

# THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 401. Vol. XXXIV.

JULY, 1924.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

## Presidential Address.

Given by Mr. G. A. Mack, of Runcorn, at Holborn Hall, Hull, at the 35th Annual Conference of the B.S.L.U., on Saturday, June 7th, 1924.

As year after year passes, and each Presidential address is offered for consideration, I wonder if we, as a Movement, realise its full potency and the responsibilities which are ours.

Out of the many addresses presented, has the benefit derived therefrom been commensurate with the ideals expressed. Methinks the results have not always reached the standard of efficiency that the promises have indicated.

I deem that Presidential addresses are only prepared after considerable thought, their chief purpose being to try to infuse new enthusiasm into the hearts and minds of the people by contrasting the possibilities with the actualities.

By this means, our duties are placed prominently before us with the object of inciting us to greater efforts for the Movement and for Humanity.

The enthusiasm so raised has been, on many occasions, very marked but has it been of that deep nature that is so essential for a successful issue?

Enthusiasm, unless carried into constructive action, is of no use. It would be better if there were no such enthusiasm, because it is misleading. Locke says: "Enthusiasm is founded neither on reason nor divine revelation, but rises from the conceits of a warmed or overweening imagination."

But Emerson says: "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm."

Although you have here the divergent views of two eminent writers, I think that you will agree that Emerson's enthusiasm is the power that will break up the spirit of apathy that is spreading in our ranks.

Enthusiasm must be the spark that shall inflame the the whole Movement, and we must be the enthusiasts that shall keep the flame alight.

What was it that made the Movement in the olden days? What was it that caused the Pioneers to do what some of us would deem nigh impossible?

Was it the enthusiasm referred to by Locke, or that of Emerson? Was it apathy, or, that lively manifestation of zeal that gives one the capacity for work? Was it love of self and position, or the love of the Movement and its far reaching effects?

If we could only be infused with the same spirit that caused the Pioneers to work and strive so diligently for us, what a result! There are some who will think that I am striking a pessimistic note, yet I feel the time has arrived when we must "Gird our armour on, and stand firm everyone."

I have heard the voice of William Johnson many times during the past twelve months, and he constantly emphasised the song "Hold fast! Hold Fast"! Evidently he thought that we possessed something that was worth the holding. Do we realise its worth? If we did, would we not emulate the old pioneers? We pride ourselves on having the finest system of education extant. Is it anything of which to be proud, IF we

rest on our oars while the followers of other systems fulfil our duties?

No matter with what spirit you may receive this address, if it will only bring to the Movement the full realisation of its present position, and cause its members to do their duty, I shall be content. For if it achieves this object, each Lyceumist, whether delegate or not, will be given that spur which is so necessary at this time if we intend to hold our position in the country.

One of the points upon which we have criticised the Christian Church is the difficulty it has of retaining the membership of its youth. We say there must be something wrong. Cannot a similar criticism be lodged against Lyceums? Do we retain our youth? We are apt to overlook our own system at times, and not give it the serious thought that it deserves.

There has been an increase of 1,450 Lyceumists during the past twelve months. In my first letter to the LYCEUM BANNER,

twelve months ago, I appealed to each Lyceumist to be responsible for one new member. Certainly not a big request. The response has been a little disappointing. I am well aware that numerical strength is not everything, but if we have the finest system of education, coupled with the numerical support, its far reaching effects will be immeasurable. I am of the opinion that more could have been accomplished if all had realised their duty to the Movement. There is a very good pearl which states "The world is full of willing people, those willing to work and those willing to let them." Perhaps we have a number who are *willing to let them*. Let each be a worker and relieve someone who is doing more than his share, because he is doing your share too. I trust that the work of the next twelve months will redeem the position.

Let us review a little further.

Consider the £2,000 Effort Fund.

During the past twelve months we have raised £16 16s. 8d. by donations. Less than a third of a penny per Lyceumist. Since the inauguration of the Effort 7d. per Lyceumist per annum would have met the full £2,000. If we continue

at the same rate per year as last year, it will take another 70 or 89 years. But each year's donations are becoming less. Let us try to raise at least 6d. per Lyceumist per annum, and so get the amount in five years. Six Saturdays pennies out of 52 will meet it. I know the old cry that Lyceums cannot keep themselves solvent. If the old pioneers had used that cry possibly we should not be here now. They showed a truer spirit. They said "We are building for those who follow us; we must build on a solid foundation that will bear the brunt of years." They were willing to sacrifice. We are reaping the benefit. What benefit will they who follow us receive? Will it be the benefit due to our self-sacrifice, or will the edifice be broken and a new one require building by them, due to us not realising the fullness of our duty?

Methinks, nowadays, that the cry is "Our Rights," neglecting the cry that should accompany it: "Our Duties."



Mr. G. A. MACK, OF RUNCORN.

Let us hold fast to the pledges made in our Conferences; let us report carefully to our Lyceums what we have pledged.

The Movement cried out for an Autobiography of Mr. Kitson. The enthusiasm was great, the sale of the book is small. Is this due to accepting the definition of enthusiasm given by Locke or Emerson.

The Manual Revision is worthy of more attention than it is at present receiving. Those who are prepared to criticise the findings of the revisers, would do well to commence their criticism immediately, not after the publication of the new edition. Just one word of warning, I trust that, in this revision, care will be taken to preserve some of the readings supplied by those pioneers to whom we owe so much. Let us leave sufficient to keep such personalities before us, LEST WE FORGET.

The question of the Inter-Relations between the B.S.L.U. and S.N.U. has been very prominent of late. As your President I should advise each one of you to be very discreet on this question. What we must seek for is a kind and tolerant understanding of both Unions and their work. Neither should be asked to sink its individuality. If only people would realise it, union is the result of growth, and not of cohesion. One thing that should be borne in mind is, that the Lyceum Movement is not purely a Children's Movement, but that it is also an Adult's Movement. When each Movement has grown to realise its dependency on the other, and the exact relation that each bears to each, then and then only, can fusion take place with beneficial results to both. Perhaps, if 25 to 50% of the Lyceumists were embraced in the circles attached to the Churches, when they had reached the age of 18 they would be equipped to take an active part in the church work, and who would be better able to do this than the Lyceumists who has passed through all the stages. Surely, they would be better fitted than those who had been cradled in creeds and dogmas.

Regarding the Britten Memorial, I should like to give my blessing to this worthy scheme. We, as Lyceumists, owe a debt of gratitude to Mrs. Emma Hardinge Britten. It is not necessary for me to tell you of her work in connection with our Lyceum Manual, but it is necessary that I urge you to support the scheme to the utmost of your power.

Likewise, the Benevolent Fund, and Pioneer Sunday should receive your support. These efforts will do much to deal that brotherly feeling that will draw both Unions together.

The Internal Education Scheme has brought good results. I trust that all Lyceums will adopt the suggestions made by the United Districts' Council. The latter body has been serving a good purpose and has achieved many results in combination with the District Councils. The dissemination of local ideas has been assisted considerably through these two bodies. I trust that they will in the near future take up more seriously the Demonstration activities, so that every District Council shall hold Demonstrations, and bring our beautiful system prominently before the public.

Foundation Day is becoming more popular and this also gives an opportunity of giving the public an idea of the Educational value of our system.

The Education Scheme has done wonderful work and is progressing rapidly. Its value and usefulness is being realised by Lyceums more every year. One point worthy of note is that although there were more Lyceumists sat for the examination this year, there were in actuality a smaller number of failures. Yet, there is still room for more entries. As the scheme is furthered still more, I am hoping that it will have its effect on the sale of those publications which the M.C. have deemed advisable to publish and of which the Movement has not yet availed itself as expected.

I am disappointed in the lack of invitations for the M.C. to hold its quarterly meetings. You elect your M.C., yet you give them too little encouragement to do your work. I plead for that confidence in your M.C. that is necessary for efficient working. I know their worth and wish here to thank them for their assistance during my term of office.

I regret that Mr. Owen, who has worked with us so long has found it necessary to sever his official connection with us, owing to his vocation taking him to Ireland. I trust that you will put on record your appreciation of the services which he has rendered.

There have been a number of valued workers promoted to the Higher Life since our last conference assembled. Special mention should be made of those who have held high official positions in either of the two Unions. I refer to Mrs. Bentley, Mrs. Stair, and "Pa" Knight.

Our loss in the physical will be the gaining in strength of the spirit band, who are only too eager to work with us for the upliftment of humanity.

Before concluding, I wish to give one word to the Lyceum Overseas who are doing their best, under great difficulties, to spread the glorious teachings of Lyceumism and Spiritualism. I trust that strength and help will be given to them so that they may continue in this great work.

In conclusion, I appeal for that constructive criticism that will help to make the Union what each one desires it to be. I sent our eleven resolutions last Christmas and asked for a twelfth. Only one Lyceumist replied, one from London. His resolution was "That we keep all the other eleven." I trust that that motto will be followed implicitly. I have no fear for the future if that be done.

I must here, as President, thank all those Lyceums and Lyceumists who, by hard work, kindly action and loving tolerance, have helped forward this glorious Movement during the past twelve months. May their enthusiasm be carried forward during the next year, till its results shall show a Beacon Light to the world.

GEO. A. MACK, President.

NOTE.—During the discussion, reference was made to the low percentage of Lyceumists retained. I am asked to explain that the figure given, was the percentage of Lyceumists embraced by the Spiritualist Churches.—GEO. A. MACK.

Mr. J. M. Tylar, Author of "The Spirit of Irené," has taken up a correspondence in the *Bournemouth Graphic*, to refute the statements recently circulated through the Press, as expressed by Mrs. J. March, of that town. The Lyceum will shortly be opened again in Bournemouth, therefore we need not worry about the frothy sentimentality of the "dangers" of Lyceum work.

## Baby Plants, and how they are born.

(The Lyceum Guild Nature Study Article).

BY MARGARET E. LAWTON.

### VII.—CATKINS.

Amongst *flowering plants*, it is possible to notice the gradual increase in care in the methods used for the creation of baby plants. In the simpler types of flowers, much is left to chance, but, in the more advanced types wonderful method is shown in the production of the seeds. The cone-flowers showed the simplest types. Next, in order, to these, are the Catkin flowers.

Most of our British trees have catkin-flowers. Amongst those bearing catkins, are the Oak, Beech, Birch, Alder and Hazel, and most of our woodlands are inhabited by these trees. All of the catkin-bearing trees shed their leaves each Autumn, and show fresh foliage each Spring. Whilst the trees are in full leaf in the Summer-time, tiny buds form in the corner between each leaf-stalk, and its twig. Thus, when the leaves fall in Autumn, the trees already bear the buds which enfold the new leaves for the coming Spring.

The sturdy and long-lived *Oak* may be recognised by its dark rough bark, and gnarled and twisted branches, by the crowding of the buds towards the ends of the twigs, by the feather-shaped leaves with their wavy edges, and by the Autumn crop of acorns. The *Beech* has dark, smooth bark, slender pointed brown buds, and broad, oval leaves, which cast a dense shade. Few plants can grow beneath a Beech tree, for the tree catches all available sunlight. The *Birch* is one of our most beautiful trees, with its silvery bark, long, slender, and supple branches, and its dainty pointed oval leaves. It is a lover of the sunlight, and grows high to secure it. The *Alder* is the only tree to have stalked buds, and in early Spring, they are of a lovely purplish, brown colour. Sometimes the Alder grows tall, but usually it is found as a low growing bush at the sides of streams. *Hazel* trees, too, are fond of growing by streams, but they may also be found near quarries or on broken rocky ground. The *Hazel* is generally a straggling bush, with long, thin, hairy branches, thickly covered with broad leaves.

The catkins found on all of these trees are the parts whose special mission it is to create seeds which shall eventually grow into new plants. Each catkin is a collection of *Flowers* growing from one central stalk. In most of the catkins, the flowers are crowded together, but in the Oak, as seen in Fig. II., the flowers are arranged in little groups. The catkins may be either male or female, but no one catkin holds flowers of both sexes, although both male and female flowers grow on the same tree. The wind acts as messenger between the male and female

flowers, and so there has been no need for the flowers to be either brightly coloured or fragrant. The wind reaches the trees by chance, and not through a fondness for colour or perfume. Therefore, the flowers are small and usually so inconspicuous that many people believe that trees have no flowers, just because the catkins are not easily seen. The catkins are at their best just before the leaf-buds open, for then the wind has a better chance of reaching the flowers through the leafless branches, than later, when the trees are clothed in green. Fig. I. shows both male and female Hazel catkins ripe, whilst the leaf-buds are unopened.

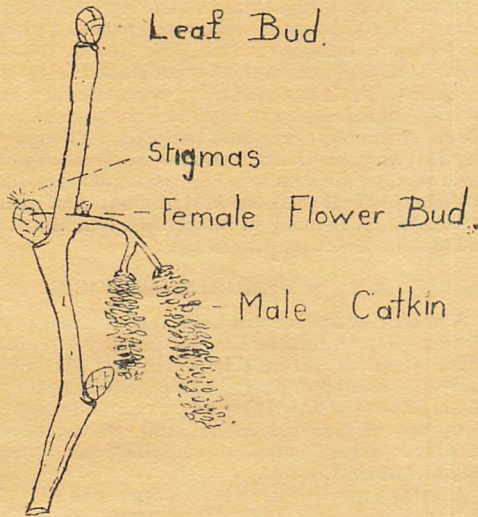


Fig. I Hazel Catkins.

The male flowers bear stamens whose swollen heads contain the important pollen dust. Each grain of pollen is capable of becoming a plant-father, for it encloses a male germ. The stamens grow from small leaf-like scales. In the Oak, each male catkin bears little groups of male flowers, each group containing a number of stamens growing from a little cluster of scales. The stamens dangle from the scales, so as to be well exposed. Fig. II. shows both kinds of Oak catkins.

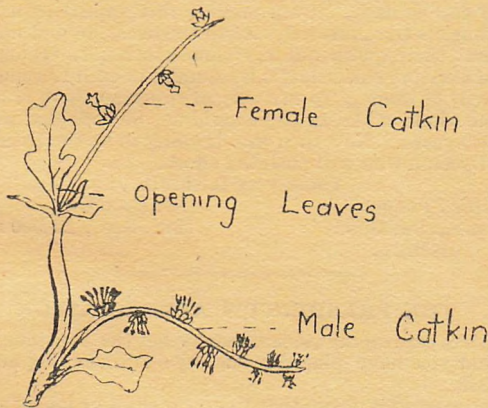


Fig. II Oak Catkins

In the Hazel, each male catkin bears many male flowers. Each flower consists of one larger scale, bearing two smaller scales, and each of the smaller scales bears four anthers or stamen heads. The anthers have slender stalks, and contain much fine, light, pollen. The male flowers of the Birch, Alder and Willows are like those of the Hazel. On these trees the male catkins form in Autumn, but the scales remain tightly pressed together until the ripening stamens force the scales to separate in early Spring; then a slight breeze is sufficient to scatter clouds of pollen dust. Fig. III. is an enlarged drawing of a single male flower of the Hazel.

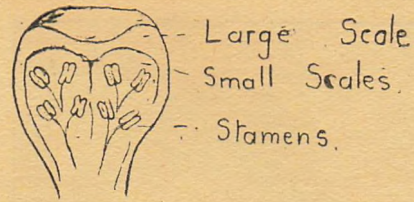


Fig. III A male Flower (enlarged.)

The male catkins seem to show no improvement on the male cone flowers, but in the female catkins there is a very decided step towards greater care for the birth of the seeds. The female germs are again contained in ovules. In the cone-flowers, the ovules grew on the scales and were quite unprotected whilst the scales were opened to admit the pollen grains. In the female catkins the ovules are contained in a case known as the pistil. Each scale bears one or two pistils, and very often each pistil is protected by a leafy covering. The Beech female flowers grow in pairs in the protection of a four-pointed hairy cup. The Hazel female flowers grow in a group of three or four, enclosed in a bud-like cup, which is often mistaken for a leaf bud. When the ovule was unprotected, as in the cone-flowers, the pollen grains could penetrate directly to the entrance to the egg cell. In the catkin flowers the pollen grains have a longer journey. Each pistil is made up of a little room known as the ovary, and a passage leading into this room, for it is the home of the ovules. The passage of the ovary is called the style and may be long or may be quite short. The tip or door-way to the style is known as the stigma, and it attracts to it the ripened pollen grains. Since the Hazel flowers grow within a bud, the pistils have long styles which project like a tiny red brush from the top of the bud, and so catch the wind-blown pollen grains, Fig. IV. shows a single flower from a Hazel catkin, with its two pistils growing from the one scale.

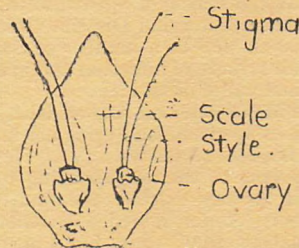


Fig. IV. A female Flower (enlarged)

When a grain of pollen alights on the stigma of a female flower, it commences to send out a tiny tube which penetrates down the style, to an ovule, and thence to the egg cell within it. Then the male germ travels along this tube to the egg cell and there unites with it to form a seed. One ovary may contain several ovules, but, in the catkin flowers, only one ovule is fertilised in each ovary to form a seed. The female catkins of the Birch and Alder are of the same shape as female cone-flowers, but since the ovules are contained in ovaries, the seeds are protected by the ovary wall which forms a hard coat around the tiny plant. The seeds of cone-plants are naked and therefore unprotected. In the Oak, Hazel and Beech, the ovary wall grows as the fertilised ovule or seed grows within it, and then hardens to form a shell around the seed. Cone flowers produce seeds. Catkins produce fruits. A fruit is a case containing and protecting one or more seeds. Thus the Hazel nut, the acorn of the Oak, and the two triangular nuts found in hard Beech cups, are all fruits, and the kernel found within each shell is a seed. When the seed is ready to grow in the Spring after its creation, it splits through and later casts off its hard shell-case, grateful for the protection it has afforded whilst the baby plant was gaining sufficient strength to commence its independent life.

