

THE LYCEUM BANNER

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PRICE TWOPENCE.



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MISS EDITH ELLIOTT, President, B.S.L.U., 1926—7.

Dear Comrades,

My first words to you are to tender my very sincere thanks and appreciation for showing your confidence and trust in me by placing me at the head of the Union's affairs. That trust I will revere by doing my utmost for the welfare of the Lyceum Movement and Spiritualism in general.

A few days after the Conference I received a message of congratulation from the Spirit World, which concluded with these words:—"LET TRUTH AND HONOUR BE YOUR GUIDE AND THE ULTIMATE WILL BE SUCCESS."

I think, Lyceumists, we all might apply this message to ourselves, for are we not all interested in the welfare and progress of our Lyceum Movement? Be assured I will do my utmost during my term of office to adhere to it.

There are many things that I would like to talk to you about, but I shall have to confine my thoughts to one or two particular points. It is agreed that we have the finest system of Education extant. It has been expressed by leading Educationalists that education does not begin and end in the school-room. It is going on every moment of our lives; an inner education, that brings us in touch with our spiritual natures, by the assimilation of those characteristics of heart and mind that go to the making of noble men and women in the highest sense. Such is the ideal upon which we endeavour to draw out the inherent powers of the child. These virtues can be attained by making our Lyceum training a part of our every-day life.

Great value has been added to Lyceums by the Education Scheme. In 1915 the Committee realised what a stupendous task confronted them, but with grim determination they won through. Both past and present members had the vision of a greater and advanced movement, and the appreciation of their labours has been shown by the many thousands that have passed through the Examinations. As each year passes by, it brings us nearer to the great ideal. This year the Conference accepted the College Scheme, and we feel confident that at the A.G.M. of the S.N.U. it will be adopted there also. For here lies the link that will bind both Unions together in closer unity and fellowship. Let me then appeal to all Lyceumists, both in Great Britain and Overseas, to play your part in this great scheme and thus increase your mental range of vision that will equip you with the necessary knowledge to face the most vital topic of the day, viz., Spiritualism.

On August 11th marks the Centenary of our Founder's birth. Can we show in some practical way our appreciation of the fidelity of A.J.D. and our early pioneers for the part they played in building up this glorious movement of ours? Now is the time to organise an A.J.D. Session or hold some other such public meetings that will characterise the benefits derived from the Heaven-revealed teachings.

Conscious of the industrial unrest through which we are passing, I do not think I could do better than quote our Founder:—

"BEHOLD! HERE IS THY MAGIC STAFF,
UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES KEEP AN EVEN
MIND,

TAKE IT, TRY IT, WALK WITH IT, TALK WITH IT,
LEAN ON IT, BELIEVE ON IT FOR EVERMORE."

Let it be our inspiration at all times and under whatever circumstances we may be labouring it will help us to achieve our objective.

There are other points upon which I would have written but time and space are limited. With these thoughts I leave you until some later date.

Use all your hidden forces. Do not miss the purpose of this life, and do not wait for circumstances to mould or change your fate. In your own self lies destiny. Let this vast truth cast out all fear, all prejudices, all hesitation. Know that you are great: great with divinity. So dominate environment and enter into bliss. Love largely and hate nothing. Hold no aim that does not chord with universal good. Hear what the voices of the silence say—All joys are yours if you put forth your claim. Once let the spiritual laws be understood, material things must answer and obey.

—ELLA W. WILCOX.

A Brief Sketch of the New President.

Edith Elliott was born in Manchester on November 18th, 1889, being the second eldest of a family of twelve.

Her father attended the Church of England and her mother the Unitarian Church. Miss Elliott was educated at Christ Church Schools, Harpurhey, receiving her religious training at the C. of E. until she reached the age of sixteen.

She was first introduced to Spiritualism in 1905, but took no further interest in it until 1907, and became a member of the Harpurhey Spiritualist Society in 1908. Introduced to Lyceum work in February, 1908, by Mr. Nuttall, its method of teaching being so different from Orthodoxy, appealed to her strongly, altering and broadening her outlook on life. Miss Elliott soon became an active member of the Lyceum, having held various offices, including that of Conductor, ever working fearlessly for truth and right. As a Lyceumist, Miss Elliott realised she had a definite duty to the Church by maintaining its membership, and has always advocated on every possible occasion that a Lyceumist on attaining the age of 18 should become a member of the parent body, as both sections are essential factors: the Lyceum to train and educate the child in the basic principles of Spiritualism, and the Church to propound its philosophy and through its phenomena prove the Continuity of Life.

Miss Elliott recognised the value of the Education Scheme, having entered and passed all grades and acted as tutor and examiner, and whenever possible giving help and advice to candidates.

She is well-known in the Manchester and Salford District, having been actively associated with the D.C. for the past sixteen years. She was the Assistant District Visitor for nine years under the late Mrs. A. E. Bentley, and was made the President of the Council in 1921, and retained the office until 1925. Miss Elliott is a well-known platform worker and fearlessly advocates the principles for which we stand.

She was one of the Founders of the Moston Lyceum Church and was appointed the first Conductor in 1917, thereafter working hard for Lyceum and Church. She represented the Lyceum at the Annual Conference also the D.C. for many years, and has also attended the U.D.C. meetings until her promotion to the M.C., followed by her election as Vice-President, and thence to her present office as President of the Union.

The motto and keynote of Mrs. Elliott's life has always been "The Workers Win," for she realised that to work with heart and soul for Spiritualism we must take the path that lies nearest to us, face it with courage and determination to win through, in spite of all obstacles.

One of the outstanding points in her work is punctuality. She has always had a long way to travel to the Lyceum, sometimes being forced to walk. To be late at a session is unknown to her. To Miss Elliott, if a thing is worth doing, it is worth doing well.

She attributes her success to a band of loving and staunch friends, and above all to those Higher Influences who have aided and guided her.

M. B. W.

"Character."

A Paper written and read by George Sumner, age 14, at Reading Lyceum.

There are many kinds of character, but the character which makes the man is that which is fully developed, and shews to the uttermost degree that it is part of the Divine Character—is a perfectly educated will, and unless the will is educated enough to reject evil from influencing the mind and body—the character or the spiritual part of us cannot develop enough to bring us nearer the Divine.

If you want to be that which God means you to be, let your thoughts be pure—and keep your mind on higher ideals. Let not your mind for one moment rest down in the lowlands of ignorance and superstition, for it has been said that the thought of man rises above the peaks beyond the stars to the very heart of God. There it finds its rest with such beautiful thoughts in your being.

Let us pass on to your actions. These must be actions of goodness, especially to others, such as being ready to comfort those in distress, prayers for the sick and the suffering and doing all the good you possibly can. Remember that character makes the man.

Concerning evil:—evil was allowed by God in order to do good, without evil we should all be perfect, and evil is put here for us to reject, and if we reject it we step up one step higher, so evil does us good in that respect, because it gives us character, and this allows us to realise God's Glory on earth. Too often have people given way to evil. Too often have they believed those things to be true which were not true. There is nothing to be gained by remaining idle, but there is much to be learned and a good deal to be gained. There is consolation in knowing that you may have turned the steps of some poor soul on to the right path by doing good.

Lead the life and shew the world that you are not afraid of their criticism. And in time you will become enlightened on those things, which have for ages past remained the mysteries of life. These are the higher things of God's works, but they cannot be received unless the mind,—the character, the spiritual side of us, is developed enough to receive them.

"Only by giving the best to the world can the best come back to you."

How often do we try this and then hopelessly fail—and why do we fail? There must be something wrong.

"How often would we stand aside
Give life up—and watch
The others passing by. Alas!
All who take up life
Must bear it like a cross
And think not till Death,
To lay it down."

I am reminded of the verse which says:—

"Look not for the flaws as you go thro' life,
And even when you find them
It is wise and kind to be somewhat blind
And look for the virtues behind them."

This undoubtedly shews what a noble character anyone could live up to, if there be but the will to do it. A strong will does much in forming of character, for when evil is once rejected by a strong will it can never return with such force again.

Keep on trying to do good, so that you can feel the benefit of being a Spiritualist. Each day, in every way, put something into your work, your life, and your character that will in the future be worth remembering.

BIBLE STUDIES.—No. 11.

By ALFRED KITSON.

(Reprinted from the *Two Worlds*)

SHEOL AND HADES.

As a Christian people we know very little about the place, in which the departed are supposed to dwell, called Sheol. The translators of the Old Testament thought fit to use the terms grave, pit, hell, in place of the Hebrew word. The preachers have depicted hell as a place of eternal-misery and suffering, as a lake of fire and brimstone, in order to terrorise unbelievers in the Christian faith into belief in order to escape from the torments of hell.

Some authorities tell us that the term "hell" formerly meant a place that was covered over. When people thatched their houses they were said to "hell" them. By the frequent use of the word "hell" by the preachers to mean the place of the wicked, its original meaning has dropped into disuse and been lost sight of.

There are three Greek words in the New Testament rendered "hell"; one is "hades," which signifies the place or state of the dead; another is "Tartarus," which signifies a place below Hades, where the wicked were punished for their evil deeds; and the other was "Gehenna," which was a valley just south of Jerusalem where a fire was kept continually burning to cremate the filth of the city. The refuse of the city was such, in the days of Jesus, as to keep the fires burning continually. This burning mass of refuse suggested to Jesus a similar condition of the wicked when he said, "Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched" (Mark ix. 48). But the condition of the valley of Gehenna is much different to-day, and no longer serves the preacher as a type of unquenchable fires. The late Dr. J. M. Peebles relates that during one of his visits to Palestine he visited this valley and found that it was a cultivated vineyard. And as he reclined on the ground he plucked and ate luscious grapes. Plucked and ate grapes in the New Testament Hell, Think of it, ye of fearful heart!

Professor J. Eadie says, "Let us consider Sheol in the Old Testament. It is used sixty-six times, if Furst's 'Concordance' be correct. The older philologists derived it from a root signifying 'to ask.' The more modern ones, with more probability, derive it from a root signifying 'to be hollow.' It is, according to Furst, Gessemis, Botcher, Ewald, and Maurer, an etymon of the same family with the Gothic 'halja,' and the German 'holle,' the Anglo-Saxon 'hal,' or 'halle,' and the English 'hell.' Its general significance is the grave, or properly, the under-world, and sometimes it denotes a place of woe. Our translators have, in thirty instances, rendered it 'the grave.' In three instances they have rendered it 'the pit,' and in the rest it is rendered 'hell.'"

The Rev. Alfred Wm. Momerie, M.A., D.Sc., LL.D., in his treatise on "Immortality," pages 54 and 55, says, "I will now proceed to explain to you precisely what it was, according to the Hebrew theologians, that happened at death. They distinguished, you must know, between the soul and the spirit. By the soul they understood the animal life, the power of vitality. The spirit was a comprehensive name for the mental faculties, and this they regarded as an emanation from the Deity. When a man died his spirit, they thought, was reabsorbed into God, and his soul went to what they called Sheol. Oddly enough, this word is translated in the Authorised Version 31 times 'hell,' and 31 times 'grave,' and sadly enough, it is 62 times (yes, twice 31 are 62) translated wrongly. It signifies neither hell nor grave. Not hell, for the Hebrews had no idea that there was such a place. True, it is said in one of the Psalms (ix. 17). 'The wicked shall be turned into Sheol, and all the nations which forget God.' But this only means PREMATURELY. Everybody was supposed to be turned into it sooner or later. We are told in another Psalm (lxxxix. 48) that 'no man can deliver his soul from Sheol.'"

"It was not a place of punishment, but a common receptacle for good and bad alike. Nor did Sheol signify the grave, for that the Hebrews designated by another word. Besides, whatever became of a dead man's body they always said that he had been gathered to his people, and slept with his fathers. Sheol, then, was the gathering-place where the souls of the departed slept—not the refreshing sleep with which, as we now believe, death prepares us for another life, but the heavy, fatal sleep from which there is no awakening. The Hebrew word for disembodied souls is 'Raphaim,' which means etymologically weak or relaxed. The inhabitants of Sheol were a mere shadow or ghost, the very emblem of helplessness and impotence. 'I am

counted,' says a Psalmist (lxxxviii. 4), 'as one of those who go down into Sheol, I am as a man that has no strength.' Occasionally the slumbering shades might be summoned, for a few moments to the light of day by a necromancer, like the witch of Endor; but otherwise they could have no intercourse either with earth or heaven. As for heaven, God left the dead to their fate. 'This God,' says one of the psalmists, 'is our God for ever and ever. He will be our guide unto DEATH.' UNTO DEATH. * But there the guidance of Jehovah ceased. . . Those who had once been God's sheep were now handed over to another shepherd. Sheol was outside the dominion of Jehovah, the King of Terrors was its only Lord. The Hebrews pictured it to themselves as a vast cavern deep down in the interior of the earth, a land of silence and of gloom, where, as Job put it, the very light was darkness. In this dreary underworld the departed souls continued, in a sense, to exist, but without feeling, without reason, without will, without any of its old faculties except a bare consciousness of existence, such as may belong to us in dreams—a life not far removed from annihilation. The Jews called it 'being no more,' and Sheol they designated 'the land of forgetfulness.'

On page 56 the writer further adds, 'I pointed out to you there are only five or six passages in the Old Testament which make any reference to immortality, and that most, if not all, of them were written as late as 100 or 150 years before Christ. Up to that time the Jews had been accustomed to think that when a man died his soul went to Sheol, which is translated in our Authorised Version sometimes 'grave' and sometimes 'hell.' It was neither the one nor the other. It was the meeting-place of disembodied souls, good and bad alike.'

As the Hebrews had their Sheol, or underworld, so had the Greeks, one section of which was called Hades and the other Tartarus.

One of the labours of Hercules was to fetch the three-headed dog, Cerberus, which guarded the gate of Hades, the entrance to which was supposed to be a dismal cave in Tænarum, the southernmost point of the Peloponnasus. It is recorded that Hermes, the messenger of Jupiter, led Hercules below into the chill underworld, where the thin shades fled in affright from a being of flesh and blood.

The classical description of the approach to Hades was by crossing three rivers, namely, Acheron, Coeytus and Styks, the latter flowing nine times round Erebus. It was necessary to be ferried over the river Styks by a grim-looking boatman called Charon. On the other side of this river was the seat of Minos, who received confessions from and judged, all who entered the underworld, and announced their sentences, whether of misery or happiness. Cerberus, the three-headed dog, guarded his tribunal. The happy passed into the place of Pluto and Persephone, and received their greetings, and then set out for the Elysian Fields, where they occupied themselves with their favourite pursuits, the hunter resuming his bow and arrow, the musician his lyre, and the soldier his arms. Flowery fields, fragrant breezes and social happiness in friendly re-unions contributed to his peace and happiness. The soul doomed to misery walked the other path till it reached Tartarus, where, 'according to the ancients, the most impious and guilty among mankind were punished. It was surrounded with a brazen wall, and its entrance was continually hidden from sight by a cloud of darkness which is represented three times more gloomy than the darkest night. According to Hesiod it was a separate prison at a greater distance from the earth than the earth is from the heavens. Virgil says that it was surrounded by three impenetrable walls and by the impetuous and burning streams of the river Phlegethon. The entrance is by a large and lofty tower, whose gates are supported by columns of adamant which neither gods nor men can open. In Tartarus, according to Virgil, were punished such as had been disobedient to their parents, traitors, adulterers, faithless ministers, and such as had undertaken unjust and cruel wars, or had betrayed their friends for the sake of money. It was also the place where Ixion, Tantalus, Sisyphus, Damaiades, etc., were punished, according to Ovid.

'In Tartarus the old earth-giants lay transfixed with the thunderbolts of Jupiter when they made war on him and tried to storm heaven. They appeared like mountain masses, half-concealed by cinders and lava. There also were confined the Titans. The Furies were seen in the darkness by the light of the rivers of fire, on the banks of which they stand. All around groaned the wretched sinners. There was Sisyphus, doomed to roll a large piece of rock to the top of a high mountain which resisted all his strength when nearing the summit, and went crashing down to the bottom, and so his labours never ceased; there was Ixion, tied by the feet to a revolving wheel; there,

also, was Tantalus, doomed to stand up to his chin in water, and at the same time be consumed with an unquenchable thirst which he could never quench, for as often as he stooped to drink the water lowered so as to be beyond reach, there also being just beyond his reach a bough loaded with luscious fruit, which, as soon as he tried to reach it, it receded beyond his reach. Tityus was doomed to endure the torture of a serpent continually gnawing at his liver, which grew as rapidly as it was eaten.'

Thus it will be seen that the Greeks, unlike the Hebrews, had some very definite ideas about the state and condition of the dead, and it is misleading to translate the term Sheol as Hades, with its Elysian Fields for the good and Tartarus for the bad.

Now, as Dr. Peebles found the valley of Gehenna, which in the time of Jesus was used as a refuse tip where the fires were kept continually burning in order to destroy the filth of the city, had entirely changed its aspect to that of a vineyard in which he lounged and plucked and ate luscious grapes, so Tænarus, where the supposed cave that led down to Hades was to be found has, subsequently, become famous for the marble of its quarries, which the Romans held in the highest estimation: it was a species of 'Verd Antique.'

Neither the Sheol of the Hebrews, Hades of the Greeks, nor the Hell of the Christians has any real existence. They are fiction born of the fervid imagination of the priest, preachers and poets.

My next article will be devoted to the considerations of Various Renderings of Scriptural Terms.

