

THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 423. Vol. XXXVI.

MAY, 1926.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

A MORNING PRAYER.

By W. GEO. WHEELER.
Hail to the soul immortal,
Hail to the life divine;
Hail to the light undying,
Hail to the love sublime.
King of all kings eternal,
Soul of the ages past;
Give to us joy supernal,
O'er us thy blessing cast.

Hail to the mystic flow'rets,
Kissed by the King of Light;
Hail to the sunny bow'rets,
Clad in radiance bright!
Man is himself a spirit
Cast in a form of earth;
A source of endless beauty,
Sav'd for a higher birth.

Hail to the music pealing
'Mid chambers of the mind;
Hail to the Love revealing
Light to the ages blind!
God of the noblest, sweetest,
Soul of the vast unknown,
Guide Thou our erring footsteps,
Make us for aye Thine own.

MRS. MYERS CLEGG.

THE PASSING OF A PIONEER.

Mrs. Myers Clegg passed to the Higher Life on April 11th, 1926, after a long illness. She had been in failing health for a few years and had been confined to her room for some months before passing away.

In her earlier years she was one of the band of Yorkshire mediums who gave our cause its stability. As a trance medium with a forceful, vigorous and straightforward control, her addresses carried conviction to many minds. She was active in the old Yorkshire Union, from which sprang the nucleus of the present Spiritualist National Union. Migrating to London, Mr. and Mrs. Clegg immediately plunged into open-air work in and around London.

The starting and encouragement of Lyceums was a special feature with both these pioneers. The feeling existed that the Lyceum was instituted solely for children. This idea has been largely dispelled and a strong force of Lyceumists exist in London drawn from peoples of all ages. The London District Council recognised their work as Joint District Visitors for 25 years by a presentation last year.

As general hosts of Northern workers, many mediums and speakers have been able to draw inspiration from the loving dispositions of Mr. and Mrs. Clegg. "Little words of kindness, little deeds of love," were the special features of our arisen friend, Mrs. Clegg, and we shall ever respect her memory and presence for sowing the seeds of a harvest we are reaping. Our sympathies are with Mr. Myers Clegg in his physical separation from his dear companion. It was a happy sight to see their courtship continue through the long years of their married life and have sufficient love to spare to brighten the lives around with the eternal joys of earthly and spiritual communion.

G. F. KNOTT.

THE LONDON LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL'S TRIBUTE.

On behalf of the members of the Council and the Lyceumists of London, I voice the loving esteem in which we held and still hold our beloved arisen Sister, Mrs. Myers Clegg (the Mother of our London Movement). She has truly erected her own monument in our midst by her untiring labours of love and devotion to the Lyceum Cause.

When we note the present progressive standard of the Lyceums in London we fully realise we owe our thanks to our dear arisen Sister and her beloved husband (whom we still have with us in comradeship and service).

The debt we owe is so great that we can only repay it in one way, and that is to endeavour to follow the beautiful examples our arisen Sister set us while in the body, which were SERVICE, UNITY, PEACE AND LOVE. To the members of the family who feel the loss of the physical form we extend our fraternal love and comradeship.

ALBERT E. FRUIN, President.

MEMORIAL SERVICE.

The Memorial Service to our arisen Sister, Mrs. Myers Clegg (Mother of the London Lyceum Movement) was conducted by Mr. Percy Smyth, in the Manor Park Spiritualist Church, and a large number of friends attended, including many prominent Lyceumists, Mediums and workers from various parts.

In addition to the encouraging message on "Life After Death," by Mr. Smyth, Mr. Williams (B.S.L.U.), Mr. Fruin (Pres., L.L.D.C.), Mr. Boddington (Pres., L.D.C.), Mr. Drury (V.P., L.L.D.C.), Mrs. Barnard (Treas., L.L.D.C.), Mrs. Timins (Area Rep., L.L.D.C.), and Mr. Taylor Gwinn voiced the expression of love and esteem by which our arisen Sister was held in the various sections in which she had laboured amongst them.

Floral tributes bearing the various Lyceum colours, or cards from various centres were laid at the grave side, while little children, whom our arisen Sister loved so dearly, paid their tribute to her memory by dropping flowers into the open grave, giving a beautiful vision of our Sister's entry into the great garden of the Summerland.

BON VOYAGE.

To Mrs. M. Clegg, the London Lyceum Pioneer, who started her Earth Journey on the 12th of June, 1851, and was promoted to her Spirit Journey on the 10th April, 1926.

You oft have navigated stormy seas,
Untracked, unknown, with ne'er a chart to guide:
Where nought but courage and a steadfast faith
Could overcome the dangers that assailed
On every side; when foe and faithless friend,
Like sudden tempest, threatened grievous wreck.
But brave, undaunted, you have journeyed on
Towards the far horizon where has gleamed
The Star of Hope—clear imaged in your Soul.
That star has led you; and in all despite
Of midnight terrors that faint hearts would chill,
Your helm held true has steered your course aright,
And morning glad has dawned with radiant beam.
No more are wild storms raging. Crystal seas,
With scarce a wavelet, bear you on their breast:
And fragrant zephyrs through the rigging sing—
A Song of Welcome to the Spirit Shore.

Sail on, loved Pioneer! Your Course begun
On Time's dark seas but tried your 'prentice worth:
Eternity will grant your Soul's desire,
And Spirit Pilots shape your Course anew.

A. T. CONNOR.

LYCEUM REPORTS.

The Editor expresses his sincere regret that he has been unable to insert any Lyceum Reports except those which have been paid for, owing to so much space being required for the Conference Reports. A four-page supplement has been used to provide the inclusion of all the items which are needed to facilitate the work of the Conference.



My Dear Boys and Girls,

Oh, that naughty, naughty Mr. Editor has let the cat out of the bag by heading last month's letter with our photographs, which he has been keeping up his sleeve or somewhere else for the last two years.

I am not going to grumble at him for doing this, because so many of you have asked me for a photograph. Now you have one, which although not quite up-to-date gives you some idea what your funny old Uncle is like. Cousin Doris, like most of you little girls, has visited the barber's shop since the photograph was taken, while of course I do not live in my clown's costume. Now that the secret is out, I am going to promise you the up-to-date photograph soon which you have asked for, which I hope will serve as a still further link in our relationship with each other.

Most of you boys and girls have read in your History books at school about the early-day punishments which were served upon those who disobeyed the laws of that time. When we read of men having their limbs stretched, etc., the idea of such treatment makes us shudder, and we all rejoice to know such times have gone.

Gone, did I say? What was that I heard? "Mother, have you a few pins, please?"

"Pins, what do you want with pins; surely you do not intend to bend them up to put on your School-Master's seat? That would be very dangerous in more ways than one. First, it might cause blood poisoning, and if you were caught doing such a trick it might cause you to suffer with something else. Perhaps you can guess what?"

"No, no, mother. For two pins I can make heaps of money."

At this mother laughed, saying, "You make heaps of money when every penny you get now burns a hole in your pocket until you have spent it."

Having secured the required pins, our young friend sets forth with all the determination and ambition in the world fully expecting to make his fortune. All he took with him was a box of food and some corks to stick his pins in.

As he wandered out into the country, he passed a brook where several of his school chums were spending the day fishing for Tiddlers. These he managed to dodge, as he had not the desire to take any of his friends into partnership in his money-making scheme. When out of their sight he laid down in a field to work out his plans. Surely fortune was going to be kind to him, for he had but rested a minute when his eyes beheld a most wonderful treasure within reach of his hand. So wonderful was his find that words fail me to express its beauty and value. Surely it must be "A pearl of great price," yet greater wonders followed, and within less than an hour he had found at least a dozen more treasures. Mother laughed at me when I said "For two pins I could make heaps of money," he said to himself as he carefully put his treasures in the box which had contained his food, but I wonder what she will say when she sees these. Thus he journeyed home with a happy heart and the expectation of soon becoming rich.

When he reached home he opened the box for his mother to view his treasures, which were a beautiful collection of butterflies, almost every colour you could wish for: but alas, they had all been tormented to death by being pinned to the corks.

Then when one comes to think of it, the chums our young friend passed on his journey were also tormenting little fish by tearing their mouths with bent pins. Summer days are coming when such pleasures offer fascination to you boys and girls. Remember those stories of early history and avoid tormenting any of God's creatures in this way. Always assist in endeavouring to see that anything which has to be killed is killed by a humane method and not tormented to death by cruelty. Musical Reading 211 adds to this lesson.

Individual Effort Certificates (for the three months ending March 31st).

Newton Heath—54 Efforts, 13 Letters.

Battersea—51 Efforts, 2 Letters.

Sth. Manchester—37 Efforts, 8 Letters.

Bury and Pendleton were the next on the list with 21 and 20. I congratulate my co-workers at the above Lyceums and also those who have sent in the efforts. This Competition will continue until further notice.

RULES.

One mark given for each effort each month (one effort only counts).

Children under 12 years of age and children under three months membership may send Letters or Competition Efforts.

Children 12 to 14 years of age must send Children's Competition Efforts. Liberty Section (15 years onwards), Liberty Section Competition Efforts only.

Every effort must be the unaided work of the competitor.

The above rules only apply to the Certificate Competition. The usual Prizes are open to all Lyceums as before.

Prizes this month will be for Essays on Lessons you have learned from this page since you started to read it. These I want you to state from memory.

Liberty Section: Fellowship. (For Rules, see last month's "Banner.")

JUNE (Children): Essay on "What you would tell your chum about your Lyceum (if he or she was not a member)."

.. (Liberty): Personal Experiences in Spiritualism.

Answers to last month's Picture Puzzle numbered over 30 items. I congratulate those of you who worked these out so carefully.

Answer to Puzzle No. 28: "If you cannot be a star in your Lyceum, do not be a shadow in it." Correct answers from:—Doris Nash, Annie Hope, May Robinson, Gladys Bayliffe, Millie Llewellyn, Madge Spence, Madge and Horace Tyrer, Marjorie, George, Harry and Slingsby Ingham, Celia and Ivy Whitehead, Dora Wakefield, Nellie Dean, Edith Taylor.

Congratulations to Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Gee, Mr. J. Taylor, and Miss Palmer for Essays (Liberty Section).

Prizes awarded to: May Robinson, age 12, Newton Heath. Dorothy Owens, age 14, Long Eaton.

Puzzle No. 29:—

- A stall on the sands at the seaside.
- An idol.
- Used for lighting candles.
- What we sow in the garden.
- A tree cultivated round the Mediterranean.
- A girls' name.

Here you have six words to find; having discovered what they are you will see that the first and last letters, reading downwards, are the names of two well-known Lyceumists.

I am pleased so many of you boys and girls continue to write to me each month. I have over 100 Lyceums on my register. That, of course, is a nice number, but it shows that there are quite a lot of boys and girls who have not yet written to tell me all about their Lyceum. What standard are you in at school? How many prizes have you won this year? If you belong to a Cricket Club or play tennis yet; or, if you belong to a London Lyceum, are you going to try and win The Silver Cup in the Rounders Competition? What a lot of things you could write and tell me about!

This month I shall expect heaps of letters from those who have not written before, so all you have to do is to dip your pen in the ink, and say what the Earwig said when he fell off the wall, "'ere wig go."

Just a brief word with the Liberty Section on "UNITY."

Winning the Ashes is the great topic of the day. We all say "Hats off to England; may they win." Consider yourselves as players in a team of Lyceumists. The ashes you are playing for are:

Unity as individuals, Unity between Lyceums and Churches, Unity of action in all efforts which stand for progression.

Some of you young people have gone to the wicket with a determination to score a century. The first ball got you for a duck. You at once became discouraged, and talked of leaving the team, etc. Suppose our Australian brothers lose their first match. Will they continue to play for that which they hold dear, "Honour"? Why, of course they will. Then let us do likewise, remembering there are two kinds of Doctors, D.D. and M.D. The duty of one it is to PREACH and the other's is to PRACTICE. I hope your card bears both qualif-

cations. We shall then keep "THE ASHES" ever in our sight.

Your loving friend,

2, Villiers Road,
Osterley, Middlesex.

UNCLE BERT.

Dead Empires.

(Continued from page 53).

By MRS. M. E. PICKLES.

If we look at the walls and columns of the temples, at the solid vaults, at the coffin cases, at the sculptures and the wall paintings, we shall find most of them covered with picture writing. Until a century ago no one could guess what it all meant.

Then an engraved stone was found at Kasetta, near Alexandria, now carefully preserved in the British Museum under glass, which has served as a key to unlock the mystery. On this stone is a special decree about keeping a king's birthday, and the same decree is given in three different kinds of writing. The lowest is Greek, which scholars know well; the top is in the Egyptian picture writing usual on monuments; and the middle one is also in the Egyptian language, but in a more running kind of writing, used for everyday purposes by the people.

Learned men, who love finding out the puzzles of the past, set to work translating this decree, compared it with certain lists of king's names they had already studied, till at last it was all straightened out and the values of the signs discovered. We can now stand by and listen to those who know hieroglyphics. They translate the old Egyptian writings as easy as if they were English. This discovery has opened up the finding of rolls in tombs, that composed books and chapters of books. These were called papyri, from the material on which they were written. This papyri is the inner part of the papyrus seed that grows in great profusion on the Nile banks and from which we get our word paper.

The scribes made copies of these papyri, and one most copied is called the "Book of the Dead," parts of which are believed to be older than the pyramids. Certain chapters of this book were always laid besides the mummies for instruction what to do and say in the underworld. This book is very interesting as it tells of the religion of Egypt and contains very entrancing illustrations of how men tried to fit themselves in life for a happy hereafter; how they expected to be judged, and how they would live and work on their way through this underworld.

Men are inclined to put back a certain story farther and farther to the first king called "Menes," who turned the course of the Nile, possibly, it is said, 7,000 years ago.

I must here tell you of the method of finding some meanings to the writings. When we look at royal names they are surrounded by an oval line, supposed to be a cord tied in a knot to preserve the name from contact with common ones. Before a king's name will generally be found a sign like an umbrella and an insect over two half circles. These signs mean King of the North and South, for Egypt is such a long narrow country that it was long divided into two parts, and so we often hear of the double crown, which is made up of the red crown of North Egypt and the white crown of South Egypt.