(To be continued).



### Transition of Mrs. Bentley.

On Friday, May 23rd, Mrs. Bentley passed to the higher life after a painful illness. For many years she struggled bravely and successfully under frequent attacks of bronchitis and asthma with other complications, but towards the close of her earth life further complexities proved too severe a strain upon her powerful will, and she succumbed as stated. On May 28th Mr. Ernest W. Oaten and Mr. Frank Hepworth conducted the funeral ceremony at Southern Cemetery, Manchester, in the presence of a very large and representative gathering of Spiritualists. The S.N.U., the B.S.L.U., the Manchester and District Union and the B.M.U. were represented as well as a number of Societies and Lyceums which paid their tribute of affection and gratitude to our sister for her lengthy and valuable service.

Mrs. Bentley was born in Manchester on August 20th, 1873. Her father became interested in Spiritualism during her infancy, and was one of the original trustees of the Society at Heywood as long ago as 1886. Removing to the neighbouring town of Bury, where no Spiritualist Society existed, the family held seances in their home, where Annie revealed a remarkable clairvoyant faculty, ultimately they were instrumental in opening a Society in the town in 1893. Annie assisted her parents in business as local agents for a well-known firm of dyers and cleaners, and her experience in business proved valuable to her when later she took up public work for our Cause.

Meeting with Mr. William Wallace, the pioneer medium, who will be remembered only by old Spiritualists, Annie was carefully watched and advised by the old veteran during her further development as a medium for Clairvoyance, clairaudience and psychometry, all of which phases she developed to a notable degree.

When about sixteen years of age Annie went to London at the invitation of Mr. Wallace, and at a picnic held in Epping Forest, Mr. Wallace announced that Annie (Miss Burton) would speak on Lyceum work. As there was no Lyceum in London at that time it may readily be assumed that Annie Bentley delivered the first Lyceum address given in London. At the close of the meeting she distributed a number of badges. A Lyceum was formed in Bury when Annie was elected conductor forthwith.

On May 3rd, 1905, she married Mr. W. E. Bentley, Mr. Frank Hepworth conducting the marriage service in the Unitarian Church, Bury. The marriage was a fortunate and happy one, Mr. Bentley was an earnest spiritualist and made many sacrifices so that his wife could devote her life almost exclusively to the public propaganda of Spiritualism both in Society and Lyceum work.

For 21 years Mrs. Bentley was District Visitor in the Manchester area for the Lyceum Union. She was elected to the Executive Council of the Lyceum Union in 1905, which representative office she held for about 13 years, and held the office of president during 1909-10.

Mrs. Bentley conducted the "Blue Bell Guild" in the LYCEUM BANNER, under the pen-name of "Flora Belle" from 1902 until about 1916. During her years of service, she proved a valuable acquisition to the B.S.L.U. Council, through her ingenious introduction of physical exercises, and her practical instruction in such, amongst many Lyceums. Mrs. Bentley was a remarkable medium, clairvoyant, and prophetic, and many are the people who have testified and who can testify to the accuracy of her psychic sensibilities. Many souls have been comforted by her wonderful descriptions of beloved spirit-friends, and the consoling messages she has borne to depressed and sorrowing hearts.

It was largely due to Mrs. Bentley (then Miss Burton) that interest in the Lyceum work was awakened in Scotland, where she went on a mission for the B.S.L.U. in 1903. In the Adult Movement, and also in the Lyceums, Mrs. Bentley has laboured energetically, and constantly, for over 30 years, with brief intervals of enforced rest when attacked by the physical maladies which ultimately overcame her will. Though we deplore the physical absence of such valiant workers as our well-beloved sister was, we are comforted by the knowledge that the fragrance of their spiritual presence is still ours. Our sympathies go out to Mr. W. E. Bentley in his present loneliness. Mrs. Bentley had attained her 51st year of age.

### MEMORIAL SERVICE.

A memorial service was held in her regard in the Spiritualist Church, South Manchester, on Sunday evening, April 13th, 1924, when Mr. Frank Hepworth and Mr. Ernest W. Oaten shared the honour of paying public tribute to the work and worth of our arisen sister. There was a crowded congregation, mostly composed of personal friends and old acquaintances of Mrs. Bentley. Special musical contributions were given by the Organist of the Church.

Another report of her career appears in the "Two Worlds," May 30th issue, and a detailed account of the funeral in June 6th issue.

### £2,000 Effort Report.

Dear Lyceumists,

Just a little to report this month. I have received one donation from the Leeds D.C. of three pounds fourteen shillings, made up as follows:—Cleckheaton, £2 14s.; Scouts Hut, Horsforth, 10s.; Batley Carr, 5s.; Wakefield, 5s. On behalf of the Union I tender our very sincere thanks. Now that Conference has confirmed the decision of 1923 Conference, "That the whole sum of £2,000 must be collected before any part thereof can be used," I am making this appeal with a sincere hope that all Lyceums will rise to the occasion and make quite sure that their quota quickly comes to hand. It only needs some ardent and enthusiastic Lyceumist in each Lyceum and the work will be done. To my way of thinking there is no reason why the whole of the £2,000 should not be collected within the next two years. Now then who is going to be the Lyceumist in every Lyceum who will push the effort.

Yours very faithfully,

29, Kliffen Place,  
Coronation Road,  
Halifax.

W. BURROWS,  
Hon. Sec., £2,000 Effort.

### THE PRESIDENT'S APPRECIATION.

I wish to express my sincere thanks for the continued confidence that you have placed in me, by again electing me as your President.

It is my earnest desire that this year shall be one of success to the movement.

Therefore, may I appeal to you to assist the officials of the Lyceum Union in their work, in order that success, which we all desire, shall be ours.

The Movement belongs to us all; let us prize it at its true value, and put that work into it which it deserves, and which I appealed for in my Presidential Address.

GEO. A. MACK,  
June 20th, 1924.

The B.S.L.U. Office will be closed on Monday, August 11th, and re-open on August 18th.

Secretaries of Lyceums are requested to withhold correspondence and orders during the above period.



My dear Boys and Girls,

Only just one, two, three, four, five, six or seven weeks and you will be going away with Mamma and Dadda for your summer holidays. How jolly it will be to romp on the sands at the seaside or play in the fields in the country. I hope you are all saving up your pennies for an extra supply of sweets, donkey rides, etc., because these items all add to your enjoyment.

With such happy thoughts in your minds, I am sure you should be brim full of happiness: then "Laugh and the world laughs with you, weep and you weep alone," or as the Manual tells you "Smile and be contented," be "Sunny and bright in the face." I want all you tiny tots, as well as those of older years to show those who are opposing our methods of education, that you are the happiest boys and girls in the world, and that they have got to get up in the morning, before they can hope to take away this happiness which our beautiful teachings have given us.

Laughter is the expression of true happiness. Those of you who read the account of our Manchester trip, would notice the references to this kind of happiness. Now what do you think would have happened if I had gone there crying, why they would have said at once, you weep alone, we do not want a miserable Uncle like you, of course they would, and yet perhaps you have noticed yourselves, when you have not just had your own way, you've started crying. No! of course I must have made a mistake, I should have said when you have seen other children crying and trying to turn the milk sour because they have not just had their own way, what happened? Why! their companions soon left them and some of them even called after them, "Cry, baby, cry," just because they do not want miserable, discontented, selfish playmates, they want happy companions to join with them in their games, because when they laugh they can laugh with them, now you see the lesson of this saying, but it is not enough to see it, is it? You must put in into practice. How can you do it? Here is one way. Learn Lyceum Song 305 by heart. Sing, at least, the chorus, while you are getting dressed ready for school, and this will remind you of what you ought to be, and should you by chance get out of bed by the wrong side, slip back as quickly as ever you can and get out at the right side, it is surprising what a difference it makes to you, for the rest of the day.

Those of you who go with Mother and Dadda to the church service will often hear the speaker talk about creating good conditions. What I have told you to do, is what he tells the older people to do, I have tried it, so I know it is a good thing to do. So now we are all going to try our very hardest to be real happy boys and girls, even if things do not go quite the right way we are not going to weep alone as we, why of course not, we are going to laugh so that others can laugh with us. Just you try it, and write and tell me all about it next month. Do not tell Mamma and Dadda about it, and see if they do not notice a great change too.

Look at yourself in the looking glass and if you notice you have got a long straight face, just squash it up a bit with a smile and see what a different child you look. My motto last month was "Do it now," here's another to go with it, "Get the Lyceum Smile," which means "Sunny and bright in the face." Now I come to the older boys and girls, in fact, to every Lyceumist this month, young or old, I want to say a few words on the "Value of the Lyceum Manual," a book that I, together with Auntie Ruth and our little girly, have learned to love and appreciate from cover to cover.

First of all, have you your own copy? or do you attend session each week and use those provided by the Lyceum, and then leave them to be locked up until the following Sunday. "Guilty or not Guilty"; if guilty what is the offence? It is one of robbing yourselves of one of the treasures of the world. Why a treasure? Because it is full of daily instruction to those of all ages.

What are its contents? The foundation and education for the building up of a Spiritual life and character. Its silver chain recitations are full of helpful thoughts, its Golden Chain

recitations are an education not to be neglected. Its songs, together with a copy of the Spiritual Songster, brings melody and service of song to the home. These things sound all very well, but is it inspired? Yes, most decidedly, by the highest source of inspiration, which alone can come from the greatest force of all true inspiration, God and the spirit world. Why wait until it is revised before buying your own copy, because, if you give it the use it deserves, your copy will require renewing by the time the new issue is ready. We should all appreciate the grand work Mr. Connor together with others have undertaken, in bringing our Manual to a yet higher standard.

Buy your own copy for home use, learn its lessons and you will be better Lyceumists by so doing.

Let us remember, all organisations have their own guide book, "The Lyceum Manual is ours."

Do not wait for joys to come, sadly pining by the way:

Make the joys of heaven your own, gather them from day to day.

COMPETITION.

Prizes this month for Essays on:—"What is my greatest ambition in Life."

Liberty Section:—Replies to present day opposition

RULES.

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

Write replies one side of paper only.

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

"Special Mention" to older members.

Address as below, closing date July 18th.

Prizes only for Competitions, not Puzzles.

Enclosed stamped addressed envelopes for replies.

Prizes last month awarded to:—

Raymond Midgley, age 11, Huddersfield.

Norman Newton, age 10, Birmingham.

Special Mention:—

Mary Bradbury, Hyde. Fred Whitehead, Newton.

Liberty Section:—

Miss McLaren, Newcastle. Miss Weldon, Wisbech.

PUZZLE No. 6.

This puzzle seems to have been a little harder for you than usual.

This is partly due to me, for leaving the last line out, which read, "My whole is a person who is often mentioned in the "Banner."

The answer is Auntie Ruth, as there are some more of these puzzles to follow later, I must show you how to work them out. Look up last month's puzzle. It read "My first is in cat, but not in kitten," there you have letter "A." My second's in Uncle, but not in Ankie" there you have the letter "U" now if you follow each line knowing the answer, you will find the next puzzle of this kind will be easy to solve.

Correct answers were sent by:—Raymond Midgley, Huddersfield; Miss Weedon, Wisbech; Fred Pitt, South Manchester; Ivy Whitehead, Newton Heath; Molly Lampon, Brixton.

PUZZLE No. 7.

I heard a Lyceumist singing one of our beautiful songs, it referred to:—Sunshine, Black clouds, Smile, Weep, Day, Year, Face, Feet, Joys, and Tears. What was she singing?

Since my last letter I have completed my record file, so that now I can see at a glance, how many letters each one of you have sent me, and to which Lyceum you belong.

South Manchester holds the record with nearly one hundred letters since my letters started, Newton Heath comes second, Battersea third.

During the month we have visited Brighton and Kingston, no doubt it will amuse you boys and girls at know I was caught paddling my feet in the briny, by one of our well-known London Mediums. She was doing likewise. Hush, not a word. Brighton are to be congratulated on the standard of their Lyceum. At Kingston-on-Thames, we enjoyed a happy Anniversary Service, at which members from Surbiton, Hampton, Battersea, Clapham and Fulham attended, and all send you their greetings. We are now looking forward to a happy time, at the Battersea Demonstration.

2, Villiers Road,  
Osterley, Middlesex.

With Love,  
UNCLE BERT.

# THE LYCEUM BANNER:

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

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

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JULY, 1924.

## The Written Word.

I went with a friend into a man's house to pay a promised visit. The man who lived in the house was called Jonathan, but I think he should have been called Jonah, as he might have spent all his life in a whale for any human knowledge he possessed.

We can generally judge a man's ideas and hobbies from a look round his home. The house was very clean and too tidy for my liking! Everything was put away and there was not a sign of a book or a paper anywhere. The pictures on the walls were biblical illustrations and mostly women. These displayed the only thought provoking things in the room, and apparently came from the man's wife.

I gazed at our host and he reminded me of a piece of whale-bone, which is long, straight, even-grooved on the surface; such a piece as was formerly used as a stay in the making of clothes. Looking at the man sideways he became a straight line; length without breadth.

The wife had greeted us and was preparing tea. It was evident the pictures spoke of her choice. I knew them as religious people who belonged to the elect of their faith, and had sought to accompany my friend to find out how they became assured of their salvation.

I was astonished to find the house and its occupants so blank. Opening the conversation I found the man did read the weekly newspaper, and was most interested in the births, marriages and deaths. His wife likes the paper because it was just the size she wanted to cover her cupboard and kitchen shelves.

I spoke of sport, seaside resorts, politics, gardening, and the town's affairs. In all these topics I drew a blank. When I mentioned trade and wages he looked at me as though I wanted to borrow something. Eventually I touched the subject of religion, the real thing I wanted him to talk about as he was one of the elect in his own faith. His reply was: "He didn't know much about it. The minister knew more than laymen could do and he was prepared to be guided by him. He says we are alright and I believe him. We have had him for over thirty years and he is always the same." I learned his father had brought him up in the faith and he had seen no reason to alter his views.

I felt glad there were no children in that house. There had been a son, but as soon as he was old enough to leave the home he had left it and sought more congenial surroundings. It was the dreariest "home" I have ever visited.

Leaving the house we met the son, and he hoped we had enjoyed the visit. "I'm glad you've been," he said, "there will be something to talk about the next time I go."

Travelling homewards, we passed Mary Sweeney's house. She was a Catholic and had not been so well. The priest had just left. Here again the written word was between us. Mary wanted a healer as her case was a magnetic one. We could not speak, as Spiritualism would offend her, and she was not allowed to discuss religion with people who were not of the same faith.

The written word and the old barriers meet us everywhere. We go on a holiday and spend the Sunday evening in a Christian Church. After the service we discuss the sermon in which faith was supreme. We suggest knowledge is more than faith. The minister is against trying to find a knowledge of the dead, and we get the reply "We don't mind discussing worldly matters with you, but we must be guided by our minister in spiritual affairs. He says we have no right to disturb the dead. Our faith in the evidence of things not seen is provided by Jesus Christ to prepare us for eternity." And so again we are thwarted from coming near to the souls of our fellow-beings.

Possibly the reader will realise the existence of a great religious prejudice which holds men apart and also a false dependence on others for the truth about religion.

Spiritualism comes into existence to dispel any extolling of one book as divinely inspired against any other book, especially when it is used to ostracise all people who do not follow its precepts as interpreted by men in priestly garb who may be as mistaken in any of their opinions as any other man. Real religion binds men together and their book must be used for this purpose to be of real spiritual value.

The average mind does not think much beyond the ordinary pursuits of life, and the written words have little meaning. Newspapers and novels are the chief attraction. Small wonder there is a mental shock to our friends, the Christians, when they find even the children of our movement growing interested and taking up studies, by the written words of a growing experience and demonstrations of real spiritual forces, in the deeper phases of religious life, when foundations of immortality are built up by communion: a real holy communion and breaking of the bread of eternal life.

The written word will change its aspect, and instead of pointing upwards to the heights and the skies, will look to the haunts of men for paradise and peace: not far beyond the clouds and beyond the tomb, but in the home. Not as Excelsior climbed, away from the valley, the household, the maiden and the sage, but in the valley and the home surrounded by love and wisdom will he find inspiration dawn and genius exists. Our future poets will muse with a rhythm focussed in the hearts of men and find service to mankind in the haunts of ignorance and sin is more helpful than singing from the mountain top.

The written words of greater pens than mine will write the songs I prophesy and touch the chords divine in every heart that vibrates to eternity.

Better to find one "Child Medium" brightening the hearth of home than find youth lost and stranded as in the case first quoted. We make a better race, a sweeter childhood, happier youth, and provide the future with thinking men and women to spread our cause.

