

# THE LYCEUM BANNER

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PRICE TWOPENCE.

## THE B.S.L.U. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, 1926-7.

President: Miss E. Elliott, 91, Morton Street, Middleton, nr. Manchester.  
Vice-President: Mr. G. A. Mack, "The Orchid," Norman Road, Runcorn, Cheshire.  
Treasurer: Mr. C. J. Williams, 58, Boston Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex.  
General Secretary: Mr. G. F. Knott, 39, Regent Street, Rochdale, Lancashire.  
B.S.L.U. Adviser: Mr. A. Kitson, 17, Bromley Road, Hangin Heaton, Batley, Yorks.

## AREA REPRESENTATIVES.

A. Miss H. Cleland, 1, Holyrood Quadrant, Glasgow.  
B. Mr. J. Slimin, 8, Hartington Street, Sunderland.  
C. Mr. J. F. Smith, 174, Worthing Road, Sheffield.  
D. Mr. W. Burrows, 29, Kliffen Place, Coronation Road, Halifax.  
E. Mrs. L. Nurse, 33, London Road, Newton Drive, Blackpool.  
F. Mr. J. E. Hart, 47, Fairlawn Street, Moss Side, Manchester.  
G. Miss V. G. Rayner 112, Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham.  
H. Mrs. T. Tims, 42, Porter's Grange Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex.

## The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union. Annual Conference.

The B.S.L.U. Annual Conference was held at Dewsbury, on Saturday and Sunday, May 22nd and 23rd, 1926.

Mr. G. A. Mack, the President, was in the chair. Mr. Whittles, the President of the Dewsbury Spiritual Church, introduced the Deputy Mayor of Dewsbury, Alderman Shaw, who accorded a hearty Civic welcome to the 130 Delegates assembled.

During the Sunday morning the Lyceum children gave their welcome to the Conference.

Standing behind the officers and prominent Lyceumists were some happy children forming a double-arc, displaying a circular "WELCOME" over the occupants of the platform, and throwing love rays over the Delegates into and around the outer world. The symbolic expression was floral, with the chain of Faith, Hope, and Love as the inspiration of the Dewsbury invitation.

## WELCOME.

With loving hearts we greet you here  
To help the cause we hold most dear,  
May Angels strengthen you in love  
And Harmony your friendship prove,  
A loving welcome now to you  
We give, dear friends, both old and new.

Each one should help the weaker one,  
This is the law of God and Love,  
We as children in weakness move  
You with your strength the right shall prove,  
May all your councils here, to-day,  
Be guided by Love's Golden ray.

Let loving thoughts be wisely said,  
Let truths be spoken unafraid,  
Let Angels guide your every act  
Be honest in your sacred pact,  
And from the seeds you sow to-day  
May good spring, that will love always.

Children's voices raised to bless you  
Call you their friends; a name that's true,  
Children from that land of flowers gay  
With blossoms sweet shall strew your way,  
For they have taught us God is Love,  
And Angels with us onward move.

Oft in the days that now are gone  
For truth you fought with fearless tongue,  
O in the days that are to be  
May we too, work for liberty,  
To free from hoary error's chain  
Those who in darkness long have lain.

Memories to-day are thronging,  
In our heart there is a longing  
For those who passed amid the fight.  
They greet us now, what joy, delight!  
Mingling still in sweet communion  
Guiding still the Lyceum Union.

'Ever Onward' be your motto,  
'Progression' as your watchword hold.  
Ever reaching to the Highest  
'Success' will come, you've done your best.  
Thus shall it be, the good fight won  
Angels will bid you welcome home.

MRS. G. H. PEEL.

## Election of Officers for 1926-27.

President: MISS ELLIOTT, Moston.  
Vice-President: MR. G. A. MACK, Runcorn.  
Treasurer: MR. C. J. WILLIAMS, Peckham.  
General Secretary: G. F. KNOTT, Rochdale.  
Auditor: MR. W. THISTLETHWAITE, Keighley.

The full report of the Conference will be given in the July issue of the LYCEUM BANNER.

## Propaganda Meeting

in the

## Dewsbury Town Hall,

on SUNDAY, MAY 23rd, at 6-30 p.m.

Mr. Mack presided, and was supported on the platform by Miss Elliott, President-Elect; Mr. C. J. Williams, Treasurer; Mr. G. F. Knott, General Secretary; Mr. A. Kitson, Adviser; Mr. Jackson, Mr. Burrows, Mrs. Ennion, Miss Rayner, Mrs. Tims, Miss Cleland, and Mr. Hart. The S.N.U. was represented by Mr. Berry and Mr. Gush. Miss Rayner invoked.

In his introductory remarks Mr. Mack explained the meaning of the Lyceum. Although finance has held us back slightly we continue to progress. He introduced Miss Elliott to the congregation.

He expressed his hope that Miss Elliott would, during her period of office, be guided by the Spirit Friends interested in our Movement. Wonderful help had been given to him by the Spirit World, and he hoped that conditions would be such that Miss Elliott would gain inspiration in her great work. The responsibility is great. We are educating the child and it is a great thing. If love permeates us it is impossible to fail. Mr. Mack stated that he had great pleasure in handing the Presidential Badge to Miss Elliott, and hoped conditions would help her to bear the responsibility.

Mr. Kitson realised that Miss Elliott was sensitive to Spirit influence and was conscious of the presence of the Arisen Workers and Pioneers. He extended the right hand of fellowship, and the left hand of brotherly love to Miss Elliott. He made mention of the responsibilities involved in the position of President.

Upon assuming her place as President, Miss Elliott said there were moments in one's life when it was impossible to express in words all that one felt. She hoped she would maintain the Presidential dignity and honour of former years. Although her interest was centred in the Children's Movement she had not forgotten the Parent Body. She had tried to retain the Principles of both Movements. Harmony must prevail and the link between the two Unions would be strong if harmony be cultivated. She felt sure our Pioneers would influence the work in the interest of the child. She would strive to bear the responsibility to the best of her ability and fully appreciated the honour conferred upon her.

During the singing of the intervening hymn Miss Elliott was compelled to leave for home, owing to prevailing transport difficulties.

Mr. Berry felt the honour of immediately following the induction of the new President. He said it was a great moment, similar to one he felt when he was inducted into the Church. He was then conscious of some unknown power and now he realises that our Spirit Friends are ever with us. He wanted to convey the message to the people new to our Movement that our friends who have passed over are ever near us, guiding us in life, mentally, physically and spiritually.

This week-end the Lyceum Union had accomplished, in his opinion, the greatest piece of work in the 37 years of Lyceum work. Lyceumists will now be able to contend any point. Men and women are now realising the serious responsibilities of life. We often question why we are chosen for such tasks.

"We who send you, will aid you to carry on the work for which you have been brought into existence."

Mr. Mack said: "Some are coming, some are going," and he asked Mr. Jackson as a retiring member to speak to the meeting.

Mr. Jackson in a rounded speech said that 32 years ago in that hall he was a delegate at a B.S.L.U. Conference. His mother was a Spiritualist when he was born. During all these years he had been actively associated with Spiritualism. He found it was the only religion which proved we live again after we die. Pastors of great flocks have, when some loved one is lost, asked: "What has become of my dear one?" When love permeates one can prove that our loved ones still live.

Personal responsibility is taught in our Movement. During life's trials

Let us then be up and doing,  
With a heart for any fate,  
Still achieving, still pursuing,  
Learn to labour and to wait."

Mr. Knott in his remarks stated that Spiritualism is a force in life which has been scientifically demonstrated. We are now finding a more vital interest in our religion. Spiritualism is a force which links man with God. Our expression of ideas is free, unlike former religions.

Our children are not really mischievous: it is only misapplied energy. Through this religion we teach them to face life's difficulties. Thus we recognise our responsibility to the child. We must teach ourselves self-control before we can help our children to control themselves.

"A child is the repository of infinite possibilities." This the writer of the hymn "Hark, hark, my soul" realised.

Our educational process is good for all humanity and our children are the happier for our methods.

Mrs. Tims said that our previous speakers had explained Spiritualism, so she appealed to the parents to help in the education of the child. We sow the seeds in our weekly session, and look to the parents to help these seeds to grow, during the whole week. Parents should realise that children are following their example, and they should be careful. Let their children quote Miss Kitson, when she said "He is my Dad, and my Ideal.

Spiritualism holds many prospects. Spiritual possibilities, spiritual treasures, and a finer mentality. Let us "Show our children the way to go home"—to a well-built spirit home. Do you duty to your religion.

Mr. Gush said he was struck by the efforts to emphasise the fact that the Lyceum was for the child; it was also for the adult. It tells us what we are. Remember, nothing is lost; we never cease to progress. When we pass over we take sight, hearing and feeling, with us. The Spirits vitalise our dormant powers.

He said in his opinion Lyceum work was only just beginning. We need Leaders for Liberty and Study groups. Our Education Scheme is training the younger ones to be able to fight for their own religion. He appealed to the young men and women for help. We are on the eve of great happenings. We must be able to meet any opposition. We appeal to all for support.

The Lyceum Children rendered a Lyceum song and Mr. Whittles accompanied the music.

Mr. Mack expressed thanks to every one who had aided in any part of the work during the week-end. He concluded the meeting by an appeal for the S.N.U. Fund of Benevolence and pronounced the Benediction.

## Presidential Address

Presented by MR. G. A. MACK, of Runcorn, at the ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the B.S.L.U., held at DEWSBURY, on May 22nd and 23rd, 1926.

When one reviews the work of the past year, one realises how quickly the time seems to have passed, and how little one has done in comparison with that which one would have liked to have done. Yet, the work accomplished by the various branches of the Movement has been good and of a lasting quality.

I am of the opinion that a movement can grow too quickly. Such mushroom grow has not the strength of the oak, which takes a longer time to come to maturity. Oft-times we are apt to think that the Movement is not advancing quickly enough, yet we can safely say that we are progressing slowly, and I trust that it will be of that sturdy nature that characterises the oak.

Perhaps a brief review of the happenings of the past year of the Movement will encourage us to go on with the noble work.

The Civic Welcome that was given to the members of the last Conference was a step in the right direction. To-day, again we have been favoured, through the Dewsbury friends. These are the occasions upon which we can look back with pleasure and satisfaction, realising that our Movement is gradually becoming recognised to be one that must take its place in the life of the country. What would the Old Pioneers have given to have received a Civic Welcome? Their welcome was that of the persecuted, who would have been lynched, had their opponents been given the chance. We have made a step forward. Let us appreciate it at its true value, yet not lose our balance, lest we fall.

The S.N.U. and the B.S.L.U. have each elected a committee of four to work conjointly. This joint committee have met and appear to be working with the set purpose of really trying to solve the troublesome question of fusion and inter-relations between Churches and Lyceums. I believe that if a joint committee could sit regularly, a large number of the troubles could be dissolved, and a better understanding be created between the two bodies and their branches. I think that there is room for a small arbitration board sitting regularly.

I feel that another branch of work which is being evolved at present, will also assist in bringing about that unity of feeling between the two Unions that each one desires. I refer to the International question. You are all aware that I attended the International Spiritualist Congress, held in Paris last September, as the official representative of the Lyceum Movement. I am sure that good work was accomplished during that week's Congress. We were well received. It was a week of strenuous work, yet we were given every facility to introduce our system, wherever we wished within reason. Naturally, we took full advantage, and the way our message was received, proved that the Spiritualist Movement abroad desires to attend to the welfare of the child. The parcels of literature, which included practically all the Education Scheme pamphlets, were greedily sought for, but we could only give one parcel to each country represented. We are trusting that this form of propaganda will lead to requests for further information. The Essay prepared by Mr. Kitson on behalf of the Management Committee was listened to with very great attention and interest. I think that the part referring to the pleasure it would afford the Lyceum Movement to present a practical demonstration of our system, was an inspiration of which we ought to take full advantage, if ever the opportunity arises—and I hope it will. I was pleased to see how the representatives received the paper and our sincere thanks are due to Mr. Kitson for the able manner in which he prepared it.

I am pleased that Mr. Kitson has again been able to be present at Conference. We have missed his genial presence from the last two Conferences. I think that Dewsbury must have been influenced by the "Other Side of Life" to invite the Conference. Mahomet could not come to the Mountain, so the Mountain came to Mahomet.

The Districts are continuing with their Lyceum Demonstrations, and taking part in public functions with great credit. Shields and other trophies are being added to the laurels of the Movement bringing it into honourable prominence, which is the great feature to note.

The Overseas Lyceums are keeping in touch with us, and occasionally send us word of their progress. It is a pity that we cannot link up in a more tangible way, but distance prevents this. However, our thoughts go out to them, and we trust that

The Leeds District Council are holding a Demonstration at Castleford, on Saturday, June 26th, starting from the Fair-ground, at 3-0 p.m., proceeding to the Town Football Field for marching, callisthenics, tea, and dancing.

they will increase in numbers, and so not feel that loneliness, which sometimes comes with absence of numerical strength.

The Britten Memorial is receiving consideration from many of our Lyceumists, directly and indirectly. I solicit your continued support. It is a worthy memorial.

I trust that each District Council will accept and support the Rotary Scheme of inviting the Management Committee to hold its Quarterly Meetings, and once and for all do away with the Management Committee's difficulty of finding a suitable place in which to perform the work that you expect it to do.

The Manual Revision Committee are progressing with their work, but there is still need for Lyceumists to assist in the constructive work necessary in compiling a revised Manual. The Secretary of the Manual Revision Committee, Mr Connor, will be pleased to hear that your District is attending to its share of the work.

The Education Scheme is still advancing and great credit is due to the committee, especially to Miss Kitson and Mr. Connor for the enormous amount of work that is done. Yet these officers would be pleased if more candidates sat, and so enlarged the scope of the Scheme. Have you sat for all the Grades yet, or are you at present working through them? I appeal to you not to lose time. The College Scheme is now before you, and if you are not up and doing, you are going to be left behind.

I have referred on previous occasions to the £2,000 Effort, but I feel that I must again impress upon you that the Lyceumists are holding this fund up. If you think that this is not a correct statement, I suggest that you send on sufficient contributions to make up the £2,000, and then it can be used for the purpose for which it is being raised.

"OH! THE LITTLE MORE, AND HOW MUCH IT IS; AND THE LITTLE LESS, AND WHAT WORLDS AWAY."

