

# THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 429. Vol. XXXVI.

NOVEMBER, 1926.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

## The Management Committee at Tyneside.

The Management Committee of the B.S.L.U. visited Tyneside through the invitation of the Tyneside Lyceum District Council, and were housed for the meetings at the Heaton and Byker Church, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on October 9th and 10th.

It is fitting to describe the new Spiritualist Church which is illustrated on this page.

The historical records of the Church have unfortunately been lost, but there are some of the early workers who can give the information necessary to place the details of the formation of the Heaton and Byker Spiritualist and Investigating Society by William and B. Westgarth, who continued their interest and leadership till they passed to the higher life.

The Lyceum was started by Mr. Riccalton and Mr. G. Dobson in 1897 at which period the present President, Mr. R. Hunter, joined the Church and Lyceum. Mr. Hunter became assistant Conductor in 1900 and continued that position until 1905—1906 when he was appointed Conductor, and with the exception of one year, which saw Mr. Ronaldson the Conductor, Mr. Hunter has been the principal officer in the Lyceum ever since, ably supported and helped in his work by Mrs. Hunter.

Mr. Hunter was elected to office in the Church as Vice-President about 1901 and became President in 1918.

The funds of the Church at that time were about £150 and included a small building fund.

The building fund was resuscitated and £95 14s. 9d. set aside for that purpose. In 1923 the fund stood at £249 and a site was purchased. Strenuous efforts by many loving workers has resulted in the building of a Church at a cost of £3,176 11s. 0d. There is a mortgage on the building which the members and friends are facing with a happy zeal. The building is held in trust for the Movement under the S.N.U. Trust.

The Church is situated quietly, just off a main street, and near a car route. It is built of brick and stone. On each side of the entrance hall of the Church are small rooms used for small classes and group lessons. The Church is nicely built and decorated. A trellised rostrum and reading desk is provided for the speakers. Photos of old workers, emblems, and group banners decorate the Church. A large room for parties, circles, etc., is at the back portion of the building, along with a kitchen and lavatories. The whole Church has been built with a vision of utility and designed, financed, and controlled with a love and affection which draws large congregations to the Sunday and other services. It is a nice memorial to our spirit friends and the good people who have received blessings at their hands.

Mr. Hunter says "There are kind hearts everywhere and nothing has been done by halves. There has never been a time during our work that we have not been conscious of the help and guidance of our spirit friends."

There was a nice feeling of harmony during the visit of the M.C. and we could feel it was the usual expression which existed there. The joint relations between the Church and Lyceum are very amicable, and it was a real pleasure to visit the Church. The members assert they have been assured that they are only the

mouthpiece of spirit intentions who influence them, through the "old workers," to provide a suitable place worthy of the great truths and message we give to mankind.

There is one thing which the writer rarely misses when visiting a Church and that is the heating apparatus. On this occasion the warmth of the welcome was so strong the hot water was forgotten.

The M.C. visit was a brief one, but the memory of a very happy association will remain and we can feel sure that the Heaton and Byker Church and Lyceum will continue to prosper in their happy expression of our common cause.

## THE BUSINESS MEETING.

The President of the Union (Miss Elliott) was in the chair. Mr. Hunter, President of Heaton and Byker Church, welcomed the M.C. to Tyneside. Mr. Robson, Secretary of the Tyneside Lyceum D.C., supplemented the welcome. Miss Elliott, Mr. Knott, and Mr. Kitson responded to the welcome.

The M.C. were made the guests of the District Council during the week-end.

The Treasurer's statement showed a balance of £470 6s. 2s., with an outstanding liability of £105 15s. 4d.

The Lyceum Home Fund total was £162 0s. 4d.

A separate a/c is opened for the Certificate Deposits. The £2,000 Effort total is £460 13s. 6d.

A donation of £5 5s. was subscribed to the Fund of Benevolence. B.S.L.U. Conference will be held at Notting-

ham next Whitsuntide. Miss V. G. Rayner is the Secretary of the local Committee which has been appointed to arrange for the welfare and accommodation of the 1927 Conference.

Miss E. Elliott, Mrs. Jessy Greenwood, J.P., Mr. A. T. Connor, and Mrs. M. E. Pickles have agreed to serve as the B.S.L.U. panel of the Joint B.S.L.U. and S.N.U. Arbitration Board, until next Conference.

A silent, standing vote of sympathy was passed to Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Jones and Family in the passing to the higher life of Mr. J. K. Jones.

The LYCEUM BANNER orders are declining owing to industrial troubles throughout the country.

The sales are less than in 1925, and the Secretarial income is £111 0s. 9d. less than the first nine months of 1925.

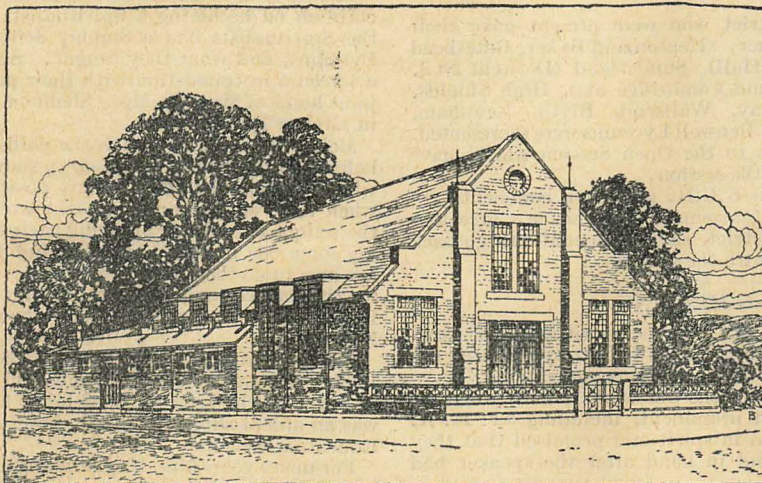
A few furnishings for the new office were approved.

The next meeting will be held at Brighton during January 1927.

A hearty vote of thanks was expressed to Tyneside D.C. and Heaton and Byker Church and Lyceum for the nice arrangements during the week-end.

## OPEN SESSION.

At the invitation of Mr. Hunter, the local Conductor, all the Lyceumists and friends rose to greet the M.C., and Miss Elliott responded to the silent greeting of the Assembly. Many Lyceums were represented at the Session. Mr. Kitson gave the invocation.



HEATON AND BYKER NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST CHURCH.

A young boy, Elliott Gregson, came to the rostrum and gave a little speech of welcome.

"Dear Friends and Members of the Management Committee of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union, I am deputed to offer you all a hearty welcome to our humble Lyceum. You are the Workers who spend your time and energy on behalf of the children and we give you our heartiest thanks. We have inscribed on the walls of our Church the Principles of the Spiritualist Movement and you Ladies and Gentlemen are trying to inscribe them on the hearts of the children and that your efforts be successful we humbly pray.

May your visit to this District be a fruitful one and when you go back to your work again in your own districts may you take with you Happy Memories of your visit here. I have great pleasure in asking my little friend to present you all with a Token of the love we bear you."

Miss Olga Pybus, a very small and smiling girl, then presented the M.C. Members with flowers and everybody applauded.

The President of the Union then replied to the dainty welcome. "We are very conscious," said Miss Elliott, "of the distance and the visit to the lighthouse of this district where people obtain the light of Spiritualism." The early labours of Mr. Kitson, Mr. Kersey, and Mrs. Brittain were remembered and a fitting tribute has been given to their efforts. They will continue to help us in our efforts.

Miss Elliott introduced the M.C. to the Lyceumists.

Mr. Hart conducted the Silver Chain Recitation. Mr. Burrows, Miss Cleland, Mr. Knott and Mr. Williams read the connective parts of the Musical Reading and commented on each reading.

The Lyceums in the district who were present gave their greetings in an original manner. Heaton and Byker, Gateshead (Beaconsfield and Rectory Hall), Sunderland (Derwent St.), South Shields (Flower St. and Cambridge St.), High Shields, North Shields, Whitley Bay, Wallsend, Blyth, Newsham, Hirst, Jarrow, Craghead and Benwell Lyceums were represented, and each gave special items to the Open Session which gave grace, charm and novelty to the session.

Mr. Slimin conducted the G.C.R. and gave comments.

The President gave the Management Committee's greetings to all the Lyceums in the district, saying we could all go back refreshed and feel honoured with the session.

#### EVENING MEETING.

Mr. Hunter welcomed the M.C. to the Spiritualists of Newcastle who had filled the Church. Miss Elliott appreciated the welcome and introduced the M.C. to the congregation.

Mr. Kitson paid a tribute to the old workers in the district and named some of the most prominent, including Mr. H. A. Kersey, who had visited him in spirit and promised that they would continue to work hand in hand after the speaker had arisen to the spirit world.

Mr. Kitson noted that all reformers are failures in the eyes of their world. Though he was not blessed with ordinary mediumship he had a great love of children and loved ones on the spirit side of life. He finally dealt with the errors of the old teachings and hoped for a love feast when he came again.

Miss Elliott spoke of the psychic faculties as a natural condition in human beings and stated the Lyceum gave an opportunity for the exposition of personal powers. The psychic gift is a force to adapt and mould future life to bring about the brotherhood of man. We can co-operate with the angels to bring in the golden age. We must fall in line with the pioneers and be inspired with their desires and enthusiasm. We shall be able to give a spirit light that shall make all conscious of an after life and communion.

Mr. Knott appealed to parents to consider the welfare of their children by studying their personality.

Mr. Williams thanked everybody who had contributed to the success of the week-end.

Mr. Ainley accepted the thanks and assured "Dad" Kitson his family would never grow less.

The meeting concluded with greetings from Mr. Slimin, Mr. Burrows, and Mr. Hart.

EAST HAMILTON.—On October 10th our Harvest Festival was a great success. Mrs. Lonsdale, our Conductor, took charge of all the services. In the morning Mrs. Speakman lectured and Mrs. Wytie gave messages. In the afternoon there was a flag drill display by Lyceumists, under leadership of Mr. Woodstock. Recitation by Mrs. Smithson. In the evening the speakers were Mr. Harrison and Mr. Wytie. The choir rendered anthems.—H. Greaves, Sec.

## The Transition of Mrs. Mary H Naylor.

(Middlesbrough.)

AN APPRECIATION.

BY ALFRED KITSON.

The promotion of Mrs. Naylor of Middlesbrough, on Oct. 11th to the higher life, has left this poorer, and added one more pioneer to the grand company on the spirit side of life.

Mrs. Naylor has long been recognised as a pioneer in the Teeside District, both on behalf of the Lyceum movement in particular, and Spiritualism in general. From thirty-five years ago, when she first entered our ranks she never hesitated to publicly avow herself a Spiritualist, and at times confounded its opponents by the exercise of her wonderful clairvoyant powers, when they were trying to rouse public prejudice by the Biblical injunctions: "Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live, etc., etc., etc." She possessed rare psychic powers and was normally able to describe spirit people; and the psychic conditions of some of the opponents of Spiritualism who posed as saints, but in daily life were the opposite. She, also, was able to see and describe the denizens of the sub-human kingdoms, generally known as "Elementals". The writer has spent many delightful hours in her company listening to her wonderful descriptions of those strange creatures. (For particulars, see my Autobiography, pages 188 to 193).

Previous to becoming acquainted with the facts and religion of Spiritualism she was a devoted member of the Wesleyan body, and a successful teacher in the Sunday School.

She early devoted her attention to the spiritual welfare of the children on becoming a Spiritualist. On making enquiries if the Spiritualists had a Sunday School, she first heard of the Lyceums, and what they taught. She at once decided to start a Lyceum in connection with their public services, held in the joint home of Mr. and Mrs. Shannon and Mr. and Mrs. Naylor, in Grange Road West.

Being unacquainted with the callisthenics, one of her spirit helpers, a little boy, promised to show her how to do them; for which purpose he took up his position behind the children, when they were arranged for the exercises. Her scholars had the unique experience of seeing their Conductor intently watching some one invisible to them, but visible to her who showed her how to do the physical exercises. Being short of room both for the services and the Lyceum they hired a hall in Boundary Road, Here she continued her labours, ably assisted by Mr. Naylor.

She first attended the Lyceum Conference at Bradford, in 1897. She was elected a member of the Executive Committee in 1899, at the Lyceum Conference held at Nottingham. She was an ardent supporter of all phases of the Lyceum Guild, and Education Scheme.

For many years Mrs. Naylor was the President of the Middlesbrough Spiritualist Church. Her noble labours will keep her memory green in the minds of its members.

Our sympathies go out to her bereaved husband and family, who are left to mourn the loss of her physical presence. They know that their loss is her spiritual gain. The infirmities of her earthly body are left behind for the perfect spirit body through which to function in the morning land of eternal youth and activity. We congratulate her on the rich spiritual harvest that awaited her over there.

"Tho' sown in tears, through weary years.

The seed will surely live.

Tho' great the cost, it is not lost.

For God will fruitage give.