The Education Scheme,

CONFERENCE AND EDUCATION.

All Lyceumists interested in the welfare of Lyceumism, especially in education and true progress, will read with pleasure the reports in this issue of what was said and done at the Conference concerning the Education Scheme, and the new Advanced Course and National Spiritualist College.

We all now await with keen interest the decisions of the S.N.U. Conference, and are hoping earnestly that it will result in the Committees of both Unions being empowered and instructed to begin at once on the work (already prepared and mapped out by them) of training eligible students for the Advanced Courses, and establishing College Centres and Branches. (For full information about this we refer readers to the Reports in the May LYCEUM BANNER and in the Supplement sent to B.S.L.U. delegates).

OUR YOUNG LYCEUMISTS.

However, though all at Conference were interested in this development of the work for education, they did not lose sight of the importance of training the youngest even of our Lyceumists, and it was passed (on the Education Report) that the Leaders of Oral Grade Groups be helped in their work by having re-printed in booklet form the series of ORAL GRADE OBJECT LESSONS that have been appearing monthly in this paper. Mr. Connor's final article in the series appears this month, and we hope to be able to announce very shortly that the ORAL GRADE READER, containing the entire series, is ready.

The ideal method for using the children's books would be for Lyceum Committees to supply each Lyceumist under twelve with an *Oral Grade Primer* and with its companion book, the *Oral Grade Reader*, and to read the Lessons and study them week by week. The *Reader* will be supplied to Lyceums at 4/9 a dozen (of 13 copies), or sixpence per single copy. Please be ready with your orders.

ORAL GRADE OBJECT LESSONS.

XIX. WE LIVE TO LEARN AND LEARN TO LIVE

(Question 31).

At a first glance the statement that we live to learn, and learn to live, seems not only obvious, but commonplace. It is only when the statement is given due thought that we realise its great importance—that, in fact, it is the essence of our Principle of Eternal Progression. The Principle teaches that there is a path of eternal progress open to every soul that is willing to tread it. And from our common experience of life we know that only those who are willing to learn can hope to make any progress—and even then only by acting up to the fullest possible extent of our powers and knowledge.

We often hear of those who refuse to learn; but really, when we come to think of it (if we use the word *learn* with its meaning of *getting to know*) there is no such thing as refusing to learn. We may avoid getting to know what others are trying to teach us; but, in the act of avoiding, we are getting to know how to shirk duty if or when it is not pleasant; we are learning to be lazy and careless; we are working into our natures tendencies which sooner or later will play their part in influencing our lives in thought, word and action. Life, as far as we are able to see, is one long process of learning.

The child born in the mansion, and the child born in the slum, each starts its earthly education in the cradle and only ends it in the grave. There is no Education Board which allows us to leave the School of Nature at any given age. But the environment in which each child is reared decides the class of teaching. Each will be absorbing knowledge, registering experiences and copying examples; consciously or unconsciously each will be learning, whether the teacher be a Fagan or an Arnold. The rich man's son may learn things which, perhaps, it would be just as well that he did not know, but he will (in normal cases) be spared the degrading lessons that will curse the slum boy from his earliest days. These are the extremes, but, in all the degrees that lie between, the child concerned will surely be influenced by the environment which consists of home life, teachers and playmates. Whatever we do, or wherever we turn, we add to our experiences—we learn.

To those of us who realise this truth it would seem unnecessary to point out that, as we cannot help learning, we might as well learn something that will be useful to us, either in developing our mental, psychic or spiritual powers, or in helping us to control our words and actions. If we cannot help storing up tendencies, we might as well do our best to secure that these tendencies will be helpful in our lives; for just as surely as we must learn, equally surely what we learn will influence us in all that we say, think or do. The boy brought up in a decent home will, as a rule, reject with scorn actions which the slum boy will regard as not only justifiable, but even praiseworthy. For instance, most normal, healthy, imaginative boys have at some time longed to be a robber or pirate captain, but few normal boys would be proud of being a clever pickpocket. The boy who has to knock at the door before entering a room; to speak politely; to "be mannerly"; to control his tongue and his temper; this boy is being taught so that in after life he will be a decent citizen; in algebra he is learning to deal with abstract ideas; in geometry he is learning to reason by well tested steps from what he knows to what he hadn't known, and to be able to prove that his reasoning is correct. And what he learns will be absorbed into his subconscious self and will influence his future life. Let us, then, do all our learning with the intention that it shall be helpful, not only to us but to all with whom we come in contact.

In the Lyceum Movement the necessity for a real education—one that will develop the minds and widen the outlook of the students—has been realised, and the realisation has been applied in the planning of the Education Scheme. The student who works through the Associate and Graduate sections of the Scheme is not merely laying in a stock of knowledge about Spiritualism. The truths taught have to be studied and examined and discussed in such a way that they become a part of the student's mental and psychic equipment; and the reward for this study is much greater than the winning of a Graduate or Diplomat Degree. The knowledge itself, and the method of regarding not only that but all other knowledge, will influence the life of the individual who has worked to secure it. The acquisition of knowledge on sound lines will become habitual, and will be a safeguard as well as a help; and the knowledge will lead to wise decisions and actions. In the same way, those who refused to take advantage of learning useful things will have been learning to shirk, and will remain shirkers even on entry into Spirit Life. For as we live so shall we learn, and as we have learned so shall we live.

A. T. CONNOR.

RESIGNATION OF MR. TINKER.

We are very sorry indeed to lose the services of Mr. J. Tinker as Grade V Examiner. Last year he informed us that his other duties, and their heavy demands on his time and energies, made it necessary for him to resign his position as Examiner; but we pleaded with him to try to serve us still. He consented, in spite of it being almost impossible to put in the time required, and knowing that the eye and nerve strain would tell against him, for his other exacting work. He did the work for

us, but found that he simply must not undertake the task again; and so very regretfully sent in his final resignation.

The Committee, and all candidates who have found his suggestions and comments so helpful to them, thank him very sincerely for his services, and wish him health and success.

NEXT MONTH.

Next month we hope to give a brief article by Mr. Tinker on *Creds*, bearing on the *Manual* statement that "*Spiritualists have no creds.*" This should have appeared much earlier, but pressure on space has necessitated it being held over.

HONORARY EDUCATION SECRETARY.

Miss M. E. Kitson, B.A., 17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, Batley (Yorks.), to whom all orders, enquiries, etc., should be sent.

An International Meeting of Youth.

Last month the Editor was kind enough to allow me to give an invitation to Lyceumists to join the English Youth Movement, which, side by side with the Youth Movements of other countries is working to establish World Peace. This month I would like to tell something of the spirit in which these young people meet together in their holiday camps.

In August of last year a party of about twenty English "Youth" set out for Chevreuse, a village several miles beyond Paris, where there was to be an International Youth Camp. As we made our way on to the boat at Dover we felt that our experiences were going to be unlike those of the hundreds of other holiday makers, who were crowding on too; and I think we were right. It is true we began the journey in the ordinary way; we spent a day in Paris to visit the Louvre, Notre Dame and the Champs Elysées just as everybody else does. When the train drew up at the little village of Rambouillet we felt that we were coming into a different world.

As we jumped out of the train, (and it was a jump as the French village stations have no platforms) we saw another party of 'youth' getting out higher up. They were the Germans coming to the Camp and we had been occupying opposite ends of the train unaware of each other! We rushed to meet them with right hands raised in greeting and cries of *Hail!* and they answered with *Heil! Heil!* their own Youth Movement salutation. We were unknown to each other but that made no difference.

Shouldering each other's baggage we set out joyously on the three-mile walk to camp. Those who could speak a little German made use of it; for the rest it did not matter. We strode along happily knowing that we shared the same thoughts and feelings, though we had no words to convey them to one another. Before long the white tents of the Camping field came into view. Some parties had already arrived and came out to greet us. But it was by this time late, and as we had brought our own tents, we must make haste to pitch them before dark. We were tired too after a very long day and decided not to stay up late that night. As we settled down to rest, for the first time we caught the beautiful sounds of the German 'youth' singing their Youth Songs. It was a rich experience and one that we were often to enjoy again.

The next morning we were awakened by the call "*Assemblez-vous pour le petit déjeuner*" (assemble everybody for breakfast) and after a wash in the running stream we were soon ready. It was surprising how quickly we began to make friends. We felt it would be against the spirit of the camp for the English party to keep to themselves, so we mixed freely and talked or rather *tried* to talk with all we met. The language difficulty led to amusing situations but whenever we got 'hung up' there was usually somebody at hand who could help us out.

And what a varied company we were! Altogether there were about a hundred and fifty of us, having come from Germany, France, Holland, Belgium, America, India, Africa, China, England, Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Serbia. Though representing many nations and races we were all united in the spirit of brotherhood and in the conviction that upon the youth of to-day rested the responsibility of building up a new society, free from war and the causes that lead to war. We made friendships so naturally and so easily that it seemed absurd that differences of race and nationality should divide people as they do to-day. They are such simple barriers to cross when people try.

More absurd still seemed the idea of going to war; the very thought of helping to murder our friends of Chevreuse in a future war, just because they happened to live in a different part of the world from ourselves, seemed at the same time both ridiculous and impossible.

At dusk we gathered round the camp fires and they were wonderful evenings that we spent there. One after another, without any pre-arranged order the different national groups would sing their folk songs and brotherhood songs. Some of the Germans had brought guitars and when they sang and played one felt what an earnest expression the singing was of their Youth Movement ideals. One of these evenings none of us will ever forget. We had been singing as usual and then our camp leader, a Frenchman, spoke upon our work for peace and the duties it laid upon us. Suddenly he asked all those willing to make the promise never to take part in war against a fellow human being, to raise their hands. The response was immediate and overwhelming. With linked hands we formed one great circle to meditate upon the promise we had made; the harvest moon flooded the camping field with silver light and it seemed that the fire before us burned with a spiritual meaning. As we stood there in those moments of deep silence, one felt that a great power for good in the world had gone forth; perhaps, even, the circle in which we stood locked together was symbolical of the great bond of love and brotherhood which youth will fasten round the world in the days that are to come. Soon after arriving home I had a letter from a young Dutch boy which vividly brought back the memory of that evening. He had been called upon for military training but, mindful of the promise of Chevreuse, had refused to obey and was going to prison instead; for as he expressed it in his imperfect English "I will never be a killer."

Of course there was an amusing side too, to our holiday. One remembers the night when the tent collapsed in pouring rain and black darkness owing to the pegs being left too taut, and the joke that was made of it when nobody was found to be any worse, the boy helping at breakfast who narrowly missed putting soda into the coffee instead of the washing-up water, and many other anecdotes of a similar nature.

The week came to an end all too soon and then the English party said a reluctant good-bye to the others and started trekking in the Ardennes. We were a picturesque party carrying light portable tents and bulging rucksacks that contained all we needed. Each evening we pitched our tents wherever we found ourselves and went on the next day and greeted the villagers as we passed by. One incident stands out above others in our memories. We came one day in the heat of noon to a quaint little French village and settled down on the delightfully fresh village green to rest awhile and take food. As we were such a curious and picturesque-looking party, the whole village turned out to gaze at us. Here we saw was a chance to make friends too good to be missed. So we sang some English songs and did some folk dances for the people looking on. Then we asked the French children to sing or dance for us, but they were shy and hid behind their mothers' aprons. Some of us who could speak a little French talked to the women and then our leader addressed them, telling them who we were, of the camp at Chevreuse and the peace principles for which we stood. To our surprise the people applauded and many of the men had collected by now. As this was in the once 'occupied' area we thought there would have been enough anti-German feeling to make our peace message unpopular. Apparently these people had learnt what war meant.

Our journey eastwards on trek and by train brought us at last into Germany. As we walked through the streets of Cologne we recognised everywhere groups of different Youth Movements in their artistic costume. One of these welcomed us to a Jugendherberge (Youth Shelter) where we were to stay several days. It was a hoary old castle which had been built centuries ago to overawe the town in the steep valley below and now had been acquired by the German Youth Movement as a meeting centre. While we stayed there, we had excursions or met in the courtyard for folk-dancing and other amusements. During the day-time we did not use the hall of the castle much, as the walls, several feet thick, and the narrow windows made it rather gloomy. But at night it was more cheerful and we gathered there to sing and talk. We sat round on benches underneath the lamp hanging from the heavy oak rafters and the German boys brought their guitars to accompany our singing. One could not help comparing the scene with what it must have been hundreds of years ago when soldiers defending the castle would come tramping in with loud talk

and laughter and the rattling of swords and helmets. It seemed as if the old castle was redeeming its history.

The last night of all we gathered in the courtyard. The German girls had made an enormous heather wreath and lighted candles were fixed on it. In their fitful light we English drew the Germans with us into one large circle and sang to them 'Auld Lang Syne.' Then we all united in the 'International' and one felt how strong were the encircling vibrations of harmony and brotherhood. Next day we were marched to the station with music and flags flying.

The holiday was now at an end. But not so the impressions it had made. The warm welcome we had received, the friendships we had made, the knowledge we now had that other nations are as peace-loving as ourselves, made war seem more cruel and horrible than ever and steeled us in the decision that as far as we individually were concerned war should be no more.

Again may I ask Lyceumists who want to join up with the Youth Movement working for peace, or spread the message within the Lyceum, to write to:

ELEANOR MIDGLEY,
478, Skipton Road,
Keighley, Yorks.

A SILENCE IN ETERNITY.

BY W. GEO. WHEELER.

Be still my soul, stay for to think,
God's in no hurry;
Rest for a day, free work and play,
Love knows no flurry.

Be clam and still, Soul of my will,
Wait for Love's blessing;
Joy bells are near, why need'st thou fear.
Love is caressing.

Wait but awhile, sweet time beguile,
God works on slowly;
Love is for aye, why weep to-day,
He'll bless the lowly.

A WEDDING AT ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

A very pretty wedding took place at the Ashton-under-Lyne Spiritualist Church, Burlington Street, on Saturday, May 29th. The bride was Miss Margaret Mortin, youngest daughter of Mrs. and the late Mr. James Henry Mortin, of 6, West Street, Dukinfield, who was for many years President of the Church. The bridegroom was Mr. Albert Booth, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Booth, of 155, Hope Street, Hurst. Both the bride and bridegroom are Lyceumists. There was a good number at the Church to witness the ceremony. The service was conducted by Mr. Harrington Beech. The bride was beautifully attired in Ivory Crepe de chine, with lace and pearl trimmings; her veil was of net, with coronet of orange blossom. She carried a sheaf of lilies and was given away by her eldest brother, Mr. Alfred Mortin. She was attended by Miss Ivy Minor, who wore pale blue taffeta silk dress, with head-dress of silver leaves and carried a bouquet of pink roses. There was also in attendance four little bridesmaids, Misses Alice and Elsie Mortin, Miss Elsie Booth and Miss Jessie Foster. They were daintily attired in white, with head-dress of pink rosebuds and leaves; they also carried bouquets of pink roses. Mr. Ernest Booth, brother of the bridegroom, was the best man, and Master James Henry Mortin groomsmen. Suitable bridal music was played during the service, and the newly-married couple left the Church amid the good wishes of their friends and to the accompaniment of the wedding march. A reception was afterwards held at St. Mark's Band Club, Dukinfield. Mr. and Mrs. Booth were the recipients of many useful presents, including one from the Lyceum.

A number of Lyceums have ordered copies of the *Spiritual Songsters*. We regret that these orders are delayed owing to a reprint. Details of copyright and industrial troubles have interfered with the delivery of the reprint. We hope to be able to despatch all orders shortly.

THE LYCEUM BANNER:

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

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

Terms to Lyceums and Societies:

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

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JULY, 1926.

The Personal Basis in Social Life.

Scatter the germs of the beautiful,
In the holy shrine of home,
Let the pure and fair and graceful there,
In their loveliest lustre come:
Leave not a trace of deformity,
In the temple of the heart,
But gather about its heart the germs,
Of nature and of art.

Liberty, equality and fraternity are three basic principles of Lyceum conduct which carry us all into realms of cogent thought and link us with many other activities for social and spiritual welfare.

It is in the examination of ways and means that we must find the best expression of a well ordered life. The spirit people have given us the knowledge of communion. The service rendered by the growth of opportunities for the display of spiritual forces permeating human thought and strengthening inspiration of dynamic ideas for a better human portrayal of social fraternization is making a change in the mentality of the race.

Whilst most people may not give credence to Spiritualism and its forces, inspiration must work along the line of least resistance and so we find the average thinker looks more to the individual who is human than to the person who has become a spirit. Yet it is the same code of laws which operates through the spiritualist and the psychologist. The psychology of times and peoples is easier to understand when applied in terms which can be understood and unfolds the deeper phases of the sense we all know operate through the human mind.

Man is a social animal, but he is only made aware of his social relationships by the common power to grasp ideas and ideals of mind, and the comparison which arises from minds viewing thoughts and things from different angles. We must not quarrel because we see things from a different experience. Some live in the shadows whilst others only see the bright side of life. The brightest light throws the darkest shadow. Those who have lived in the darkness must shade their eyes ere they become accustomed to the brilliance of truth as she unfolds new mysteries.

For the present we must leave the sweetness and brilliance of communion and dim our vision that we may examine with our fellows the intricacies of a state that must find its expression in a physical world. Standing at the apex of creation we find, says J. O. Barrett: "All the organs of the body and the brain are ministers of good to the inward spirit that actuates and directs all motions."