Next year, the Constitution and Bye-laws are due for revision, if the Movement desires it. I suggest that you tabulate your complaints and reconstructions, in order that the Movement shall have a Constitution and Bye-laws second to none, one which will harmonise with the principles for which we stand.

From time to time, special articles have been printed in the LYCEUM BANNER. Some of these articles have been reprinted and published in the form of pamphlets. I think that this is an excellent way to bring educational articles before the Lyceumists, and suggest a continuation.

This year is the Centenary of the birth of A. J. Davis, and I feel that it would be most ungrateful of me, as your President, not to especially refer to our Founder, at this Conference. We may have varying opinions of Mr. Davis—all pioneers have their periodical persecution, and he is no exception—yet I think that we can all agree on one point, and that is, that it was through his instrumentality that the Spirit world gave to this world the system which we now love so much as Lyceumists. As such, I suggest that some special mention should be made through the columns of the *Banner*. May I recommend a special vote of thanks to our arisen Founder.

I feel that I cannot close my address without referring to another who has joined the throng of the persecuted pioneers, who continue to give us of their added wisdom. I mention with deep esteem our Sister, Mrs. Myers Clegg. For many years she and her companion have attended our Conferences in the physical. Last year was the first occasion on which she missed. The distance and fatigue of travelling were too great. To-day, I feel that she will be with us in the spirit. May her influence upon us continue with greater zeal.

And now, at the close of my three years' work, may I thank all who have assisted me during my term of office. It has been a heavy time, but the glory of the work has compensated, even when one has become low-spirited. I pray that you will give my successor every assistance so that the work shall make further progress. I thank the Spirit World for their continued assistance and guidance, for they know from experience where our weaknesses are, and so come along to strengthen us. Let us continue to work in conjunction with them, lest we, in our egotism, dash ourselves against a stone and fall from our pinnacles to the floor. Let us each be willing workers, pressing onwards and upwards, hand in hand with angels. I pray that God and the Angels will bless our Lyceum band and make it victorious. Thus shall it prove that the Truth will always stand against all odds. May it be so, is my closing sentiment as your retiring President.

GEO. A. MACK.

Mr Mack then stated:—

"I have here a message that has been given to me from the Spirit Side of Life, with the request that I ask permission from the Conference to deliver it at the close of my Presidential Address. I am requested to state that it is a message to encourage the workers. The message is an exact copy of that delivered to me during the present week."—G.A.M.

The Conference agreed to the reading of the message, which is as follows:—

"To the President,

For the love we have for the workers.

I have long watched many developments taking place in the Lyceum education in this country, and have tried to gauge the changes that mark progress in our Lyceum system all over the country. As one who has trod the boards of many Lyceums and looked into the responsive faces of many Lyceumists, and, judging the growing values of Lyceum teaching and its literature, I will say that Lyceum's education is slowly, but unconquerably, moving towards this ideal of the history of Humanity, as motive and standard. I have done just a little to impel opinion on that road. With our Education Scheme in hand, it may only look like the feeble picture by an infant's hand, as compared with a masterpiece of a Titian; and the masterpiece is yet to be made by the educationist of our Lyceum movement. But that way lies the secret. The "revelations" of Gods were but (as Swinburne says) "grey histories hiding thy clear features. The real revelation is just at the opening page. Kings in days gone by looked into their treasures and never saw such riches as the child of even to-day may delight in when tracing the story of our Lyceum training. And the child of to-morrow will catch a larger glory. May the good work continue for the children's sake."

## Message from the Beyond.

### SPIRITUALISTS IN CONFERENCE AT DEWSBURY.

At the thirty-seventh Annual conference of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union—the Sunday-school section of the Spiritualists' movement—at Dewsbury on Saturday, the president (Mr. G. A. Mack, of Runcorn), at the close of his presidential address, stated that the above was a message received by him two days earlier, through a medium with whom he had sat for twenty years, from one who had passed to the "other side," the higher life, and who was interested in Lyceum work. The message, Mr. Mack said, was given "for the love we have for the workers." The message is printed above.

Mr. Mack presided over 130 delegates from various parts of the country, and a civic welcome was given by the Deputy-Mayor (Alderman W. H. Shaw). The delegates were the guests of local Spiritualists during the week-end, the billeting arrangements being made by Mr. E. Wilson, of Dewsbury.

Mr. Mack, in his address, said the union contained close upon 17,000 members, working through 300 Lyceums, which were the Spiritualist Sunday schools. Their chief object, he said, was to educate the child physically, mentally, spiritually, and morally; They had just completed a college scheme to back up their educational work.

Mr. Mack added that this year was the centenary of the birth of Andrew Jackson Davis, founder of the system they were following out. They had been in existence as a movement for sixty-two years.

Mr. A. T. Connor (hon. secretary of the Education Committee), in explaining the national Spiritualist college scheme, said they had adopted the principle that every progressive body must educate the members of its rank and file, and the college was an attempt to get a coherent, progressive scheme of education. It would allow their students to have some mark of the progress they had made.

From the *Yorkshire Observer*.

### HARTMANN'S WHO'S WHO

We are informed that W. & G. Foyle, Ltd., Booksellers, 121-125, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2, are the sole British Agents for the sale of Hartmann's Who's Who, in Great Britain.

The price of the book is 12s. 6d. nett. It is a mine of useful information about the Occult, Psychic, and Spiritual organisations, and prominent people in these realms, throughout the world.

## Bible Studies. No. 10.

## ANGELS: THEIR NATURE AND MISSION.

BY ALFRED KITSON.

There has been published many curious and fantastic ideas and conceptions concerning angels, their nature and place in the plan of God in dealing with the children of earth. Some of these evidence the intolerance of the Jewish priesthood towards other nationalities that we have seen exhibited in other matters.

"As a specimen of rabbinical angelology, I shall translate," says Mr. Allen, "part of the account of the first or lowest of the seven firmaments contained in the celestial regions, that being represented as the least populous. This region is dominated THE HEAVENS, and is affirmed to be the residence of seven archangels: Orphaniel, having under him seventy-one angels, Thagra seventy-four, Dandael thirty-six, Gadalmijah forty-six, Assimur fifty-eight, Pascar thirty-five, Boel forty. The second firmament designated as the HEAVENS OF HEAVENS, is divided into ten departments, each occupied by numerous companies of angels under the command of their chiefs" (Allen's 'Modern Judaism,' pages 153 and 154).

Mr. Allen gives some remarkable traditions of the rabbinical angelo-geography, especially regarding the SEVENTY NATIONS into which, they say, the human family was divided at Babel. He gives the following from the Targum on the Pentateuch, attributed to Jonathan, who lived about the time of Jesus:—

"The earth consisted of seven climates, and every climate being divided into ten parts. Then was each country and people assigned to its respective prince, and these princes are called the gods of the world. Thus were the seventy nations divided among the seventy princes the blessed God taking no part in them because He is pure." One rabbi assigns to these angels the office of "moving the heavenly bodies"; another affirms them to be "the souls of the heavenly bodies"; and another asserts them to be no other than "the stars and planets."

The following passage seems to favour the above rabbinical traditions: "But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days; but lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, and I remained with the kings of Persia" (Dan. x. 13). The person who is here manifesting to Daniel is "the man Gabriel" (Dan. ix. 13).

"Though these guardians of nations are frequently described as angels of light, surrounding the throne of the Supreme, and forming His council, yet at other times, with the usual inconsistency of rabbinical statements, they are represented as demons of darkness, and powers of uncleanness. 'Then did they (the heathens) turn themselves to the worship of demons, which are spirits, some of which are placed as rulers over the nations, each presiding over the country committed to his care in order to defend it, and annoy its enemies.' The powers of uncleanness are the seventy princes who liberally distribute to the idolatrous nations that are subject to their influence." (Ibid., pages 155-158).

"Guardian angels," according to the notions of the Jewish rabbis, perform very important services in the favour of men. They say, "Every man has his angel, who speaks for him and prays for him; as it is said (Psalm lxxv. 2), 'O, thou that hearest prayer'; that is the prayer of the angel, who is the Mashal, or guardian of men. It follows, 'Unto thee shall all flesh come.' Wherefore, the angels are not allowed to say their hymns above till the Israelites have said them here below, for all that a man does is imitated by his Mashal, who performs it above in the same manner in which it is performed here below. A man would never ask his necessities of God in the Syraic or Chaldaic language. The ministering angels do not attend to carry anyone's prayers to God who petitions for his necessities in the Syraic language. This is meant of one single man who prays for himself. By a whole congregation it may be done in all languages, because the presence of God is among them. There are three (angels) who weave or make garlands out of the prayers of the Israelites: the first is Achtaiel, the second Metatron, and the third Sandalphon. Behold! these three who make the garlands do not attempt to make garlands of any other prayers, but only such as are made in the Hebrew tongue" (Ibid., pages 159 to 160).

The rabbinical intolerance, even with regard to the language in which prayers are uttered, is strongly manifested in the above quotations. As we are dealing with all those spiritual beings who come under the title of angels in the Bible, we must not overlook the Seraphim, plural (Hebrew, burning ones). This is a title given to a peculiar being with six wings (Isaiah vi. 2-3).

In the singular it is Seraph, which signifies fiery, or burning; and the fiery serpents, with which the children of Israel were bitten in the wilderness of Arabia, were so called (Num. xxi. 6). Cherubim and the singular Chérub (fulness of knowledge). These expressive titles are many times applied to angels (Gen. iii. 24; Exodus xxv. 19-22; and Ezekiel x. 1-2, etc.)

It was also assumed that angels could change the shape of their forms at will, and so could not be said to have any definite form or shape. Milton has expressed this idea of the nature of angels in the following lines:—

"Bright angels, by imperial summons called,  
Innumerable before the Almighty's throne,  
Vital in every part, not as frail man—  
All heart, they live, all head, all eye, all ear,  
All intellect, all sense; and as they please  
They limb themselves, and colour, shape or size  
Assume, as likes them best, condense or rare."

Perhaps this idea of being "formless" will account for the hazy ideas held, by many people, that it also applies to spirit people. Hence, the gladness that has been exhibited by mourners when they have been assured that their departed loved ones had spirit bodies similar in shape to their earthly bodies, void of any physical defects. Some of my friends, who have not quite cast off the indefinite theological impressions, call my teachings regarding the departed as being too materialistic. But then, some Spiritualists, as well as some scientists, will have to pass to the spirit side of life before they can entertain the fact that life is as real in that world as it is in this.

We have seen the fantastic ideas of the shape of certain angels entertained both by the writers of certain books of the Bible, and the rabbinical writers. We will now turn our attention to more rational authorities on Biblical interpretation.

Dean Prideaux says that the "Hebrew term Sheliach Zibber means the angels of the Church, and was applied to the ministers of the Jewish Synagogue because he was the mouth or messenger of the people to God. And as a messenger from God to the people is an angel of God, so a messenger from the people to God is an angel of the people. . . . And, hence it is that the bishops of the seven churches in Asia, in Revelations, by a name borrowed from the Synagogue, were called the angels of those churches."

The Rev. Thomas Timpson says in his book, "The Angels of God," that the Hebrew term "malach" means a messenger or angel, and the term "malachi" means my messenger or my angel.

The New Testament was written in Greek, and the word "angelos" means a messenger, and it is so translated in Matthew xi. 10, Luke vii. 24 and ix. 51, James ii. 25, while in Acts xii. 15 it is translated angel where the context clearly implies it should be a messenger sent by Peter to the brethren who were gathered together praying for him. "They are always spirits," says an ancient father in the Christian Church, "but when they are sent they are called angels." "Do you inquire the names of their nature?" asks another. "It is spirit. Do you ask the name of their office? It is angel."

In the "Biblical Cyclopædia," edited by Prof. John Eadie, D.D., LL.D., in dealing with the term "angel" he says: "This word, both in the Greek and Hebrew language, signifies a messenger. The original word is often applied to men. . . . When the term is used, as it generally is, to designate spiritual beings, it denotes not the nature they bear, but the office they sustain as God's messengers, or the agents by whom He makes known His will and executes the purpose of His will."

It is recorded in the Bible that Abraham entertained three angels, one of which is supposed to have been "the angel of the Lord," or the Lord himself. He served them with refreshments; they washed their feet and drank milk, and ate bread, butter and meat. Evidently he mistook them for ordinary travellers. Had they possessed wings he would not have made this mistake (Genesis xvii. 1-8). Similarly Lot entertained two angels unawares, and served them with refreshments. They also were without wings (Gen. xix. 1-11). An angel, with a drawn sword in his hand appeared unto Joshua, and he mistook him for a real captain of the army, and only found out the real nature of his visitor when he was informed he was a captain of the hosts of the Lord. Had there been any wings he would not have been in doubt as to the nature of his guest. Ezekiel describes the angel he saw as a man, and it entered into him, and set him on his feet, and instructed him what to say to the children of Israel (Ezekiel i. 26-28, and ii. 1-10). Daniel describes the angel that visited him as a man, and subsequently he calls him

the "man Gabriel" (Daniel ix. 21-22). St. John, when he was having his clairvoyant vision, was on two occasions about to fall down and worship the angel, evidently under the impression that it was God, but the angel said: "See thou do it not. I am a fellow servant with thee and with thy brethren that hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God, for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy" (Rev. xix. 10). "And I John, am he that heard and saw these things, and when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel that showed me these things. And he said unto me, See thou do it not. I am a fellow servant with thee and with thy brethren the prophets, and with them that keep the words of this book. Worship God" (Rev. xxvi. 8-9).

It will appear clear from the evidence we have quoted above that the term angel means a messenger, either spirit or mortal. So our beloved departed when they come to us with comforting messages are angels. They tell us of the location and nature of the spirit worlds, its homes in which our friends wait to meet and greet us, of the beautiful flowers that abound there to delight the eyes of those who behold them; and of God's wisdom and love that is manifested all around, about the bright radiant denizens of those supernal worlds. Let us thank God for the ministry of angels, our loving, dear departed.

(My next article will be about Sheol and Hades).

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## Dead Empires.

By M. E. PICKLES.

(Continued from page 68).

Egypt is virtually a rainless country, and the temperature is high by day and falls quickly at night. There has been a great increase of the population since the beginning of Turkish occupation, and it is said there are 11,658,148 Mahommedans. The most interesting type is the fellah, or peasant. The most picturesque is the Bedouin. The fellah has often been described as the backbone of the country. Tall, thin, and wiry, he reveals by his sad and weary aspect, the tale of past centuries. To the nomadic Arab, the term fellah signifies humility and even contempt. The fellah leads a life of extreme simplicity; a *galabich*, or blue cotton frock, and a turban comprise his wardrobe. His fare consists of millet bread and raw vegetables.

