

THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 405. Vol. XXXIV.

NOVEMBER, 1924.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

Our Education Scheme.

TO ALL LYCEUMISTS, AND LYCEUMS.

Last year 118 Lyceums sent in about 1,500 candidates for the Education Examinations. This was out of over 250 Lyceums with well over 10,000 eligible members! Therefore the question naturally arose, "Why did such a large proportion not take part in training Lyceumists in the knowledge essential to them?" Some answered that Leaders did not quite know how to plan out the work, nor how to teach the lessons in such a way that candidates could tackle a written examination; though, could they be shown how, they would willingly act as Tutors.

Since then, a revised and enlarged edition of "HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE EXAMINATIONS" has been published; and free copies of the booklet were sent out in June, and again in September, to all Lyceum Committees, conductors, tutors, and Secretaries. This booklet helps anyone (even without previous experience) to train students, or students to train themselves, for any or all of the Grades.

The Education Committee is therefore hoping that previous difficulties of those Lyceums, whose names did not appear in the Examination Lists, have now been overcome; and that EVERY AFFILIATED LYCEUM WILL BE REPRESENTED in next February's examinations. (The date is 15th February).

IMPORTANT TO STUDENTS AND TUTORS.

Many tutors and candidates, who read and use their LYCEUM BANNER, have found the SUMMARIES of the *Manual* readings to be studied, and the GLOSSARIES of the same selections most helpful in their work. Quite a number cut these out; and have them in their *Manuals* for constant reference. And many have expressed a desire that all the SUMMARIES AND GLOSSARIES be issued as a pamphlet, so that they may be in handy form, and altogether, as loose papers were apt to be lost or torn.

This request was carefully considered by the Committee, who also realised that new students would probably not possess the articles from the BANNER, yet would be glad to have the information and guidance given in them.

THE SUMMARIES AND GLOSSARIES of the *Manual* readings and recitations set for Grades I., II., III. and IV., are now available in booklet form, and may be bought at 3d. per copy (plus 1d. for postage) or 2s. 6d. per dozen, on and after 1st November.

This is *below* cost price; as the Committee desires to put them within the reach of all students and Lyceum classes.

TO LYCEUM SECRETARIES.

If you have not yet received the official printed form for the names of candidates, and the list of instructions about the examinations, please write to the Education Secretary *at once*; as these were posted at the end of September. The lists and fees are to be sent in on or before 17th December. Any change of Secretary, or address, please communicate immediately to the Education Secretary. Will Secretaries of newly-affiliated Lyceums please send on names and addresses to the Education Secretary, with a request for particulars about the work of the Education Scheme.

WE GIVE THANKS.

Once again the Education Committee has received the generous donation of *five pounds* from our benefactor, Mr. T. F. Smedley, of Belper. This is the third year in succession that Mr. Smedley has subscribed this amount to the Education Fund, the expenses of which are always greater than the income.

He hoped that others interested and anxious for the welfare and success of the Education Scheme, would follow this example, and give financial help as far as possible. We very much appreciate Mr. Smedley's interest and practical sympathy; and thank him most sincerely for his help. And we hope his example will prompt others to help the Scheme to succeed in every way, by sending donations to help it to pay its way.

EDUCATIONAL HANDBOOKS, ETC.

The full list of present publications, for the use of students, tutors, and conductors (as well as for the general reader) appeared in the October issue of this paper.

A *complete set* of the literature will be supplied at the reduced rate of 1s. 9d., post free. Separate copies are charged for at the full rate per copy.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS to be sent to the Education Secretary, (Miss) M. E. KITSON, 17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Batley (Yorks.).

ORAL GRADE OBJECT LESSONS.

IV. AN EXEMPLAR (Question II.).

When a boy, Alfred Kitson never had a really good chance of going to school and learning to read and write and do sums. His father and mother were very poor, because his father was always in bad health; and as his mother had to go out to work, little Alfred had to keep house instead of going to school. But he learned to read and write at Sunday School, and, when old enough to have some money of his own, he bought good books and tried hard to learn all that they told him. As soon as he knew the things himself he tried to teach them to others. He worked very hard for the Lyceum he belonged to, and when the Lyceum was closed—because of the parent Society being broken up—he went to a private house every Thursday evening and taught a class of boys and girls until another Lyceum was opened. He helped to start a number of Lyceums—and if the Lyceums were so far away that he could not attend to help in that way, he sent copies of Silver Chains, Golden Chains and Musical Readings, so that those who attended the Lyceums should be properly taught; and he described, also, how the marching and calisthenics should be done.

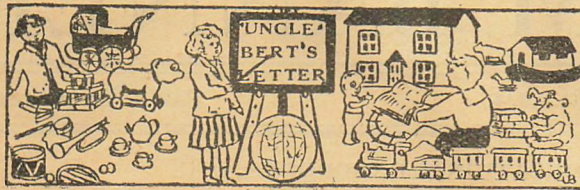
Later, he wrote a book called "Outlines of Spiritualism for the Young," in which he told how the Modern Spiritualist Movement had begun; showed how the Bible really supported Spiritualism; and described the homes and lives of children in the Summerland (the children's home in the Spirit World)—finishing with an address in which he showed that all Spiritualist parents, who really loved their children, would send their boys and girls to the Lyceum to have their minds trained under the Lyceum system. When he found that the book was popular (that is, that everybody liked it, and thought it very good) he gave it to the Lyceum Movement, so that the Lyceums would get all the benefit of the book being sold; and when the Lyceums formed themselves into a Union (that is, banded themselves together to help each other in the work) he did all the Secretary-work for nothing until there was so much Lyceum work to do that he could not do it all in the evenings, and had to stay away from his own work as a coal miner so that the Union's work should be done.

Now he is growing old; but, as a result of the work he did when he was young, the Lyceum Movement is now very strong, and able to do things (such as this Education Scheme for children under ten) that could not be done when the Union was first started. In doing this he set an example which every Lyceumist should try to follow—and that is why we call him the Father of the British Spiritualist Lyceum Movement and say that he is a noble exemplar to all Lyceumists.

A. T. CONNOR.

NOTE.—Oral Grade Leaders can add to the above lesson similar stories of the lives of local men and women who are known to the children, and whose public work is not done for hope of reward but from a realisation of duty—always laying stress on the main teaching that an Exemplar is *one whose example should be followed*.

We regret that unfortunately the article on "The Child," sent in by Mrs. M. E. Pickles, has been lost and cannot be traced. We regret this and apologise to our readers who have been following the Articles, that the sequence has been broken,



My dear Boys and Girls,

Auntie Ruth and I have been delighted to get your letters this month, the number received is much better than last month, I have now just over seventy Lyceums on my list, so you see if one member only wrote from each of these each month I should have seventy letters each month, but I am a greedy Uncle, I want more than one letter from each, and I want those Lyceums which are not already on my list to send along this month.

Now I must tell you boys and girls how the lost hat and coat were found.

Dadda was rushing about enquiring where his best hat and coat had been put, and Mamma assured him they were hanging on the hall stand, but Dadda had already looked there three times, and was quite satisfied Mamma was mistaken.

Ah! happy thought, I think I know where they are, just at that moment there was a double rat-tat at the door. The Postman? no, he had already been; who on earth could it be.

Mamma was all excitement as Dadda opened the door, expecting him to announce some unexpected visitor, instead of which she heard:—

“Please to remember the fifth of November, the Gun Powder treason and plot.”

Why it was their own little boy who had slipped out at the back unnoticed in the excitement of finding the lost hat and coat, and there behind him was his soap box on wheels containing a well stuffed sack of straw, decorated with a guy's face and dressed in Dadda's best hat and coat.

At first Dadda was inclined to be angry; and then he smiled at the idea and said, “well there, boys will be boys.”

The secret was that this little boy has been reading his books and seeing pictures of children with guys, had just put into practice what he had learnt.

I am not going to suggest that you should take Dadda's best hat and coat or Mamma's hat, because they might not treat it as a joke, but I am going to suggest to you that you should read and learn the lessons in the MANUAL, and then put them into practice. I will give you one illustration, and then I want you to see how many more you can find.

“Be generous to make others happy, even with playthings; they are childhood's treasures. M.R.211.

How can I put this into practice, I have a football. I must not be selfish with it. I must let my chums enjoy a game with me.

I have a skipping rope, but I must not expect to skip all the time, I must be prepared to take my turn at turning for my playmate to share my pleasure.

I have some books and toys, for which I have grown too old. Xmas is coming, I must find some poor children who would like them.

There is poor little Jackie ill in bed. I must lend him one of my books to read.

That is the simple lesson of being generous with your toys, and how to put into practice the lessons you learn. Will you try? Why, of course you will.

To those of the liberty section I would like to extend this message.

The MANUAL is a wonderful book. The Lyceum is a wonderful school of great thought, but it is the putting into practice the lessons learned herein by each individual member that will make the Lyceum Movement what we desire it to be.

An appeal has been made to the recent Church Congress.

“Youth wants to know how to keep straight. It wants to be taught how to serve. It wants to see a religion that really functions in people's lives—a thing of transforming the beauty of in-dwelling life.”

The Lyceum Movement can supply the need. IF we can find a way to sink personal differences and discord, which from time to time enters our camp, as in all other organisations, whether social, religious, or otherwise, the secret is to seek peace and pursue it.

In the first place our Lyceum education puts a value on life, such as will give boys and girls and men and women a desire to live clean, honest, straightforward lives.

Secondly: It gives to us a far greater conception of serving humanity than any other teaching. Doing good for goodness' sake.

Thirdly: It gives a religion which functions seven days a week and not only on the sabbath. It transforms to real beauty the in-dwelling life. Its motto being. “Be ye perfect as God is perfect.”

Therefore with such an appeal broadcasted throughout the world let each one of us, who bear the name Lyceumist, endeavour to live up to the high standard of our calling, and so give youth what it demands. For you boys and girls and we elder ones to attend the Lyceum, is as though we had passed our School examination with merit, and won a scholarship into a higher school. Value it; stick to it; it is the education the world outside is starving for, but at present too blind to realise.

COMPETITIONS.

Prizes this month for the best six riddles (with answers) you know for Xmas.

Liberty Section: My experiences as a Lyceumist.

RULES.

Name in full, age, address, also Conductor's name and address. Write replies on one side of paper only.

Open to all Lyceumists. Prizes for Competitions only (not puzzles) to those not over 14 years of age.

“Special Mention” to Liberty Section.

Address as below. Closing date, November 18th.

Enclose stamped addressed envelopes if replies to letters are desired.

Correct answers to Puzzle No. 10.

Go Forward. Strike your harps. The March of Life.

Celia Whitehead, Newton Heath; Willie Owen and Nellie Dean, Bury; Edith Godfrey and Ella Huntley, Chester-le-Street; Zillah Burrows, Halifax; Roma Lampon and Muriel Brown, Brixton; Florence Lion, Manor Park; Olive and Edward Marshall, Fred Pitt, Muriel Lamb and Muriel Booth, South Manchester; Eleanor and Elizabeth Coe, South Shields; Edith Bradbury, Denton.

Prizes for Competition awarded to:—

Fred Pitt, age 13, South Manchester, Ella Huntley, age 12, Chester-le-Street. Gladys Stuart, age 12, Craghead, Durham.

Liberty Section:—

Mrs. Slater, Clitheroe, Lancs.

Over 40 creditable efforts received. I congratulate every one of you, and although you cannot all be prize winners, I want you to know I keep and treasure every effort received.

PUZZLE No. 11.

WRNEDA AKOJCSN IVDSA. 25—18—60—3.
*SOTOSHRWDD LAHL. ENW ROKY.

What has this to do with our Lyceum?

FOR OVERSEA LYCEUMISTS.

I have received a special request to write to two of your Lyceums.

It is always a pleasure to me to be of any assistance in this way, whether at home or abroad, and as space will not permit a separate section, at present, I want you all to accept my monthly letters as written to you as much as to the Lyceumists in my own country.

I live in a brick-built house, which has glass windows, a slated roof and a wooden door, in this door there is a slot, a little larger in size than an envelope which is called a letter box, and it is through this slot that the postman, a nice looking man in blue uniform piped with red, and wearing a peaked hat, drops my letters from boys and girls each morning; at the same time giving a rat-a-tat-tat, on a brass knocker fixed above the slot, to tell me they are there. So far only a few letters have come from you, but I am looking forward to quite a large batch in the near future. Auntie Ruth and I joined by all our boys and girls, send you Xmas and New Year's Greetings and wish you all success in the grand work you are carrying on.

Greetings this month from: Lewisham, Battersea, Walthamstow and Forest Hill. Four shining lights in the London area.

With Love,

2, Villiers Road,
Osterley, Middlesex.

Your Loving Friend,
UNCLE BERT.

A Page for Scotland.

At the beginning of September the Lyceum Committee of the Glasgow Association of Spiritualists held their first Committee Meeting under their new Conductor and it was decided then to send invitations to the Glasgow and District Lyceums to join us in a Field Day on 20th September, at the Blythswood Estate, Renfrew.

A hearty response from our neighbouring Lyceums was given and a real spirit of co-operation was shown by the representatives sent to meet us to make arrangements for the day. Although Field Days are quite a common occurrence in England, this is the first of its kind in Scotland.

The day dawned bright and sunny, although towards the afternoon it dulled down, but still it remained quite dry. We had a well arranged programme. One item on the programme which was eagerly looked forward to by the young people was the races. All the prizes had been arranged for by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rankin, of Dalmuir Lyceum, and I am sure all the winners were extremely proud of themselves and their prizes.