Passing quickly through a glimpse of the races that have inspired present thought, we leave behind the Aztec, Peruvian and Chinese and find India gave us religion, Egypt gave us science and Greece gave us philosophy.

We must pass over many things and just touch the impress of the Aryan preachers' "Give ear to the instructions of prudence and let the precepts of truth sink deep into your hearts, O my children. So shall the charm of your minds add lustre to the elegance of your forms! and your beauty, like the rose it resembles, shall retain its sweetness when the bloom is withered."

Have we not read in our modern language "Scatter the germs of the beautiful in the depths of every soul: that shall bud and blossom and bear the fruit, whilst the endless ages roll."

We are linked through the Aryan and the Greek to modern thought. It has been said we are in the lap of the Gods and they have left their mark on our emotions. Venus as the god of beauty expressed in form. Cupid symbolised love as the builder, and Psyche as the goddess of charm influences the people to-day with our appreciation of intellect.

There is an old pagan story that Venus became jealous of Psyche, and sent her son, Cupid, to pretend to make love to, and then spurn, Psyche. Cupid did so to please his mother, but his association with the powers of Psyche's charming ways, allured Cupid into a real love which showed that real love is more powerful than jealousy. It builds instead of destroys. It is the cause of sacrifice and opens the way to a fuller life. That is why children leave their parents and find love-mates in the scheme of being: true love can remain with the parents and also go with the unfoldment of new joys. There is a greater joy than the love which belongs to the flesh and this finds expression in the social environment, fulfilling the cosmic law of eternal progression. Here is a love which becomes impersonal and spiritual. It fills the atmosphere by which it is surrounded and finds conscious vibration in the minds of those who can overcome selfishness and grasp the desires of the commonweal. Thus have we seen the upward rush of a sudden sentimental burst of generative power in the presence of a kindred thought that has hypnotised us with its charm, when expressed by one who has hitherto been a stranger: love at first sight.

Out of the generation of a psychic field of power we can draw the impelling inspiration to support truth in its vindication and thwart the oppression of the weak and poor: either in poverty or intellect.

The man who feels the full power of psychic force is provided with an armour which can be pierced, but he will not be stayed in his work for righteousness and harmony amongst men, except that the opposition may prolong his efforts. He eventually wins through all opposition. His environment is controlled. The charm of his life and methods fight down opposition, win respect and eventually find followers. He does not strike back, but throws his love around all. Sometimes a sharp mental thrust and at other times the encircling warmth is put around the one who is to be won over to truth. There are others who are self-centred, whom only time and experience can win over; but all will gradually see the wisdom of concord and amity.

When the mind uses love as the builder, beauty is shaped to life's expression, called into being and inspired by the soft radiance of joy; the pure unsullied joy that is formed by seeing and assisting to provide the happiness of others. This is the true personal basis of social life from which will spring an orderly community. "Let the pure and fair and the graceful there, in their loveliest lustre come."

Personally we are formed of the "me," "you" and "us." We are diversified forms of one force, all in the circle of life, and express ourselves through the laws of heredity and environment, out of which may come our individual expression of separate physical existence into the unified concept of a mental world. Thoughts vibrate as impressions to be received on the psychic plane as a vindication of facts already known or an inspiration of new ideas which lead to progress. The seventh principle works in this way and is the mother of genius which begets science and controls human evolution.

The scientist thought substance was greater than the force which generated its existence. We now learn the electron, indiscernible yet existent, has a force which grows from the nebulae to the atomic and builds up to form substance.

We must unite matter to mind, as we link a flower to its smell. We use flowers to explain our feelings and sympathies when words fail. Science explains facts and psychology deals with inherent forces, intangible in themselves, yet capable of understanding the facts of life and the relations of social conduct.

These written articles can never be more than a lead towards a study of the many phases of our movement. The personal basis in social life must necessarily mean a knowledge of sociology and our personal relation thereto. We shall be helped by a study of psychology and we shall be better able to understand some of the messages which are transfused from the spirit world.

The stages may be classed as understanding, comparison, specialisation and generalisation. Then we shall be able to

see relative values, and by observation, experiment, and inference be able to probe the fundamental principles of nature as a basis of a real progressive education. These methods are needed if we are going to lead and teach children a co-ordinated system which reveals what we know and gives each child an adequate opportunity of growing, through the development of its individual self in relation to the commonweal, as a useful factor in social life.

The Lyceum definitely exists for the unfoldment of human and spiritual faculties. We must prepare ourselves to receive the child and open, not only our arms, but our minds to surround the child with such love and service as shall awaken a responsiveness in the young heart that we have welcomed to the germs of the beautiful, some of which can be seen in our lives. Liberty, equality and fraternity will be already there. We can show the child we are learning too. We are equal with the child in our appeal to the spirit people, even as children appeal to us. Therein can spring a fraternity in the common task of seeking knowledge of life in all its stages as it unfolds before each of us. Together we can pray and even as we pray we shall feel our meekness in the presence of a higher wisdom whose vibrations we shall gather to mould the personal basis in social life a guide to larger happiness and a nobler commonweal.

G. F. KNOTT.

Our Lyceum Guild.

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

GUILD LEADER:—MISS M. E. KIRSON, B.A., 17, Bromley Road, Hanging Heaton, BATLEY (Yorks.).

OUR MEMBERSHIP.

On 16th April, 1920, the first member was enrolled. On 20th June, 1926, our membership totalled 1,978, representing 140 Lyceums; and 77 Junior Members.

Our list of members includes:—The officers of the B.S.L.U., most Area Representatives, the Trustees of the B.S.L.U., the members of the Education Committee, and the *Manual* Committee, the officers of the U.D.C., several prominent S.N.U. workers, most Examiners under the Education Scheme, and well-known district and local workers for Lyceumism.

TO BECOME A MEMBER.

A. FULL MEMBERS.

Any Lyceumist who is ten years of age or older (there is no maximum age) can become a member by filling in an application form, and forwarding it with the entrance fee of one shilling, to the Leader. In return will be sent the certificate of membership and ribbon-badge, along with literature about the work.

B. JUNIOR MEMBERS.

Children under ten enrol as Junior Members by sending in the Junior's Application Form (filled in), and threepence. They receive a ribbon-badge but no certificate. When ten, they apply for full membership in the usual way. (See previous paragraph).

OUR AIMS.

- (1) To be progressive.
- (2) To develop ourselves (A) physically; (B) mentally; (C) psychically; (D) spiritually.

OUR GUILD CLASSES.

During the past month we have received full Reports from South Manchester and from Middlesborough Guild Classes. As space is needed for the Conference Reports, we can not quote from these Guild Reports this month, but we hope to do so next month, as they contain items of general interest and also helpful suggestions for other Centres.

We should be glad to hear what other Guild Classes are doing during the summer months, and their proposed programmes for the winter session. Guild Leaders please note, and let the Leader hear from you before 16th July. Thanks.

OUR ESSAY COMPETITIONS.

Next month we shall announce the subjects for our Annual Essay Competitions, with full instructions about what to do to earn a Merit Badge on your ribbon one. We hope for a record number of entries from each class of our members.



My dear Kiddies,

I wish to introduce to each one of you this month Jolly Jack & Co., all playmates who are out for real fun and enjoyment. They are good friends always, a happy band of children who get the best out of their young lives. Their adventures will, I feel sure, give pleasure, and thrill each little Guildite who reads them, so start right away and see what our young friends are doing this month.

THE ADVENTURES OF JOLLY JACK AND Co.—I.

Having been brought together by the means of school-life it would be a hard task indeed to find a happier band of playmates than Jolly Jack & Co., as they styled themselves. Jolly Jack (his full name was John Breton) was captain of the Junior Football team attached to the school, where he had met Robert North, a young centre-forward of the same school team. Jack's sister was a friend of Rob's sister, Carrie, both members of the school junior hockey team. Thus we have a description of the whole company, noted for their mischievousness and practical joking, though of quite a harmless character.

"Just one more day, then we'll shout 'Hurrah!' and off we'll go for a week's holiday by the sea. I am ready for it, too, for my head has been almost bursting, what with sums, composition and woodwork! Uh! how I detest using saws, chisels, and especially a hammer! I'm always hitting my fingers." When Jack had finished his speech, he looked around to find his playmates laughing.

"Look here, Comrades, why grin at me in this fashion?"

They could not help it, really, for they knew that Jack's head-bursting complaint was the result of his own little escapades at school. Jack had been given home-work, besides having to write out on numerous occasions, "I will behave better in future." This had been his punishment, an attempt on the part of the teacher to cure Jack of practical joking during school hours. Jack was a good lad in many ways. He was charitable and he would never pass a beggar without dropping a copper into his cap, if he had a copper in his possession; if not, he would hurry home, beg one from his dad, and run back to give it to the beggar. It was, however, natural for Jack to be mischievous, and he was so full of innocent pranks that he had earned his name—"Jolly Jack." That he would be an artist some day, no one doubted, for his occasional drawings on the teacher's blackboard during his absence clearly proved that a little more practice would bring perfection. His drawings, though they had from time to time brought him pain and punishment, the teacher realised were splendid; but he had never said as much to Jack, complimenting him only during the drawing lesson and encouraging him in his work.

Now the summer holidays were drawing near. One more day and Jolly Jack was in delight.

"Just think of it," he said to his sister Joan, "a whole month and no school! Why, it's simply gorgeous!" whereupon he grabbed hold of her, waltzing her round the small kitchen.

"Oh! stop it, you silly boy! You'll break the pots on the table."

They were travelling dangerously near the pots, so Jack ceased his capers and went on to say "Such a fine time we shall have at Brindlesea, with Rob and Carrie. How we've talked of it all these months, and now the time has come!"

The next morning, as usual, the happy quartette proceeded arm-in-arm to school for the last time before the holiday period, all being in high spirits.

"Gee! but it's good to think of it! What do you say, Rob?"

"You're quite right," answered Rob, "I for one am glad the holidays are so near, and I wish I was leaving for good." Poor Rob was called a dunce by teacher and most of his school mates. He had confided to Jack that, when he was old

enough, he would run away to be a sailor. When he gave a slight hint to his parents about the matter, they had scolded Rob severely, telling him to get such foolish ideas out of his head. So Rob was left with his own thoughts to build his castles, which were to fall or stand firm.

In the class-room on the morning of breaking-up, fifty-two scholars sat at their desks chuckling, whilst Jolly Jack once more interested himself, and indeed, the whole class, by drawing a picture on the black-board. This morning he surpassed himself. He drew a splendid picture of the local railway station, a train just steaming out, with two girls and two boys waving their handkerchiefs and shouting "Good-bye and a happy holiday." The drawing was intended as a compliment to teacher, and fortunately for Jack it was taken in good part by the teacher when she appeared in the class-room.

"I shall not punish you this time, Jack. O yes, my boy, you may sit there looking quite innocent, but I know you did the drawing. However, thanks for your wishes, and I hope that each of you will have a happy holiday and come back to your lessons in a month's time looking brisk and smart."

Then followed a short chat, the roll-call, and a long play-time; after this, greetings were received from the Headmaster, then came dismissal, and the boys and girls rushed out of the school gates homewards.

Jack dashed down the road holding his sister's hand, straight through the doorway of their little home, where they almost ran into their mother. "There, you silly boy, if you had knocked the milk out of my hand, you would have gone without pudding for dinner! Now, just sit down and be quiet for one minute in your life. Do you know, Jack, you seem to be getting quite a harem-scarem." "Awfully sorry, mother, I couldn't help being excited, you know. The holidays start to-day, that's the reason. But where are we going for our holidays? You know, dad said Brindlesea."

"Good gracious, boy, do be calm. We are not going for a week yet, but don't worry, you'll be quite happy at Brindlesea. Mrs. North is coming too, with Rob and Carrie, so you're sure to have a good time together. Until then, remember what your dad says, both of Joan and yourself, that you are the 'apple of his eye.'"

"Ha! Ha! Ha!" laughed Jack, "It's so funny dad saying that. I told Rob and Carrie about it, and we've often wondered what he means. Also, how can both Joan and I be the 'apple of his eye'?"

(To be continued).

Now, kiddies, to sure to read the exciting adventures of our quartette in next months issue, and to let me know how you like the story.

OUR COMPETITION.

For Guildites of 12 years or under: Give an explanation what you consider is the meaning of the last sentence and question in our new story, which reads as follows:—"How can Joan and Rob be the 'apple of his eye'?"

A prize valued at 5/- will be given to the Guildite giving the best explanation and answer to the above question. The prize itself may be chosen by the successful competitor. Several consolation prizes will also be given. Now is your chance, boys and girls, so start right away. POSTCARDS only to be used, and sent to the Guild Imp, c/o the Guild Leader. The CLOSING DATE, Saturday, July 17th.

Greetings and love to all,

THE GUILD IMP.

HARTMANN'S CALL TO ARMS.

"Who's Who in Psychical Research, Psychic and Spiritualism." This book is now being compiled by William C. Hartmann, the Editor of "Who's Who in Occult, Psychic and Spiritual Realms." (1927 Edition).

The body matter of this new compilation will be confined to psychism and spiritism in all their various aspects, and every individual, organization and society engaged or interested in any of these subjects is requested to register with us for free listing blanks which will be distributed in the near future.

This book will be epoch-making, and in addition to all of the individuals and activities represented, will contain a most complete bibliography.

Thanking you for your earnest support, we are,

Yours faithfully,

THE OCCULT PRESS,
P.O. Box 43, Jamaica, N.Y., U.S.A.



MOSTON AND COLLYHURST CHURCHES AND LYCEUMS.

Under the auspices of the above a Demonstration took place on 13th June, 1926. Miss E. Elliott, Pres. B.S.L.U., Mr. G. F. Knott, Sec. B.S.L.U., Miss D. Knott, Mr. J. E. Hart, Pres. M. & S.L.D.C., and Mr. Mansfield, Vice-Pres. M. & S.L.D.C., took part in the proceedings.

The Middleton Junction Prize Band rendered excellent service in leading the procession and also in accompanying the singing. Commencing at Moston Church, "The World is full of Music" was sung, and proceeding along the principal thoroughfares the procession was a cause for much comment from the onlookers.

The children certainly deserved praise for the commendable way in which they impressed the public mind. This will in due season bear fruit for the cause of Spiritualism in the district. The proceedings terminated at the Collyhurst Church with the song "The Hall of Progress." Mr. J. Cooper, of Moston, and Mr. Gethings, of Collyhurst, conducted the singings respectively. The weather was excellent. 350 people were present and everything passed off splendidly. The event will be long remembered. Miss A. Bragg was the Chairman and Mr. A. Collinge the Hon. Secretary for the arrangements.

£2,000 Effort.

Dear Lyceumists,

This month I have only one donation of 2/- from Lincoln Lyceum. Even though small it is none the less acceptable and I tender the Union's grateful thanks to Lincoln Lyceum for their kind thought. We would like to be able to acknowledge other donations, but when we look around and realise the state of things in our country we must try and make the best of things as they are. I am still hopeful that if and when things get better our Lyceums will respond loyally to that which they have promised to do. Kind thoughts to everyone.

Yours fraternally,

W. BURROWS,

20, Kliffen Place,

Hon. Sec. £2,000 Effort.

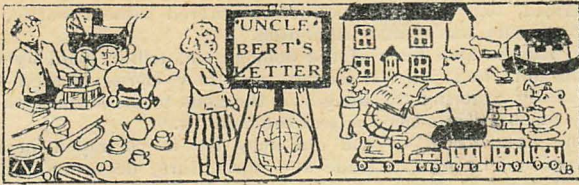
Coronation Road, Halifax.

LONDON LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

THE ANNUAL DEMONSTRATION
in the Battersea Town Hall, 11th July.

A Massed Session will be held at 3-0 p.m.

A PUBLIC MEETING at 7-0 p.m. Addresses by the President and members of the Council. Tea will be provided at 5-30 for those who have tickets which must be obtained from the Lyceum Secretaries before July 6th.



My dear Boys and Girls,

Since I wrote my last letter to you I have had the pleasure of attending the Conference at Dewsbury.

I met many of your friends from all parts of the country. A few of them you know quite well by name, even if you have not yet had the pleasure of meeting them. I call them all friends of yours because they travelled many miles in order to make the Lyceum Movement a shining light in the world.

In addition to the Conference, I was invited by the officers of the Dewsbury Lyceum to join them in "Walking" on the Bank Holiday Monday. To the Boys and Girls in the Northern centres, if I said we are going walking to-morrow, they would quite understand to what I referred. On the other hand, if I were to say the same remark, or more especially one I heard expressed at Dewsbury, "we are going walking by train to-day," to the Boys and Girls of the South, or other parts of England and overseas, they might suggest it was quite time I changed my address to that of some well known Institution where they cater for unfortunate people who are not mentally balanced.

Therefore perhaps it would be as well if I explain what "Going Walking" means, by telling you just what we did.

Headed by a large Brass Band and a beautiful Lyceum Banner we marched through the streets of the town. Each Lyceumist was provided with a hymn sheet, from which selections were sung at various halts on the journey, some of which were made in side streets, the market place, and once outside a Public House. Then we journeyed until we reached a large field, where games, etc., were enjoyed. I soon found myself in the centre of a ring, the children dancing round singing "Prince William was King David's Son," etc. (better known in the South as "Kiss in the Ring"). Then we played "The Farmer in His Den," "Oranges and Lemons," Rounders, etc. Tea was served in great style. A motor lorry appeared on the scene loaded with milk churns containing tea, and boxes of currant buns, each bun large enough for a meal. The mugs, too, were of a useful size for a thirsty customer like me. "Walking" in Dewsbury was a ripping time, only it ended by a rather sudden and unexpected storm.