The Bedouin presents a brighter picture. These "people of the tent" are shepherds and herdsmen of sturdy but under-sized stature, with coarse black hair, and well-chiselled features.

The Nubians, or Beiberins, dwell in Upper Egypt, and are of mixed negro and Arab blood. The majority are peasants.

The Copt is the native Christian of Egypt, and is usually of a sturdier or commercial type.

The women of Egypt have been described as models of beauty, in body and limbs, between the ages of fourteen and twenty, but few retain either good looks or fine physique beyond the age of forty. Many women of the upper classes are fast becoming like Europeans in both dress and habits. The maidens marry at an early age; generally between ten to sixteen. Divorce is obtained quite easily. If the husband repeats the words "Thou art divorced" three times, it is accomplished.

The universal language is Arabic. Turkish is rarely spoken, and until recently French was used by educated Egyptians. The English language is, however, coming into greater use.

The historical record is dark and fierce from 1715 to 1876 and placed Egypt in a debt of about £91,000,000. Britain was appealed to, and helped to restore order and stability, though she declined to remain as a government in Egypt.

In 1907 Lord Cromer's work came to a close, the country then experiencing an era of peace and prosperity unprecedented in its history. When Great Britain was appealed to, and was very unwilling to interfere, the Khedive asked her to nominate a British Commissioner and eventually the position was offered to Lord Cromer, and the labour which he poured into the country had great beneficial results.

The Egyptian is truly an agriculturist. Ancient Egypt was the granary of the Roman world, and exported great quantities of corn.

With the coming of the Turks a different order of things was created, and a long period of depression and misery followed. The revival of Egyptian industry began with the elimination of the Turk by the British. Vast schemes of irrigation and drainage were being developed when the great war of 1914 broke out.

"Egypt," the first Sultan said, "had three assets—the Nile, the Egyptian sun, and the fellah." Very full use is made of both the sun and the Nile by the fellah. The sun shines all through the year, and the Nile is stored up so as to be available in any season. In addition, the fellah is extremely hard-working, and it is towards helping him in making the fullest use of the Nile that British brains and science have been directed. In the past the fellah had to wait upon the flood tides. Now, instead of obtaining water for his land during a portion of the year he obtains a regular and sufficient supply all the year round. In other words the whole system of irrigation is being gradually directed towards perennial irrigation, thus assuring two, and often three, crops every year.

There are three agricultural seasons. Cotton, sugar, rice, and in a lesser degree, millet and vegetables are grown in summer, Wheat, barley, flax, and vegetables in winter. Maize, millet, and flood rice are grown between August and November—the Nile period. Egypt has also a future in other directions. Such industries as oil and tobacco are being developed, there are gold-mines in the Eastern desert. The present prosperity of the country however is due mainly to cotton.

Education too has made rapid strides within recent years. The natives are educated in schools attached to the Mosques. Some of these schools are under the Ministry. There are also secondary schools and colleges where training for the various professions is given. And now we look back to where these articles started in the description of Egypt and try to trace her people's progress through thousands and thousands of years, and we see that love, truth, hope and faith have always been: these are eternal. Through these is the breath of the live realities of to-day.

(To be continued).

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## £2,000 Effort.

Dear Comrades,

Another Conference has come and gone and it remains for the future to tell whether the decisions taken there are wise or otherwise. In my report to Conference I had (I regret to say) to report that my receipts were lower than in 1925. £42 6s. 10d. to 1925 Conference, £31 13s. 9d. to 1926 Conference, a decrease of £10 13s. 1d. I am hoping to make up this leeway during the coming year, and I am asking all Lyceumists to help me by their renewed interest. I have still pencils which by the way are 1d. each, bookmarks, Mr. Kitson's pamphlet, and the Farthing Fund. I was hoping that the London district would help me with regard to the latter as it seems to be the only district where farthings are very much used as current coin. As a result of a Conference suggestion I am adding a further opportunity of Lyceums donating in a small way without hurting their own resources. I am thinking of getting collecting cards printed, with the space for collectors name and I suggest to all Lyceums that when the cards are ready, they send on for them and offer a small prize in their own Lyceum for the one who collects the most for the £2,000 effort. It will be an incentive to each Lyceumist to increase their Lyceum's total towards its quota and help the fund along. I will let you know immediately the cards are ready.

Please put your best endeavours into this good cause and we shall see good results accrue. This month I have to report donations of £1 from St. Peter's St., Huddersfield, and 5s. sale of pamphlets from Mr. Williams.

On behalf of the Union, I tender sincere thanks and hope there will soon be more to acknowledge.

Yours fraternally,

29, Kliffen Place,  
Coronation Road,  
Halifax.

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

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Lyceum Secretaries are requested to read about the limitation of words for the free insertion of Reports. The terms of payment for extra words will be found at the head of the Special Reports. It is also requested that the District Council Reports should not exceed 200 words.

Nelson Lyceum have extended an invitation to the Management Committee to hold their next quarterly meeting at Nelson (with the kind permission and co-operation of the Church) on July 10th and 11th.

# 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 (18/12) 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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JUNE, 1926.

## The Psychology of the Lyceumists.

Another Lyceum Conference has become part of our history and memories will be enriched by all that has passed in the various sessions and the hours of adjournment.

The first tribute must certainly be paid to the practical Yorkshire welcome given by the industrious band of workers in the Dewsbury Church and Lyceum. The many rooms of the Church were a hive of busy bees buzzing around, with greetings and smiles as sweet as honey. The comfort of the delegates was assured in everything.

The Civic Welcome was nicely done and it is a great change to be officially welcomed, in open assembly, from the old cottage-meeting days among Yorkshire Spiritualists. "Children of the devil," forsooth; we are at last respectable.

The Lyceum children, too, gave us a vision. Our system, coming from spirit children, was symbolised by their WELCOME. It was like an inspiration descending on the platform to the delegates and passing to the outer world beyond. In those happy moments the visitation of at least one little angel was proved to our senses. There are brighter pictures and sweeter scenes than the normal eye can see. The invisible aroma of the deep red roses, blended with the twin harmony from two young voices heralded the vibrations from which good conferences can spring. We shall some day know more of these things and forces and be able to manipulate them to our will.

The tone of the conference was decidedly mellow. There was an agenda with much discussable matter, and yet all passed smoothly into adoption.

It was a great thing for the future growth and welfare of the movement when the acceptance of the comprehensive college scheme and joint educational efforts were given an opportunity of binding the S.N.U. and the B.S.L.U. in a united bond. Here is a fusion in which neither side lose their identity. Yet again came the same spirit in the adoption of co-operation with the International Spiritualists Federation. We face the other nations in a spirit of unity: may we be as united as spirit and matter, inseparable and necessary to each other.

The attendance of the delegates was an inspiration, when we consider the depleted facilities for reaching the conference and the journeys to and fro. It was an admirable demonstration of what is perhaps our chief motto "the workers win."

We are back in our homes, with memories ranging from the heckling of a balance sheet to the dream castle of a Home of Rest for indigent Lyceumists that we have faith may some day come true. There is an end to the longest trail. We hope to reach the goal in time, though "the best laid plans of mice and men oft gang astray."

Our most earnest wish is that the reverberations of conference decisions may be received, through the delegates, in the Lyceums to build on the foundations of our schemes to complete the £2,000 Effort, carry education into the minds of our 17,000 Lyceumists and feel one of our most successful gatherings will have a definite expression towards building solidarity (which our European compatriots interpret as brotherhood), unity and harmony as the readiest means of opening the door to the unseen

forces from which mankind can draw the inspiration of amity and progress.

We feel that from the venue of Dewsbury Town Hall and the decision of May 23rd we shall rise a stronger force of permeative powers. The forces of constructive ideals have been harnessed by the quest of truth and unfoldment, to be guided by the reins of reason and good will, and to pursue the course where spirit and mortal travel side by side towards knowledge and communion with all that is best. "Live to learn and learn to live" is the expression of an earnest hope that we shall guild ourselves with the unseen forces and use the plastic condition of the love-rays to influence human thought. Let us link the personal to the social and see in social consciousness a marriage of the "you and the 'me,'" from which can spring the "us."

Is not this linking method a natural one? Do we not find the trees, the birds, the animals and men evolve from the "you, me, us and they"? In the human mind the law of causation loses its completeness and becomes, at times, subject to control by the human will. When we "will" an ideal to ourselves we find its expression increases its value as it passes from mind to mind. The psychic effect of the transmutation of thought is more powerful than the spoken word, as we are apt to think an inspiration is an original thought, until we understand what the generative forces of inspiration really are. Then we realise that what we thought was originally our own idea has been placed in our receptive minds by another influence which may be personal, cosmic or divine. The truly progressive personality is almost always a medium for the cosmic or divine expression of unfolding advancement. The cosmic laws relate us to the scheme of being, whilst the divine influx gives occasional glimpses into the joys of a superior vision when the eye of physical man is replaced by the inner vision who looks out from the soul and reaches to the glory of God in the highest.

To those who become aware of these feelings and sensations and realise the full extent of the permeate power of God's laws of love and life, there is a happiness as sweet as the aroma of the rich red rose. It was with this idea, we believe, that the Dewsbury Lyceumists, consciously or unconsciously, welcomed the Conference to their town and homes. The inference was that the welcome was a conscious one, and not influenced purely by duty, as the heart spoke when the lips were dumb. Happily as we were all fed and comforted after weary journeys and the tension of crowding a year's work into a few hours, we feel the greatest joy was with those who had rendered the service of opening their arms and hearts and homes to our physical comforts.

There is hope that the mental expressions of co-ordinated ideas may have, in some way, compensated for the extra efforts needed by all who were participants in the Conference.

Many yearning hearts remained at home and it is a pleasure to feel that in some cases the WELCOME found receivers over the distances. We feel the joy of each distant Lyceumist can be awakened by the realisation that they were really as much a part of the conference as the angel friends who hovered about us. Invisible, and possibly unknown as individuals, our conference mind was directed at times to circling the earth, touching New Zealand and other centres in our vibratory passage. Heaven and earth were blended and the transfusion brought us all nearer to the divine.

We have gathered our yearly inspiration and arranged our collective ideals for another year. Dewsbury was the eye-piece through which we saw and shared the vision of another year's work.

We are looking for a home next year to house the physical necessities for our spiritual progress. We await the invitation and look towards another conference with inspiration and hope.

G. F. KNOTT.

### A POOLING SCHEME.

A kindred democratic organisation has lately held a national conference and operated a pooling scheme which has enabled the organisation of a better representative meeting than hitherto.

The machinery adopted was for a date to be fixed for all applications to be sent to the secretary. The secretary then computed the total fares and averaged the total amount by the number of delegates who pledged themselves to attend or pay their share of the pool: compulsory on all applicants.

The railway tickets were obtained by the secretary and sent out with the credentials which were supplied on payment of the average cost. The report was given that the method had been a complete success.

Billets were an additional charge and fixed up on application.

## The Education Committee.

Conference has met and adopted the suggested schemes for a National Spiritualist College and an Advanced Education Scheme. Should the A.G.M. of the S.N.U. also adopt these, our present Scheme will become the ASSOCIATE SECTION of the National Education Scheme, and lead to the College Degree of ASSOCIATE (A.N.S.C.), for all students who pass, or have already passed, Grade V. examination with 70 per cent.

The Committee met after Conference, re-elected its officers, and appointed a sub-committee, boards, etc. (some provisionally of course), as follows:—

OFFICERS:—Chairman, Miss A. Hesp; Secretary, Miss M. E. Kitson, B.A.; Asst. Secy., Mr. A. T. Connor.

COLLEGE BOARD (B.S.L.U. Section)—Misses Hesp, Kitson, Lawton and Elliott; MESSRS. Connor, Keeling, Latham and Knott.

JOINT EDUCATION COMMITTEE and N.S.C. GOVERNING BOARD (B.S.L.U. Section)—Miss Hesp, Miss Kitson and Mr. Connor.

NOMINATIONS FOR COLLEGE OFFICERS, ETC.:—*College Chairman*, Mr. W. G. Gush, D.N.U.; *College Secretary*, Mr. A. T. Connor; *Trustee-Treasurer*, Mr. T. H. Wright; B.S.L.U. *Trustee-Auditor*, Mr. R. Latham.

### THE COLLEGE.

The College, when it becomes a part of our national Movement, will affect 57 of our Lyceums, who will be eligible for membership as Local Branches (having not less than ten students who sat at the last examinations) and 60 Lyceumists who (since 1921) have qualified for the Associate Degree. A list of these successful students will be found at the end of this year's Results Lists Book, which can be obtained from the Educational Secretary for one shilling, post free. It is hoped that a list of eligible "Local Branch" Lyceums will be published in the August BANNER, with full particulars re applications for Diplomas, etc.

### TO GRADE V. STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR A.N.S.C.

To obtain the right to use the letters A.N.S.C., it will be necessary to apply to the COLLEGE Secretary for an Associate's Diploma, and the conferring by the College of the Degree of Associate (See College Constitution, Article 13 (a)). Until this has been granted, the letters must not be used. At present you are only eligible TO APPLY FOR THE Degree.

Following is a list of books to be studied for the Intermediate Grade:

#### READING COURSE.

Handbook No. 1 (B.S.L.U.) 7½d. (post free), from B.S.L.U.  
Hints to Students of Spiritualism (Berry), 7½d. from S.N.U.  
The Seven Pointed Star (Berry), 4d., from S.N.U.  
Modern Spiritualism (Evans), 3s. 3d., from B.S.L.U.  
Psychic Philosophy (De Brath), 6s., from S.N.U.  
"The Doctrine of Immortality" (Morse) is not at present in print.

#### PHILOSOPHY COURSE.

Primer of Logic (Jevons), 1s. 9d., from Macmillan (per newsagent).  
Essays on Reasoning (Connor), 5d., from B.S.L.U.

#### EVOLUTION COURSE.

The Story of Creation (Clodd), 1s., Rationalist Press Association.