The chief item on the programme was the marching and calisthenics, conducted by Mr. C. Rankin.

It was unfortunate that this date coincided with the quarterly meeting of the S.D.C. in Edinburgh, as it took away many of the leading lights for Lyceum work in Scotland, and I am sure it would have delighted them to see the true spirit of the Lyceum which was in evidence all the time and each one present did his or her little bit for the happiness of all.

Towards dusk we had rather a wet departure, but although it rained our spirits were not damped because we had enjoyed ourselves to such an extent that such an incident was regarded as a mere trifle.

Thanks are due to all Lycumists, and we hope this is only the beginning of many more such days.

B. ELDER, Sec.

The Pond—A Nature Study.

"Far from the busy haunts of men," hidden in a little corner of the country where peace reigns supreme, there is a very small pond. In early spring it is surrounded by luxuriant banks of primroses, celandines and, here and there, a modest violet. It is always very still and peaceful, but to those who are lovers and students of nature it is a very happy hunting-ground. Let me take you on a visit. In order not to scare away the inhabitants we must be perfectly still, so let us lie down on this bank and await events.

The water is not deep and on the bottom we can distinguish many small brown objects like fir cones. These are the homes of the caddis grubs, which, being very tender and much appreciated by the larger insects, protect themselves by building round their bodies cases of small stones, twigs, or even small pieces of leaves. If you look carefully you may see a small white head at the door, looking to see if all is clear. But there is a stir in the still water, and a large black beetle flashes past in a cloud of mud. He is the tyrant of the pond, and will eat all and sundry who cross his path. If you should catch him be careful how you handle him as he has a sharp spear projecting backwards under his body, and when held in the hand he attempts to run backwards so that the spear inflicts a nasty wound.

There is a clump of water milfoil, with its delicate green leaves arranged in whorls, and there seems to be something attached to some of the leaves. On removing some of it with a net it is seen to consist of jelly-like strands with round black specks here and there; this is toad spawn, distinct from frog spawn, which is in blobs and never in threads. A month hence the pond will be alive with frisking tadpoles chasing each other in and out of the water weeds.

There is a gentle ripple on the water, something has entered the pond. It is the male of the Large Crested Newt, Triton Cristatus, as he is called. See, here he comes, his crest, which is only assumed during the breeding season, is erect. How fine he looks with his bright orange chest, marked with red and blue.

Cristatus is a peaceful creature and thrives in captivity. In the summer you will see many of them enjoying the warm sun, on a stone almost level with the water.

On that other side, where the water-lilies flower in the late summer, and seeking shelter from the sun, in the cool shade

of the duckweed, are some fish. How bright they look, flashing in and out the water cress, minnows fleeing from the larger sticklebacks and perhaps even a gudgeon or a roach browsing on the bottom.

The sun is slowly sinking to rest and we are thinking of returning home, when a flash of blue and green passes into the adjacent trees; it is a Kingfisher with his evening meal. As we take the homeward path a heron, feeding in a neighbouring marsh, rises and flaps noisily overhead, its long legs trailing behind, and once more all is peace and quiet.

IAN W. BROWN, Edinburgh.

Some Thoughts on Evolution.

At times one is wearied of this ever-changing panorama of life and longs for something steadfast; something fixed. That one should seek something other than that which is going on all around is in itself a point of significance.

That each, unconsciously, should come to realise 'that which is seen is temporal, and that which is unseen is eternal,' points to something hidden deep within the human soul.

The prodigal has come to realise, after eating the bread of experience, that this is not his real abode and that he has travelled far from his father's home.

He is a seed of the Divine Tree cast into the world of matter to be nurtured by pleasure and pain.

What is evolution and what evolves?

Before I can unroll a sheet of paper it must previously have been rolled up, and so before we can have evolution we must have involution.

This process, mentioned in Genesis, is the forming of 'matter' and the building of worlds is the opposite of what is going on to-day. There we have 'life' involving itself deeper and deeper in 'matter.'

The forms built, the life has to express through these forms more and more of its divinity.

In involution the form-aspect predominates; in evolution, the life-aspect.

As the old adage runs: "Life sleeps in the mineral; dreams in the vegetable; stirs in the animal; and wakes in the man."

One has to remember that it is the One Life in all, only different degrees of manifestation of expression, occurred by the limitations of the form.

The Divine Life within each soul lies dormant until the soul has had sufficient experience to teach it that its true birth-place is not earth, and that the things of earth can give only passing pleasure, but not real lasting joy.

The Divine Life does not evolve, it but unfolds and reveals itself as the forms allow. It, the Spirit in man, is the Truth, the Light, and the Way. The Light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. It sheds its light as the soul and body are evolved and are able to receive and transmit it to others.

Man is ever seeking, often unconsciously, for Reality, and not finding it. He is ever hunting outside himself, he must learn to look within.

Man is always seeking pleasure, and trying to avoid pain. We never ask 'why should I be happy?', but 'why should I be sad?' We take it that happiness is natural and normal.

Here again is a significant point directing us to see that man's true and inner life is one of joy and bliss.

But man's vision is clouded by desires and passions, and so, blinded and attracted by these, he delves deeper into matter, descending lower than the brutes, eating as it is said, the husks, till he wakes up to find that what he has wasted his time and energy on are only empty husks.

He now begins to realise what he is, and his thoughts are directed towards his Father's home, but when he strives to move he finds he is heavily fettered; he has sown and so he must reap.

He cannot return immediately, he has slowly to retrace his footsteps, but the law works ever towards freedom, extracting debts. Thus:—

"Though the mills of God grind slowly,

Yet they grind exceedingly small;

Though He stands and waits with patience,

With exactness grinds He all."

Yet some day the prodigal will have fulfilled the injunction "Be ye therefore perfect as your Father is, in Heaven," and evolution will have served its purpose.

WILLIAM L. BRAWN,

Assistant Conductor, Edinburgh.

Baby Plants and How they are Born

(The Lyceum Guild Nature Study Article).

By MARGARET E. LAWTON.

XI. GERMINATION.

Each seed is a case, enclosing and protecting a tiny baby plant, which, if given suitable conditions, will be born into the world to develop into a perfect plant. Most plant babies are created during the Summer and Autumn, but are not ready for their birth until the following Spring; the cold, frosty, months are spent within the seed-coats, where the babies rest unharmed. With the Spring, comes the time when each baby plant must be born, establish itself in the world, and commence to lead an independent existence. The birth or development of a plant from a seed is known as *germination*, and the method of germination varies slightly according to the formation of each seed.

Every seed contains a plantlet, complete with its embryo root and shoot, sufficient food to nourish the plant until it becomes self-supporting, and one or more seedleaves, or cotyledons. Maize, wheat, and barley grains, and the seeds of Snowdrops, Daffodils and most Grasses have only one cotyledon. Most trees, the Pea, Bean, Mustard, Cress, Marrow and the majority of seeds have two cotyledons, whilst the Pine seeds have five or more of these cotyledons or seed leaves.

The cotyledons are present to help to provide the baby plant with food. In the Pea, Bean and Cucumber, the cotyledons themselves contain the food store, and are thick, hard and fleshy. In fact each half of a Bean is one cotyledon, so that the food found appetising to people is the food required by the baby plant. In Fig. I the young plant is growing from the seed, nourished by the food stored in the cotyledons.

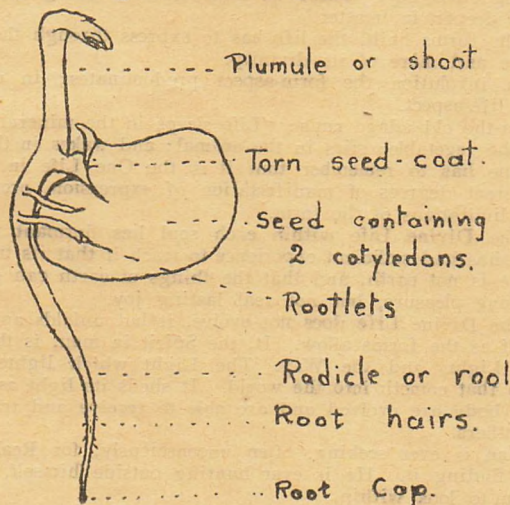


Fig. I A Germinating Bean.

In most seeds the cotyledons contain a little food, and are like soft, oval, green leaves, the first produced by the plantlet. In the Pansy, Maize and Wheat, the food store is outside the cotyledons and they just act as digestive organs, so that through them the plant can make use of the solid food contained in the store.

Certain conditions are necessary before the birth or germination of a baby plant can take place. Germination is impossible without the presence of moisture, air, and warmth. No plant can use solid food, so that the moisture is necessary to render the seed's foods store digestible to the baby plant. Seeds in dry places have been known to lie dormant for years, because being unable to use the food store, they have lacked the nourishment required for the development of the embryo plant. The gases contained in the air are as necessary to plants as to animals and people, to enable them to breathe and release the energy for growth. Below a certain temperature all life is at a standstill, and remains dormant so that growth is impossible. As a plant gains its independence, other conditions become necessary, but for germination, *moisture, warmth and air*, are *absolutely essential*.

Most seeds, scattered in Autumn, lie snug and dormant in the ground, until awakened into activity by the moist warmth of

Spring. The rain soaks and softens the seed, making the food digestible for the plantlet and giving the tiny root and shoot the energy necessary for their growth. The seed swells until the seed-coat bursts, making an opening through which the root and shoot can escape. The young root, or radicle, pushes its way downwards, towards moisture and away from the light. The young shoot, or plumule, grows upwards towards the air and light. No matter in what position a seed is placed, both the root and the shoot curve around until they are following these laws. The baby root has to force its way through rough, and sometimes hard soil, and so its tip is protected by a root-cap, as seen in Fig. I. Part of a root's work is to absorb moisture, and this is done by the tiny, fine, root hairs, which grow just above the root-cap. For a little time, the shoot, too, has to push its way upwards through soil, and in some seedlings the delicate tip is protected by being bent until it is free of the soil, and in others it is protected by a sheath as seen enclosing the shoot of the wheat seedling in Fig. II.

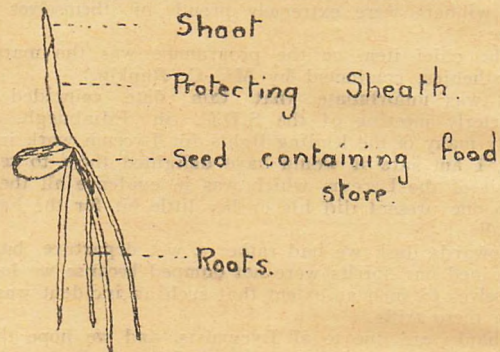


Fig. II A Wheat Seedling.

The second important work of the root is to anchor or secure the plant in the ground. A number of small plants such as grasses, do this by producing a mass of small roots which radiate, to claim sufficient surface of soil. This method is adopted by the Wheat. Larger plants require a greater security, and so prefer a strong main root, with smaller branch or secondary roots growing from it, and each secondary root again giving rise to a series of rootlets so that a wide and deep area of soil is penetrated. Each rootlet possesses a root cap, and root-hairs, but has not the same attraction or need, as the maize root, to grow directly downwards. In Fig. I. the Bean seedling has developed a main root, with just a few rootlets commencing to grow from it. In Fig. III. the Pine Seedling shows the very early stages of root formation.

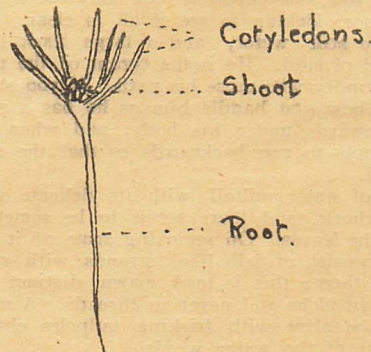


Fig. III Germinating Pine seedling.

When the plumule or shoot first leaves the seed, it is usually either yellowish or pale green in colour. On reaching the light, the green tint deepens as the leaves unfold and spread out to catch the sunlight. This green colouring shows that the leaves have taken up their work of *manufacturing food* from the liquid absorbed by the roots in the soil, and the gases absorbed from the air by the leaves themselves. Until the roots and

leaves commence this work, the baby plant is dependent on the food that is stored either inside or outside of the cotyledons. Where the cotyledons are leaf-like as in the Marrow, Sycamore and the majority of plants, they form the plant's first green leaves and perform the work of manufacturing food, until the true leaves are sufficiently developed to do it themselves. Fig. IV. shows a Sycamore seedling, with the leaf-like cotyledons unfolded, whilst the shoot is still quite small.

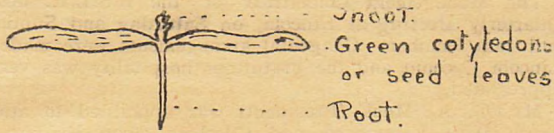


Fig. IV. A Sycamore Seedling.

The Pine seedling shows its cluster of thread-like cotyledons, performing exactly the same work.

Whilst the shoot and root are emerging from the seed-case, they are being nourished by the seed's food store, which is being stored, digested or provided by the cotyledons. As the food store becomes exhausted, the need for the cotyledons lessens and they shrink, or shrivel away, having served their purpose in life.

With the shrinking of the cotyledons the baby plant gains its independence, and having a root which secures both a home and moisture, and leaves which can manufacture food, becomes a self-supporting-plant. By adapting itself to its surroundings, the plant will reach maturity, claim its own place in a crowded plant world, and, like its parents, produce the male and female germs which will unite to create the seed-babies of the future. Thus, the baby plant will grow up to continue the life story of its race.