Not far from the pyramids is an enormous monster hewn out of the living rock, with a human head and body of an animal—the Sphinx—so large that it could not be got into the drum below the dome of St. Paul's. It is now covered with sand up to the neck and only the immense head shows. From time to time through the centuries the sand has been cleared away and the shape shown, as well as the little temple built between the two paws. The face appears to look out to the horizon, changeless through thousands of years, except for the wear and tear of time and the wanton mischief done to it when the Mohammedan soldiers used it as a target. Travellers have been astounded at its awful yet grand majesty, with the thick lips and the cast of face modelled, it is thought, before the building of the pyramids and like the type of some of the country girls of Egypt to-day.

Little is known of the history about Joseph's time, for the kings who ruled there were believed to be a race of foreigners,

and destroyed monuments and buildings rather than set them up.

Builders and soldiers rose up at the time Israel it is said, lived in the "House of Bondage," and one inscribed and set up the great obelisk which we call Cleopatra's Needle, though the famous queen lived centuries after. This pillar now stands on the Thames Embankment.

Then we trace the decline more and more and find that the priests and priestesses of the temples became richer and richer, and more powerful, till at last they made themselves kings and queens.

It is a sad and absorbing story how the end of the independent kingdom came and how it passed into a Roman province. Shakespeare has founded one of his great plays upon it. The play of "Antony and Cleopatra," where the beautiful Cleopatra is wonderfully typified. She was the last great ruler of the line of the Ptolemies, and sooner than fall into the hands of the invading Romans, it is said she allowed a deadly serpent to bite her. So when they came to her palace they found her in all her regal splendour—but dead.

In Tennyson's words, Cleopatra says: "I died a queen. The Roman soldiers found me lying dead, my crown around my brow. A name for ever."

We have but to look at the vast view again and much of the old life will become so vivid and real to us that we can almost hear the dancing feet of the children at play in the little-worn shoes and the sad wail of the mourners carrying the mummy to its hidden tomb.

Egyptian literature begins in the pyramid period with maxims and wonder tales of magicians parallel to mediæval tales of miracles. There were serious works which showed the deeper side and thoughts of the time, too.

The gods of the Egyptians were many, and so far as is known, is tribal monotheism, of which traces remain in the early historical writings. Each tribe in the Nile valley seems to have had a separate divinity. As the tribes amalgamated in prehistoric civilization, as the king is said to do so on a float band and wife, or father and son, or three gods as a triad.

Later in historic times, when the relationship was settled, fresh gods were brought in belonging to three different sources of population.

Four great classes of gods can be distinguished: the animal gods of the earliest population; the Osiride gods in human form of Western origin; the Solar gods of Eastern introduction; and the abstract gods, as the Father god, Mother goddess, Creator god, goddess of truth. All these classes had been mixed in Egypt before historic times. The belief in passing over a water of death was as old as before the first prehistoric civilization, as the king is said to do so on a float of reeds, whereas boats were usual in the second age. Certainly there was a firmly accepted belief in a ritual for the dead, from the earliest graves known, and funeral offerings do not alter but increase as time goes on.

One great break in the religion was the entire dominance of a scientific worship of the radiant energy of the sun, called the Aten or "lord," to the exclusion of all other gods. This hardly survived the life of its founder. The simplest beginnings of art and architecture are seen in the models of the peasants' huts that were placed on the graves for the spirits. The essential is a verandah with its enclosed court before it, open along the front. The next stage is to have a store chamber at the back, then a way to the roof; after that, more chambers, and then a roof chamber, forming an upper storey.

This was no doubt the growth of the superior house also, and as the temple was the house of the god, it is the plan of the temple. The great growth of the temples was generally due to successive additions by different kings, as in London, the building of Westminster Abbey extended over four or five centuries, although on a single plan.

Beside the house temple, there were shrine temples, copied from the hut shelters put over the sacred ark of a god; these were open front and back so that a procession could pass through them to take up the ark or deposit it. The earlier temples are very simple and plain, but of massive structure.

The mummies of the kings are preserved from Theban tombs, but no others. There are great cemeteries of private tombs with sculpture and painting at Gizch and Sakkarah. Temples were often fortified with immense walls, and one at Tanis had walls 80 ft. thick.

There can only be traced one plan of a town, and it had

mansions of sixty rooms, and rows of streets of workmen's houses, all laid out in a regular plan.

The houses and the earlier temples were built of mud brick, which was covered with lime-wash or stucco on which fresco painting was placed in the better houses; and the earlier brick temples were sometimes lined with glazed tiling of large size.

Statuary appears to begin in limestone and ivory, with an entirely naturalistic style, full of character and life, and superior to later work in its truth and absence of convention. Copper statues, too, have been discovered many times. In fact, metal and copper work was skillfully wrought and large vessels were made by hammer work, and often figured in tomb sculptures.

Jewellery was delicately made as early as the prehistoric, when minute beads of gold and thin gold worked over a cone of limestone are found.

Then there was an immense output of coloured glass vases, beads and other work.

This was revived in Roman times as minute inlay or mosaic work of the greatest delicacy.

Afterwards came blown glass vessels, and painted glass lamps were the form of this craft which was maintained by the Arabs.

I cannot describe here the fine work of furniture, gilding, stucco, weaving, and other kinds, but the Egyptians were the most skilful craftsmen for thousands of years.

(To be continued).

THE OLD OAK.

BY 'MARYLLIS AND PELEPONE.'

Two little squirrels lived in a wood. Well, that is nothing wonderful you would say; but these squirrels were very clever little ones, or so they thought themselves.

In the pretty wood in which they lived was a very old oak tree. Very conceited that oak tree was, because of its age, and no one could possibly be as clever as it was, for as it said, "Experience is the greatest teacher." Now one day our two squirrels decided to take down the conceit of that old oak, and they collected their friends together to go and see the old thing. It was in the spring time, and the squirrels and their friends were very frisky after their winter rest, so they played hide-and-seek on the way, and altogether had a good time. The old oak was just putting forth its leaf buds for the 400th time, and they looked so fat and swelled of head, that the squirrels forgot their fun and looked quite cross. "O, have you come to my 400th birthday party," said the oak. "No, indeed," said the squirrels in one breath, "we came to see how twisted and wrinkled you are, and how dirty your skin has grown with age." Just then, a year-old acorn, that had hung lovingly on a bough not willing to leave its parent tree shook with disgust and annoyance, and fell off, striking one of the squirrels smartly on the nose. He squeaked with pain and rage, and danced round and round, while his supposed friends laughed with glee at his discomfort. Just then the wind began to rise and whistle through the branches of the old oak; he creaked and sang, and showed off in such surprising fashion that the squirrels and their friends were very much annoyed, and longed more than ever to take him down a peg. They scratched his bark with their claws, but he did not seem to feel it, and went on bowing and creaking (really he was laughing): for the wind and he were old friends. When the wind had had all the fun he wanted, he settled quietly down. Now the squirrels began again, "Can you tell us, old thing, what use you can be now, for you are no ornament, and we think dainty young saplings would be much better in your place." Just then there came a downpour of rain, and the vain squirrels, not wishing to get their soft fur wet, swallowed their pride and ran into a large hole in the trunk of the oak. "Ho, Ho," roared the oak, and he creaked with laughter, "What use am I now? Well, well, you will learn how wonderful I am yet." "I will not turn you out." When summer came, the squirrels (who had learnt more sense) came skipping back. "Dear old Father Oak, give us of your bounteous store for the winter. We have been to Nature's school, and have learnt to know that we cannot live without you." "Ho, Ho," roared and creaked the old oak. "We are never too old to learn; I am still wondering why the saplings are so long in growing like me. Come on squirries, come and gather your store." And the squirrels never even whispered to each other, "Isn't he conceited!"



My Dear Children,

Whilst this glorious weather remains with us, I sincerely hope each one of us is taking full advantage of it. The boys will be out with their cricket bats and balls, or cycles; and others enjoying themselves with the Lyceum or local troop of Scouts; the girls will be playing hockey, rounders and skipping. I wonder how many Guildites have kept to their promise and assisted in forming a Sports Club in connection with their Guild class. Now is the time, so start right away. If you are in any difficulty concerning its formation ask your Secretary to write to THE GUILD IMP without delay.

Now for our next instalment; read on.

THE PROBLEMS OF MARCUS AND MYRA. III.

The rest of the week was spent in seeing the sights of Paris, a strange mysterious city, Myra thought, and she wondered why it should differ so much from London. The shops were so different, and the people seemed to act so strangely. They watched the people parading along the boulevards, the children playing,—boys and girls dressed in pretty suits and dresses. The guide informed them it was not because French children were really vain and proud that they loved pretty clothes. French people, he said, are an artistic race, and love all beautiful things, which Paris itself proves, with its beautiful churches and palaces, the brilliantly lighted shops, the straight picturesque boulevards, and open squares with Triumphal Arches and monuments.

On the fourth day after their arrival they visited the Théâtre Amusant, a splendid first amusement theatre. Marcus and his father agreed that it was the finest performance they had ever witnessed and Myra was happy and jubilant, all being sorry when the curtain was at last rung down. On their return from the theatre she expressed her satisfaction with the delights of Paris. "I wish we were staying here, Marcus," she said. "Don't you think the French children are really very interesting? They seem to be extremely lively and intelligent and very amusing."

"Yes, that is so, Myra. Our guide has been telling me there are no slum children in Paris such as are existing in London, or at least there are very, very few." "It may seem rather strange" remarked the guide, "but the ideas of the French and English differ greatly regarding children, for amongst the 'upper classes' English governesses are in demand. Great care is taken of safeguarding the health of the children under their care. They are, as you say in England "coddled," being swathed in "flannel" garments, and it often takes the English nurses some time to become accustomed to French ways. Also children go to bed very late, not at 6 or 8 o'clock, which is, I believe, the usual time for most English children."

Late dinner is the custom amongst nearly all classes of people, and quite young children may be seen "at dinner" with their parents. In short, French children are "spoilt" terribly. Upon reaching manhood and womanhood, however, they show great respect towards their parents and guardians. You must not smile when I tell you that the French father's greatest joy is to be out during the evening "pushing the pram," to use your English term. On the whole, you would find rosy-faced children in a minority in Paris."

"How strange this seems to be," said Marcus. "Different nations have different customs and different methods. It is similar to a game of chess. Each solves his problem in a different manner." "Just so, Marcus. I have always maintained that each person's life must be moulded and shaped, as he or she desires. When I was of age, I became 'a secret service agent,' briefly, a spy, having been led to believe, 'on high authority,' that it was an honourable position. In time, I found my conscience becoming 'soiled,' but I was told a man must serve his country in the way his country directs him to do. But, friend, I learned enough of God to know my life must not

be spoiled by a life of trickery, working by sinister methods against my fellow-men in other countries. I was conscience-stricken and resigned. Now I am a guide to tourists."

"If you travel as I have done, Marcus, and you as well, Myra, you will learn a great deal of human nature; the various customs, natures, and ideas of people of all nationalities. But come, we must retire. You have all a long journey before you to-morrow, to the Riviera. Myra and her Mother, are, I can see, tired and longing for rest and sleep."

The next day the Whitby family entered the *rapide*, the Express to the Riviera, waving their hands in farewell to the guide who had been of such assistance to them during their stay in Paris. Taking possession of "corner seats" the usual English custom, they perused papers and novels, passing occasional remarks upon the scenery as they looked through the windows from time to time.

After an hour of travelling Marcus leaned back in his seat, staring through the window, wondering what interesting facts he would obtain in Monte Carlo and then, in Italy. They would visit the Casino, but the desire for gambling had never yet possessed Marcus, and he intended to keep his promise to himself, and an old promise to his parents, never to succumb to outside evil influence, and so he sat engrossed in his thoughts, while the train roared along at a great speed towards its destination.

(To be continued.)

Now, children, how many of you have attempted to complete the "Limerick" published in April issue? Don't delay, one of the prizes may come your way. Closing date for the Competition is May 14th, so write straight away when you have completed the Limerick. Post-cards accepted.

Yours lovingly,

THE GUILD IMP.

Bible Studies, No. 9.

THE DEVIL, SATAN AND DEMONS.

By ALFRED KITSON.

The fear of the Devil and the torments of Hell have been the chief factors employed by the clergy to hold the people in subjection to the Christian faith, and terrorise them into obedience to and compliance with the Church. They have also implanted the fear of death and the awful doom of the hardened, impenitent sinner in the minds of the multitude.

As the foolish mother implants a fear of the "Bogey Man" in the minds of her children in order to induce them to obey her, similarly the priesthood have implanted in the minds of people a fear of the priestly "Bogey Man," the Devil, whom they have described in frightful aspect in order to frighten the adults into docile submission to the mandates of the Church.

The idea of the horns which adorn the Devil's head may have been borrowed from the story of Sargon, the king of ancient Babylon. Hercules, the Greek hero, when he met and killed in single-handed combat the Nemean lion which ravaged the country near Mycenæ, stripped it of its skin, and wore it as a trophy of prowess and strength. In the same way Sargon, the mighty hunter, met and killed a terrible wild bull and wore its skin, with the horns intact, which became a sign of might and valour. Some writers are of the opinion that subsequent monarchs multiplied these horns to decorate their crowns, as being indicative of their conquests and possessions. Or, perhaps, the illustration of the Devil with his horns, tail and cloven feet has been borrowed from the Grecian god, Pan, the inventor of the Pandean pipes, or syrinx, and also the author of what are known as Panic terrors, a suitable being to be used to terrorise Christians into obedience. This Grecian god Pan was a monster in appearance. He had two small horns on his head, his complexion was ruddy, his nose flat, and his legs, thighs, tail and feet were those of a goat. If my surmise is correct it shows what straits the priestly cult have been in when they had to borrow a pagan god to represent the Christian Devil.

But we do not marvel at this, seeing that the term "Devil" is derived from the Greek term "Diabolis," which means a slanderer, a calumniator, or accuser. This is applicable to those who oppose not only Spiritualism but every movement that aims at reforming old-established customs and time-honoured

privileges that have become oppressive in their operations and a danger to the public welfare. Similarly the term "Satan," which is derived from the Hebrew "Sathan," or "Sathana," signifies "an adversary, an enemy, an accuser."

