	Newport	59	50
141	Rawtenstall	42	60	214	Penrhiwceiber	—	—
142	Rishton	63	46	215	Port Talbot and Aberavon	—	—
143	Dalton	—	43	216	Ystrad	30	—

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.

144	Belper	100	100
145	Beeston	29	34
146	Eastwood	28	41
147	Hucknall	48	44
148	Kettering	—	98
149	Leicester, Forester's Institute	—	50
150	Leicester, Marston St.	—	34
151	Leicester, Rupert St.	50	47
152	Leicester, Silver St.	50	48
153	Long Eaton	37	45
154	Mansfield	120	130
155	Nottingham, Gladstone Hall	48	47
156	,, Hyson Green	85	62
157	,, Mechanics Hall	93	98
158	,, Parliament St.	—	—
159	Sutton-in-Ashfield	57	75

SCOTTISH DISTRICT.

160	Aberdeen	31	21
161	Adelaide, Australia	38	38
162	Dundee, Overgate	94	89
163	,, Rattery St.	23	25
164	Edinburgh	50	45
165	Falkirk	—	—
166	Glasgow, Association	119	82
167	,, Northern	—	50
168	,, Progressive	—	48
169	,, S.M.U.	45	35
170	Greenock	33	—
171	Hamilton	49	49
172	Kirkcaldy	25	—

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT.

173	Barnsley	71	50
174	Chesterfield	82	94
175	Doncaster, Spring Gardens	—	50
176	,, Wood St.	26	27
177	Mexborough	50	49
178	Parkgate	66	82
179	Rotherham	85	47
180	Sheffield, Attercliffe	145	200
181	,, Centre	78	—
182	,, Darnall	48	47
183	,, Heeley	79	96
184	,, Hillsborough	—	64
185	West Melton	46	71
186	Wombwell	—	49

SOUTHERN COUNTIES DISTRICT.

187	Brighton, Mighell St.	78	100
188	,, Old Steine Hall (closed)	30	—
189	Bristol	—	48
190	Devonport	50	36
191	Exeter	30	36
192	Portsmouth, Francis Avenue	—	26
193	,, Victoria Rd.	83	89
194	Reading (resigned 1924)	200	186
195	Southampton, Cavendish Grove	50	100

SOUTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

196	Bacup	41	49
197	Dearnley	20	33
198	Heywood	46	—
199	Littleborough	21	20
200	Middleton	46	49
201	Oldham, Elliott St.	76	76
202	Rochdale, Penn St.	48	62
203	Rochdale, Regent St.	88	97
204	Shaw	30	—
205	Todmorden, Eagle St.	50	50
206	,, Roomfield Buildings	39	35

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.

207	Caerau	100	50
208	Cardiff, Central	45	35
209	,, Queen St.	42	—
210	Cwm and District	39	19
211	Merthyr Tydfil	—	97

TEES-SIDE DISTRICT...

217	Darlington, High Northgate	50	—
218	,, Psycho	110	184
219	,, Witton Park	57	32
220	Gurney Vale	97	97
221	Middlesborough	128	125
222	New Shildon	48	50
223	Shildon	77	85
224	Spennymoor	—	—
225	St. Helens (Bishop Auckland)	—	20
226	Stockton-on-Tees, Brunswick St.	86	85
227	,, Cecil St.	100	96
228	West Hartlepool	49	67

TYNE-SIDE DISTRICT.

229	Annfield Plain	31	—
230	Blyth	17	38
231	Chester-le-Street	—	50
232	Craghead	50	50
233	Dunstan-on-Tyne	45	38
234	Gateshead	97	127
235	Hebburn	50	50
236	Hetton and District	83	98
237	Hirst	146	150
238	Jarrow	86	96
239	Newbiggen-by-the-Sea	—	48
240	Newcastle, Benwell	98	96
241	,, Heaton and Byker	94	85
242	,, Rutherford St.	78	78
243	New Delavel and Newsham	—	50
244	North Shields	123	100
245	South Shields, Cambridge St.	48	34
246	,, Fowler St.	85	95
247	,, High Shields	98	97
248	Sunderland, Cromwell St.	50	—
249	,, Derwent St.	48	50
250	Wallsend	63	50
251	West Pelton	50	46
252	West Stanley	50	49

AREA LYCEUMS.

253	Belfast (closed 1924)	49	—
254	Grimsby	94	99
255	Hanley	97	144
256	Lincoln	99	85
257	Longton	—	—
258	Tunstall	50	50

OVERSEA LYCEUMS.

259	Auckland	50	—
260	Calgary	50	50
261	Christchurch	—	27
262	East Hamilton	145	100
263	Johannesburg	38	43
264	London (Canada)	—	—
265	Methuen	80	80
266	Wellington	—	—
267	Winnipeg, No. 1.	50	48
268	Winnipeg, No. 2.	—	—
269	Edmonton	40	27

Newly affiliated Lyceums endorsed for 1924:—

Name of Lyceum.	Members.
West Bromwich	16
Saltaire	38
North Leeds	32
Eltham	34
Croydon	24
Forest Hill, London	30
Lower Broughton, Manchester	49
Saddleworth	39
Edinburgh (No. 2)	67
Glasgow, Southern	40
Stainforth	25
Hoyland	38
Edlington	50
Wisbech	32

Applied for Membership since January 14th, 1924:—

Stainmore, Australia	25
■ Tredegar	32
■ Crewe	—