(This article completes the series about baby-plants, but next month will be given an article applying the lessons taught. This article for December has been dictated by a Spirit Guide, who loves children, and who is particularly interested in their education in the matters that will help them to live useful, helpful, good lives).

Manual Revision Notes.

Manchester, Halifax and Huddersfield, N.E. Lancs., Tees-side, S.E. Lancs. and Leeds have to be added to the list of District Councils with Revision Committees. There are now only five Councils whose names are not on the list, and I am hoping to hear from them at any time.

Some of the District Committees have already settled down to their task, and Mr. G. A. Dixon, of Manchester, has submitted several points that are worthy of general consideration. I have already replied to him by post, but would like to receive other opinions on the points raised.

Mr. Dixon raises the question of the usefulness of G.C.R. 107—"The Kingdoms of Nature." "We are told," he says, "that the mineral kingdom is the base of the grand pyramid of existence . . . if children, and even adults were to be asked to explain this, 99 per cent. could not answer clearly."

I agree—and if I was present with the 99, there would be 100 of us! It is merely an attempt at fine writing, almost meaningless, and only surpassed in fine-sounding nothingness by the last reading. I wonder if Hudson Tuttle could have explained it? The teaching of the G.C.R. is scientifically wrong—as the animal kingdom is *not* based on the vegetable kingdom: they are two stems growing from the same trunk—and I agree with the Manchester Committee that it should be left out of the Revised Edition. It would be impossible to make the teaching clear and useful, even by using simple words.

Like many others, Mr. Dixon objects to the use of Christian terms to convey Spiritualist teachings, and points out the use of "seraph" and "throne" in M.R. 212. This raises our old difficulty—should we leave out the poem, or should we alter it to suit our teachings? The pity is that, in this case, the teaching intended is perfectly plain to the trained Lyceumist. He or she knows that the author is only referring

to the chain of love which joins the most unprogressive spirit in earth life to the most advanced spirit in spirit life. But the novice in Spiritualism is in danger of being deceived into believing that Spiritualism teaches of a personal God, who sits on a throne and is attended by a host of specially created spiritual beings called seraphs. Will some Lyceumist with a gift for poetry send us two lines, leaving out the dangerous words but conveying the same teaching? Or would it be sufficient to put a footnote explaining what the words are intended to teach? Perhaps the Manchester Committee will consider this point again.

Then there is the important question of the titles of our Readings. Some of these are undoubtedly misleading—that is, they do not give a correct idea of the subject-matter contained in the Reading concerned. For instance, G.C.R. 141 is entitled "Spiritual Gifts"—and deals with Spiritualistic Phenomena. There are many who divide mediumship from spiritual gifts (or the powers of the spirit) and claim that we should speak of mediumistic gifts and psychic powers—as mediumship is a gift in connection with the physical body, and psychic powers are an inheritance which we possess as spiritual beings. But whether this definition is accepted or not, the title of the G.C.R. is misleading and should be altered.

Mr. Dixon draws attention to the title of G.C.R. 138, and suggests that it should be "This Life and After." "We quite appreciate," he writes, "that the word Death is the commonest expression used for the passing over from this life, but we think that the word should not be used as a title for one of our Readings." I should like to receive other opinions on this point, either from Districts, Lyceums, or individuals. There are many points, and this is one of them, where the weight of general opinion should govern the final decision. But when forming our opinion we must bear in mind the subject-matter of the Reading. It does not deal with this life, but with death and the life after death; and is an attempt to show that what we call death is only a natural physical process that opens the door to a larger spiritual life, and thus to remove from the human mind the fear of death that has been lodged there by orthodox teaching. The only allowable substitution would be "Transition" for "Death"—but in that case, in my opinion, the chief force of the teaching would be lost, for it is the word Death that contains the terror, and only Spiritualists would understand the meaning of the substitution; and the Reading should be so named as to convey a clear indication of our teaching to the newest novice. Further, the admitted fact that the word Death is the commonest word used is the strongest argument in favour of the word being retained in the title. But this is only my own personal opinion, and there are other people who may have other opinions. I should be very glad to learn them.

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 on Revision matters must be sent to the National Revision Secretary—Mr. A. T. Connor, 19, Oakhurst Road, Forest Gate, London, E.7.

£2,000 EFFORT.

My Dear Comrades in the Cause,

This month I have a donation of 2s. from Mr. and Mrs. Wigley, of Belper. Two real old Lyceumists of the days when a Lyceumist or a Spiritualist was often hooted and booed through the streets. They are still staunch and true and do not forget the Union. On behalf of the Union I tender our sincerest thanks for their remembrance and hope that others both individually and collectively will do likewise. I would like to know if any Lyceum has had parcels of pencils and bookmarks from the late Secretary and not yet returned the result of sale of same. I should be pleased to receive any donations from that source or to send out parcels to any Lyceum enquiring.

Please keep 1925 well in your mind. Founders' day is the last Sunday in January and let us have a good return from that source. Please note I am not keeping up to my results to equal last year, so please make a special effort to send me a donation.

Yours sincerely,

29, Kliffen Place,
Coronation Road,
Halifax.

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

THE LYCEUM BANNER:

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

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

Terms to Lyceums and Societies:

The *Lyceum Banner* is supplied at 1/9 per dozen copies (13/12) up to four dozen. Additional half dozens may be ordered. All orders for four dozen copies and upwards are supplied at 1s. 8d. per dozen. All parcels sent post free. Accounts due quarterly: March, June, September and December. Single copies, 2½d. post free.

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NOVEMBER, 1924.

The International Spiritualist Federation.

The International Congress held in London during 1922 decided to form a Federation of Spiritualists and find a common basis of expression throughout the world. It was found that the basic truths of Spiritualism are known in every country, but there have been different methods of arriving at the evidential facts, and the succeeding philosophy varies somewhat.

A large religious freedom exists in U.S.A. and Britain, and we have been able to found a universal religion on the evidence produced. Though the subject has been studied separately, both peoples have arrived at a common set of principles. Most other countries have studied the facts from a scientific standpoint, but no minds can stay at that point and we find the extension of the facts to personality lead to an ambiguity which colours the purpose and trend of thought according to the mediums through whom the phenomena are displayed.

Holland and Denmark have a Christian Spiritualism. Germany, Belgium, Russia, France, Spain and the Southern States of America have not in the past applied Spiritualism as a large factor in religion, though it should be stated that there are sections which approach some religious link to the subject.

In none of the countries, except U.S.A., are there any schools for the teaching of the fundamental truths of what may be termed the sixth sense, which we describe as the power of mediumship, to the children of the races.

There was a meeting of the Grand Committee in Paris during September this year, when two delegates from each country were invited to attend. The B.S.L.U. realise the necessity for propagating the Lyceum system, and decided at the last Conference to affiliate with the I.S.F. The M.C. sent along a contribution and asked for a seat on the Grand Committee. This was granted at the last meeting, and when the Lyceum was briefly explained to the other representatives, there was very cordial approbation expressed that such a wide and strong force is in existence in Great Britain. The small Lyceum leaflet was eagerly received and a copy of the *Lyceum Manual* is being sent to every country, and a best bound copy has been donated to the International Library which has been formed.

The immediate work of the I.S.F. is to exchange experiences and found on a common basis those methods of research which will gradually allow an agreement on philosophical and religious inferences, with the broadest possible interpretation of abstract and transcendental pursuits. In Britain we have our Davis; in France they have their Kardec; but in no country have Spiritualists made the error of making god-men, as in the old religions of the world. We have passed that stage of evolution and realise the finite limitations of all humans, who are only capable of touching the fringe of the eternal verities of life. Our great hope is that the spirit people can raise us, whilst living on earth, to feel the transmutation of ideas which will convey to the exalted an inner

vision which shall portray the genius of interpreting in words the sensations we feel from higher sources of being. We shall, in turn, be able to shape the education of our children to realise the beauty and joy of a life of service dedicated to the propagation of eternal truths. "Vive l'Internationale."

The Management Committee at Lincoln.

The Management Committee of the B.S.L.U. held their Quarterly Meeting at Lincoln, on Saturday and Sunday, 11th and 12th October. Congenial arrangements were made by the Lincoln Lyceum and the gratuitous hospitality was very much appreciated.

Mr. G. A. Mack (President) was appointed to attend the South West Lancashire and Cheshire Good Friday Demonstration for 1925.

Wellington Lyceum, New Zealand, were re-instated into membership.

The Halifax (Alma Street) and Nottingham invitations to the M.C. were accepted.

The Treasurer's Statement showed nine months' income to be £1,332 4s. 4d., Payments £1,285 9s. 7d., Lyceum Home Fund £151 7s. 4d., £2,000 Effort, £364 11s. 10d.

Two new Hymn Sheets are being printed. A series of six sheets will be on sale shortly.

£5 5s. od. was donated to the S.N.U. F.O.B. Fund and £5 5s. od. to the Britten Memorial.

The M.C. endorsed the issue of "Advent—Modern Spiritualism," and "Essays on Reasoning" in booklets. These are being produced by the Education Committee.

A report was given of the International Spiritualists' Federation which stated the B.S.L.U. had been granted a seat on the Grand Committee. The Lyceum system was heartily commended. A *Lyceum Manual* is being sent to each country represented.

Mr. Kitson was asked to write a paper to be offered to the International Congress.

The applications of Leek, Horden, Bowes Park, Gateshead (Beaconsfield Hall), Ripley (Derbyshire), Southend and West-cliff, Openshaw (Manchester), Reading (Cross Street Hall), Rochdale (Baillie Street), were all endorsed.

Mr. G. A. Mack was appointed to compile the A.J.D. Session for Founder's Day, in January, 1925.

The 1924 Conference Minutes were approved for printing. A vote of thanks to the Lincoln friends was heartily given.

PROPAGANDA

A splendid Open Session was held in the afternoon, conducted by the President (Mr. G. A. Mack), supported by the members of the M.C.

Eight children gave a pretty floral welcome and Mr. Mack responded with a sensitive reference to the occasion.

A number of Lyceumists commented nicely on the S.C.R.

Miss Raynor, Mr. Dobby and Mr. Guy gave the connective readings of the M.R. and also expressed their interpretations of the lesson. Mr. Dobby took charge of the physical exercises. Recitations were given by V. Moody, D. Martin, V. Bailey, M. Willey, F. Willey and J. Copp. Mary Smith sang a nice song. There were many pearls and the Session closed with a desire to continue, but the time had elapsed, so the Lyceum finished with the salute.

EVENING MEETING.

Mrs. M. E. Pickles (Vice-President) occupied the Chair at the evening meeting. Mrs. V. G. Rayner gave an appealing Invocation.

Mrs. Pickles said we displaced the days of "cram" by an encouragement of the development of inner forces. The spirit is reaching out for spiritual food and we are satisfying the needs of the children.

Mr. Knott (General Secretary) addressed the meeting on the growth and education of the Lyceum.

Mr. Kitson (Adviser) gave his greetings to the meeting, and said it was his fourth visit to Lincoln and wished the Lyceum every success.

Mr. Williams (Treasurer) thanked everybody who had helped to make the visit a success.

The President of the Church accepted thanks and spoke of the pleasure which the visit had given to all.

Solos were admirably rendered by Miss V. Hill and Mr. G. Brothwell. Mr. Dobby conducted the singing. The music was provided by Mr. Hill's Orchestra.

The Phrenology of Florence Nightingale.

(In prose and verse).

By W. GEORGE WHEELER.

The birds and flow'rets were thy care,
In holy life thy Soul would share.
Thy gentle goodness cast its light
O'er noble hearts that lov'd thee right,
Thy mystic touch was life indeed
To all in sorrow, all in need—
Now dear to all God's realm must be
The Soul that claim'd its life in thee.

It cannot be denied that quality of organism goes for much in connection with the individual make-up of mankind, and in conjunction with a classic education, tends to lift a person out of the common rut. It gives a better chance of advancement, a finer opening to associate with the refined and cultured. Florence Nightingale possessed this quality of organism and educational advantage.

This tone of body and mind is due largely to something inherited, although improved and sustained by choice companionship, by the awakening of the best faculties and by self-education. If on the other hand, the individual comes into the world with a coarse nature, it is impossible to altogether remedy the evil. Florence Nightingale was refined and cultured.

Her temperament was mental-motive, and suggested activity of body and mind. She accomplished a great deal of work of the highest quality. The vast undertaking of nursing the wounded at Scutari was in itself the manifestation of a splendid mind—orderly, enduring, broad and sympathetic. What she thought of as necessary to take with her; the superintending for twenty hours at a time after the battles of Balaclava and Inkerman; the methodical methods for supplying food and clothing for the wounded; the broad-minded tolerance in selecting her nurses, all tended to reveal her harmony of mind and organizing judgment.

A mighty hospital she moulds,
A thousands Souls her heart enfolds,
Her shadow in the midnight drear
Oft doth the soldiers' heart endear—
Sweet Nightingale, thy life's a song
To echo through the ages long.
A woman's hand must soothe the brow
And bind the broken soldier now.

Florence Nightingale possessed the faculties which give strength, nobility of mind, moral ideals and ethical principles in an exceptional degree. With all her sweetness, gentleness and good temper she had firmness and strength of character, will-power arising from the combined faculties of Firmness, Conscientiousness, Concentration and Self-reliance. She was a law unto herself; she ruled her own mind and kept her life's work always in view; she carried her planned ideas through as perfectly as human nature can from the time she nursed the old shepherd's dog to long after the war when she returned home under another name.