Bearing this fact in mind, we can the better understand that part of the Bible which states that the Lords of the Philistines would not suffer David to go with them to the battle for fear "lest in the battle he should prove satan or an adversary to us" (I. Sam. xxix. 4). "And David said, What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah, that ye should this day be adversaries (sathans) unto me?" (II. Sam. xix. 22). Similarly, "Jesus said, Did not I choose you the twelve, and one of you is a devil" (John vi. 70). "But the spirit saith expressly that in the latter times some shall fall away from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of demons (Diabolis), or adversaries" (Tim. iv. 1). "But he (Jesus) said unto Peter, Get thee behind me Satan; thou art a stumbling-block unto me; for thou mindest not the things of God, but the things of men" (Matt. xvi. 23).

The researches of the Higher Criticism tend to prove that the Jewish ideas of Satan and good and bad angels were derived from the Zoroastrian doctrines, in which Ahriman, the evil one, is represented as the continual adversary of Ormuzd, the author of life, light and all that is good, during their Babylonish captivity.

If, then, the terms "Satan" and "Devil" do not mean a person (spirit) who is totally evil, and is continually waging war with God for the possession of souls, that he might torture them in the unquenchable fires of hell, but an adversary, false accuser, etc., what does the term "Demon" mean?

We have seen that "Diabolis" has been rendered demon in Timothy iv. 1. So the translators do not appear to have followed any definite plan, such as fixing on definite terms in the English language as giving the equivalent meanings of the Hebrew and Greek texts, but of selecting those which their bias and prejudices suggest. For instance, the Greek term "Magos" is rendered "the wise men of the East" in Matt. ii. 1, but is translated "sorcery" in Acts viii. 9, and also in xiii. 6, while in the Douay Bible it is translated "magician" in both instances. Perhaps an article on "The various renderings of Scriptural terms" may be edifying, but would be out of place at this juncture, as we are dealing with the term "Demon."

This term is derived from the Latin "Dæmon," the Greek "Daimon," and means a guardian spirit, and was so understood by the ancients. "Daimons," says Plato, are of a middle nature between gods and men. The correspondence between heaven and earth is carried on by them. The things from this world they represent and convey from men to the gods, and divine things from the gods to men . . . They are daimons because prudent and learned . . . hence poets say when a good man shall have reached his end he receives a mighty destiny and honour, and becomes a daimon according to the appellation of prudence." Socrates had his daimon, or guardian spirit. So had Tasso.

The poet Addison referred to them as "my good dæmon who sat at my right hand during the course of this vision."

Josephus, who certainly understood the theology of the Jews and Romans, says, in his "Wars of the Jews," "For what man of virtue is there who does not know that those souls which are severed from their fleshly bodies in battles are received by the ether, that purest of elements, and joined to that company which are placed among the stars, and that they become good dæmons and propitious heroes, and show themselves as such to their posterity afterwards."

On referring to Lloyd's Encyclopædia Dictionary, Vol. 2, we are informed that "Dæmon," from Latin, and "Daimon," the Greek, originally a name given by the ancient Greeks to beings equivalent to those spiritual existences termed "angel" in the Bible. The word in Scripture is translated "devil," but it meant properly a spirit generally, whether good or evil; the good spirits were called "agatha-daimons, and the evil spirit "kako-daimons."

We learn from the above authorities, both ancient and modern, that daimon meant to the Greeks what angel meant to the Jews, but priestly jugglery has transformed it into devil in order to bring the Greek daimon or guardian spirit into disgrace.

My next article will be devoted to the consideration of the term "Angel."

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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Office hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 9 a.m. to 6-80 p.m.; Tuesday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 12-80 p.m. Callers by appointment.

MAY, 1926.

The Management Committee at Wigan.

The Management Committee held their Quarterly Meeting at Wigan on Saturday and Sunday, April 10th and 11th.

The President (Mr. G. A. Mack) was in the Chair. All the officers and members attended except Mr. Scott and Mr. Hunter, whose absence was due to pressure of business.

The engagement of Mr. J. Walter Goodall, of Sheffield, as the Reporter to the Annual Conference was confirmed.

The 1925 Statement of Accounts was approved. The accounts appear elsewhere in this issue.

The Treasurer reported receipts as £554 17s. 0d., payments £294 16s. 2d., with some accounts outstanding.

£2,000 Effort, £450 2s. 6d.

Lyceum Home Fund, £159 4s. 4d.

257 Lyceums, all D.Cs. and the U.D.C. had paid the Annual Fees to the Union. 18 applications for membership had been received during 1926.

Croydon Lyceum have re-opened in another Hall. Chester Lyceum has closed down. Hounslow have withdrawn from the Union.

It was reported Mr. J. P. Simpson passed away on March 8th. A letter of sympathy and a wreath had been sent on behalf of the Union. Mr. J. Jackson conducted the interment.

The S.N.U. Consultative Conference report was given by Mr. Mack. He was thanked for his attendance without cost to the Union.

Lyceums who had promised to support the Calendar have been asked to confirm their orders and guarantee the publication against loss if the Calendar is produced.

The allocation of Areas, as published in the April BANNER, was confirmed.

The annual donation to the National Council for Prevention of War (£1) was passed for payment.

It was decided to incorporate the interim M.C. Conference report with the M.C. Annual Report.

The publication of BANNERS was reported, with an increase of 100 copies on the last quarter of 1925.

The sales are equal to last year up-to-date. A reprint of the *Lyceum Manual* and *Spiritual Songster* is taking place.

The Education Report was read and will be printed in detail and augmented elsewhere in this issue.

It was reported that the S.N.U. E.C. have drawn up a plan for a smaller E.C. and the B.S.L.U. will have only one representative under the proposed composition of the Council. It was decided to draw the attention of the B.S.L.U. Conference to the foregoing proposal as it affects the B.S.L.U.

Applications for membership of the Union were endorsed by the M.C. from Dover, Brixton, Middleton (Mill Street), Middlesborough (United), Gorton, Glasgow (Broomlean Road), Grange-town, Bishop Auckland. A number of other applications await endorsement by the D.Cs.

Miss Elliott and Mrs. Nurse reported the result of the U.D.C. meeting in Glasgow.

Reports, recommendations and motions were adopted for reference to the Trustees and the Conference and included the

re-appointment of the General Secretary.

The details of local Conference arrangements were discussed and confirmed. The details have been circulated to the Lyceums.

It was decided to ask the Auditors to act as Credential Committee.

The nominations for Officers and Area Representatives, along with all the Conference Motions for the Agenda were read and confirmed.

The General Secretary was instructed to send the sympathy of the Committee to Mrs. Clegg, of London, and Mrs. Butterworth, of Blackpool.

The best thanks of the meeting were tendered to the Wigan Church and Lyceum for the invitation and hospitality during the week-end.

OPEN SESSION.

Mr. G. A. Mack (President) conducted the Session. Mr. J. Jackson gave the Invocation.

Miss Eachus (Conductor) welcomed the M.C. to Wigan and a young Lyceumist, Matthew Schofield, presented a lovely rose, on its natural stem, to each of the members of the M.C. Mr. Mack suitably replied and introduced the members of the M.C. to the assembly. Thirteen Lyceumists had journeyed from Southport to be present. Mr. Walsh, of Horwich, and Mr. Pearson, of Chorley, were among the visitors.

Mr. Burrows conducted the S.C.R. Mr. Watkins, Mr. S. Wright and Mrs. Clitheroe gave the Musical Readings. Mr. Mack conducted the G.C.R. and answered questions, giving the theme of the Session as "Social Service."

Many Lyceumists asked questions and others gave comments.

Mrs. Clitheroe conducted the physical exercises.

Pearls and explanations were interspersed with items by Mary Litherland, Miss Elliott, Mr. Monks, Misses E. Eachus, Annie Platt, Doris Watkins and Jane Charneck.

The whole session was interesting and embellished with badges, bells and banners.

PROPAGANDA MEETING.

Mr. Mack occupied the Chair. Miss Elliott gave the Invocation. Mr. Mack expressed the pleasure of the M.C. and thanks for the invitation to Wigan. He described the Lyceum method as the best educational system extant.

Mrs. L. Nurse said we turn to the child as the flower of humanity, and spoke of the part we have in shaping the lives of boys and girls through the love tie of our companionship. We weed out the things we want to be rid of, clearing away such influences as slum life. We use our knowledge of spirit life, especially from children, to guide our teachings.

Mr. Kitson preferably compared Lyceum methods with the fearful teachings of Sunday Schools. Our children sometimes see spirit-people and thus have inward evidence which enables us to guide their growth and development. Mr. Kitson spoke of the reformers and mentioned their use of strong will power and ability to suffer that we may have the benefit of the truths they have revealed. We sow from their labours the seeds of progress.

Mr. Knott spoke about infinity in relation to human beings.

Mrs. Tims said everyone should be able to give a reason for the faith that is in them. Religion has not been all good, as it has left some scars. The Spiritualism of to-morrow will be better because our children need not carry the scars of discarded ideas.

Mr. H. Monks and Mrs. Clitheroe gave nicely rendered solos.

Mr. Kitson was presented with a beautiful array of flowers as a token of appreciation and love from the local friends. He expressed his thanks for the gift.

Mr. Williams thanked all who had helped to make the visit homely, amicable and successful to all. The President gave the benediction to a happy day.

There was an error in the list of unpaid fees printed in the April *Banner*. Darlington (Psycho) were reported as not having paid, but the fees were received from Mrs. Moore on March 17th, and the Psycho Lyceum should not have been listed.

In the eternal sphere of things we must all step higher, but none can leave the orbit of our thoughts. We have all been drawn into one circle of spiritual life. Now we know it is the spirit and not the body which makes our own personalities and draws us together.

THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

The above Union will hold its

37th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

On SATURDAY, MAY 22nd, at 3 p.m.

In the Dewsbury National Spiritualist Church, Wellington Road, Dewsbury
and on

SUNDAY, MAY 23rd, at 10 a.m., in the Town Hall, Dewsbury.

President - Mr. G. A. MACK, of Runcorn.

NOTICE TO DELEGATES.—Lyceum Guides will meet the trains at the Station. The way to reach the Dewsbury Church is to ask for Wellington Road Station. The Church is facing Wellington Road Station (L.M.S.), and next to the Reporter Office.

Mr. E. Wilson, 7, Reform Street, Westboro', Dewsbury, has been appointed the Billet Secretary. Applications for billets must be made to Mr. Wilson before May 9th, and a stamped addressed envelope enclosed when a reply is desired. A payment of 3s. towards the cost of billets is requested with the application for each billet. Also state whether Mr., Mrs., or Miss, and if accommodation is wanted for Saturday night only, or Saturday and Sunday nights, or Sunday night only. Delegates will greatly assist the arrangements by applying early and stating their desires clearly.

AGENDA.

- (1) Opening Exercises and Welcome.
- (2) Appointments: (a) Messenger; (b) Tellers; (c) Scrutineers; (d) Member for Standing Orders Committee.
- (3) Minutes of last Conference.
- (4) Correspondence.
- (5) President's Address.
- (6) Unfinished Business:
 - "That if the S.N.U. appoint only a Joint Committee numbering three, then the Committee appointed by this Conference be automatically disbanded and the M.C. appoint a similar number as the S.N.U."
- (7) Reports: (a) Management Committee; (b) Treasurer; (c) Auditors; (d) Banner; (e) Education; (f) Trustees; (g) U.D.C.; (h) Manual Revision; (i) S.N.U. Conference and E.C.; (j) Overseas; (k) £2,000 Effort; (l) Inter-Relations; (m) Secretary's Interim; (n) International.
- (8) (a) Elect Officers; (i.) President; (ii.) Vice-President; (iii.) Treasurer; (iv.) Secretary.
(b) Declaration of Area Results.
- (9) Elect S.N.U. E.C. Representatives.
- (10) Elect Auditor.
- (11) Elect Representatives to other Conferences.
- (12) Place and Date of next Conference.
- (13) Motions:
 - (A) FROM THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE. ADDITION TO BYE-LAW 9.
 - (i.) "When the inviting Lyceum or District Council is unable to provide free entertainment for all the Delegates and Representatives the Lyceum or District Council Secretary shall submit to the General Secretary not later than March 31st an estimate of:—
 - The number of free billets.
 - The amount of local financial assistance.
 - The cost per head per night of paid billets.
 - The same to be submitted to the Management Committee.
 The Management Committee shall then determine the amount for billeting only, to be levied per delegate or representative on all Lyceums, District Councils, and other bodies sending representatives to the Conference. The amount, not exceeding 7/6, to be paid by each Delegate, may be alternative (that is for one or two nights' entertainment) and to be sent to the billeting Secretary with the application for billets. The meal tickets shall be an additional charge.

The Secretary of the inviting Lyceum or District Council shall within 21 days after the Con-
 - ference render to the Union's Treasurer a full statement of accounts for same, together with all vouchers and the balance, if any. Such balance to go to the General Funds of the Union."
 - (ii.) FROM THE TYNESIDE DISTRICT COUNCIL.
Bye-Law 5, Section 1.
"That Lyceum Fees to the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union be 10/- for the first 50, and on graduated basis for each 10 or part of 10, over 50 members."
 - (iii.) FROM THE MANCHESTER PROGRESSIVE LYCEUM.
"That Bye-law 5, Section 4, be deleted."
 - (iv.) "That Bye-law 5, Section 5, be deleted."
 - (v.) FROM THE SOUTHERN COUNTIES DISTRICT COUNCIL.
"That Bye-law 10, Section 1, be amended to provide that an Area be formed for Southern England, with powers to elect a Representative on the Management Committee of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union."
- (B) GENERAL MOTIONS.
 - FROM THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.
 - (vi.) "That the title of each Lyceum in affiliation with the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union shall be 'The British Spiritualist Progressive Lyceum.'"
 - (vii.) "That we formulate a Rota Scheme for the Management Committee meetings by District as per Banner List."
 - FROM THE NORTH EAST CHESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL.
 - (viii.) "That the Management Committee Quarterly Meetings be held in rotation in Areas, in alphabetical order."
 - FROM THE NORTH EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL.
 - (ix.) "That in all future editions of the *Lyceum Manual* the Musical Expression marks shall be inserted to all Songs and Musical Settings."
 - (x.) "That we recommend to the Education Committee to consider the issuing of a Diploma equal to and/or in lieu of the Diploma of the Spiritualist National Union. Such matter to be placed before the Joint Education Committee and to satisfy the requirements of the Joint Board a final test shall be set. The programme for such final test to be drawn up by the Joint Committee. The passing of such test to entitle the student to the Diploma of the Spiritualist National Union."
- (14) Notices of Motion for next Conference.
- (15) Votes of thanks, etc.
- (16) Closing Exercises.