#### IN MEMORIAM.

She is passed and the earth is poorer,

But Heaven is richer far,

She has gone where the road is surer,

Beyond the Harbour Bar,

'Tis the way and there is no other,

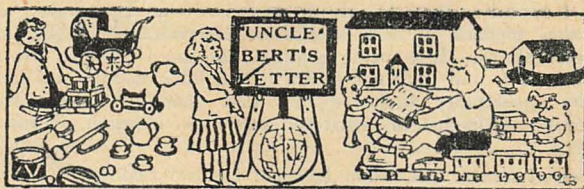
But light shall her path attend,

For some of us called her Mother,

And all of us called her Friend,

L. E. LAVERACK.

HEATON NORRIS.—Massed Sessions on October 10th, conducted by the N.E. Cheshire D.C. All Lyceumists helped to make it a great success. At the evening meeting we had some very good readings and explanations which were enjoyed by all.—A. Craig, Sec.



My dear Boys and Girls,

Once more we have arrived at a month which is crowded with many special events. Guy Fawke's Day, Lord Mayor's Show Day, Armistice Day, and the London Lyceum Rally, etc., etc. Most of you boys and girls will be taking part in one or more of these, while it is only natural seeing that you are all little Guys and you will all play some part in the November 5th stunts. I fancy I can see you busy collecting all sorts of rubbish to make your bon-fires with. Getting the right side of Dadda, stroking him nicely, in order to get him to buy you some fireworks. Those of you who are not satisfied with yourselves will be making dummy Guys.

Auntie Ruth and I hope you will have a sparkling time, but just be careful when you are letting off your fireworks to hold them away from you, and do not point them at your chums. Many boys and girls have lost their sight by such carelessness, or shall I say for want of thought. The word fireworks reminds me of a saying I have heard expressed many times. "He or she wants a firework behind them," suggesting of course that the person who is referred to is very slow in their work. I would not like to think such an expression was ever addressed to any of you. It is always as well to know how to dodge it, all the same, so here's a gentle hint.

When Mamma or Dadda want you to run to the shop for them just pretend you have twopence to spend on yourself for sweets, and you will be surprised how quickly you rush off. Why, you would be as quick as greased lightning. If you go so quickly because you are going to get something for yourself, why not do just the same when it is for others.

Therefore, as you watch the swiftness of the fireworks shooting forth, throwing out their beautiful coloured lights at the end of their journey, remember you too can go errands quickly, and thus throw out from your little lives rays of bright sunshine, which will make others happy. That reminds me of another little lesson. The other day I was working out a cross-word puzzle, you know, one of those nice black and white square designs, one of the clues or questions was "What we find in the country in wet weather" in four letters.

Why rain of course, all you boys and girls would know that at once, but I had to work it out, and to my surprise it was RUTS.

When we are in the country, we sometimes see a cart with its wheels sunk in a rut so deeply that it cannot be got out without a lot of trouble. We might also say here, "It wants a firework behind it, to move it on."

Unfortunately carts are not the only things which get stuck in ruts. Thousands of boys and girls, and men and women too, allow themselves to get into ruts (present readers of course are exceptions). As we journey along the road of life, we come across some very big ruts at times. "The rut of bad habits," Not speaking the truth, Always finding faults with others, never giving praise where praise is due, tale tellings, and so on. "The Rut of Jealousy" is perhaps the one which needs the greatest warning to avoid.

Perhaps there are some members of your Lyceum who can sing or recite very nicely; others who can give very good explanations to the various readings and because of this they are always busy doing what they can to make the sessions bright and cheerful. Instead of getting jealous of them, try and follow their example and soon you will be able to do your part in the same way too.

"The Rut of Selfishness," some always want the best of everything for themselves, and never think of hurting the feelings of others as long as their own purpose is served. We get a very good lesson on this in our Reading, "We all might do good." How often have you heard some of your chums say, "This is my ball" or "This is my skipping rope and you are not going to play with it." Of course they are not Lyceumists who say this, are they?

"The Rut of Bad Manners," this is a rut which needs avoiding very much, it starts with forgetting to say Please and Thank you, and ends in such rudeness as pushing past people without saying Excuse me, or forgetting to raise your cap to your teachers and

elders, and other acts of politeness. There is nothing I like to see expressed in the characters of boys and girls, as much as nice manners, they cost us nothing, so let us cultivate them. What is more beautiful than the expression of "He's a little gentleman" or "She's a little lady," because of their manners. There are many other ruts, but I will conclude with the "Rut of Contentment," and this applies to young and old alike. While it is correct to be content with our lot, there are many boys and girls, men and women, who have reached a certain stage in progression. They allow themselves to become self-satisfied and settle in a "rut of stagnation" or in other words they do not bother to try and reach out for something higher in life. If you are an errand boy or a cashier in a shop, let your aims be at reaching the position of Manager or Manageress. If you have passed Grade I, do not be content until you have reached the top grade and likewise in other things. The great lesson of all is, if you have got into a rut, do not stop in it, work your own way out on to hard and firm ground which will lead you to progression's shiny road.

COMPETITIONS AND PUZZLES.

Prizes awarded for Essays on Holidays to:—

Nellie Dean, age 13, Bury.

Ivy Whitehead, age 12, Newton Heath.

Congratulations are extended to Mrs. N. White, South Shields, "Liberty Section." "Essays on How I would spend Five Shillings," etc.

As all efforts are not to hand, rewards will be sent to lucky competitors before the end of October.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES.

No. 40. DAHLIA, HOLLYHOCK, HONEYSUCKLE.  
MARIGOLD, SUNFLOWER, PHLOX.

No. 41. LYCEUM ANNIVERSARY SONG.

No. 42. RIDDLES.

- (1) When it is ground.
- (2) Because it cannot walk.
- (3) Because it is lighter.

Answers to these and previous months' puzzles received from Phyllis and Edgar Watts, Peckham; Nellie Dean, Edith White, Edith Taylor, Bury; Ethel Showler, Ivy and Celia Whitehead, Gladys Bayliffe, Rhoda Robinson, Madge Spence, Horace Tyrer, Newton Heath; Eric Shaw, Pendleton; H. Horton, James Cullen, Middleton. Mary Hardwick, Manchester.

Next month will be my Christmas letter, which I hope will be full of funny fun, Puzzles, Riddles, and suchlike happy things suitable for the season.

PUZZLE No. 43. A LYCEUM SONG.

Very bright in nine letters.

What you use every day in five letters.

No. 44.

- . . . A number.
- . . . A well-known name.
- . . . Used at Tennis.

No. 45. RIDDLES.

- (1) When is a tree as comfortable as a bed?
- (2) When does a chair dislike you?
- (3) Where can we find happiness?

My thought for the Liberty Section readers this month:

"The future is plastic, we hold it in our fingers and are responsible for the shape we give to it."

There are volumes to be worked out of this sentence, but I will leave it with you, as it applies to our own individual lives, and to others.

With love,

2, Villiers Road,  
Osterley, Middlesex.

Your loving friend,  
UNCLE BERT.

EDINBURGH, Gayfield Square.—On October 3rd we held a very delightful Flower, Fruit and Toy Service, in aid of the Sick Children's Hospital. A wonderful display was given by Lyceumists and friends and were thankfully received by the Hospital authorities. We also held our Open Session on that date. Songs by Bessie Houston, Miss Nan Stevenson and Miss Peggy Lawrence. Duet by Letty Cobb and Ada Spencer. Pianoforte duet by Misses Joey and Bessie Gray. Pianoforte solo by Jack Blaik. Violin solo by Miss Mima Rutherford. Pearls were plentiful and a very enjoyable afternoon was spent.—P. Lawrence, Sec.

# THE LYCEUM BANNER:

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

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

Terms to Lyceums and Societies:

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

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NOVEMBER, 1926.

## Our Policy.

At this period of the year we contemplate the stocktaking of past experiences and review the events and the ideals which prompted them. We retain the happy memories and pleasant associations. We try to change our methods where satisfaction has not accrued.

The Lyceum method does not advocate "the daily round and common task will furnish all we need to ask." We must probe back to the reason which started our task and examine the result in relation to its utility.

In a school of a liberal and harmonious education that aims towards a complete at-one-ment, we must look beyond any common desire to be of service and only give those services to produce causes and things which are for the ultimate common-wealth.

The existence of our union (B.S.L.U.) predisposes our inclination to service in a common cause that will help us all to co-ordinate in shaping our lives and actions in service to ourselves and those with whom we have a common allegiance to the Seven Principles.

In the formation of any rules for our guidance we must realise the height, depth, and breadth of our environment in the physical world and relate our expression of physical laws to the mental scope of our spiritual dimensions. We have our inspiration from a higher sphere of intelligence that the physical plane and the mind becomes the standard of the man.

The politics of Spiritualism find their source in the immediate conception of eternity as expressing itself in a world of time, space and substance, which limits our present scope. Our ideals may have their source in the highest realms of spiritual intelligence, but we must relate our thoughts and actions to mould to our will that we may shape immediate human destiny to the changes which are needed to put into practise the precepts that are commonly accepted as providing utility for expression at the present moment.

By becoming absorbed into the scheme of things and forces, no one will lose his identity. The Lyceum exists to find the endowed faculties of each in relation to all. There are many powers of thought and action common to all. We all leave our separateness and blend our powers in the Lyceum to produce a happy-hunting-ground for the hidden or undeveloped proclivities which may become potential and produce the special gifts of guidance and control. Self-control is the first social law. It breeds the law of association. Association creates attraction and charm. Attraction and charm are awakened by similarity of ideas and their expression. Events in our lives coincide and thus we find those who have had common experiences in Spiritualism unite together for the further examination, by joint action, of what are no longer phenomena, through such happenings having become part of our ordinary lives.

By the study of mental forces and their control, linked with impressions from spirit people, we are able to assist nature to produce the endowed leaders necessary to human progress. We become subject to principles, rather than to persons; as soon as we find our principles are being violated we find new leaders who more nearly attain to the influences we commonly desire to be maintained.

The Lyceum system provides a sphere in which can be produced an education of the real forces which control human destiny, and also produce the leaders, by natural selection, most fitted to point the way to a well-ordered serenity, borne of intuition and inspirational insight. The limitations of man-made barriers are our greatest obstacles.

It has been said "There is only one religion, but many versions of it." It is in our interpretation where we differ and divide into sects. The same schism occurs in religious application of spiritual visitation as applied to the resuscitation of the human body. The Chinese infidel, the Roman Catholic Christian and the Spiritualist all bear testimony to apparently miraculous cases of healing, but each use their own peculiar explanation. We who are Spiritualists naturally claim to have the best explanation of the cure. The infidel and the Christian believe the cure to be miraculous and above human power to explain. The Spiritualist says these cures are accomplished by the operation of laws not commonly understood. It is in the attempt to find the source and origin of these powers and diagnose them in our healers that progress can be made by mankind in endeavouring to scientifically understand the forces applied, not only to healing, but to all the phenomena of life.

The expression of the B.S.L. Union and the justification of its existence will find its utility expressed by each individual member of each Lyceum—finding his or her place in the common-wealth and becoming an intelligent and integral part of a real society, formed of people who have common aims and knowledge and are prepared to use such ideas, ideals, inspiration and knowledge in association with the spirit people, who gave us the knowledge and desire of our common aims, to assist each other in the well-being of mankind. Thus we have no real difference with other people, except that we are looking for the natural cause of all that happens and trying to convey this knowledge to mankind.

There are numerous ways in which we are trying to live our principles. The first basic method is expressed in the Lyceum Education Scheme which has now sufficient students to make many Lyceums and Spiritualist Churches into branches of a National Spiritualist College. A real college is, formed of students rather than the building in which the students meet. Here again we are using objective things as the vehicle of the spirit and wherever ten or more people are gathered together, there the National Spiritualist College exists. Whether such existence is intelligently demonstrative depends on the activity and mentality of its members. The certificates are the symbols of proficiency and convey a desire for personal efficiency in seeking these powers to be of service to others, for "nothing is secret which shall not come abroad and no man can hide his light under a bushel."

The B.S.L. Union has its periods for reviewing the form of internal government and at its next annual Conference opportunity will be given to examine the Constitution of the Union, along with the Bye-laws. Here is an opportunity to examine the method of election and powers invested in the departmental heads and committees. District representation has had a trial. We are now able to compare election of a controlling committee, elected by an annual Conference, with Area Representation in which the areas have appointed their own representatives. Some prefer national election and others desire a continuation of the present system. Some unrepresented districts favour an enlargement of the committee to incorporate what they think to be a juster representation.

The District Councils have given great assistance in administering local affairs, under the Management Committee.

The U.D.C. has now become a means of supplementing the most popular activities of the Union and in the past has helped to filter suggestions which have not had the general approval of the districts.

After a discussion of some years the inter-relations with the other national group of Spiritualists, the Spiritualist National Union, have been embodied in an agreement. Time has not yet allowed of a trial and we must await events to find its value. An outstanding feature is that most of the Lyceums meet in the rooms and are attached to the Churches of the S.N.U. On the success of the inter-relations agreement largely depends the eventual fusion of these two national groups which are, in some respects, already interblended.