When Conscientiousness joins with all the nobler faculties of the mind to attain noble ends, the spirit of Self-sacrifice and holy service is very great, and the individual is rightly ruled from within for the highest and most beneficial purposes.

The Acquiring faculties, the desire to get for one's own personal interest were never specially active in Miss Nightingale. What she did she did from the highest possible motive, without desire for reward, without regard for the plaudits of the world. Hers was an unselfish life.

She did not, however, undertake her great work from a mere sense of pity. She had a tender and affectionate nature, but was not ruled by the softer faculties alone. Her Conscientiousness and Benevolence worked together, and was advanced by a fine power of Concentration—she could bring her whole mind to bear on her every task or pleasure for the time being. When once her mind was made up her will-power and fixedness of purpose carried all before her. The ruling faculties were specially active.

Then from the land of brave and free
This noble woman cross'd the sea,
Neath Britain's flag, in Britain's care,
With depth of love beyond compare;
Her nurses, thirty-two, were train'd,
With sympathy their hearts inflam'd—
On to the war with vile disease,
Not all the world their course impede.

Florence Nightingale had a great deal of the practical in her nature, and with her fine mental qualities knew how to accomplish useful work on the material plane. She was a keen and close observer, noticing everything very minutely, and taking many things into consideration. Her great work was the result of knowledge and character. She was more practical than theoretical. If there had been no Crimean War her prepared mind would have displayed itself equally well in some other field.

Miss Nightingale's strength was due to many things. She had had a healthy, mental, moral and physical upbringing. Her parents were educated, noble-minded, studious and philanthropic. She had been taught self-reliance, order and thoroughness. Her father supervised her lessons; he was a man of broad sympathies, artistic and with intellectual tastes. He gave his girls a classic education. He was a strict disciplinarian, arranged fixed rules for lessons and for play, and would not permit careless work to pass unpunished. Florence Nightingale, like Gladstone, Ruskin and Lyle Lyne profited greatly by early training.

O'er all the realm her praise is chant'd
A mighty host her skill hath grant'd
Right down the ages, on for aye,
A million nurses own her sway:
Train'd in a home of charm and grace
She bore sweet goodness in her face
A woman tender and refined
She gain'd the love of all mankind.

The religious as well as the ethical side of her nature was strongly marked, but her sympathies were broad and tolerant, and she was prepared to work with any or all denominations.

Florence Nightingale had in her mental make-up no striking impediments to retard her progress. Her Caution was moderate; she had sufficient Self-esteem; her faculty of Hope was strong. Her physical endurance was partly the result of will-power. If her sympathies had ruled supreme she could not well have endured the horrible sights which awaited her at Scutari.

Her ambition was well to the fore, but it was an ambition to act nobly, to perform the greatest good for the greatest number. It was an ambition which worked in conjunction with the higher faculties. Hers was not a nature in which the animal instincts played a large part. It was not surprising that when stricken down with the worst form of Crimean fever:

The wounded fac'd the wall to weep,
Lest she should tread that narrow steep.

Her recovery was the joy of a multitude.

Thou Queen, divine-like, stand again
A pitying Angel, o'er the slain
Cast thy white robes of love around
The broken hearts thy Soul hath found;
Crown thou with light the crown of pain,
Be to the earth a priceless gain.

REVIEW: THE MYSTERIOUS MEDIUM.

"The Mysterious Medium," by Sydney A. Moseley. Price 5/- nett. Stanley Paul & Co.

This book contains an attack on Sir A. Conan Doyle's credulity, describes a trick seance, and suggests the instability of Spiritualistic phenomena.

Another section of the book gives a biased resume of the Hope Test by a member of the Psychical Research Society, which resulted from a visit to the College of Psychic Science.

The Author infers his willingness to be convinced, providing the necessary evidence can be produced and instances some bewildering phases for the sceptic.

The impression gained from the text is that Mr. Moseley's desire to continue to write books on Spiritualism is stronger than his desire to be convinced of the evidential value of the experiences. Yet withal he states: "I confess I am afraid to turn down Spiritualism in case it may be a fact." The book also contains the old bogey that the results are destructive of mental balance and should be left to the Church and science.

Discussion classes will find it a nucleus of much debate.

G.F.K.

Our Lyceum Guild

(Worked in conjunction with the B.S.L.U. Education Scheme)

GUILD MOTTO:—"We live to learn, and learn to live."

GUILD AIMS:—(i) To be progressive.

(ii) To develop ourselves—physically, mentally, psychically, spiritually.

[For particulars about how to become a Guild Member, and for Guild literature, send stamped, addressed envelope to the Leader, 17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Batley (Yorks.)]

LETTER TO GUILD MEMBERS.

Dear Fellow Members,

I am writing this letter in mid-October, so do not yet know the results of the recent Essay Competitions. But I am hoping that before you read this the successful competitors will have received their merit-badges.

May I urge each member to make it a point of honour to take an active part in the work of the Education Scheme; either as Tutor, student, or propagandist amongst other Lyceumists.

To all members whose present Lyceum we know has been recently sent (per their Secretary) a letter, and a copy of the new *Aims and Rules* leaflet. Will each member please "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" the contents of the two papers, and then "be up and doing" the work of a real, earnest Lyceumist and member.

In response to the request for reports of the work and plans of Guild Classes has come one from SOUTH MANCHESTER. What are our other centres doing? Please send on your reports, that we may keep posted up with Guild activities of every nature—social and educational.

We would like to quote extracts from the report from South Manchester Guild Class:—"The average attendance per night, for the past three months, has been 20; but holidays and bad weather prevented further rambles and trips. . . . The winter programme, until December (when a change may be made, if desired) will be—7-0 to 8-30, needlework; singing; physical exercises; hobbies; study group: 8-30 to 9-30, Elders' Study Group. . . . The Guild Class has also promised to assist in the Church's Jumble Sale by collecting goods, arranging the stalls, etc."

We congratulate this class on its activities, and wish it every success.

Several members have not yet sent for their promotion badges. We should appreciate early applications, before the rush of work begins for the Education Examinations; as your Guild Leader is also the Education Secretary.

With fraternal greetings to all,

Yours sincerely,

M. E. KITSON (Guild Leader).

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 XIV.

When they reached the dungeons the Princess fainted at the sights of the victims of the cruel torturers. Restoratives were applied, and she was left in charge of Patience, while the others, led by the Prince, went on their errand of mercy.

The Prince forced the old Mumbo Jumbo to go with him that he might see the enormity of his own evil ways. Many were the imprecations that were muttered at the evil rogue by the liberated prisoners, and as their numbers increased he grew more fearful of their threats. When the good work was done, and they were about to retrace their steps, one of the most exasperated, whose back still felt the smart of the lash, and whose limbs still bore the unhealed wounds caused by the fiery ordeal, picked up the heavy chains that had just been removed from his limbs and swinging them over his head, aimed a blow at the old rogue which would have been fatal had it struck him. He at once took to his heels along the dark passage, fear seeming to lend speed to his feet. They heard a shrill cry of horror; then followed a dull thud, as of a heavy body falling.

A halt was called and silence was enjoined, when they heard groans issuing from the treacherous pit. Old Mumbo Jumbo had fallen a victim to his own evil device. The pit that he had caused to be dug, and which had proved fatal to so many,

claimed him as its last victim. As the groans soon ceased they came to the conclusion that it was a just retribution, and that the old charlatan would no longer plan and plot to enthral and enslave people.

When the recluses in their cells heard of the fate of their master they broke out into a long wail of grief at the sad fate of so pious and holy a man. When the Prince pointed to those he had saved and recounted their sufferings, in order to prove that he was not the holy man they had thought him, they remarked that their offences justly merited their punishment. No amount of reasoning had any effect. The teachings they had received had blinded them to all faults and wrongs, and they firmly believed "the end justified the means." They were hopeless fanatics. Two of their number slipped their guards and deliberately threw themselves into the pit, under the impression that it was more honourable to die with their master than to accept freedom at the hands of the Prince.

This incident decided the Prince to leave the cells, and passages as soon as possible. He led the way, his left hand affectionately clasping the right hand of the Princess. On reaching the mouth of the passage he cut away the shrubs, letting in a flood of light and fresh air, which felt like new life to those who had been long confined in the cells. The Prince deemed it advisable to lock the door so that none could return to their old state and condition. This was useful on behalf of the recluses, who would gladly have returned to their cells.

The ravine into which they had entered ended in a *cul de sac*, about fifty yards below. In their new found liberty they were suddenly alarmed by the sound of rushing waters. Nearer and nearer it came, and the Prince ordered an immediate flight up the sides of the ravine. Up, up, higher and higher, they scrambled so that the torrent of water rushed past them. But the Prince knew that the ravine would soon fill up like a reservoir and they must make haste to get out before it was too late. Upward they toiled until they reached the top, and looking down on rushing turbulent waters they saw they were fast rising. Looking up the stream the Prince saw a tree being gradually borne along, and as it came nearer he saw an object which looked like a human being clinging to a bough. His heart filled with pity, for he knew that whoever it was was beyond all help. They watched it with increasing anxiety as it came nearer and nearer. As it was whirled past them they saw it was Mischief, with terror depicted on his face at the thought of the fearful end that awaited him. He gave one despairing cry for help, and the next instant he was gone. As he disappeared they could not help feeling a pang of sympathy at his sad fate; and despite the many pranks he had played them, and the many difficulties he had got them into, they pitied him, and involuntarily turned their gaze away from the scene.

CHAPTER XV.

Prince Trueheart, looking over those he had rescued, was grieved to learn that none of the recluses had heeded the warning he gave them, with the result that all of them had perished in the flood. He was startled from his reverie by some one exclaiming "All hail! Prince Trueheart, our noble and valiant deliverer!"

i On looking up he was surprised to see before him one of those he had liberated from the stronghold of Selfishness and Ignorance, whom he had left to protect those who were too feeble to walk.

On enquiring how they were, he was pleased to learn that they were all able to walk, and had set out on their homeward journey, and had encamped in the valley below the lake. While so doing that young rascal, Mischief, had evidently seen them, and had by some means released the waters in the lake in the hope of drowning them. But the young rogue had been too sharp for himself, for he had climbed into a tree the better to watch the "fun," and his mirth was cut short by the released waters uprooting the tree, and carrying him away with them.

Upon learning this new phase of the little rascal's latest effort at mischief Prince Trueheart told his friend that the tree and its occupant were engulfed in the waters from which he, and his little band had had a narrow escape.

When the company learned these incidents, they felt pleased that Mischief had fallen a victim to his own evil devices.

While the friends were congratulating each other on their escape from the dungeons, the Prince and Princess took a stroll, in order to indulge in a confidential chat; during which she listened eagerly to his account of his adventures in search of her. As his narrative proceeded she involuntarily tightened her hold on his arm, as she learned of his narrow escapes.

"My noble and gallant Prince," she said, in a sweet voice that trembled with emotion, "you have incurred all this danger for my sake; how shall I ever be able to repay you?"

"By giving me your own dear self, to love and protect," he replied, as he gazed into the unfathomable depths of love he saw reflected in her eyes.

"I am yours by merit," she said. "You have won my heart and with it I give you my hand."

He instantly pressed her to his heaving bosom, and imprinting a kiss on her ruby lips murmured, "My sweet, precious darling, this is the happiest day of my life; your love and affection have more than repaid me for all the toil and privation I have endured."

"But it is now over, is it not, dear,?" she cheerily inquired.

"I hope so, dear love, for your sake; but we know not what trials await us in the forest that lies between here and your sorrowing parents. But of one thing we are assured, and that is, we shall not have to face your old enemies. And whatever else there is, I have my own good sword of Truth, with which to defend you against all evils, for life is doubly sweet and precious to me now that you have promised to be mine!"

And thus they chatted, happy in each other's presence and love, until they rejoined the company, who received them with delight.

They then proceeded on their homeward way. The hearts of those who had been imprisoned were longing to meet and greet their wives and families. They despatched the one who had reported the last act of Mischief to lead his company to a certain place in their route where they could join them. When the two companies met, there was further rejoicing among friends who had been long separated from each other, who had been comrades in the cause of right and justice, and who for that offence had been made prisoners.

Princess Mab was at home among them, flitting from one to another with smiles on her face, and words of sympathy and hope on her lips, cheering and encouraging them. She was like a ray of warm sunshine, dispensing joy and gladness amongst all of them.

Nothing of consequence marred the homeward journey, save one incident, which nearly deprived one of his life. They were proceeding leisurely on their way when Eagerness, who had run ahead, screamed as if in mortal terror. The Prince ran to his assistance and arrived just in time to save him from the coils of the serpent Discontent, which had been lying in wait on one of the branches of a tree, for unwary travellers, and had coiled itself round him before he could defend himself. As the Prince's sword cut off its fascinating head, the body uncoiled itself and fell dead at his feet. As it did so, Eagerness reeled and would have fallen, but the Prince caught him in his strong arms, and handing him over to the tender care and skill of Patience, he removed the carcase of the serpent out of sight.

As they drew near the royal palace, they were seen by the sentinels on the ramparts, who at once reported to the King and Queen. The gates were thrown open, the drawbridge lowered, and a guard of honour drawn up to receive them. Despite their t ravel-stained appearance, the happy couple looked majestic, the Prince flushed with victory, and the Princess' face radiant with the anticipated joy of soon joining her sorrowing parents.

Great was the rejoicing, both in the city and the palace, as long-lost fathers, husbands and lovers were restored to each other's arms and hearts. The cruel yoke of their heavy task-masters and oppressors was forever broken, and they were free!