### ALTERATION OF AGES FOR GRADES.

As announced at Conference, experience has led to the conclusion that the average child of ten is too young to take a written examination of the standard of Grade I., so the minimum age for that Grade has been raised to twelve years, and this made necessary alterations in the ages of the other Grades. The new minimum ages are as follows:—

Oral Grade, Junior Section,	8—10 years old.
Oral Grade, Senior Section,	10 years or over.
Grade I. for Lyceumists of	12 years or over.
II.	13   "   "
III.	15   "   "
IV.	17   "   "
V.	18   "   "

### ORAL GRADE BOOKLET.

Conference has approved the collection of the Oral Grade

Object Lessons published in the BANNER, and their issue as an Oral Grade Reader. This month's lesson and one in the July issue, will complete the series, and every effort will be made to have the booklet in print in time for use by Grade Leaders next session.

The following "Chat" should be of interest to all Group Leaders.

### A CHAT ABOUT GROUP LEADERS.

Assuming charge of a class of young children is a very serious undertaking; and nobody realised this better than Mary Winfield, during the week that followed her appointment as Oral Group Leader in Thorpedale Lyceum. She had passed Grace IV. with Distinction, and so had no option but to take up the responsibility that was thrust upon her; as the Lyceum Conductor said, she had studied for the Examinations with the sole purpose of fitting herself for the work that was now offered, and so she was unable to refuse. But more and more, as the week wore on, she realised the great difficulty as well as the great responsibility of her task, and doubted her ability to do justice to the young minds entrusted to her charge. At last, near the end of the week, she went to the Conductor and explained her difficulties to him.

Mr. Clarke was a teacher in everyday life, so he was able to enter sympathetically and understandingly into her account of her doubts and fears—knowing from his own experience how large even small difficulties loom before the novice.

"Now, Mary," he said, when they had settled down after tea, "let me hear what is troubling you, and it will be strange if we cannot find a way out. I never yet knew of a trouble that couldn't be overcome by facing it boldly."

"Well, it's like this, Mr. Clarke," she answered. "I have to take over the teaching of these children, and I honestly don't think I am fit for the work. I know I did well in the Examination; but that was more a test in Conductorship. I believe I could take a Group of adults and get on pretty well with them, because they would be able to understand and follow what I said; but I don't think I could make the children understand what I would be trying to teach them, and it isn't fair to them to put me in charge of them."

"I am glad you are taking the matter so seriously," was Mr. Clarke's reply. "Some of our Group Leaders seem to regard their Leadership as a kind of social position, instead of as a post of honour and duty. It does not appear to occur to them that they have assumed any sort or degree of responsibility. But really, the work of a teacher is a most important thing; and if you will allow me to advise you, and will set about your teaching in the right way, you will be able to do work that will play an important part in shaping the future of our Spiritualist Movement. Believe me, it is work that is well worth doing."

"Oh, I can see that," exclaimed Mary, "and I would love to be able to do it; but I know nothing about teaching, and it seems so hard to make children understand even the simplest things."

"There is only one way to get the children to understand you, Mary, and that is for you to get to understand the children."

"But how can I do that?" asked Mary.

"In the first place, you must make up your mind that the children are not little machines—not, let us say, little gramophone records, with the question you ask them to act as a gramophone needle to draw out an answer you have already taught them. You must try all the time to treat them as human beings, well able to think for themselves and form their own opinions on what you may teach them."

"Yes, I can follow that, Mr. Clarke; but how am I to make a start?"

"You must start by making a complete study of each one of your children. No two human beings are exactly alike, and no two human beings look at any given thing in exactly the same way; and it is your task to get such a knowledge of your children that you will know fairly well what each of them will think on any subject and why he or she will think it. Insight into the minds of the children, and tact in finding the right way of appealing to their minds, are absolutely necessary to the teacher who wants to get good results. If you find that you have run up against difficulties, and that your lessons are not being understood, you will know that you have failed in tact or insight, or both, and have not gone the right way about your teaching."

"It all sounds terribly hard," said poor Mary.

"It may sound hard, but it isn't really. All that is wanted is sincerity and perseverance, with a dash of commonsense; and you will get far more satisfaction in teaching the children than

in trying to teach their elders.'

"Surely not, Mr. Clarke!"

"I can assure you that it is quite true, Mary. A good many of the adults have settled down to more or less fixed opinions, and you would not have a very easy task in bringing about any change. On the other hand, the mind of a child is free from prejudices and is open for impressions. It is for you so to conduct your teaching that you will leave their minds not only still free from prejudices, but impressed with the conviction that the only opinions worth holding are those they themselves have formed from what they know."

"And how am I to begin?"

"As soon as you have taken the names and ages of your children—"

"They are nine and ten years old," interrupted Mary.

"Well, then," continued Mr. Clarke, "the next thing is to ask the children why they attend the Lyceum. You are sure to get some very strange replies, but you must persevere until you get them to give you the answer you want—that it is a school where they will be taught to think properly."

"But won't they all say that at once?" she asked.

"Not all of them, I'm afraid. You will then try to make them understand why they are going in for the Education Scheme. You will have to be very careful over this, as your children are too young to want education for its own sake; and you will need first of all to attract them by pointing out that, when they grow up, they will be the Spiritualist workers and speakers—and that the more they know the better it will be for Spiritualism. Ignorant workers, you must tell them, make an ignorant Movement."

"But will that help me to understand their minds?"

"It should. You are lucky in having a room all to yourselves; and you can treat your children as chums, and, instead of asking them formal questions, get into conversation with them and let them chat with you and express their ideas freely. You will then be able to judge their mental standard from the opinions they express."

"Ye-es, I could do that," said Mary—none too hopefully.

"Of course you could. Well, then; having found out what you can of their mental standard, you can prepare your first lesson. In doing this, your main aim must be to make it so interesting that all the children will want to take part in it."

"How shall I be able to judge whether they will be interested?" inquired Mary.

"They will be interested in any lesson if you take care to start it in the right way. You must always start from where you know the children are both in mental power and in knowledge; and you must have a clear idea of where you intend them to be at the end of the lesson."

"But how shall I know where to start?"

Mr. Clarke went to his bookshelf, and brought a copy of the "ORAL GRADE READER," opening it at "*The Mind Behind the Plan.*"

"Here we are," he said. "We might as well have an example of what I mean. In this lesson a boy is led from the plan of a house to the plan of a church, and to all that is needed to make the plan a success. From that he finds for himself the cleverness of the man who prepared the plan, and the wonder of the human mind that made such planning possible. Then the teacher is asked to lead the class on to still further discoveries. But before you allow the Lesson to be read, you should encourage the children to talk about houses and to describe any houses or churches they know. You must first prepare the ground for the ideas you want to bring before your scholars."

After some further conversation—in which three or four more Lessons, and the way to "prepare the ground" for them, were fully discussed—Mary prepared to go.

"Thank you, Mr. Clarke," she said at the door; "I'm much obliged for the trouble you have taken with me."

"That is all right, my dear," was the reply. "It has been a real pleasure. All I wish is that I could persuade all my Group Leaders to meet me here once a month, to talk over methods of teaching and compare notes about results. We should soon have a Lyceum that would be an example to the whole Movement. Good night, Mary, and don't forget—your success as a teacher will depend on your power to understand children, and to draw out and develop the very best that is in them."

A. T. CONNOR.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE (orders, enquiries, etc.) about the Education Scheme to the HONORARY SECRETARY: Miss M. E. KITSON, B.A., 17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Batley (Yorks.).

## Our Lyceum Guild.

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

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

GUILD AIMS:—(i) To be progressive;

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

GUILD MEMBERSHIP:—1966 (representing 140 Lyceums).

### OUR GUILD CLASSES.

Reports from various centres show that interest is keen, and work of varied nature is going on. Some classes have planned a series of outings for the summer months; others report weekly visits to the swimming baths, and members working hard to win certificates and carry off prizes. In one centre the Guildites are busily making articles for a Sale of Work to help the Lyceum Funds; in another they are preparing to give a Grand Concert.

We should be glad to hear from other centres too, and to learn of general and special activities.

### PROMOTION BADGES.

A creditable number of Guildites were successful candidates in the last examinations. Many of them have already sent for their promotion badges. We would like the rest to send at an early date. If you did not receive a form of application for your promotion badge; then write on a sheet of paper (i) your name, (ii) address, (iii) Guild number, (iv) Lyceum, (v) Grade passed, (vi) marks obtained. Enclose threepence for the new badge, and a stamped addressed envelope, and post to the Guild Leader, from whom you will then receive the new ribbon-badge showing your standing in the Education Scheme.

### THE SPIRITUALIST COLLEGE.

We know of your interest in the Education Scheme, and the prospective college. Conference Reports and the Education Page will tell you the advance made; and we are hoping that each Guildite who is eligible to take the Intermediate Grade, will make an early start on the work. This can be done by getting the books and reading them carefully, to get a general idea of the work; and then beginning a detailed study. Beginning soon will ensure plenty of time for the work, and allow it to be taken "in small doses" and the knowledge assimilated; and then you will be thoroughly prepared for the examination itself—without rush, or worry, or "cram."

All other Guildites will, we feel sure, continue their work through the remaining Grades, till they have qualified for the A.N.S.C. Degree; and then take up the work for the Graduate Course.



My dear Kiddies,

Here we are once again, hoping every Guildite has enjoyed the Whitsun holiday. How many, I wonder, remember the date, 24th May (Whit-Monday). Why, it is Empire Day, it brings me memories of my younger days, when I used to take part in the school pageants in one of our greatest English cities; such happy times we had—and you are happy to-day, I am sure, happy to realise that you belong to Britain. You will show this by your patriotism; by Love for your people in the Empire and in the whole world. Remember always, children, your Lyceum salute, and "Give Love to all the world and malice to none."

### THE PROBLEMS OF MARCUS AND MYRA.—IV.

The whistle of the engine shrieked as it entered each of the numerous tunnels which can be seen along the Riviera coast. Gazing from the carriage windows, the Whitby family beheld the most beautiful scenery, the train passing swiftly by picturesque old villages, with olive groves and beautiful orchards. On the other side they witnessed a panoramic view

of the coastlands. In the forefront lay the sea, the sun sparkling on its eager wavelets; inland were steep cliffs, the top of one crowned by an ancient tower; while towards the horizon billowy clouds of sail, or long trails of smoke, betokened the presence of those who go down to the sea in ships.

The Whitbys were experiencing the glories of the Riviera in all its natural beauty. At last the train drew up in the small station of Monte Carlo, and Marcus and Myra, followed by their parents, stepped out on to the platform. Myra fairly gasped as she looked upwards a distance of about 150 feet to notice a roadway, really a boulevard, at the top of the slope.

"Good gracious, Marcus," she cried, "this station seems to be built right down into the earth." "Yes, Myra, that is so, I had noticed it myself," said Marcus. "But just look at the beautiful bushes, trees and flowers on the slope." However, as the crowd bustled along, they hurried out of the station and along the station approach until they reached the line of taxicabs. The small hotel was reached at last, and the whole family sat upon the verandah; Mr. Whitby and his wife sipping a cool drink, Marcus and Myra enjoying ices. "Gee, but this is good," remarked Marcus, as he attacked his second ice, "we need something to 'cool our courage' here, it's so terribly hot, the sun seems to be relentless, my face is burning already."

"We must buy Myra a sunshade," said Mrs. Whitby; "she cannot stand the sun's heat so well."

"Oh mother, I'm not exactly a baby; but still, I should like to own a sunshade, they seem to be so fashionable."

Marcus himself discovered the truth of this statement. Many ladies visit Monte Carlo each year, he found, not merely because they really enjoyed coming (most of them detested the place because it was so hot), but because to be seen at Monte Carlo on holiday made them more popular and greater in a social scale.

"You know, we are not here for this reason, Dad," said Marcus. "No, that is true, Marcus; neither are we here with the gambling fever. I think it is wicked for such places to be allowed to exist; people ruin themselves at the Casino, and then take their lives, thinking to end their disgrace."

All throughout the week they strolled about, breathing in the salt air from the sea, with faces as brown as berries, now and then discussing the chief follies of Monte Carlo, also speaking in admiring tones of the splendid gardens and avenues lined by tall trees. The magnificently carved oaken seats had quite taken Myra's fancy, and the wonderful sculptural figures adorning the gardens.

"Oh, Marcus, if only we could bring some of the poor starving children of the slums here, just for a week, how happy they would be, more so than scores of those who are here at present; for I have noticed how downcast some of the people look who have passed us. Maybe they have lost a lot of money gambling—wouldn't it have been much better had they given it to the poor?" "I like to hear you talk like that Myra," said Marcus, "I can assure you that my money will never be spent as some of these people spend theirs; we are here to view and to love the beautiful scenery, and to breathe the air with its health-giving effects."

"Good on you, Marcus lad," said his Dad, slapping his shoulders; "you've earned your money with your brains, and you'll use your brains in spending it, and your conscience will guide you. Without asking, you have learned during your stay here how people use money wisely and otherwise. To-morrow we return home to work, and I know you will work, my boy, as conscientiously as you have done in the past."

Preparations were made the following day for their departure, and tickets had been obtained for Marseilles, thence by steamship to Southampton. Once aboard the large boat, with their luggage installed in their cabins, Marcus and Myra started on a tour round the ship.

A peep down the hatchway leading to the engine-room, where the engines were humming, the giant pistons moving backward and forwards, then to the bridge, where they were quickly told they were not allowed.

"This is forbidden ground," said the Captain, "but you will be able to see what happens on the bridge when the ship starts on her journey."

"Oh dear, oh dear," cried Myra, as the ship lurched heavily in the Bay of Biscay. It was the third day out at sea, and no member of the Whitby family had been troubled with sea sickness. Marcus, however, was not surprised to hear his sister Myra call out and see her turn a sickly colour. "Now I told you Myra, that you were eating too many sweets." But even as he rose to reach his sister's side, the ship gave a sudden roll, and Marcus almost completed a somersault on the deck. "Heavens," he said, "this is awful weather"; but he laughed

in spite of his fall. In the meantime a steward had attended to Myra, who now lay inert in her deck chair, which was tied safely to the cabin rail.

"I say, steward," said Myra, "when shall we be out of the Bay of Biscay?" "My dear child," replied the steward, "we have never been in the Bay; very few ships have; we always run on the outskirts of it." At last the ship entered calm waters, and five days after leaving the French port, the ship entered Southampton, and was made fast alongside the jetty.

"Thank goodness that is all over," said Myra; "I'll tell you this, Marcus—I shall never go on the water again." Marcus laughed heartily, and the whole family left the docks, and were soon speeding homewards to the little flat in the great English capital. All were glad to be back in "the dear old Homeland," as Mr. Whitby said, holidays were all right now and again to fill the body with more energy.