The affiliation of the B.S.L.U. to the International Spiritualist Federation has interested Spiritualists in other nations. 28 National representatives at the last triennial Congress had become in their separate countries convinced of spirit communion, but the Lyceum system was new to most of them. The papers which have been presented by Mr. Kitson, along with the explanations of Lyceum representatives have infused the necessity for similar methods abroad, but it should be noted



My dear Boys and Girls,

Once more we have arrived at a month which is crowded with many special events. Guy Fawke's Day, Lord Mayor's Show Day, Armistice Day, and the London Lyceum Rally, etc., etc. Most of you boys and girls will be taking part in one or more of these, while it is only natural seeing that you are all little Guys and you will all play some part in the November 5th stunts. I fancy I can see you busy collecting all sorts of rubbish to make your bon-fires with. Getting the right side of Dadda, stroking him nicely, in order to get him to buy you some fireworks. Those of you who are not satisfied with yourselves will be making dummy Guys.

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Why rain of course, all you boys and girls would know that at once, but I had to work it out, and to my surprise it was RUTS.

When we are in the country, we sometimes see a cart with its wheels sunk in a rut so deeply that it cannot be got out without a lot of trouble. We might also say here, "It wants a firework behind it, to move it on."

Unfortunately carts are not the only things which get stuck in ruts. Thousands of boys and girls, and men and women too, allow themselves to get into ruts (present readers of course are exceptions). As we journey along the road of life, we come across some very big ruts at times. "The rut of bad habits," Not speaking the truth, Always finding faults with others, never giving praise where praise is due, tale tellings, and so on. "The Rut of Jealousy" is perhaps the one which needs the greatest warning to avoid.

Perhaps there are some members of your Lyceum who can sing or recite very nicely; others who can give very good explanations to the various readings and because of this they are always busy doing what they can to make the sessions bright and cheerful. Instead of getting jealous of them, try and follow their example and soon you will be able to do your part in the same way too.

"The Rut of Selfishness," some always want the best of everything for themselves, and never think of hurting the feelings of others as long as their own purpose is served. We get a very good lesson on this in our Reading, "We all might do good." How often have you heard some of your chums say, "This is my ball" or "This is my skipping rope and you are not going to play with it." Of course they are not Lyceumists who say this, are they?

"The Rut of Bad Manners," this is a rut which needs avoiding very much, it starts with forgetting to say Please and Thank you, and ends in such rudeness as pushing past people without saying Excuse me, or forgetting to raise your cap to your teachers and

elders, and other acts of politeness. There is nothing I like to see expressed in the characters of boys and girls, as much as nice manners, they cost us nothing, so let us cultivate them. What is more beautiful than the expression of "He's a little gentleman" or "She's a little lady," because of their manners. There are many other ruts, but I will conclude with the "Rut of Contentment," and this applies to young and old alike. While it is correct to be content with our lot, there are many boys and girls, men and women, who have reached a certain stage in progression. They allow themselves to become self-satisfied and settle in a "rut of stagnation" or in other words they do not bother to try and reach out for something higher in life. If you are an errand boy or a cashier in a shop, let your aims be at reaching the position of Manager or Manageress. If you have passed Grade I, do not be content until you have reached the top grade and likewise in other things. The great lesson of all is, if you have got into a rut, do not stop in it, work your own way out on to hard and firm ground which will lead you to progression's shiny road.

COMPETITIONS AND PUZZLES.

Prizes awarded for Essays on Holidays to:—

Nellie Dean, age 13, Bury.

Ivy Whitehead, age 12, Newton Heath.

Congratulations are extended to Mrs. N. White, South Shields, "Liberty Section." "Essays on How I would spend Five Shillings," etc.

As all efforts are not to hand, rewards will be sent to lucky competitors before the end of October.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLES.

No. 40. DAHLIA, HOLLYHOCK, HONEYSUCKLE.  
MARIGOLD, SUNFLOWER, PHLOX.

No. 41. LYCEUM ANNIVERSARY SONG.

No. 42. RIDDLES.

- (1) When it is ground.
- (2) Because it cannot walk.
- (3) Because it is lighter.

Answers to these and previous months' puzzles received from Phyllis and Edgar Watts, Peckham; Nellie Dean, Edith White, Edith Taylor, Bury; Ethel Showler, Ivy and Celia Whitehead, Gladys Bayliffe, Rhoda Robinson, Madge Spence, Horace Tyrer, Newton Heath; Eric Shaw, Pendleton; H. Horton, James Cullen, Middleton. Mary Hardwick, Manchester.

Next month will be my Christmas letter, which I hope will be full of funny fun, Puzzles, Riddles, and suchlike happy things suitable for the season.

PUZZLE No. 43. A LYCEUM SONG.

Very bright in nine letters.

What you use every day in five letters.

No. 44.

- . . . A number.
- . . . A well-known name.
- . . . Used at Tennis.

No. 45. RIDDLES.

- (1) When is a tree as comfortable as a bed?
- (2) When does a chair dislike you?
- (3) Where can we find happiness?

My thought for the Liberty Section readers this month:

"The future is plastic, we hold it in our fingers and are responsible for the shape we give to it."

There are volumes to be worked out of this sentence, but I will leave it with you, as it applies to our own individual lives, and to others.

With love,

2, Villiers Road,  
Osterley, Middlesex.

Your loving friend,  
UNCLE BERT.

EDINBURGH, Gayfield Square.—On October 3rd we held a very delightful Flower, Fruit and Toy Service, in aid of the Sick Children's Hospital. A wonderful display was given by Lyceumists and friends and were thankfully received by the Hospital authorities. We also held our Open Session on that date. Songs by Bessie Houston, Miss Nan Stevenson and Miss Peggy Lawrence. Duet by Letty Cobb and Ada Spencer. Pianoforte duet by Misses Joey and Bessie Gray. Pianoforte solo by Jack Blaik. Violin solo by Miss Mima Rutherford. Pearls were plentiful and a very enjoyable afternoon was spent. —P. Lawrence, Sec.

## The Education Department.

### CHANGE OF SECRETARY'S ADDRESS.

Will all *Lyceum Secretaries* and other correspondents please note the *new address* of the *Education Secretary*.

In future, address all orders, enquiries, etc., to:—Miss M. E. Kitson, 37, South Street, Savile Town, Dewsbury (Yorks.); and please make postal and money orders payable at *Savile Town*. (This post-office is only one minute's walk away, but the Dewsbury one necessitates a twenty minutes' walk each way.)

### DONATION FROM MR. T. F. SMEDLEY.

For the sixth year in succession, Mr. T. F. Smedley (of Belper) has sent the generous donation of £5 (five pounds) to the B.S.L.U. Education Funds. The Committee tender him their very hearty thanks, and much appreciate his keen interest in the work, both locally and nationally, and his practical help and support.

### HELP FOR STUDENTS.

Mr. Tinker, who is the author of several of the articles in the Handbooks for the examinations, offers to help any students preparing for the forthcoming examinations. He writes: "I should be pleased to give any help I can in explanation of the Handbooks to any student who encloses a stamped, addressed envelope in a letter to me." His address is 32, King Street, Higher Broughton, Manchester.

### TEN MINUTES CHATS.

#### FOR LYCEUM CONDUCTORS AND GROUP LEADERS.

How to deal with the Examination Syllabus during a Lyceum Session is a puzzle to many Conductors, because of lack of time at their disposal. As a help, these notes form a concise précis of how the various sections can be taken and arouse interest in the Lyceumists. Children and adults can *easily* memorise the points which will form a basis for answering questions set at the Annual Examinations, and at the same time have the whole studies in a "nut-shell."

Having decided to spend ten minutes of the Session dealing with, for example, S.C.R. 93, point out the teaching of each verse:— example, 1st, "Actions," 2nd, "Deeds," 3rd, "Sincerity," 4th, "Kindness" 5th, "Love," 6th "Duty." The whole reading is teaching "Sincerity." If these points are memorised the whole S.C.R. is summed up in *six words!* From these words we can answer questions set in the Examinations.

The Conductor can then show *how* this teaching is derived from the verse. Example:—Verse 1 "Actions." The first two lines are saying: Our Father does not want us to be *inactive* even with our *prayers*. 3rd and 4th lines tell us there are *burdens* and *griefs* which can be *eased* by our *activity*, and the last line urges us to *action*.

After giving one or two examples, the Conductor can ask a Lyceumist to *give examples*; and you will be surprised at the interest aroused by this method, and a profitable ten minutes will be spent.

The Group Leader will readily see how these can be used for Group Lessons, and to *draw the children out* to further thought.

### COLLEGE NOTES AND NEWS.

By THE COLLEGE SECRETARY.

#### DONATIONS.

The College Board gratefully acknowledges the receipt of donations from London Lyceum District Council (five guineas); Mr. T. F. Smedley, Belper, (£5); Ramsden Street Study Group, Huddersfield (£1); and also donations of varying amounts from applicants for the A.N.S.C. Diploma. It is hoped District Councils and Study Groups will follow the example shown by London and Ramsden Street; while Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and Mr. Smedley have set a fine precedent for individual Spiritualists interested in the progress of Spiritualism as an educational Movement.

#### COLLEGE MEMBERSHIP.

The College is rapidly becoming established as a stable Spiritualist institution. On 21st October the membership was:—District Centres, 1; Local Branches, 20; Associates, 33. There

are still 37 Lyceums and 27 Lyceumists to apply to be enrolled. May I appeal to them to join up and show that Lyceumists are not slow to back up the progressive efforts of their National representatives. It is being argued that the Organised Movement is not, and does not desire to be, educational; and here is the opportunity to prove that that charge is unfounded. Following is the list of registered members, in order of enrolment.

*District Centre*:—London Lyceum District Council.

*Local Branches*:—Church: South Manchester. Lyceums: South Manchester, Daulby Hall (Liverpool), Newton Heath, Wigan, Castleford, Fleetwood, Mechanics Hall (Nottingham), Manchester Progressive, Chesterfield, Croydon, Mighell Street (Brighton), Fowler Street, (South Shields), Heaton and Byker, St. Paul's, Alma Street (Halifax), Hackney, Fulham, Moston, Walthamstow, Tottenham.

*Associates* (A.N.S.C.)—(giving town or district):—R. Hope (Manchester), T. Best (Hetton and District), N. E. Ainley (South Shields), Misses M. E. and E. F. Lawton (Barrow), E. A. Keeling (Liverpool), Miss E. Gush (Huddersfield), A. Wright (Rochdale), J. H. Marston (Stockport), Miss E. North (South Shields), Mrs. A. M. Robinson (Brighton), Mrs. E. Clitheroe (Wigan), S. Watson (Liverpool), R. Hunter (Heaton and Byker), J. W. Humphries (Kingston), Mrs. F. Gershon (Manchester), Misses G. M. Halliday (Halifax) and O. Raffles (Gateshead), H. B. Burrows (Coventry), E. Jones, D.N.U. (Caerau), Mrs. M. A. Rawlinson (Burnley), W. Burrows (Halifax), H. J. Everett and Miss A. L. Scoggins (Brighton), J. H. Hawkins (Belper), J. A. Buckton (Hull), Mrs. H. A. Baume (Halifax), W. T. Brown (Winnipeg, Canada), Miss E. Elliott (Moston), our President, G. F. W. Walsh (Bolton), E. Wilson (Dewsbury), Mr. W. and Mrs. E. Johnson (Bolton).

This is a very encouraging list, and we are hoping that our next list will include all the names missing from the present one. And will those who live in areas affected by the lock-out please note that although the College Board welcome all donations to the funds, they do not ask for or expect them from those who cannot afford to help. Send along your applications and your Diplomas will be forwarded by return. Nobody but the College Secretary and the College Auditors will know who gave donations and who did not.

The Secretary apologises for the delay in sending out the Diplomas and Certificates to members—though the delay was beyond his power to prevent. When the Certificates were received it was seen that they were too delicate to be sent through the post in an envelope, so it was decided to procure a supply of cylinders as containers. At the same time, a supply of slips in which to wrap the Certificates, so as to keep them clean in the post, was ordered. They only came to hand on Friday, 15th, and all the Certificates and Diplomas were posted on the Saturday afternoon, and should have been received on Monday, 18th. I hope this explanation will appease those who thought they were being neglected.

#### THE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION.

It is hoped that all Lyceumists interested in the Education Scheme will do their utmost to induce Church Members to take up the Advanced Scheme and enter for the Entrance examination next March. Full particulars, and a supply of the Entrance Examination Syllabus and Work Plan, can be obtained from the S.N.U. Education Secretary—Mr. T. Oliver, 272, Edmund Road, Sheffield—on sending a stamped addressed envelope; or from myself or Miss Kitson (whose address is now 37, South Street, Savile Town, Dewsbury, Yorks.).

Attention is also drawn to the fact that Lyceumists 25 years old or over, who have been members of a Lyceum (or Lyceums) for at least five years, are eligible to take both the S.N.U. and the B.S.L.U. Schemes at the same time—if they are members of the parent Church.

The Entrance Examination will be held on Saturday or Sunday, March 26th or 27th, 1927. Examination Fee, 2/6. Intending candidates should write to Mr. Oliver for Entry forms not later than January 15th, 1927.

I shall be pleased to receive, and deal with, comments and criticisms—or answer questions—on the College Constitution and the Advanced (S.N.U.) Education Scheme.

A. T. CONNOR, *College Secretary*,  
19, Oakhurst Road, Forest Gate, London, E.7.

## An Internal Education Scheme.

By J. E. HART, M.I.P.S.