PUBLISHING FUND ACCOUNT.

EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	INCOME.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Stock of Publications, etc., Dec. 31st, 1925	...				634	8	5	By Manuals, Songsters, etc.	...	899	3	7			
„ Printing and Binding:—								„ Sundry Publications, etc. (Trading)...		5	4	3			
Manuals	...	153	6	8				„ Stock of Publications, Dec. 31st, 1925	...	468	16	1	904	7	10
Songsters	...	36	5	0				„ Stock of Publications, (Trading) Dec. 31st, 1925	...	6	5	1			
Outlines	...	7	16	6				„ Office Furniture and Fittings	...	34	0	0	509	1	2
Hymn Sheets and Gems	...	20	18	0											
Certificates and Registers	...	2	15	0											
					221	1	2								
„ Sundry Publications (Trading)	...				4	5	0								
„ Postages and Stationery	...				47	14	9								
„ Insurance (Fire)	...				4	15	0								
„ Labels and Packing Paper	...				3	14	8								
„ Advt. :—															
Lyceum Banner	...	10	0	0											
Press Guide	...	0	16	6											
					10	16	6								
„ Audit and Stocktaking	...				7	19	3								
„ Secretary's Expenses and Sundries	...				0	19	11								
„ Secretary's Bank Commission	...				2	5	5								
„ Proportion of Salaries	...	293	16	3											
„ Proportion of Rent, Light, etc.	...	107	11	6											
					401	7	9								
„ Balance to Accumulative Fund	...				74	1	2								
					£1413	9	0						£1413	9	0

ACCUMULATIVE FUND ACCOUNT.

EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.	INCOME.		£	s.	d.		
To Deficit Balance, Lyceum Banner A/c	...	91	18	4	By Balance, Accum. Fund, Dec. 31st, 1924	...	1235	8	1		
„ Balance	...	1257	7	10	„ Balance, General Fund Account	...	89	16	11		
					„ Balance, Publishing Fund Account	...	74	1	2		
							£1349	6	2		
									£1349	6	2

TRUSTEE'S CONFERENCE REPORT.

LYCEUM HOME FUND ACCOUNT.

EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	INCOME.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
To Balance, S.B.U.D.C.	...	100	0	0	By Balance, Dec. 31st, 1924	...				153	5	4					
„ „ Bank	...	59	4	4	„ Interest, S.B.U.D.C.	...	3	12	0								
					„ „ Bank	...	1	7	10								
													4	19	10		
													0	19	2		
													£159	4	4		
															£159	4	4

£2,000 EFFORT FUND ACCOUNT.

EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	INCOME.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
To Balance, S.B.U.D.C.	...	300	0	0	By Balance, Dec. 31st, 1924	...						371	6	10			
„ „ Bank	...	135	10	10	„ Donations	...						47	15	5			
					„ Interest, S.B.U.D.C.	...	10	16	0								
					„ „ Bank	...	2	11	11				18	7	11		
													3	0	8		
													£435	10	10		
															£435	10	10

BALANCE SHEET.

LIABILITIES.		£	s.	d.	ASSETS.		£	s.	d.					
Accumulative Fund Account	...	1257	7	10	Outstanding Accounts	...			78	11	3			
Lyceum Home Fund Account	...	159	4	4	Cash in Bank	...			452	14	2			
£2,000 Effort Fund Account	...	435	10	10	Lyceum Home Fund Account	...			159	4	4			
					£2,000 Effort Fund Account	...			435	10	10			
					Stock:—Education Dept.	...			217	1				
					„ Publishing	...			473	1	2			
					„ Office Furniture and Fittings	...			34	0	0			
									£1852	3	0			
												£1852	3	0

CHAS. J. WILLIAMS, Hon. Treasurer.

Audited and found correct, March 13th, 1926.

(Signed) FRANK F. BALL,
W. THISTLETHWAITE, Auditors.

The Management Committee Report.

The M.C. has held four Quarterly Meetings at Halifax (St. Pauls), Newton Heath, Blackpool and Wigan. We accord our thanks to these Lyceums for their consideration in facilitating the work of the Union.

Mr. C. J. Williams, the Union's Treasurer, has been appointed a Trustee for the S.N.U. section of the B.S.L.U. Trust Deed in the place of Mr. H. T. Batten, who resigned the position on his departure for Canada. Mr. Batten was granted credentials and is working in the Lyceum movement in Hamilton.

The Union continues its affiliation to the Society for the Prevention of War and is represented at its Annual Meetings. Mrs. K. N. Brake, of Bristol, attending the 1925 Congress, as our delegate and afterwards gave an interesting report.

The President was appointed as the Union's delegate to the I.S.F. Congress held in Paris during September. Mr. Knott attending as a member of the Grand Committee. An interesting paper was written by Mr. Alfred Kitson and read by Mr. G. A. Mack to the delegates. The subject was "Spiritualism and the Child," and has since then been printed in the *Two Worlds* and the BANNER. Various discussions on the Lyceum displayed a deep interest among the foreign delegates. Mrs. Mack and Mr. E. Vickers (a past President of the Union) also attended the Congress.

The Calendar has been under discussion and will be printed if, and when, guarantees against loss are given by the Lyceums supporting its production.

The M.C. Representatives to the U.D.C. have been Mr. Mack (1), Mrs. Nurse (2) and Miss Elliott (1).

Mrs. M. E. Pickles was chosen as the representative of the "General Workers" on the Inter-relations Committee. This Committee has been requested to also discuss the Joint Affiliation of the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. to the I.S.F.

A motion for Lyceums to adopt a designatory title is on the Conference Agenda.

A new clause to Bye-law 9 is submitted on Conference invitations and will be found on the Agenda for the decision of the Conference.

The M.C. request that all National Committees shall instruct their members to obtain cheap fares, where possible, when attending the various meetings to prevent undue expenses to the Union.

Mrs. Tims represented the M.C. at the Testimonial to Mr. and Mrs. Clegg in honour of their labours for the Union.

The M.C. propose holding their Quarterly Meetings by rota in the various districts and using the BANNER list as a basis of rotation. A number of districts and the U.D.C. have noted their willingness to support this method.

The question of a re-issue of the Parliamentary rules is referred to the Conference for a decision.

A reprint of the Lyceum Manual and the Spiritual Songster is taking place during this year.

The following Lyceums were added to the members roll during 1925. Chester, Hebburn (Albert Hall), Scunthorpe, Swinton, Saltaire, London (Surbiton Hill), St. Annes, Dunedin, Southwick-on-Wear, Houghton-le-Spring, Nottingham (Parliament Street), Harrogate, Dalmeir, Letchworth, Ystrad, Eccles (Manchester), Bournemouth, West Toronto, Ossett and Horbury, Leigh (Market Buildings), Romford, Welland, Leeds (Alpha St.), Elland (Westgate), Rosyth.

Lyceums have been closed, withdrawn or ceased payment at Chester, West Bromwich, Leigh (The Avenue), Bradford (Bankfoot), Pontefract, Sale, Glasgow (Progressive), Hoyland, Shaw, Newport, Cwm.

The strength at the end of 1925 was 286 Lyceums and 16,945 Lyceumists, a nett gain of 13 Lyceums and 693 Lyceumists, during the year.

18 applications have been received during 1926.

The M.C. has met the Trustees and discussed a number of relative duties and the matters are still under discussion. The £2,000 Effort and Lyceum Home Funds have been transferred from the M.C. to the Trustees. We appeal for stronger support for the £2,000 Effort Fund.

The M.C. note with pleasure the increasing interest in the Education Scheme and express their gratitude to Miss Kitson and the many supporters of the Scheme. We are also pleased to record the growing unity of the Joint Education Scheme of the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. with the ultimate establishment of a National College with every Lyceum and Church as a possible centre of education.

The Management Committee recommend to the Trustees and the Conference the reappointment of Mr. Knott as General Secretary to the B.S.L.U.: the wording of his agreement to be reconsidered before finally being signed.

Despite the bad trade conditions we are happy to report that Lyceums are mainly progressing and the Union has been able to maintain its financial position.

Management Committee.		Attendances.
President ..	.. Mr. G. A. Mack ..	.. 4
Vice-President ..	.. Miss E. Elliott ..	.. 4
Treasurer ..	.. Mr. C. J. Williams ..	.. 4
Secretary ..	.. Mr. G. F. Knott ..	.. 4
Adviser ..	.. Mr. A. Kitson ..	.. *3

Management Committee.		Attendances.
Area Representative. A.	Mr. J. Scott ..	.. †1
.. B.	Mr. R. Hunter ..	.. †0
.. C.	Mr. J. Jackson ..	.. 4
.. D.	Mr. W. Burrows ..	.. *3
.. E.	Mrs. L. Nurse ..	.. 4
.. F.	Mrs. L. Ennion ..	.. 4
.. G.	Miss V. G. Rayner ..	.. 4
.. H.	Mrs. T. Tims ..	.. 4

*Sickness prevented one attendance.

†Business pressure was the cause of absence.

Lyceum Banner Report.

The issues of the *Lyceum Banner* were 5,850 copies per month up to the July issue. A gradual decline took place monthly and the issue fell to 5,600 copies. The decline is probably due to bad trade affecting Lyceum income and possibly the existence of another Spiritualist journal may have had some little effect. More Lyceums obtain copies and the decline is due to a decrease in the orders from some of the Lyceums.

The limitation of the quantity of the adverts. denies us of a possible income, but few Lyceums take advantage of the cheap terms to advertise their special events.

A page advt. of the Education Scheme is provided free to help the Scheme. No charge is made to the General Fund for inserting the affairs of the Union. There is assistance and space given to the Union's activities, so that the loss each year is balanced by the help given to the various Funds and Committees.

The editing of the *Banner* is made pleasant by the various contributors who have been very helpful in retaining the interest of the *Banner* readers. Special thanks are due to Miss Kitson, Mr. Connor, Uncle Bert, Mrs. Pickles, Mr. W. G. Wheeler, Mr. J. Rutherford, the Guild Imp., Mr. W. Carlos, Mr. J. Baylis, and the host of Lyceum Secretaries who forward the reports and make the paper of local interest.

Most of the Lyceum Reports end by sending fraternal greetings to other Lyceums. To save repeating a sentiment which is expressed by all it has been necessary to delete these good wishes to save repetition. We hope the omission of the greetings will be understood.

The Lyceum Guild has been ably conducted through another year by Miss M. E. Kitson, B.A. The "Kiddies" portion has been added and an interesting story was inserted.

The Guild was not financially able to print "Baby Plants," by Miss M. E. Lawton, in booklet form, but the M.C. have undertaken the publication, which is now on sale. The Guild Leader who is also the Education Secretary, has incorporated the booklet in the Education stock and copies can be obtained from Miss Kitson or the General Secretary.

We have had no adverse criticism, and a few favourable comments have been received. It is a pleasure to produce the *Banner* as a direct and tangible connection between every Lyceum in the Union and other people abroad and overseas who are interested in the Lyceum Movement.

Uncle Bert has awakened a real interest for the children with his letters and puzzles.

Every opportunity has been given to assist the Education Scheme.

Finally, we thank all our readers and hope to retain their interest in the official organ of our Union.

GEO. F. KNOTT, Editor.

Education Report to Conference.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE, 1925-1926.

Chairman: Miss A. Hesp (Leeds).
 Hon. Secretary: Miss M. E. Kitson (Batley).
 Assist. Secretary: Mr. A. T. Connor (London).
 Members: Miss M. E. Lawton (Barrow).
 Mr. R. Latham (Burnley).
 Mr. E. A. Keeling (Liverpool).
 Mr. G. A. Mack (Runcorn).
 Mr. G. F. Knott (Rochdale).

Sub-
Committee.

MEETINGS OF COMMITTEE.

The Committee has held its two half-yearly meetings (Sept., 1925, and April, 1926) and any decisions affecting the carrying on of the work of the Education Scheme have been made known to Lyceums either by circulars or by announcements in the LYCEUM BANNER.

REPORTS OF WORK DONE.

Quarterly reports and financial statements have been sent to the M.C.; and the usual monthly reports of progress, instructions and announcements, and articles to help students and tutors have appeared in the LYCEUM BANNER.

ARTICLES IN THE LYCEUM BANNER.

By the kind permission of our genial Editor, monthly articles have been given, for propaganda purposes, and to help all who were working for the Scheme. A special feature has been the helpful series of ORAL GRADE OBJECT LESSONS, written by Mr. A. T. Connor for use in the Oral Grade Groups and to give help and suggestions to their Tutors.

OBJECT LESSONS BOOKLET.

These Lessons are now all but completed, and the Committee consider that the fullest use of them can only be made by their collection and publication in booklet form. Whilst realising that publication expenses have been very heavy in recent months, the Committee feel that the Object Lessons should be issued in time for the beginning of next winter session, and hope for Conference approval of their intention.

EDUCATION SALES DURING 1925.

Besides the usual sales of handbooks and pamphlets for the use of candidates and tutors, we are pleased to report that quite a good number of the Handbooks 1, 3, 4 and 5 have been sold to Churches and Lyceums for their bookstalls. It was considered that these booklets were very suitable for the general reader and the enquiring investigator, so circulars to this effect were sent out, and brought in a pleasing series of orders. The Psychic Bookshop, Westminster, London, got a supply, and sent several repeat orders.

The figures of the actual sales, and the stock in hand, as on 31st December, 1925, are given below:—

1925. Booklets.	Actual Sales.			Stock on 31st Dec.
	M. E. Kitson.	G. F. Knott.	Total Sales.	
Summaries and Glossaries	323	154	477	4265
Oral Grade Primers	398	216	614	2939
Handbook No. 1	1244	214	1458	3766
„ „ 2	441	55	496	2579
„ „ 3	467	151	618	2562
„ „ 4 (Advent)	625	74	699	3031
„ „ 5 (Reasoning)	548	68	616	4364
„ „ 6 (Baby Plants)	59	18	77	1606

During 1925 there were sold 5,055 booklets, as compared with 2,873 the previous year; nearly double the output, in spite of the sales of Primer and No. 2 having gone down. This is accounted for by the fact that these two booklets are for students only, and so were not included in the list on the circular to bookstall holders.