"Yes, Dad, I am ready for work again," said Marcus. "maybe to work out another invention, one which will benefit both rich and poor; also I have agreed to join along with Myra in assisting those who are in need, to uplift them bodily and spiritually. We have talked the matter over, and any money I can spare I shall gladly give."

Now, the Whitby family are living in happiness, Father and Mother rejoicing in the work their children have undertaken, working for the good of all. Often whilst thinking out chess problems Marcus's mind travels back to the conversation held with the French guide, "Yes," he muses, "Life is similar to a chess problem, but one word gives the key—Brotherhood."

THE END.

Our next story will, I am hoping, be found to be very interesting and amusing for all young Guildites, and to all who read it. "Jolly Jack & Co." it is called, so look out for the "Kiddies Corner" in our next issue.

Heaps of Love to All,

THE GUILD IMP.

## Births, In Memoriam, and Marriages.

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

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

In my lonely hours of thinking,  
Thoughts of her are ever near,  
Loved, remembered, longed for always,  
Bringing many a silent tear.  
"Treasured memories."

—From her loving mother.

BARROW, Dalkeith St.—We regret to report the passing to the higher life, through accidental circumstances, on May 2nd, Charles Taft, age 13, a Lyceumist and son of Mr. and Mrs. Taft, of Barrow.

The interment was conducted amid a large gathering of friends and Spiritualists.

DUNEDIN, New Zealand.—In loving memory of Cecil George Stanbridge, passed to higher life, March, 1925. Remembered by Mrs. Burrige and family, Oamari, New Zealand.

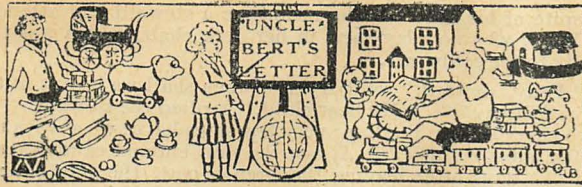
LONDON, Stratford.—We regret to report the passing of Mrs. Paskell, a friend of our Lyceum, on May 2nd, 1926.

"Our loss, their gain."

—Reg. A. Manning, Sec.

NELSON.—We record with regret the sudden passing to the Higher Life on May 27th of a very strenuous worker for the movement in the name of Mrs. Hey.

WALTER LEES MUSGROVE.—We learn Mr. Musgrove has passed over in hospital at Fall River, U.S.A., on April 26th, 1926. He was formerly a Blackpool Lyceumist, and went abroad with his wife about five years ago. Mr. Musgrove was seriously wounded in the War and this hastened his passing. His parents appreciated the kindly attention of Lyceumists when he lay wounded in Keighley. His father, Mr. Tom Musgrove, still attends the Blackpool Lyceum.



My Dear Boys and Girls,

"Summer is coming, I know it, I know it, said the mad little poet." I am jolly glad he did; and I sincerely hope he is not mistaken this year, for the Summer weather appears to have got the "Strike fever." But there, never mind, we will take his word for granted, and look forward to all those high jinks at this time of the year: such as romping in the new mown hay, rambling in the woodland retreats, picnicing in the open fields, etc.

Many of you have already started saying "forty love" to your sweetheart across the tennis nets; others have been scoring centuries (or intending to do so) with the cricket bat; many are practising running in preparation for your school sports, and some are enjoying gathering wild flowers, or playing rounders, etc., in the parks.

Whatever enjoyment you may like best, do not neglect to take every chance you have of getting out into the fresh air and sunshine, as much as ever you are able to, you will then have rosy cheeks, to say nothing of coming home hungry, and eating "mother out of house and home."

The only thing I want you to remember, is my last month's lesson not to torment any of God's creatures for the sake of pleasure.

Before I endeavour to give you a little lesson, I must say how very sorry I am that owing to the busy time I have been having during the recent Strike I have been unable to answer all letters in which stamped addressed envelopes were enclosed for replies. Work of a National character has had to take first place this month, but I am sure you will exercise a little patience with me.

I do not propose to talk to you about lock-outs and strikes, although I will say for the sake of those Adults who read this page, I sincerely hope and pray that the outcome of all recent troubles may have the same ending as that of the lesson I am going to give the boys and girls, for the peace and progress of our beloved England.

Now kiddies, I am going to pack up a wonderful treasure for you, in rather an unusual way. First of all this treasure must be carefully protected from getting damaged in any way; therefore I must first have some cotton wool to wrap it in. Having done this, the next step is to get a case which must be the exact size, as one too large or one too small would be useless. I am now told the weather conditions will affect the treasure inside, therefore something is needed which will keep out all dampness, etc., so I will paint the top of the case with a special solution of gum. (By gum it sticks, too).

I think I have now done all I can to protect this wonderful treasure for a few months, but what is it that calls for so much care and protection? It is just a simple method I have adopted to endeavour to convey to your minds, how one of the many gifts of nature, which you boys and sometimes girls, like to play with, is protected by the laws of nature for your benefit, as well as other uses. It is the "Horse Chestnut." I take it most of you boys and girls who are at school have during the past months had in your schools a jar containing what we call "Sticky Buds," if so, you have seen them open day by day until the beautiful flowers which we see on the trees appear, and I think you will agree that the leaves and flowers are all packed up within the sticky bud in much the same way as I have endeavoured to describe in my packing of a wonderful treasure.

There are many lessons to be learned from this simple illustration of God's protecting care over his own, amongst which is the one Jesus referred to when he said "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow," this is just what I want you boys and girls to do this summer, when you go out into the fields to play, making your daisies chain, or linking together dandelion stems, etc., just try and think how wonderful the gifts of nature are to you, and do not forget to thank God for all His love.

A further lesson I want each one of you to learn, is to seek for the treasures of life.

How often have you looked at the Chestnut blossom and said "What a picture that tree is," but perhaps you have never thought before, of the wonderful work of nature concerning it. In just the same way there are treasures to be found all along life's journey; having found these treasures we must not be

content until we have put them to some useful purpose. For instance the Horse Chestnut if we are too old to play with them ourselves, we can stoop to pick them up for others. A bunch of flowers can be gathered and taken to the hospital to cheer someone up, and in like manner the beautiful lessons we learn from our Manual and the Lyceum sessions can be passed on to make others happy.

#### COMPETITIONS AND PUZZLES.

At the time of going to press, few efforts have been received for the competition, therefore I cannot give the names of prize winners this month. The competition for children this month should be one you can all write and tell me something about: "What you would tell your chum about the Lyceum if he or she were not a member."

The Liberty section are asked to write their own personal experiences in Spiritualism, which of course would answer the same object as the children's section, and enable you to be ready when a chance for recruiting new members comes along.

#### COMPETITION FOR JULY (Children).

Essay on "WHAT I THINK OF THE WIRELESS."  
(Liberty)

Essay on "S.C.R. No. 30: "A PSALM OF LIFE."

The answer to Puzzle No. 29:

K i o s K  
I m a g E  
T a p e R  
S e e d S  
O l i v E  
N a n e Y

Congratulations to those who worked this out.

#### COMPETITION RULES.

Name in full (at the top of your Essay), also your Lyceum, and your Conductor's name and address.

Write Essays on one side of paper only.

Open to all Lyceumists, Prizes for Competitions only (not Puzzles) to those under 14 years of age.

All efforts recorded for three months Individual Effort Certificate.

Address as below, closing date June 18th.

ENCLOSE STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPES if reply is desired.

PUZZLE No. 30. Below you will find a number of common articles which you all see every day. The spelling has got jumbled up and wants a little sorting out, but knowing how very clever you all are, I am sure you will soon put the letters in their correct order.

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. ARLOLC DTSU   | 2. LNEICP SCEA   |
| 3. NNAUTOF ENP   | 4. EBTLA HOTLC   |
| 5. RUCTEPI EAFMR | 6. GUSRA GSNOT   |
| 7. RTTEEL OBX    | 8. TIIRNWG APD   |
| 9. OAPN OTLOS    | 10. ENLDAC KTCIS |

#### A LOST LOLLYPOP.

Jackie was sobbing his eyes out, "Come and tell Mamma all about it, Darling."

"Boo-o-o-o-oh! My sweetie has slipped down my throat, before I'd sucked it at all! Boo-o-o-h!"

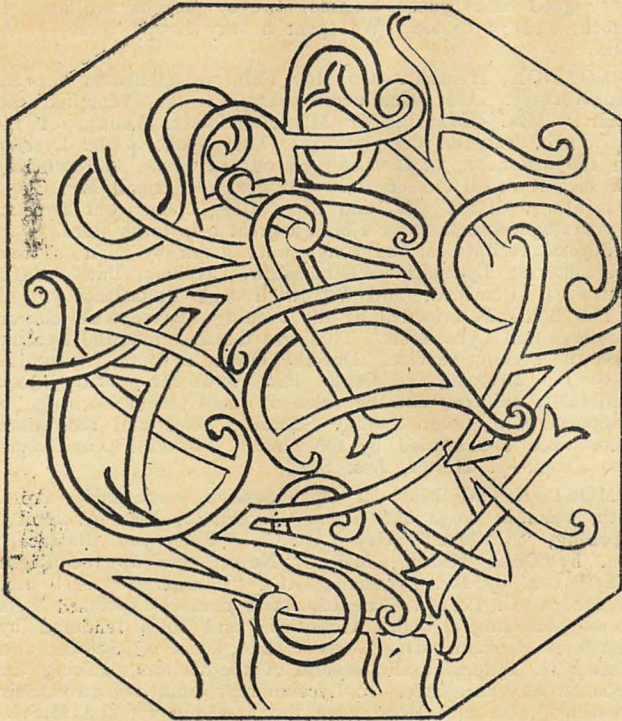
To the members of the Liberty section, my message this month is "Get back to the CHEERIO spirit, especially with your Lyceum work. To many of you, a damper has been put on you by the recent troubles, but with the summer months at hand you have every opportunity, as Lyceumists, of getting together and creating anew this much needed spirit. It you have not already done so, the time is now ripe for the formation of Cricket, Tennis, Cycling, or Rambling Clubs. These will create a fraternal spirit amongst your members, and provide you with healthy recreation which will improve your mental, moral, and spiritual faculties, making you the stronger for service for God and the angel world. If we create this Cheerio spirit within ourselves we shall be able to lift many burdens from those that are sad. Dickens once said, "No men on earth can cheer like Englishmen, who do so rally one another's blood and spirit when they cheer in earnest, that the stir is like the rush of their whole history, with all its standards waving at once." Herein is the spirit we need to-day.

With love,

2, Villiers Road,  
Osterley, Middlesex.

UNCLE BERT.

P.S.—On the next page will be found some interwoven letters. Try to find the full name of a Lyceumist, and then colour the letters with crayons or paints in three different colours.



### The Call to Youth.

*An Invitation from a Young Lyceumist to other Young Lyceumists.*

'The youth of the world is awakening to the danger of the present situation and to a sense of its great responsibility for peace. The Youth Movement is not an organisation but a spirit which is manifesting itself in almost every country of the world to-day; sometimes expressing itself through organisations with various specific aims and policies; sometimes through new forms in art and literature, new ideals in religion and culture, new conceptions of individual and social relations.'

Perhaps there are many Lyceumists who are feeling the urge of new ideals and will be glad to hear of the aims of other young people who are in spirit with them.

Most of us know something of the German Youth Movement—that wonderful revolt of young people from the conventions and soul-destroying materialism of modern society. They longed to escape from the stuffy atmosphere of schoolroom and workshop and seek a fuller life in close touch with nature. So it became a common sight to see groups of these young people, 'Wandervogel' as they called themselves, wandering through the country full of a new joy of life and the fellowship of each other. They wanted to know the world with their own eyes and to learn from their journeyings what books could never teach them. As they were able to collect sufficient money they bought barns and old ruined castles and converted them into 'Youth Shelters.' Here they met in large numbers; they had camp fires and danced the old folk dances and sang the old folk songs. One such gathering is described by a German youth who took part.

In 1913 at the centenary festival of German freedom, all the bands from every corner of Germany set out to ascend the Hohen Meissner, a high hill near Cassel. In the midst of the early morning we met, small parties at a turn of the steep paths, we increased in number until, arrived at the high plateau on the top of the hill, we recognised with amazement that we were an immense number of young people all filled with the same ideas. Very soon the camp fires were burning, a festal ceremony of youth began, so grandly simple and fresh that we who assisted in it can never forget it. Before long another great stream of wandering youth came to join our bands, it was the proletarian Youth who with difficulty had escaped from their gloomy close rooms, to enjoy at least one Sunday full of light.

What was it that drove us at that time out of the smoky rooms? Something came over us that was stronger than everyday custom, we could not breath within the high walls, the school rooms seemed like prisons, some unknown force impelled us to seek for real living life in Nature. We wandered in storm

and sunshine, and in nights filled with stars. We strove for a life, full and complete as the bud strives for the fruit and they who did not share our feelings were not of our kind.'

In those days it almost seemed as though a new world had come into being, not realised by philosophers or politicians, but discovered in the joy of comradeship and mutual service, of united work together; in a word it was *the living fellowship of youth.*

On the serious side these young people wanted to know more of the life around them, of the conditions under which the workers lived. So they made friends among the town people and the country folk and shared their lives. This brought them to think upon the many injustices in our social system. Hitherto the Youth Movement had been romantic only. Now it became more earnest and thoughtful. Then came the war with all its hideousness and disillusion, and the German Youth was led to think seriously upon its causes and how such a catastrophe should be avoided in the future.

Meanwhile this serious aspect of the Youth Movement spread to other countries. In England was formed the Youth Section of the No More War Movement which set out to work for peace between nations and a life of creative freedom for the individual. All over the world groups of young people came to the conclusion that their elders had made a mess of things and that the young people of to-day would be the home-makers and teachers of to-morrow on whom rested the duty of realising world peace. It was a call to be up and doing; in our own country to bring about new personal relationships based on social justice; abroad to break down barriers of nation, race and creed and bring peoples into a closer union that would make war impossible.

Last August the Youth of thirteen nations met together in France and in view of the events after 1914 it was a touching sight to see French and German youths living together in perfect comradeship. There, and in other conferences, the scheme has been put forward that there should be a World Congress in 1928 to form a World Federation of Youth. Already forty-two nations have declared their desire to take part and there will be representatives from far away countries such as America, China, India and Japan. Think what a union it will be!