Men write in books thoughts which inspire, but God produces living testimony of the things we write about by the infusion of his spirit into conscious life, generation after generation, season after season and day after day. In Him we live and move, the fruits of earth abide, and all His laws are just.

Thus by the study of His love and law we tolerate mankind and lead them all who care for truth to find the angel in the child and man. In this, the written word shall play its part and symbolise the work of God in every human heart. It matters little what my name may be, if what I do is just and true. Written in the human and natural book of life we read the history, and sometimes a little of the mystery, of God's creation.

We have ceased to place our minds and lives under the control of any sacred book or man, and yet retain a love for all that's good and true in any thought or thing. Education is the food of the mind and the food must be such that we are able to assimilate it. In the things we assimilate there is an element of waste, but that waste has generated a heat which has given us strength and motion.

Thus many have passed through Christianity, materialism

and agnosticism to Spiritualism, and with it has come all that is beautiful in love and friendship. Says one, "Suffer little children to come unto me," and every human heart responds. Its response finds expression in the home. The Lyceum gives hope to the unwanted child and is the social parent of every neglected little soul. We have no time to think about people who talk in their mental sleep about cruelty to children and then teach hell-fire, who preach from an open book they cannot read with the inspiration of men who understand.

It is far better to go with children through a real fairyland into a world of make-believe, where ideals are born and visions created of a coming morn in a future day, when we can laugh, frolic and dance in the innocent mirth of youth and find the mind wandering to conditions which guide human destiny, to find the allotted duty of each soul according to the inborn nature of the individual: some to lead, others to follow, all to think and none to worry, all to serve and help each other. Nature will find us the leaders when we are ready to be led and true government can only rule by consent. Then will come a written word, broad in its basis, simple in its law and founded on service and love in obedience to revelation of eternal laws, outlined by the spirits of God to the sons of men.

### THE CHILD.

By MRS. M. E. PICKLES.

Last month we considered in as small a degree as possible the case of the teeth, and some of the ways of making them strong, and able to do the work they are intended to do.

This month we will devote a few lines to the skin. It is well known that in the case of the lower animals, the skin is a very important item for breathing. It is so thin that the interchange of gases between the blood and the air which goes on in our lungs can actually go on through the surface or almost the whole surface of the body.

This happens with the frog. We can scarcely breathe by our skin. However, there is an interchange of gases through the openings of the sweat glands. The skin is waterproof—yet fat or oil can be rubbed into it through the opening of the sweat glands. This is why very delicate children may have a good rubbing night and morning with beneficial results, yet if they had swallowed it their stomachs would have been upset. A poor thin baby can be helped in this way to get strong and even fat. A newer way to get things through the skin is by the use of electricity, by means of which many drugs can be made to pass through it. Any part of the skin can be made sensitive to cold, so that if it is exposed to cold, the whole body may be disturbed in such a way as to make us ill. The way to do this is to simply cover the skin up, and then expose it. The thinnest and most delicate part of the whole skin, is the skin of the face, but as we do not cover that up we do not catch cold, as the saying goes, by exposing it. Here is one of the most important facts about the skin, of which I have said nothing; it is one of the great organs of sense and feeling. We may sometimes confuse the various kinds of sensation that our skin gives us, as if they were all the same thing, but they are not. There is first of all the pressure sense, or sense of touch, and this is quite different from the sense of pain, or of temperature. There are a great number of little nerves, running out to the tips of fingers and toes, and that is why the feeling is of a most delicate nature. These are sometimes called "touch-bodies." Many of these are found in the tip of the tongue, and on the skin of the lips. The skin of the forehead and the palm of the hand, will feel the least weight, but a good many parts of the skin require the weight 20 times as heavy ere it can be felt.

The sense of heat and cold is quite distinct from the sense of touch, and has a special set of nerves for itself. If you take anything cold and pass it over your cheek, you will find it feels colder than at others, and the same with anything hot. The skin seems to be made up of a host of little spots for there is the pain sense also, and it is far more sensitive to pain than the inside of the body. One thing more about this especial sense before we turn to other thoughts. The lines on the palm of the hands are simply creases in the skin where it folds upon itself. Many people believe they may tell the future by looking at these creases, but rather would I think that the touch of the finger tips gives the cue to the prophesy. I have dwelt rather long on this, because I am sure that we should all be better for understanding some of the functions of the skin, in child life especially. Let us for a minute vision the pure and beautiful complexion of the child, and when we do, we wonder why we elders can not retain that same complexion right on into maturer life. It was generally understood that sugar and sweet stuff was

bad for children, but now we have discovered it is the other way about. Almost every child likes sugar, and surely nature is not so foolish as to implant a desire like this in children if it is not for its good. I am inclined to think that the child's appetite for sweets can be a lesson which might be good for us, for now we know that sugar is one of the most valuable of foods.

I came across many people during the war when we were rationed in sugar, who had lost both weight and strength because they had to accustom themselves to less, and I noted that it was generally the man who had to supply a great deal of energy to cope with his work, who suffered most. All the starch that grown-up people consume—or children, though not little babies—for they can not digest starch, it turned into sugar before it enters the blood, and more than half the total energy of the body is derived from the burning of sugar.

Now children need a great deal of energy supplied to them in their food, because they are very active, and because they being small, they need to produce a lot of heat to keep warm, as their small bodies very quickly lose their heat. Therefore all children need a great deal of sugar, and a child's appetite for sweets and sugar, is not a mistake made by nature, nor a sign of greed in the child, but a proper sign and demand, for what a child specially needs. Here again I quote the saying of the nurse "That nature after all is very kind to babies," and people who know the needs of the child in this respect, believe that in giving the child what it asks for (and it will not take too much, but will stop when it had has enough) supplies what in truth nature is calling out for. If we elders turned from the artificial foods of to-day, to the raw products of nature, and took a lesson from the child, the fine complexion of earlier years would be ours again.

(To be continued).

### B.S.L.U. PROPAGANDA MEETING.

The evening service was opened by the singing of "Hold fast." There was a good assembly.

The following were on the platform: Messrs. Mack, Knott, Owen, Hunter, and Berry. Mrs. Pickles and Miss Rayner. Mr. Hunter gave the invocation.

After the singing of one verse of "Open the Door for the Children," Mr. Mack addressed the meeting. Said he hoped that as a result of the week-end's deliberations they were trusting humanity would be benefitted. He then called upon Mr. Berry (S.N.U.) to speak.

Mr. Berry in the course of his address urged that everyone should endeavour to realise how they could use the gifts which God had given them, and use those gifts always for the best. He said those who will not be broken because disappointments have come, are those who come through safely in the end. The Lyceum Movement and Church Movement had held fast in days of difficulty, but because a battle had been won once, it did not mean it was won for ever.

Miss Watson then sang "The Promise of Life."

Mr. Knott then addressed the meeting. He said that many of the things that are eternally true in the religious systems of the world have been largely smothered by things which do not matter. Spiritualists had proved that so surely as we are born and die, so surely we have the power to communicate with those left behind. He said Spiritualism stands pre-eminent and the Lyceum deals specifically with the educational side of that movement. In Spiritualism there is something which binds all schools of thought together.

After singing of two verses of "Open the Door for the Children," Mrs. Greenwood said it was something like forty years since she became acquainted with the Lyceum movement, and during that time she had known some of the finest men and women who have ever lived. Said she had no doubt those workers who had gone to the other side were helping to carry on the work.

Mr. Roberts sang the "Consecration Hymn."

Mr. Mack then called on Mr. Owen. Mr. Owen said it might be the last time he should speak officially from the Union to an audience. Complimented the Hull friends on their choice of Banner and said it was a beautiful symbol of the Lyceum training. Referred to the figures of boy and girl, hand in hand, on the Banner. Said it symbolised to him the comradeship and equality of the sexes for which the Lyceums have stood out always.

Mr. Mack said a few words in regard to advantages of Lyceum training.

Mr. Williams thanked the local friends for the able way in which they had carried out the work of providing for the Conference and also thanked those who had given them such beautiful music.

## 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 IX (continued).

"You have made a serious mistake. You can never force me to be yours. I am not here of my own free will. I can never be more to you than what I am,—a stranger. To give myself to you would turn my heart cold, hard, and unfeeling," she replied.

When the knight Selfishness saw all his powers of dissembling were of no avail, he showed his true nature, and said, "I shall supplicate no more. I shall command, and you will obey. You are mine by right of possession. I rule here, and my will is law."

"I am not yours," cried the Princess, firmly and decisively. "You may detain me for a time, but Prince Trueheart will rescue me, and punish my abductors as they deserve."

"Oh! indeed!" exclaimed the knight scornfully. "So that is the reason why my fair captive refuses to be mine. Her foolish head is filled with the vain boastings of her would-be champion, eh? The sooner they are dismissed the better it will be for you, as you can receive nothing but his dead carcase, as his body was run through with the spear of my brother-in-arms."

As she heard these cruel, taunting words a great fear seized her heart, to which she involuntarily raised her hand. "It is not true," she cried, "His skill and prowess is far superior to that of any knight in the land!"

He noticed, with satisfaction, the effect his words had on her, and said in confirmation of them, "Look at this," and he held up a richly worked silk scarf, the work of her own skillful fingers, which she had presented to him. "Perhaps you will believe the evidence of your own eyes, even if you won't believe my words."

As soon as she recognised it she gave a piercing cry and fell forward in a swoon. Her maid caught her and gently laid her on a couch; having done so she cast a look of reproach at the knight who withdrew, with an evil light in his eyes, and a malicious smile on his face.

Her maid, Patience, then used all her energies to restore the Princess to consciousness. A deep sigh escaped her patient, then her eyes gradually opened. She looked round the apartment in a dazed manner, like some one waking out of a troubled dream. Soon she recalled the interview, and murmured, "Has he gone? Has that cruel heartless man gone?"

"Yes, dear Princess, he has gone," answered Patience. "You are free from his hateful presence for a time."

"Thank goodness for that," she fervently exclaimed. "And my dear, faithful, gallant Prince Trueheart is dead, he says. But I cannot believe it, my heart tells me it is false. But how has he obtained that scarf, for I am sure the Prince would not part with it to save his life? Oh! I fear some evil has befallen him, and he is in danger."

"Cheer up," pleaded her maid, "and hope for the best. Appearances are often misleading. He may have obtained it by the same means as he obtained you. Such natures as his will stoop to deceit to obtain their way."

"Thank you, dear Patience, for the precious ray of hope your words have given me. I will cherish it to the last. I will not give way to despair. How foolishly I have acted, to let my tormenter see how his cruel words hurt me. But it shall not occur again, I will be brave."

"That is right, my dear. Keep a brave heart, so that you may be ready for any emergency that may arise," Patience wisely counselled.

### CHAPTER X.

When Prince Trueheart emerged from the cave, he found himself in a deep ravine. On the opposite side was a tree on which he cut his initials with his sword, so as to be able to find the cave (which was concealed by thick bushes) when the time came for him to return to settle accounts with old Mumbo Jumbo.

He made his way up the ravine and in doing so found another cave. No sooner did he step into it than a strong voice called out, "Hello! who goes there?" and there was a shuffling of feet, at which the Prince stepped back into the open. Soon the bulky form of a giant made his appearance. He cut such a comical figure, with his pants wrong way about, and his coat under his vest, that the prince was forced to laugh.

The giant was annoyed at finding himself laughed at by one

so little, and asked, "What art laughing at, youngster?" "I am laughing at the manner in which you have dressed yourself," he answered.

"And what is amiss with it, I'd like to know?"

"You have put your vest on the top of your coat, your pants on the wrong way, and your boots on the wrong feet; ho, ho, ho, you do look funny!"

"How can I put my boots on the wrong feet? They are my own boots and feet."

"I suppose the feet and boots are yours, but you have put your right foot into the left boot; and your left foot into your right boot."

"Dash my blundering head, it's just like me," he said, "I always manage to do things the wrong way about. My name is Giant Blunderhead," he exclaimed.

"My name is Prince Trueheart, at your service," the Prince retorted, lifting his cap and making a mock bow.

"Well, dash my blundering head if thou art not a plucky one," and his eyes opened to their widest extent with wonder. "Art thou not afraid of me?" he asked.

"Certainly not, why should I be?" he replied. "I have my good sword with which to defend myself."

"Well, dash my blundering head, if ever I met such a plucky youngster. I must have thee to wait on me. Thy ready wit and pluck will save me from being plundered by giant Greedy"; so saying he stretched forth his hand to catch hold of the Prince. He no sooner did so than he felt the point of the prince's sword pierce it, and he drew it back bellowing with pain.

"I'll pay thee off for this," he cried, and he made a grab with the other hand, and received another cut. "Oh dear, my poor hands; hoo, hoo; boo, boo," he bellowed, like a big baby. "Dash my blundering head if I don't pay thee off for this, thou young spitfire of a midget," and in his blind passion he seized hold of a piece of rock that was partly loose, and on which a huge mass of rock was resting, with the intention of hurling it at the Prince. No sooner did the latter see this, than he ran out of the way, and he was only just in time, for as soon as the giant rent the stone from its bed, down tumbled the rocks and crushed him to death.

Thus died giant Blunderhead by his own blundering.

The Prince heaved a sigh of relief when he saw he was rid of one more foe. Then he heard the heavy tramp, tramp, of some one coming. He hid behind the bushes. Soon another giant made his appearance, who was more fierce looking than Blunderhead. He had a low receding forehead, small cunning eyes, a nose like a hawk's beak; thin, white, compressed lips; and long sinewy fingers, that reminded one of the hawk's talons. Our hero had no doubt as to who the new comer was, for his whole appearance denoted greed. When he reached the mouth of the cave, which was blocked with fallen rocks, he called out, "Hello giant Blunderhead; wake up, it is the early bird that catches the most worms!" Receiving no answer he called out, "Where art thou?" "He is under that mass of rocks," answered the Prince, as he stepped forward.

The giant gave a start of surprise at seeing him, and said, "Who art thou, and what art thou doing here?"

"I am Prince Trueheart, at your service," he answered, making a bow of mock politeness. "I was making my way to the castle of Selfishness, when giant Blunderhead stopped me."

"And how doest thou know that he is buried under there," he asked, pointing to the fallen rocks.

"Because I was here when it fell," he answered.

A look of insatiable greed came into his eyes which seemed to overpower all other considerations; and under its influence he troubled himself no further about the Prince, and he muttered to himself, "It has served the blundering old fool right;" and he at once began to clear away the stones that blocked up the entrance.

Then he entered and made a light, and pulled up a flagstone, under which was hidden a large amount of wealth. There were leather bags filled with money, ingots of silver and gold. The bags he fastened to his stout girdle, the ingots he bound together in bundles and slung them over his shoulder, muttering to himself, "It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good." Then he set off to his castle, which was not far from that of Giant Selfishness.

Our hero followed the giant, feeling sure he would take the shortest route. This led them to a lake where the giant had moored a boat. The giant promised Prince Trueheart a safe passage if he would guide the boat, as the giant loved his treasures too much even to place them in the boat so as to leave his hands free.

The boat was an old leaky one, and they had not gone far when our hero found out that it would not bear the giant with his

load of silver and gold ingots, and he advised the giant to lighten the boat and so save his life by casting the ingots overboard.

"Oh! no, no, I cannot part with my precious gold and silver, I love them, I love them. They are mine. The boat will not sink. It must not sink or I shall be ruined," he cried.

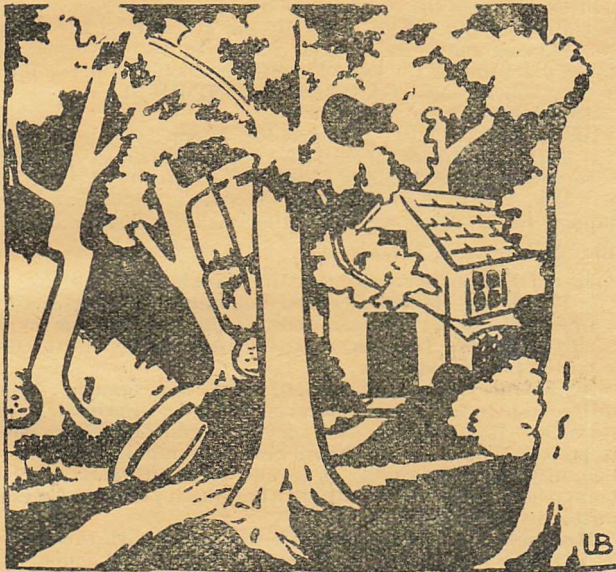
"But it will sink, if you do not lighten the load, for it is rapidly filling with water," he cautioned the miserly giant.

The cruel giant stared aghast at the water in the boat and realised that the Prince spoke the truth. He instantly conceived the idea of forcing the Prince to jump overboard, in the hope of saving his wealth. This he did, but as the Prince was a good swimmer he struck out for the shore. Before he reached it he heard Giant Greedy cry out "Help, help," and, on looking round he saw him struggling in the water. Down he went, clinging to his wealth, a victim of his own avaricious nature.

When the Prince reached the shore he drank a few drops of the elixir, which put new life into him.

(To be continued).