1. The Lyceum. (Li-cé-um) Greek Lykeion. Where Aristotle taught. A place of instruction by lectures. A higher school. A boy's college. An association for literary exercises.

### (a) OBJECTS.

Its objects. To promote the physical and social improvements as well as the intellectual improvements and the moral and spiritual progress of its members, and to impart a knowledge of the facts pertaining to our personal immortality. Spirit communion and the naturalness of mediumship and for the inculcation of a morality based on right doing and a religion free from creed, and to assist in ascertaining some higher mode of a workaday life in which the ideals of the spiritual life may be better lived than is at present possible. The objects should be to promote justice, truth, fraternal love, purity, beauty, music, art, health, science, philosophy and spirituality. Study Golden Chains 108 and 148. Its main objects are firstly to make for better citizens and secondly to provide Spiritualism with capable and sincere workers and speakers: those trained in Lyceumism being the best fitted for our platforms. It is a school of a liberal and harmonious education, but this is only obtained when the members work with the full co-operation of each other. The member is as essential to the Officer as the Officer is to the member and until full trust in one another is maintained we shall not have the perfect standard of Lyceum. The harmony of a session rests with each member. What thoughts do you take into your Lyceum? What is your attitude towards those in office? If things are not as you desire, are you helping to make them better? Ask yourself these questions, and when you have realised that each has his feelings and failings and that the object of harmony is to do as you would be done by, your Lyceum will be the better and you will feel happy: and feeling happy yourself you cannot fail to make others happy. The Lyceum teaches children both old and young to get the most out of life by putting the most into it.

### (b) MEMBERSHIP.

2. Its Membership. All are welcome. There are no high and no low; we are all God's children no matter what our station or colour. Membership should be looked well after. Each member should realise that it is his or her Lyceum and should strive to make it homely, business-like and efficient. It should be a happy place, the time to be happy is now, the place to be happy is here, the way to be happy is to make others happy. The best way to educate yourself is to ask questions; as a Lyceumist you have this privilege—make use of it.

### (c) ITS OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES.

1. THE CONDUCTOR. Shall act as the presiding Officer. Announce the order of exercises, superintend recitations and individual efforts. See that the Session starts and ends punctually. To be prepared for emergencies and alter programme if necessary. To arrange harmonious programmes so that the Session is balanced. To encourage Lyceumists to express their thoughts and to get them to ask and answer questions and to keep in touch with and shew an interest in all the activities of Officers and Lyceumists without unduly attempting interference. Above all to be sociable, tolerant, impartial and tactful.

2. THE SECRETARY. Make a record of all meetings of the Committee and all business transacted. Attend to all correspondence and keep a record of attendances.

3. THE TREASURER. Shall receive all monies of the Lyceum and pay such items as may have been duly passed by the Committee. He shall keep a true account of the same in a book provided for the purpose which shall be produced to the Committee for inspection when required.

4. GROUP LEADERS. To superintend the Groups during the Lyceum Session and endeavour to widen the outlook and develop the thinking powers of the minds under their care

5. MARCHING AND CALLISTHENICS CONDUCTOR. To supervise the physical part of the Session and make it blend in harmony with the session programme.

6. MUSICAL DIRECTOR. To superintend the musical exercises under the supervision and direction of the Conductor.

7. GUARDS. Shall take charge of the Halls and ante rooms, prepare them for the session, distribute and collect the badges, books, etc., extend civilities to visitors and otherwise assist as the conductor may require.

8 & 9. SICK AND ABSENTEE VISITORS. Should get the names of absent Lyceumists at the end of the Session and see to them being visited, reporting at the next Session what the cause is.

10. LIBRARIAN. Shall take charge of the printed books, papers and other business connected therewith, for the Lyceum.

11. DELEGATES. Shall represent the Lyceum at Conferences, D.C. Meetings and should also be delegated to represent their Lyceum at Open Sessions, Massed Sessions, etc.

12. AUDITORS. Two eligible members shall be elected annually as Auditors to audit the Lyceum books, papers, etc. One of them shall be elected from amongst the Officers and the other from amongst the Lyceum members. Vacancies to be filled by the Committee.

## Letter Box.

Dear Sir,

I wish to refer to the item on Christian Spiritualism in the BANNER for October.

It appears that the author who has written the article on Christian Spiritualism must have got a wrong idea and knows very little with regard to the term Christian Spiritualism and what it really means. I fail to understand any person who calls himself a worker in the religious cause of Spiritualism which certainly requires a lead to raise it to a far better setting than it as hitherto gained in the past. I should like it to be made clear that I take my spiritualism from biblical records. Why should I or anyone else who wishes to see the cause of Spiritualism grow to an higher stage of perfection be ashamed of adding the name Christian to our spiritualism. According to the bible Christ was the greatest medium in history. One of the outstanding features in the life of Christ was in trying to put the sinner on the straight and narrow path. Christian Spiritualism is only misleading to those who do not understand its teachings. Now let me make it clear that Christian Spiritualists do not believe in the forgiveness of sin through the atoning blood of Jesus Christ. You are very misleading in your statements with regard to Faith, and the remarks which you have stated go very little to prove that you have investigated the truths of Christian Spiritualism. St. Paul's says "Prove all things and hold fast to that which is good." I hope my good friend will be morally strong enough to add Christian to the name Spiritualism providing you take it as a religion. Surely there is nothing degrading about the term Christian that we must cast it into oblivion forever. There was never a greater need for a reverent attitude towards Spiritualism than there is to-day. If the term Christian is going to be the means of raising Spiritualism to a better setting in which it is worthy of, then God speed those who work on behalf of Christian Spiritualism. We should be more liberal and broader minded in our views and not be contented with what we have learnt in the past. "The trivial round, the common task, will furnish all we need to ask, room to deny ourselves a road to bring us daily nearer God."

A.P.

*The reply of Semper Fidelis is printed below.*—ED.

To the Editor,

I appreciate your permission to reply to "A.P.'s" letter *re* my article on *Christian Spiritualism*. I do not think any good would be done replying to a critic who ignores the authority of the Rev. John Edie, D.D., LL.D., as to what the term "Christian" stands for by the EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE, and of THE CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALIST, a monthly magazine, edited by the Rev. F. R. Young, and, also, of the testimony signed by J. Donnelly as to what the *Christian Spiritualists* do believe and practise. He says they believe, "in the Lord Jesus Christ, having their sins put away through His blood on the Cross." And further—"Faith in the atonement and a knowledge of their sins forgiven through the Spirit of God."

SEMPER FIDELIS.

CALGARY, CANADA.—On September 12th, the Lyceum Sessions were resumed and the sessions throughout September were marked by an increase in attendance. No loss of enthusiasm, apparently, was caused by the summer closing. An innovation was the giving of a five minutes talk or reading at each of the sessions by the older Lyceum children. The results have been enlightening and gratifying. The Lyceum children are absorbing the fundamentals of a sound and comprehensive philosophy.

# THE LYCEUM BANNER:

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

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

Terms to Lyceums and Societies:

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

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NOVEMBER, 1926.

## Our Policy.

At this period of the year we contemplate the stocktaking of past experiences and review the events and the ideals which prompted them. We retain the happy memories and pleasant associations. We try to change our methods where satisfaction has not accrued.

The Lyceum method does not advocate "the daily round and common task will furnish all we need to ask." We must probe back to the reason which started our task and examine the result in relation to its utility.

In a school of a liberal and harmonious education that aims towards a complete at-one-ment, we must look beyond any common desire to be of service and only give those services to produce causes and things which are for the ultimate common-wealth.

The existence of our union (B.S.L.U.) predisposes our inclination to service in a common cause that will help us all to co-ordinate in shaping our lives and actions in service to ourselves and those with whom we have a common allegiance to the Seven Principles.

In the formation of any rules for our guidance we must realise the height, depth, and breadth of our environment in the physical world and relate our expression of physical laws to the mental scope of our spiritual dimensions. We have our inspiration from a higher sphere of intelligence that the physical plane and the mind becomes the standard of the man.

The politics of Spiritualism find their source in the immediate conception of eternity as expressing itself in a world of time, space and substance, which limits our present scope. Our ideals may have their source in the highest realms of spiritual intelligence, but we must relate our thoughts and actions to mould to our will that we may shape immediate human destiny to the changes which are needed to put into practise the precepts that are commonly accepted as providing utility for expression at the present moment.

By becoming absorbed into the scheme of things and forces, no one will lose his identity. The Lyceum exists to find the endowed faculties of each in relation to all. There are many powers of thought and action common to all. We all leave our separateness and blend our powers in the Lyceum to produce a happy-hunting-ground for the hidden or undeveloped proclivities which may become potential and produce the special gifts of guidance and control. Self-control is the first social law. It breeds the law of association. Association creates attraction and charm. Attraction and charm are awakened by similarity of ideas and their expression. Events in our lives coincide and thus we find those who have had common experiences in Spiritualism unite together for the further examination, by joint action, of what are no longer phenomena, through such happenings having become part of our ordinary lives.

By the study of mental forces and their control, linked with impressions from spirit people, we are able to assist nature to produce the endowed leaders necessary to human progress. We become subject to principles, rather than to persons; as soon as we find our principles are being violated we find new leaders who more nearly attain to the influences we commonly desire to be maintained.

The Lyceum system provides a sphere in which can be produced an education of the real forces which control human destiny, and also produce the leaders, by natural selection, most fitted to point the way to a well-ordered serenity, borne of intuition and inspirational insight. The limitations of man-made barriers are our greatest obstacles.

It has been said "There is only one religion, but many versions of it." It is in our interpretation where we differ and divide into sects. The same schism occurs in religious application of spiritual visitation as applied to the resuscitation of the human body. The Chinese infidel, the Roman Catholic Christian and the Spiritualist all bear testimony to apparently miraculous cases of healing, but each use their own peculiar explanation. We who are Spiritualists naturally claim to have the best explanation of the cure. The infidel and the Christian believe the cure to be miraculous and above human power to explain. The Spiritualist says these cures are accomplished by the operation of laws not commonly understood. It is in the attempt to find the source and origin of these powers and diagnose them in our healers that progress can be made by mankind in endeavouring to scientifically understand the forces applied, not only to healing, but to all the phenomena of life.

The expression of the B.S.L. Union and the justification of its existence will find its utility expressed by each individual member of each Lyceum—finding his or her place in the common-wealth and becoming an intelligent and integral part of a real society, formed of people who have common aims and knowledge and are prepared to use such ideas, ideals, inspiration and knowledge in association with the spirit people, who gave us the knowledge and desire of our common aims, to assist each other in the well-being of mankind. Thus we have no real difference with other people, except that we are looking for the natural cause of all that happens and trying to convey this knowledge to mankind.

There are numerous ways in which we are trying to live our principles. The first basic method is expressed in the Lyceum Education Scheme which has now sufficient students to make many Lyceums and Spiritualist Churches into branches of a National Spiritualist College. A real college is formed of students rather than the building in which the students meet. Here again we are using objective things as the vehicle of the spirit and wherever ten or more people are gathered together, there the National Spiritualist College exists. Whether such existence is intelligently demonstrative depends on the activity and mentality of its members. The certificates are the symbols of proficiency and convey a desire for personal efficiency in seeking these powers to be of service to others, for "nothing is secret which shall not come abroad and no man can hide his light under a bushel."

The B.S.L. Union has its periods for reviewing the form of internal government and at its next annual Conference opportunity will be given to examine the Constitution of the Union, along with the Bye-laws. Here is an opportunity to examine the method of election and powers invested in the departmental heads and committees. District representation has had a trial. We are now able to compare election of a controlling committee, elected by an annual Conference, with Area Representation in which the areas have appointed their own representatives. Some prefer national election and others desire a continuation of the present system. Some unrepresented districts favour an enlargement of the committee to incorporate what they think to be a juster representation.

The District Councils have given great assistance in administering local affairs, under the Management Committee.

The U.D.C. has now become a means of supplementing the most popular activities of the Union and in the past has helped to filter suggestions which have not had the general approval of the districts.

After a discussion of some years the inter-relations with the other national group of Spiritualists, the Spiritualist National Union, have been embodied in an agreement. Time has not yet allowed of a trial and we must await events to find its value. An outstanding feature is that most of the Lyceums meet in the rooms and are attached to the Churches of the S.N.U. On the success of the inter-relations agreement largely depends the eventual fusion of these two national groups which are, in some respects, already interblended.

The affiliation of the B.S.L.U. to the International Spiritualist Federation has interested Spiritualists in other nations. 28 National representatives at the last triennial Congress had become in their separate countries convinced of spirit communion, but the Lyceum system was new to most of them. The papers which have been presented by Mr. Kitson, along with the explanations of Lyceum representatives have infused the necessity for similar methods abroad, but it should be noted

that the Sunday School movement has not reached the success with any other nation which it has obtained in Britain. We stand unique in that respect, though we should remember that it is only the common people of Britain who interest themselves in Sunday Schools.

However, there is a feeling among the I.S.F. delegates that some of our methods can and must be adopted as the limitations of their countries permit. Holland, Belgium and Spain are active in considering some such effort. One drawback is that religious freedom is not existent in all countries on the Continent.