PROPAGANDA WORK.

In addition to the usual appeals to Lyceum Committees, Secretaries, Conductors and Tutors to urge their members to take up the studies for the Education Scheme, an *intensive propaganda campaign* was also held.

A record card for each candidate who had entered the Scheme at all since 1920, and passed one or more exams., was compiled,

showing at a glance all particulars *re* Grades, years and results.

These record cards were grouped according to Lyceums, and then used to prepare a special appeal letter to all candidates, urging them to go on with the work until Grade V, had been passed. These appeals were sent to the individuals through their Lyceum Secretaries. This year's entries have proved the effort to have been worth while; for, though economic conditions were dreadful and money for books and fees very scarce, the total entries were *larger* than ever before: in spite of pessimistic prophecies that they would be much less.

THE EXAMINATIONS.

The work connected with the examinations has been carried on as usual. Full particulars of numbers of entrants, sitters and successes per D.C.; of examiners; of marking scheme, and of successful candidates per Lyceum appear in the official booklet of Results, Lists and Summaries, price one shilling.

This year, in response to several criticisms by Examiners that some of the questions in the Lower Grades were too difficult for the younger students, a new system of marking was tried. Although approved in many quarters, the balance of opinion seems to be against any alteration at present, so the old system will be resumed for next year's examinations.

THE JOINT EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

During the year the Joint Committee met once and devoted a full day to considering the appended (1) Advanced Education Scheme, (2) Regulations, and (3) suggested Constitution for a proposed National Spiritualist College, which have been approved by this Committee and are recommended to Conference for adoption.

IN CONCLUSION.

The Committee tenders its sincere and grateful thanks to its small army of willing and voluntary workers who have combined to make the Scheme a success. This army consists of candidates, tutors, conductors, secretaries and committees, of M.C. officers and members, of generous donors to the funds, of writers of articles, and of examiners, who annually devote hours to the arduous job of marking the papers.

Each individual's help is needed and counts towards the success of the work.

It is hoped that soon every Lyceum will realise the value of education and progress and be represented in the list of candidates for—to adapt a wise old motto—

“THE FOUNDATION OF EVERY MOVEMENT IS THE EDUCATION OF ITS YOUTH.”

M. E. KITSON, Honorary Secretary.
 A. HESP, Chairman.

S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. Joint Education Committee.

Minutes of meeting held at Broadway Chambers, 162, London Road, Manchester, on Saturday, 20th February, 1926, at 10-30 a.m.

Present:—Messrs. W. G. Gush (Chairman), G. F. Berry, T. Oliver and E. W. Oaten, S.N.U.; and Miss M. E. Kitson, B.A., and Mr. A. T. Connor (Hon. Sec.), B.S.L.U.

The Minutes of previous meeting having been read and considered, the Minutes of the S.N.U. Section were read and considered.

The suggestions *re* a slip in No. 1 Handbook dealing with Spiritualism in Europe before 1848 were adopted, and Messrs. Berry and Oaten were appointed to arrange with Mr. Sanders (Paris) for the preparation of a history of the pre-1848 period, which could be published as a Pamphlet by the Joint Committee.

The Grade Syllabuses were re-examined and adopted, and it was decided to allow students to procure their own copies of the Text-books set, and to fix the Examination Fees at—Intermediate Grade, 5/-; Subsidiary Grade, 5/-; and Final Grade, 10/-.

The Joint Committee unanimously endorsed the attitude of the S.N.U. Section expressed in the last paragraph of its Minutes: “The series of Text-books outlined by the S.N.U. Publication Committee was considered and generally approved. The Education Committee, however, express the opinion that in view of the work undertaken in preparing students for public

propaganda, it is advisable that before such Text-books are published they should be submitted for the approval of the Education Committee." It was generally agreed that, should any of these publications prove suitable, they could be considered for adoption as Text-books in the Advanced Education Scheme.

Mr. Connor submitted a suggested Constitution for a National Spiritualist College; Regulations to govern the S.N.U. (Graduate) Section of the Education Scheme, and an Introduction to the Advanced Scheme Syllabus. These were all carefully and exhaustively considered, and, with several necessary alterations, were adopted, on proposition by Mr. Oaten, seconded by Mr. Oliver.

During the consideration, it was decided to approach the S.N.U. Publication Committee with a suggestion that they should publish an enlarged edition of Mr. Berry's *Hints to Students of Spiritualism*, and consider the issue of Text-books suitable for the Entrance Examination.

Mr. Connor was requested to prepare a list of the Errata in *Psychic Philosophy*, for issue to Intermediate and other students.

A Lesson Plan of Class or Individual work for the Intermediate Grade was submitted and approved.

The first examination was fixed for March, 1927, entries to be sent in to the S.N.U. Education Secretary not later than 15th January, 1927.

The question of College Trustees, and their powers and duties, was discussed, and it was decided to recommend that the S.N.U. should be asked to take over the Trust, and that a Trust Deed defining the powers, duties, etc., of the Trustees should be drawn up.

Mr. Oaten promised to prepare a Draft Trust Deed.

It was decided to ask both Conferences to agree that the College Constitution, if adopted, should be allowed to stand as adopted for at least five years.

The Secretary was instructed to forward a full report to *The National Spiritualist* and *The Lyceum Banner*, and a summary to *The Two Worlds*.

A. T. CONNOR, Hon. Secretary.
W. G. GUSH, D.N.U., Chairman.

The National Spiritualist College.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. NAME.

The name of this College shall be "THE NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST COLLEGE."

ARTICLE 2. BASIS.

The National Spiritualist College shall, under the auspices of the Spiritualists' National Union, Ltd., and the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union, co-ordinate and control all the educational work of the Organised Spiritualist Movement; and may receive into affiliation, or work in co-operation with, any other educational Spiritualist Body.

ARTICLE 3. OBJECTS.

The object of the College shall be to promote the welfare of the educational work of Organised Spiritualism by:—

(a) Working in conjunction and co-operation with (and eventually absorbing or replacing) the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. Education Committees.

(b) Laying down Courses of Study in the Religion, History, Science and Philosophy of Spiritualism.

(c) Drawing up Syllabuses from time to time, and prescribing and/or publishing Text-books.

(d) Holding Periodical Examinations, and granting Certificates and/or Diplomas to successful students.

(e) Establishing DISTRICT CENTRES and LOCAL BRANCHES (or SCHOOLS).

(f) Any other educational activities authorised by a two-thirds majority vote of those present and voting at the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. Conferences held in the same year.

ARTICLE 4. MANAGEMENT.

(a) The COLLEGE BOARD shall consist of the two Education Committees as appointed respectively by the Annual Conferences of the above Unions

(b) The GOVERNING BOARD shall consist of six members, three appointed by the S.N.U. and three appointed by the B.S.L.U., from and through the members of their respective Education Committees.

(c) The College Board, in its administration of the work of the College, shall be free from interference and dictation by either Union; but shall have no power to initiate educational policy, unless with the previously obtained consent of the Annual Conferences (meeting in the Whitsuntide and July of the same year).

ARTICLE 5. MEMBERSHIP.

(a) Membership of the College shall be open to all Affiliated Churches and Lyceums, which have at least TEN members taking the Examination Course in one or both of the National Education Schemes conducted by or through the College; and to District Councils (or District Groups) and Lyceum District Councils FIFTY PER CENT. of whose affiliated bodies are eligible for membership of the College.

(b) Churches and Lyceums in membership may call themselves "The.....Branch of the National Spiritualist College."

District Councils (or Groups) in membership may call themselves "The.....District Centre of the National Spiritualist College."

Where there are two or more Councils or Groups in a District, these shall be registered (and numbered) in strict order of priority of affiliation with the College. *E.g.*, "The Leeds (No. 1) District Centre . . ." "The Leeds (No.2) District Centre . . ." etc.

ALWAYS PROVIDED that members of every Church or Lyceum affiliated with its National Body shall be entitled to enter for the Annual Examinations, on payment of the stipulated Examination Fees, whether the said Church or Lyceum is a member of the College or not; and such students shall be awarded the various College Degrees, if they attain the necessary educational standard and make the necessary application to the Secretary of the College.

This provision applies also to Subscribing Members of the Spiritualists' National Union, Ltd.

ARTICLE 6. BUSINESS.

(a) For administrative and executive purposes, the COLLEGE Board shall divide itself into its (S.N.U. and B.S.L.U.) constituent parts, each of which, as an Education Committee, shall administer that section of the Joint Education Scheme sponsored by the union by which the Committee was appointed; that is to say, the B.S.L.U. Committee shall administer the ASSOCIATE Section (Oral Grade to Grade V.) and the S.N.U. Committee shall administer the GRADUATE Section (Intermediate to Final Grade).

(b) The several Education Committees shall meet at such times and places as they may deem necessary for the proper transaction of their administrative and executive business; and a report of the work done shall be forwarded as soon as possible to the College Secretary. These reports, together with any suggestions that may be received from either Union, or from any Affiliated Body, shall be fully considered by the Governing Board, and the consequent discussion, decision and/or recommendation recorded in full in the Minutes of the meeting at which the discussion takes place.

(c) The administrative work of the College (as such) shall be deputed to the GOVERNING Board, who shall also issue the DIPLOMAS of the Associate and Graduate Degrees, and any others that the College may decide to award. The Governing Board shall meet at such times and places as may be arranged, to consider and transact the business of the College; and shall have power to make all necessary rules and regulations for the conduct of the business when such are not provided for in the College Constitution.

(d) The Governing Board shall function as the Joint Education Committee of the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U., and shall (in consultation and agreement with the two Education Committees) have power to publish, or to arrange with other bodies for the publication of such Text-books as may be deemed necessary for the success of the educational work of the College. Also, with the consent of the two said Committees, it may issue a combined "National Spiritualist College Results List," the cost thereof to be apportioned between the two Unions as may be previously agreed.

(e) The Governing Board shall not, under any circumstances, interfere with the Departmental work of the Education Committees, which (while they continue to exist and function) are as such responsible each to its own Annual Conference and to that alone. (See Article 3 (a).)

ARTICLE 7. OFFICERS.

(a) Each Education Committee shall elect or appoint such Officers as it may deem necessary or expedient.

(b) At its first meeting after the Annual Conferences in each year, the Governing Board shall elect its Officers, who shall hold office (if remaining members of the Board) until the corresponding meeting in the following year. Vacancies occurring through retirement or any other cause shall be filled as decided by the COLLEGE Board.

The Officers shall be a Chairman and a Secretary (elected annually from and by the members of the GOVERNING Board) and a Trustee-Treasurer, as laid down in Article 9. These shall be (also) the Officers of the National Spiritualist College.

(c) The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Board at which he is present, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him. In the event of his absence, a chairman shall be appointed from among the members present.

(d) The Secretary shall receive and attend to all correspondence, take and record the Minutes of all meetings of the Board, and perform such other duties as the Board may assign to him.

He shall receive all moneys in the name of the College, pay such small accounts as he may arrange for with the Treasurer, to whom he shall remit the balance monthly or quarterly (as may be arranged), less necessary and authorised expenses and an agreed sum for emergency and current expenditure.

(e) All additional duties assigned to the Chairman and/or Secretary shall be recorded in full detail in the Minutes of the meeting at which the additional duties are assigned.

(f) The College Treasurer (*see* Article 9) shall receive all College moneys, less actual authorised expenses, as laid down in Section (d), from the Secretary, pay all bills over £..... for goods or work authorised by the College Board, and deposit the surplus in such bank as may be selected by the College Trustees. He shall prepare an Annual Financial Statement, which (together with the Auditors' Report, and a report of the work of the College) shall be forwarded by the College Secretary to the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. General Secretaries, for publication in the Official Spiritualist Press and presentation to their respective Annual Conferences.

The Treasurer, as such, need not be a member of the Governing Board.

ARTICLE 8. FINANCE.

The Finances of the College shall be derived from:—

(a) Membership subscriptions from Churches and Lyceums, as fixed from time to time by the College Board.

(b) Contributions, donations, bequests and/or endowments, etc.

(c) Publication of Text-books (*see* Article 6, Section (d)).

(d) Any other method approved by a two-thirds majority vote of those present and voting at the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. Conferences held in the same year.

ARTICLE 9. TRUSTEES.

(a) There shall be three Trustees: one a Trustee (on the panel) of the S.N.U.; one a Trustee of the B.S.L.U. (who is not on the S.N.U. panel); and one who is a Trustee of both Unions (that is, who is on the panel of the S.N.U. and also one of the Six Trustees elected by the B.S.L.U.). This last Trustee shall act as Treasurer to the College, under the conditions laid down in Article 7, Sections (d) and (f).

The remaining two Trustees shall act as Auditors.

(b) The duties, powers and liabilities of the COLLEGE Trustees, and the conditions governing their appointment, services and dismissal, shall be as laid down in the College Trust Deed and in the College Constitution—and which must not contravene the provisions of the Articles of Association of the Spiritualists' National Union, Limited.

ARTICLE 10. AUDITORS.

The two Trustees who represent respectively the S.N.U. and the B.S.L.U. shall audit the accounts and books of the College, and shall present a written report to the General Secretaries of the two Unions, which (together with the Financial Statement

and the College Report) shall be published in the LYCEUM BANNER for May and the *National Spiritualist* for June, and submitted for publication in other organs of the general Spiritualist Press.

ARTICLE 11. AUXILIARY BODIES.

(a) DISTRICT CENTRES may submit Schemes for Educational work (such as Classes, Lectures, Study Courses, etc.) in connection with the College; and these, if and when approved by the Governing Board, shall be administered by the District Centre concerned.

(b) LOCAL BRANCHES may arrange with other Branches in the same locality for Combined Classes, or for Courses of Lectures (or Lessons) on the College curriculum. All such arrangements must be submitted to the District Centre concerned (or, in cases of dispute, to the Governing Board) for approval, before being put into operation.

(c) District Centres and Local Branches shall render to the College Secretary quarterly Reports of the work done or being done.

ARTICLE 12. REPRESENTATION AT THE CONFERENCES.