### The Children's Puzzle.



### RED RIDING HOOD.

There is a tale I love to tell,  
About a girl you all know well,  
Who took some cakes through a bid wood,  
Her name was sweet Red Riding Hood.  
Grannie was waiting for the child,  
When a big wolf of nature wild,  
Killed poor old Grannie in her bed,  
And put her night-cap on his head.  
A woodman came, the beast he killed

With his great axe. His mind was thrilled  
With horror, that the girl had been  
In danger too, had the wolf seen  
Red Riding Hood, with her pet cat  
As in the bed he waiting sat,  
For the young girl who crossed the wood  
With mother's cakes for Grannie good.

Now here's a puzzle you must find,  
By looking round for Mother kind,  
The wolf and Grannie if you can,  
Also the axe and the woodman.  
The cat is sitting there as well,  
Red Riding Hood you'll quickly tell,  
If you will search and do your best  
To find her there with all the rest.

## Manual Revision Notes.

### HOW TO FORM DISTRICT AND LYCEUM COMMITTEES.

By A. T. CONNOR.

The Annual Conference has met, and the Revision work has been advanced another step. It now lies with the Lyceum Movement to decide how rapidly further steps are to be taken.

The *Manual* Revision Committee has been increased, and now consists of Mrs. M. E. Pickles, Misses M. E. Kitson, M. E. Lawton, A. Hesp, Messrs. Kitson, Keeling, Nurse, Shuttleworth and Connor, and the President and General Secretary. It has also been recommended that each District Council should appoint a Revision Committee, to meet at least once a quarter, consider suggestions for alterations, additions, etc., and forward them to the National Committee.

There may be some Districts where formation of a Committee has been delayed through lack of knowledge of how to set about the work. For the benefit of these, it might be as well to describe how the London District Committee was formed, and how it works. The Committee was elected at one of our quarterly meetings, and having power to co-opt, at once co-opted Mr. H. W. Engholm, then Managing Editor of "Light." It is impossible to express how helpful was Mr. Engholm's practical journalistic knowledge—although we have now lost his services, we are able to continue successfully on the lines laid down under his directions. And it would be advisable, where possible, for District Revision Committees to get the help of a competent journalist at their first two or three meetings.

We first of all laid down a plan of work, which we divided into six sections, to be taken in the following order:—

- 1.—Deletions, alterations, substitutions or additions;
- 2.—Bringing the Science teachings up-to-date;
- 3.—Bringing the Philosophy teachings up-to-date;
- 4.—Simplifying the wording, where necessary and practicable;
- 5.—Preparing suggested (a) Children's (b) Adults' sections;
- 6.—Classifying the whole book for special Sessions, etc.

It was then decided to go through the *Manual* item by item and classify the readings in three categories (A, B and C):—

- A.—Suitable for the child mind (say of 5—9 years);
- B.—Suitable for the adolescent mind (say of 9—15 years);
- C.—Suitable for the semi-adult and adult minds.

Of course, no District Council need follow this example—but it is a guide to what can be done, if desired.

We found at our first meeting that once a quarter would not be enough, so we decided to meet once a month. Again, this is an example that need not be followed. London is a compact District, and so meeting is comparatively easy. We meet monthly, and hope to get through our assumed task very comfortably in the ten years at our disposal.

Some of our District areas are very scattered, and it may be found impossible to have a Committee of the nature of the London Committee. For them it might prove more practicable to ask each affiliated Lyceum to appoint its own Committee, the Secretaries of these Committees to form the District Committee. They could correspond, exchanging monthly or quarterly suggestions and comments, and meet once a year, to draw up a report for the District Council A.G.M. This report, if and when adopted by the D.C., could then be forwarded to the National Revision Secretary. Or the difficulty could be solved by forming the Lyceums into Groups, each with a sub-committee, the Secretaries of these to correspond monthly or quarterly, meet annually, and prepare a report for the D.C. and the Revision Committee. Or each D.C. can form its Committee as it thinks best.

For Lyceums the best example is Daulby Hall (Liverpool). The Conductor there called for volunteers, and as a result a Committee of about 30 Lyceumists of all ages has been formed, with an undertaking that each will go through the *Manual* word by word. Where there is not a District Revision Committee, the Lyceums should report direct to the Revision Secretary.

All questions of general interest will be answered in the *BANNER*—personal questions will be answered by letter if a stamped addressed envelope is enclosed with the question.

All communications should be addressed to Mr. A. T. Connor, 19, Oakhurst Road, Forest Gate, London, E.7.

BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

held at Holborn Hall, Hull, on Saturday and Sunday, the 7th and 8th June, 1924.

The President, Mr. G. A. Mack occupied the chair and opened the Conference shortly after 3 p.m. on Saturday afternoon with the singing of "Hold Fast," after which Mrs. Pickles gave the invocation.

The President welcomed the Delegates.

He then made the following appointments:—

Messenger—Mr. Halstead.

Tellers—Mr. Batley and Mr. Harding.

Scrutineers—Messrs. Hart, Goodall, Ellis and Hopper.

It was reported that the M.C. had appointed Miss Allured Minute Recording Secretary.

The President asked that motions should be sent up in writing; failing this, the reporter's notes would be accepted.

MINUTES.

MINUTES OF LAST CONFERENCE:

1. Mr. Latham moved, Mr. Goodall seconded that Minutes be taken as printed. Motion Carried.

Question by Mr. Connor.

Mr. Connor (London) asked why rider to Item 90 of last Conference Minute was not shown in Minutes, seeing that it had appeared in "Banner." President replied that matter had been considered by M.C. after having a verbatim report of what had occurred in reference to this question.

Mr. Connor (London) moved Mr. Shuttleworth (N.E. Lanes.) seconded that the omitted part be added.

44 votes for; 24 against. Motion Carried.

3. Moved Mr. Latham, seconded Mr. Springate that Minutes be confirmed.

Mr. Saxelby (Sheffield) asked question in regard to facilities for discussion in regard to £2,000 Effort. President replied it would be introduced later. After discussion motion for confirmation of Minutes Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Gen. Secretary reported receipt of following correspondence:—

a. Letter from Mr. James Stewart (M.C.) regretting inability to be present owing to absence abroad.

b. Letter from Mr. Burrows (M.C.) stating that he could not attend owing to passing on of his mother. This also entailed the absence of Mrs. Burrows, who should have been a delegate to the Conference.

c. Letters from Brighton on "Child Mediums"

d. Letters from Calgary and Winnipeg sending fraternal greetings to Conference.

Moved Mr. Watson, seconded Mr. Hart, that correspondence be accepted. Carried.

CHILD MEDIUMS:

Mr. Long asked permission to introduce this matter, and stated he had Press Cuttings, &c., in regard to what had taken place.

5. Mr Owen. (M.C.) moved, Mrs. Pickles (M.C.) seconded, that in view of the fact that many delegates had not arrived matter be deferred. Carried.

MR. BURROWS:

6. Moved Mr. Owen (M.C.) seconded Miss Elliott (M.C.): that this Conference send our deepest sympathy to Mr. Burrows and family in their bereavement. Agreed.

7. Mr. Connor raised question as to Mr. Burrows' eligibility for office, in view of his absence. After discussion and reference to Constitution it was ultimately Agreed that Mr. Burrows be accepted as eligible for office.

8. Moved Mrs. Raymond, seconded Mr. Harding: that correspondence be adopted. Agreed.

AGREED that, in view of fact that many Delegates had not yet arrived, unfinished business be taken before President's address.

9. Motion from N.E. Lanes. D.C.

THAT the Conductor and Secretary of any affiliated Lyceum which meets in a Church attached to the S.N.U. Ltd., shall be full members of that Church.

Mr. Shuttleworth asked leave to withdraw motion, point being covered by fusion report. AGREED that motion be withdrawn.

10. Motion from N.E. Lanes. D.C.

Mr. Shuttleworth moved, Mr. Batley seconded:

THAT the General Secretary shall, during last week in December each year, send to the Secretary of each District Council, or to the District Visitor in such cases where only a Lyceum District exists, a statement giving the financial standing of each Lyceum in the District Council or Lyceum District concerned.

Mr. Shuttleworth spoke to motion. Mr. Connor suggested that "January" be substituted for "December," as it would be more convenient. President agreed to alteration subject to consent of mover and seconder. This was given and motion was CARRIED AS ALTERED.

11. Motion from M.C.

Moved Mr. Owen., Seconded Mr. Shuttleworth.

THAT this Conference views with grave concern the attempt to introduce compulsory measures for the suppression of heterodox discussion in certain Sunday Schools throughout the country, believing such measures to be direct interference with the rights of citizens to inculcate such teachings as are in accord with their highest conception of truth and right. We therefore RESOLVE to take the necessary steps to register effectively our protest against such iniquitous measures.

Mr. Owen (M.C.) explained what had brought about the motion. One of the systems which had been attacked was the Socialist Sunday School. We did not know when the turn of the Lyceum movement would come. In view of what had taken place during the last 12 months he thought the resolution a very timely one. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12. Motion from M.C.

Moved Mrs. Pickles, seconded Mr. Mason:

THAT we support the S.N.U. in any effort they may make to secure the abolition of Capital Punishment. CARRIED.

Mrs. Pickles desired that the B.S.L.U. would give hearty support to S.N.U. in any effort they make in this direction.

13. Motion from London D.C.

Moved Mr. Connor, seconded Mrs. Pickles:

THAT the Manual Revision Committee be authorised to proceed with the consideration and preparation of a revised edition of the LYCEUM MANUAL, irrespective of its effect on the present edition.

Mr. Connor explained why motion had been brought. Committee wanted to know if movement wanted a re-print or proper revision. If a proper revision they must give Committee power to prepare that revision: always bearing in mind that whatever Committee prepare could not go into print unless accepted by Conference. Referred to 1919 motion which provided for Committee to be appointed.

Mr. Owen (M.C.) asked for care in dealing with this motion as it might mean far more than is intended by London D.C. Mr. Will Edwards pointed out there was provision for revocation of any disputed matter at some Conference. Mr. Keeling pointed out it would be impossible at any Annual Conference to consider any extensive alterations in view of pressure of other business.

14. Mr. Jones (M.C.) moved, Mrs. Greenwood (Trustee) seconded:

THAT we delete "irrespective of its effect on present edition."

Amendment put to vote. Result: 40 For. 33 Against.

Mr. Shuttleworth moved, Mr. Pearson seconded an addition to the motion as it now stands, namely:—

15. "And with the same powers as granted to the 1919 Committee."

Vote CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, the President having first read the Motion as it now stands:—

THAT the Manual Revision Committee be authorised to proceed with the consideration and preparation of a revised edition of the LYCEUM MANUAL and with the same powers as granted to 1919 Committee.

16. Motion from London D.C.

Moved Mr. Connor, seconded Mr. Keeling:

THAT all Lyceums be urged to establish a "Revised Manual" Fund of ¼d. per member per month, so that at the end of the Revision period each Lyceum will be in a position to purchase a full supply of the new edition. CARRIED.

17. Motion from London D.C.:

Moved Mr. Connor, seconded Mr. Slimin:

THAT each District Council be urged to form a District Revision Committee—to meet at least once a quarter and forward report and suggestions to the Revision Secretary. CARRIED.

18. Mr. Mack then invited Mrs. Greenwood and Mr. Berry (S.N.U. E.C. representatives) to the platform.

19. M.C. REPORT: Moved Mr. Latham (Trustee), seconded Mr. Sprigate:

THAT M.C. Report as printed in the BANNER be accepted. Discussion in regard to Tyneside Model Rules.

Question by Mr. Aked in regard to exclusion of a Lyceum: also by Mr. Connor. Replies by Gen. Sec. and President.

Moved Mr. Latham (Trustee), seconded Mr. Saxelby: that Report be adopted. *Carried.*

20. STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.

Nominations for floor of Conference:—

Mr. Shuttleworth (by Mr. Connor)	45	votes	
Mr. Keeling (by Miss Rayner)	43	„	
Mr. Saxelby (by Mr. Edwards)	14	„	
Re-vote Mr. Shuttleworth	52	„	elected
Mr. Keeling	48	„	

21. TREASURER'S REPORT.

Moved Mr. Shuttleworth seconded Mr. Connor that it be taken as presented.—*Carried.*

Questions by Mr. Keeling and Mr. Watson. Discussion arose about Lyceums owing accounts to B.S.L.U. (Publishing). Mr. Keeling called attention to fact that terms were stated to be "Cash with Order." Mr. Knott replied that it was necessary to have credit accounts in dealing with Publishing Houses, such as "Two Worlds," etc., and occasionally he allowed credit to Lyceums.

22. Moved Mr. Jones, seconded Mr. Dobby that vote be taken.—*Defeated.*

23. Mr. Shuttleworth moved, Mr. Ingham seconded:

THAT for all future orders for Lyceum publications, the terms Cash with Order shall be strictly adhered to, except in case of LYCEUM BANNER.

24. Moved Mr. Will Edwards (Trustee), seconded Mr. Watson amendment as follows:—

THAT Cash with Order be carried out by all Lyceums of our Union; also outside Lyceums; excepting business houses. Mr. Shuttleworth *withdrew* his motion in favour of Mr. Edwards' amendment.

25. Motion by Mr. Saxelby, seconded by Mr. Goodall:

THAT "we proceed with sale of goods along the line which has been pursued in past."

President could not accept this, as would simply leave position as it is.

Ultimately a vote was taken on the following motion:—

THAT Cash with Order be carried out by all Lyceums of our Union; also outside Lyceums; excepting business houses.

For 48. Against 46.

There was then a long discussion as to whether roll call should be taken. On a vote being taken 20% of the delegates voted for a roll call which was taken, and resulted as follows:—

For 65. Against 54.—*Motion Carried.*

CREDENTIAL REPORT.

26. Officers 3, M.C. 5, Education Committee 2, Trustees 2, Auditors 2, Minute Rec. Sec. 1, S.N.U. 2, U.D.C. 1, D.C. Delegates (representing 14 D.C.s) 20, Lyceum Delegates (representing 59 Lyceums) 87, Total 125.

EVENING SESSION.

27. *Agreed* that Auditors' Report be postponed for a while.

28. *Agreed* that Treasurer's Report be adopted.

BANNER REPORT.

29. Mr. Jones (M.C.) moved, Mr. Shuttleworth seconded: that Report be taken as printed.—*Carried.*

30. Mr. Latham (Trustee) moved, Mr. Watson (Daulby) seconded adoption of Report.—*Carried.*

EDUCATION REPORT.

31. Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Owen seconded: that Report be taken as read, and that interim report in this matter be taken immediately.—*Carried.*

Miss Kitson was invited to the Platform and gave following additional particulars in regard to Examinations; such particulars not being available when report was sent to Printers:—

Nos. who passed Grades V. 29, IV. 61, III. 152, II. 186, I. 468, Oral 125. She then gave her report in regard to the Scheme.

32. Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Roeder seconded: that Report be adopted with the very heartiest thanks to the Education Secretary particularly, and to the Committee who work with her.—*Carried* with acclamation.

Mr. Long mentioned a resolution passed at Southern Counties D.C. in February which he had forwarded to Mr. Knott but it had not been put on Agenda. Mr. Knott gave a satisfactory explanation in regard to this.

Mr. Long then moved, Mr. Drinkwater seconded:

33. "That the details of the murder of the pedlar and the subsequent knockings at Hydesville be deleted in future editions of the Grade I Handbook and not be required for examinations, as the story is not considered fit for the young children."

Mr. Connor asked a question. Mr. Long said the motion had been carried unanimously at the A.G.M. of the Southern Counties D.C. After long discussion the motion was defeated.

Mr. Long asked when would be appropriate time to raise a point *re* Constitution. President said this would have to come on later.

Mr. Long called attention to fact that in Hand Books the Principles are given as Six, while Churches give them as Seven. Asked for ruling. After discussion Mr. Owen suggested that point should be borne in mind by Education Committee. Mr. Connor thought it was a matter for Manual Revision Committee.

ELECTION OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Mr. Shuttleworth moved, Mrs. Pickles seconded:

34. THAT Education Committee be re-elected *en bloc*, with addition of incoming President. Mr. Owen referred to his position, but Conference was satisfied he should continue as a member of Education Committee.—*Motion Carried.*

AUDITORS' REPORT.

Mr. Thistlethwaite said Auditors had found everything in order. Mr. Ball confirmed.

Mr. Will Edwards moved, Miss Elliott seconded:

35. THAT Report be accepted.—*Carried.*

TRUSTEES' REPORT.

Mrs. Greenwood moved, Mr. Watson seconded:

THAT Trustees Report be accepted.

36. Mr. Connor raised point as to who had granted the second week's leave to Gen. Secretary. Mrs. Greenwood replied that the Trustees had done so. There was a long discussion as to whose province it was to arrange matters in connection with the work of the Gen. Sec. It was contended that M.C. should have been consulted.

There was then a discussion as to the Assistant. Mr. Knott reported he was paying 15s. a week to assistant.

Ultimately Mr. E. C. Mason moved, Mr. G. H. Wagner seconded:

37. THAT the financial remuneration for the Clerk as contained in the Trustees' Report be referred back for further consideration to the Trustees and M.C.

Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Downs seconded:

THAT the following be added "with a recommendation that the remuneration be 25s."—Addition accepted.

Motion, with addition, put to vote. For 55, against 44. *Carried.*

Mr. R. Pearson Moved, Mr. Hopper seconded:

THAT the Trustees elect their Secretary from amongst their own number. Ruled out of order.

38. *Agreed* that the Trustees Report be adopted.

President read telegram from Mr. Mason (a past President) sending greetings to Conference.