The expression I quoted, "We are going Walking by train" means that a party are going to carry out much the same programme by going to another district by train first.

There must be a number of various events of this type carried out in different parts of the country. If you have any in your district, please write and tell me about them this month.

"Walking" would make a topping game for some of you little Boys and Girls to play with your Dollies. It would be quite easy to make a Lyceum Banner with two wooden meat skewers and a piece of silk. (Daddy will print the name of your Lyceum on the silk for you). Turn your toy cupboard or box out, finding all the dollies you can, arrange these in twos behind each other, the first two holding the Banner. To add to the number of children, get Mamma to give you a fashion book, from which you can cut out all the pictures of boys and girls and let them take part. You must have a Lyceum Manual or Hymn Sheet for singing as you march them round the room; then, when you get to the pretended field, think of all the nice games you can play with them. I am sure you will find this a happy game, because I know how you can make your Dollies do such wonderful things, and don't they enjoy it, too? Yes, everything until it comes to bed-time, and you want to do their hair ready for bed, then your troubles begin. They never want to go to bed, do they? I sometimes wonder if it is because they copy you, when you hear Mamma say "Come along now, it's bed-time." Perhaps they sometimes see a little black look, or hear you say "Oh, Mamma, I do not want to go to bed yet."

If this is the case, you cannot expect anything else, can you? If you are always ready to do what Mamma tells you at once, and not when you are ready to do it, then I feel sure your Dollies will copy your good example and will become the best little Dollies in the world. I know a little girl who often

has a Lyceum Session with her Dollies; she always acts as Conductor and the Dollies have to explain the readings in the Manual. Marching and Callisthenics have to be done, pearls given all round, not one being allowed to miss his or her turn. Mamma and Dadda have to play the part of visitors; Dadda has sometimes to be Mr. Kitson, the District Visitor, or Uncle Bert, while Mamma has to take her turn as being Miss Kitson or Auntie Ruth.

It is a real fine game for you little ones to play. Perhaps you will try it and let me know how you like it the next time you write to me.

COMPETITIONS AND PUZZLES.

I have found that the Competitions during the summer months are too much tax on your time, as you naturally want to get out to play as much as you can while the weather is fine. This being the case I shall not worry you with any more Competitions for the time being.

I have decided to increase the number of Puzzles each month, which I find many of you still enjoy working out.

To add a further interest to this section I want you to take part, not only by sending the answers, but also sending along any Puzzles you have made up yourselves.

Please do not send Cross Word Puzzles, as these require what is termed in the Printing trade as a Block.

The Puzzles you send along should be original and should be signed by your name in full, also the name of your Lyceum.

There will not be Prizes for this Section, but the best Puzzles received will be included in this page from time to time.

This month we will start the ball rolling with three.

No. 31. SIX ENGLISH TOWNS.

S . . . B . . . O . . . H
 B . . . K . . . U . . . N
 N . . . C . . . T . . . E
 S . . . C . . . O . . . T
 P . . . R . . . S . . . U . . . H
 R . . . H . . . A . . . E

No. 32. A SILVER CHAIN RECITATION.

APEKS TYEGNL.

No. 33. RIDDLES.

1. Why is a hen sitting on its perch like a penny?
2. What tree in England is older than the Oak?
3. Why is a button like a baby's shoe?

Answers to Puzzle No. 30.—Collar Stud, Pencil Case, Fountain Pen, Table Cloth, Picture Frame, Sugar Tongs, Letter Box, Writing Pad, Piano Stool, Candle Stick.

Correct answers received from Charles Lion (Manor Park), Jessie Awford, Daisy Devereux (Grimsby), May Robinson, Ingham, Celia and Ivy Whitehead, Marjorie Slingsby, Madge Spence (Newton Heath), Nellie Dean, Edith White, Edith Taylor (Bury), Muriel Lamb, Muriel Booth, Iris Thornton (South Manchester).

Congratulations to all who worked out the Picture Puzzle "Andrew Jackson Davis."

A word about "Mile-stones" to the older Boys and Girls. How often we hear the familiar phrase "Many happy returns of the day," which denotes that we have reached another Mile-stone on the journey of life.

Let us take the last one we passed, and looking back for a moment, what has it revealed to you?

How many opportunities for doing good have you missed without heeding, or how many pitfalls have you passed without taking the trouble to leave a warning to those who will journey along the same road later on? You are satisfied that you have passed them yourself, and are content for others to do the same.

If this be the case, let the journey to the next mile-stone be one of usefulness, every step of the road. Ever remember at all times you will only pass this way but once.

Your loving friend,

2, Villiers Road,
 Osterley, Middlesex.

UNCLE BERT.

Mrs. C. J. Williams, wife of the Union's Treasurer, has just had a serious operation in a London hospital. We are glad to learn that Mrs. Williams is making satisfactory progress towards recovery. We accord our good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Williams with our sympathy and thoughts towards a complete restoration of health.

Dead Empires.

By M. E. PICKLES.

(Continued from page 89).

PERSIA.

In ancient times Persia included the whole of that great tableland, enclosed on the south by the Arabian Sea, on the east by the Indus Valley, on the west by the Persian Gulf and Mesopotamia, and on the north by the depression between the Caspian and the Aral Sea.

The total area of this region is nearly a million miles, but modern Persia occupies only some 630,000 square miles, with a population of 11,000,000.

I have chosen this country for our next study to follow Egypt, because again we see, rising from the dead ashes of the past, a fine present, and probably a glorious future.

The government of Persia is an absolute monarchy, in the strictest sense of the term, but the Shah is no longer a religious leader.

The empire is divided into provinces, ruled by governor-generals directly responsible to the Crown, and these are again divided into districts, cities, and their dependencies and towns. Government there, we are told, "may be said to consist for the most part of an interchange of presents." Every official has to purchase his appointment and to pay for its continuance by an annual gift. Lowness of birth and station is no bar to promotion, the capacity to pay being all sufficient to procure a post for anyone. The bureaucracy is somewhat confused and without system.

An enormous staff of civil servants exists and duties are not properly apportioned. Few of them are paid, and they are supposed to remunerate themselves by extortion.

In modern Persia many reforms have been affected, including the institution of a letter post, the telegraph, newspapers, banks, higher education, and something too in the way of road-making.

The first inhabitants of the country in historical times appear to have been of Summerian stock, but at a later date an Aryan race descended upon Iruu, who, in the course of time, conquered the Aborigines and laid the foundation of an Aryan kingdom.

On the fall of the Assyrian Empire, this Aryan people, known as the Medes, became the heirs of its political power and to a great extent of its civilization. Dangerous foes, the Assyrian kings called them, for they belonged to a great family of nations, from which we ourselves and our neighbours in Europe have descended, and their forefathers came from the so-called mysterious heart of Asia. Trained in poverty, strong in body, simple in their lives, they swept down towards the old nations of Western Asia, who were weakened by wealth and long prosperity, like a fresh, keen wind blowing down a hot valley from the snowy mountains above.

Some of the newcomers settled between Assyria and the Caspian Sea, and the first of their kings led the Babylonians in the final struggle against Assyria. The empire grew and the last and greatest king was dethroned by one of the generals who stands out in the world's history. This was Cyrus, who led the Persians from their mountainous home in Persia, by the Persian Gulf, to a series of brilliant victories.

Then came a great revolution which resulted in Cyrus becoming king of both Medes and Persians, causing both nations to settle down as one people. The genius of this mighty man soon led him to extend this Mede-Persian Empire over the western part of Asia Minor. At that time there was a king in Lydia so rich that the expression "as rich as a Croesus" has passed into a proverbial way of describing a man of great wealth. He did his best to arm his country against the invaders, but his allies failed him, and in the most tragic and rapid manner Cyrus became master of all the part of Western Asia that is washed by the Black Sea and the Mediterranean.

And then, it is said, about 839 years before Christ, came the turn of Babylon. Some of the barrel-shaped cylinders on which Babylonian history is written are now to be seen in the British Museum. Those of Nabonides, King of Babylon at the time when Croesus was doing all he could to defend himself against the invincible Cyrus, tell of the searching for records of olden times, of the building and rebuilding of temples for the gods, and of the prayers of the king offered up for himself and his son Belshazzar. How strange it appears now, in this later day; the father absorbed in past history, and honouring the gods; the son carelessly feasting; while the renowned Cyrus, with his army, was actually outside the huge walls, using the powers of his giant mind to take their capital. His cylinder gives the account of how he did it; how the fawny waters of the Euphrates, which flowed through the city, were changed from their course, and the army poured in by the river gates. It

describes, too, how the conquerors entered without battle, so that the city was spared tribulation.

Mention is also made of the homage and tribute paid by the inhabitants and peoples around, and how Cyrus pleased the people by restoring the images of the gods to the shrines which they belonged in other parts of the country.

The hum, then, of the old busy life is portrayed in the tablets and records of trade and agriculture, debts and loans, the planting of date groves, the apprenticeship of lads to learn trades, such as baking, weaving, stone-cutting, with hundreds of other details as appropriate to the life of to-day as to the age of Cyrus.

The religion, too, became simpler and purer, though as time went on it was influenced by the idolatries of the older people. The famous old faith from the Far East, which held the sun and fire in adoring reverence as the expression of the "All Ruler of the World," was taught to the Medes and Persians by the great Zoroaster. The priests of this religion were the Magi, or wise men, who later on became very powerful in the State.

Cyrus held much sympathy with the Jews, who were worshippers of one God and had long been held captive in the country he had conquered. It was in his day that the joyful processions of the Great Return began to set out across the desert from Babylonia towards the home which they so ardently longed for. It is also recorded that as they went they sang the songs that were impossible to them in the strange land of their exile.

Then after the great Cyrus came his son, who wrought as much havoc, almost, as his father had done good.

Darius the Great followed, and was a vigorous and strong ruler, crushing rebellious conduct and arranging for good government and order with great ability.

A cylinder seal of the king, giving his name in three languages, and showing him hunting a lion from his chariot, reminds us of the particulars that are in the Bible story of Daniel.

On the slabs of Assyrian kings we can see the cages in which lions were brought to the hunting fields from dens, such as the one into which the aged Daniel was thrown, and a seal—the kind that is rolled over moist clay—is shown, that might well be the one which Darius used to prevent any tampering with the order so reluctantly given. The word of the king, once passed, by the laws of the Medes and the Persians, could never be broken.

Of late years the sites of the great cities of the empire have been unearthed, and wonderful remains have been found and studied.

There is in Persepolis the ruins of the greatest of palaces; not only its ground plan, but the "noblest flight of stairs in the world," and great gateways with halls copied from those in the Assyrian palaces.

Here, too, are the ruins of magnificent pillared halls, larger than any cathedral in England.

The sculptures show us the Persian guardsmen and the attendants who waited on the great kings.

In the city of the Medes are also found remains of splendid palaces built by Darius and his successors.

We can look on the map to find their cities and are filled with wonder to note the extent of the dominions.

I must just relate a king's dream and then close for this month to continue in August.

From countries round the Indus river the empire stretched to the Caspian and Mediterranean Seas, and far into Egypt, where Darius improved or built a canal from the Nile to the Red Sea. Great roads, connecting the various provinces, bridges, inns and watch-towers, were built by his orders, and a royal post was established. Darius also made his way across the Bosphorus into Europe, and across the Danube, extending the boundaries of the empire, and paving the way to attempt further conquest in the West.

A great struggle was coming on. The provinces of Asia Minor, which Cyrus gained for the Persian empire, were peopled by Greeks from over the sea of many islands. These people loved freedom and hated government by an absolute monarchy. By degrees discontent led to rebellion, rebellion to savage punishments and threats of vengeance. Particularly angry was Darius with the Athenians, who had not only dared to help their fellow-countrymen across the sea, but refused to submit in any way to the great kings. While he was nursing his plans to make himself master of all Greece and perhaps of Europe beyond, it is said that these words were repeated to him three times at his luxurious feasts, "Master, remember the Athenians."

We ask ourselves was it a dream or a voice of warning from beyond.

(To be continued).

The Thirty-Seventh Annual Conference of the B.S.L.U.

Held on Saturday, May 22nd, at 3 p.m., in the Dewsbury National Spiritualist Church, Wellington Road, Dewsbury, and on Sunday, May 23rd, at 10 a.m. in the TOWN HALL, DEWSBURY.

President:—Mr. G. A. Mack, of Runcorn.

Mr. Whittles, on behalf of the Dewsbury National Spiritualist Church, in a speech explanatory of the Lyceum Movement, introduced Alderman Shaw, the Deputy Mayor of Dewsbury.

Alderman Shaw deputised for the Mayor (who was away from town) and gave a Civic Welcome to the Delegates. He stated that the welcome was more of a pleasure than a duty to discharge. He called attention to the great advancement made in the use of electricity which years ago would have been thought impossible. Many people are at present similarly incredulous of the claims of Spiritualism. No human being could know everything, and though he had not been connected in any way with the Spiritualist Movement, he felt he could say, as Hamlet said: "There are more things in Heaven and Earth than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

Alderman Shaw expressed wishes for a successful Conference. He urged the Lyceum Leaders to always instil into the minds of the children a desire for absolute truth and hoped that the Lyceum teachings would make children grow into noble citizens.

The President, on behalf of the B.S.L.U., warmly thanked Alderman Shaw for his Civic Welcome.

After the singing of "Roses of Life" and Invocation by Mr. Kitson the Conference proceedings commenced at 3.20 p.m.

The President expressed pleasure that there was such a good gathering of delegates in view of the strike conditions and travelling difficulties.

CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS.

1. Messenger: Mr. L. Bland (Dewsbury).

Tellers: Mr. Slimin (Sunderland) and Mr. Harding (Wakefield).

Scrutineers: Miss Lawton (North East Lancashire D.C.), Miss Halliday (Halifax), Mr. Hart (Manchester D.C.), and Mr. Slater (Nottingham D.C.).

Minute Secretary: Mr. Goodall (Sheffield).

Messenger to Minute Secretary: Miss Dean.

Standing Orders Committee: Miss Elliott, Mr. Burrows,

Mr. Jackson and Mr. Slimin (Elected by Conference).

Credential Officers: Messrs. Thistlethwaite and Ball.

NOMINATIONS FOR STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE FROM FLOOR OF CONFERENCE.

2. Only one nomination, Mr. Slimin.
MR. SLIMIN WAS ELECTED.

3. The time table, as prepared by the Dewsbury friends, was adhered to, with the exception of Saturday night's adjournment.

Mr. Berry and Mr. Gush, the S.N.U. Fraternal Delegates, were invited to seats on the platform.

MINUTES OF LAST CONFERENCE.

4. Mr. Springate moved, Miss Hesp seconded,
THAT MINUTES BE TAKEN AS PRINTED. Carried.
ADOPTION OF MINUTES.

5. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Ingham seconded,
THE ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF LAST CONFERENCE. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE.

6. A telegram was received from Mr. R. A. Owen (President of the S.N.U.), conveying greetings; also one from Mr. Shuttleworth, explaining that he and Miss Leaver (a delegate) could not be present owing to uncertain travelling facilities.

Mr. Mason, a Past President of the Union, sent a greeting by telegram, which did not reach the Conference.

A letter was received from Mrs. Nurse explaining that through unforeseen circumstances she could not be present.

7. Mr. Dixon moved, Mr. Hart seconded,
THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE CORRESPONDENCE. Agreed.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Mack then read his President's Address. Miss Elliott (Vice-President) occupied the chair during the discussion.

8. Mr. Shaw moved, Mr. Crabtree seconded,
THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS. Carried.

PRINTING OF ADDRESS.

9. Mr. Hart moved, Mr. Ingham seconded,
THAT PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS BE PRINTED IN "THE LYCEUM BANNER" AND OFFERED FOR PUBLICATION TO CONTEMPORARY PAPERS (THE "TWO WORLDS," "PSYCHIC GAZETTE" AND "LIGHT.") Agreed.

Mr. Mack resumed his position in the Chair.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

10. As Mr. Mason was not present to move the resolution "THAT IF THE S.N.U. APPOINT ONLY A JOINT COMMITTEE NUMBERING THREE, THEN THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THIS CONFERENCE BE AUTOMATICALLY DISBANDED AND THE M.C. APPOINT A SIMILAR NUMBER AS THE S.N.U." of which he gave notice at last Conference, the President asked permission to withdraw it. Agreed.

REPORTS.

11. Mrs. Pickles moved, Mr. Lloyd seconded,
THAT ALL THE REPORTS PRINTED IN THE MAY ISSUE OF THE LYCEUM BANNER AND THE SUPPLEMENT BE TAKEN AS PRINTED. Agreed.

M.C. REPORT.

12. Mr. Knott gave the Interim Report.
286 Lyceums were in membership during 1925.
253 Lyceums paid fees for 1926. 33 had not yet paid.
13 new affiliations in 1926 had been endorsed.
4 applications for affiliation awaited endorsement.

RE-ISSUE OF PARLIAMENTARY RULES.

Mr. Knott mentioned that the matter arose out of By-Laws which provide that Parliamentary Rules of debate should govern the Conference.

13. Mrs. Raymond moved, Mrs. George seconded,
THAT THE PARLIAMENTARY RULES BE REVISED BY THE M.C. AND RE-PRINTED. Carried unanimously.

PUBLICATION OF CALENDAR.