On the third day of the general rejoicing, the fair, and now indescribably lovely Princess was led to the altar by her valiant deliverer, Prince Trueheart. The delighted populace hailed them with rapturous applause, shouting long life and prosperity to their brave deliverer, and his lovely and adorable Princess Mab.

Thus the adventures of Prince Trueheart were rewarded with that highest of all blessings, Happiness, which has been symbolised in this story as the Princess Mab. The Prince is what his name implies—the Trueheart, true to all that is good, noble and just, which must ever contend and fight against vices, injustice and the oppression of invested interests, both priestly and otherwise, that are met with in daily life. The greatest evils that assail and oppress humanity are Ignorance and Selfishness. The former is often the servant of the latter. Old Mumbo Jumbo symbolises priestly interests, which allies itself to Selfishness for gain and power, and its own worldly interest and aggrandisements. It seeks to enslave the minds and affections of the people.

Each of my readers has to fight this battle of right against wrong. In doing so I hope they will be Prince Truehearts, and wield the sword of Truth fearlessly, and so win sweet, abiding Happiness to dwell with them both here and hereafter.

THE END.

The Children's Puzzle.



GUNPOWDER PLOT.

'Tis dark! the stars are shining now
A torch! A torch! to light the fire,
A frown is seen on Guy's fine brow
While shouts are heard throughout the "shire."

A bang! a flash! another bang,
A rocket quickly cleaves the sky,
The garden with the loud shouts rang,
Oh dear! now there! do mind your eye!

Thus Mark, who in the picture is,
Did warn his father standing near,
His mother now jumps at a hiss,
But in the picture she is clear.

The village bobby has come round,
To find what all these noises mean,
While old Guy Fawkes is to be found,
He's still trying not to be seen,

Yet, but for him, November fifth,
Would hold no fun for boys and girls,
And so we still keep up the myth,
Which holds for us so many joys.

A.D.

THE MEDIUMS' CHARTER.

The Editor regrets the short notice of the General Election has not allowed some reference to the appeal for the Spiritualists' Charter. However, we hope that all Lyceumists and Spiritualists have pushed forward the candidates who promised to support religious freedom for our common cause.

We note with pleasure that a special Bill has been put through the New Zealand Parliament giving legal status and the rights of a Church to the Spiritualists' Union in that country.

Even this does not give protection to mediums, and in both countries we have yet to obtain the recognition of the spiritual faculty as a normal aspect of individuality. Every day brings new converts and so we are so much nearer our freedom.

United Lyceum Districts' Council.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

TO THE DISTRICT COUNCIL DELEGATES ASSEMBLED AT BOLTON,
ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, 18th and 19th OCTOBER, 1924.

COMRADES ALL,

Six months ago, at Hyde, I brought before you for consideration an outline scheme of organisation which in my opinion would become necessary in ten or twelve years' time, if the Lyceum Union continued to increase at its present rate of expansion. But since our last meeting a situation has arisen which makes it very problematical whether any scheme of future organisation will be required. And so, instead of following on, as I had intended, with suggestions as to what lines of development could most beneficially be followed, I am inviting you, as representatives of the United Lyceum Districts, to join with me in considering the question of inter-relations with the Spiritualists' National Union, Ltd. The situation is very delicate, and I shall do my utmost to avoid saying anything that could give offence to the most sensitive; and I rely on you to assist me in this direction by putting to one side any personal, local or even District feeling that may exist, and discussing this grave national problem with a full sense of national responsibility.

The problem of Inter-relations first became publicly national at the 1923 A.G.M. of the S.N.U., when the Scottish (S.N.U.) District Council tabled a motion for the amalgamation of the National and Lyceum Unions. An amendment, calling for the appointment of a Joint Committee to discuss and formulate a scheme of closer working and harmony between the two bodies, was carried unanimously; and the Joint Committee met twice and drew up a plan which was approved by both Executives but has not yet been approved by either Union.

At the Lyceum Conference held last Whitsuntide, the Inter-relations idea was practically unanimously endorsed; but Conference was not satisfied with the air of mystery and contradiction and explanations-explaining-nothing which surrounded the Joint Committee's reports, and it was decided to appoint a Conference Committee to represent the B.S.L.U. in all negotiations, with an instruction that all meetings were to be reported in full in the *Lyceum Banner*. The S.N.U. Executive, for reasons which I have not yet heard, refused to negotiate with this Committee, and the Scottish District Council's motion was brought forward again in a much more drastic form—demanding fusion, with a time-limit for acceptance by us expiring on 31st December next. The motion was "referred back" to the S.N.U. District Councils, for a year's discussion and a report to next year's S.N.U. A.G.M.

This is the position, put briefly and perhaps somewhat baldly, but as far as I know with absolute fairness. It is for us to discuss the position and decide what course of action we shall recommend to our respective Lyceum District Councils.

It would be as well to point out here the difference between Amalgamation, Fusion and Inter-relations. Amalgamation, if I have been correctly informed, would mean that each unit would preserve its individuality while being governed by a Joint Board; under Fusion the Lyceum Union and its District Councils would disappear, the Lyceum would become merely a branch of Church work, and the S.N.U. E.C. and the Church delegates would look after the interests of Lyceum work; but under an Inter-relations agreement each body would preserve its independence, while agreeing to collaborate or co-operate where the common interests of both were concerned. And I believe I am not far wrong in stating that the majority of S.N.U. Districts are opposed to amalgamation or fusion in any form, and would prefer a scheme of Inter-relations.

As neither Amalgamation nor Fusion seems to be practical politics, I shall confine my further remarks to Inter-relations. The Glasgow Association's 1923 resolution (and the accepted amendment to it) opens with the declaration that "the Lyceums form an integral part of the Churches." If this means anything, it means that every member of the Church should be also a member of the Lyceum (its integral part). Let the Glasgow Association, or the Scottish District Council, show its sincerity by bringing forward in 1925 a motion that a Church without a Lyceum is not a complete Church (being without an integral part) and is not eligible for membership of the National Union; and further, that membership of the Lyceum shall be a condition of Associate Membership of the Church, and six (or twelve) months' regular attendance at the Lyceum

an essential preliminary of full Church membership. This is a stone that would kill two birds: it would prove that the G.A. regarded its declaration as something more than a mere form of words; and it would counteract the expressed fear of the Church government being seized by Lyceumists, by making all adults Lyceum members as well as Church members. And who knows—it might also result in the machinery of Lyceum government being annexed by "Churchists," if I may coin the word, and so bring about fusion in a natural way. And there is a still further argument in favour of this suggestion. At present, broadly speaking, the Church Movement is mainly propagandist and instructive, and the Lyceum Movement mainly educational. The Church Movement could remove any grounds for reproach that it is not educational by decreeing that only Spiritualists educated in the Lyceums would be considered qualified for Church membership.

Thus far, in local matters, collaboration and co-operation would be possible. In District or National matters opportunities for collaboration would be few; but co-operation is possible in many directions. In so far as collaboration has been possible the Lyceum Union has acted towards that end. It collaborated towards a united Movement by affiliating with the National Union; towards preserving Spiritualist property for Spiritualism by drawing up a Joint Trust Deed; towards recognition by joining the S.N.U. Parliamentary Committee—and offered in 1920 to collaborate in the formation of a Spiritualist Publishing and Trading Co., "to take over both Unions' publishing departments and so become the publishers and traders for the Movement." Thus far the B.S.L.U. has done its utmost for harmonious inter-working with the S.N.U. In the realm of co-operation something has been done, but much more is possible. The co-operation in education could be extended by the S.N.U. building up a scheme which would continue and complete the present B.S.L.U. Scheme, and end in a Spiritualist Degree—not necessarily a Speaker's Diploma; and by the District Councils of both Unions combining to provide facilities for Study Groups wherein Church members and Lyceumists could meet for the study of our common philosophy, and to hear the best teachers that each District could provide. In our propaganda meetings Church speakers could urge the usefulness of the Lyceum, and Lyceum speakers could urge the duty of supporting the Church. The *Lyceum Banner* and the *National Spiritualist* could each reserve a page for the use of the other branch of the common Movement. And finally, a National Conference of Spiritualists, convened and organised by a Joint Committee of both Unions, could meet annually to discuss controversial points in our philosophy, and thus bring about, and secure on a very broad basis, the uniformity of teaching so earnestly desired by the Scottish District Council. It will never be secured by our present system of booking speakers.

There are other methods of efficient and harmonious co-operation that will suggest themselves, but we must insist that one condition shall be observed—that in all negotiations there shall be absolute equality of undertaking between the two Unions. For instance, the S.N.U. asks that the acceptance of all applications for membership, received from Lyceums attached to Churches not in affiliation with the S.N.U., shall be deferred until the S.N.U. has been consulted. To be perfectly fair, the S.N.U. should agree to adopt a similar attitude towards Churches whose Lyceums are not in affiliation with the B.S.L.U. And there are other directions in which the S.N.U. must agree to give up its attitude of a superior body, and negotiate as equal with equal.

With mutual recognition of the equal rights of both, and and inter-working agreements between Churches and Lyceums, and Church and Lyceum District Councils, the two kindred bodies should go forward together in harmony—from strength to strength and from victory to victory. But it is only by the adoption of a policy of harmonious Inter-relations that such a desirable end can be attained.

A. T. CONNOR.

Letter Box.

Sir,—I have read Mr. A. T. Connor's *Manual Revision Notes* on what is called the "Divine Order," and at the close he says: "There may be differences of opinion as to whether this S.C.R. should have any place in our *Manual*; there can surely be only one opinion about its being allowed to remain as the key-note of *Manual Teaching*. Pope lived between 1688 and 1744. Surely we can find a teaching more up-to-date."

I would like to disabuse Mr. Connor's mind of the idea that "there can surely be only one opinion about *the Divine Order* being the key-note to *Manual Teaching*. I would ask him or anyone else to give another reading so comprehensive in expression, more in unison with fact, and closer allied with philosophical conclusions than this poem by Pope.

I have gone through it several times most carefully and have tried to express this universal truth in other language, and have failed in every way to disassociate myself from its logical imputations. By this, I am not asserting that this Poem is absolutely correct in all its expressions, inasmuch as all language is conditioned and therefore limited in expression, and therefore cannot fully express in terms of language that which actually *is*. But the attempt on the part of Pope to define and express in language such generalised thought is in my opinion unique, and I think it would be difficult, if not impossible, to cull from the writings of Spencer, Mill, Mansel or Hamilton, more comprehension and rise to a higher altitude of thought and expression than that of Pope.

The fact that Pope was a Catholic and lived between 1688 and 1744 does not and cannot deprecate the truths herein expressed. If, however, we are to accept these two facts as accepted premises to deduct from truth, then I would like to know where such ultimate conclusion will place us, inasmuch as it would make truth as variable and as changeable as our ideas and opinions are about the truth. But truth is not an evolutionary thought; if it was, there would be some base for Mr. Connor's contention. But it is not so. With truth evolution has one meaning.

The Manual Committee will be well advised to think this question well over before they place themselves in such an absurd position before the intelligence of an Annual Conference.

The genius of the old compilers of the *Manual* may well be proud of the choice position they gave to this unique reading of Pope. Strike it out, or place it in a more undignified position, and you haul down your high standard of philosophic thought and you will do the *Manual* an injustice. There is no other expression so full of meaning and so high in attainment as this—inasmuch as it bridges over the gulf and annihilates the antitheses between good and evil by unifying them under the one term RIGHT. So long as we have good and evil existing as antithesis to each other we can never rise to that high summit of attainment where it is possible to speak of the "I" in "you," the "you" in "me," and the "we" as "one."

I am not arguing my point, I am only presenting these facts to the careful consideration of the Committee before recommending the dropping or removing of this reading to another position in the *Manual*.

Yours for the truth and right,
H. J. WEBSTER.

POSTMAN'S KNOCK.

Uncle Bert is on our track,
Never let him think us slack,
When for 'little kiddies' letters he's imploring;
For we know his heart is true,
Says he loves both old and new,
So it's up to us to show him we can 'write.'
If you send a little letter,
Telling him that you are better,
You will then begin to wish that time would fly,
For we know that in the 'Banner,'
Which we buy for three a 'Tanner,'
We'll be sure to see our name in bye and bye.
Now a secret we will whisper
To your brother and your sister;
And its this, that 'Uncle Bert' gets very sad,
For he sometimes gets the hump,
And it's such a great big bump,
When he never gets the letter that you promised.
So now we'll all agree to think,
That he's not so hard to please,
And we hope that by our efforts to succeed,
But we make it mighty clear,
That we win that prize so dear;
So good old 'Uncle Bert,' we say adieu.
(MRS.) EDITH CLEMENTS (Battersea Lyceum).

Births, In Memoriam, and Marriages.

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

BIRTH.

YEADON.—On September 26th, to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Slater (nee Amy Myers), of "Ambleside," Belmont Grove, Yeadon, the gift of a daughter.

IN MEMORIAM.

COLBECK.—In ever-loving and unfading memory of my dear son, Signaller Joseph Colbeck, R.G.A., the only son and child of the late Mr. J. Colbeck and Mrs. Colbeck, 26, Hartley Street, Dewsbury, who was killed in action somewhere in France, on October 9th, 1918, aged 19 years.

"Loving thoughts and sweet remembrance
Bring him very near to me."

From his dear mother.

JARROW-ON-TYNE.—In loving remembrance of three Lyceumists:—Selina, aged 10 years, 5 months, transplanted August, 1917; Lily, aged 14 years, 5 months, transplanted April, 1918; and Hilda, aged 14 years, 8 months, transplanted November, 1919. Dearly loved daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Lamb, 71, Clayton Street, Jarrow.