Miss Kitson reported that Mr. Kitson's state of health had prevented him attending the Conference.

Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Clegg seconded:

39. THAT a message be sent from Conference saying how sorry we are that Mr. Kitson could not attend. Also that an acknowledgement be sent to Mr. Mason for his telegram. *Carried.*

Miss Kitson intimated Mr. Kitson would not be able to take office.

CHILD MEDIUMS.

Mr. Knott read letter received from Brighton.

Mr. Long made statement in regard to what had appeared in the Press and the measures taken to combat this.

40. Mr. Owen moved, "That the General Secretary be instructed to endeavour to elicit from the Reformatory Union Conference the nature of the charges made against the Lyceum by Miss Marsh of Bournemouth, and what decision (if any) the Conference arrived at," the M.C. to act in accordance with the reply received.

Miss Hesp moved, Mr. Connor seconded following amendment to Mr. Owen's motion:

THAT the officers of the M.C. be given power to act if in their wisdom action becomes necessary with reference to the attack upon Lyceums by the Press in co-operation with the Southern Counties.

Vote Amendment: For 46. Against 57. Amendment lost.  
Motion: For 41. Against 48. Defeated.

#### CREDENTIAL REPORT.

41. Officers 3, Area Representatives 5, Education Committee 2, Trustees 2, Auditor 2, Minute Rec. Sec. 1, S.N.U. representatives 2, U.D.C. 1, D.C.'s (representing 16 D.C.'s) 22, Lyceum Delegates (representing 60 Lyceums) 88, Total 128.

42. Mr. Batley moved, Mr. Keeling seconded acceptance of Credential Report.—*Carried*.

The Conference then adjourned to Sunday morning.

#### SUNDAY MORNING WELCOME.

The Conference re-assembled shortly after 10 a.m. on Sunday. The Hymn "Children's Day Welcome" was sung. Miss Elliott gave invocation.

A number of young Lyceumists then filed on to the Platform and partly recited, and partly sang, the following "Welcome" very effectively:—

#### WELCOME TO HULL.

*Lyceum:*

"Welcome to Hull." We greet you here,  
Our Leaders in the fight,  
Our Lyceum Banner's still unfurled  
For Justice, Truth and Right.

*Children:*

Yes, Mr. President and Fellow Lyceumists All, our Lyceum is indeed proud to again welcome the Conference of the "British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union. We hope and pray that your consultations this week-end shall have such far-reaching results for good, that not only Hull, but our brothers and sisters everywhere shall be benefited thereby. Though comparatively few in number, yet we have untold power. You are scattering your seeds to-day; may they be such as shall blossom forth to a fruitful Harvest. The Unseen Helpers are here to scatter their seed, may your hearts and minds be fruitful soil, then we know that our Cause shall have a glorious "Harvest Home."

*Lyceum:*

"Welcome to All." Our Friends Unseen  
Join in our songs to-day.  
Their voices blend; with ours ascend,  
To God in joyful lay.

*Children:*

As our Lyceum teaches the equality of woman with man, may we, while greeting you, trust that our Movement will come to the front in any Cause which stands for the upliftment of Womanhood and the care of little Children. May your legislation result in measures to make us better women and more worthy citizens capable of taking our stand for Justice and Truth, wherever and whenever the need arises.

*Lyceum:*

"Welcome, thrice welcome," happy friends,  
Our hearts are blithe and gay,  
May Heaven bless the Chaildren's Cause,  
For this we work and pray.

*Words and Music by Mrs. Leng.*

A small girl then distributed beautiful buttonholes amongst the members of the M.C., after which a printed souvenir was handed to each one present.

The President thanked the Lyceumists for their beautiful welcome and referred to the fact that the only flaw was the absence of Mr. Kitson.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

*President:*

Nominations: Mr. Mack 99 votes. Elected.  
Mrs. M. E. Pickles 24 ,,

*Vice-President:*

Nominations: Mr. W. Burrows 32 votes.  
Mr. Kitson (withdrew).  
Mrs. Nurse 34 votes.  
Mrs. Pickles 57 votes.

Re-vote: Mrs. Pickles 76 votes. Elected.  
Mrs. Nurse 41 ,,

*Treasurer.*

Nominations: Mrs. K. Armstrong (not present, disqualified).

Mr. F. F. Ball (withdrew).

Mr. W. Burrows 44 votes.

Mr. Pickles (not eligible).

Mr. C. J. Williams 77 votes. Elected.

*Auditor.*

Nominations: Mr. C. A. Lloyd 7 votes.

Mr. J. W. Nurse 28 ,,

Mr. Thistlethwaite 64 ,, Elected.

Mr. S. Watson 22 ,,

*S.N.U.E.C. representative.*

Nominations: Mr. Mack 61 votes. Elected.

Mrs. Pickles 17 ,,

Mrs. Nurse 20 ,,

Mr. Burrows 10 ,,

#### U.D.C. REPORT.

Mr. Shuttleworth moved, Mr. Mason seconded:

44. THAT it be taken as printed.—*Carried*.

45. Mr. Marston Stockport asked that this Conference record appreciation of the Nature Articles in the LYCEUM BANNER contributed by Miss Lawton. Mr. Slimin (U.D.C.) seconded, Mr. Owen (M.C.) supported.—*Carried*.

Mrs. Pickles then referred to the fact that for a time the B.S.L.U. would lose the services of Mr. R. A. Owen owing to his leaving for Ireland and referred to the splendid work done by him. Tribute was also paid to Mr. Owen's work by Mr. Connor, Mr. Keeling, Mrs. Nurse, Mrs. Greenwood, Mr. Jones, Miss Hesp, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Hope.

Mr. Jones moved, Miss Hesp seconded:

46. THAT we place on record the appreciation of the faithful services rendered to the movement by Mr. R. A. Owen and that we present a Memento to him, the selection to be left to the M.C.

Motion carried with much applause.

Mr. Owen in replying said it was at Blackpool Conference in 1904 that he put in his first attendance. In 1908 he was elected President. Four years since he was elected Treasurer and referred to help he had received from the Spirit People in his work for the cause.

Mr. Wagner moved, Mr. Mason seconded:

47. THAT U.D.C. Report be accepted.—*Carried*.

#### MANUAL REVISION COMMITTEE REPORT.

48. Mr. Saxelby moved, Mr. Ryder seconded: that report be taken as printed.

Mr. Connor moved, Mr. J. K. Jones seconded:

49. "THAT the Revision Committee be instructed to adhere to the definition of soul and spirit as decided by two Referendums."—*Carried Unanimously*.

Mr. Saxelby moved, Mr. Shuttleworth seconded:

50. THAT Revision Committee report be accepted.—*Carried*.

After discussion President ruled that Committee should continue in office until work completed. Mrs. Greenwood asked leave to withdraw as she could not attend all meetings. With drawal accepted. Further discussion, after which Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Ingham (Middlebrough) seconded:

51. THAT the Revision Committee be increased by four members.

After discussion following nominations were made:—Mr. Nurse, Mr. Shuttleworth, Mr. Keeling, Miss Halliday and Miss Lawton.

Mr. Latham moved, Mr. Shuttleworth seconded:

56. THAT list be closed.—*Carried*.

Mr. Latham moved, Mr. Bostock seconded:

57. THAT five nominated form the new addition to the Manual Revision Committee.

Area Representatives elected. This was given as follows:—

58. Area A Mr. J. M. Scott

B Mr. R. Hunter

C Mr. J. K. Jones

D Mr. W. Burrows

E Mrs. L. Nurse

F Miss E. Elliott

G Miss V. G. Rayner

H Mr. H. C. Guy (in place of Mr. Williams, who had been elected Treasurer).

#### PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Owen then took the Chair. The President gave his address. (See Front page of this issue.)

Mr. Keeling moved Mr. Connor seconded:

59. THAT the address be published in the official organ of the Union and offered for publication to remaining Spiritualistic Press.

Miss Elliott moved, Mr. Hart, Manchester, seconded:

60. THAT This Annual Conference of the B.S.L.U. expresses its approval of the Britten Memorial and pledges itself to support the same.—*Carried.*

Motion for adoption of President's address was put to the Conference and carried with acclamation.

61. The List of Arisen Lyceumists was read and the Conference paid tribute in the usual manner.

CREDENTIAL REPORT.

Officers 3, Area Representatives 5, Education Committee 2, Trustees 3, Auditors 2, Minute Recording Sec. 1, S.N.U. representative 1, U.D.C. representative 1, D.C. representatives (for 16 D.C.'s) 22, Lyceum Delegates (for 62 Lyceums) 91. Total 131.

62. Mrs. Raymond moved, Mr. Marston seconded acceptance of Credential Report.—*Carried.*

Conference adjourned to 2.30.

The afternoon session commenced at 2.40 by the singing of "Open the Door for the Children."

The President suggested slight alteration in Agenda.

GUILD REPORT.

Mr. Owen moved, Mr. Shuttleworth seconded:

63. THAT Report be taken as read.

Mr. Jones (M.C.) moved, Mr. Hart (Manchester) seconded: acceptance of report.—*Carried.*

OVERSEAS REPORT.

The General Secretary said that the Colonies were slowly awakening to need for Lyceums. Goods had been sent to Canada, United States, New Zealand, South Africa, &c. Some American Lyceums are adopting the British Manual.

Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Goodall (Attercliffe) seconded:

64. THAT Report be accepted and that Greetings be sent to Overseas.—*Carried.*

£2,000 EFFORT.

65. Mr. Owen moved, Mr. Bostock (Runcorn) seconded: that this be taken as read.

President, in absence of Mr. Burrows, raised question whether full amount should be completed before touching the cash.

66. Mr. Connor moved that decision of last year's Conference be confirmed.

Mr. Saxelby moved, amendment Mr. T. Ellis (Huddersfield) seconded:

67. "THAT the monies of the £2000 Effort to the sum of £500 be handed to the Trade Department of the Union."—*Amendment defeated.*

Motion that decision of last year's conference be confirmed was carried.

68. Mr. Bostock moved, Mr. Springate seconded acceptance of report.

S.N.U. CONFERENCE AND E.C. REPORT.

69. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Shuttleworth seconded that Report be taken as read.

Mr. Knott said it was a conference instruction that this Report should be put in BANNER as soon as possible after Conference.

Mr. Hunter gave report of Conference at Newcastle -on-Tyne, July 1923.

Questions by Messrs. Connor, Statement by Mr. Mason.

Mr. Knott gave explanation arising on report. Said a question arose on this report which touched not so much national position as local one, as it touched relations between Churches and Lyceums. Arising out of this there had sprung a larger issue. One Lyceum in Scotland had placed restrictions on the members of the Lyceum to such a degree that "we" disagreed and it had caused a split in that Lyceum. Result has been that through the District Council of Churches in Scotland they have issued a certain line of points of relationship and it really meant a new position being created of relationship between the two bodies, by which the Lyceum Union will only have its existence through the Educational side of the Movement. The activities in Scotland will be entirely controlled by the Church Section. Quoted the rules in question said matter had been brought to notice of Conference and incidentally S.N.U. with a view to having these things removed.

Mrs. Cleland (Glasgow) thought Mr. Knott had rather laboured the question. Said the matter was purely a personal one and the rules would be scrapped. Mr. Keeling asked if they were actually in existence. Mrs. Cleland said they had not been passed at Church General Meeting and had no standing until passed. In reply to President Mrs. Cleland repeated that it was purely a personal matter.

70. Mr. Jones moved, Mr. Watson seconded adoption of Report.—*Carried.*

GEN. SEC. INTERIM REPORT.

71. Mr. Knott said there was gradually increasing interest in the affairs of the Union. Many enquiries coming in from Churches in regard to formation of Lyceums. Statistical Return had been compiled giving figures for last 5 years. Proposed that it should be put in January BANNER giving itemised returns. Report could be given of Lyceums who pay affiliation fees prior to conference together with number of Lyceumists enrolled, this to appear in May BANNER as at present. New method would give actual position and strength prior to each conference. Gave following statistics.

	Lyceumists	Lyceums.
1919	11613	226
1920	11765	237
1921	11667	235
1922	13268	239
1923	15479	268
Up to May this year	15558	253

1924 was, of course, incomplete.

Mr. Knott also reported reductions on cost of goods supplied by Publishing Department.

72. Mr. Watson moved, Mr. Slimin seconded acceptance of report.

Mr. Connor asked question in regard to Hackney Lyceum. Mr. Knott gave explanation.

After some discussion on the point Mr. Owen (M.C.) moved, Mr. Connor seconded:

73. "THAT that M.C. be instructed to investigate into position of the statistics to make the position clear.—*Carried.* Acceptance of Report *carried.*"

TREASURER'S INTERIM REPORT.

Receipts .. ..	£852 15 9
Expenses .. ..	£643 18 2
Leading balance on year ..	£208 17 7
Balance in hand, 1st January	£430 3 11
Total of .. ..	£639 1 6

There had been two M.C. meetings:—Bolton on which there had been a profit, Middleton on which there had been a slight loss—but this was due to the fact that an outside Hall was taken for propaganda meetings. £2,000 Effort Fund had been greatly increased. In regard to his removal to Ireland said this would not necessarily curtail his activities in England for the moment as he was frequently coming over. He offered to give every assistance to new Treasurer.

Mr. Williams moved, Mr. Martson (Stockport) seconded: 74. "THAT Treasurer's Report be accepted, and he be thanked for his offer of assistance."—*Carried.*

Agreed that Inter-Relations Report be deferred until small items left had been disposed of. 1

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT CONFERENCE.

Mr. Owen moved, Mr. Saxelby seconded: 75. "THAT the Conference be held on Whit-Saturday and Sunday next year."—*Carried.*

Mr. Knott read a letter from N.E. Lanes. D.C. inviting Conference. There was some discussion as to the arrangements which N.E. Lanes. would make. Mr. Connor moved a resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Williams, but this was afterwards withdrawn.

Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Clegg seconded: 76. "THAT invitation be accepted."—*Carried.*

Motion from Tyneside D.C.:

Moved Mr. Slimin, seconded Mr. Hunter, M.C.: 77. "THAT this Conference recommends to the Education Committee, that at as early a date as possible Examiners be chosen from those who have obtained at least first class in a higher grade: Examiners for Grade V. to be recognised Lyceum Workers."

Miss Kitson asked if Tyneside wishes present Examiners who have not passed through scheme to be withdrawn, and all Examiners, beginning with next year, to have passed Exams. or do they simply mean that additional Examiners appointed

shall be persons who have passed Exams.

Mr. Slimin said they did not wish it to be done immediately, but to be brought into effect at as early a date as possible. Mr. Owen, Mr. Connor, Mr. Keeling and others took part in long discussion.

Mr. Hart was appointed Teller in place of Mr. Batley, who had left to take a Propaganda meeting.

Motion put to vote. *Defeated.*

*Motion from Sheffield D.C.*

Moved by Mr. Saxelby, seconded Mr. Shuttleworth:

78. THAT all motions (other than formal motions) before being submitted to Conference for vote shall be written on paper and signed by the mover and seconder, and read out to the Conference by the Presiding Officer after which they shall be retained by the Union Secretary.

"Other than formal motions" were inserted in motion. (See bracketed words in motion.—*Carried.*)

There were no notices of Motion for next Conference.

79. Mr. Marston, Stockport, moved, Mr. Harding seconded, that best thanks be given to Officers and Executive Council for their services.—*Carried.*

Mr. Owen moved, Mr. Knott seconded:

80. THAT this conference place on record their heartiest thanks to Hull friends for excellent arrangements made.—*Carried with acclamation.*

Mr. Mason moved, Mr. Ingham seconded acceptance of Credential Report.—*Carried.*

#### 81. INTER RELATIONS REPORT.

President allowed discussion on S.N.U. E.C. report along with this report. Mr. Knott added to report. Said Joint Committee appointed to go into question of inter-relations between S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. had met and decided on certain recommendations. These recommendations had been accepted by M.C. of B.S.L.U. and were printed in BANNER. S.N.U. had met and referred back report. Joint Committee had again met and certain recommendations are being put before M.C. of B.S.L.U. and the S.N.U.E.C. but had not yet been dealt with. That was present position.

Mr. Keeling said whether action of M.C. in responding to invitation of S.N.U. was wise or not, they could hardly, as matter of courtesy do less. Lyceum Union had existed independently of S.N.U. for some time. Thought some parts of S.N.U. were wishing to force Lyceum Union into a position which from his point of view would be intolerable, at present state of development. Lyceum Union were not unsympathetic towards S.N.U. Said he had talked this very question over with the Founder of the Lyceum Movement in 1908. Asked A. J. Davis how far such a scheme would fit in with what he had in his mind as being responsible for Lyceum Movement. He said Lyceum Movement and Modern Spiritualism are like two halves of one whole but they are not the same in their functions and from a business point of view should under no circumstances be joined together. The object of the Spiritualists' Churches is to prove and demonstrate the continuity of life. The object of Lyceums is to educate. The two things were not inconsistent but complementary.

Mr. Keeling then moved, Mr. Shuttleworth seconded:

82. THAT this Conference having read and heard the report of the M.C. affirms its opinion that immediate amalgamation or fusion between the B.S.L.U. and S.N.U., Ltd., will hinder the gradual and growing unification of the two movements and that a policy of sympathetic inter-relations is the best course to pursue.

Mr. Keeling said motion left the door open for a natural merging of interests and extending of sympathy between the two movements.