The I.S.F. Secretary is particularly humanist and sympathetic to children and adolescents. He quoted with fervour in his last report his pleasure in meeting in France with English youths who are in touch with our movement. This was on the occasion of an international meeting of Youth last August.

Linked with the wider scope of our work is the internal growth of the Union which demands a larger office and increased facilities for trade, providing the Lyceums with all requisites they may require, and further enhancing the prestige and propaganda of our methods in education.

For this purpose the Union started a £2000 Effort Fund in 1920: a full explanation will be found on this page in this issue. This Fund grows but slowly and we look for added support to this Effort which the immediate industrial troubles are over. On its success largely depends the increased spreading of our cause in many parts where Lyceums are not yet known. At present the *Lyceum Banner* is the chief means of reaching the outer world. There are over 5,000 sold each month in Great Britain and overseas. We are anxious to accumulate the full £2000 and then boldly face our duty to reach and explore new methods of activity to spread our common cause.

Memory goes back to the starting of our present publishing department. The inspiration of the spirit world was coupled to the business ability of a few people and we have to thank our predecessors for paving the way and building the Union it is now our duty to carry forward.

We must all do our best to give to the world an adequate discharge of the obligations we have been placed under by the spirit people who have shown, not only life's continuity but the joyful communion with our loved ones and the pure spirits of peace and progress.

### The £2,000 Effort.

The £2,000 Effort has realised £460 13s. 6d. up to September 30th, 1926.

The Fund was started in 1920 at the Annual Conference and is based on the following resolution.

"That for the purpose of carrying out paragraph four of the M.C. Report (1920 Conference), this conference instructs the M.C. to take steps to raise a capital fund of £2,000, or such larger sum as may be necessary to enable the Union to adequately remunerate its paid officials and maintain the dignity which the worthiness of the cause demands."

Paragraph four of the 1920 M.C. Report reads,—“Several decisions by various Committees will incur a large extension of our business for the supply of books, pamphlets, cards, regalia, etc., continually demanded by the Lyceums. That work will necessitate assistance in the office and its re-organisation on up-to-date business lines.

The M.C. have opened a separate fund, called the £2,000 Effort, and it is the decision of the Conference to reserve this fund for the specific purpose of the above resolution; the whole amount to be raised before the Fund is used. Mr. W. Burrows, 29, Kliffen Place, Coronation Road, Halifax, has been appointed secretary for the £2,000 Effort, and pencils, bookmarks, etc., can be obtained from him, to assist Lyceums in raising their quota. It has been suggested each Lyceum should try to raise at least £10. Some Lyceums have already done so and some have promised to do what they can in the matter. Mr. Burrows contributes monthly notes to the "Banner" on the progress of the fund and other particulars.

### THE B.S.L.U. TRADING DEPARTMENT.

The Trading resolution was moved at a later part of the 1920 Conference in the following words.—“That this Conference instructs the M.C. to take immediate steps for the establishment of a Trading Department at the Headquarters of the Union (or other suitable premises), for the display and sale of Lyceum

goods and publications and all literature necessary to the education of Lyceumists and the public on the truths of Spiritualism; and also instructs the Trustees to take whatever steps may be necessary to give legal effect to the decision of the Management Committee.” The Conference also added “That this Conference further instructs the M.C. to open negotiations with the S.N.U., with a view to promoting a Spiritualist Publishing and Trading Co., Ltd., to take over both Unions' Publishing Departments and so become the publishers and traders for the Movement, the agreement to be reported at next Conference.”

A Joint Committee of the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. discussed the resolution passed by both 1920 Conferences and reported the necessity of raising the capital before definite steps could be taken. The Reports were accepted at the 1921 B.S.L.U. Conference and the S.N.U. Annual Meeting and it now depends on the B.S.L.U. raising their share of the necessary capital to float the scheme and keeping in touch with the S.N.U. activities.

GEO. FREDK. KNOTT,  
General Secretary.

Please address all enquiries and donations to the £2,000 Effort Fund to the Hon. Sec., Mr. W. Burrows, 29 Kliffen Place, Coronation Road, Halifax, Yorks.

### Nelson Lyceum Leads the Way to Freedom.

#### THE M.P. FOR THE BOROUGH ATTENDS A SESSION.

In support of the resolution passed at the S.N.U. Conference in Manchester on July 3rd, 1926, on the Disabilities of Spiritualists under the present laws, Nelson Lyceum are to be congratulated most heartily in their recent effort to obtain the withdrawal of such existing laws by inviting the Member of Parliament for the constituency, Mr. Arthur Greenwood, to a special Lyceum Session on October 24th, 1926. The occasion was a marked success, with the co-operation of Burnley, Brierfield, Barrowford and Colne Lyceums present, the Church was filled immensely.

After the opening exercises two small Lyceumists, Doris Bullock and Wilfred Brown, walked down the centre of the Church on to the Platform and gave the Lyceum greeting to Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood.

#### GREETINGS.

To greet you in our school we come,  
With wishes warm, and true,  
Dear Leader of a noble cause,  
We bring our love to you.  
And hope, that you upon your way,  
Inspired by truth shall be  
A joy to many weary souls,  
This is God's gift so free.

—A. PARKINSON.

Doris handed to Mrs. Greenwood a lovely bouquet of pink and white chrysanthemums and Wilfred gave red roses to Mr. Greenwood and his agent, Mr. W. G. Throup, who came along with them. Later on in the session, our Conductor, Mr. H. F. Bateman, presented to Mr. Greenwood a Lyceum Officers' best Manual for the conductors and the committee in commemoration of his visit.

Having witnessed the whole of the session, Mr. Greenwood then rose to address the Lyceum and in his speech remarked about the system of right and wrong and emphasized a greater need for education and tolerance for the betterment of the human race. He said the session had been an inspiration to him and hoped that this being his first visit it would not be his last. He thanked them for the warm reception and the presentation they had made to him. “He was,” he said, “along with many of his colleagues, in favour of the abolishment of the present law under which we suffer and certainly would do all in his power to remove it when the opportunity arises.”

Mrs. Suddes of Nottingham, who was the speaker for the day, spoke on the education of the child mind in a most pleasing manner. Madam Gladys North rendered a solo.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood, by the President of the Church, Mr. Hargreaves, and supported by the Vice-President, Mr. Raw.

The Session will long be remembered by all who were present. The Church was tastefully decorated for the occasion.

MRS. A. PARKINSON.

## Our Lyceum Guild.

### LETTER TO MEMBERS.

Dear Guildites,

In order to give you the concluding half of Mr. Tinker's article, there is no ordinary Guild Page this month, as the article is the Guild Page.

I wish to thank all essayists who have sent in efforts for the competition. I hope to have the results from the adjudicator in time to announce them in the December issue.

We once again have to thank our friend and helper, Mr. T. F. Smedley (of Belper), for the donation of £1 (one pound) to the Guild Funds. This is the sixth year in succession that our generous benefactor has shown his interest in a practical manner.

Please note my NEW ADDRESS.

With fraternal greetings to all,

M. E. KITSON (Guild Leader),

New address:—37, South Street, Savile Town, Dewsbury, Yorks.



Dear Kiddies,

What a jolly time we are all going to have! The great day will soon be here, November 5th, although I think some of our Guildites will have used up most of their crackers and rockets many days before Guy Fawkes appears. Now see what a splendid time Jolly Jack and Co. have; and, children, read very carefully.

#### JOLLY JACK & CO.—V.

Jack and Rob soon were very busy making novelties for their Sale of Work in connection with their Sunday School, amongst which were included a few postcards, on which various patterns and designs were drawn by Jolly Jack. They were Xmas Cards, intended for the tiny tots who attended the Sunday School. This was a bright idea which had occurred to Jack, who was ever ready to bring joy and happiness to the young as well as to those older than himself. After several evenings of work, they had made great progress, and then the day came which made everyone busy, Bonfire Day.

A friendly gathering was always held on this day. Jolly Jack and Co., with their respective families, also a few other friends, met each year at Jack's home, spending the evening round the bonfire and round the cheery log fire in the house.

Everyone is busy, too busy even to talk. The children's mothers are making Date Bon-Bons, their fathers stirring up the chestnuts in the saucepan on the fire, and the kiddies themselves are sorting the fireworks, fixing pins in the wheels and untying the small crackers, and occasionally munching a Bon-Bon.

"What about the Bonfire and Guy Fawkes?" asked a lady visitor of Jack.

"That is all fixed up, Miss Trickett, in the garden," replied Jack. "We have stuffed it with paraffin rags from the mill, so you can be sure of a big blaze."

After the children had worried their parents a good deal, the bonfire was lighted about 7 p.m. The paraffin did its work well and most of the fireworks went off at once. Rockets shot up in the air, cascades sent out their shimmering lights of all colours, and jumpers cracked about those around the fire causing much merriment. It was all over much too quickly for the children, who kept the party merry with the odd crackers they had left.

"Wouldn't it be better to go indoors, now, Mother?" asked Jack.

"Oh! I see," she replied, "you are thinking about the date Bon-Bons. Well, come along, everybody, we'll just get busy now with the chestnuts and Bon-Bons."

"What about Mr. Vincent?" said Jack, "you know he couldn't get along to-night. We must save him some Bon-Bons, he simply loves them." So it happened afterwards that a joke, quite harmless, was played upon Mr. Vincent, who was out of town. It was agreed to send him a rather large box, well packed, and containing only one Bon-Bon. How disappointed he would be! A good-natured chap he was, however, and he took the joke in good part, and afterwards claimed his share of Bon-Bons when he again visited Jack's home. The kiddies always loved Mr. Vincent to pay them a visit. He would romp and play horses with them, always untiring in his efforts to make the children happy. "I am coming next week, kiddies, to fix you all up with a costume to wear at your Christmas Party at the Sunday School, I've got one or two that only require shortening a little."

The kiddies gave a loud cheer when Mr. Vincent said this. "Thanks, Mr. Vincent," said Joan, "I want to represent Mother Hubbard, if you have a costume suitable."

"Yes, and I want to be Dick Turpin," said Jack, "and can you dress baby as Felix?"

"Ha! Ha! Ha!" roared Mr. Vincent, "why Jack, would you have me smother Baby in a Felix costume? Well, I must be going now, so ta-ta tui next week."

Their hearts were overflowing with joy and they looked forward eagerly to Mr. Vincent's next visit when he would bring the costumes they were all to wear. Rob had not been asked which costume he would prefer. Mr. Vincent knew he must bring him his favourite costume, a sailor's, for Rob always intended to be a sailor some day.

(To be concluded next month).

Now, kiddies, I can assume that Jolly and Co. had a much better time on Bon-fire day than is described here. Space would not allow a fuller account, but here is a secret from Jolly Jack. He wishes you all to have an attempt, or persuade your mothers, to make some date bon-bons. Purchase half a pound of dates, remove the stones, roll each date in some thin icing, afterwards cover with cocoa-nut, and they are simply delicious. Kiddies, you *must* try them on November 5th, then write and let me know now you like them, also how you spent Bon-fire night.

#### OCTOBER COMPETITION.

The last day for receiving entries is NOVEMBER 27th, so those Guildites under 12 years and including this age, who have not already sent in their Greeting, get to work right away. Contrary to the announcement in October *Banner* it has now been decided to give Christmas Annuals, one five shilling book as First Prize, and six other Prize Books in order of merit.

Now, kiddies, don't delay; you may be fortunate in winning one of these nice Christmas books, so look up your October *Banner* for the Competition and get busy. Address your post-cards to "The Guild Imp," c/o 37, South Street, Savile Town, Dewsbury, Yorks.

#### BIRTHDAYS.

Thanks for prompt replies from Kathleen Simpson, Westcliff-on-Sea; Alf. Wm. Richards, Pendleton; Eileen Robinson, Hove; F. George, Liverpool; R. Cullen, Jun., J. F. Smith and H. Smith, of Middleton. Several of the above have already received Gifts and Greetings. Others will follow in due course.

To all Guildites who have sent such nice letters I send my thanks and good wishes.

Best of luck, kiddies, and heaps of love.

Yours affectionately,

THE GUILD IMP.

## Creeds Are Indispensible.

(Concluded).

By JAMES TINKER.

(Our Lyceum Guild Article).

No one will claim that the assent of the mind to the tenet The Fatherhood of God is due to personal experience of the emanation of either the first or any succeeding human spirit from the Cosmic Spirit or God. The ideas we have on that matter are traditional, adapted to modern thought by those

who trouble to think on such topics. They vary from the Agnostic's idea of the Cosmic energy to the Gnostic's Light that is Darkness, Who is *knowable* by a mystical union that is decidedly unknown among Modern Spiritualists. We believe metaphors about God. We *know* nothing.

As we have absolutely no personal experience or knowledge of the emanation of the first men as celestial moulds (if any), or as later evolutions of terrestrial egos, the Brotherhood of Man is not verifiable, especially as the physical evolutionists adopt it only as the most probable hypothesis. We believe—we do not know—that Human Brotherhood is true.

Therefore, as we do not know what the human spirit is, or its mode of origin as a unit—if it be a unit—we substitute Continuity of Human Life or Human Survival for Immortality of the Soul, as being closer to the range of our experience of spirit communion.