Meanwhile in this country the British Federation of Youth is trying to bring together the various youth organisations such as our Lyceum Union so that they may take part in the World Congress and contribute their share in the great work which Youth has undertaken.

Lyceumists! think of the second of our Seven Principles! Here is an opportunity to take part in a Movement which is trying to make the Brotherhood of Man an actual fact, something to be realised here and now. Will all those who would like to know more of the World Congress or who think they might like to join the ranks of English Youth working for world fellowship and understanding, send word to

ELEANER MIDGLEY,

478, Skipton Road,  
Keighley, Yorks.

(The word 'youth' includes those under thirty years of age. But special provision is made for those who though older in years are still young in spirit and in sympathy with the schemes of youth).

## Special Reports.

BACUP.—Open Session, May 2nd. Conductor, Mrs. Carter. Pearls, recitations and solos were admirably rendered. During the Session, a pleasing ceremony took place; Mrs. Carter presenting, on behalf of the Lyceum, a handsome biscuit barrel to Mrs. W. Keeble, one of our esteemed Lyceumists, on the occasion of her marriage, which took place on Saturday, April 24th. Mr. Frank Heworth officiated. Best wishes for Mr. and Mrs. Keeble's future happiness were heartily expressed.—B. Lord, Sec.

BARROW, Dalkeith St.—We held our anniversary and prize distribution on May 9th. Miss Lawton conducted both afternoon and evening services, which were well attended. There was a good response of solos and recitations. Marching and callisthenics were good and enjoyed by all. During the evening a memorial service was held to the memory of Charles Taft, (Lyceumist) age 13, who was accidentally killed on May 2nd, which contributed both aspiration and solemnity to the day's sessions.—W. H. Butcher.

BURNLEY, Hammerton St.—On May 2nd we held our 39th Lyceum Anniversary, our speaker being Mr. Squire

Spencer, of Blackpool. We had a very large attendance at our Open Session, which was conducted by the Lyceum Children. The following helped to make it a success: Doris Carr, Richard Hancock, and Mary Hocking, the children singing "Welcome to All," during which two of our youngest Lyceumists gave flowers to all present. These flowers were sent by an old worker, Mr. Mason, of Ely, Cambs.

At 6 p.m. Massed Choirs from our Church, North Street and Vernon Street, Nelson, gave anthems which were ably conducted by our Musical Conductor, Mr. T. Richmond. Addresses were given by Mr. Spencer, and it was a wonderful day. Greeting to Mr. Mason.—H. Brown, Sec.

COVENTRY, Lockhurst Lane.—On Easter Sunday we held our 5th Anniversary Services. A solo was rendered by Miss Warren, "Ring the Bell Softly," in memory of one of our scholars, who passed into Spirit Life on February 2nd, 1926. A Manual was presented to his mother, Mrs. Treadwell, in loving memory of our late Lyceumist. Recitations were given by the younger scholars. We were also favoured by a visit from Mr. and Mrs. G. Cox, of London, who gave us greetings from several London Lyceums. Prizes were distributed for regular attendance and good behaviour.

DARWEN.—On April 10th we held our Annual Tea Party and Prize Distribution. An excellent operetta, "Aladdin, the Wonderful Scamp," was presented by Lyceumists. Four young Lyceumists gave a very pretty dance under the tuition of Miss Leaver. The prizes were awarded by Mrs. Nurse, of Blackpool. Good luck to all.—D. Coghlan, Ban. Sec.

EDINBURGH, 9, Gayfield Square.—On 16th May a Mass Session was held in the evening, both Edinburgh Lyceums taking part. Mr. Urquhart, President of the Scottish District Council, was prevented from being present owing to the dislocation of the railways. The various lessons and exercises were well done, and appeared to interest the friends present. Bessie Houston, song; Muriel Hartley, recitation; Ada Spencer, recitation; Rina Stevenson, song; John Cobb, violin solo; and Mrs. Hartley, solo. Mr. Rankin, President of the E.A.S., spoke a few words in which he urged the older folks to take a keener interest in the Children's Movement. We would get the best workers in future for our beloved Spiritualism from the Lyceums. Miss Blaik, who was in the chair, said that this was the first time such a Session had been held in Edinburgh, but that it was a step in the right direction, as it showed the two Lyceums could work in harmony together.—P. Lawrence, Sec.

HEATON NORRIS.—On April 11th, we held our Open Session; a most enjoyable afternoon, having many visitors. The Lyceumists did their parts splendidly. The Lyceumists again took the 6-30 service and gave readings and explanations from the Manual. We had a very good day.—Mrs. A. Craig, Sec.

LONDON, Brixton.—We have formed two Rounders teams, Junior and Senior, and the social side of our work is certainly giving an added interest, in the Lyceum, to both old and young.

Our Flower Sunday is on June 20th, when we shall be pleased to welcome all visitors.—M. F. Bodington, Sec.

LONDON, Clapham.—We held our Ninth Anniversary on April 25th, which was very successful.

We had a full attendance of our own members and about 30 visitors from other Lyceums. The session went with a swing.

Prizes were distributed by Mr. Miles, D.V. Mrs. K. M. Barnard, our Conductor, was the recipient of a silk umbrella and a bouquet from the Lyceum.

Tea was provided to which a good number sat down.

The Evening Service was taken by the Lyceum, the congregation being very interested, several questions were asked and ably answered.

The Service closed by the singing of "Goodnight." We spent a most enjoyable day.—A. A. E. Young, Sec.

LONDON, Fulham.—On May 2nd we held our nineteenth Anniversary. The Lyceum members took the meetings during the whole of the day. Services in the morning were conducted by Mr. Field and Miss N. Field. Mr. Isted gave clairvoyance.

The afternoon session was conducted by Mr. Field. Representatives from the following Lyceums were present and gave fraternal greetings on our birthday: Eltham, Kingston, Battersea, Woolwich and Plumstead, Peckham, Brixton, Letchworth, North London and several others.

In the evening Mr. Edmunds conducted the service and Miss Abbott gave a very interesting address. Mr. Fruin gave

very good clairvoyance. There were 27 persons sat down to lunch, and 75 to tea. We spent a very happy time.—J. A. Dix.

LONDON, Hackney.—On May 16th, we celebrated our 3rd Anniversary. Our Conductor, Mr. Carman, occupied the chair. Mrs. Barnard, Mr. Miles, and Mr. Young, of the L.L.D.C., were on the platform. They spoke to the Lyceum in the afternoon, commenting on our progress, and wishing us success in all our efforts. Our dear old friend Mr. Clegg was also with us. Mr. and Mrs. Clegg opened our Lyceum 3 years ago, and they have been a great help to us since.

Several recitations and songs were given by visitors from the following Lyceums: Walthamstow, Clapham, Bowes Park, Battersea, Romford, and Woolwich and Plumstead.

The hall was crowded at the evening service with church members and Lyceumists. This was the first time the Lyceum took the evening service. Dorothy Owen, a young Lyceumist, gave the Invocation. Uncle Bert and Mr. Drury gave addresses, pointing out the value of the Lyceum teaching, as compared with other Sunday Schools. Solos and recitations were much appreciated by the church. Several pearls were also given.—J. Hester, Ass. Sec.

MOSTON.—We held our Open Sessions on Sunday, April 18th, 1926, at 10-30 and 6-30. Conductor, Mrs. A. Smith. Opening, "Children's Day"; S.C., "Keep your Balance," con. by Doris Haith; M.R., "Never give up the Right Way," con. by Mr. Tyreman; G.C., "Esteem Thyself," con. by Mr. A. G. Pearse. The respective readers expressed their views exceedingly well. Recitations and solos rendered by Margaret Bassnett, Miss Doris Walker, Miss A. Stevens and Master H. Tyreman, also several of the visitors, making the Sessions very enjoyable. 10 Lyceum representatives gave their greetings, also Mr. Hood gave the greetings for the M.S.L. D.C. and N.E.L.D.C. We in return wishing all every success. Closing, "Life is Onward."—A. T. Smith, Sec.

NORTHAMPTON, Newland.—Lyceum Anniversary, April 18th. These services were a glorious success and were well attended. Special singing and recitations being given by Lyceumists. Mr. H. Cory, of Rotherham, was our appreciated speaker.—(Mrs.) M. Lawman, Sec.

READING.—I am very glad to be able to report still further progress this month. On the 4th April we celebrated our 2nd Anniversary and prize giving. Several social items were much appreciated, as was a short talk by an old spirit-friend through the mediumship of our Assistant Conductor, Mr. A. Lawrence. The register shows a live membership of 48, this being approximately double last year's membership. Attendance has been very regular, prizes being won for attendance and conduct by G. Stratford, Q. Chandler, K. Stratford, N. George, I. Ezra, R. Gibbs, N. Wren, W. Stratford, A. Wren, G. Sumner, W. Duffield, Willie Ezra and Annie Seward. The election of officers resulted in all being returned unopposed. Having formed a Lyceum library, Miss Rene Giles was elected librarian for the ensuing year.

On April 11th we conducted the evening Church service, a Lyceum session, as far as possible being taken. Papers were read by Kathleen Stratford and George Sumner. Maisie Wren took the Silver Chain and Rene Giles sang "The Angel's Home." A full Church appreciated the efforts of all those who took part and all agreed it was an enjoyable and novel service. Our Assistant Conductor took the chair and enlarged on Lyceum work, and Mrs. Lawrence said a few words to close, and the Benediction. Best wishes to all.—Douglas R. Lawrence, Sec.

SOUTHEND AND WESTCLIFF.—The above Lyceum held its second Lyceum Sunday on March 25th. It was a great success.

At 11 a.m. 30 Lyceumists occupied the platform, specially enlarged for the day. Mr. A. T. Fletcher, President of the Church, was in the chair. Violet Tims gave the opening Salute and Elsie Brooks the invocation. After a short address by Mrs. Barnett, of the S.L.S.M., and Mr. Barbanel (L.D.C.) a solo, "The Promise of Life" was rendered by Miss Grace Twinn, after which four Lyceumists gave a number of clairvoyant descriptions to an audience of about 450.

The Open Session commenced at 3 p.m., 320 people being present. Musical items, solos, recitations, marching and callisthenics were given. Mr. Miles, D.V., gave a short address, and complimented the Lyceum. Four presentation copies of "Outlines of Spiritualism" were given to Mr. A. T. Fulcher (for Examining Oral Grade, 1926) Mr. Bridge (scrutineer), Mr. Argent and Mr. and Mrs. Brooks, for

services rendered. 250 friends were entertained to tea. 650 were present.

At the evening service 50 Lyceumists took the platform, beautifully decorated with palms, ferns and flowers kindly lent by Pilgrims, the Southend Florists. After 2 minutes silence the Lyceum Salute was given by Doris Reed, the Invocation was given by Muriel Thornton. The Oral Grade Students then answered questions on the Oral Grade Examination. The speakers for the evening were Mrs. Barnett, Mrs. Tims, (our Conductor), Mr. Miles and Mr. Barbanell. Miss Twinn sang the "Dream of Paradise," also "A Beautiful Prayer" in which the Lyceumists sang the chorus. Bouquets were presented to Miss Twinn, Mrs. Barnett and Mrs. Tims by two little girl Lyceumists aged three. Twelve of our youngest members took up the collection in decorated baskets amounting to £8 14s. 7d., and £3 in "Foot of Pennies" was presented to the President of the Church in aid of the Building Fund.

"Shoulder to Shoulder" was sung by the Lyceum while the congregation dispersed.

Everyone decided the Lyceumists had set a splendid example of what Spiritualists should know and everything went with a swing. Our thanks go to all our friends who helped, also to the Spirit People who were "Hand in Hand" with us.—Leslie R. Fletcher, Sec.

WINNIPEG, Polson Avenue.—We held our usual Open Session on May 2nd. Pearls or recitations were given by Edna and Harold Brown, Daisy Knox, Olive and Harry Forrest, Irene Turner, Harold Guest, Millie Crawley, Nerna and Kenneth McLeod, Billy Scott, Harry Towns, Mrs. Knox. Reading by Helen Lawrence, also a song by Mrs. H. Forrest. We had a delightful Session with a few visitors present. Mr. H Forrest had the greatest pleasure in handing the certificates to the ones who passed in the Education Scheme.—Winnie Brown, Sec

WINNIPEG, Princess Street.—We had our monthly Open Session and a very small attendance. Only two came forward to recite: Ivy Vernon and Ellen Scoeyrup. I think there must have been some other attractions in the city that we had such a small attendance.—Mrs. Armitt, Sec.

## District Council Report.

### SOUTH EAST LANCS. DISTRICT.

The quarterly meeting was held at Hartley St., Littleboro', on Saturday, May 1st. Mr. J. Nurse (President) was in the chair. Mr A. Hudson was elected Credential Officer. Delegates present: Representatives, 16 (10 Lyceums), Associates 3, D.V.I.

Minutes passed as read. Correspondence accepted. President's address accepted. Speaking of the duties of Delegates, the President said that he was pleased to see interest being awakened and asked them to build more unity between Lyceums.

It was agreed that a vote of condolence be conveyed to the Conductor of Regent Hall (Rochdale) Lyceum, Mrs. Dawson and her family, on the passing of her husband to the higher life.

Reports; Auditor's, Credential Officer's and D.V.'s accepted. The D.V. reported visits to two new Lyceums in Oldham and Royton, and a vote of thanks was recorded to him for services without incurring expense to Council.

The Conference Agenda was read and instructions given to Delegates.

It was agreed that we hold our next meeting at Mill Street, Middleton, on Saturday, September 11th.

A vote of thanks was given to Hartley Street friends for the entertainment of the Delegates.—T. Dixon, Sec.

## District Visitors' Reports.

### SOUTHERN COUNTIES DISTRICT.

Brighton (Mighell Street) was visited on April 25th. Forty members present, all early. S.C. recitation Nature's Revelations read and explained; good ideas expressed by younger members. G. C. 'The Nature of Man,' conducted by Mr. R. Kelly. Helpful explanations given by Messrs. Chatfield, Everett, and George Parks. Marching much improved. Social items good. It was very interesting to note the marked individuality of all who took part. A very enjoyable session.—A. L. Scoggins, D.V.

### SOUTH EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

Oldham, Hooper Street is a flourishing Lyceum: the strongest in Oldham. It is doing good work. They have a good Conductor and earnest workers.

Oldham, Abbey Hills Road, Glodwick.—This is a new Lyceum. The workers deserve every success.