(a) At the S.N.U. Conference, the College shall be represented by a B.S.L.U. member (or Officer) of the Governing Board.

(b) At the B.S.L.U. Conference, the College shall be represented by a S.N.U. member (or Officer) of the Governing Board.

ARTICLE 13. COLLEGE DIPLOMA.

(a) Each Education Committee shall issue CERTIFICATES to its successful students, according to the Scale laid down in the Schemes which they respectively administer. But these Certificates shall be independent of the DIPLOMAS issued by the COLLEGE, for which application must in all cases be made to the College Secretary.

(b) The DIPLOMAS shall be for the SPIRITUALIST DEGREES of:—
ASSOCIATE of the National Spiritualist College (A.N.S.C.), for students who have passed Grade V. with 70 per cent. marks.

GRADUATE of the National Spiritualist College (G.N.S.C.), for students who have passed the Final Grade with 75 per cent. marks.

DIPLOMIST of the National Spiritualist College (D.N.S.C.), for all Graduates who have (also) obtained the S.N.U. Exponents' Committee's Diploma as a CERTIFIED EXPONENT.

(c) NONE of the above Degrees are HONORARY. But the Degree of FELLOW of the National Spiritualist College (F.N.S.C.) may be conferred on Spiritualists who have done conspicuous national service for the Educational work of the College or of the Organised Movement—by the Annual Conferences, on the recommendation of the COLLEGE BOARD. The names of those recommended, with the reasons for recommending them, shall be included (and published) in the College Annual Report.

Lyceum Manual Revision Report.

There has been one meeting since last Conference, but it stretched over two days, and a reference to the Minutes published in the March BANNER will show that a large and important amount of work was done. The size of the Committee, and the expense of travelling, demanded that the normal two or three hours' meeting on a Saturday should be replaced by a week-end of work. The experiment was a success, and is being repeated next November.

At our meeting we thoroughly examined and discussed the Silver Chain Recitations, and as a result are recommending that several of them shall be deleted, or amended (*see* March BANNER, page 33), in the Revised Manual. The various members of the Committee are now studying the Golden Chain Recitations, which will be examined at our meeting in November next.

The Committee regrets to learn that a new edition of *Helps to the Study of the Lyceum Manual* is being prepared without reference to the Revision work or how it may be affected, and suggests that before publication the MS. of this new edition should be circulated to the officers of the Revision Committee, with an invitation to submit their opinions and suggestions. A large edition that remained unsold might easily be used in 1932 as a lever against a *Revised Manual*.

ERNEST A. KEELING, Chairman.
A. T. CONNOR, Hon. Sec.

£2,000 Effort.

Dear Lyceumists,

Once again we come to our annual stocktaking in readiness for Conference. Below you will find a detailed report of all Lyceums and individuals who have so far donated to the £2,000 effort. I have put the report into districts in order that Lyceums might easier find out if their Lyceum is donating and if not, why not? Please examine the list carefully, and if any Lyceum finds I have made mistakes (which I might easily do) please let me know and I will rectify them if I can. This list is compiled up to and including April 14th, 1926. All donations arriving after this time will be given in an interim report to Conference. In conclusion I would like to tender my sincere thanks to all Lyceumists and Lyceums who have helped so far, with an earnest hope that those who have not will not be long before they do so.

Yours fraternally,

W. BURROWS, Hon. Sec.,

£2,000 Effort.

	£	s.	d.
Bolton District:			
Bolton, Bradford Street, £10; Bury, King Street			
£10 4s.	20	4	0
Birmingham District:			
Handsworth, 10s. 6d.	0	10	6
Bradford District:			
Bradford D.C., £9; Keighley, £4 10s.	13	10	0
Coventry District:			
Bull Street, £1 18s.	1	18	0
Halifax and Huddersfield District:			
Halifax, Alma Street, £11 17s. 6d.; Huddersfield,			
Ramsden Street, £3; Quarmy, 10s.; Sowerby			
Bridge, £10	25	7	6
Leeds District:			
Batley Carr, £5 5s.; Castleford, 8s.; Dewsbury,			
£10; Hull, Holborn Hall, £2 13s. 6½d.; Leeds,			
Armley, £13; Leeds Psycho, £10; Leeds, Rox-			
burgh Road, 12s.; Heckmondwike, 6s.; Sth			
Emsall, 2s. 6d.; Wakefield, 5s.; Horsforth, 10s.;			
Cleckheaton, £2 14s.	45	6	0½
Liverpool District:			
Liverpool, Daulby Hall, £10; Runcorn, £12 4s. 6d.			
Southport, £2 10s.; Wigan, £10	34	14	6
London District:			
Nth. London, 10s. 6d.; Kingston, 8s. 6d.; Peck-			
ham, 10s. 6d.; Hackney, 3s.; Southend, £1 1s.			
London D.C., £1 10s.	4	3	6
Manchester:			
Moston, £3 18s. 6d.; Sth Manchester, £5 19s.;			
Pendleton, £3; Moss Lane, 15s. 6d.	13	13	0
North East Cheshire District:			
Hyde, £1 10s. 6d.; Macclesfield, £12; Stockport			
Central, £10;	23	10	6
North East Lancs. District:			
Accrington, Pearl Street, £1 12s. 6d.; Barrow,			
Dalkeith Street, £1; Barnoldswick, 5s. 3d.; Black-			
pool, £10; Burnley, North Street, £10;			
Colne, 5s.; Darwen, £10; Lancaster, £10;			
Nelson, 15s.	43	17	9
Nottingham District:			
Leicester, Rupert Street, 18s.; Mansfield, 7s.;			
Nottingham, Hawarden Terrace, 5s.; Mechanics			
Hall, £1 18s.; Beaconsfield Street, 17s. 6d.;			
Gladstone Hall, 19s.; Sutton in Ashfield, 10s.;			
Nottingham D.C., £5; Northampton, 5s.	10	19	6
Scottish District:			Nil.
Sheffield District:			
Chesterfield, 10s.; Rotherham, £1; Attercliffe,			
12s.; Heeley, £2; Hillsborough, 3s.	4	5	0
Southern Counties District:			
Brighton, Old Steine Hall, £3 10s. 4d.; Reading,			
10s.; Southampton, Cavendish Grove, 5s.	4	5	4
Sth. East Lancs. District:			
Heywood, £1 5s.	1	5	0
Sth. Wales District:			Nil;
Teeside District:			Nil;
Tyneside District:			
Gateshead, Eden Street, £10; Hirst, 3s. 3d.; New-			

castle, Heaton and Byker, £10; Rutherford Street,
£2 5s.; Tyneside D.C., £11 9s. 8d. 33 17 8

Lyceums not in Districts:

Lincoln, 5s.; Scunthorpe, 5s. 6d. Tunstall, 7s. 9d. ;
Ashington, £1; Glossop, 13s.; Wisbech, 7s. 6d. ;
Hulham House, £2 4s.; Letchworth, 6s.

Overseas Lyceums:

Winnipeg 10 0 0
Wellington, N.Z. 5 5 6

Management Committee..

U.D.C. 10 0 0
. 11 6 0

Personal:

Mr. T. F. Smedley 50 0 0
Sir A. C. Doyle 10 0 0
Mrs. Pickles 12 5 0
Mr. Sutcliffe 5 0 0
Miss Timms 0 10 0
Miss E. Midgley 0 5 0
Miss Stair 1 0 0
Mrs. Dean (Bury) 0 2 0
Mrs. and Mrs. Wigley 0 2 0
Miss Elliott 1 17 6
Mrs. Burrows 1 5 0
Mrs. Nurse 1 5 0
Miss Raynor 1 7 0
Mr. J. K. Jones 0 12 6
Mr. H. C. Guy 0 10 0
Mr. Mack 1 5 0
Mr. Jackson 0 12 6

United Lyceum District Council.**ANNUAL REPORT TO CONFERENCE.**

Since last Conference our two meetings have been held in London (October, 1925) and Glasgow (March, 1926), and our series of visits to outlying districts will end at Barrow in October next. The visits, though making heavy financial calls on resources not by any means too robust, have nevertheless been well worth while, if only for the fact that they have demonstrated to the districts visited that the Lyceum Union is much more than a name, and given them their first hand information as to how other districts think and work.

The discussion of the Internal Education Scheme has been brought to an end, and our Secretary is collating all the records for submission to our next meeting. The next Discussion series will be on National Organisation and the application of the College Scheme in accordance with the requirements and present resources of our national Movement. In London, last October, this series was initiated with a Presidential Address on the application of the Local Branches and District Centre clauses. The establishment of the College will give rise to many new problems for consideration, and it is our hope that at our meetings the United Districts will discover a satisfactory national solution to them all. At any rate, the discussions should lead to a clearer understanding on all sides.

We regret that during the year we have lost two District Councils from membership. The economic and financial position of the last two or three years has been a heavy handicap to the work of many of our Councils, and it is hoped that when employment becomes more plentiful and regular—and when our meetings are once more held in the central districts—our friends will be able to re-join. Secessions are especially deplorable in that the value of U.D.C. decisions depends not merely on the status and calibre of the delegates sent up (which has always been high), but also on the number of Councils in membership and taking active part in the suggestions and discussions.

J. SHUTTLEWORTH, Secretary.
A. T. CONNOR, President.

INTERIM REPORTS.

The Secretary's Interim Report and any other supplementary reports will be given verbally and added to the reports already outlined in the Agenda.

RESULT OF AREA ELECTIONS.

Area.	Candidate.	Votes.
A.	Miss H. Cleland (Glasgow)	Unopposed.
B.	Mr. J. Slimin (Sunderland)	Unopposed.
C.	Mr. J. F. Smith (Sheffield)	214
	Mrs. S. A. Hogg (Hull)	156
	Mr. I. Barraclough (Leeds)	86
D.	Mr. W. Burrows (Halifax)	Unopposed.
E.	Mrs. L. Nurse (Blackpool)	404
	Mr. J. Hibbert (Bolton)	202
F.	Mr. J. E. Hart (Manchester)	417
	Mr. G. A. Mack (Runcorn)	135
	Mrs. A. S. Raymond (Liverpool)	53
	Mr. W. E. Bentley (Manchester)	43
G.	Miss V. G. Rayner (Nottingham)	Unopposed.
H.	Mrs. T. Tims (Southend)	226
	Mr. H. C. Guy (Portsmouth)	152

(Signed) GEO. A. MACK, President.
G. F. KNOTT, Gen. Secretary.

THE S.N.U. E.C. REPORT.

The S.N.U. has an increase of 956 in Church membership, with a total of 16,414 members. There is a nett gain of 15 Churches and a total membership of 411. There are 355 Associate members. These figures relate to 1925.

The *National Spiritualist* has been trying to serve the districts with supplements, but it has not been a financial success and some change is being made.

The Diary was not published, as the orders did not warrant a success.

The Parliamentary Committee has pursued its efforts, but the machinery of parliamentary procedure hinders the Committee at every turn.

The Pooling Scheme is completed and now awaits the investments of the Churches.

Most of the work of the E.C. has dealt with internal organisation, but forward steps have been taken in Education.

The Lyceum representatives have been offered and taken advantage of the opportunity to speak at the various propaganda meetings.

There is a proposed reduction in the numbers of members forming the E.C. Each District, it is proposed, will only have one representative, as also will the B.S.L.U. Three members are to be elected from the members attending the A.G.M., at which meeting this proposal will be submitted for ratification.

E. ELLIOTT } B.S.L.U.
G. F. KNOTT } Representatives.

OVERSEAS REPORT.

The interest in Lyceums overseas has been increased during the last year. Canada has Lyceums in Calgary, Hamilton, Winnipeg, Toronto, Vancouver, Edmonton, Toronto and Welland. We are informed that there is now a law in Canada compelling every Church to have a Sunday School.

Australia has Lyceums in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. New Zealand has Lyceums in Wellington, Auckland, Dunedin, but the one in Christchurch has closed down. There is talk of a re-opening. The establishment in law of the Spiritualist Churches has caused some division among the workers in New Zealand and two groups have resulted. This has affected the Lyceums in that colony, especially in Wellington.

Johannesburg remains the brightest spot in South Africa and their good work continues.

All the above Lyceums have been in direct touch with the B.S.L.U. during 1925. There are others who have written and some have been supplied with *Manuals*. The California State Association in U.S.A. are using the *Lyceum Manual* and the Education booklets in the courts to prove that Spiritualism is a religion.

An interesting paper from the pen of Mr. Alfred Kitson was read by our President to the I.S.F. Congress and has evoked a number of interesting enquiries from some of the European countries. Lyceum booklets, etc., have been donated to each country represented at the Congress.

INTER-RELATIONS.

The Inter-relations Committee has met, but their deliberations are not yet completed.

Fusion of the two Unions has been discussed and the following resolution was passed:—"That recognising a difference of function between the two Unions, this joint committee declares that any attempt to force fusion of the two bodies would produce disruptive influences, and so hinder the natural growth towards amalgamation, and agrees that a policy of Inter-relations is the best course to pursue."

The Committee are discussing the best means of carrying the foregoing resolution into effect. As their deliberations are not yet completed, any addition to the report is left to the representatives of the B.S.L.U. to supplement during the Conference.

I thank Mr. G. F. Berry, the Inter-relations Committee Secretary, for sending the above particulars.

G. F. KNOTT, B.S.L.U. Sec.

THE INTERNATIONAL SPIRITUALISTS' FEDERATION.

The report of the I.S.F. Congress was reported in the November, 1925, issue of the *Lyceum Banner*. Incorporated therein were also the chief items of the work of the Grand Committee, which dealt chiefly with the work of the Congress. The payment of fees from the B.S.L.U. has been referred to the Inter-relations Committee for the discussion of a joint payment for affiliation, by the S.N.U. and the B.S.L.U.

Change of Secretaries, etc.

Bradford, Whetley Lane.—Mr. W. Simpson, 29, Young Street, Gillington, Bradford.

Nuneaton.—Miss G. Fellows, 72, Alexandra Street, Nuneaton, Notts.

London, Brixton.—Miss M. F. Boddington, 32, Gresham Road, Brixton, S.W.9.

London, Croydon.—"The New Gallery," Katherine Street, Croydon.

Blackpool.—Mrs. L. Calvert, 41, London Road, Blackpool.

Burnley, Hammerton St.—Mr. H. Brown, 3, Pleasant Court, Burnley.