But our experience in Spirit Communion is absolutely dependent for verification on the statements and demonstrations of the spirits communicating. Our personal experience is as embodied spirits. We are on "this side the barrier"—not their side; notwithstanding the claims of those who allege that they quit the body and visit the spirit world as spirits. We believe a great deal that is disputable on this matter. There is a great deal more that it is necessary we should know of both the identity of the spirits and their modes of operation; and we are deplorably neglectful of the finer modes and experiences of the mysteries that many of us believe in from testimony, though personal experience does give us an inkling of what their greater glories were.

The doctrine of Personal Responsibility is very confusing when we come to the close quarters of personal experience and the study of abnormal psychological problems. What with hereditary tendencies, pressure of environment, multiple personality, Determinism, and the relations of the mind to bodily accidents and disease, one may well wonder how one's personal experience is going to settle the issue of responsibility. Most of us accept it—with limitations! But it was evidently taken over from the Christian stock of ethics, though we rejected the vicarious atonement corollary to it.

Our revision of the ancient tenets about Compensation and Retribution is very comforting; for most of us look forward to long æons of happiness, far exceeding the measure of compensation due for the injustices of this life. Obviously that belief is not due to personal experience. We are still in this vale of tears. We rely on the testimony of spirits and an unverifiable course of reasoning. Our doctrine of Retribution is becoming very faint, and we only occasionally glimpse a faint glow from the educative purgatorial states. Like the Christians about their hells, our tastes are becoming too delicate to deal with ours. What do we know or believe about retribution, not as a theory, but as regards the actual states of those who suffer it? How do we know them? By personal experience?

Another thought. Does this tenet affect our lives to any appreciable degree? Can it be that our summary of principles resembles other creeds in that respect? Are they merely intellectual propositions; and are our emotions and wills engaged on more entertaining pursuits? The Sixth Principle is accepted partly on spirit testimony and partly on reliance on the natural laws of consequences and probabilities that we rely upon for the future in everyday life. We believe and trust. We do not know.

The truth of eternal progress is obviously beyond our personal experience here, and the doctrine is not accepted by many of us, except by interpreting "eternal" as being for an æon or evolutionary cycle. We don't know—we believe variously.

In conclusion, the argument is that we must form intelligible conceptions about the objects and subjects of Spiritualism; the most important of these are accepted by the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. and known as the Seven Principles; these are statements of beliefs, whatever the degree they are supported by personal experience; they are accepted by churches, and being a statement of their beliefs, are a creed; such creed, or one similar, is necessary to define the characteristics of Modern Spiritualism.

It is advisable to state that the beliefs of Spiritualists are not restricted to that summary of principles. They were compiled as being the best calculated to unite Christians and non-Christians for the special purposes of Modern Spiritualism centred in the Third and Fourth Principles.

## Southend and Westcliff Lyceum.

On Sunday Sept. 5th, we held our second "Birthday Sunday." As we hold but two "Open Sundays" during the year, they are looked forward to as something of an event. The Church allows us to run the whole of the Services for the day in our own way. We provide our own Speakers, Clairvoyantes, Soloists, etc., and erect our own platform which is large enough to seat the whole Lyceum.

At 11 a.m. Miss Muriel Boddington, of Brixton, and Mr. Fruin (Uncle Bert) were the speakers, Mrs. Foll of Brixton the Clairvoyante and Mrs. Sidney Jones, the soloist. The solo and its accompaniment were her own composition. 200 Friends were there. Several London Lyceums were represented and others sent their greetings. Letters of congratulation came from Miss Elliott, Pres. B.S.L.U., Mr. Kitson, Mr. Knott, and Members of the M.C. Also a beautiful Spirit Message from Mrs. Clegg—to whose memory we had placed a beautiful bouquet on the platform. A very pretty Welcome was given to the visitors by 8 young Lyceumists. The letters and words were lent to us by the Nelson Lyceum for this Welcome. One of our youngest Lyceumists had coaxed her school teacher to come, and one of our older ones, who is a school teacher, had obtained a promise from a clergyman to be there. He came in the ordinary clergyman's dress to the Afternoon Session and Evening Service and expressed himself as very interested and delighted.

On the platform at the afternoon session were Mr. and Mrs. Fulcher, Pres. and Vice-Pres. of the Church; Mrs. Jones, Church Representative on the Lyceum Committee; Mrs. Foll and Miss Boddington, of Brixton; Mr. Fruin, Pres. L.L.D.C.; Mr. Miles, D.V.; Mrs. T. Tims, Lyceum Conductor; Miss E. Pilgrim, Ass. Conductor; Mr. L. Fulcher, Secretary, and Mr. F. Kemp, Capt. of Guards; Mr. C. J. Williams, Treasurer, B.S.L.U. was present and also Auntie Ruth and Cousin Doris. The presence of Mr. and Mrs. Brooks, Sen., and Nurse Green enabled us to claim a rather unique distinction—three generations of two families, and the youngest member of each family won a silver medal offered by the Lyceum for 100% Oral Grade pass at the last Examination. A beautiful new Banner and a new Bell were dedicated by Mrs. Foll, who had worked the Banner. Mrs. Fulcher gave the bell. The usual programme: Silver Chain, Musical Reading, Solos, Recitations, Marching and Callisthenics was given. Mr. Miles and many others spoke and a Presentation Officers' Manual was given to Mr. Leslie Fulcher and Mr. F. Kemp. Both these gentlemen are splendid Lyceumists and have worked hard for the success of our Lyceum. After the Session over 100 remained to tea: at 6-30 the Church was nearly full. 50 Lyceumists, all wearing the blue and gold rosettes and streamers (the Lyceum colours) and white dresses marched on to the temporary platform, while the President, Speakers and Soloists occupied the Church Rostrum, immediately behind. The Lyceum sang "Welcome to all." Two minutes silent prayer was broken by the Lyceum chanting "For you we are praying," and then in a clear ringing voice little Doris Brooks gave the Lyceum Opening Salutation. The Invocation was given by Muriel Thornton who is 13 years old and the Bible Reading by Violet Tims who is eleven. Miss Marie Halgood, one of our own Lyceumists, was the first speaker, then came Mr. Fruin, Mr. Miles and Mrs. Tims. Miss F. Toyne sang "The Lost Chord," and Mrs. Sidney Jones and Miss Toyne sang as a duet "Watchman, what of the night," the Lyceum taking the refrain. Mr. Sidney Jones, Silver Medalist, Victoria College of Music, who is the Lyceum Pianist and Organist, had written a special accompaniment for this duet. The collection was taken in decorated baskets by the children. Miss Doris Brooks presented to the President, for the Church Fund, a £5 note as a Birthday Gift from the Lyceum. Cousin Doris presented bouquets to Miss Toyne and Mrs. Jones, the soloists. One of the nicest items of the evening was "Children's Voices now are swelling," rendered by the Lyceum. It is 281 in the Church Hymn Book and deserves to be used more often than it is. We sang "The Day Thou gavest Lord is ended," and just before the benediction an early Victorian bouquet was given to Mrs. Tims. After the service, while the congregation dispersed, the Lyceum sang "March of Life," and a salute to the Conductor closed a very happy and successful day. Mr. A. Fulcher, the President, took the Chair all day. Mrs. T. Tims, our Conductor, used the centre aisle of the Church from which to conduct, and every Lyceumist worked heartily and well. £11 was handed to the Church as the proceeds of the day, and several new members were obtained for the Lyceum.

## Dead Empires.

BY M. E. PICKLES.

### PERSIA.

When the capitol was transferred to Teheran, the kingdom little by little lost its western provinces. My readers will have gathered by this time a general idea of the strong contrasts of Persia; the wide-spreading deserts, crossed by caravans, carrying silks and carpets, dates and embroideries to the ports on the Caspian and Black Seas; of the fertile patches, or oasis; and of the far-scattered towns. We now want to see everything closer; to meet the people, and understand so far as we can, how absolutely different Persia is from anything we know in the West. Railways are not available, for there are at present only two short lines, so let us imagine ourselves in a motor, and determined to press forward to Ispahan (the capitol I wrote of in last month's issue), once the glory of Persia. It needs some courage, for the roads are bad, and accommodation and food are very poor. Round the south of the Caspian, the Garden of Persia, we pass through a paradise of green vegetation of every kind from rice-fields, shimmering in water, to stretches of daisies, lilies, lilacs and iris, so high that one can easily be lost in them, and everywhere are lovely tall trees, in which the nightingales sing.

But this is only an aspect of Persia, as we soon discover when we push on through the mountain barrier that guards the great plateau of Iran; and we shall be lucky indeed if the car does not break down with bounding from rock to rock, or sinking into the stiff mud of the almost neglected roads. If this *should* happen, the only alteration is to hire a native carriage, without springs, and change horses at the post-houses, and a long wearisome journey it is, for hotels and inns, as we know them here, are unknown. Day after day we plod along over the stony desert, occasionally relieved by dark forests and spots of cultivation. In the distance we see dry and grim-looking mountains, and the sun pours down in such intense heat, that the caravans, with the camels which we meet, only travel by night.

It is a relief to see the white-pointed peak Demavend, and at last we enter Teheran. Under its sky of fixed blue, the roses flower, for which Persia is so famous—hedges and great gardens of them, massed together—and the fresh dry air makes us ready to enjoy everything. The palaces and gardens are very fine, also the beautiful lustre pots, and glorious old stuffs, brocades, and carpets, that we are invited to buy. O, and the crowds that pass; these are so different from any we have seen before.

Besides the interesting camels and grey donkeys, there are women with long thick white veils and full black cloaks, covering them up completely. Men of different nationalities—Hindoos, Turks, Mongols, besides the Persians in their high black hats and brown flowing robes. The descendants of the Prophet are everywhere, in their turbans, sashes, and robes of green; and the mullahs, or priests, are conspicuous in their white head-gear among the crowd.

But our object is to push on to Ispahan, over many more miles of burning sand that is too hot to touch, throughout the night the air is crisp and dry, and the deep sky is simply blazing with stars. Every now and then there is the joy of an oasis, with its limpid streams and little village surrounded by fields of corn and rye and cheering wild flowers. When these are passed, there is again the smarting heat, the burnt-out looking mountains, with their sheer walls of every shade of dull red and dark purple, and not a tree or blade of grass to lighten the desolation.

At last we see the domes of the mosques of Ispahan between the trees, and turning from the bare mountains in the distance, which now look as if bathed in gold, we do not know what to enjoy most. The avenues of trees, the fields of rosies and white poppies, the gardens, the pale green streams and canals, the buildings of the great Thah Abbas which date from the end of the sixteenth century—everything is wonderful and interesting. The enamelled tiles and plaques, the blue cupolas and minarets of the mosque, the fine square; all fill us with admiration. There are also immense bazaars where we can buy everything under the sun, and where potters, weavers of cashmeres and carpets, and leather-workers are all following their interesting and useful trades.

Europeans are not allowed inside the mosques, but we must not miss the infant school, where the children sit with their Korans on their laps, chanting their lessons, following the lines with little pointing fingers and swaying themselves backwards and forwards to imitate the Prophet fleeing on his camel. Persia is one of the countries now struggling for a constitution, and we can imagine a little of the work lying before the reformers

to teach the people of so many races, long crushed under the heel of despotism, the responsibilities as well as the blessings of having a voice in the government of their country.

The language of Persia is connected with the great Indo-European linguistic system, of which it is one of the oldest exemplars. It is written in the Arabic alphabet. Persian literature takes a high place among the literature of the world. The old Persian inscriptions and the Zend Avesta take us back to the sixth century B.C.

(To be continued).

Please note the new address of the Education Secretary is:

MISS M. E. KITSON, B.A.,  
37, South Street,  
Savile Town,  
Dewsbury,  
Yorks.