Mr. Knott answered question in regard to printing of Inter-Relations Report. Mr. Berry also spoke and referred to letter in "Two Worlds."

Mr. Organ asked "what was in the minds of S.N.U. executive when they passed resolution at their last meeting asking the Churches to put into operation forthwith the resolution that all Lyceums Officers shall become members of the Church?"

Mr. Berry gave explanation. Said it had only gone out as a recommendation. Could not be enforced until resolution had been before S.N.U. Annual Conference.

Mr. Hunter asked that circular which had been sent to Churches on this point be read. Mr. Mack read circulars.

Mr. Keeling, replying to the discussion, said he had tried, in his speech introducing his motion to emphasise the incompetence of S.N.U. to deal with Lyceum side of work because of their lack of experience, and time for fusion was not ripe. Spoke of

necessity for both sides to get rid of their suspicions of each other. The motion was put to Conference.—*Carried Unanimously.*

#### NEW INTER-RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

Mr. Mason raised question in regard to Inter-Relations report.

83. Mr. J. Shuttleworth moved, and Mr. Ingham seconded: THAT all discussions and negotiations for interworking between the Lyceum Union and any other body shall be conducted on the Lyceum Side by a Committee chosen from and by the Annual Conference: and all meetings shall be reported, in full, in the next following issue of the LYCEUM BANNER. The motion was carried by 50 votes to 25.

84. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Wagner seconded, that the number to be elected on Committee be six. For 41. Against 24. *Carried.*

85. Mr. Shuttleworth moved, Mr. Ingham seconded, that Committee be constituted as follows:—

2 from M.C.

2 from D.C.'s.

2 from floor of Conference.

For 47; against 17.—*Carried.*

Nominations: From M.C. President and Secretary.

From D.C. Mr. Saxelby.

Mr. Shuttleworth.

Mr. Connor.

Votes: Mr. Saxelby 24

Mr. Shuttleworth 43

Mr. Connor 54

Messrs. Shuttleworth and Connor elected.

From Floor of Conference:

Mr. Saxelby.

Mr. Keeling (did not accept).

Mr. Mason.

Mr. Latham.

Votes: Mr. Saxelby; 40

Mr. Mason, 27

Mr. Latham 50

Messrs. Saxelby and Latham elected.

The President, Secretary, Messrs. Connor, Shuttleworth, Latham and Saxelby compose the B.S.L.U. section.

Mr. Ellis said he wished to voice his protest against the proceedings which had just taken place.

86. Mr. Watson moved, Mr. Connor seconded, that Report be accepted.—*Carried.*

The President declared the Conference closed at 5-45 p.m.

H. ALLURED, Report Sec.

G. F. KNOTT, Gen. Sec.

### 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.

WAKEFIELD.—In loving memory of our dear daughter, Kathleen Mary Harding, who passed to the Higher Life, July 9th, 1918. The cord of love still binds us together.—Father, Mother and Dorothea.

NOON.—In loving memory of Rose Annie Noon, aged 16 years, Lyceumist of the Liberty Progressive Lyceum, Belgrave Gate, Leicester, who passed into higher service March 18th, 1924. The interment took place in the presence of a large congregation, quite 500 being present. Conductor Mrs. F. M. Thwaites officiated with full Spiritualist Interment.

NOTTINGHAM, Mechanics' Hall.—On June 4th, Mrs. Bostock, our Assistant Conductor, passed to the Spirit World, after a trying illness.

She joined the above Lyceum nine years ago, and has been actively engaged in loving service ever since. She not only very ably filled the positions of Assistant Conductor and Group Leader, taking first the children of very tender years, and later an adult group, but also did very creditable service for the Nottingham Lyceum District Council. A bright, genial nature, kind, sympathetic and sincere, she will ever live in the memory of we who loved her, as an example of a true Lyceumist.—V.G.R.

MIDDLESBORO.—Mr. E. W. Buckingham, late Secretary of the Tees-side Lyceum District Council. Highly respected by his fellow Lyceumists.

## Scottish District.

### THE TRAINING OF THE CHILDREN.

In view of the deliberate falsehoods which have been circulated about the Lyceum movement by religionists who ought at least to display a little of the Master's charity, I would advise that for a time our Lyceum services be thrown open to and the general public invited. We do not *train children* to be mediums and our Sunday Schools are by far the finest ethical and training centres for children in the British Isles. Why men and women of the Christian faith should be capable of, and responsible for, the spreading abroad of such wholesale travesties of truth is another of those mental conundrums which calls for the attention of the mental specialist and not the criticism of one who may be open to the charge of prejudice. Prof. Huxley in his text-book on Physiology confines the hysterical people to those who see visions of a particular kind. Page 302, he states that "the first illusion to which Mrs. A. was subject, was one which affected the ear." Copying this illustrious scientist's phraseology I might state that the illusion which the orthodox lady suffered from who is responsible for the horrible and revolting tales of how the wicked Spiritualists train "child mediums" is an illusion not only of her ear, but of her whole mind and heart. She is a naughty child of God, and if she is not careful, Satan will win her away from her Divine Parent. *Don't think that is an absurd idea.* I once knew a little girl who attended an orthodox Sunday School, who had been guilty of going to the shop where her mother made her purchase of groceries and asking for sweeties "to be paid on Saturday," which were for herself and not for her mother; and when charged with her misdemeanour said that it was "the Devil that shooted me across and into the shop." This poor child had been trained to believe that the Devil was responsible for her fall from grace. What a fine thing a sense of personal responsibility would be in the religious life of some so-called Christians.

Certain am I that no child ever trained in the Lyceums would ever think of blaming the Devil for its wilful errors. Of course. Put it in the BANNER just to show that there is a fundamental difference between the things taught in a Lyceum and the teachings of an orthodox Sunday School. And you could add "other papers please copy," just in case there may be some persons in some remote part of the earth who may be unacquainted with what is taking place in the mental life of the various religions workers in Bonnie Setoland.

JOHN M. SCOTT.

## District Visitors' Reports.

### BOLTON DISTRICT.

On June 8th I visited Henry Street Lyceum, Bolton. 38 present; none late. This is not the usual number for this Lyceum, but we had a good session. The individual efforts did not reach their usual standard. The Conductor gave most of the explanations. The tone was good, however, the scholars being appreciative.—G. Walsh, D.V.

### HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.

In presenting my Report for the Spring Quarter I desire once more to impress upon the representatives the vital importance of the intellectual and educational aspect of the Lyceum movement.

On March 30th I visited Slaithwaite Lyceum. 59 present. Calisthenics were good; there was a good number attended Liberty Group. Lesson: "The importance of variety and interest in Lyceum Studies."

On March 30th, in the afternoon, I visited the Marsden Lyceum. There were 22 present. There is an improvement in this Lyceum. They are under new management and a fresh Leader. The order was good. We had pearls in abundance.

On April 6th I visited St. Peter Street. Present 57. The Liberty Group was well attended, and the lesson was on the topic "A Deformed Spirit."

I have also visited Commercial Street during the past quarter. This has become a great Lyceum in numbers and remarkable by efficiency in physical exercises.—Seth Ackroyd, D.V.

### SHEFFIELD DISTRICT.

*Hoyland Common.*—On May 11th I made my first visit to the above Lyceum. I was pleased to see so many for a new

Lyceum; 40 present. Silver chain, musical reading, golden chain well rendered. Many questions were asked and answered on both sides; they are a very promising Lyceum. The only thing they are in need of is a larger room; this, I feel sure, will not stop them from doing their duty to marching and calisthenics. There is great credit due to their Organiser, Mr. Gibson, and their Conductor, Miss Jones. I feel sure success will attend their efforts.

*Barnsley.*—On May 25th I visited the Barnsley Lyceum. I was pleased with their singing, reading, marching, and calisthenics. I felt pleased with the efforts of the Conductor and Secretary and hope the Church members will help in this great work to encourage the children.—C. Hadfield, D.V.

## District Council Reports.

### HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting was held at St. Paul's, Alma Street, Halifax, on Saturday, May 10th. President, Mr. Ellis, in the Chair, who gave the invocation. Afterwards the following business was gone through and carried. Minutes of last meeting and E.C. Minutes; Correspondence; District Visitor's Report; Statistical Returns. Instructions to delegate representing the District Council at the B.S.L.U. Conference be held at Hull.—J. Manning, Sec.

### LEEDS DISTRICT.

Quarterly Meeting held Saturday, May 31st, at South Elmsall, at 3.30 p.m. In the absence of the President, Mr. J. Whittles, of Dewsbury, was elected as Chairman.

Invocation, Mr. Whittles. President's Address: No idea of presiding at this meeting but gave all delegates, associates and friends a hearty welcome. Looking through the Education Scheme Book of Examination results he found that the Council did not stand very favourable. He appealed to Lyceumists to take up the Education Scheme in 1925 and get the children to write it out on paper. He had found they could not express themselves verbally. No doubt we had heard of the passing over to the Higher Life of Mr. Armitage, of Batley. He had received from Mr. Connor, London, an appeal to form a Revision Committee of the Council, but would speak more about this later in the meeting. In our *Lyceum Manual* certain things appealed to him; others did not. He would like each delegate to go back to their respective Lyceums and try to form a kind of a Revision Committee there to study the *Manual*, and from them, form another belonging to the Council.

Minutes, correspondence, duly accepted.

Reports D.V. visited Dewsbury and Roundhay Road; accepted interchange; only three reports sent in. After discussion, Secretary instructed to notify all Secretaries, the report to be sent in as soon as possible after inter-change had been made. Agreed that Special Effort made on behalf of £2,000 Effort be handed over to Mr. Bowens. Treasurer's Report accepted.

Agreed we ask Mr. Lilly to act as the delegate to the L.D.C. Field Day. Secretary's Report agreed that Morley, Cross Church Street, be permitted to join the demonstration.

Agreed on acceptance of Report.

U.D.C. Report, given by Miss Kitson, was very interesting.

Agreed a letter of thanks be sent to Miss Lawton for the very able manner she was able to place before the children the Sex Question.

Agreed that our very best thanks be given to Miss Kitson and recorded for her very able report.

Open Council: Revision Committee referred to next meeting. Agreed a letter of sympathy be sent to Mr. Bentley and relatives of Mr. Armitage. The Council's very best thanks were given to the local friends. Accepted by Mr. Coleman on behalf of the Church and Lyceum.

Next meeting left with Secretary to arrange.

Roll Call: Officers, 3; Lyceums, Armley, Dewsbury, Birstall, Leeds Psycho, South Elmsall, Holtham Hall, Hotsforth, Cleckheaton, Heckmondwyke, Morley (Queen Street). Associates, 5. The Chairman thanked all delegates for their attendance.—A. W. Harding, Sec.

### LONDON DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Council was held at Kingston, on Saturday, 14th June; Mr. C. J. Williams presided. There was a large attendance of delegates and associates,

The Conference Report was adopted, and Mr. Williams congratulated on his election as Treasurer of the Union. Much satisfaction was expressed at the result of the Amalgamation discussion, and the delegates were strong in their appreciation of Mr. Keeling's masterly handling of the debate.

The Silver Bell Report was accepted, and Messrs. Drury and Clarkson re-elected as Adjudicators. For next year, marching and calisthenics will be combined, with 15 marks, and 15 marks will be given for: Punctuality (5), Value of Session Programme (5), and Conducting (5).

All the other reports were adopted. Invitations for quarterly meetings from Walthamstow (Sept.), and Plaistow (Dec.), were accepted.

#### ANNUAL DEMONSTRATION.

The Annual Demonstration was held in the Town Hall, Battersea, on Sunday, 22nd June; 14 Lyceums being represented, and a large number of visitors. Mr. C. J. Williams (London President) conducted, and was supported on the platform by the members of the Executive and by Mrs. Ensor and Mr. H. Boddington (L.D.C.) and fraternal delegates from four local Churches. The arrangements had been left in the capable hands of Mrs. Barnard, as Marshall, and the proceedings went without a hitch. After the marching and calisthenics the results of the various competitions were announced. *Silver Bell*:—Tottenham, 86 per cent., won, with Fulham, 82 per cent., and Kingston-on-Thames 81¼ per cent., as runners-up. *SINGING* (2 medals each section):—*Seniors*: Gladys Northcote (N. London), and Ida Young (Lewisham); *Juniors*: Ethel Bishop (Battersea), Gerald Markham (Tottenham); *ELOCUTION* (2 medals each section):—*Seniors*: Stella Polmreer (Walthamstow), Ethel Bishop (Battersea); *Juniors*: Zena Godfrey (Tottenham), Kitty Young (Walthamstow). The Bell, medals and certificates were presented by the President, who also presented Long Service medals, suitably inscribed, to Mr. and Mrs. Clegg, who are in their 25th year as Lyceum D.V.'s. Short addresses were given by Mrs. Ensor and Mr. Boddington, and also by Mrs. Annie Patterson (North Shields), representing Tyneside L.D.C. Votes of thanks to Mrs. Young and Mr. W. W. Drinkwater (Singing and Elocution Adjudicators), and Mr. C. Drinkwater (Musical Conductor), and all others who had helped, brought the Demonstration to a close.—A. T. Connor, Sec.

#### NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above was held on June 18th, at Mr. L. Shipley's, 132, Hartley Road, Nottingham, at 7-30 p.m. Mr. L. Shipley presided. The minutes of the last meeting were passed as read.

The following reports were accepted:—The Secretary's Report *re* Council Work, Education Results, etc.; Treasurer's Report, given by M. O. Peel; Auditor's Report, given by Mr. A. Shipley. The two District Visitors' Reports. Mr. Jarvis had visited Beeston Lyceum, which was progressing satisfactorily with a good attendance. His own Lyceum, Parliament Street, Nottingham, it was good to learn, were more harmonious, a better understanding now existing between Lyceum and Church. Mr. Jarvis had decided to continue as the Conductor. In Mr. Wright's absence, through illness, his report, which had been forwarded, was read by Mr. Shipley, the President. He had visited Hucknall Lyceum and found them practicing for their Anniversary. Lincoln had also been visited at the Afternoon Session, which took the form of Groups. The Lyceum seemed under good conductorship. Sutton had a splendid report for all-round efficiency and very marked progress.

The Report of the B.S.L.U. Conference, held at Hull, was given by Mr. O. Peel. It was very satisfactory and he was congratulated on the splendid account, so ably presented.

The Correspondence was read and accepted.

The Area Representative, Miss Rayner, was called upon. In her remarks, attention was drawn to the *Manual Revision*; the £2,000 Effort was again referred to. Several suggestions were made as recommendations to strengthen the Lyceum's position generally, by keeping alive to all that is being advocated for improvement and growth.

The Council agreed to take steps to assist the *Manual Revision Committee* of the Union in its labours, as far as possible, on the lines recommended.

It was a very harmonious Council Meeting; there being a good attendance of Delegates.

The following motions, which were agreed upon, are worthy of note:—

1st.—That each Lyceum in the District be asked to give their vote, for or against, holding an Annual Competition for general efficiency in Lyceum work. The Lyceum obtaining the highest standard to hold for one year a Silver Bell.

2nd.—That the Secretary take the necessary steps to the holding of a Massed Lyceum Session on the first available Sunday in September.

The Council suffer a loss in the transition of Mrs. Bestock, who was an Associate Member.—Victoria G. Rayner, Sec.

#### NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT. BIG DEMONSTRATION.

About three thousand persons from the North-East Lancashire Spiritualist Lyceums took part in a demonstration in Fleetwood on Saturday afternoon.

The Lyceums taking part were Accrington (Pearl Street), Barnoldswick, Barrowford, Blackburn, Blackpool, Brierfield, Burnley H. Street, Burnley N. Street, Clitheroe, Colne, Darwen, Earby, Fleetwood, Great Harwood, Nelson, Padiham, Preston C.Y., Preston Lancaster Road, Preston Progress, Rishton, Barrow, Lancaster, Ulverston, Accrington, Dalton, and Millom.

The processionists assembled in Queen's-terrace, and were marshalled into order by Mr. Reuben Latham, of Burnley, Chief Marshall, assisted by Messrs. Frank F. Ball, W. E. Mason, and J. H. Jordan. There was a splendid display of large beautiful Banners.

#### A CIVIC WELCOME.

After singing the hymn "We welcome thy coming, O bright festal morn," Coun. R. E. Mann, J.P., Chairman of the Fleetwood Council, accorded them a civic welcome.

Coun. Mann said it was his privilege and duty to welcome them to Fleetwood. They were always delighted to see children, because Fleetwood possessed a considerable number. He hoped they would benefit by the invigorating air, and would spend an enjoyable afternoon. He asked them, when they were considering demonstrating again, to remember Fleetwood, where they would find plenty of attractions to amuse old and young.

Mr. Latham, on behalf of the North-East Lancashire Lyceums District Council responded. The Executive, he said, was very highly satisfied with the manner in which the Fleetwood Council had met all their desires in relation to their efforts that day. He felt sure their example could very well be emulated by other Councils and boroughs, and they would not forget Fleetwood's kindness.

The purpose for which they were there that day was to demonstrate their organisation, of which they were proud. He hoped the gathering would be the means of bringing numerous visitors from North-East Lancashire to the town.

Miss Phyllis Jordan read an address on behalf of the members of the Fleetwood Progressive Lyceum, extending to the visitors hearty fraternal greetings and a warm welcome to Fleetwood, and they hoped it would be a day of joy and pleasure to all.