14. Mrs. Pickles asked if the guarantees had come in against a loss on the Calendar.
Mr. Knott mentioned that 318 copies had been asked for by 18 Lyceums.

The President stated that the M.C. are taking all things into consideration and will see that it is not a direct loss to the Union.

15. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Springate seconded,
THE ADOPTION OF M.C. REPORT. Carried.
TREASURER'S REPORT.

16. Mr. Williams gave an Interim Report.

	Payments.		Income.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
General Fund ...	198	13 6	215	7 0
Banner Fund ...	151	18 5	141	10 0
Publishing Fund ...	38	13 8	274	2 11
Leaving a balance on the four months of ...	£241	14 4		
£2,000 Effort to date ...			451	7 6
Lyceum Home Fund ...			159	4 4

Attention was called to the following errors:—

17. On the Assets side of the Balance Sheet, Stock (PUBLISHING) should read £475 1s. 2d. and in the item above this (EDUCATION) a figure (3d.) was missing in the pence column.

The Treasurer pointed out that he had not had time to check the figures in the Lyceum Banner and the discrepancies mentioned were due to errors in printing. The signed Balance Sheet was correct.

18. Mr. Hart asked for an explanation regarding Conference Accounts not completed.

Mr. Thistlethwaite explained that they received a certain amount of money with the notification that there was some more to come, and at that time they had seen no vouchers or a financial statement. Though they could not present a full statement to the Conference they, the Auditors, are certain all the money has been handed over.

CERTIFICATE DEPOSITS.

19. Deposit Money for Certificates. Mr. Keeling stated this was trust money, and ought not to be mixed with other accounts.

20. Mr. Marston moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,
THAT A SPECIAL FUND BE SET UP FOR CERTIFICATE DEPOSIT MONEY PAID BY LYCEUMS.
Carried.
21. Mr. Slimin drew attention to the amount £78 11s. 3d. outstanding accounts in Lyceum Banner account.
Mr. Knott explained that the Banners were issued on credit terms, three months' credit being allowed. A large number of Lyceums had not paid their quarterly accounts, but within a month sixty or seventy per cent. of the outstanding accounts were wiped off. He said practically all Lyceums had paid their accounts within the following three months.
22. Mr. Wright moved, Mr. Lloyd seconded,
THE ADOPTION OF TREASURER'S REPORT, with the suggestion that all questions on the Balance Sheet should be forwarded to the Treasurer before Conference, so that he can be ready to deal with them and so save the time of Conference. Carried (1 dissentient).
CREDENTIAL REPORT.
23. Officers 5, Area Representatives 5, Trustees 4, Auditors 2, District Councils 18 (representing 11 D.Cs.), Delegates 85 (representing 65 Lyceums), Revision Committee 2, Education Committee 2. Total 123. There were also present S.N.U. Fraternal Delegates 2, Minute Secretary 1, Assistant Officer 1, Press 2.
24. Mr. Hart moved, Mr. Bostock seconded,
ACCEPTANCE OF CREDENTIAL REPORT. Carried.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION.

AUDITORS' REPORT.

25. Mr. Thistlethwaite stated they had gone through the Accounts and vouchers, and were quite satisfied that they were in order. Mr. Ball mentioned improvement in the keeping of certain books, especially Treasurer's.
26. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Marston seconded,
THE ADOPTION OF AUDITOR'S REPORT. Carried.
LYCEUM BANNER REPORT.
27. Mr. Knott stated there were 66 affiliated Lyceums who do not take Banners. Some orders had been decreasing—Lyceums probably felt the lack of money. However, there was a tendency for increases during the last two months.
28. Mr. Shaw moved, Mr. Walmsley seconded,
THE ADOPTION OF THE BANNER REPORT. Carried.

EDUCATION REPORT.

29. Miss Kitson read out a list of amended ages for the various grades, which had been omitted from the printed report.
Oral Grade. Junior Section. 8 to 10 years, instead of up to 8 years.
Senior Section. Over 10 years.
Grade I. Over 12 years, instead of 10 years.
Grade II. Over 13 years, instead of 12 years.
Grade III. Over 15 years, instead of 14 years.
Grade IV. Over 17 years, instead of 16 years.
Grade V. Over 18 years.

In the 1926 Results Book there are the names of 65 Lyceumists, who, by passing through all the 5 Grades are qualified for the first degree of Associate of the National Spiritualist College. Much hard work had been put into the preparation of the B.S.L.U. and S.N.U. Joint Education Scheme and Miss Kitson appealed for support in giving it a trial. Lyceumists who have passed through the 5 Grades have themselves asked that something more should be done, and this will meet that request.

Miss Kitson further mentioned that the old kind of opposition to our Movement is dying away, and a new one, an intellectual opposition, is taking its place. One of the aims of the advanced Scheme is that we shall have our students prepared to meet this opposition.

30. Mr. Keeling raised the question of English being considered in the marking of papers. He felt quite sure that the S.N.U. would not pass some of the English we pass.
Mr. Williams stated that during the last three or four years there had been a marked improvement in the English written, though some children find it very difficult to express their thoughts in good English.
31. Mrs. Slimin suggested that Tutors should obtain written answers from students during their preparation studies and Miss Hesp thought that the feelings of the children were under estimated. They were nervous when they entered the examination room.

32. Mr. Berry suggested, for the consideration of the Education Committee, that one or two cheap books on composition might be selected for study.
Mrs. Mack mentioned that she found a lot of children were addicted to the use of pet phrases, and she urged that elder Lyceumists should be careful not to use pet phrases.
Mrs. Raymond, Mrs. Pickles, Miss Lawton and Mr. Slimin also took part in the discussion.
33. Mr. Slimin mentioned the different methods adopted for the marking of Grade I paper. In previous years it had always been the custom to allot 20 marks for each question.
Mr. Connor mentioned that there was a distinction between "a" and "b" questions and the student who answered "a" and not "b" knew that he was getting 15 marks and not 20.
34. Mr. Dixon moved, Mr. Ingham seconded,
THE ADOPTION OF THE EDUCATION REPORT. Carried.
S.N.U. AND B.S.L.U. JOINT EDUCATION COMMITTEE.
35. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,
THE ADOPTION OF THE REPORT. Carried.
NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST COLLEGE.
36. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,
THAT NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST COLLEGE CONSTITUTION BE ADOPTED. Carried unanimously.
S.N.U. AND B.S.L.U. JOINT EDUCATION SCHEME—LYCEUM BANNER SUPPLEMENT.

37. Questions were asked concerning the respective degrees of Associate and Graduate, and a discussion arose concerning Lyceumists taking all the 5 Grades before entering the Intermediate Grade.

Mr. Connor explained that the first 4 Grades of the B.S.L.U. Education Scheme were for Lyceumists only, and that Grade 5 was the first Grade that goes into general Spiritualism.

Mr. Gush pointed out that you could not expect adults who enter the Movement to pass through all the 5 Grades of the Lyceum Education Scheme before qualifying for the Intermediate Grade.

38. Mr. Burrows moved, Mr. Ingham seconded,
THE ADOPTION OF SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF THE B.S.L.U. AND S.N.U. JOINT EDUCATION SCHEME. Carried (2 dissentients).

39. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Burrows seconded,
THAT THIS CONFERENCE RECOMMENDS TO THE GOVERNING BOARD THAT THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION OF LOCAL BRANCHES TO THE COLLEGE SHALL BE 5/-.

Mr. Springate asked if a Church and Lyceum are one do they pay 10/-?

The President stated "5/- each," as they are working as two different constitutions.

- NOMINATIONS FOR TRUSTEES FOR THE NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST COLLEGE.

40. (a) ONE FROM PANEL OF B.S.L.U.
Mr. Kitson was nominated, but owing to advancing age he thought it wise not to stand.
Mr. Latham was nominated.
41. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Ingham seconded,
THAT NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED. Carried.
MR. LATHAM WAS DECLARED ELECTED AS TRUSTEE FROM THE PANEL OF B.S.L.U.
42. (b) ONE WHO IS ON PANEL OF B.S.L.U. AND S.N.U.
Mr. Wright and Mrs. Greenwood were nominated.
Voting.

Mr. Wright 63
Mrs. J. Greenwood 48

- MR. WRIGHT WAS DECLARED ELECTED, therefore:
43. WE RECOMMEND TO THE S.N.U. THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. WRIGHT FOR THE POSITION OF TRUSTEE-TREASURER.

ELECTION OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

44. The present Committee was nominated *en bloc*.

Mr. Slimin was also nominated.

45. Mr. Shaw moved, Mr. Wright seconded,
THAT NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED. Carried.

Voting.

46. Miss Hesp 107, Miss Lawton 106, Miss Kitson 112, Mr. Connor 112, Mr. Keeling 97, Mr. Latham 85, Mr. Slimin 53.
The first six persons were declared elected.

47. It was agreed to adjourn at 9-0 p.m.

CREENTIAL REPORT.

48. Officers 5, Area Representatives 5, Trustees 4, Auditors 2. District Councils 18 (representing 11 D.Cs.), Delegates 86 (representing 66 Lyceums), Revision Committee 2, Education Committee 2. Total 124.

There were also present:—Minute Secretary 1, Assistant Officer 1, S.N.U. Fraternal Delegates 2.

49. Mr. Marston moved, Mr. Ingham seconded,

ADOPTION OF CREENTIAL REPORT. Carried.

TRUSTEES' REPORT.

50. Mr. Edwards stated that the Trustees had taken a deep interest in the question of the Ainsworth Legacy. The amount, with accumulated interest, would be about £900, so that if and when we get it our financial position will be much more healthy than it is now.

Mr. Connor thought Mr. Edwards pessimistic in saying "if and when we get it," in view of the fact that at last Conference we were told it was practically in our hands.

Mr. Edwards replied that they had taken every step to attain the result which 12 months ago seemed so very near.

A long discussion arose on the subject, in which Mr. Keeling remarked that for 21 years we had been trying to find means whereby we could accept this money and at the same time satisfy the Charity Commissioners.

Mr. Edwards, in a long speech, shewed how the Trustees had been doing all they could to effect the realisation of this legacy.

Mr. Jackson remarked that so far as he could judge the Union had not complied with the conditions of the Will, and until this was done the money would never be handed over.

Mr. Kitson stated that several attempts were made to draw up a Scheme that would satisfy the Charity Commissioners.

51. Following a lengthy discussion, in which Mr. Knott, Mr. Keeling, Mr. Berry, Mrs. Pickles and Miss Elliott took part, THE DISCUSSION WAS ADJOURNED UNTIL THE FOLLOWING DAY.

52. The Conference resumed on the Sunday morning, in the Dewsbury Town Hall. After the singing of "Again we've met," and Invocation by Miss Elliott, a group of boys and girls, holding letters forming the word WELCOME, sang a song, and then recited a poem specially composed for the occasion. A boy and girl, each holding a tray of beautiful red roses, then sang "Flowers of the Garden," and they distributed the flowers among the Union's officials on the platform.

The President thanked all who had assisted in the welcome, and Conference proceedings began at 10-20 a.m. with the singing of "Hand in hand with Angels."

Mr. Kitson informed the Delegates that the Conference previously met in Dewsbury in 1894, in the same Hall. He read out a list of the Delegates who were present at that Conference, and remarked that though the majority had now passed to the higher life he was sure they had not lost their interest in the Movement.

ARISEN WORKERS.

53. Mr. Knott read out the List of Arisen Workers and mentioned that some of them had been in the Movement right from its inception.

The President remarked that we believe there is a power in thought and asked the Delegates to stand and concentrate their minds to those on the other side of life.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

As Mrs. Nurse was not present,

54. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Slimin seconded, THAT THE NAME OF MRS. NURSE BE INCLUDED IN THE ELECTION FOR VICE-PRESIDENT.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. Slimin, who had been returned as Representative for Area "B" asked that his name be deleted from the nominations for Auditor.

The President ruled that the three names be retained in the ballot.

55. PRESIDENT.

Miss Elliott	...	...	83	<i>Elected.</i>
Mr. Keeling	...	...	36	

56. VICE-PRESIDENT.

				<i>Second Vote.</i>
Mr. Burrows	...	...	18	18
Mr. Jackson	...	...	12	10

Mr. Keeling	...	...	27	21
Mr. Mack	...	...	55	70 <i>Elected.</i>
Mrs. Nurse	...	...	8	

57. TREASURER.

Mr. Williams unopposed.

58. AUDITOR.

Mr. Lloyd	...	...	17
Mr. Slimin	...	...	2
Mr. Thistlethwaite	...	...	96 <i>Elected.</i>

59. AREA REPRESENTATIVES were declared as follows:—

AREA A.	Miss H. Cleland (Glasgow).
"	B. Mr. J. Slimin (Sunderland).
"	C. Mr. J. F. Smith (Sheffield).
"	D. Mr. W. Burrows (Halifax).
"	E. Mrs. L. Nurse (Blackpool).
"	F. Mr. J. E. Hart (Manchester).
"	G. Miss V. G. Rayner (Nottingham).
"	H. Mrs. T. Tims (Southend).

Whilst the Scrutineers were out of the room, counting the balloting for Vice-President,

60. Mr. A. Hope moved, Mr. Holdsworth seconded, THAT WE PROCEED WITH THE BALLOTING FOR AUDITOR.

The President remarked that this motion disenfranchised those who were absent, and on the motion being put to the vote it was defeated.

ELECTION OF GENERAL SECRETARY.

Mr. Knott left the Conference room when this matter was opened and

61. Mr. Keeling moved, Mrs. Pickles seconded, THAT THE GENERAL SECRETARY BE RE-CALLED. Carried.

62. Mr. Burrows moved, Mr. R. Hope seconded, THAT WE RECOMMEND TO THE TRUSTEES THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF MR. KNOTT AS GENERAL SECRETARY.

Mr. Keeling and Mrs. Pickles spoke in support of the re-appointment of Mr. Knott.

Mr. Slimin raised the point as to who should direct the duties of the General Secretary, and the President referred him to page 32, paragraph "h," of the Constitution.

63. Mr. Slimin moved, Mr. Latham seconded, an amendment THAT THE WORD "RECOMMEND" BE DELETED AND THE WORD "INSTRUCT" BE INSERTED, thus the amendment would read

THAT WE INSTRUCT THE TRUSTEES THAT THEY RE-ENGAGE MR. KNOTT AS GENERAL SECRETARY.

On being put to the vote the amendment was carried.

The Amendment then became the substantive motion, and

64. Mr. Connor moved, Mrs. Pickles seconded, an amendment to substantive motion,

THAT THE WORDS "ON THE TERMS DRAWN UP BY M.C." BE ADDED TO THE MOTION.

The amendment carried—2 dissentients only.

65. THE AMENDMENT

THAT WE INSTRUCT THE TRUSTEES THAT THEY RE-ENGAGE MR. KNOTT AS GENERAL SECRETARY, ON TERMS DRAWN UP BY THE M.C. was then put to the vote as the substantive motion and carried. (2 dissentients).

66. Mr. Dixon moved, Miss Entwistle seconded, THAT WE DEFER THE TRUSTEES' REPORT TILL LATER ON IN THE AGENDA. Carried.

67. £2,000 EFFORT.

Mr. Burrows stated that he had received letters from people wanting to know what the Effort is about.

Mr. Burrows gave the following figures:—

1921	was	...	£171	18	8
1922	"	...	298	2	5
1923	"	...	319	13	3
1924	"	...	371	6	10
1925	"	...	435	10	10

Since 1925 Conference up to May 22nd, 1926, £31 8s. 9d.

68. Mr. Slimin moved, Mr. Springate seconded,

THE ADOPTION OF THE £2,000 EFFORT.

Mr. Keeling said: "We at Liverpool feel that some effort should be made to accelerate the completion of this money." He thought approximately 3,000 of our Lyceumists would be working and he suggested the idea of issu-

ing collecting cards and asking every Lyceumist who is working to contribute $\frac{1}{4}$ d. or 1d. every week, and if this was done three years would see the completion of the Effort.

Mr. Phillips spoke of the scarcity of money in the Mining Districts and said even a $\frac{1}{4}$ d. or a 1d. per week would be difficult to contribute.

Mr. Keeling replied that he had stated "Lyceumists who are working."

The President explained it was only a suggestion. Those Lyceumists who can do it, do so.

The Report was adopted.

69. S.N.U. E.C. REPRESENTATIVE.

The President suggested that Conference take the S.N.U. E.C. Report before electing a Representative, as there was a question of reducing the Membership of the S.N.U. E.C.

70. It was agreed

THAT THE S.N.U. E.C. REPORT BE NOW CONSIDERED.

Mr. Connor asked "Can the S.N.U. with its present Constitution reduce the numbers of its representatives," and Mr. Berry replied that it was the S.N.U.'s intention to take steps to make the necessary alterations and also to endeavour to bring it into effect as from July, 1926.

71. Miss Elliott moved, Mr. Ingham seconded,

THAT WE, REALISING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE WORK OF THE B.S.L.U. WITHIN THE SPIRITUALIST MOVEMENT, INSTRUCT OUR DELEGATES TO THE S.N.U. CONFERENCE TO PRESS FOR THE RETENTION OF TWO B.S.L.U. REPRESENTATIVES ON THE S.N.U. E.C.; TO MOVE AND SUPPORT AN AMENDMENT TO THE S.N.U. E.C.'s RECOMMENDATION FOR A REDUCED E.C. IN ORDER TO GIVE EFFECT TO THIS RESOLUTION. Carried (4 dissentients).

72. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Drinkwater seconded,

THAT THE S.N.U. E.C. AND CONFERENCE REPORTS BE CO-OPERATED FOR ADOPTION.

Carried.

73. ELECTION OF S.N.U. E.C. REPRESENTATIVE.

Miss Elliott, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hart were nominated

74. Mr. Bentley moved, Mr. Shaw seconded,

THAT NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED. Carried.

75. VOTING.

Miss Elliott 87, Mr. William 12, Mr. Hart 17.

Miss Elliott was declared elected.

(Mr. Dixon was the Scrutineer, in place of Mr. Hart, during this ballot).

76. OVERSEAS REPORT.

Mr. Knott called attention to a letter he had received from Mr. Richardson informing him of an Act passed in Canada compelling every Church to have a Sunday School.

The President mentioned he had received a number of letters from different people in reply to Christmas and New Year Greetings, one from Mr. Reuben Webb sent greetings to North Lincs.

77. Mr. A. Hope moved, Mr. Bower seconded,

THE ADOPTION OF OVER-SEAS REPORT.

Carried.

78. U.D.C. REPORT.

Mrs. Mack (Liverpool D.C.) called attention to the third paragraph, where it was stated "We regret that during the year we have lost two D.C.'s. from membership. The economic and financial position of the last two or three years has been a heavy handicap to the work of many of our Councils."

I would like to state here that it is not through economic and financial conditions that we have seceded from the U.D.C. We did not consider that the good we received from the U.D.C. was commensurate with the amount of money and time that was spent in the meetings.

79. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Hart seconded,

THE ADOPTION OF THE U.D.C. REPORT. Carried.

80. MANUAL REVISION REPORT.

Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Bostock seconded,

THE ADOPTION OF MANUAL REVISION REPORT

Carried (2 dissentients).

A question was asked as to whether the adoption of the Report meant that the Manual Revision Committee would have a proof of the "Helps to the Study of the Lyceum Manual" submitted to them before it is published.

The President replied that the M.C. at their next meeting will discuss the point.

Mr. Keeling said, as Conference has adopted the Report, the M.C. should take cognisance of the Manual Revision Committee's suggestion.

81. REPRESENTATIVES TO S.N.U. CONFERENCE.

Mr. Slimin nominated MISS KITSON and MR. CONNOR, stating the most important matter we have to look into is the question of the College Scheme, and these two he suggested had the matter at their finger-ends and would look after the interests of the B.S.L.U.

82. Mr. Neden moved, Mr. A. Hope seconded,

THAT NOMINATIONS BE CLOSED. Carried.

83. MISS KITSON and MR. CONNOR WERE DECLARED ELECTED.

84. CREDENTIAL REPORT.

Officers 5, Area Representatives 5, Trustees 4, Auditors 2, District Councils 18 (representing 11 D.C.'s), Delegates 88 (representing 68 Lyceums), Revision Committee 2, Education Committee 2. Total 126.

There were also present:—S.N.U. Fraternal Delegates 2, Minute Secretary 1, Assistant Officer 1.

85. Mrs. Raymond moved, Mr. O'Neil seconded,

THE ADOPTION OF CREDENTIAL REPORT.

Carried.

86. INTERNATIONAL REPORT.

This Report was published in the November, 1925, *Banner*, and supplemented in the May 1926 *Banner*.

87. Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Bentley seconded,

THE ADOPTION OF INTERNATIONAL REPORT.

Carried unanimously.

88. INTER-RELATIONS REPORT.

The Inter-Relations Committee had met during the week-end and Mr. Berry gave a supplementary Report, pointing out the various Amendments that had been made in the Inter-Relations Scheme, and added that the question of the Affiliation Fee to the I.S.F. had been referred to Conference for a decision.

Mrs. Pickles endorsed Mr. Berry's statement, and remarked that the Inter-Relations Committee can be a wonderful means of closing friction between Lyceums and Churches.

89. Mr. Connor moved

THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE INTER-RELATIONS SCHEME. BUT THERE WAS NO SECONDER.

The Conference then adjourned.

90. SUNDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

The President pointed out that Miss Elliott (the President-elect) would have to leave Conference early in order to catch the only available train, unless other means of conveyance were obtainable.

Mr. Ellis moved, Mr. R. Hope seconded,

THAT CONFERENCE PAYS THE EXPENSES OF MISS ELLIOTT FOR GETTING BACK BY CAR AFTER THE MASS MEETING. Carried (3 dissent.)

INTER-RELATIONS REPORT—*cont.*

Mr. Berry, S.N.U., read the supplementary Report.

91. S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. JOINT INTER-RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

AGREEMENT ON INTER-RELATIONS BETWEEN CHURCHES AND LYCEUMS.

1. That, recognising a difference of function between the two Unions, this Joint Committee declares that any attempt to force fusion of the two bodies would produce disruptive influences, and so hinder the natural growth towards amalgamation, and agrees that a policy of Inter-Relations is the best course to pursue. We therefore recommend the following "findings":—

It is agreed that both Unions are engaged in Propaganda and Education as essential functions of their respective Unions, as hereunder set forth.

FUNCTIONS OF THE SPIRITUALISTS' NATIONAL UNION, LTD.

- To secure the recognition of Spiritualism as a Religious denomination.
- To secure the Scientific and Legal recognition of the reality of Psychic Phenomena.
- To encourage the development of Mediumship and the unfoldment of Psychic Powers within the Movement.
- To provide an efficient service of Speakers and Mediums for the exposition and demonstration of Spiritualistic Truths.

- e. To provide machinery, through District Councils with administrative powers, for the organisation of its Churches for worship and teaching on the basis of the Seven Principles of Spiritualism.
- f. To encourage Churches to secure their properties and other assets for Spiritualism, through Joint Trusteeship with the Spiritualists' National Union, Ltd.
- g. And such other functions as are authorised by the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

FUNCTIONS OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

- h. To put into practice the system of training described by Andrew Jackson Davis as being in operation in the Spirit World.
- i. To particularly concentrate on the training of children in Spiritualistic Truths.
- j. To provide schemes of Education for all Lyceumists.
- k. To induce Churches to provide facilities for the formation and encouragement of Lyceums.
- 1. And such other activities as are provided for in the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union's Constitution.

2. That, since it is recognised that a Lyceum is an integral part of a Church, it is essential that the Church shall have authority in all matters concerning the well-being of the Lyceum—save only that there shall be no infringement of the rights of the Lyceum to be conducted in accordance with the Constitution and practices of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union regarding its teaching and training, provided that (a) the Conductor, Secretary and Treasurer, if over the age of 18 years, shall be full members of the Church; (b) the Conductor and Secretary shall be, or become, members of the Church Committee; (c) each Lyceum shall have power to collect and disburse its own funds, but shall present an abstract of its accounts to the Church Annual General Meeting.

Any Church or Lyceum refusing or failing to carry out all or any of the above Agreements shall render itself liable to suspension by the Union to which it is affiliated.

3. In order to promote the more complete organisation of the Movement, it is agreed that where a Lyceum has developed and organised meetings, and is to all intents and purposes carrying on the functions of a Church, the Lyceum Union shall use its best endeavours to persuade such bodies to seek affiliation with the Spiritualists' National Union, Ltd., as properly constituted Churches.

4. Again, in the interests of closer harmony between the two Unions, it is agreed that in future the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union shall consider the advisability, before accepting into affiliation a Lyceum meeting on the premises of a Church not properly constituted, of deferring such acceptance until after consultation with the Spiritualists' National Union, in order to give the fullest consideration to any knowledge of local circumstances in the possession of the Spiritualists' National Union.

5. The two Unions agree to the setting up of a Permanent Joint Committee to act as a Court of Arbitration.

Re JOINT AFFILIATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL SPIRITUALIST FEDERATION.

The Committee decided to leave the question of Joint Affiliation to the B.S.L.U. Conference and the S.N.U. A.G.M.

- 92. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. R. Hope seconded,
THAT THE INTER-RELATIONS SCHEME AS READ BY MR. BERRY BE ADOPTED.

Carried. (4 dissentients).

93. JOINT AFFILIATION FEE TO I.S.F.

Mr. Berry stated that there was at present only one name in the Affiliation, i.e., the S.N.U.

Mr. Connor suggested affiliating direct, and Mr. Knott explained it would be far better if the International Secretary could deal with one Central Organisation in each country. The Grand Committee had been informed that we were attempting to settle the internal affairs of Great Britain.

It was stated that the Secretary of the International Committee was wonderfully sympathetic towards the children of all nationalities and has encouraged other Nations to buy our Literature. Mr. Kitson's Essay had created a very interesting discussion at the last Conference.

- 94. Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Marston seconded,
THAT WE PAY EQUAL SHARES WITH THE S.N.U. ON THE AFFILIATION FEE TO THE I.S.F. AND HAVE ONE SEAT ON THE GRAND COMMITTEE.

Carried.

- 95. TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued from item 51 and 66).

Mr. Edwards re-opened the discussion on the Ainsworth Legacy. He wished to make it quite clear that the Trustees had done all that lay in their power. He stated that more work had been done in the last year in regard to the Ainsworth Legacy than in any of the 21 years previous.

It had been mentioned that Mr. Keeling was in possession of Documents relating to the Ainsworth Legacy, handed to him by Mr. Venables, and Mr. Knott stated that as Secretary of the Trustees he had all the Documents that had been issued. Mr. Keeling had completely handed over to the Union all the Documents that were in his possession.

- 96. Following a lengthy discussion, Mr. Ellis moved, Mr. Gar-side seconded,

THAT THIS CONFERENCE IS OF THE OPINION THAT THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE B.S.L.U. WILL BE SERVED BY THE TRUSTEES OF THE UNION OBTAINING THE TRUST OF THE AINSWORTH LEGACY AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE MOMENT, AND IF AND WHEN THE TRUSTEES DEEM THAT THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE UNION WILL WARRANT US FOUNDING A HOME IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE WILL THAT A SCHEME BE SUBMITTED TO THE A.G.M. FOR ITS APPROVAL AND THAT THEN APPLICATION BE MADE TO THE CHARITY COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR APPROVAL TO USE THE LEGACY.

Mr. Ellis's motion was, however, withdrawn by unanimous consent, in view of a motion,

- 97. Moved by Mr. Keeling, seconded by Mr. Ellis,

THAT THE TRUSTEES BE INSTRUCTED FORTHWITH TO PREPARE OR ARRANGE FOR THE PREPARATION OF A DEED TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE TESTATOR'S WILL AND THE CHARITY COMMISSIONERS. THAT THEY BE FURTHER INSTRUCTED TO REQUEST THE S.N.U. LTD. TO APPLY TO MR. TALLENT BATEMAN FOR THE TRANSFER OF THE JOHN AINSWORTH LEGACY AND ACCUMULATED INTEREST FROM THE PRESENT STAKEHOLDERS TO THE LYCEUM UNION TRUSTEES.

FAILING COMPLIANCE WITH THIS REQUEST, MR. BATEMAN TO BE ASKED TO STATE EXPLICITLY HIS REASON FOR REFUSAL.

Carried unanimously.

- 98. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Springate seconded,
THE ADOPTION OF TRUSTEES' REPORT.

Carried.

- 99. DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT CONFERENCE.

Mr. Hart moved, Mrs. Raymond seconded,
WHITSUNDAY AND THE PREVIOUS SATURDAY,
JUNE 4th and 5th.

Carried.

The President announced there were no invitations to hand.

- 100. MOTIONS TO AMEND BYE-LAWS.

Mr. Williams proposed, Mr. Drinkwater seconded,
WHEN THE INVITING LYCEUM OR DISTRICT COUNCIL IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE FREE ENTERTAINMENT FOR ALL THE DELEGATES AND REPRESENTATIVES, THE LYCEUM OR DISTRICT COUNCIL SECRETARY SHALL SUBMIT TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY NOT LATER THAN MARCH 31st, AN ESTIMATE OF:—
THE NUMBER OF FREE BILLETS.

THE AMOUNT OF LOCAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

THE COST PER HEAD PER NIGHT OF PAID BILLETS.

THE SAME TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SHALL THEN DETERMINE THE AMOUNT FOR BILLETING ONLY TO BE LEVIED PER DELEGATE OR REPRESENTATIVE ON ALL LYCEUMS, DISTRICT COUNCILS AND OTHER BODIES SENDING REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CONFERENCE. THE AMOUNT, NOT EXCEEDING 7/6, TO BE PAID BY EACH DELEGATE may be alternative (that is for one or two nights' entertainment) and TO BE SENT TO THE BILLETING SECRETARY WITH THE APPLICATION FOR BILLETS. THE MEAL TICKETS SHALL BE AN ADDITIONAL CHARGE.

THE SECRETARY OF THE INVITING LYCEUM OR DISTRICT COUNCIL SHALL, WITHIN 21 DAYS AFTER THE CONFERENCE, RENDER TO THE UNION'S TREASURER A FULL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR SAME, TOGETHER WITH ALL VOUCHERS AND THE BALANCE, IF ANY. SUCH BALANCE TO GO TO THE GENERAL FUNDS OF THE UNION.

In proposing this, Mr. Williams remarked that the M.C. had prepared this addition to Bye-Law 9, to comply with the request of last Conference, and that the 7/6 when once sent would not be returned in the event of a delegate not attending Conference, as the money was sent as a guarantee of good faith.

Mr. Wilson thought the date of March 31st for submitting the necessary estimates to the General Secretary rather early, and the President replied that the M.C. meet on the second Saturday and Sunday in April, which is their last meeting before Conference.

Mr. A. Hope asked if it would be possible for the M.C. to formulate some pooling scheme.

101. Mr. Keeling moved, Mrs. George seconded, the following amendment:—

In the long paragraph, after the words "the Management Committee, insert the following:—

... WHO SHALL THEN DETERMINE THE AMOUNT (WHICH SHALL NOT EXCEED 7/6) TO BE LEVIED PER DELEGATE OR REPRESENTATIVE, ON ALL LYCEUMS, DISTRICT COUNCILS, AND OTHER BODIES SENDING REPRESENTATIVES TO THE CONFERENCE.

SUCH AMOUNT SHALL BE BASED ON A SINGLE NIGHT'S ACCOMMODATION AND SHALL INCLUDE A PERCENTAGE NOT EXCEEDING 33-1/3 TOWARDS DEFRAYING CONFERENCE EXPENSES. A DOUBLE LEVY SHALL BE PAID FOR DELEGATES, ETC. REQUIRING ACCOMMODATION FOR TWO NIGHTS. ALL LEVIES SHALL BE SENT TO THE BILLETING SECRETARY WITH THE APPLICATIONS FOR BILLETS.

Mr. Slimin objected to the portion where there is to be a double levy of two nights' accommodation are required.

Mr. Connor stated that in view of paragraph 31 of Last Year's Minutes, Mr. Keeling's Amendment was out of order.

Mr. Keeling offered to withdraw his Amendment, but

102. It was agreed
THAT THE QUESTION OF THE AMENDMENT BEING IN ORDER BE PUT BEFORE THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.

103. VOTES OF THANKS.
Mr. Knott moved, Mr. Marston seconded
VOTES OF THANKS TO RETIRING OFFICERS AND LOCAL FRIENDS. Carried, unanimously.

104. CREDENTIAL REPORT.
Officers 5, Area Representatives 5, Trustees 3, Auditors 2, District Councils 18 (representing 11 D.C.'s), Delegates 80 (representing 63 Lyceums), Revision Committee 2, Education Committee 1, Total 116. Also present, S.N.U. Fraternal Delegates 2, Minute Secretary 1, Assistant Officer 1.

105. Mr. Ingham moved, Mr. Bostock seconded
THE ADOPTION OF CREDENTIAL REPORT.

Carried.

106. Miss Elliott then stated the findings of the Standing Orders Committee on Mr. Keeling's Amendment:—
THAT WE RULE THE AMENDMENT IS OUT OF ORDER ON THE GROUNDS THAT, IN ASKING FOR A DOUBLE LEVY, IT CONTRAVENES ITEM 31 OF THE 1925 CONFERENCE.

107. Mr. Slimin moved, Mr. Dixon seconded.
THAT THE WORDS FOLLOWING DELEGATES, i.e., "MAY BE ALTERNATIVE (THAT IS FOR ONE OR TWO NIGHTS' ENTERTAINMENT)" BE DELETED. Carried (7 dissentients).

108. The Amendment (see large type of item 100) was then put as a substantive motion, and was carried. (5 dissentients).

MOTION 13 (A). (11) ON AGENDA.

109. Mr. Slimin moved, Mr. Ingham seconded, Bye-Law 5, Section 1.

THAT LYCEUM FEES TO THE B.S.L.U. BE 10/- FOR THE FIRST FIFTY AND ON A GRADUATED BASIS FOR EACH 10, OR PART OF 10, OVER 50 MEMBERS. Carried (4 dissentients).

110. Mr. Ingham moved, Mr. Walmsley seconded,
A GRADUATED SCALE OF 2/- PER 10 MEMBERS, OR PART OF 10, OVER 50 MEMBERS.

Carried (4 dissentients).

111. MOTIONS 13 (A), III, and IV. were withdrawn, in view of the Motion from the Tyneside D.C.

112. MOTION 13 (A) (V) was withdrawn, as there was no one present from the Southern Counties D.C.

PLACE OF NEXT CONFERENCE.

113. Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Short seconded,
THAT THE ARRANGEMENTS BE LEFT WITH THE M.C. Carried.