### Change of Secretaries, etc.

- Idle, Co-op. Hall.—Mr. A. Illingworth, 27, Mond Avenue, Bradford Moor, Bradford.
- Coventry D.C.—Secretary, Mrs. E. C. Coe, 82, Coronation Road, Coventry.
- Bury, King Street.—11 a.m.
- Batley Carr.—Mr. T. Hirst, 6, Anne St., Carlinghow, Batley.
- Scarborough.—Mrs. Riley, c/o Mrs. Jones, 113, Castle Road, Scarborough.
- Normanton.—Mr. E. Calcutt, 88, Queen Street, Normanton.
- St. Helens, Charles Street.—10-30. Mr. W. Chesworth, 2, Doulton Street, St. Helens.
- London, Surbiton.—Miss E. Cowlard, 55, Tolworth Park Road, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey.
- Manchester, Collyhurst.—Mr. W. Holdsworth, 20, Bath Street, Miles Platting, Manchester.
- Manchester, Eccles (Milton).—Mr. J. Haynes, 34, Green Lane, Patricroft, Manchester.
- Swinton.—Mr. L. Breedon, c/o 19, Poplar Road, Moorside, Swinton, Manchester.
- North East Lancs. D.C., Northern D.V.—Miss M. E. Lawton, 14, Park Avenue, Barrow-in-Furness.
- Dalton-in-Furness.—Mr. Legge, Herbalist, Market Street, Dalton-in-Furness.
- Scottish D.C. District Visitor.—Mr. C. Rankine, 775, Dumbarton Road, Dalmuir West, Glasgow.
- Worthing, Grafton Road.—3 p.m. Mrs. Lloyd, 32, Woodlea Road, Worthing, Essex.
- Middleton, Mill St.—Mr. F. Jones, Jr., 14, Beech St., Middleton.
- Oldham, Waterhead, Equitable Street, 10-30.—Mr. E. Case, 4, Sandy Lane, Royton, Lancs.
- Cardiff, Central.—Mr. S. Buttle, 13, Cumrae Street, Splott, Cardiff.
- Cardiff, First, 18, Park Grove, 2-45.—Mr. J. E. Richards, 20, Allenbank Crescent, Heath, Cardiff.
- Middlesborough, Grange Road.—Miss E. Bonsor, 100, Costa Street, Middlesboro'.
- Stockton-on-Tees, Brunswick Street.—Mr. S. Williams, 70, Hume Street, Stockton-on-Tees.
- West Hartlepool, Musgrave Street.—Mr. E. Platts, 1, Princess Street, Hartlepool.
- Dawdon, Louisville Hut.—Mrs. I. Smith, 62, Marlborough Street, Seaham Harbour, Co. Durham.
- Northampton.—Mrs. Lawman, No. 2 Cottage, Back of 165, Wellingborough Road, Northampton.
- Calgary.—First Spiritualist Church, 402, 7th Avenue, and 3rd Street E.
- Toronto Progressive Lyceum Spiritualist Society, 1087, Queen Street, W., Toronto, 2-0 p.m.—Mr. E. Richardson, 13, Fermanagh Avenue, Lakeside, 3638 W., Toronto, O.t.; Canada.
- Birkenhead.—Mr. Hirst, 3, Cedar Street, Birkenhead.

## Remarkable and Evidential Phenomena in Manchester.

On October 1st and 2nd we had the pleasure of testing the powers of Mr. A Fullard, of Barrow-in-Furness. Mr. Fullard is a lifelong Spiritualist and Lyceumist. He has the making of a very fine physical medium and with care in the development of his mediumship, should prove to be instrumental in conveying irrefutable evidence of the continuity of life in the future.

The room in which the seances were held was kindly lent by Mr. and Mrs. Hunt, of Harpurhey.

The first evening circle was composed of 15 sitters. Prior to the seance, the Medium was thoroughly examined by two gentlemen, who were satisfied there was nothing about the Medium's clothing that could be responsible for the phenomena that occurred.

Mr. Fullard was securely fastened in the chair. After the singing of a hymn, the Invocation was given, and on resuming the singing the phenomena commenced. The luminous slate floated round the room, and at times came quite close to the sitters' faces, at other times it was seen to go to the ceiling. One very remarkable feature was the Medium's coat being thrown across the room, where it was found to be still fastened at the close of the seance. The singing continued, and an auto harp, mouth organ and tamborine played simultaneously, keeping perfect time to the singing. A painted cross, a star and a crescent floated about; flowers, too, were thrown to many of the sitters from their friends of the Higher Spheres. During the singing of "Joy Bells," the spirit children skipped in perfect time to the tune and the skipping ropes touched several of the sitters. The trumpet moved about and was felt to be beating time to one of the songs on the head of one of the sitters.

A voice was then heard through a trumpet, giving the name of Hector Jones, Progressive, since verified as a late member of the Manchester Progressive Lyceum. Another spirit friend giving the name of Mrs. Moores, 3, Alma Street, Ardwick, (recognised), who wished her relatives to know that she "still lives." Two other friends made their presence known, giving the names of Jim Kay, of Salford, and Nellie Hunt (not recognised). The Medium's Control then informed us that the power was spent, and the singing of the Doxology brought the seance to a close.

The whole of the sitters declared their satisfaction with the genuineness of the Phenomena.

During the second evening, there were eight persons present, including the Medium. Mr. Fullard was again examined and fastened in the chair by Messrs. Hunt and Walton, singing was indulged in, when cooling breezes were felt by all the sitters.

During the singing of "Flowers of the Garden" I was the recipient of a beautiful spray of chrysanthemums. Sweet peas and other flowers were thrown to the sitters. Spirit Children were again in evidence with the skipping ropes, and the movement of the ropes could be clearly discerned by all present. Several sitters were distinctly touched. During a lull in the singing the patter of children's feet could be heard as though moving about the circle. The luminous slate floated round the room and as it came in contact with the sitters' faces they felt a decided heat that was distinguishable from the heat that is essential for our warmth. The singing of the "Marsellaise" was requested, during which the tamborine was played vigorously and sometimes moved from one sitter's feet to another's, then on to their knees and hands. The harp, mouth organ and bells were also played together. The star and crescent, and the cross, again floated round the room, turning distinctly round from one side of the circle to the sitters on the opposite side, which was conclusive evidence that none of the foregoing articles were suspended by anything, but that they were moved or manipulated by a force outside the normal self.

The Medium's Control then told us there were many spirit people present, and the conditions being ideal for manifestations. The first spirit voice which spoke loud and clear gave us a very encouraging message to still go on with the work of Spiritualism. He gave the name of William Thomas Braham, Watchmaker, 392, Stretford Road, Manchester, (verified later). The next to manifest was Thomas Jackson, of Pendleton, who requested us to tell his boy. Questioned as to who his boy was, he replied that we all knew him, so we asked for his

son's name. The answer came, John Jackson, of New Mills (verified). The voice said, "tell him his mother is here with me." Hanson Hey made his presence known. My father next spoke to me. His voice sounded quite close to my face, and was recognised by five of the sitters present who knew him in earth life. The trumpet touched each of the sitters and at times floated high up in the room, when it was heard tapping the ceiling and the walls.

Thus another evening was brought to a close by giving thanks and praise to God for the wonderful knowledge He has imparted to us through Spiritualism.

At the close of each seance Mr. Fullard was found to be still fastened, without the least signs of the rope having been disturbed.

The foregoing is a true record of what happened.

E. ELLIOTT.

## Births, In Memoriam, and Marriages.

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

### BIRTH.

MIDDLESBOROUGH, Grange Road.—To Mr. and Mrs. Albert Wellson, 22nd September, a son, Wilfred. Spiritual name, Purity. Naming ceremony by Mr. Roeder.

### MARRIAGE.

WINNIPEG, Polson Avenue.—The marriage of Mr. Samuel Walter Chadwick to Miss Jean Wood was solemnised on Saturday, October 2nd. Both the bride and bridegroom are interested Lyceumists.

### IN MEMORIAM.

GT. HARWOOD.—On October 12th, 1926 Herbert Baxter, aged 23 years, passed to the Higher Life. He was a past Secretary of our Lyceum.

"Our loss, their gain."

N. Davis, Sec.

DONCASTER, High Street.—On October 2nd, 1926, Mary Nutter passed to the Higher Life.

"Angel hands shall clasp our own;

And we shall know as we have known."

LIVERPOOL, Boaler Street Lyceum.—In memory of our youngest Lyceumist, Wm. Cato Smart, who passed into the Spirit World Nov. 7th, 1924. Ever remembered. W. G. Gates, Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH, Grange Road.—We regret to announce the passing to the Higher Life of our old Lyceumist Mrs. Naylor. She was one of our oldest pioneers and ever thoughtful for the welfare of "Our Cause." But we rejoice in the knowledge that she is able to return to aid and inspire us in our Lyceum work. The interment was conducted by her old friends Messrs. Alfred Kitson and Ben Carter,—Edna Bonsor, Sec.

OLDHAM, Central.—On September 23rd there passed to higher life the baby son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Clegg. Deepest sympathy from all Lyceumists.

### TRANSITION OF MR. J. K. JONES.

Mrs. J. K. Jones and family wish to express their thanks and gratitude for the many kind expressions of sympathy and floral tributes which have been sent to the memory and respect for Mr. Jones.

Mrs. Jones is unable to write everybody, and requests that all who have shown sympathy to her and the family in their bereavement will condone her inability to write to all by accepting this expression of her appreciation. Of Mr. J. K. Jones it can be truly said "He liveth long who liveth well."

—G. F. KNOTT.

## TO-MORROW?

HENRY J. BAYLIS.

To-morrow will do—a little time hence  
 To ask forgiveness, to make recompense—  
 To help alleviate the heart that's riven,  
 Assuage sorrow and pain—caused and given.  
 Selfhood triumphs instead of brotherhood,  
 Yet life's great gift is all too short and good—  
 Is ever fleeting—nearing to that goal  
 Where each shall meet the record of their soul.  
 To where materialism has no count, and  
 Man-caused sufferings are denounced;  
 Where Heaven's Light reflects all selfish deeds  
 And good and kindly acts shine forth supreme.  
 To-morrow will not do—this is the day;  
 There is no "To-morrow"—so why delay?  
 Tarry not—there's no future, it is said—  
 We cannot live, even, an hour ahead.  
 All must become into the Eternal Now—  
 No such thing man calls "time" does God allow.  
 'Tis with Him—has always been—even Now,  
 To immutable law in reverence bow.  
 To live ahead is making Truth a myth;  
 Waiting for To-morrow—a speculative risk—  
 The within says "Thy soul to-day endow—  
 "To-morrow" never comes—accept the "Now!"

## HARMONY.

"The man who hath not music in his soul,  
 Nor is not moved by concord of sweet sounds,  
 Is fit for treasons, stratagems, and spoils.  
 The motions of his soul are dark as Erebus,  
 Let no such man be trusted."

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

## A VISION.

I beheld the angels marching  
 To the rhythm of God's love;  
 Like a rainbow, there came arching  
 Messages from those above,  
 My thoughts filling with incenses,  
 Born from life's unfolding plan,  
 Breaking down earth's last defences,  
 From the darkened mind of man.

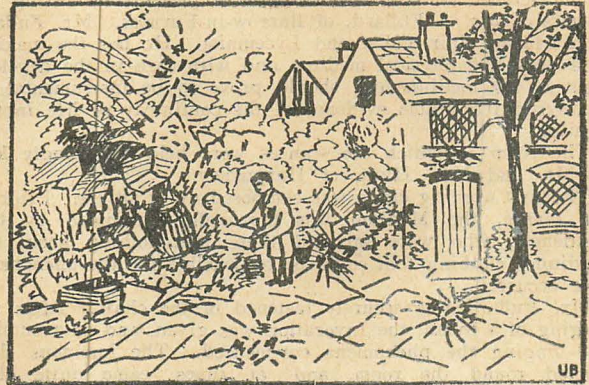
## LOVE.

A BOY'S ESSAY.

Love is one of our good abstract virtues, if not the best.  
 The Brotherhood of Man cannot be obtained unless men love one another. God willed it that we should love one another, and one of His Commandments was "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." Our Father God and His ministering angels love us and care for us; therefore we, in return, should love Him and all mankind. No true happiness can be obtained without love reigning. Our Father shows His love in the flower, the sunbeam, and all the beautiful things He made for us on this earth. One of the Ten Laws of Right is "Manifest love—above and beyond all. In the Bible (Corinthians) can be found a piece on love. It says that "Love thinketh no evil." There is also some good advice, "Love your enemies." If we do so they should love us and there will be no wars. If we wish to reap the harvest of love, we should sow love. In the *Lyceum Manual* are the words: "Sow love and taste its fruitage pure."  
 We should not only love our fellow beings, but also insects, animals, and birds. Several examples of love occur in our every-day lives. There was one example recently of a man who gave his life for his pigeons. His house was on fire and knowing that his birds' lives were in imminent danger, the man rushed into the house, saved the birds' lives, but lost his own.  
 Thus we see that animals and birds count as much as human beings, and we should love them as such.

DENIS GLANVILLE (Aged 10 years).

## THE CHILDREN'S BONFIRE.



Here you see a boy at the Bonfire. There are also present around the fire the Father, Mother, Uncle, the Baby, the Policeman and the boy's Wheelbarrow. Can you find them?

## The United Districts' Council at Barrow-in-Furness.

The United Districts' Council met at the Dalkeith Street Spiritualist Church, Barrow-in-Furness, on Saturday and Sunday, 16th and 17th of October.

In the absence of Mr. A. T. Connor, Miss A. Hesp was appointed Chairman.

The Secretary-Treasurer's Statement showed expenses to be £16 13s. 11d., with a balance in hand of 17s. 6½d.

Miss Hesp read the U.D.C. President's address.

A number of questions were explained and discussion ensued for the success of the National Spiritualist College.

Mr. Shuttleworth was re-elected the Secretary-Treasurer.

The next meeting will take place on March 12th and 13th, 1927.

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

*Suggested New Title.*

"The United District Council of the Spiritualists' Lyceums."

*Article X., page 6. Sub-Section a.*

"Within their own area." Suggested these words be deleted. This would do away with purely local workers acting in a national sense and would give a district the right to select an individual from any part of the country, so long as he shall have and does observe the general conditions appertaining to Article X. A general opinion is these words do not restrict, and general inference was that these words do not restrict any district from going without their district if they so choose.

*Article X.*

"Re accredited members." This was questioned, seeing that by virtue of accepting nomination makes him entitled to attend that particular conference at which such election will take place. (Interpretation needed.)