Preston, Clarke's Yard.—Mrs. Cook, 35, Sycamore Road, Ribbleson, Preston.

Leicester, Liberty Progressive.—3, Southampton St., 3 p.m.

Glasgow, Broomloan Road.—Mr. J. Logan, 33, Chancellor St., Partick, Glasgow.

Portsmouth, Victoria Rd.—Miss L. Paget, 33, Ringwood Rd., Southsea, Portsmouth.

Bacup.—Mr. B. Lord, 10, Oak Street, Bacup, Lancs.

Oldham, Elliott Street.—Mr. J. Barratt, 43, Dunkerley St., Oldham.

Barry, Buttrills Road.—Mr. S. G. Havard, 81, Morel Street, Barry Dock, S. Wales.

We hear of a rumour that the Holborn Hall Lyceum, Hull, has closed down. This statement is certainly not true, as we are informed by the Secretary of the Lyceum and we also know by attendance. There is only one Session at present, and that is held at 10-30 a.m. on Sundays.

One Lyceum has two good members who have offered to pay the cost of additional BANNERS, so that every home represented in the Lyceum can be given a copy.

Colonial Lyceums are invited to send a report of their progress, which will be embodied in a special Overseas Report to the Annual Conference on May 23rd.

We are glad to receive a New Zealand letter from Mr. Miles, of Christchurch. He states that the new Charter legalising the Spiritualist Churches is causing some friction. If a Church is affiliated with the Union, their property belongs to the Union. This has caused a number of influential Churches to cease membership and has caused a split in the forces at Wellington. They agree as Spiritualists, but divide on policy.

Annual Roll of Lyceums in membership with the B.S.L.U., December 31st, 1925.

No.	Name.	1924.	1925.				
BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT.							
1.	Handsworth	50	77	69.	Leeds, Alpha Street	—	60
2.	Walsall	130	144	70.	Ossett and Horbury	—	30
3.	Wolverhampton, Princess Street	83	49	LIVERPOOL DISTRICT.			
4.	Stirchley	39	35	71.	Birkenhead	83	76
5.	West Bromwich	16	—	72.	Chester	—	48
BOLTON DISTRICT.							
6.	Bolton, Bradford Street	86	93	73.	Crewe, Mill Street	50	50
7.	Bolton, Deane Road	47	47	74.	Liverpool, Daulby Hall	73	84
8.	Bolton, Henry Street	85	85	75.	Liverpool, Boaler Street	49	43
9.	Bury, King Street	44	40	76.	Runcorn	69	68
10.	Daisy Hill	37	43	77.	Southport	40	42
11.	Horwich	75	80	78.	Warrington	65	69
12.	Radcliffe	40	47	79.	Wigan	50	49
13.	Bury, Freetown	34	33	LONDON DISTRICT.			
14.	Leigh, Market Buildings	—	25	80.	Battersea	40	44
BRADFORD DISTRICT.							
15.	Bradford, Poynton Street	41	29	81.	Clapham	34	30
16.	Bradford, Whetley Lane	50	47	82.	Fulham	42	39
17.	Bradford, Manchester Road	33	29	83.	North London	82	75
18.	Bradford, Otley Road	34	24	84.	Kingston	23	25
19.	Bradford, Harker Street	—	40	85.	Little Ilford	33	49
20.	Keighley	71	97	86.	Manor Park	48	49
21.	Shipley	30	26	87.	Peckham	61	44
22.	Saltaire	—	38	88.	Plaistow	50	49
23.	Windhill	58	35	89.	Tottenham	77	65
24.	Laisterdyke	45	98	90.	Woolwich and Plumstead	50	50
25.	Skipton	28	28	91.	Wimbledon	12	10
26.	Idle	46	47	92.	Hounslow	27	29
COVENTRY DISTRICT.							
27.	Coventry, Bull Street	50	45	93.	Walthamstow	48	78
28.	Coventry, Foleshill	48	46	94.	Lewisham	50	37
29.	Coventry, Broadgate	48	48	95.	Hampton Hill	23	28
30.	Coventry, Lockhurst Lane	50	48	96.	Hackney	79	45
31.	Nuneaton	47	80	97.	Croydon	24	47
HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.							
32.	Brighouse, Commercial Street	98	98	98.	Forest Hill	30	40
33.	Brighouse, Martin Street	20	35	99.	Bowes Park	20	43
34.	Elland	35	35	100.	Southend and Westcliff	27	60
35.	Halifax, Alma Street	73	57	101.	Surbiton	—	22
36.	Halifax, Raven Street	65	67	102.	Eltham	34	34
37.	Hebden Bridge	49	45	103.	Letchworth	—	12
38.	Huddersfield, Ramsden Street	42	35	104.	Romford	—	15
39.	Huddersfield, St. Peter Street	79	50	MANCHESTER DISTRICT.			
40.	Marsden	22	22	105.	Hollinwood	50	74
41.	Quarmby	38	40	106.	Manchester, Maskell Street	66	73
42.	Slaithwaite	60	70	107.	Cheetham Hill	49	45
43.	Sowerby Bridge	63	75	108.	Collyhurst	71	44
44.	West Vale	48	47	109.	Mosten	73	99
45.	Elland, Westgate	—	30	110.	Newton Heath	124	123
LEEDS DISTRICT.							
46.	Batley Carr	60	50	111.	Hr. Openshaw	93	96
47.	Cleckheaton	50	50	112.	Pendleton	107	149
48.	Dewsbury	137	149	113.	Princess Hall	78	68
49.	Leeds, Armley	100	115	114.	Salford	71	58
50.	Leeds, Psycho	99	99	115.	Sale	48	—
51.	Leeds, Easy Road	93	84	116.	Moss Side	99	77
52.	Littletown	50	48	117.	New Manchester	34	50
53.	Normanton	32	36	118.	Longsight	102	99
54.	Wakefield	77	70	119.	Lower Broughton	49	49
55.	York	42	—	120.	Saddleworth	39	28
56.	Heckmondwike	26	25	121.	Stretford	20	40
57.	Hull, Dairycoates	93	98	122.	Openshaw	35	45
58.	Hull, Holborn Hall	78	74	123.	Swinton	—	40
59.	Moorthorpe	50	50	124.	Eccles	—	40
60.	Castleford	46	46	NORTH-EAST CHESHIRE DISTRICT.			
61.	Morley, Queen Street	30	30	125.	Heaton Norris	50	50
62.	Morley, Cross Church Street	34	47	126.	Hyde	59	76
63.	Pontefract	23	—	127.	Macclesfield	49	46
64.	Scarborough	47	33	128.	Stockport, Central	93	83
65.	Birstall	46	55	129.	Stockport, Lower Hillgate	36	48
66.	Leeds, Horsforth	50	50	130.	Ashton under Lyne	61	77
67.	Leeds, North	32	32	131.	Hadfield	27	31
68.	Harrogate	—	40	132.	Denton	41	41
				133.	Dukinfield	29	—
				134.	Leek	—	44
				NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.			
				135.	Accrington, Pearl Street	58	35
				136.	Blackburn, St. Peter Street	84	105
				137.	Blackpool	79	78
				138.	Brierfield	50	48
				139.	Burnley, Hammerton Street	84	100
				140.	Burnley, North Street	233	192
				141.	Clitheroe	40	45
				142.	Colne, Cloth Hall	84	86
				143.	Darwen	114	98

292. Johannesburg	22	35
293. Wellington, N.Z.	46	50
294. Winnipeg	48	45
295. Vancouver	46	46
296. Edmonton	27	—
297. Methuen	80	80
298. Christchurch	27	—
299. Stanmore, Sydney	25	28
300. Dunedin, N.Z.	—	47
301. Toronto, West	—	36
302. Welland, Ontario	—	25
303. Melbourne	—	12
304. Adelaide	48	38

There have been 24 applications endorsed during 1925.

Lyceum affiliated during 1924	273
Lyceums affiliated during 1925	286
Total Lyceumists in 1924	16,252
Total Lyceumists in 1925	16,945

Applications were received from the following Lyceums during 1925, but were not endorsed until 1926. Rock Ferry, Hendon, Ripley Codner and District, Middleton (Mill St.), Southwick on-Wear, Dover, Hull (Jarrow St.), Grangetown.

A VISIT TO NELSON.

Quite recently I witnessed a scene that I wish everyone in the Lyceum Movement could have seen.

It was on the occasion of the Anniversary of Vernon Street (Nelson) Lyceum.

During the Open Session in the afternoon all the visitors were surprised when three tiny girls appeared who were about eight years of age, and a fourth who was a little older.

They commenced to walk up the body of the school to the platform. The three youngest were in front, the middle one holding in her hand a lovely bouquet of flowers, trailing from which and held lightly in the clasp of the two kiddies on either side of her were some delicate green tendrils. These two girls also held trays of flowers in their hands, whilst the elder girl behind had in her hand what appeared to be a bowl of flowers. One could not wish to see a sweeter picture. The spring sun gleamed through the windows and fell with a softening glow upon those flowers, human and otherwise. The child with the bouquet left her companions and mounted the steps to the platform to hand her flowers to one of our grand pioneers, Mrs. Jessy Greenwood, of Hebden Bridge, and then her childish voice, full of wondrous sweetness, gave:—

A TRIBUTE TO A PIONEER.

Dear Pioneer, we greet you,
 Into our midst, to-day,
 And hope you'll be so happy,
 Whilst with us you may stay.
 For many a year you've nobly toiled,
 To make our Movement bright,
 Doubt not your work is not in vain,
 You'll leave behind some light.
 And so in thoughts of kindness,
 From Nature's radiant bowers,
 We present you as a token
 Of love, these lovely flowers.

This was recited by Doris Bulcock, and when she had finished one of her companions named Winnie Lloyd followed her, and turning to the Conductors, said:—

And may you, too, Conductors,
 Along with us to-day,
 Be happy and accept from us
 This tiny little spray.

After which she handed each of them a spray of Lilies of the Valley and Carnations. Then came Violet Forrest, with Red Roses, and turning to the Church Leaders, said:—

To you, dear Leaders of our Church,
 In this our worthy Cause,
 In gratitude for service given,
 We offer you a rose.

Next came the older girl, Ivy Greenwood, with a rose bowl of choice blooms, and said:—

For those who've passed before us,
 And those who are far away,
 Kind memory now has bidden us,
 Remember you this day.

Many an eye glistened before the end of this little ceremony. The words were composed by one of their own Lyceumists, Mrs. A. Parkinson.

It will live long in the memory of those who were fortunate enough to be present.

ARTHUR DICKINSON.

Births, In Memoriam, and Marriages.

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

BIRTHS.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—April 3rd, by Mrs. Thwaites. Deric Cartright, Spiritual name, Wisdom. Welcomed into our Lyceum by Angels.

STOCKTON, Cecil Street.—Birth. To Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Hart, on 24th February, a son, George Thomas.

SILVER WEDDING.

STOCKTON, Cecil Street.—Silver Wedding. Mr. Neale (Conductor) and Mrs. Neale celebrated their silver wedding on Monday, 5th of April. Our Lyceum wish them many happy years together.

IN MEMORIAM.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—On April 3rd Mrs. Wilkes passed away. Thirty-five years a worker for the Angel World. The Interment service was conducted by Mr. Oates.
 "In Their embrace."

SHILDON, Newlands Avenue.—We regret to report the passing away of Miss Jane Smith (aged 28 years) the beloved daughter of Joseph and M. A. Smith. She was a Lyceumist from infancy and organist for many years. The remains were interred on February 22nd by Mr. W. J. Moody, B.A. The service in the Spiritualist Church was greatly appreciated by relations, members, and friends.—Elsie Hunter, Sec.

LONDON, Brixton.—FOLL.—In loving memory of my dear boy, Douglas, who passed away, April 11th, 1919 aged 18 years.

While we dwelt on Earth together
 Precious moments we have seen.—From Mother.
 In my lonely hours of thinking,
 Thoughts of her are ever near,
 Loved, remembered, longed for always,
 Bringing many a silent tear.

In ever loving memory of my dear daughter, Ethel Maud Lumb, who passed away on May 11th, 1925.

"Treasured memories."—From her loving mother.

District Visitor's Report.

SCOTTISH DISTRICT.

Having been newly appointed D.V. at February meeting and strange to the work, perhaps Lyceumists in Scottish Area will bear with me a little if I have been behind with news.

I visited Southern on 21st March. Mr. Watt conducted. There were about 30 present. Few in number, but large at heart. The Conductor is a little new to the work, but is brimming over with enthusiasm.

Sunday, 28th, I had a busy day visiting three different Lyceums, and had a full session at Glasgow Association, S.M.U. and Whiteinch. The Association Lyceum had a splendid turnout and each Lyceumist did their bit well. The marching and callisthenics were up to the usual standard of efficiency; pearls were very good numbers. 75 Lyceumists present.

At the S.M.U. I had the pleasure of conducting the session, as Mr. Geo. Robertson was unable to attend. 12 present. Although small in number, I am sure the officers deserve credit during the struggle, and I am sure would all like to see more

attending. Lyceumists could attend some Sunday from other Lyceums without interfering with their own, as they mostly meet at different times.

Whiteinch (unaffiliated). They are plodding along, under the able leadership of Mr. Wylie, and are making rapid progress in the various items.

On 4th April I visited Henrietta Street (unaffiliated). This Lyceum is forging ahead, under the Conductorship of Mr. Peter Duncan: I may state here, which I noticed immediately I entered this Lyceum, how well they were matched. Almost equal number of boys and girls of the same ages. General efficiency good.

I haven't visited Maryhill or Govan officially since being made D.V., but have visited them both recently and everything seemed quite well.

In conclusion, I want all Lyceums to push tickets for "EVENING CRUISE" and make our first attempt a huge success.

Both Lyceums in Dalnuir are going along as well as can be expected.—C. Rankine, D.V.

District Council Reports.

LEEDS DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting of above will be held at Batley Carr on Saturday, June 5th, 3-30 p.m.

Agenda:—Opening hymn, President's Address, Minutes, Correspondence, Reports, Field Day, Competition Business, Associates, Open Council, Vote of Thanks to Local Friends. All Lyceums are requested to have their delegates present at this meeting; business important. All associates welcome.—A. W. Harding, Sec.