MOTION 13 (B) (VI).

114. Mr. Jackson moved, Mrs. Pickles seconded,
THAT THE TITLE OF EACH LYCEUM IN AFFILIATION WITH THE B.S.L.U. SHALL BE "THE BRITISH SPIRITUALIST PROGRESSIVE LYCEUM."
The reason for this Motion was that some Lyceums apply for Affiliation under absurd titles.

Mr. Slimin referred to the Constitution, Article 1 (NAME) and said the Motion was unconstitutional.

The President announced that the M.C. had decided to unconditionally withdraw the Motion.

MOTION 13 (B) (VII).

115. Mr. Burrows moved, Mr. Bailey seconded,
THAT WE FORMULATE A ROTA SCHEME FOR THE M.C. MEETINGS BY DISTRICT AS PER BANNER LIST.

Mr. Knott stated a Circular had been sent round on this point, and five or six replies had been received.

Mr. Connor asked what would happen if a District refused to house the M.C. Meeting, and it was explained that as yet the Scheme was only in the embryo stage, and with a view to applying it the Birmingham District had been approached. If they refused we should have to pass on to the next District.

The Motion was then put to the vote, the result being:—
For 67; against 13.

116. MOTION 13 (B) (VIII) was withdrawn, on application by Mr. Springate, in view of the preceding Motion from the M.C.

MOTION 13 (B) (IX).

117. Mrs. Pickles moved, Mrs. Cook seconded,
THAT IN ALL FUTURE EDITIONS OF THE LYCEUM MANUAL THE MUSICAL EXPRESSION MARKS SHALL BE INSERTED TO ALL SONGS AND MUSICAL SETTINGS.

Mr. Keeling mentioned if this is done it will probably be necessary to review the Songster. Would Conference give the Manual Revision Committee power to co-ordinate the two books?

(At this moment it was agreed to extend the time of closing the Conference by fifteen minutes.)

Mr. Hales considered the Spiritual Songster very confused and thought the question of Expression Marks being put in the Lyceum Manual should be held over until the Spiritual Songster is revised.

118. Mr. Latham moved, Miss Lawton seconded,
THAT THIS MOTION BE REFERRED TO THE REVISION COMMITTEE. Carried.

MOTION 13 (B) (X).

119. Miss Lawton asked permission to withdraw this Motion, and permission was granted.

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR NEXT CONFERENCE.

120. From North London Lyceum (proposed by Mr. W. Drinkwater).

THAT THE SPIRITUAL SONGSTER BE REVISED BY A SONGSTER REVISION COMMITTEE (AS APART FROM THE LYCEUM MANUAL REVISION COMMITTEE) SPECIALLY APPOINTED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

THE CONFERENCE CONCLUDED AT 5-5 P.M.

G. F. KNOTT, General Secretary.

There are some resolutions in the Annual Conference Report which will be in operation during the next twelve months. Lyceum Conductors and Secretaries are particularly requested to read through the large type in the Report. The Joint Education Scheme and Inter-relations between Churches and Lyceums warrant particular attention for education and discipline in the two sections of the Movement.

CHANGE OF SECRETARIES, Etc.

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

Nuneaton, Norman Avenue—Miss G. Fellows, 72, Alexandra Street, Nuneaton.

Huddersfield, Ramsden Street—Mr. G. H. Yates, 25, Thornton Lodge Road, Huddersfield.

Leeds, Alpha Street—Mr. F. Fawcett, 5, Land End Place, Beeston Road, Leeds.

Leeds, North—Mrs. Land, 25, Lower Branswick Street, off North Street, Leeds.

Morley, Cross Church Street—Mr. G. Clarke, 5, Dryfield Terrace, Churwell, Leeds.

Rock Ferry—Mr. C. Whittaker, 47, Marion Street, Birkenhead.

Runcorn—Mr. C. L. Cohen, 103, Greenway Road, Runcorn, Cheshire.

Warrington—Mr. E. Rose, 60, Warburton Street, Stockton Heath, Warrington.

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

Battersea—Mr. Holt, 40, Sydney Road, Stockwell Road, Stockwell, London, S.W.

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

Stockport, Lower Hillgate—Mr. S. Hodkinson, 61, Hulse Terrace, Adswold Lane West, Shaw Heath, Stockport.

Barnoldswick, Albert Hall—Mrs. Whittaker, 100, York Street, Barnoldswick.

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

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

Fleetwood—Mrs. E. K. Firth, 31, Burns Road, Fleetwood.

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

Rawtenstall—Mrs. Greenwood, 2, Patrick Square, Hr. Cloughfold, Rossendale, Lancs.

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

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

Glasgow, Southern, 14, Weir Street, off Paisley Road, 1-0 p.m.—Mr. H. Stark, 141, West Graham Street, Glasgow.

Sheffield, Darnall—Mr. P. Ballard, 96, Attercliffe Common, Sheffield.

Southern Counties—D.C. Secretary, Mrs. Taylor, Brockwell House, 73, Victoria Road, Southsea, Portsmouth.

Bournemouth, 3 p.m.—Miss E. Wadlow, Marylands, 57, Porchester Road, Bournemouth.

Portsmouth, Temple—Miss L. Paget, 33, Ringwood Road, Southsea, Portsmouth.

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

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

Todmorden, Roomfield—Miss M. A. Sutcliffe, 1, Back Lumbutts Road, Todmorden.

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

Newport, Albany Hall—Mr. G. Hanham, 12, Capel Crescent, Newport, Mon.

Jarrow—Mr. H. Riches, 83, Primrose Hill, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

Newbiggen-by-the-Sea—Mr. D. High, 2, Downies Road, Newbiggen-by-the-Sea.

South Shields, High Shields—Mr. R. Wilson, 350, John Williamson Street, South Shields.

Northampton—Mrs. Lawman, 16, Sulgrave Road, St. James' End, Northampton.

East Hamilton, Ont., Canada—Mr. H. Greaves, 317, Roxborough Avenue, Hamilton, Ont., Canada.

Middleton, Mill Street, 10-30 a.m.—Mr. E. Cullen, 206, Oldham Road, Middleton.

Newport, Charles Street, 3 p.m.—Mrs. H. Gamlin, 86, Raglan Street, Newport, Mon.

Bishop Auckland, William Street, 2-45 p.m.—Mr. A. G. Summers, 18, Paddy's Row, Eldon Lane, Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham.

Grangetown, Pochin Road—Miss D. Keen, 17, The Avenue, Teesville, South Bank, Yorks.

Middlesborough, United, Wilson Street, 2-30 p.m.—Miss M. Brookes, 38, France Street, Middlesborough.

We regret that a difference of opinion exists in Lincoln and learn there are two Lyceums where one previously existed. Both claim to be the original Lyceum. The two Secretaries are:—

Mr. A. Bailey, 1, Bungalows, Abbey Works, Lincoln.
Mrs. N. Willey, 10, Waterside South, Lincoln.
The relations of the two Lyceums are being investigated by the Management Committee.
Birmingham, Northfield, Hawkesley Hall, meet at 3 p.m. The Secretary is Mr. Stevenson, 6, Central Avenue, Longbridge Estate, Northfield, Birmingham.

Births, In Memoriam, and Marriages.

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

MARRIAGES.

LONDON, Brixton.—Tuttlebee—Winsford. On June 19th, 1926, at St. Mark's Church, Kennington, George Frederick Tuttlebee to Alice Winsford. Both members of the Brixton Lyceum.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—On June 19th, 1926, Doris Evelyn Chilton to Andrew Mosley. The wedding was conducted by Mr. J. K. Jones.—N. Thwaites, Sec.

IN MEMORIAM.

WAKEFIELD.—In loving memory of our dear daughter, Kathleen Harding, who passed to the Higher Life July 9th, 1918. "The chain of love still closer twine."

AN EVENING HYMN.

Sweet are the thoughts of service done
To weary souls in want;
Sweet are the prayers that solace gives;
'Tis heaven's covenant.

Pure are the things that spring from truth,
To give sweet hopes and light;
Pure are the ways that lead to peace,
And fill us with delight.

Bright are the realms that find us all
In righteous ways ensue;
Bright are the homes of those who try
To find the good and true.

Sweet, pure and bright are holy things
By which we all are blest;
They lead us on our homeward way
To blessed peace and rest.

G. F. KNOTT.

District Council Reports.**LEEDS DISTRICT.**

The Quarterly Meeting was held on Saturday, June 6th, at Batley Carr. Mrs. Hurley (President) presided. Lyceums represented, Armley, Batley Carr, Birstall, Alpha St., Cleckheaton, Horsforth, Liversedge, Normanton, Easy Road, Leeds Psycho, Morley, Queen St., Morley, Cross Church St., Wakefield. 5 Officers. 17 Delegates represented 13 Lyceums. 5 Associates. Invocation by Mr. Kitson.

The President said she was very pleased to see amongst us again the Father of the Movement, Mr. Kitson, who had done so much in bringing the Movement to the front and to such a high standard. Also Miss Hesp, Chairman of the Education Committee, and a former President of the D.C., a position she was forced to vacate owing to sickness. Mrs. Hurley trusted she was now coming back to take up that position once again. Mrs. Hurley concluded by an appeal for the young life in our deliberations.

The Minutes and reports were accepted. Correspondence. M.C. Invitations brought forth a lot of discussion and finally it was agreed to accept the Rota Scheme.

After hearing report of D.V., the delegate representing Heckmondwike stated that they were joining the B.S.L.U. and L.D.C. Resignation of L.D. Fraternal Delegate accepted with regret. The D.V. had visited Castleford, South Elmsall, Dewsbury, Ossett and Horbury; all showed progress. The Treasurer's Report: Balance, quarter end, £4 18s. od. Interchange: only five were received. L.D.C. Delegate report accepted with thanks to be recorded. B.D.C., no report.

Field day Secretary: final report. Agreed collections taken on route be handed over to the local Distress Fund. U.D.C. Report accepted with best thanks. B.S.L.U. Report deferred till next meeting owing to shortage of time. No competition business.

Field Day, 1927. Alteration of date left until next meeting. Date and Place of next meeting left with the Secretary to arrange. Mrs. Harding elected Fraternal Delegate to the L.D.C. No new associates. Vote of thanks to local friends, moved Mrs. Hansom, seconded Miss Raynor. Accepted by Mr. Hirst on behalf of Church and Lyceum.

Mr. Wilson, billeting secretary at the B.S.L.U. Conference, heartily thanked all Lyceumists and friends for the splendid help they had given him and Dewsbury Church and Lyceum in helping to billet the delegates.

A. W. HARDING, Sec.

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above Council was held on Saturday, May 29th, at Daulby Hall, Daulby St., Liverpool. The President, Mr. Watson, presided over delegates from Birkenhead, Boaler Street and Daulby Hall, Liverpool, Runcorn, Southport, Warrington and Wigan.

Minutes, Correspondence and Reports were accepted.

Mr. Watson was appointed the Speaker and Mrs. Clitheroe the Marching Conductor for the Open Air Demonstration to be held at Southport on July 10th.

Runcorn Lyceum invited the Council to hold a Massed Session at Runcorn. The delegates thought Liverpool would be more central for a Massed Session. The President asked the delegates to take the matter back to their Lyceums for consideration.

Wigan Delegates invited the Council to hold the November meeting at Wigan.—E. Clitheroe Sec.

LONDON DISTRICT.

The London Council held the Quarterly Meeting at Bowes Park on June 12th. About 40 were present. After tea the Council got to work, and after the usual business was gone through the arrangements for the Demonstration were discussed.

An Outing to Southend was arranged for August 28th. Mr. Drury offering to take on the arrangements.

Various other matters were discussed. A Vote of Thanks was heartily given to Bowes Park Church and Lyceum for their hospitality.—Ernest E. Young, Sec.

District Visitors' Reports.

LEEDS DISTRICT.

Castleford, April 24th. Connective readings were very nicely rendered. Responses were good. Singing was good. Marching and Callisthenics were good. Pearls, good and numerous.

South Elmsall, May 2nd. Connective readings were very nicely rendered. Many questions were asked and very ably explained. Singing very fair. Marching and Callisthenics were good. Pearls were numerous and good. Four recitations.

Dewsbury, May 9th. Questions were asked and very ably answered by Lyceumists during the G.C.R. Singing was very good. Marching and Callisthenics were very good.

Normanton, May 30th. Connective readings were very nicely read together. Some good explanations were given by the children. Singing was good. Nice explanations by Conductor. Marching and Callisthenics were good.

Ossett and Horbury May 30th. Connective readings were very nicely read together, but there were no questions or comments given on the readings. Singing was good. Questions were asked and satisfactorily answered on "The Physical, Moral and Spiritual Order." A little more enthusiasm would improve the Lyceum. Marching and Callisthenics were very nicely done.—H. Spencer, D.V.

LONDON DISTRICT.

I beg to report that from February 28th to June 6th I have visited the following Lyceums and in nearly all cases have found increased attendances and added interest in the movement. Questions and answers shew a keen desire to more fully understand the philosophy of our movement. Marching and callisthenics have certainly made an advancement.

Peckham's 17th Anniversary attendance 57. *Clapham* (twice)

on anniversary 65 present. *Hampton* (twice). *Tottenham's* anniversary, 74 present. *Southend*, over 300 being present. *Battersea*; *Brixton*, Executive Meeting attendance being 79 *Kingston* (twice). *Fulham's* 16th Anniversary, 86 being present. *Hackney*, 3rd Anniversary, 53 present. *Croydon*, 43 present, and *Hounslow*.—Fred T. Miles, D.V.

Special Reports.

Under this heading, Lyceums whose reports exceed the words allowed in the Table as shewn in Rule 3 may have them inserted in full by enclosing 6d. for every extra nine words.

BRADFORD, Laisterdyke.—Our Open Sessions were conducted by Miss Hudson on June 6th, the following taking part. Miss Ackroyd, Mrs. Stead, Miss Wilman, Mrs. Smith, Miss Farnell, Mrs. Hillis, Miss Ashford, Mr. H. Barnes, Miss Hunter, Mr. Wilman, Harold Batty, Miss Hudson, Joseph Farnell, Miss North, Rhonda Hunter, Miss Keene.—J. Babbs, Sec.

CALGARY, Canada.—March 28th, 1926, was a landmark in the history of Spiritualism in Calgary. On this Sunday the first Church Service and Lyceum Session was held in Calgary's first Spiritualist Church. This newly acquired property is situated at the corner of Seventh Avenue and 3rd St. East, and had been originally used as a Church, although for some years it had been used for other purposes. After needed renovations and repairs the Church and Lyceum removed to the new building on March 25th, and the event was celebrated by a supper held in the Church on Saturday evening, March 27th. By this step an object striven for for some years by members of the first Spiritualist Church of Calgary was realized, and Spiritualism in Calgary placed upon a firmer and more enduring foundation. Mothers' Day was observed on May 8th. The occasion was marked by the largest attendance recorded in a long time, and the Session proved one of the most interesting and instructive of the year. Many appropriate pearls, readings and recitations were given, and also instrumental and vocal solos. This Session was an indication of some appreciable progress in the Lyceum work.

LONDON, Battersea.—A very beautiful Session was held on May 23rd, when the daughter of Mrs. Holt was named. It was first named Margaret, then spirit named, Lily. The ceremony was very beautifully carried out by our Conductor, Mrs. Robbins. The array of spotless white flowers gave the hall a beautiful appearance.—W. F. Holt, Sec.

LONDON, Brixton.—On June 20th we held our Flower Services. In the afternoon we had a record attendance, with members of the L.L.D.C. present and delegates from many neighbouring Lyceums. Several friends with us had not been to a Lyceum Session before. At night three Lyceumists read short papers; several girls sang and Miss Abbott (L.L.D.C. Executive) spoke on behalf of Lyceum work.

On Saturday, June 19th, Mr. Fruin, Pres., L.L.D.C., was best man at the wedding of two Lyceumists, Mr. Tuttlebee and Miss Winsford. Two eventful days.—M. F. Boddington, Sec.

NEW ZEALAND.—We continue to have good attendances at the Lyceum Sessions. We hold classes every Sunday afternoon, and some very good discussions ensue.

On Sunday, April 25th, we held a Committee Meeting, at which we formed a Lyceum Rambling Club. Our first ramble was to the Wireless Station on Tinakori Hill. Mr. Webb, Lyceum Conductor; Mr. Jones, Lyceum Representative on the Church Committee; Mr. Fish, Mr. E. Miles, Miss Ruby Waring (Guardian), and Miss L. Webb (Secretary), were present. Wishing the *Lyceum Banner* and fellow Lyceumists the best of prosperity.—Miss L. Webb, Sec.

WINNIPEG, Polson Avenue.—We held our Open Session on June 6th; a favourable afternoon was spent. Several recitations were given and two pianoforte solos. The Lyceum Half-Yearly Meeting was held on May 31st, and the Officers are as follows for the next six months:—Conductor, Mr. H. Forrest; Assist. Conductor, Miss Anderson; Secretary, Winnie Brown; Treasurer, Miss Anderson; Guardian, Verna McLeod, Capt. of Guards, Harold Brown; Guards, Clara Dale, Olive Forrest, Irene Turner; Musical Director, Mrs. Knox; Teachers: Primary, Verna McLeod, Winnie Brown; Intermediate, Miss Anderson; Sick Visitors, Mrs. Chadwick, Miss Wood; Auditors, Mr. Chadwick, Mr. Knox. A vote of thanks was given to all retiring officers.—Winnie Brown, Sec.