Waterhead, Equitable St.—This Lyceum has only been opened a few months. It is supported by a few earnest workers. I am pleased with the good work they are doing, and hope that it will grow into a strong Lyceum.

Shaw, Lyon St.—This Lyceum is not as strong as in past years, and is unaffiliated. All was satisfactory. A little more variety in the session would help.

Crompton, Cowlisam.—This Lyceum has only been opened a few weeks. What I saw on my visit pleased me very much. This Lyceum can be of great service to Shaw and Crompton. It has got some good workers.

Middleton, Gilmour St.—This is a healthy Lyceum. I hope they will continue with their good work.

Royton, Whittaker St.—This is an old Lyceum newly opened again, and promises to be of great service to Royton. Election of Officers: Mr. D. Greaves as Conductor. He was one of the founders of the Royton Spiritualist Church 34 years ago, and understands Lyceum work.—H. Buckley, D.V.

## LYCEUM REPORTS.

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

**RULE 2.**—Record only the events occurring after May 26th.

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

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

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

**RULE 5.**—Colonial Reports, if posted to the Lyceum Banner

(Crowded out of May issue).

ACCRINGTON, Pearl Street.—Open Session. Invocation by Miss Coleclough. Mrs. Wilson, of Oswaldtwistle, conducted all services. Her subject was "Freedom: Universal and Individual. The Lyceumists were very keenly interested in everything she said. The Lyceumists contributed freely with solos and recitations and was enjoyed by a large gathering. Mr. Crossley, our new organist, accompanied very well.—A. Anderson, Sec.

BARRY, Buttrills Rd.—We held our Annual Tea on Good Friday, supported by a large number of adults. Excellent songs and recitations were given by the Scholars, and games afterwards indulged in, all of which were ably presided over and conducted by Mr. G. Corp. Greatly enjoyed by all.—S. G. Harvard, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—Our Open Session was held on April 4th, with a very good attendance. Recitations from Edith Winters, Charlie Ellis and Margaret Ellis. Solos by Mr. Woodley, Eileen Edwards, Jimmie Woodley and a lady visitor. Two duets from Mrs. Holehouse and Miss Roberts, and Maria Leighton and Hilda Tollerton. A number of Pearls were given and explained.

On Easter Monday we held a ramble to Bidston Hill, glorious weather prevailing, and all thoroughly enjoyed it. We reciprocate greetings from T. Blanchard.—Millie Hemsall, Sec.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter St.—On March 28th we held our 42nd Anniversary. Mrs. Jones was our speaker for the day. Recitations were given by Master A. Wilkinson, Master W. Raiton and Mrs. C. Robinson. Duets were ably rendered by Miss E. Hopper and Miss B. Wilkinson, and Mr. W. Joud and F. Robinson. We had a very good Session with 150 Lyceumists and friends.—H. Bullen, Sec.

BRADFORD, Ripley St.—We held our Open Session on April 4th. Mrs. Bairstow, Mrs. Wilkinson, Mrs. Pickles, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Pickles, Mr. G. Schofield, Mr. Plumb, A. Wilkinson and Miss Elsie Clark, of Earby, helped to make it a success.—E. Pickles Sec.

**BOURNEMOUTH.**—March 14th, Lyceum Anniversary and Prize Distribution. Pearls, recitations, pianoforte solo and vocal solos well rendered by the Lyceumists. A good attendance of Church members.—W.M.H., Sec.

**CHESTERFIELD.**—On April 4th, we witnessed a very pleasing naming ceremony, conducted by Mr. J. Hobster, of the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Hobster, two old Lyceumists now residing in Liverpool.

On April 11th we held our Open Session, when the following rendered items:—Francis Hobster, Avis Brown, Marion Holland, Marion Wagstaffe, Linda and Ernest Heath, Lilian, Connie and John Slater, Monica and Christina Anthony, May and Joan Wheatley, Jessie Orwin, Harold Hobster, Edith Slater and Eveline Clements.—A. E. Hobster, Sec.

**CLECKHEATON.**—We had a beautiful Session on April 11th. Many Lyceumists taking part in discussion. We had some well rendered solos and pearls.—A. E. Raynor, Session Sec.

**COLNE, Cloth Hall.**—On April 3rd an Open Session was held. The session was conducted very well, and the readings were all very appropriate to one another, the responses to the questions and thoughts in the readings were explained by Lyceumists. Then we had Marching and Callisthenics. The solos and recitations were executed by the Lyceumists. A very good session throughout.—J. R. Wrigglesworth.

**DONCASTER, High St.**—We held our Open Session on April 4th, conducted by Miss L. V. Batty; an invocation given by Master A. Crossland. The following Lyceumists took part:—A Crossland, F. Gomersall, L. Ball, L. Gomersall, Mrs. Gomersall. Mr. Fenton, of Pontefract, paid us a visit and spoke words of encouragement. Everyone enjoyed the session. Miss D. Batty gave the Benediction, to a glorious session.—Mrs. S. C. Webb.

**FLEETWOOD.**—On April 4th we held our Open Session, conducted by Mr. Bradley. Recitations by Frank Harris, Phyllis Jordan, Kathleen Smith, Edna Still. Duet by Nora and Agnes Christopherson. Solo by Kitty Thurston. Our visitors included Mr. T. Edwards and Mr. Houlgate, and our speaker for the day was Mr. Bostock, of Runcorn. A fine session.—(Mrs.) A. Leadbetter, Sec.

**GLASGOW, S.M.U.**—On 14th March we had a special Lyceum Service, in honour of the visit of the U.D.C. to Glasgow. The principal features of the afternoon were the efforts of the Delegates themselves, and the wonderful display given by "Glasgow's Own" Tinty Tots, trained by Miss Prior, of Maryhill, Glasgow. Mr. A. T. Connor, President of the U.D.C., presided, and gave the delegates ample opportunities to show their mettle. The response made everyone realize that in England we had real live Lyceum members. The S.M.U. Lyceum sends its greetings and best wishes to all Lyceums.—Etta Hastie, Sec.

**GREAT HARWOOD.**—We held our Open Session on April 4th, when the following Lyceumists took part:—S.C.R. by Florrie Pickvance, G.C.R. by Maggie Nelson. Recitations were given by Maggie Nelson, Susie Braithwaite, Florrie Pickvance and Walter Taylor.—Clara Waterhouse, Sec.

**GRIMSBY.**—On April 4th we had our usual "Pleasant Sunday," which resulted in a most enjoyable time. In the morning Albert Keyworth conducted the Marching and Callisthenics, and afterwards a song was given by P. Stanham, also recitations by Doris Johnson, Rosie Barron and Violet Pilkington. In the afternoon, songs by Mrs. Smith, Emily Couling and Kate Sutherland, Ethel Robinson and May Hudd, and recitations by Florence Pilkington, Alice Ranshawe and Irene Jewitt.—Percy Stanham, Sec.

**HANLEY, Percy St.**—On March 7th we held our Annual Prize Distribution. The Session, conducted by Mr. F. Rowley, proved most enjoyable to all present. Over 100 prizes were distributed by Mr. Harrington, of Bucknall, who gave encouraging words to the children. Recitations, pearls and solos were given by the Lyceumists. A vote of thanks, moved by Mr. Rowley, was accorded to Mr. Harrington, and all officers who had helped to give the children such a happy day.—H. Marland, Sec.

**HUCKNALL.**—On March 21st our afternoon service was very interesting, being our Prize Distribution Day. Miss Raynor, of Nottingham, giving 26 books to the scholars, and spoke encouraging words to the children. She also dedicated a baby to the Lyceum. Solo by Gladys Pegg. Recitation by Mary Chaplin.—Miss Leverton, Sec.

**HUDDERSFIELD, St. Peters St.**—We held our Open Session on April 5th, conducted by Mr. Garside. We had recitations by Elsie Kerrison, Florence Senior, Mary Midgley and Doris Richmond; solo by Eva Farnhill; pianoforte solos by Phyllis Wilson and Mary Wallis; violin solo by Mr. Hargreaves; recitations by George Buttle, John Schofield and Leslie Midgley. He had a very enjoyable afternoon.—Elizabeth Farnhill, Sec.

**HULL, Holborn Hall.**—On April 4th we held our Open Session. Attendance small, but enjoyable time. Miss Elliott, speaker for the Easter Celebrations, was present with us.—M. J. Brown, Sec.

**LANCASTER.**—We held our Open Session on April 4th. There was a fair selection of recitations and songs. The following took part:—F. Dennison, B. Kelly, A. Bond, A. Coupland, M. Dawson, D. Kirk, J. Peel and M. Jewitt.—E. Thompson, Sec.

**LEEDS, Alpha St.**—Celebrated their first Easter Monday with a grand Ham Tea and Social, which I'm sure was splendid. After having a real good tea there were amusements for young and old. Children took the first part, and were entertained for two hours by the members. Then it was the adults' turn, which everybody enjoyed.—Mr. E. Crowley, Sec.

**LEICESTER, Liberty Progressive.**—Open Session. Invocation by Bro. Jayes; usual items were given. S.C.G.C. musical Reading. Duet by K. Townsend and E. Newton and solo by Bro. Jayes. During the Session the Annual Prize Distribution took place.

April 4th. Open Session. A very enjoyable session and a nice number was present. The usual items were given. Invocation by Bro. Jayes. Solos were rendered by our Conductor, Mrs. F. Thwaites, and Bro. Jayes. Easter eggs were given to the younger children and mottoes to the elders.—C. W. Banton, Sec.

**LEWISHAM.**—Our first Lyceum Social and Dance was held on March 9th, contributed wholly by the Lyceum members. About 20 children assisted in the programme with songs and recitations. Refreshments were provided free by the adult members. A distribution of fruit closed a very enjoyable evening.—Mrs. W. S. Coleman, Sec.

**LONDON, Manor Park.**—On April 18th our Session was thrown open as a Recognition Service to our Arisen Member, (Mrs. Clegg). Several gave utterance to happy memories and he untiring efforts in the Lyceum Cause; her motto was one of *Press Forward*. Mr. Clegg, who was present, gave us a word of encouragement. Pleased to report steady progress and new members.—E. M. Marmoy, Sec.

**LONDON, Tottenham.**—On March 28th we held our Open Session conducted by Mr. Barrington, our late Conductor from Manchester. Recitations and solos were rendered by Lyceumists; pearls were plentiful and a pleasant afternoon was enjoyed by all.—Cyril Godfrey, Session Sec.

**MANCHESTER, Pendleton.**—March 21st was Prize Distribution Day, our worthy President, Mr. W. H. Shaw, presiding. A noteworthy event was the presentation of a beautiful clock to Mr. C. Lloyd, in appreciation of his thirty years' connection as a worker with Ford Lane.

On Saturday, April 17th, we were entertained by Vernon Bell's "Merry Moments" Concert Party, and there were many merry moments during the evening. The proceeds go to the "Building Fund."—H. Greenwood, Sec.

**MANCHESTER, Swinton.**—We held our Open Sessions on April 4th, a most enjoyable time being spent by all present. During the afternoon Session, our Conductor, Mr. S. Jackson, named the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mounsey. Earth names, Kathleen Mary; Spirit name, Victory. About 70 persons were present during the evening session, representing 5 Lyceums.—Leonard Breedon, Sec.

**MEXBORO'**—On April 4th we made a presentation of a Lyceum Badge and an Officer's Manual-de-Luxe to our pianist, Miss Laura Hughes. Mrs. Newey made the presentation on behalf of Lyceum and Church members. The Lyceumists gave recitations and pearls. Miss Ida Haywood conducted both sessions.—Miss E. Gamble, Sec.

**MIDDLESBROUGH.**—Open Session April 4th. Our late Conductor, Mr. Roeder (now Life-President) conducted the session. It being "Pioneer Sunday," Mr. Roeder addressed

us upon "The Fox Sisters." Mr. Buckingham, one of our Leaders, spoke of the personal benefit gained from the Lyceum.—Ed. Nellist, Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH, United.—On April 17th we had with us Mrs. Foster, from Horden, who named the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Pearson. The baby was presented with the Lyceum Badge and was given the spirit name of Star.—M. Brookes, Sec.

NEWCASTLE, Benwell.—On April 4th we had a very enjoyable afternoon, it being our Open Session Sunday. Mr. Hamilton, an old Lyceumist, was the speaker, and his address was enjoyed by all present.—Thos. McCallum, Sec.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, Heaton and Byker.—On March 7th we held our Open Session. Songs by Mr. Hunter, Mr. French and Lunn, E. McMillan, G. Pearson, D. Ronaldson; pearls Mr. Ronaldson, Walmsley, Grigson, Lunn, Misses Groves, G. Tomlin, I. French, E. Gregson, N. Moore; recitations Miss Norton, O. Pybus E. Hughes, N. Arthur, Jim Ronaldson, H. A. McEwen, Mr. Walmsley, Doris Ronaldson. A splendid session enjoyed by all.—S. D. Hunter, Sec.

OLDHAM, Central.—On April 17th we held our Lyceum Anniversary and Open Session with a good attendance. The recitations, solos and pearls were well rendered. We give a hearty invitation to all Lyceumists at 10-30 and 2-30.—L. Palmer, Sec.

OLDHAM, Elliott Street.—On March 14th we had a pleasing Ceremony in the naming of Joan Platt, the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Platt, conducted by Mrs. Jessie Greenwood. The spirit name was Pansy. Mrs. Greenwood afterwards gave an appropriate address. A good number of visitors and friends were present.—J. Barratt, Sec.

PORTSMOUTH.—Helpful Open Session on Easter Sunday, many scholars contributing. We welcomed Miss Alice Hesp, who congratulated us on our work. Other visitors were also present.—L. Paget, Sec.

PRESTON, 68, Lancaster Road.—We held our Open Session on April 4th. A nice number was present and two visitors from Nelson. Recitations by M. Harrison, J. Hatch; solos, Miss L. Daniels; duets by Miss Curtis and Hough, Miss Bradley and Daniels, Misses Stevenson (Nelson), Messrs. D. Rae and Curtis; Quartette by Messrs. Marsh, Smalley, Rae and Curtiss. Fraternal greetings exchanged with Nelson friends.—Rd. Smalley.

RAWTENSTALL.—On April 4th we held our Annual Open Session. Recitations were given by W. W. Hoyle, M. Phenix and E. Parkinson; solos by M. Lintwistle, L. Stansfield, Mrs. Greenwood; trio by Mr. Fletcher, A. Stansfield, and Mr. Walmsley; duet by M. Smith and P. Greenwood. We had an enjoyable session conducted by Miss A. Walmsley.—Mrs. Greenwood, Sec.