Miss Peggy Wilson presented a beautiful red rose button-hole to the Chairman and the members of the Executive Committee.

#### BEVY OF FLOWER GIRLS.

Most of the Lyceums included in their numbers a bevy of flower girls, and each had an attractive banner.

The Fleetwood contingent was headed by six girls with garlands of flowers and carrying floral designs, representing the motto of the town, "Onward."

The bands of the Fleetwood Branch of the British Legion and Preesall took part in the procession.

The processionists marched to the foreshore, where calisthenic demonstrations were given by 1,000 Lyceumists. A troupe of Morris dancers from Nelson gave an excellent exhibition, and the members of the Lancaster Lyceum provided Maypole dances.

At intervals Spiritualist songs were sung, the music being led by the British Legion Band.

Subsequently, the procession was reformed and marched to the Co-operative Hall, where tea was served.

#### TYNESIDE DISTRICT.

##### LYCEUM ACTIVITIES AT NEWBIGGIN.

On May 25th the above Lyceum was presented with a hand-painted Banner by Mrs. Shanks. The Banner was handed to

Mr. T. Teasdale (Conductor) by Mr. J. Shanks on behalf of Mrs. Shanks, absent through illness, and accepted with a few well-chosen remarks; and after the Lyceumists had promised to respect and honour their Banner, it was covered up, to be unveiled to the public at the evening service by Mr. J. Bell (Bedlington).

On June 9th (Whit Monday) we held our first annual open-air Rally, the following Lyceums and Churches taking part in parade on to the moor:—Hirst, Bedlington, Blyth, New Delaval and Newbiggin.

The Chair was occupied by Mr. Shears, of the Hirst Society. Mr. Dawson (Wallsend) gave the invocation. Children gave an exhibition of marching and calisthenics before a highly delighted and interested gathering of the public. Mr. Teasdale (Newbiggin) was in charge of marching and Mr. Blair (New Delaval) in charge of calisthenics. The speakers were Mr. Dawson (representing Tyneside Lyceum District Council), Mr. Leslie (Blyth), and Mr. Lock (Bedlington). Mrs. Delf (New Delaval) sang solos during the service. Miss Johnson (Hirst) also gave a recitation.

250 children were entertained to tea after a most successful and enjoyable afternoon.—John T. Graham, Sec.

#### SOUTH SHIELDS UNITED LYCEUM WORKERS.

The monthly meeting was held in Fowler Street Church, on Saturday, May 31st, 1924. The Scouts and Girl Guides are both going well and the Choir has on several special occasions fully justified their existence by their excellent programmes.

The next meeting will be held in Eldon Street Church, on June 28th, 1924.—J. White, Sec.

#### SOUTHERN COUNTIES.

The Southern Counties District Council has elected the following officers for 1924:—President, Mr. C. V. Tarr, 25, Goldsmith Street, Heavitree, Exeter; D.V., Mr. E. G. Harry, 39, Margate Road, Southsea; Treasurer, Mrs. Baker, 3, Everton Street, Southampton; Hon. Sec., Mr. R. B. Long, 81, High Street, Portsmouth.

On May 4th I visited Southampton Lyceum and was pleased to see the progress this Lyceum has made. It certainly reflects great credit upon all the officers. There were 72 present at Roll Call. Readings were conducted by Mr. Reeves, Mrs. Hassen, and Mrs. Whattley, and all were well explained, many questions being asked and answered by them. I found the scholars attentive and eager to respond. I was pleased to learn that the Lyceum is growing rapidly. We all wish them every success in their efforts. Being an Open Session the following scholars gave social items:—Breda Hart and Julie Rabbley, Doris Warman and Freda Foster, Connie Carter and Esther Stansfield, duets from the *Manual*. Josa Rabbley and Russell Harwood gave recitations; William Newman, a violin solo; and a solo was very beautifully rendered by Miss Stephens. A very fine session.

On May 11th I visited Exeter Lyceum, and as this is the youngest Lyceum in the South, I was delighted to find 32 present at Roll Call. I found the scholars very eager and attentive and was surprised at the number of questions asked by the scholars during the session. Mr. Tarr conducted the readings and gave a detailed explanation of them. I think his Lyceum very fortunate in having a Conductor with Miss Munday's qualifications, and an Assistant Conductor in Mr. Tarr, whom many of us know as a man of exceptional ability. I may add that they are the only adults who work in the Lyceum, but they are well supported by Mr. H. Grainger and Church Executive. The following scholars stood out as being exceptionally keen:—L. Ashford, Jack Coombe, Ronald Coombe, Alice Smith, Maud Allan, Ernest Gillard, and Lily Smith, Leader. A very instructive session.

#### D.V. REPORT.

On May 18th I visited Brighton Lyceum. There were 61 present at Roll Call, 6 coming later. This Lyceum is a very fine Lyceum. Mr. Everett and Miss Scroggins were responsible for the readings and gave short addresses on them, answering many questions. This Lyceum should grow to become a very strong link in our movement. I was pleased to learn that they had temporarily repulsed the attacks that had been levelled at them in the local press. The musical side of this Lyceum is very fine. We were favoured with a selection by the orchestra and a banjo solo by Mr. Littleton. Social items were given by Tom Cotton, Dora Spencer, Marjorie Tweedale, Nellie Davis and Miss Dorrington. I must make special mention of the following names as outstanding scholars:—Norman Smith,

Nellie Davis, Mrs. Gladfield, and Mr. Spencer (Jun.) Mr. Cager should be proud of the Lyceum he conducts.

#### SOUTHERN COUNTIES.

Our last Quarterly Meeting was held at Southampton (Cavendish Grove) on Saturday afternoon, May 24th. Invocation, Mr. Guy (Francis Avenue, Portsmouth). Mr. H. C. Guy was elected to the chair for the meeting.

Mr. Matheison welcomed the Council on behalf of the local friends. The business was varied and several important matters were dealt with. Minutes, Correspondence, Resignation of Reading Lyceum, the attacks on the Movement, Election of new President—Mr. C. V. Tarr, of Exeter, and Representative to the Southern Churches' Council—Mr. E. G. Harry, of Portsmouth Temple, Instructions to Delegates to B.S.L.U. Conference. The Reports were given by the officers:—Treasurer—heavy travelling and other expenses just balanced by income gives us a similar start to the previous quarter; Secretary—having already dealt with his part, touched mainly upon the Examination results and Education.

The D.V. had visited during the quarter all Lyceums in the Council (except two) and gave a good account of each.

A vote of thanks and appreciation for services rendered to the Council in the past was accorded Mr. and Mrs. P. R. Street and those who work with them.

It was unanimously agreed that the Area Representative, Mr. Williams, be invited to attend our meetings.

Meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

The next meeting will be held at Portsmouth Temple, on Saturday, August 2nd, at 3-30 p.m., and the Services on the Sunday. Any alterations in these arrangements, or further particulars regarding the meeting, will be sent to the Lyceum Secretaries by post.

The Sunday services were presided over by the District Visitor, in the unavoidable absence of the President.

Morning—Invocation, Mrs. Harris; Reading by Mr. Harry, followed by the singing of "Looking upward every day," by Lyceumists; between the addresses which were given by Mrs. Harris (Southampton) and Mr. Guy (Portsmouth), a solo, "My Task," was sung by Miss Muriel Baker. Mrs. Baker, the Council Treasurer and local Conductor, invited everyone to attend the afternoon session of the Lyceum.

Afternoon—Open Session, conducted by D.V. (the Church President) presented the Examination Certificates. Invocation by Mr. A. G. Newton. Mr. R. B. Long, Mrs. Brake, Mr. Hill, Mr. Low and Mrs. Baker took the readings. Fraternal greetings were exchanged.

Evening—Invocation by Mr. Guy; Reading by Mr. R. B. Long. This was followed by the singing of "Angel Voices" by Lyceumists. Addresses: Mrs. Brake, Bristol, and Mr. H. C. Guy, Francis Avenue, Portsmouth; the former "Harmony and Pleasure" and the latter "What is Spiritualism" (embodying an explanation of the Principles). Benediction by Mrs. Brake.—R. B. Long, 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.**

BARNOLDSWICK, Green Street.—On Whitmonday we took our Lyceumists to Skipton to join in their procession, and together we had a glorious time. Friends at Skipton were kind to all. We must say that all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. To the friends at Skipton Spiritualist Society we desire through the *Banner* to convey our thanks and best wishes to all Lyceums.—Mrs. Whittaker, Sec.

BLACKPOOL, Albert Road.—Lyceum Day and Unfurling of Banner, May 25th. Conductor, Mrs. Nurse; Mus. Director, Mr. W. Proctor. About 250 present, including 32 from Fleetwood, and many other Lyceumists. Miss Elliott spoke on Education Scheme. Various Lyceumists sent their best thoughts by letter. The Unfurling was a lovely sight undertaken by Mrs. Butterworth and Mr. Hobbs, two of the old Lyceumists. Mrs. Entwistle accepted the Banner to the Church from the Lyceum and several friends spoke a few words. The next item was

the Presentation of Examination Certificates to the following:—Miss W. Hodgkinson, Miss M. Hamlet, Miss N. Barnes, Miss M. Carter, Miss N. Chattington, Mr. N. Milby and Master J. Leadbitter. James Leadbitter proposed and N. Chattington seconded, a vote of thanks to the Unfurters of the Banner, and for the gift of *Manuals* from Church Committee. Beautiful solo by Miss J. Christopher.

6-30 p.m., Lyceum Service. Speaker: Mrs. Geo. Wild (Blackpool). Address by Mrs Wild: "What can Spiritualism do for the Child?" Solo, Miss J. Christopher. All visitors and friends will be welcomed during the season.—F. Carter, Sec.

BRADFORD, Laisterdyke.—Open Session, June 1st, conducted by Miss Farnell. The Lyceumists responded well with recitations, solos and songs. Pearls given were wonderfully good.

June 15th was our Anniversary. We had Open Session in the afternoon, and a Service of Song, "The Warning Voice," in the evening. We had a most enjoyable time.—J. Babbs, Sec.

LONDON, Croydon.—June 1st, we held our first Open Session which was well supported by members of the Church. We also had great pleasure in welcoming eleven visitors from Bowes Park Lyceum. Many pearls and recitations were given both by members and visitors.—G. Lingwood, Sec.

LONDON, Hackney.—The first Anniversary of this Lyceum took place on May 25th. There was a large attendance of Lyceumists and visitors, also representatives from Tottenham and Grovedale Lyceums. A very enjoyable session was held. Master Harold Hester, a small Lyceumist, gave the Invocation; songs and recitations from several Lyceumists; Mr. Smedley gave a very appropriate address "The Second Mile." Mr. Carmen unfurled our first Banner which was designed and made by one of our Lyceumists, Mrs. Cushway. Then prizes were given. The first prize, a Presentation *Manual*, was awarded to Miss Westwood, who had not been late or absent once during the year. The 2nd prize was awarded to Doris Wigg, for regular attendance; three other prizes were awarded to Marjorie Wigg and Mr. and Mrs. Cushway, also for regular attendance. Two special prizes were given by the Conductor, Miss Beaumont, to Doris Wigg and Hilda Banfield for diligence in the search for knowledge. All members, children and adults, took an individual part in the afternoon programme. The Benediction by Miss Smedley. The beautiful floral tributes were given to the Metropolitan Hospital after the session. Greetings from Hackney to all Lyceums.

On Saturday, June 14th, we were favoured with another visit from Mr. Ben Carter, of Halifax, who gave a splendid address and clairvoyance in aid of the Children's Outing Fund.—M. Hester.

NEWCASTLE, Central (late Rutherford Street).—During Lyceum Session, July 8th, a very impressive service was carried out by Miss Secker in the Naming of a child, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willis. Material name, Lydia; and the Spirit friends gave it the name Glory. Our Conductor, Mrs. Price, then presented the child with a Lyceum Badge. Success is already assured in our new home, 39, Corporation Street. Visitors invited.—A. Carr, Sec.

WISBECH.—On Whit Sunday a Special Open-Air Session was held in the grounds of Bowthorpe Hall, kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. Farrow. We had Mr. Ben Carter, of Halifax, and friends from Peterborough with us.

Mr. Carter conducted the Session, assisted by Mr. Carman, our Conductor. The following Lyceumists gave recitations:—E. Taylor, A. Howlett, F. Barnes, E. Kirby, M. Howlett, A. and N. Emmerson. Mrs. Malpress gave the Benediction bringing a happy session to a close.

We accord Mr. Farrow our best thanks for the use of his splendid grounds.—H. C. Butter, Sec.

BOLTON, Henry Street.—On June 1st we held our Open Session. The weather was very bad, but the Session very good, and all conducted by our own Lyceumists, very few visitors being present. We had just heard of the passing to the Higher Life in Australia of one of our old Lyceumists, Joseph Shipperbottom. We took for our golden chain "Life and Death," and our speaker, Mrs. O'Keefe, spoke appropriately. In the evening we had a Memorial Service, when friends filled the Church with flowers and with their presence. Solos were rendered by Misses A. Sheffield and V. Hibbert. A very impressive service and one that should tend to better harmony in Church and Lyceum.—W. C. Bearman, Sec.

PORTSMOUTH.—An harmonious session was held on June 1st, when Mrs. Blanche Petz presented B.S.L.U. Certificates to successful candidates.

On June 22nd Mr. Lawrence, of Reading, conducted an interesting demonstration of Nature Study by Mrs. Darby.—Miss Aimee Higgins, 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 June 25th.

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

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

RULE 4.—All Reports must reach this Office not later than July 23rd, to ensure insertion in the August issue.

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

ACCRINGTON, Pearl Street.—Open Session June 1st. Invocation by Miss Crabtree, S.C. conducted by H. Rimmer, M.R. led by the Conductor. Comments were made on the readings. G.C. was taken by the Assistant Conductor. Marching and calisthenics dispensed with on account of sickness. Solos and recitations were rendered by the following:—H. Rimmer E. Rimmer, Mr. Fazackerley, Miss Crabtree, Miss Coleclough. Benediction, Mr. Fazackerley. Session much enjoyed. Best wishes to all and a speedy recovery to all our sick members.—Miss Coleclough, Sec.

BACUP.—On June 1st we held our Open Session, conducted by Mrs. Carter. Opening hymn 310, Invocation 86, S.C.R. 91, G.C.R. 134, M.R. 213. Seven pearls, six recitations, six solos. A really good and interesting session.—B. Lord, Sec.

BARNESLEY.—We had a jolly trip to Cleethorpes on Whit-Tuesday. We all enjoyed ourselves immensely.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS, Dalkeith Street.—May 10th we held our Anniversary Services. Well attended session; children's pieces well rendered. Prizes distributed by Mrs. Fishweek, of Preston. Education Certificates presented by Miss M. E. Lawton, Conductor. Evening speaker, Mrs. Fishweek. Soloists: Mrs. Parrott and Miss Fleming; reading, Miss Walker; recitation, Mr. Butcher.—Mary E. Kellett, Sec.

BEDWORTH.—Open Sessions, June 1st. Recitations rendered by E. Adams, M. Wood, H. Palfreyman, I. West, S. Bradbury, P. Allsop, G. J., G. L. and J. Chapman. The Fountain Group sang from the *Manual*.—H. Wood, Sec.

BOLTON, Bradford Street.—On June 1st we held our Election of Officers:—Conductor, Mr. W. Johnson; Assistant Conductor, Mr. J. Worthington; Secretary, Mr. A. Batten; Assistant Secretary, Mr. B. Morris; Treasurer, Mr. W. Ridings; Musical Director, Mr. W. Ridings; Assistant Musical Director, Mr. S. Farrimond; Guardian, Miss E. Holt; Captain of Guards, Mr. J. Walker; Marching Conductor, Mr. T. Connor; Assistant Marching Conductor, Mr. J. Jackson; Guards, T. Morris, J. Thwaites, H. Batten, M. Coombs and E. Speight; Auditors, Mr. Brown and Mr. Lintott; Librarian, Mr. J. Bromiley; Group Leaders: Liberty left over; Girls, Mr. J. Bromiley; Boys, Mr. S. Farrimond; Sick Visitors, Miss Lintott, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Walker and Miss Speight; Representatives to B.L.D.C., Mr. W. Johnson and A. Batten; Representatives to Society, Mr. W. Johnson and A. Batten.—A. Batten, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—June 1st was Open Session, with a very fair attendance, considering the heavy rain. Recitations by May Stretton, Jessie Makin, Charlie Ellis, Eileen Edwards and Margaret Ellis, to all of whom is given every encouragement, and we are glad to see it met with success. The little ones are, with their steady efforts, making the adults realise they are losing their laurels, in regard to recitations especially. Our Greetings to all Fellow Lyceumists.—Millie Hemsall.

BRADFORD, Harker Street.—We held our Open Sessions on June 6th and all enjoyed it.

On Whit-Monday we had a good time; each scholar (old and young) received a present.—Miss Farrow, Sec.

BRIERFIELD, John Street.—Open Session held on June 1st, conducted by Mr. R. Dilworth and Miss Graham. Songs by

Mary Rhodes, M. Crawshaw, A. Bradshaw and M. Beveridge; recitations: A. Rhodes and May Crawshaw; pianoforte solos by A. Bradshaw. Pearls and texts were said by the elders and children. A very pleasing and enjoyable session. Fraternal greetings to all.—T. Wane, Sec.