LYCEUM REPORTS.

- RULE 1.**—Reports must be written in ink or typed on one side of the paper only. Commence the Report by stating the name of your Lyceum, and sign your name at the end.
- RULE 2.**—Record only the events occurring after June 24th.
- 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 21st, to ensure insertion in the August issue.
- RULE 5.**—Colonial Reports, if posted to the Lyceum Banner within 7 days after the events reported, will be inserted in the next issue after receipt at the "Banner" Office.

ACCRINGTON (Pearl Street).—We held our Open Session on June 6th. Recitations by Herbert Pomfret, Dorothy Pomfret and Alice Wilson; solos by Harry Rimmer, Herbert Pomfret, Mrs. Chambers, Enie Rimmer, Hilda Swift, Mr. Fazackerly, Miss Coleclough, Albert Anderson, Harry Rimmer and Herbert Pomfret. Invocation by Mr. Fazackerly. The service was well conducted by Mr. Fazackerly and Miss Coleclough. Mr. Crossley was our Musical Conductor. God is our Inspiration.—Albert Anderson, Sec.

BATLEY CARR.—Anniversary, June 20th. We had an Open Session in the afternoon and a glorious service in the evening; both well attended. Mrs. Nurse, of Blackpool, was our appreciated speaker.—Mr. T. Hirst, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—On May 30th we were pleased to greet our friends from Bury Lyceum.

An Open Session on June 6th was conducted by Mr. Thompson. Pearls were given and explained and the following recited very ably and well:—Charlie Ellis, Marion Whalley, Margaret Ellis, Eileen Edwards, Elsie Makin, Edith Winters and Laura Robson. Solos from James Woodley, Nora Whitely, Mrs. Holehouse and Percy Woodley. Mr. Whitely and Laura Whalley were our pianoforte and violin soloists, respectively.—Millicent Hemsall, Sec.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter Street.—On June 6th we held our Open Session, which was also the Church Anniversary. About 80 Lyceumists took part in the marching and callisthenics, and the following Lyceumists contributed to a very pleasant session:—Recitation, Mary Turner; pianoforte solo, Bessie Slater; solo, Miss E. Hoffer. Our Church President, Mr. Tom Tyrell, spoke on the value of the callisthenics and marching at our sessions. Over 20 Lyceumists and friends were present. Best wishes to all Lyceumists and friends.—W. E. Mason, Sec.

BOLTON, Bradford Street.—June 6th, Election of Officers. Conductor, Miss Ada Cliff; Assist., Mr. R. Johnson; Secretary, Mr. A. Booth; Assistant, Jack Holt; Marching Leader, Mr. Cliff; Assistant, Miss E. Walker; Treasurer, Mr. Ridings; Musical Director, Mr. Ridings; Guardian, Miss E. Walker; Capt. of Guards, Mr. W. Farrimand; Auditors, Mr. Brown and Mr. Lintott; Representative to Society, Miss E. Holt and Mr. W. Edwards; Guards, Emily Edwards, Megan Roberts, Jane Yates, Edith Birchall, Bessie Ridings; Leaders, Miss F. Worthington, Mr. R. Johnson and Miss Edna Holt; Sick Visitors, Miss F. Bromley and Miss F. Worthington, Mr. R. Johnson and Mr. Hulme; Representatives to B.L.D.C., Mr. W. Cliff and Miss Ada Cliff. Thanks to all retiring officers.—Albert Booth, Sec.

BRADFORD, Ripley Street.—Open Session held on June 6th. Misses Bairstow, N. Wright, A. Gallagher, L. Plumb, Mr. Hill, Mr. Pickles and Mr. S. Schofield helped to make it a success.—E. Pickles, Sec.

CHESTERFIELD.—On June 6th we held our Open Session. The following Lyceumists rendered items: Mabel Smith, Edith Slater, Harold and Sydney Hobster, Kenneth and Avis Bown, Ernest and Linda Heath, Lilian Briggs, May Wheatley, Leslie and Lily Driver, Connie, Lilian and John Slater, Ivy Philpott, Marion Holland, Marion Wagstaffe and Miss Ethel Wale.—A. E. Hobster, Session Sec.

COVENTRY, I.L.P., Broadgate.—We held our Open Session on June 6th. Recitations by D. Harris, Iris Harrison, Mr. Golden, Mrs. Hutchinson, G. Harrison; pearls were given.—E. A. Coe.

CROMPTON.—On June 6th we held a Musical Service. Solos by Miss E. Buckley, Miss S. Walkden, Miss E. Healey, Mrs. A. Healey and Mr. J. Bardsley. Recitations by Miss Morris. Our worthy President spoke on the progress of the Lyceum. Mrs. Bardsley presided. Everybody enjoyed themselves. A red letter day.—Albert Shaw, Sec.

DEWSBURY.—We held our usual Open Session on May 30th, with a very good attendance, conducted by Mrs. Bentley. 16 pearls. Recitations were given by Victor Hartley. Solos, Harold Hirst, Mr. E. Wilson, Violet Hey, Mona Hey, Mr. V. R. Phillips. Mr. A. Kitson gave us the life history of Swedenborg, one of the forerunners of Modern Spiritualism. It was very interesting. Speaker for the day, Mrs. Williamson, also spoke to the children. A good number of visitors and friends were present. A most enjoyable day was spent.—V. R. Phillips, Sec.

DONCASTER, High Street.—Open Session June 6th, conducted by Miss V. Batty. Invocation by Master C. Gomersall; recitations by Francis Gomersall and Lewis Gomersall; trio, Miss V. Batty, Miss Johnson and Master Trout; duet, Miss D. Batty and Miss V. Crossland; solos, Master A. Crossland, Mrs. Gomersall. Four friends came from Armthorpe to see how a Lyceum is conducted. A glorious session we had, everyone receiving a blessing.—Mrs. S. C. Webb, Sec.

DOVER.—On June 13th Mrs. Clements, who was here for our Church Anniversary, addressed the Lyceum in the afternoon. Afterwards we all sat down to a most enjoyable tea.—Maud Ash, Session Sec.

EARBY.—We held our Open Session on June 6th, when the following Lyceumists rendered harmony:—Misses M. Enniss, E. Taylor, Q. Jordan, M. Pilkington; D. and A. Nuttall, A. Bannister, M. Aldersley, E. Clark, Q. Dawson, A. Layfield and Polly Nuttall; Masters G. Robinson, W. Eccles, C. Clark and W. Wintersgill.—T. Hodgson.

FLEETWOOD, Oak Street.—June 20th, Election of Officers. Conductor, Mr. Batley; Assist. Conductors, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Benson; Secretary, Mrs. E. K. Firth; Assistant Secretaries, W. Neish and W. Sergeant; Treasurer, Mr. Shurmer; Guardian, Mrs. Smith; Captain of Guards, Annie Williams; Guards, Nora Harris, Agnes Christopherson, Master E. Thurston, J. Horan and G. Cooke; Musical Director, Tom Firth; Sick Visitors, Mrs. Shaw and Mrs. Sutcliffe; Auditors, Mrs. Benson and Mrs. Marron.—E.K.F.

GT. HARWOOD.—We held our Open Session on June 6th, when several Lyceumists responded with recitations and solos. The readings were nicely conducted by various Lyceumists.—Clara Waterhouse, Sec.

HORWICH.—On May 3th we held our Lyceum and Church Anniversary, our Speaker being Mr. Berry (Sec. of S.N.U.). Headed by the Old Prize Band, a good number of Lyceumists and friends proceeded round the town. In the evening the Lyceum Choir rendered the Anthem "O Worship the King." Great progress is being made in our Lyceum. The young men have formed a cricket club. We earnestly wish them success in all their efforts.—Lydia Wilkes, Sec.

HUDDERSFIELD, St. Peter Street.—We held our Open Session on June 6th, conducted by Mr. Garside. Recitations by Elsie Kerrison, Doris Richmond and Herbert Buttle; pianoforte and violin music by Mr. Hargreaves and Mary Wallis; solos by Eva Farnhill and Mr. Wallis.—Elizabeth Farnhill, Sec.

LANCASTER.—We held our Open Session on June 6th. The response of recitations, etc., was moderate. We wish the children would make more use of the opportunity given for self-expression and progress. The following took part: Duets by Alma Copeland and Marjorie Dawson, Betty Kelly and Mabel Pool, Marjorie Dawson and Edna Parkinson; recitations by Betsy Kelly, G. Peel and R. Tustin.

LEICESTER, Liberty.—On Saturday, May 1st, we held a Dance at the Vaughan College, which was well attended. Out of the proceeds we were enabled to purchase two cricket sets, two footballs and various gifts for prizes at the School Treat which took place on Whit-Tuesday, at Newtown, Linford, where we went in charas. 130 sat down to tea. A very enjoyable day was spent.—C. W. Banton.

LEICESTER, Rupert Street.—On June 6th we had our Open Session. Pianoforte solo by Mr. L. Kenny; recitations by Misses A. Bingley, E. Wicks, N. Farryan, D. Jayes and Master H. Jayes; duets by Misses N. Farryan and A. Hughes. M. Coysh and Master W. Coysh. Pearls were very good. We

had a bright and enjoyable session. On June 13th we had our good friend Ald. J. Chaplin with us, and he gave a very good address. J. Wicks, Sec.

LINCOLN, Progressive.—On June 6th our Open Session was held. Forty-two Lyceumists were present. The Delegates' Conference Report was given.—Mrs. N. Willey, Sec.

LONDON, Hackney.—On June 20th we held our Open Air Session on the public meeting site on Hackney Downs. We were assisted by Tottenham, Bowes Park and Walthamstow Lyceums, who greatly helped towards the success of the afternoon. Tottenham brought their beautiful banners. The Session was conducted by Mrs. Drury, Vice-President of the L.L.D.C. Mr. Clegg also helped and spoke on the value of Lyceum teaching. Solos and recitations were given by members of the different Lyceums present. There were many strangers, who seemed greatly impressed. This is the first Open-air session that we have attempted, but all are unanimous that it shall be the first of many more, as everyone enjoyed it so much. We have to thank all those friends who so kindly helped, and hope for their co-operation next time.—M. Hester.

LONDON, Tottenham.—On June 13th the Evening Service was taken by the Lyceum. Silver and Golden Chains were taken and explained by children. Solos were rendered by Miss W. Markham and Miss E. Carman and several Lyceumists gave short addresses, and a very enjoyable evening was spent by all.—Hilda Holloway, Session Sec.

MANCHESTER, Gorton.—On June 13th we held our Open Session, conducted by Mrs. Green. Recitations and pearls were given by numerous Lyceumists. There were a good number of visitors present. It was a very enjoyable session and a day well spent.—J. E. Eccles, Sec.

MIDDLESBOROUGH.—The Lyceum took the Church Services on February 28th, rendering songs, recitations, addresses and clairvoyance. Miss Jean Robinson, a non-Lyceumist, beautifully recited two poems. During "Open Session" several splendid essays were read by children, explaining S.C.R. 91, in competition for a *Manual* presented by our Conductor.—Ed. Nellist, Sec.

MIDDLESBOROUGH, National.—On May 30th we presented a wedding gift to Mr. and Mrs. Colbourne. Thirteen children, led by Miss E. Bonsor, added interest to our Open Session on June 6th by forming pearls letter by letter. Mr. Featherstonehaugh named a new baby—Leonard Cartwright, on June 20th.—Ed. Nellist, Sec.

NELSON.—On Whit-Monday we held our Annual Procession through the town. Three little girls, attired in pale-blue dresses, carrying a heart of evergreen and blue Iris, representing Love, were followed by a Maypole arrangement. Behind these came our Lyceum and Church Officials and our Banner, Nelson Old Band, and our Morris Dancers, supported by a group from North Street, Burnley. Many joined us from surrounding Lyceums, and a happy day was spent together. We are glad to report that our Morris Dancers won the First Prize at our Hospital Gala. Memories.—Cissy Smoothy, Sec.

BENWELL, Newcastle.—Session held Sunday evening, June 6th, Mr. Dodgson presided. Opening hymn, "Roses of Life." Silver Chain, "Cherish Kindly Feelings"; Golden Chain, "Our Duties." Recitations and pearls given by the young Lyceumists. Solos by Miss Burr, Mrs. Pitt and Mr. Dixon, trio by Misses Ridley, McMillan and Redpath. The service was greatly appreciated by the congregation.—Thos. McCallum, Sec.

NEWCASTLE, Heaton and Byker.—On June 6th we held our Anniversary Services. Mrs. McDonald presided. Recitations, solos, duets and action songs by the scholars and Leaders were well rendered. At the evening service Mrs. McDonald presented the Certificates to the successful candidates who sat for the B.S.L.U. Exam. We were very pleased to see our old friends Mr. and Mrs. Hall present. The Church was beautifully decorated with flowers, which were afterwards sent to the Hospital, with love to one of our Lyceumists who is lying sick.—S.J. Hunter, Sec.

NORMANTON, Queen Street.—On May 8th we held our Anniversary. Our speaker was Mrs. Partridge, of Castleford. Special hymns were sung and recitations were given by the following:—Selena Williams, Connie Brearley, Florence Dixon, Mary Dixon, Connie Williams, Winnie Burns, Sarah Burns, Edie Lilley, Arthur Lilley, Harry Rothery, Silas Beeker and Kenneth Calcutt. Mr. A. Williams sang two solos.

On Saturday, May 29th, we held our Anniversary Treat, when the Lyceum children and their parents journeyed to Wakefield Park, where we indulged in games, races, etc. Tea was followed by a look round the Museum. Further games ended a very happy and enjoyable day.—E. Calcutt, Sec.

OLDHAM, Central.—On May 30th we had the naming ceremony of Roy Hinchcliffe, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Fozzard, conducted by our President, Mr. Standish. The spirit name was Wallace Perseverance. The ceremony was very beautiful and was enjoyed by all.—L. Palmer, Sec.

OLDHAM, Elliott Street.—On June 20th we held our Open Session. Hooper Street and Waterhead Lyceums were well represented at the afternoon Session. Recitations were given and Marion Jackson sang "Home Sweet Home." Visitors from Middleton and Newton Heath were present at the Evening Session. "Brotherhood" was manifested throughout.—J. Barratt, Sec.

PARKGATE.—On May 9th the Open Session was fairly well attended; a small number of recitations were given.

On Thursday, May 27th, we gave our Lyceumists their Annual Whitsuntide Tea, and also a bag of sweets and nuts to each one, afterwards going into a field kindly lent by Mr. J. Exley, where we had games. We are arranging, along with members of the parent Society, free concerts every week for those who are out of work through the present coal crisis, every Tuesday and Friday at 6-30 for children; 9 p.m. for adults.—John Gothard, Sec.

PRESTON, Clarke's Yard.—On June 6th we held an Open Session. There was a good attendance of Lyceumists and friends. Solos were ably rendered by Miss Nellie Kilner and Miss Alice Dodson. The golden and silver chain recitations evoked much interest. A pleasant evening was spent.—Mrs. Cook, Sec.

PORTSMOUTH TEMPLE.—June 6th, enjoyable session, several scholars and adults contributing social items. The Liberty Group showed their love to the Conductor, Mrs. Hayward, by presenting her with a decorated basket of flowers to commemorate her birthday anniversary.—L. Paget, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—Open Session, June 6th, conducted by Mr. J. K. Jones and Officers. Several scholars took part. Recitations, pearls and singing were very good.

On June 19th we had a wedding, conducted by Mr. J. K. Jones. Miss Doris Chilton was married to Mr. Andrew Mosley. The reception held in our Church was a great success. I am quite sure that our Lyceumist had the good wishes of our School and we all join with the Angel world in wishing them well.—N. Thwaites, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Gifford Road.—On June 6th we held our Open Session. Mr. Magness conducted. Solos and recitations by C. and B. Higginbottom, W. Furniss, E. Sanderson, E. Cundy, H. Greaves, M. Clive, H. and E. Thompson, M. Overment, C. Holland, M. Stevenson, K. Magness, G. and E. Sanders and E. Maw. Pianoforte solo by Mr. Glew. W. Jenkinson was the accompanist. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Webster was named by Mrs. Clive. A most enjoyable Session.—J. E. Overment, Sec.

STOCKPORT, Hillgate.—Our Annual Trip took place on Whit-Friday to New Brighton; it was marred by frequent downpours of rain. We all "made the best of it" and enjoyed ourselves to the fullest extent possible. These yearly trips have always been a pleasing feature of our Lyceum activities and looked forward to by all. We cannot appreciate too highly the very able manner in which the arrangements have always been conducted by our late Secretary.—S. Hodgkinson, Sec.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—On July 11th, at 1-30 p.m., we are holding our Anniversary and Church Parade. We should like to see old and new friends this occasion. The chair will be taken by our Conductor, Miss Carr. Tea to be provided for all visitors. Come and help the winners of the Silver Bell.—Wilfred S. Matthews, Sec.

WEST PELTON.—We held our Anniversary on June 14th and 21st. The first Sunday was conducted by Mrs. Frampton and the second Sunday by Miss Secker. Musical Conductor, Mr. J. W. Gransbury; organist, Mr. A. Greenwell.—Mrs. G. Dryden.

WINNIPEG, Princess Street, Canada.—Open Session. Recitations were given by Molly Pilkington, Alice Pilkington, Ivy Vernon, Nora Vernon, Minnie Beicher, Grace Morris. Song by Dolly Sutherland.—Mrs. M. Armitt, Sec.