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above Council will be held on Saturday, May 8th, at Daulby Street, Liverpool, at 3 p.m.

Business:—Minutes, Correspondence, President's Address, Reports, Open Air Demonstration, B.S.L.U. Conference Agenda.

Will all delegates and associates please attend?—E. Clitheroe, Sec.

NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

The next meeting of the above Council will be held on Saturday, May 15th, 1926, in the Church at Great John Street, Lancaster, commencing at 3-30 p.m. Tea will be provided. Bring May BANNERS and Conference agendas. Associates please note.—J.S., Sec

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.

On April 18th a party of about 50 of our Lyceumists journeyed to Nottingham, to the Mechanics' Hall, where a large gathering of Lyceumists from all the Lyceums in the Area met who had competed for a Silver Bell, for efficiency. One of our young Lyceumists, Norah Carr, sung a solo, "Beckoning Hands," which was ably rendered.

A great surprise was in store for us. The Sheriff of Nottingham, Mr. Ward, who graced the platform upon this occasion, called out our name as the winners, with 89½ points. We were all delighted at our success. Wishing other Lyceums who competed the same success in the days that are to come. Thanking all Leaders and Lyceumists who helped to make this our Red Letter Day.—Wilfred S. Matthews, Sec.

SCOTTISH DISTRICT.

The Annual General Meeting was held in the Hall at 716, Dumbarton Road, Dalnuir West, near Glasgow, on Saturday and Sunday, 27th and 28th February.

We were the guests of Dalnuir No. 1 Lyceum, and right well did they accommodate and treat us. Seven Lyceums were represented and a great amount of valuable business was gone through. Mr. James Shaw reported the arrangements made for the U.D.C. meeting on March 13th and 14th. The President, in his address, emphasised the need for more Lyceums taking up the Education Scheme, particularly so in the West of Scotland. He also gave a fine review of the season's work and outlined our future policy as a District Council. Considerable discussion took place on Finance. It was agreed to recommend Lyceums to give one collection during the month of

April to the D.C. General Fund. Mr. Rankine, of Dalnuir, promised to organise an evening cruise in the Clyde Valley on behalf of the funds, and it is hoped that all the western Lyceumists will support the effort.

The following office bearers were duly elected:—President, Mr. Daniel Urquhart (Ratray Street); Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. John M. Scott (Ratray Street); District Visitor, East, Miss Agnes Blaik (Edinburgh Association); District Visitor, West, Mr. Charles Rankine (Dalnuir, No. 1); Auditor, Miss Polly M. Neilson (Edinburgh Association); Delegate to B.S.L.U., Mr. Charles Rankine; Delegate to U.D.C., Mr. James Shaw.

Mr. Scott resigned his position of Area Representative owing to the long journeys making too great a demand on his time from business. The D.C. made a recommendation to Lyceums in favour of Miss Cleland, of Glasgow Association, but pointed out that the Area Representative was the nominee of the Lyceums and that they must see that the vacancy is filled. The next quarterly meeting was fixed provisionally for Edinburgh.

On Sunday evening, in the new Masonic Hall, Clydebank, one of the best propaganda meetings ever held on this side of the border took place. Mr. Rankine presided over fully 500 persons and a splendid Lyceum programme was carried out. Among so much fine talent it is not wise to particularise, but I think no one can possibly be jealous if I single out Miss Prior's Tiny Tots. Another very fine performance was that of Miss Gow. This child, if properly guided, should go far in elocution. It was a great week-end for the bairns and Lyceumism on the Clyde.—J.M.S., Area Representative.

UNITED DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING.

AT DALNUIR, BROADWAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY,
13TH AND 14TH MARCH, 1926.

Delegates started to arrive at the "wee sma' oors" in the morning till about 5 p.m. on Saturday. A splendid tea was awaiting them at Dalnuir (Broadway). The U.D.C. meeting was held at Glasgow Association Rooms, Holland Street. Business was carried on till 12-30 and then delegates had what we could term a tea-dinner in Association's Rooms. After dinner we had our photographs taken by Uncle Bert, and then decided to go for a stroll through "Glesca," for some fresh air, but our feelings were destined to be damped, as the usual Scotch drizzle came down and we had to seek shelter in the S.M.U. Lyceum sooner than we had anticipated. A massed session was arranged for the benefit of U.D.C. delegates' visit to Glasgow, at S.M.U. Lyceum, which was timed for 2 p.m. Unfortunately, attendance was disappointing, but quality was not lacking, and those who took part did justice to same. Space will not permit me to mention each, but I am sure they were much appreciated, but it must have taken the "Sassenachs" all their time to understand the "Scotch twang." However, we tried to dissipate the idea of Scotsmen being dour and to make their short stay both interesting and instructive. After session we adjourned back to Dalnuir (Broadway) for another session, but before which delegates were again entertained to tea. The turnout at Dalnuir was most encouraging on the whole and the various items were much appreciated by one and all. Items were rendered from Govan, Dalnuir No. 1, and Dalnuir (Broadway) Lyceums; also Miss Prior, from Maryhill, gave a reading, which was much appreciated. This is the first time that U.D.C. have been so far west, and I am sure I voice the opinion of everyone and say "Haste ye back again."

We finished session after 9 p.m. and then we all adjourned to our separate "bit and ben" with the "Hole in the wa'." So much for business and meetings.

Now several of the delegates expressed a wish to view the "Bonnie banks of Loch Lomond," and as things turned out I happened to have Monday off, so I went as a guide. The Loch could not have been in a better mood; it was just like glass and weather just delightful; truly God is good to his own. When we were viewing the Loch a private car appeared, and who should be in it but A. T. Connor, Ireland, via London, with Mr. Slimin from Newcastle and a friend. We had a quarter of an hour all together and parted with the remark that we were all part of one stupendous whole. Truly the end of a perfect week-end, to all Lyceums, Lyceumists and friends who helped to make above such a success I tender my sincere thanks on behalf of S.L.D.C.—C. Rankine, D.V.

Special Reports.

BRADFORD, Laisterdyke.—On April 4th our Open Sessions were conducted very ably by Miss North. Several Lyceumists rendered recitations, songs, solos and duets. The explanations of the readings were very instructive. A number of pearls were also given. Wishing all Lyceums every success.—J. Babbs, Sec.

BURNLEY, North Street.—The Lyceum Anniversary was held on March 7th. In the morning an Open Session was held, when recitations were given by the junior scholars, also Mr. Connor, of London, spoke on the Lyceum Education Scheme.

In the afternoon a special Session was held before a large audience including friends from Nelson, Brierfield, Barnoldswick, Great Harwood, and Hammerton Street, Burnley. The marching and callisthenics under the conductorship of Mr. F. Watson were well done, especially by the little children. Recitations were given by Jennie Moore, Annie Higgin, Ernest Irvine, Ada Dugdale, Lizzie Davies, Eveline Clegg, Eric Westwood, also a monologue by Ernest Crabtree. Miss A. Owen sang a solo entitled "Dream of Heaven."

In the evening an address was given by Mr. Connor, on "The Religion of Life." The combined choirs of North St., Hammerton St., Burnley, and Nelson gave the Hallelujah Chorus, also an anthem entitled "Send out Thy Light," which was enjoyed by another very large audience.—A. Pollard, Sec.

DOVER.—On April 11th Mrs. B. Petz paid us an official visit. She presented a book to Irene Landall who introduced three new members, and gave a book to Robert Harvie for interest in the Lyceum. She was pleased with our progress.—Maud Ash, Session Sec.

LONDON, Battersea.—On March 28th we held our third Anniversary; also taking the evening service as a Lyceum session. We numbered 112 in the afternoon and 140 in the evening; this being the biggest assembly ever held in our hall. Everyone present remarked on the harmony that prevailed throughout both sessions. Greetings to all.—W. F. Holt, Sec.

LONDON, Brixton.—On Sunday, 18th April, we had the L.L.D.C. with us, their first visit for years, but we hope to see them again soon. All adults and children are full of excitement over their Concert on Saturday, 24th April. By these concerts the Lyceumists earn their Summer Outing.—M. F. Boddington, Sec.

LONDON, Woolwich and Plumstead.—On April 18th we held a Memorial Session in memory of our beloved sister, Mrs. Clegg, a past member of our Lyceum. Several members spoke in high tribute of our arisen sister, pointing out the example of the work and life of Mrs. Clegg. Messrs. Rainbow, Watthey and Morrow paid tribute to her memory.

At the same Session Mr. Morrow presented Certificates to the successful candidates in the Education Scheme. We still lack adult support but keep plodding on.—H. Watthey, Sec.

NEW MANCHESTER.—On April 11th in the Lyceum we had a special naming ceremony conducted by the spirit Guides of Mrs. Ada Jones. In the first instance the infant daughter of Mrs. John Stirling was given the earth name of "Jean," and the spirit name of "Joy."

In the second instance one of our Lyceumists, Ada Turney, was given the spirit name of "Gladness."

The ceremony was very beautiful and impressive, the flowers which were used having been specially chosen because of their peculiar and spiritual qualities, by the Spirit friends. Advice was given to the parents as to the future care necessary for the little one, and indications were given to the elder as to her future career in earth life. The conductor presented a copy of the Manual and a Lyceum Button to each on behalf of the Lyceum.

A good number of members and Lyceumists attended and enjoyed the ceremony and session.—Albert E. Jones, Sec.

PARKGATE.—After being closed for two months, owing to small-pox in the district, our Lyceum is now opened again.

On April 4th we had an Open Session, ably conducted by Mr. Jack Morris, our assistant Conductor. We had a splendid session. Pearls, etc., were given from a good number. The following gave recitations: Edna Davis, Jennie Cook, Edith Dowell, Cecily Harvey and Beatrice Morris. A duet was rendered by Cecily Harvey and Beatrice Morris.

On April 10th, the Lyceum Officers, along with the officers of the Society, arranged a social for the benefit of Mr. J. K. Jones, of Attercliffe, who has been very ill for a long time.

On Saturday, April 17th, we are having a social for the Lyceumists, when the distribution of prizes will take place.—J. H. Gothard.

RIPLEY, CODNOR AND DISTRICT.—The annual tea and concert were held on Good Friday. About two hundred sat down to a splendid tea, the produce being generously given by members and friends. The concert was organised and conducted by the Eastwood Lyceumists, who provided a most enjoyable evening. Songs, glees, recitations, also an amusing sketch entitled "A Matrimonial Bureau," were ably performed by the young men and women. The children, under the leadership of Mrs. George, added their quota, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Thanks are also due to the organist, Mr. Reg. Howard, who accompanied in an able manner. Mr. Will Ball, who brought some friends from Belper, occupied the chair. The Building Fund benefited to the extent of over £6.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—On April 4th we held our Open Session, taken by Mr. Armitage and assisted by Master Thwaites. Recitations by Hettie Hawksworth, Vera Fukes, Lillian Burnham and Annie Hellewell; pearls by Master J. Lenowry, Saville Thwaites. We had a naming service taken by Mrs. Thwaites, and our Conductor presented the baby with a Lyceum Badge. Miss Stanford has started a Net Ball Club for girls. Mr. Armitage has a Tennis Club for all elders with football to come later.—N. Thwaites, Sec.

WAKEFIELD.—We held our annual prize giving, tea and concert on March 31st, which was a great success. Numerous items were rendered, including an Operetta by the Lyceum children, which was greatly appreciated. The prizes were presented by Mr. and Mrs. Crabtree, two of our Church members, who performed their duty very well indeed. Mr. Crabtree spoke very encouragingly to the youngsters. Our thanks go to all who helped towards the enjoyable evening that was spent.

On April 4th, at the Lyceum Anniversary, Mr. Harding conducted the Open Session. The whole of the Session was very good. A very pleasing item was the taking of the Silver Chain "The Divine Order," which was thoroughly explained by Mr. Harding, who also took the Church service in the evening, the Lyceum occupying the platform. We are looking forward to bright things in the near future, both socially and spiritually.—Mr. N. Cope, Sec.

WELLINGTON, Kent Terrace.—The Lyceum still continues to progress. On January 31st we held our Election of Officers. Conductor, Mr. R. A. Webb; Secretary, Miss L. Webb; Treasurer, Mr. Bodell, senior; Callisthenics Conductor, Mrs. Webb; Guardian, Miss Ruby Waring; Musical Director, Mr. Barton; Librarian, Mr. Easton; Captain of Guards, John Furey; Guards, Jack Williams and Winston Wahren; Marching Leaders, Miss G. Webb and Mr. S. Harris; Bankers and Trustees, Mr. Mouatt and Mr. Barton; Lyceum Representative on Church Committee, Mr. Jones.

As our Conductor, Mr. R. A. Webb, was away on holiday for the two Sundays February 7th and 14th, the Lyceum was conducted by Mr. Jones and Miss L. Webb.

On February 28th we held our Lyceum Flower Service, there being a crowded hall. The Service was very much appreciated by the audience.

With best wishes to the Lyceum Banner and to fellow Lyceumists.—(Miss) L. Webb, Sec.

WIGAN.—On April 11th the Management Committee conducted our Services.

In the afternoon at 2-30 we held an Open Session, conducted by Mr. Mack. There were 13 visitors present from Southport, one from Horwich and one from Chorley.

The Evening Meeting was conducted by members of the M.C. We had quite a happy time together, and we were delighted to have Mr. Kitson with us.—E. C. Clitheroe, Sec.

WINNIPEG, Canada, Polson Avenue.—On April 4th we held our Open Session. Pearls and recitations were given by the following:—Viola Dale, Harold Brown, Verna McLeod, Edna Brown, Millie Crawley, Daisy Knox, Olive Forrest, Irene Turner and Harry Towns. Two pianoforte solos were played by Verna McLeod and Miss Helen Lawrence.—Winnie Brown, Sec.

WINNIPEG, 2nd Spiritualist Church, Princess St.—Our Open Session was held on Easter Sunday. After marching and callisthenics, recitations were given by Grace White, Dolly Sutherland, May Armit, Lena Leach, Alice Pilkington, Ivy and Norah Vernon, and Mr. Sully. Dora Freestone sang a solo. Addresses were given by Messrs. Walker, White and Pearson. Lovely flowers were provided. At the close of a very successful session, our conductor, Mr. G. R. Symons, handed to each Lyceumist an illuminated Easter Card.—M. Armit, Sec.