"Now blooming in God's Summerland."

Ever remembered by Father, Mother, Brothers, Sister Doris, and fellow Lyceumists.

INTERNATIONAL PSYCHIC EXHIBITION
COPENHAGEN, 1925.

The Copenhagen Psychic Society are desirous of holding an International Psychic Exhibition in the early Spring of 1925. For this purpose they appeal to all Individuals and Societies interested in Spiritualism and Psychic Research to render them any assistance in their power by supplying them with suitable exhibits.

Any article of a supernatural nature, such as spirit-photo graphs, pictures, apports, automatic script, direct-writing, etc., and also pictures, periodicals and publications connected with the movement will be gratefully received by the Committee.

All exhibits should be accompanied with a full description of the circumstances by which they were obtained.

Where possible the Committee would prefer the articles to be given, so that they may be exhibited in other towns and afterwards go to form the nucleus of a Psychic Museum.

The Committee undertake to return all exhibits where desired. To ensure their safe arrival, all such articles should be registered when being forwarded to the Committee.

All contributions to be sent to:—

Mr. J. S. JENSEN,
The Copenhagen Psychic Society (P.O.F.)
21, Studiestraede, Copenhagen, Denmark.

District Council Reports.

BRADFORD DISTRICT.

The above Council held a meeting at Milton Lyceum on Sunday, October 12th.

A good number of Delegates and Associate Members. Two Hon. Life Members and Officers attended. Minutes of last meeting adopted. It was decided to ask Saltair to send Representatives to our next meeting at Keighley, on Sunday, November 9th. The U.D.C. Meeting Agenda was then under discussion and our Delegate given instructions. The Tyneside Scheme, re inter-relations, was also discussed, and this Council decided that the matter should be very critically discussed by each Lyceum, and the meeting assembled were of the opinion that the time was not yet opportune to put into operation.

Miss Boyes, of Keighley, was confirmed as Associate Member

of the Council. Mr. Bottomley was moved as an Associate member. Election of Vice-President: Mr. Bottomley, of Idle, declared Vice-President, as there were no other nominees before the meeting.

A Lyceum Open Session, held in the morning, was well attended and much enjoyed, Mr. Hudson, of Keighley, being the Conductor. Evening services. Mr. Aked was in the chair, and the meeting was addressed by Miss Stair, Mr. Hudson and Mr. O'Neil.

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

LEEDS DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting was held at Heckmondwike on Saturday, September 21st.

In the unavoidable absence of the President, Mr. J. Lilley, through illness, Mr. J. Whittles was elected as Chairman.

Opening hymn, "God-speed the Right." Invocation, Mr. A. Kitson.

Minutes, Correspondence and Reports accepted. Agreed the action of President and Secretary, *re* York, Spen Lane, be endorsed.

Interchange: 6 Reports sent in and all showed great improvement all round. D.V. Reports: 3 visits made.

Mr. Kitson tendered his resignation, owing to his health, and it was accepted with regret.

Treasurer's Report: Balance £2 17s. 1d accepted. Field Day Secretary's Report and Financial Statement. Mrs. Brown and Mr. Tweedale elected auditors. Deficit on Field Day, £3 9s. 5½d. Report of Secretary and Auditors accepted.

Election of Revision Committee. Agreed it be left over until next meeting. Field Day, 1925: No invitation and agreed it come before next meeting. Competition result: Adjudicator notified he had not quite finished, but result be sent as soon as possible. Associates none.

Mr. Barraclough elected as D.V.

Agreed on letter of sympathy being sent to the President, Mr. Lilley.

Next meeting left with Secretary to arrange.

The Council's best thanks recorded and given to the local friends.

Officers present: 3. Lyceums: Armley, Batley Carr, Dewsbury, Normanton, Birstall Leeds Psycho, Holborn Hall (Hull), Horsforth, Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike, Morley (Queen Street), Morley (Cross Church Street). Associates 1.—A. W. Harding, Sec.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, December 6th at Morley, Queen Street, at 3-30 p.m.

Agenda:—Opening hymn, Chairman's address, Minutes, Reports, Financial Statement, Competition for 1925 (Adjudicator), also result 1924, Field Day 1925 (Invitations), Revision Committee, Associate Members, Notice of Motion (Dewsbury): "That the Revision Committee of the L.L.D.C. consist of the five best qualified, and each Lyceum be levied 1/- per quarter to meet expenses of Committee." Open Council, Votes of Thanks to local friends.

Will Lyceums see they are fully represented. Business important. Tea provided. Propaganda Meeting, 8 o'clock.

Will Secretaries kindly forward Interchange of Conductors' Reports to me before the meeting. Friends and Associates invited.—A. W. Harding, Sec.

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above will be held on Saturday, 8th November, in the Spiritualists' Church, Ashbridge Street, Runcorn. Meeting to commence at 3-30 p.m.—Gladys Owen, Sec.

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD DISTRICT.

The next Quarterly Meeting of the above Council will be held on Saturday, November 15th, in the Cheetham Hill Spiritualist Church, Halliwell Lane, Cheetham Hill, commencing at 3-0 p.m. prompt.

Will all Delegates and Associates endeavour to be present. Business important. Teas will be provided.

AGENDA.

1. Opening Exercises.
2. Minutes.
3. Correspondence.

4. Notice of Motion. "That all members shall be a member of one Lyceum only, but may be an associate of any other Lyceum, but not to be a representative of the Lyceum they are associate of."
5. Reports:—(a) Massed Session. (b) D.V. and Ass. D.V's. (c) U.D.C.
6. Manual Revision.
7. Vote of Thanks to local friends.
8. Open Council.
9. Closing Exercises.

G. A. Dixon, Sec.

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.

At the September Quarterly Meeting of the above Council, Minutes, Correspondence and the various Reports were accepted. Arrangements were made for week-night Education Groups for Grades III., IV. and V.

There was a unanimous decision in favour of the Silver Bell Competition, which will come into operation in January, 1925. After the Adjudicators were appointed, the plan of arrangement was left in the hands of the Executive. It was agreed that the expenses entailed by the adoption of the Scheme be allocated to the District Council. Arrangements were completed for a Grand Massed Session to be held on September 28th, at the Mechanics' Minor Hall, and also for Propaganda Meetings to be held at the Gladstone Hall.

The recommendation of the Executive to invite the Management Committee of the B.S.L.U. to hold their Quarterly Meetings in Nottingham for January 10th and 11th was unanimously adopted.

The United Lyceum Session, representing twelve Lyceums, was a grand success. A splendid programme was very ably conducted by Mr. L. Shipley, President of the Council, who was supported on the platform by representatives from the five Nottingham Lyceums: Mansfield, Sutton, Huckseed, Eastwood, Beeston, Long Eaton and Lincoln; also Mr. J. J. Ashworth, a member of England's first Lyceum, and Mr. F. W. Marsters, Associate Member of the Council and the District Temperance Visitor.

Individual items were well rendered; one from each Lyceum, which consisted of solos, both vocal and instrumental, and recitations. Pearls were given and explained. Short addresses from the platform contributed to a very pleasant and beneficial afternoon.

The following motion was passed, proposed by Mr. J. J. Ashworth, seconded by Mr. A. Shipley, and supported by Mr. T. W. Marsters:—

"This Mass Meeting of Lyceumists of this district here desire to express our deep gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock, of this city, who were responsible for England's first Lyceum."

Tea was provided for the convenience of visitors. Sincere thanks are extended to all who contributed to the success of the event.—Victoria G. Rayner, Sec.

SOUTH SHIELDS UNITED LYCEUM WORKERS.

Our United Lyceums Choir again excelled themselves on September 14th, 1924, at Beatty Street Church, when they rendered a Harvest Cantata, entitled "The Four Seasons," on the occasion of their Harvest Festival. We had an agreeable surprise when Mr. Ainley returned to conduct this service.

On September 28th, we held our 3rd United Session in Beatty Street Church, this also being a great success. The subject for the day was, "Truth and Harmony." The afternoon session was conducted by Mr. Robertson. The following took part in an excellent programme:—Solos by Flo Parker, Miss Walker, Mrs. White, H. Rutherford, Arthur Abrahams and Arthur Sleight; duet by Olive Anderson and Josephine Cook; recitations, girls, V. Parker, M. Brimer, E. Wilson, E. Idle, C. Smith, P. Kaye, Eliz. Coe, Eleanor Coe, A. Marshall, W. Bristoe, E. Austin and Miss Stoker; boys, J. Idle and N. Blanchard. Stanley Parker made a fine appeal in verse for financial aid, which effectively touched both hearts and pockets of those present. A fine session. We were honoured by the presence of our Scouts, who are making fine progress.

The evening service, conducted by our President, Mr. Woodall, was also very successful. The afternoon session was repeated, and in addition our United Choir gave fine renderings of the anthems, "Sweet Hallelujah" and "Soldiers Arise," and a Special Benediction, entitled "Pax Dei." Both sessions were well attended.

The usual Monthly Meeting of the United Workers was held in Eldon Street Church, on Saturday, October 4th. The list of business was very short, but progress was shown in all sections of our activities. It was decided to hold our meetings on the first Saturday of each month, instead of the last, as it is more convenient.

Next meeting in Cambridge Street, on November 1st. Our advice to other towns is, start a United Workers' Committee and head for progress.—J. White, Sec.

District Visitors' Reports.

A visit was made to Birstall on July 6th. Prompt start; late 4. Opening hymn very nicely sung. Questions were many; answers good; answers by Conductor very good. Marching very nicely done; calisthenics good; extremely well done by the Conductor. Miss Spencer. Harmony of session good and altogether a very nice session. Progress very marked.

On July 13th I visited Batley Carr. Opening hymn nicely sung; S.C., G.C. well read together; M.R. explanation of connective readings very good. A few questions asked and answered very well. The Conductor of this Lyceum was about 15 years and did very well indeed. Marching fair. Session fair.

On August 10th a visit made to Wakefield. Small attendance. Opening hymn good; readings of S.C. and G.C. good; M.R., the explanation of connective readings very good indeed. Not many questions, but those that were asked were answered very well indeed. Marching good; calisthenics moderate; leaders good. A few pearls and one recitation; a few solos and one duet. Altogether a nice session.—A. W. Harding, D.V., *pro tem.*

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.

BOLTON, Henry Stret.—On September 28th we held our Open Session. Mr. T. Langtree, of Accrington, was our speaker, and a grand attendance of 160 welcomed him. It was a glorious session from commencement to end. Lyceumists from Bradford Street, Deane Road, Horwich, Newton Heath, Radcliffe and Bury, entering whole heartedly into the spirit of the occasion. Pearls and questions were numerous, and recitations rendered very well by the Misses V. Hibbert and A. Taylor. The marching and calisthenics were smartly rendered and very ably conducted by Mr. R. Shipperbottom. Everything passed with the swing and enjoyment which is a notable feature of our Open Sessions. Most of those present breathed a sigh of regret when time brought a bright and cheerful afternoon to a close.

October 5th was our Harvest Festival, good numbers again being present. Gifts of fruit, vegetables, flowers, etc., were plentiful, and gratefully received.

On October 6th we held our Fruit Banquet, when there was the usual distribution of fruit. We had dancing, games, etc.

We tender our heartiest good wishes to all Lyceums and Lyceumists at home and abroad.—W. C. Bearman, Sec.

BRADFORD, Laisterdyke.—Open Sessions October 5th, conducted by Mr. Brewerton. There was a good attendance of Lyceumists and friends. We had a very nice programme of solos, recitations and songs. The singing was carried out in a hearty manner. Silver Chain well explained in the reading. The Conductor brought his thoughts to the child's mind. Good responses were received and the pearls were well explained.—J. Babbs, Sec.

GLASGOW.—On October 5th we held our Open Session which took the form of a Flower Service and a Naming Service. A large number of pearls and recitations were given. At the Naming Service one of our Lyceumists saw clairvoyantly the following symbol:—Three beautiful doves, one alighting on the baby's head and the other two going to the side of the Guardian and the side of the Speaker.

Love the token of the heart
A tender blessing, a golden spark;
Hope the light to guard and guide
And strengthen the pathway in the midst of the dark
Angel of love, tender dove,
Comfort the motherless child;
Behold sweet beauty
Wrapt in fond duty
God's blessing comfort the path.

B. Elder, Sec.

HACKNEY.—The Lyceum Committee made a new departure in planning the work of the Education Scheme, which is being well worked. This was a Lantern Lecture, given on Saturday, October 4th, by Mr. H. J. Osborn. His subject was "Where Modern Spiritualism Began and Some Things It has Done." It was a special subject, and a special lecture, and both lecture and pictures were closely followed with marked attention by all the older children of the Lyceum and by a number of the adults who attended. The purpose in view was well served, and the pictures of the Fox Cottage, and others of the origin, and of Lily Dale Camp, where the cottage now is, were served admirably to point the historic interest. Some very fine American and Canadian scenery, brilliantly shown by electric light, gave the children a treat and enabled Mr. Osborn to give many striking examples of what the movement has done.

LEWISHAM.—On 28th September we held our Third Anniversary. An invitation was sent out to neighbouring Lyceums to join us for a United Session in the afternoon and a splendid rally of Lyceumists was the result. Many visitors also attended. The London Lyceum District Council paid us a special visit and conducted the session. The principal item of the session was the presentation by the Vice-President and Assistant District Visitor of prizes for attendance: 3 Officer's Manuals, 8 Manuals and 12 books were presented. Fraternal greetings were received from 15 Lyceums. Tea was provided, at which about 80 sat down.