ROCK FERRY.—Open Session April 4th, with a good attendance. The keynote of the session was "Love." All gave pearls. Recitations by R. Greaves, O. Bennett, Miss D. Dunn and Mrs. George; solos by H. Greaves, M. Costain, Miss C. Dunn, Miss Almond, Miss Altham, Mrs. Greaves, Mr. Roberts and Mr. Chisham. Visitors were welcomed and a real good time was spent.—C. Whittaker, Sec.

ROTHERHAM.—On April 4th every Lyceumist said their favourite verse from the *Manual*. Opinions were exchanged and questions asked, opening out a new field of thought.—Annie B. Hollis, Min. Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—On March 7th we held Open Session, conducted by Mr. Armitage and Officer Master Thwaites. All enjoyed the feeling of good-will that pervaded. Recitations by Hettie Hawksworth, Connie Johnson, Alfred Smith, Ivy Smith, Vera Fukes; pearls by Mabel Green, Saville Thwaites, Jimmy Hird, Blanche Hert.

On March 15th we had the distribution of prizes. Mr. Gates, of Sheffield, talked for a short time to our Lyceumists and visitors. Miss Salmon kindly gave a solo. Kathleen Jones gave a recitation. Madge Jones sang "Roses of Life." A trio by Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and Mr. Chilton. Organist, Mr. Davis.—N. Thwaites, Sec.

SOUTHAMPTON.—On March 24th we entertained 98 old folks to a Tea and Concert. All those who assisted at the Old Folks' Tea please accept the Secretary's sincere thanks.

On March 28th the daughter of Mrs. and Mr. W. Harwood was named Poppy, spirit name, Radiance. Also the son of

Mrs. F. E. Sterens was given the name of Allen John, spirit name, Hope.—F. Thompson, Sec.

STOCKPORT, Central.—We held our Open Session on April 4th, conducted by Miss E. Hamer. Good pearls and recitations were rendered. At 6-30 the children took the Service by giving Silver Chain, Musical and Golden Chain readings, which they well explained. Mr. J. H. Marston explained Mediumship. Mrs. Beech took the after-circle. Mrs. Ennion, our Conductor, presided at both services. Great praise is due to the children for the success of the services.—Mrs. Springate, Sec.

STOCKTON, Cecil Street.—Open Session held April 4th. 54 present. Good opening, well conducted throughout by Assistant Conductor. S.C.R., M.R. well taken; G.C.R. (no questions), pearls poor; recitations good; one solo and one duet.—Geo. A. Atkinson, Sec.

WEST MELTON.—Open Session April 4th. Mr. Lee conducted. Recitations given by M. Penaluna, D. Frost, R. Elliott, M. A. Speight, T. Lister, J. Emerson, O. Wright, S. Hallworth; songs by Miss Chappell, T. Lister, R. Elliott, I. Penaluna and M. Elliott. We spent a most happy time.—Minnie Farrar, Sec.

*(The foregoing Reports were crowded out of May issue.)*

BENWELL, Newcastle.—May 2nd we held a very enjoyable Open Session, thanks to Miss Marion Burr, one of our own Lyceumists, who was our speaker. She gave both old and young a very interesting lesson to think about, and we are pleased we can turn out such good workers for the Lyceum Cause.—Thos. McCallum, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—May 2nd was Open Session, as is usual on the first Sunday in each month. Mrs. Whitely conducted, and with large and small efforts combined it was a most enjoyable session. Recitations by Charlie Ellis, Eileen Edwards, Margaret Ellis and Laura Robson; solos by Mr. Woodley, Marion Whalley, Jimmie Woodley, Mrs. Holehouse, Percy Woodley and Mr. Taylor; pianoforte solos by Elsie Thompson and Mr. Whitely. Many pearls were given and explained.—Milly Hemsall, Sec.

BLACKBURN.—On April 25th we held our usual Open Session, about 80 Lyceumists and friends taking part in the marching and callisthenics. Recitations were given by the following:—Master Andrew Wilkinson, Master Oliver Duxbury, Miss Wolstenholme, Miss L. Rothwell, Miss E. Robinson and Mr. C. E. Jones, of Preston, who was our speaker for the day. A very enjoyable session was spent. About 140 Lyceumists and friends were present.—W. E. Mason, Sec.

BOLTON, Bradford Street.—Good Friday was "Children's Day," a picnic being held at Harwood. A most enjoyable day was spent by all.

On April 4th, during the morning session, the naming of a baby of one of our old Lyceumists took place, performed by the Conductor, Miss Cliff.—Albert Booth, Sec.

BOLTON, Deane Road.—On May 22nd our Lyceum held a Picnic to Edge Fold Farm, Enwistle. 'Twas a glorious day to be remembered. After tea some rambled on to Darwen, others stayed on the moor. There, in the heart of nature, age seemed to flee away and the whole of our party felt the spirit of Peter Pan must have felt when he said, "I am youth, eternal youth; I am Joy, Joy, Joy."—Miss Edna Foster, Sec.

BRIERFIELD, John Street.—We held our Open Session on May 2nd, conducted by Miss Oldfield and Miss Stockdale. The following helped to make an enjoyable session:—Jim Holgate, Mary Davis, Olive Bradshaw, Phyllis Spencer, Edith Bird, Mona Berry and Alice Harper.—T. Wane, Sec.

BURY, Sydney Street.—We held our Lyceum Open Session on April 25th. Pearls, recitations and solos were given by Lyceumists and friends. We had a good attendance and spent an enjoyable time together.—Miss Farrand, Sec.

CHESTERFIELD.—On May 2nd we held our Lyceum Anniversary. The services were conducted by Miss Batty, a Lyceumist from Doncaster. The following Lyceumists rendered items:—Leslie Driver, Sydney, Francis and Harold Hobster.

Jessie Orwin, Ernest and Linda Heath, Mona Longden, Connie, Lillian and John Slater, Avis and Kenneth Bown, Marion Wagstaffe, Kenneth Widdowson, Eveline Clements, May, Betsy and Edith Slater, Christina and Monica Anthony, Lillian Briggs, May Wheatley, Irene Marriott, Mrs. Wheatley and Mrs. Driver. We had a glorious time, one to be remembered by all interested in the children's cause.—A. E. Hobster, Session Sec.

DARLINGTON, Northgate.—We held our Open Session on April 25th. The week-end services were taken by one of our local Lyceumists, Mrs. Downs. Several scholars took part in the afternoon session. A very successful week end.—R. P. Christopher, Sec.

DONCASTER, High Street.—Open Session on May 2nd, conducted by Miss Johnson. Invocation by Miss A. Trout. Pearls by Miss V. Crossland, Miss D. Batty, Master Trout; solo by Master A. Crossland; recitation by Francis Gomersall.

On May 15th we had a Special Day. Miss L. V. Batty presented the Lyceumists with their educational certificates. All who sat for the examination received a certificate. Some of our old church members were present and expressed their appreciation.—Mrs. Webb, Sec.

EARBY.—Open Session May 2nd. Songs and recitations were given by Miss Olive Wilkins, Mary Ennis, Elsie Clark, Margery Pilkington, Agnes Layfield, Allan Bannister, Elsie Eccles, Sydney Jordan, Frank Clark, Harry Greenwood, Clifford Smith, Jesse Jordan, Queenie Jordan, Queenie Dawson, Evelyn Taylor, Alice Bannister, Dolly and Adeline Nuttall, Maggie Cragg, George Robinson, Willie Eccles, Wilfred Wintergill and Ed. Ennis.—Thos. Hodgson, Sec.

DUNEDIN, New Zealand.—Lyceum re-opened February 14th. Good attendance. Annual picnic, 13th, marred by rain, but enjoyed nevertheless by adults and children. Greeting all Lyceums.—R. Burgess, Conductor-Secretary.

GREAT HARWOOD.—We held our Open Session on May 2nd, when several Lyceumists responded with recitations and solos. Certificates were presented to the successful candidates in the Education Scheme.—Clara Waterhouse, Sec.

HIRST.—Mrs. Davison, with a few well-chosen remarks, presented certificates to the successful students for the Education Scheme and Essay Competition.—J. Stafford, Sec.

HUDDERSFIELD, St. Peter's Street.—We held our Open Session on May 2nd, conducted by Mr. Garside. We had a violin and pianoforte solo by Mr. Hargreaves and Mary Wallis; a pianoforte solo by Florence Lenier; recitations by George Buttle, Leslie Midgley, John Schofield, Herbert Buttle, Elsie Kerrison, Doris Richmond and Mary Midgley; solos by Mrs. Conlan and Mr. Wallis. We had a pleasant time.—Elizabeth Farhill, Sec.

IDLE.—We held our Open Session on May 9th, conducted by Miss Stone. The following took part:—Recitations by J. Palmer, James Illingworth, J. R. Marshall, Miss Jacques, Doris Illingworth and May Dawson; solos by Miss Allen; readings by Mrs. Marshall and Mrs. Stone. Miss Jacques presented certificates to successful students in the Education Scheme.—A. Illingworth, Sec.

LEEDS, Alpha Street.—We had our first Anniversary "Lyceum Day." Musical readings and silver chain recitation, were read and responded well by Mr. Fawcett, Mr. Mower and Mr. Crowley; solos and recitations by Mary White, May Fawcett, Ethel Friend, Master Slater, Master Woodhead; duets rendered by Mr. J. W. Woodhead, Miss Rhodes, Mrs. L. Fawcett, Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Holroyd. Mr. W. Woodhead concluded with solo, "Weary Gleaner." A day well spent.—Mr. E. Crowley, Sec.

LEICESTER, Silver Street.—On April 4th we held our Open Session with a good attendance of scholars. Duets, Master and M. Coysh; solos, Miss C. Lowe and Mr. Cartwright; recitations, Miss L. Lucas, Miss E. Wicks and Miss Dorothy Coles, of Shipley Lyceum. We had visitors from Shipley Lyceum, Mr. and Mrs. Coles. We thank all friends for their help and support.—L. Underwood, Sec.

LONDON, Fulham.—On Friday, the 23rd April, the Hits Concert Party gave a very successful concert at 12, Lettice Street. Great credit was due to Mr. Clarke and his concert party. Everyone who took part were exceedingly good. The

hall was packed and proceeds were kindly given to the Lyceum funds. Everyone is anxiously looking forward to similar entertainments.—J.A.D.

LONDON, Tottenham.—On May 10th we held a Social in aid of the Lyceum Funds, which turned out a huge success, both socially and financially. A most enjoyable evening was spent. The Lyceum is still progressing. Pearls and items are plentiful.—Gerald Markham, Session Sec.

MANCHESTER, Lower Broughton.—We held our Open Sessions on May 9th, which were very enjoyable. The response to pearls and recitations were very good. Everybody enjoyed the session all through. Nine Lyceums represented.—Mr. C. Day, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Maskell Street.—We held our Open Session on May 16th, conducted by Mr. G. Dixon, assisted by Mrs. Vernon. The invocation was given by Mr. Bell. The children responded readily to requests for individual efforts. Miss Copeland and Mr. A. Street very ably led the marching and callisthenics. Twelve Lyceums were represented. A splendid session, enjoyed by all.—T. G. Cross, Sec.

NELSON.—On May 2nd we held our Open Session, when the following Lyceumists rendered items:—Doris Bulloch, Marjorie Atherton, Mrs. Bury, Mrs. Haythornthwaite, George Dodgson, Emery Raw and Albert Ellis.—Cissie Smoothy, Sec.

PORTSMOUTH TEMPLE.—April 25th every candidate passed B.S.L.U. examinations. Most encouraging. Mrs. Bond presented certificates. Special award to highest scholar from Mrs. Petz.

On May 2nd Mrs. Jessie Greenwood spoke at Open Session and congratulated us. Recitations, solos and duet well rendered. Good adult support.—L. Paget, Sec.

PRESTON, 68, Lancaster Road.—We held our Open Session on May 16th. A good session in every way. The following helped to make it a success:—Solo by Miss Stirland; duets by Miss F. Hough and Miss Curtis, Messrs. J. Sherbourne and D. Rae; trio by Messrs. Marsh, Smalley and Curtis. Enjoyed by all.—Rd. Smalley, Sec.

ROCK FERRY.—May 2nd, Anniversary. Fine session in afternoon. Meeting at night. A day to be long remembered.—C. Whittaker, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—On May 9th our Anniversary was a great success. A revelation to all was music composed by Mr. Hales. The song by Miss Salmon was beautiful. The best part of our programme was the return of Mr. J. K. Jones, sufficiently recovered to be with us again. His excellent address and thanks to the children for the way they greeted him speaks well for returning health. Mrs. Jones also addressed our Lyceum, thanking all for the power of prayer and spiritual help. We thank all who helped us.—N. Thwaites, Sec.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES, Brunswick Street.—We held our usual Open Session on May 2nd, with a very fair attendance, S.C. and M.R. being well responded to. G.C.R. was taken by Mr. Blenkin, of Shildon, the speaker for the day, who discoursed upon it. Marching and callisthenics were moderate. Pearls, recitations, solos, etc., were given by the Liberty, Excelsior, Shore, Beacon and River Groups. A most enjoyable session.—G. Tuck, Sec. *pro. tem.*

WELLINGTON, Kent Terrace.—We are glad to be able to report that our Lyceum still continues to progress in attendance and the attention of Lyceumists.

On March 7th we held an examination of fourteen Lyceumists for the B.S.L.U. Education Scheme Examination. Mr. F. Turner kindly officiated as supervisor.

On March 6th we held a Lyceum Picnic to Kandallah Domain. The weather was beautiful and we spent a very enjoyable time. Wishing the Editor of the LYCEUM BANNER and all fellow Lyceumists success in their work.—(Miss) L. Webb, Sec.

WEST MELTON.—Open Session May 2nd, conducted by Mr. Lee. Recitations were given by M. A. Speight, R. Elliott, T. Lister, J. Kenning, G. Penaluna and O. Wright; songs by Miss D. Chappell, T. Lister, R. Elliott, I. Penaluna and M. Elliott.—M. Farrar, Sec.

WEST PELTON.—On May 2nd we held our Open Session. A very pleasant afternoon was spent. The certificates were presented to our successful candidates for the Education Scheme by our President, Mr. Gransbury.—Mrs. G. Dryden, Sec.