BURNLEY, North Street.—We celebrated our Quarterly Lyceum Day on May 25th. There was a good attendance of Lyceumists, Church members and friends. The morning took the form of an ordinary session, whilst the Open Session in the afternoon was one to be remembered. We were very pleased to welcome our visitors from Hammerton Street, Brierfield, Nelson and Todmorden. Songs and recitations were given by various Lyceumists. Our speaker in the evening was Mr. James Shuttleworth, Secretary, U.D.C.; subject: "Spiritualism and its Principles." Soloist, Mr. H. Jobbins. Greetings to Lyceumists at home and abroad.—May Wagner, Sec.

BURY, King Street.—The usual custom of "walking" on Whit-Friday was dispensed with, giving place to a tea-party and social. All praise was due to the caterers. After tea, dancing was the main item, when Miss Beth Adcock and Miss Ella Haworth made efficient M.C.'s. Mr. Wm. Haworth, Junr., provided the music. Great amusement was caused by the "Blind Artist," Miss May O'Brien, and Mr. Joe Dean won the prizes. The ramble on June 14th was enjoyed by all.—Wm. Haworth, Junr., Sec.

CALGARY, CANADA.—On May 11th the Lyceum held "Mothers' Day." Pearls were said by all in the room. Readings by V. Potts, E. Rayner, E. Rushton, H. Mitchell and Mrs. Rushton. Solo by L. Rayner. Pianoforte solo by W. Garrad. Two very appropriate recitations were given by E. Rushton and L. Rayner. Best wishes to all Lyceums.—M. Adams, Sec.

CHESTERFIELD.—On June 1st we held our Open Session. The following recited poems: Frances Hobster, Sidney Hobster, Avis Bown, John Slater, Marion Wagstaffe, Lucy Hill, Elsie Gore, Kenwood Widowsan, and Mr. E. Hobster. Song by Kenneth Bown. Trio by Louie Gore, Lily Slater, Connie Slater. Certificates presented by Mrs. Lidlow. An interesting session was brought to a close.—Harold Lee, Session Sec.

COLNE, Cloth Hall.—Open Session was held on June 1st, but owing to the practice of hymns for Whitsun the session was curtailed a little. The children responded well with recitations, solos, etc., and we all had an enjoyable and pleasant session.—J. R. Wrigglesworth.

DONCASTER, High Street (late Wood Street).—We held our Open Session on June 1st, a number of Lyceumists taking part.

On June 10th Mrs. Gosling presented the Education Certificates to the seven successful candidates, and we had an enjoyable social.—V. Batty, Sec.

EARBY, Back Green End Avenue.—We held our Open Session on June 1st. Recitations were given by M. Ennis, E. Clark, Queenie Dawson, P. Hunter, S. Warrington, G. Milward, K. Dewhurst, and H. Duxbury. Songs by M. Ennis, E. Taylor, G. Robinson, C. Clark, J. Waddington, B. Blackburn, E. Ennis, R. Martindale, E. Goode, R. Ward, Evelyn Taylor, E. Tillitson. Hymns from the *Manual* were sung by members of the Liberty Group; also Hymn 319 was sung by eight members of the Shore Group. A solo was rendered by Mrs. Aldred. We spent a good time together.—B. Fryer, Sec.

EDINBURGH, 9, Gayfield Square.—Taking our Association's Morning Service, we held our Annual Flower Session in our new church on 8th June. The large quantity of flowers and fruits was sent, with a donation, to the Sick Children's Hospital. Resulting from the excellent conduct of the session, many new Lyceum members were promised. Mr. Rankine gave a short address. The following chosen Lyceumists gave delightful items: Misses P. Lawrence, M. Morgan, J. Campbell, B. Clark, Master G. Cobb.—J.M., Sec.

EDINBURGH, 9, Forth Street.—On May 31st, before a large attendance of Lyceumists and Church congregation, Rev. Tod Ferrier (Order of the Cross) performed the naming ceremony of "Barbara," infant daughter of Mrs. Pickard, the service being beautiful and highly impressive. A short discourse on "Flowers and their spiritual meaning" shed a wonderful light on the pretty ceremony of the presentation of flowers to the little one by children of the Lyceum: a touching symbol of the beauty and sweetness of the little soul come unto our earth. Visitors to our Lyceum please note that admittance will be

gained by ringing the hall bell, as the door is closed at 1-10 p.m.—E.R., Sec.

GLASGOW PROGRESSIVE.—At the request of Mrs. Gentleman (our present Conductor), Mr. Jas. Shaw has decided to take over the post of chief Conductor of our Lyceum as from Sunday, 29th June. Great credit is due to Mrs. Gentleman for her splendid work while she was in office.—N. MacGibbon, Sec.

GREAT HARWOOD.—Open Session held June 1st. S.C. led by Mr. Baxter. M.R. by Willie Barrington, Lilian Haworth, Maggie Fish and Hubert Norris. G.C. by Ernest Allen. Recitation and solos were rendered by the following: Maggie Nelson, Sydney Hudson, Alice Fletcher, Alice Taylor, Walter Taylor, Mrs. Braithwaite and Mr. Baxter.—H. Baxter, Sec.

HIRST.—On June 1st an interesting ceremony took place. Mr. W. Arrowsmith presented the Education Certificates to the successful students, after which he gave very encouraging remarks to the Lyceumists. Mr. Hudson moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Arrowsmith, who has supervised for four years. Elizabeth Tait supported.—J. Stafford, Sec.

HORSFORTH SCOUTS' HUT.—On June 1st we held our Lyceum Anniversary services during the day. Song Service entitled "Spring Flowers." Good attendance.—D. Long, Sec.

HUDDERSFIELD, St. Peter's Street.—We held our Open Session on June 1st, conducted by Mr. Garside. We had recitations by Miss Doris Richmond, Lena Driver, Donald Macalister and Fred Lecumber. Solo by Miss Eva Marnhill and a duet by Elsie May Bray and Alice Macartny.—Miss Elizabeth Marnhill, Sec.

JARROW.—On May 11th we had a Naming Ceremony, most beautifully performed by Mrs. Russell, South Shields. The infant son of Mrs. and Mrs. Knapton was named William Benjamin, spirit name, "Raymond."

On May 18th and 25th we held our Lyceum Anniversary; the efforts of our Lyceumists were thoroughly enjoyed, everyone doing their part splendidly. The services were conducted by Mrs. Russell, of South Shields, and Mrs. Milne, of Sunderland. Mrs. Milne presented B.S.L.U. Certificates for the recent exams. All our candidates who sat were successful; we are making great strides in our Lyceum.—(Mr.) B. Hardwick, Sec.

LANCASTER.—We held our Open Session on June 1st, and were entertained by recitations from Annie Smith (2), Harry Hulme and Nellie Lowther. Edna Parkinson and Margery Dawson favoured us with a duet, as did also Mrs. M. Jewett and Miss E. Pearson. We spent a most enjoyable session together.

On May 31st our Lyceum joined the N.E.L.D. Council Demonstration at Fleetwood travelling by Char-a-banc to Knott End and finishing the journey by ferry. We took about 150 Lyceumists and about 130 parents and friends, so Lancaster turned out quite proudly. The demonstration was a success, the weather being all that could be desired. Greetings to all Lyceumists.—Marion Swale, Sec.

LEEDS PSYCHO.—It gives me the greatest of pleasure to state that although the weather did not altogether favour us, we enjoyed ourselves at Whitsun.

On June 22nd we held our election of officers for the ensuing six months. Conductor, Mr. Gascoigne; Assist., Mr. S. Hancock, Mrs. Exley; Secretary, Mr. A. Daisley; Treasurer, Mr. Russell; Pianist, Miss Hudson; Assist., Misses Parramore, Gascoigne; Marching Leaders, Misses Daisley, Vickers, Exley and Masters Smith, Webster, Russell; Sick Visitors, Mrs. Bury, E. Gascoigne, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Hunter; Guards, Misses Vickers, Orman, Gascoigne, Daisley, Masters Russell, Vickers, Daisley, Webster; Marching Conductors, Miss Tempest and F. Hunter; Calisthenics Conductors, Ivy Brown and Olive Gascoigne.—A. Daisley, Sec.

LEICESTER, Liberty Lyceum.—Open Session, June 1st. An enjoyable time was spent on the above date. The usual items were given. Invocation by Bro. Holt, opening hymn, silver chain and marching. Solos by Messrs. L. Walker, D. Wood, E. Jephcote. Recitation by S. Nottingham and Mr. A. Wells.—C. W. Banton, Sec.

LEICESTER, Silver Street.—On June 4th we held our Open Session. The following took part:—Duet, Mrs. C. Illiffe and D. Parker; recitations by Misses L. Lucas and M. Coych, Messrs. S. L. Harvey and Master Willie Coych. Marching and calisthenics were ably conducted by Miss T. Lucas. Visitors and scholars spent a pleasant afternoon.—Mr. A. Hurst, Sec.

LONDON, Clapham.—Progression steady. Individual efforts and queries show distinct improvement. Lyceumists gaining confidence thereby. A stepping stone to higher work.—Grace M. Todman.

LONDON, Hampton Hill.—Our Lyceum held their 4th Anniversary and Flower Service on May 11th. We had much pleasure in Uncle Smiles and Uncle Bert who addressed the children. We also had the Kingston Lyceumists and many friends; tea was provided for over 60.

In the evening children and friends were again addressed by Uncle Bert, and Uncle Smiles presented the Certificates for the B.S.L.U. Examination. A most enjoyable day was spent by all.—A. Baker, Sec.

LONDON, Tottenham.—On Sunday, June 15th, we held a combined session at the Canadian Hall. It was our "Red Letter Day." We had our new Lyceum Banner unfurled by Mr. Ben Carter, and six Group Banners by Mr. Goodwin. We had a glorious gathering, numbering 250. Fraternal Greetings to all Lyceums.—Zena Godfrey, Session Sec.

LONDON, Woolwich & Plumstead.—We are still plodding on. We had a most enjoyable afternoon at Battersea on June 22nd, when 13 Lyceums were represented and a splendid session held. Our congratulations to Tottenham Lyceum for winning the Silver Bell. "The Workers Win."—H. Watthey, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Pendleton.—On June 13th we went on our annual Whit-week Outing, this year being to Southport. There were one hundred and eight persons sat down to dinner and tea. Many thanks are due to the friends at Hawkshead Hall for their kindness in attending to our needs.—J. Shaw Sec.

SOUTH MANCHESTER.—We held our Annual Lyceum Trip on Whit Friday, June 13th. The party, numbering close upon 100, took a delightful journey to New Brighton, the children being well catered for and everybody enjoyed themselves.

On June 15th we held special Open Sessions. The 10-30 service was conducted by Mr. A. T. Connor, of London, and the 2-30 by Miss Kitson. Mr. Connor performed a very pleasing ceremony of naming the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Igram. Great interest was taken by all present.—Albert Hope, Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—On May 25th a Service of Song entitled "A Warning Voice" was given by the Lyceumists for the benefit of the Church. Our Conductor, Mr. Roeder, presided, and the reading was ably read by a Lyceumist, Mrs. T. Harrison. There was a large audience present and the service was enjoyed by all.—A. Edwards (Mrs.), Sec.

NEWCASTLE, Heaton & Byker.—June 1st we held our Anniversary Services. Afternoon and evening, Mrs. Clarke, of Jesmond, presided. The room was beautifully decorated with Banners and flowers. Recitations, dial, duets, solos, musical reading by Leaders and Lyceum. Action songs by Daisy Group, Little White Lambs and Happy Year was well rendered. Efforts given by Lyceumists and friends closed a successful day.

On June 15th we had a splendid session. The naming of a baby by the Conductor, who gave it the Spirit Name of 'Hope.' 15 Certificates were presented to successful students who sat for the Examination. Pearls and recitations by Lyceumists. Many visitors and friends were present. We have been asked to repeat our Anniversary on July 27th.—S. J. Hunter, Sec.

OLDHAM, Central.—On June 9th. S.C., A. Howarth, M. Grange; M.R. Conductor, Mr. Woods. Lena Ogden, Mrs. Fozzard, Alice Baugeley; recitation, W. Woods, B. Woods, F. Henshaw, R. Chappell, F. Chappell, Ivy Palmer; solos, Mrs. Chappell, Hough Fozzard, Miss Norbury, A. Potter, C. Howarth, Mr. Norbury, Mr. Williams, Lily Pointon. Service rendered by the following Lyceumists:—Misses Fielding, L. Palmer, E. Palmer, A. Nelson, H. Nelson, A. Williams, Mr. Baugeley, J. Heard, H. Fox, W. Gifford, W. Ogden, L. Ogden, H. Ogden.—E. Norbury, Sec.

OLDHAM, Hooper Street.—On June 1st we held our Open Session and had a very good attendance, although it rained very heavy during the day. S.C., M.R. and G.C. readings were very well rendered, and several Lyceumists gave recitations and songs. Marching and calisthenics very fair. Several visitors were with us and the session was appreciated by all present.

On June 13th we had our Field Day, and as the weather was fine we went to Doghill. Tea and sweets were provided to all Lyceumists under 14 years of age. Races were run and prizes

given to the winners. After spending a great day in the fields we all returned home about 8 p.m., tired but happy.—A. W. Goulden, Sec.

PORTSMOUTH, Francis Avenue.—On June 16th items were rendered by Norah and Eric Newnham, Phyllis Cousin, Audrey and Dolly Harman, Renie Tucker and Margaret Goodchild, at a very harmonious session.—H. C. Guy, Sec.

RAWTENSTALL.—On May 25th, 1924, we held a Special Open Session for the purpose of naming the baby daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Lawley. The child was given the names of Barbara Helen, and the spiritual name of Progress.—A. Stansfield, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Hillsbrough Bridge.—Open Session held June 1st. We had good recitations by our younger Lyceumists and solos by the elders. It was an afternoton well spent.—E. Jennings, Sec.

SOUTHAMPTON.—The S.C.D.C. held their quarterly meeting at Southampton Spiritualist Church Lyceum on May 24th and 25th. A very harmonious session took place on Sunday afternoon. Pearls of a high standard. Efforts were given by the following: Solo, Muriel Baker; recitations, Brenda Hart and Russell Harwood; violin solo, Raymond Hart. Mr. Carwithen, President of our Church, presented Examination Certificates to 22 Lyceumists. Various delegates giving their greetings the meeting closed after a very enjoyable afternoon.—D. G. Hart, Sec.

STOCKPORT, Central.—I am pleased to report that our Lyceum has formed a Dramatic Society, our Leader being Mr. Haylock Eyres, late of Nelson; for many years belonged to "Henry Baynton Shakespearean Company." We are having *The Merchant of Venice* for our first effort. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Mr. Haylock for the efforts he is putting forward to help us in this direction.—E. Joules, Sec.

STOCKTON, Brunswick Street.—We held our Anniversary on May 25th, entitled "Silver Lillies," which was an excellent and successful time. Our thanks are due to our Leaders, Musical Directors, Mrs. Dodsworth and Miss E. Cannon. The Reading was ably performed by a young Lyceumist, Stanley Williams. The following took part in solos and duets: Mrs. Spedding, E. Hickman, F. Oldroyd, M. Tindle, and V. Johnson. Our Conductor, Mrs. Williams, being absent through an accident.

On June 1st we held our Open Session. All items were well rendered; marching and calisthenics were a success and an improvement.—G. Tuck, Sec.

STOCKTON, Cecil Street.—On Whit Monday a Field Day was held, 120 Lyceumists and friends taking part. First Tee-Side Lyceum band led the parade to the field. Sports and games were held after which everyone sat down to a good tea. Marching and calisthenics were gone through. Thanks to all who helped was displayed by the happy faces of the children.—George A. Atkinson, Sec.

WALSALL.—The leaders and children in the Walsall Spiritualist Lyceum are greatly pleased with the help they have had from Mr. R. H. Morgan and the members of his family, who for the second time visited the Lyceum on May 31st and contributed a programme of vocal and instrumental music. Mr. Morgan is always pleased to do his best for us, and he has at one time actively associated with the work in our "Liberty Group." It was fortunate on May 31st that Mr. Ernest Keeling (of Liverpool) was paying a visit to the Walsall Church, for he, too, was able to attend the Lyceum and give a very inspiring address. Mr. V. H. Lawton, our Superintendent, conducted the afternoon's proceedings.

WELLINGTON, New Zealand.—The Lyceum in Wellington meets every Sunday in the New Century Hall, Kent Terrace. During April we have had two Open Sessions, when songs and recitations were given by Misses C. Ingmire, L. and G. Webb, J. and S. Kirk, and Mr. Easton. A piano and violin duet was beautifully rendered by Elva and Seth Harris. Best wishes to the *Banner* and fraternal greetings to all Lyceum workers.—(Miss) S. Kirk, Sec.

WINNIPEG, Canada.—On June 1st we held our Open Session. Pearls and recitations were given by the following:—Winnie, Edna and Harold Brown, Ella and Millie Crawley, Viola Dale and Harry Towns; song by Winne Brown and a pianoforte selection by Evelyn Hargreaves. This being the first warm Sunday for many weeks we had a very poor showing for an Open Session. A great number of people flock to the Parks on warm days.—Helen F. Lawrence, Sec.