At 6-30 p.m. a Lyceum Session was given, conducted by the L.L.D.C., who carried out the programme in good style. A very good attendance cheered us and helped to make things go. There were about 150 present, quite a lot of whom were strangers to the Church. Owing to lack of room marching was not carried out, but a display of calisthenics was given by a selected number of Lyceumists. Individual efforts were given by Miss Annie Vouden, Miss Ida Young, Master Arthur Young and Miss Ivy Gaskoin. Short addresses on Lyceum work by Mrs. Barnard, Mr. Connor and Mr Miles followed. A very successful and happy day.—Ernest E. Young, Sec.

SHILDON, Newlands Avenue.—October 5th Open Session and Harvest Festival, many visitors being present. Recitations by Mrs. Wilson, Phylis Ferguson, Lizzie Ellis. Many pearls were given. Solo by Mr. Wilson. Duets, Phylis Ferguson and Lizzie Ellis. The marching and calisthenics were conducted by Mr. W. Smith. Questions were asked and ably answered by the Conductor, Mr. J. Smith. A very pleasant and enjoyable session to visitors as well as Lyceumists.—Miss E. Hunter, Sec.

SOUTHEND AND WESTCLIFF.—The Southend and Westcliff Lyceum is making headway although it has only been in existence a few weeks. We are steadily increasing our membership and several adults—all members of the Church—have attended every session up to now. This last month we bought 2 doz. Manuals, 4 doz. Banners and 3 doz. badges—besides a bell and a piano—all paid for!

On Wednesday, September 15th, we held our first Social. Nearly 200 friends attended. A Jazz-Band—none of these four gentlemen were Spiritualists—gave their services quite freely and supplied the music for dancing. The Church Committee lent us the Hall, crockery, etc.; The Church Organist officiated at the piano for the singing, and the Lyceumists supplied the various items of a splendid programme of comic and serious songs. Toe Dancing, Costume Songs and Dances, Character Song and Sketch. Then refreshments, games and more dancing. We made £9 clear profit, half of which we are handing over to the Church Building Fund. Greetings to all other Lyceums.—L. R. Fulcher, Sec.

STOCKTON, Brunswick Street.—On October 5th, Open Session, with an all round improvement. Our Lyceum is steadily progressing.

On October 10th we held our Anniversary Services with an excellent and appreciative congregation. Thanks are due to our friends who helped to make it a huge success. Also to our Conductor, Mrs. Williams, and Leaders; Musical Director, Miss E. Cannon, and Mrs. Dodsworth who assisted the children in every way. The following Lyceumists rendered recitations:—C. Cuthbert, E. Hickman, D. Hickman, I. Tindell, H. Sidebotham, E. Sidebotham, V. Johnson, L. Chapman, J. Johnson, V. Bramley, G. Lindo, M. Lindo, E. Hill, J. Crawford, D. Johnson, A. Ruddock and K. Dodsworth. On Monday evening our Conductor, assisted by Mr. J. Harrison, distributed the yearly prizes to our children.—G. Tuck, Sec.

Spiritualism in the North.

The foundation stone-laying ceremony in connection with the Heaton and Byker (National) Spiritualist Church, which is being erected in Tosson Terrace, Heaton, Newcastle, took place on September 29th. Representatives of the movement being present from all parts of Tyneside.

The estimated cost of the building is £3,500, and it will have a seating capacity of 400.

Towards the cost a sum of about £2,000 has already been received or promised, and the balance is to be raised by special efforts. It is expected that the church will be completed in December.

Mr. R. Hunter, presided, and amongst those present, in addition to the layers of the foundation stones were Alderman and Mrs. Mullen, Wallsend; Mr. J. G. Gray, South Shields; Mr. E. Gransbury, West Pelton; Mrs. Stone, and other pioneers.

The invocation was given by the Rev. W. I. Moody, who also dedicated the stones as they were laid. Stones were laid by Mr. J. Ridley, President of the Northern District Council of the National Spiritualists, Mr. Jos. W. Brough, Mr. L. E. Robinson (the stone being in memory of the pioneers), Mr. R. Winter (in memory of the Lyceum pioneers), Mrs. J. Clarke, Mrs. W. Hall (on behalf of the Tyneside Lyceum District Council of the British Spiritualist Lyceum Union).

In his introductory remarks, the President said they were engaged in an enterprise of great importance to the Spiritualistic fraternity, and one which would prove of benefit to the city. Many of them were realising their dreams and aspirations, and were witnessing the fruits of many years of arduous toil. They did not come into that district with any feelings of hostility to any religious body.

They came as an augmentative force, to help them to spread the truth, and to understand that the living of a life of truth and spirituality was the thing that mattered. Spiritualism laid down, without any mistake, that if they wanted to be true Spiritualists, they would have to live a pure life.

He had been talking to the denizens of the spirit world, and they had prophesied a large gathering at that ceremony; but they also said that, no matter how full the street might be, it would be nothing to the denizens of the spirit world who would be overshadowing them (A voice: "God love them.")

The closing remarks of the spirits with whom he talked were "You should have a real Pentecostal Day," "Surely," concluded the President, "it is a Pentecostal Day."

After the foundation-stone laying ceremony, the stone layers were thanked for their services, and afterwards a tea was held in the Guild Room of the Co-operative Hall.

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 October 22nd.

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

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

RULE 4.—All Reports must reach this Office not later than November 26th, to ensure insertion in the December 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.—On October 5th we held our Open Session and were very pleased to see so many visitors. In the evening a Service of Song was rendered by the Lyceumists, entitled "A Terrible Lesson."

On September 29th we had our annual trip to Southport. The weather was excellent; all spending a most enjoyable day. Games and races were indulged in on the sands. Many thanks to the Church for their generous support.—Miss Coleclough, Sec.

BARROW, Ramsden Street.—We held our Open Session on October 5th. Recitations by Mary Howbrook, Vera Harris, Lily Kirkpatrick, Frances Jones, Marjorie Chaptman, Lily Fenton, Ivy Robinson, Freda Brown, Sam Robinson, David Brown and Frank Fenton.—Mrs. L. Brown, Sec.

BEDWORTH.—Open Sessions on October 5th. Recitations rendered by M. Wood, P. Allsop and J. Shufflebottom. Songs were given from the Manual by the Liberty, Excelsior, and Fountain Groups. Songs by C. Chapman and D. Haywood.—H. Wood, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—On October 5th, the services were conducted solely by the Lyceum. We had Open Sessions in the morning and afternoon with many pearls and recitations.

During the evening service Mr. Thompson, our Conductor, presided over a good assembly while Mr. E. Edwards opened and closed with prayer. Messrs. Williams, I. Taylor, and Breackell, gave short addresses appropriate for the occasion, and Miss M. Roscoe gave a few clairvoyant delineations. Altogether it was a day of work and pleasure well combined.—Millie Hemsall, Sec.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter Street.—On September 28th we held our Open Session, attended by a large number of Lyceumists and friends. During the open part of the session Mrs. Wilkinson named the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Tomlinson, giving him the spirit name of "Onward." Recitations by a few of our Lyceumists brought a pleasant session to a close.—H. Hopper, Sec.

BLACKPOOL, Albert Road.—We held our first Open Session of the Winter Season on October 4th. 40 present. Duets by Betty Calvert, and Lily Baker, Ernest Chattington and Ernest Carter, James Chattington and Ernest Carter. Solo by Miss Ada Weekes. Recitations by James Leadbetter. Several pearls were also given. A pleasing start for the Winter Session.—F. Carter, Sec.

(Lyceum Reports should not be written in pencil.)

BOLTON, Bradford Street.—We were visited by the United District Council on October 19th, and we thoroughly enjoyed it. Full report is given in the U.D.C. report. Our Lyceum is keeping up to the usual standard and is going strong with the Education Scheme. Our love and good wishes are extended to Lyceumists and friends both at home and abroad, hoping for their success in every undertaking of life.—Albert Batten, Sec.

BRIERFIELD, John Street.—We held our Open Session on October 5th, conducted by Miss Graham. The memorising of the S.C. by the children was very good indeed. The M.R. was taken by J. Ingham. Recitations: C. Ingham, V. Rhodes, I. Rhodes, A. Rhodes, O. Bradshaw, L. Rhodes, E. Dean, Miss A. Duerden. Duet: Eva and Ivy Dean. Trio: Mr. H. Whittle, Mrs. Whittle, Miss A. Duerden. Pianoforte solo by Mr. G. Robinson. A very good session. Fraternal greetings to all.—T. Wane, Sec.

BRIGHTON.—On 12th October, we held our Open Session. The theme running through the session was Brotherhood, and this principle was discussed with great interest in our Groups. Drilling and marching was good. Splendid social items were given. Recitations by Ruby Goddard, Norman Robinson, Jean Grey, Jack Austin, Gladys Vergo, Ruby Cook, and Freda Austin. Song by Nellie Davey. About 80 members were present and also several visitors whom we are always pleased to welcome to our Lyceum.—Lilian Parks, Sec.

BURNLEY, Hammerton Street.—On October 12th we held our Open Session; there were about 150 present. The following helped to make the session a success: Misses A. Barraclough, and G. Blackmore, Master R. Hancock and H. Hartshorn, Mr. A. Milner and Mrs. W. Coupland and Little Mary Hocking.

In the evening we held a service of song, "Netty," before a large attendance. A Red Letter Day. Greeting to all Lyceums.—H. Brown, Sec.

BURNLEY, North Street.—On September 28th we held our Quarterly Lyceum day. Our speaker was Mr. George A. Mack, of Runcorn, President of the B.S.L.U.

Morning at 10, we held our usual morning session.

Afternoon: Open Session, marching and calisthenics, also songs and recitations were given by numerous Lyceumists. A good session which was well attended.

Evening Service: Mr. Mack chose for his subject, "Life and Death," which proved very interesting and instructive. Miss Helen Wilkins, of Burnley, rendered recitals in a most pleasing manner. A successful day. Greetings to all.—May Wagner, Sec.

BURY, King Street.—Sunday, October 5th, was given over to the Lyceum Open Sessions. The other local Lyceum (Sydney

Street), Bolton (Bradford Street,) and Radcliffe (Railway Street) were well represented. During the session, two Manuals were given to two of our female Lyceumists, who have recently been married. The pearls, recitations and solos were numerous. The fraternal greetings were exchanged with all visiting Lyceumists.—Wm. Haworth, Jr., Sec.

CALGARY, CANADA.—We held our monthly Open Session on October 5th. Fairly well attended. Pearls were said by all but three. Readings: Eva Raynor, Vernona Potts, Sybil Cook, Lottie Raynor, and Mrs. Cook. An inspirational reading by Mr. A. Freeman. Recitations by Miss J. Rushton, Lottie Raynor, Sybil Cook, Hilda Cook. Lyceum song 378 out of Manual. The lesson brought forward was 'Self Development. We send greetings to all Lyceumists.—Ada Garrad, Con.

CHESTERFIELD.—On October 5th we held our Open Session. Recitations by Francis Hobster, Marion Wagstaffe, Avis Bown, Kenneth Bown, Edith Slater, Cyril Percival, John Slater, Kenwood Widowson, Sidney Hobster, Monica Anthony, Harold Davenport, Elsie Gore, Mr. Pleasance, and Mr. E. Hobster. Songs by May Wheatley, Louie Gore, Ivy Philpot, Lilian Slater, Connie Slater, and Mrs. Wheatley.

COVENTRY, Broad Street.—Open Session, October 5th. Recitations by A. Rea, Mr. D. Chambers, J. Oughton and Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Speight. Solo: Miss Lucas, also Shore Group sang "The world is full of music."—Mrs. E. Hutton, Sec.

DONCASTER, High Street.—We held our Open Session on October 5th, conducted by Miss D. Batty.

On October 19th we held our Harvest Festival. Open Session in the afternoon, conducted by Miss A. Johnson. Miss L. V. Batty took the chair at the evening service. Nearly all the Lyceumists took part. On Monday, Mrs. Cook, of Sheffield, took the meetings. Altogether we had a good weekend, both spiritually and financially.

EARBY, Back Greenend Avenue.—We held our Open Session on October 5th. Recitations were given by M. Ennis, A. Dawson, C. Smith, S. Warrington, A. Layfield, L. Clark, D. Nuttall, W. Moore and J. Waddington. Songs by E. Taylor, M. Ennis, A. Taylor, H. Foster, J. Jordan, W. Moore, and S. Jordan. A duet was rendered by D. Nuttall and S. Clark. We spent a good time together.—B. Fryer, Sec.

EDINBURGH No. 1, 9, Gayfield Square.—This Lyceum reopened after vacation on September 21st. It was gratifying to the Executive to welcome over a dozen new members. Through the kindness of Mr. Niven, a Lyceum party visited "The Scotsman" newspaper offices on Wednesday last. Mr. Niven has also arranged for a party to visit the Royal Observatory, Calton Hill, next Wednesday.

At a very successful Open Session held on 19th October, the following took part: Ada Spencer, Madge McKenzie, Isobel Gunn, Roma Campbell, Letty Cobb, Molly Brown, Betty Clark, Frances McKenzie, Peggy Lawrence, Minnie Thomson, Martha Harley, George Cobb, John Cobb, Jack Blaik, James Wilson.—J.M., Sec.

FLEETWOOD, Oak Street.—On October 5th we had our Open Session. Miss Irene Griffiths was the Conductor. The S.C. was read by Thomas Firth, M.R. by Mr. Jordan; and the G.C. by Mr. Griffiths; marching was conducted by John Cook; and the calisthenics were led by Miss Doris Watkins. Recitations were said by Phyllis Jordan, Lily and Mary Smith, and Mr. Hulland. Solos by Wm. Cook, and Mrs. Wm. Cook, Junr. Agnes Firth was the pianist. A very good attendance of Lyceumists. Over 140 present.—E. K. Firth.

GREAT HARWOOD.—Open Session, October 5th. S.C. was led by Annie Thornley. M.R. by Sydney Hudson, Ernest Allen, Mrs. Hall and Henry Daswell. G.C. by Florrie Pickavance. Recitations: Maggie Nelson, Sydney Hudson, and Alice Fletcher. Solos by Annie Owen and Mr. Baxter, and Mrs. Hodgson and Mrs. Parkinson.—H. Baxter, Sec.

HEATON NORRIS.—Open Sessions on October 12th. The children gave recitations, pearls and solos. We had a few friends from Lord Street Central.

At 6-30 p.m. Lyceumists gave a service of song, entitled "Lost to Gain." Our children's day was very successful. Many thanks to all who help us in our efforts. Best wishes to every other Lyceum.—Mrs. Downs, Sec.

HORWICH.—On Saturday, October 4th, a grand concert was given in our school by the "Rolyats," the celebrated high class entertainers, of Bolton. The church was packed and every one

had a good time. We shall look forward to another visit of these mirth provoking and musical entertainers.

On October 5th we held the Memorial Service for our Sister, Mrs. Horrocks. A great number were present. Mrs. Hall, of Bolton, conducted the service, which was very impressive. The choir sang special hymns. The whole of the collections for the day has been forwarded to the Britten Memorial Fund. A Liberty group has been formed in our Lyceum which has proved a great attraction for elder Lyceumists. Rapid strides of progress are being made in our Lyceum generally and all are working very hard to regain the honour of championship which we held so long. With greetings.—Mr. W. Wilks, Sec.

HUDDERSFIELD, St. Peter's Street.—We held our Open Session on October 5th, being conducted by Mr. Garside. We had solos by Mr. Walis; also by Miss Eva Farnhill. Recitations by Alice Macartny, Fred Leecumber and Doris Richmond. We had a pleasant afternoon together.—Miss Elizabeth Farnhill, Sec.

HYDE, Clarendon Street.—On October 19th we had three naming ceremonies of the children of old Lyceumists: Mr. and Mrs. Taylor's daughter, Florence, spirit name "Light," Mr. and Mrs. Burgess' son, Clifford, spirit name "Victor." Mr. and Mrs. Robinson's daughter, Edith, spirit name, "Daisy." All children were named by Mr. Wright, one of the Lyceumists. We had a very interesting session.—Mr. A. Hill, Sec.

JARROW-ON-TYNE.—On October 12th, we held our Harvest Festival. The Lyceumists rendered "Rest at Last," in a very creditable manner. Jenny Lee, a young Lyceumist, read the story.—B. Hardwick, Sec.

LEICESTER, Silver Street.—On October 5th we held our Open Session. Pearls, marching and calisthenics were very good. Solo, by Miss Ph. Smith. Trio by Misses Forster, Underwood, and Spencer. Duet: Miss N. Forryan, E. Richardson. Recitations: Misses M. Salmon, C. Greenough, Forryan, and Master W. Coysh, Organ Recital ("The Arm of the Lord") by Mr. C. Bent. We spent a very enjoyable session. Thanking all visitors who gave us their support.—Mr. A. Hurst, Sec.

LONDON, Clapham.—Progress continues satisfactorily. Will secretaries kindly note all further communications to be addressed to 15, Ashmere Grove, S.W.2.—Grace M. Todman.

LONDON, Hackney.—October 19th was a record day for Hackney, and our First Harvest Festival. The Lyceum asked for contributions from Lyceum and Church and a splendid response was given by both. Combined co-operation and much work by Lyceumists transformed our little hall to a wonderful place of beauty which created pleasant surprise to all beholders. The Session was one of great joy. Musical items on violin and piano, also many recitations and songs, made the afternoon one to be long remembered. Children, adults and visitors combined to make it a veritable Harvest of Thanksgiving. The products of many and various kinds were given to many poor and needy souls, spiritualists and non-spiritualists. A fine basket of fruit and bunches of flowers were given to a neighbouring hospital. We wish to thank all who helped us to fulfil, in a practical manner, one of the finest principles in our faith—"The Brotherhood of Man."—M. Hester, Sec.

NORTH LONDON.—October 5th, we held our Harvest Festival. Mr. Pulham, the President of the church, was with us and spoke upon "Sacrifice." It was also Open Session. Miss Hodgins rendered "The Holy City," which was repeated at the evening service. Miss Maddison sang a Harvest Hymn. A most instructive and enjoyable afternoon was spent.—(Miss) Nellie C. Whorlow, Sec.

LONDON, Tottenham.—During the past month we have progressed steadily and well. On October 19th we held our Open Session and Harvest Festival. Solos and recitations were rendered by Lyceumists. We had a harmonious gathering; every one doing their best to make it an enjoyable session. Fraternal Greetings to all Lyceumists.—Hilda Holloway, Session Sec.

LONDON, Woolwich and Plumstead.—We are still maintaining interest. Pearls and efforts good. One of our scholars, Florence Baker, is leaving in December for Egypt with her parents. She was presented by her fellow Lyceumists with a "Lyceum Manual."

On November 9th an invitation is given to all Lyceumists to a United Session. Greetings to all.—H. Watthey, Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—On September 21st the Lyceum took the Harvest Festival Services for the Church. There was a splendid show of fruits, vegetables, etc. Solos, anthems and recitations were given by the Lyceumists, also a short address by a Lyceumist. On the Monday evening we had a musical night and the sale of fruit, etc. It was a very profitable week-end.—A. Edwards, Sec.

(Please do not write reports in pencil.)

MORLEY, Queen Street.—On October 5th we had a visit from Mr. A. W. Harding, Secretary of L.L.D.C. He spoke on the Lyceum Movement and gave us appreciative encouragement.—H. Sutcliffe, Sec.

NELSON.—On Saturday, September 27th, our Morris Dancers and the late Welcome Class were given a trip to Blackpool. The party numbered 56. All partook of the pleasures there provided for us, amidst exceptionally beautiful weather. Blackpool Lyceum and Church gave to us a welcome by catering for our teas, for which we give them our best thanks and good wishes. We returned home, after an enjoyable outing, tired but happy, with pleasant memories. Best wishes to all.—Mrs. Parkinson, Sec.

OLDHAM CENTRAL, Bow Street, Union Street.—October 5th. S.C. by Ronald Chappell. M.R. by Annie Potter, Alice Howarth, J. W. Woods. G.C. by our Conductor, Mr. Woods. On October 12th Open Session. Good attendance. Solos by Misses Baguley, Norbury, A. Potter, Ogden and Mrs. Hough. At 6-30, Speaker, Mr. Handish. Clairvoyance by Mrs. Hough. On October 18th opening of our new rooms in Bow Street, with a fancy dress social. On October 19th Service of Song, entitled "Rest at Last," was read by our worthy president, Mr. Standish. Special music by the choir. Organist, Mr. Baguley.—E. Norbury, Sec.

OLDHAM, Hooper Street.—On October 5th, we held our Open Session and was very pleased to see our Church well filled by the parents of our Lyceumists and several Lyceumists from other Lyceums in the district. Mr. Shaw from Heyside conducted the Session and was very pleased to see the progress we had made since he opened our Lyceum in February 1923. S.C., M.R., and G.C. Readings very well rendered and several Songs and Recitations were given by Lyceumists. Marching and calisthenics were gone through in a very smart and orderly manner. A very pleasant and enjoyable session. Greetings to all other Lyceums and wishing them every progress.—A. W. Goulden, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Pendleton, Ford Lane.—On October 12th we held our Open Sessions. I am pleased we had plenty of visitors and could have done with a larger room. There were several solos and recitations given by the Lyceumists which were well appreciated by all. It also happened to be the 35th Anniversary of the opening of Pendleton Ford Lane and many of our pioneers were on the platform and were greatly impressed and pleased at the progress we have made. We are still striving to gain the top rung of the ladder by perseverance and hard work, for our motto is, "The Workers Win."—J. Walter, Sec.

QUARMBY.—Open Session held October 12th. Recitations were given by Misses C. Schofield, K. Micklethwaite and B. Taverny, and Mrs. Roberts. A very enjoyable afternoon.—H. Baxter, Sec.

READING.—Reading Lyceum Calling. Greetings to all. Rousing Open Session October 5th; 28 present. We were pleased to see President of Church was with us. Recitations by Norman Brett, Jack Chandler, Queenie Chandler and Mrs. Lawrence. "The Rosary," rendered by Miss Waite, was much enjoyed. Our Assistant Conductor, Mr. A. Lawrence, gave an enlightening address on "The objects of the Lyceum."

October 19th. We had a visit from our old friend, Mr. Punter, of Luton, whose encouraging remarks were greatly appreciated. We devoted that day's collection (10/-) to the Fund of Benevolence. We are making new scholars weekly. Closing down; good-bye all.—W. L. Lawrence, Sec.

ROCHDALE, Penn Street.—On October 11th we entertained Barnoldswick and Earby Lyceumists to tea. We had a jolly social evening afterwards, and everyone expressed their gratification at such a splendid illustration of fraternity and good fellowship brought about by a common interest in Lyceumism and Spiritualism.—T. Dixon, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Hillsbrough.—On October 5th Open Session. Recitations by V. Jaffee, D. Nixon, and K. Derbyshire. Solos by E. Organ, G. Congreaves and S. Hall (visitor). Pearls by Mrs. Gregory and E. Organ. Pianoforte Solo by Eric Organ. We spent a good time together.—E. Jennings, Sec.

STOCKPORT CENTRAL.—On October 5th we held our Open Sessions. We had a fairly good attendance in the afternoon and evening, including visitors from Baker Street Lyceum. A hearty welcome was extended to all present by our Conductor, Mrs. Moulton, who conducted both Sessions in a very able manner. Marching and calisthenics were very good. Responses good, also pearls and recitations. We were favoured with solos from two Lyceumists. Greetings to all Lyceums.—E. Jöules, Sec.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES, Cecil Street.—Our Harvest Festival was held on October 12th. Open Session. A marked improvement in S.R. M.R. Solos and recitations. Our church was nicely decorated with flowers and fruit.

In the evening a service of song by our conductor, Mr. Neale, "Old Jasper" was well rendered. The church was full at all services. Let us hope the improvement will be continued.—Geo. A. Atkinson, Sec.

WAKEFIELD.—On September 28th a pleasing ceremony took place, Mrs. Sheard, Vice-President of the Church, presented on behalf of the members of the Lyceum and Church, a palm stand and bowl to Mr. and Mrs. N. Cope (nee Miss J. A. Ledger) on the occasion of their marriage which took place on September 20th. Hearty congratulations from the Lyceum.—I. Jenkinson, Sec.

WALSALL.—The children at the autumn services presented a very nice and well-behaved appearance and everyone who attended thought the speaking and singing created a very good effect. Mr. and Mrs. Smedley, of Belper, who have been for seventeen years in New Zealand and are visiting the town, were present and the President (Mr. J. Venables, J.P.) introduced Mr. Smedley, as chairman for the day, and he had a very happy reception. The speaker, Mr. J. Woodland, the President of the Cardiff Church, also did very well with his addresses and was quite liked both by the adults and children, and part of his remarks was specially addressed to the children themselves. The musical portion of the services proved quite up to expectation. Duet by Mrs. and Miss Keay. Mr. V. H. Lawton (Superintendent), Mr. Norman Hughes (Hon. Sec.), Mr. J. Venables, Junior, and other leaders were able to make very good arrangements for carrying out the services.

WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND.—During the month of August our membership has increased. Twelve new members have been enrolled as Lyceumists, and we were very glad to welcome them to our ranks. Groups have been formed again and the Liberty Group is under the leadership of Mr. Webb. The pearls are now a very interesting part of our programme, for each child memorises a little pearl and says it willingly. The calisthenics and Wand Drill are well conducted by Mrs. Webb, while the music supplied by Mr. Barton is very appropriate and cheering. The Lyceumists of Wellington send their best wishes to all Lyceumists at "Home" and "Good Luck" to the LYCEUM BANNER. We wish to thank Mr. Mack, President. B.S.L.U., for his kind thoughts and wishes to our Overseas Lyceums. "Kia Ora." (Good Luck.)—(Miss) S. Kirk, Sec.

WEST MELTON.—On October 5th an Open Session was held, when various items were rendered by the Lyceumists. We have to report the transition of a past president of the church, who was an ardent supporter of the Lyceum (Mrs. Watson). The interment of the physical remains was conducted by Mr. J. K. Jones, the Area Representative, assisted by Mr. J. Oates, of Attercliffe.—W. Rawlinson, Sec.

WINNIPEG, CANADA.—On October 5th we held our Open Session, which was well attended considering the disagreeable weather. Pearls and recitations were given by the following: Winnie, Edna and Harold Brown, Milly and Ella Crawley, Sylvia Parkinson, Viola Dale, Mrs. Crawley, Harold Goodman, Harry Towns, and Billy Scott. Vocal duet (over the River of Light), Mrs. John Parkinson and Mrs. H. Forrest. Solos, Mrs. Crawley and Mr. H. Forrest. I am also pleased to say we had a visitor from Glasgow Lyceum, Miss Yule, and I am sure she will come again. On October 4th the Social Club put on a concert consisting of two sketches, "The Gypsies Holiday" and "The Trials and Tribulations of the School Master," which were well attended.—H. F. Lawrence, Sec.