*Article 3, Sub-Section B., par. 1.*

"Any Lyceum, etc., etc." And if a Lyceum is a member of the B.S.L.U. such membership should carry with it compulsory membership of the District Council.

*Suggested New Article.*

To replace the above: "Lyceums shall form themselves into District Council."

*Sub-Section C., Article 2, line 4.*

"personal" deleted and "individual" inserted.

## Article 1.

Consideration of name under this section. This to be asked for from districts and report at next meeting.

## Article 8.

Discipline interpretation asked for. Ritual and ritualistic practises quoted as being contrary to the spirit of the Lyceum Movement.

It was agreed:

That these matters be referred back to the D.Cs. for opinions and all delegates to be asked to report at the next meeting.

Following the usual business meetings of the Council, an Open Session was held in the afternoon, in the Dalkeith Street Lyceum. Miss Elliott, President of the B.S.L.U., conducted; the delegates took the readings. Many individual items were rendered by the Lyceumists present. Marching and callisthenics were gone through and a good harmonious session was held, the same being well attended.

In the evening the service was taken by the delegates. Miss Lawton presided. The speakers were: Miss Elliott, Mr. Walsh (Bolton), Mr. T. Ellis (Huddersfield) and Mr. J. Shuttleworth. Miss Patterson and Mr. Shuttleworth gave solos. The session and the service were well attended.

Following the evening service we had the pleasure of holding a seance, with Mr. Fullard, of Barrow, for physical phenomena and direct voice. The company numbered about 20 sitters. Many varied and remarkable events took place. Musical instruments were played by hands unseen, luminous articles were carried round the circle, and sitters were touched. Many voices were heard through the trumpet; in two instances names and addresses were given. The seance was held under strict test conditions. We are deeply indebted to Mr. Fullard and his guides for the privilege which was afforded us.

J.S., Sec.

## District Council Reports.

### BRADFORD DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting was held at Laisterdyke on Oct. 10th. A good number of delegates attended. Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed. The result of the Silver Shield and Bell competition showed that Idle Lyceum had won the Shield and Saltaire Lyceum gained the Bell. The E.C. report was accepted. The Judge, Mr. G. Ingle, of Leeds, was thanked for services rendered to the Council in judging all Lyceums.

A very good Lyceum Open Session was held in the afternoon and was largely attended.

The evening service was addressed by Mr. E. Aked and Mr. Bottomley. Miss Hudson was in the chair. A vote of thanks to our Laisterdyke friends brought a good day to a close.—E. Aked, Sec.

### COVENTRY DISTRICT.

An interesting ceremony was held at the Norman Avenue Church, Nuneaton, recently. A Silver Bell, which had been awarded by the Council for the best conducted Lyceum, was presented to the Lyceum. Mr. Burrows, President, handed the Bell to Miss Gott, remarking that he was proud of their success and hoped they would keep on with their efforts, warning them that the Coventry Lyceums intended to do their best to win the bell next year. Tea was partaken of at the invitation of the Nuneaton Lyceumists, and at the close we felt that something had been done to stimulate the Lyceum movement in our district.—E. E. Coe, Sec.

### LEEDS DISTRICT.

The next Conference will be held at Railway Terrace, Birstal, on Saturday, Dec. 11th, 1926, at 3.30 p.m. prompt.

Agenda:—Opening Exercise, Invocation, Roll Call, President's Address, Minutes, Correspondence, Reports, Competition result, Adjudicator's Report, Associates L.L.D.C., Open Council, Special Business, Closing Date Nominations.

All Lyceums please send your full quota of Representatives. All Associates cordially invited. Date and place of General Meeting. Tea provided, usual charge.—A. W. Harding, Sec.

### LIVERPOOL DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above Council will be held on Saturday, November 13th, at 3 p.m., at 31, Millgate, Wigan. Will all Delegates and Associates please attend?—E. Clitheroe, Sec.

### LONDON DISTRICT.

"Go Forward" is the motto being adopted by the Council. A United Rally for Conductors, Secretaries, adult workers and members has been arranged to take place on November 20th.

The Officers and Committee of the Battersea Spiritualist Church (Bennerley Hall) have very kindly loaned their newly acquired Church for this event.

London workers should get in touch with their own local Lyceum Secretary, who has full particulars. The anticipated success of this Rally depends on every Lyceum in London (affiliated or otherwise) being represented by a strong band of workers.

Friends interested in Lyceum work, who are unattached at present, should write to Mr. E. E. Young, 25, Mallet Road, Hither Green, Lewisham, S.E.13.

Our Annual Autumn Social and Dance was held at the St. Bride's Institute, on Saturday, Sept. 25th, and, as is usual, was a great social success. There were members of ten Lyceums present and nearly all the Executive Council. Our visitors included Mr. H. Boddington (Pres., L.D.C.), Mr. Leslie Curton, and several prominent members of the Lyceums and Churches.

Miss Winifred Bradley, Miss Hilda Tiffin and Mr. George Ellis entertained us with songs and were received with enthusiasm.

Our President (Mr. Fruin) thanked all for their presence.

Mr. Arthur Young acted as M.C.

### NORTH EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

The above Council held the third quarterly meeting on Saturday, September 25th, in the Church at Great John Street, Lancaster.

Mr. Batley was in the chair, and supported by Miss M. E. Lawton, Mr. Latham and Mr. Hopper.

Mr. Ball was appointed *pro tem* secretary pending the arrival of the Secretary. Invocation by the President.

The D.V. gave a report showing the progress made in the shield competition. A very interesting point was raised in this report, viz., "Does a Lyceum which does not take marching and callisthenics act in accordance with the constitution?"

On the arrival of the Secretary minutes were read and adopted.

Arising out of correspondence the question re Conference accounts at Preston was dealt with and enquiries were instituted. It was resolved we ask all Lyceums and Lyceumists to comply with the S.N.U. resolution. The Correspondence was adopted.

The Secretary's report gave a detailed statement how each Lyceum stood with the Council.

The financial statement showed a gain during the quarter.

A Notice of Motion from Great Harwood re the holding of a central Social event was next dealt with and was referred back for consideration.

The President's address. Spoke re Education, Revision, and the cultivating of the old spirit.

The credential report was given and adopted, Officers 5, Delegates 19, Associates 11, Visitors 3. Total 38. Pooling 11/3 per Lyceum.

The Conference report as printed in the *Banner* was accepted.

Votes of thanks were accorded to friends at Lancaster for their labours.

The U.D.C. report was given and accepted.

The business was detailed for next U.D.C. meeting.—J. S., Sec.

The Lancaster Lyceum are holding a Concert by the "Merry Mannikin Party" on Wednesday, Nov. 17th, followed by a Social, in aid of the above Council's Funds.

## District Visitors' Reports.

In the Bradford District I have paid the following visits:—

March 14th. Laisterdyke, Morning Session. Total present, 26. Discussion on all readings very good. Pearls given, and comments good. A very good all round session.

Ripley Street. Total present, 21. A very good session, but not enough time for discussion.

June 20th, Whetley Lane Lyceum. Although only 14 present, there was a very good session. Everyone seemed to be in harmony. Very good pearls from young Lyceumists.

Harker Street. Total present, 28. Good Session, but room for improvement, especially in the marching.

Windhill. Total present, 29. Short of elder scholars. On the whole a good session.

Shipleigh. Owing to some being on holidays, only 14 present, but we had a good discussion on readings and pearls.

Oct. 17th. Idle was visited. A nice session was held, Mr. E. Aked answering all questions asked by the scholars, and also explained pearls.—S. Hudson, D.V.

#### SCOTTISH DISTRICT.

There has been no District Council meeting for last 6 months owing to Council having no funds for the purpose. I have not visited many Lyceums since Holidays as most of them were closed down during July and August. Also I was busy with the "Cruise," but unfortunately it never took place owing to industrial trouble, but I am hoping for better luck next time.

Lyceums in Glasgow have been changing Conductors practically all round. I think the only exception is Govan, which is still carrying on under the able Conductorship of Mr. Brown, assisted by Mr. Jas. Shaw, late D.V. Glasgow Association is going strong under Mr. Slimmings; Mediums' Union under Mr. Provan; Southern under Mr. Jas Stewart; Northern under Miss Prior; Whiteinch under Mr. Wylie; Dalnair No. 1 under Mr. McDowall; Dalnair Broadway under Mr. Gow; Henrietta Street under Mr. C. Rankine.

All the Lyceums are carrying on: some quite well, but others under difficulties. Let us hope that peace and prosperity will come to the country and that the same may permeate Lyceums. A Lyceum Sunday at Edinburgh was enjoyed immensely. I tender my apologies to those who were disappointed in the "Cruise" not coming off. I was very much disappointed myself, and I thank those who helped me to try to make it a success. I intend going to some outside districts to try and get Lyceums started. Wishing all Lyceums, Conductors, and all connected with the movement every success.—C. Rankine, D.V.

#### SOUTH EAST LANCASHIRE.

Oldham Central, Bow Street.—This Lyceum is keeping up to its usual standard. Credit is due to Mr. J. Wood, the Conductor. We hope to have them members of the Council before long.

Middleton, Mill Street.—A small Lyceum with earnest workers. I am pleased they are interested in the Lyceum Education Scheme.

Oldham, Hooper Street.—This Lyceum, though unaffiliated, is still the strongest in Oldham. Good work is being done here. "The Workers Win."

Rochdale, Penn Street.—This Lyceum is in a healthy condition. Their Liberty Group is an important feature.

Royton, Whittaker Street.—This Lyceum is still making headway, and is very encouraging.

Oldham, Elliott Street.—This Lyceum is not up to its usual standard. We are looking forward to greater success in the future.

Rochdale, Baillie Street.—This Lyceum is a good, strong and healthy one. It speaks well for the officers.

I visited the Open Session at Royton on October 10th. Visitors came from Oldham, Elliott Street, and Waterhead Lyceums. Pearls, songs, recitations and readings were given by Lyceumists and visitors. Marching and Callisthenics were gone through in a pleasing manner, and conducted by Mr. D. H. Greaves. Short addresses were given by the Conductor and Mr. H. Buckley, District Visitor. Mr. Rimmer officiated at the organ.—H. Buckley, 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.**

ACCRINGTON, Pearl Street.—As a result of the efforts of the Gt. Harwood, Accrington and Rishton Joint Lyceum Committee, two Massed Sessions were held at the above

Lyceum on Oct. 3rd. The Sessions were conducted by Mr. W. Taylor, of Gt. Harwood, ably supported by Miss Coleclough, Mr. Cooke, Mr. Fazackerley and Miss Bleasdale. A number of songs and recitations were rendered throughout the day, which, combined with keen discussion on several readings, made two very enjoyable Sessions. These massed Sessions are proving to be an excellent means of propaganda.—M. Davis, Sec. Joint Committee.

BRADFORD, Laisterdyke.—On Sunday, October 3rd, Open Sessions. The following responded well: Miss North, Miss Keene, F. Waite, Miss Wilman, Mrs. Stead, Miss Batty, Mr. Barnes, Miss Cooke, Mrs. Smith, Miss Ashford, Mr. Brewerton, Miss Farnell, Miss Allan, Harold Batty, Miss Keene, Miss Hunter, James Hill, Miss A. Hudson, Miss Ackroyd, Mr. Wilman, Miss Joint. Miss N. Hudson conducted.—J. Babbs, Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH, United.—On Oct. 3rd we held our first Anniversary Services, which proved a great success and were well attended by Lyceumists and visitors. We had the pleasure of having with us our late Assistant conductor and founder of our Lyceum, Mr. George Hardwick. During the Session we had the naming ceremony of the infant daughter of two of our Lyceumists, Mr. and Mrs. Wood. The ceremony was conducted by Mr. Bert Hardwick, of Jarrow, who gave her the name of Edith May and the spirit name of Lily; also dedicating her to our Lyceum by pinning to her our Lyceum badge.

At night the service was taken by the Lyceum, which was well enjoyed by all. The recitations and solos were given from the youngest to the oldest, which proved a success. All credit it due to our Musical conductor, Mr. Val Smith. A day well spent by all.—M. Brookes, Sec.

#### A HOSPITAL EFFORT AT SALTAIRE.

The great Charity Effort on Oct. 9th and 10th proved a great success. Over 250 Lyceumists and friends sat down to a meat tea, followed by a splendid concert. The following Lyceumists and artists took part: Alice Lloyd, Mary Evans, Lily Whitley, Hilda Cobold, Mr. Mark Todd, Mr. McBernie, Miss Sarah Murphy, and Mrs. Firth, of Brighouse. The following presented a very humorous sketch entitled "Minding Baby while wife goes out": Mr. Wm. Simpson, W. Summer-son, Mr. Bickle, H. Mayes, Mrs. Hustwick, Mrs. Simpson, Mrs. Raine, and Miss G. Darby. The sketch created much merriment.

On Sunday afternoon a massed Lyceum Session was held under the able conductorship of Mr. A. Bickel, in the York Room, Victoria Hall. The following Lyceums were present or sent representatives: Skipton, Keighlev, Windhill, Idle, Ripley St., Market St., Whetley Lane, and Brighouse. A most beautiful Session was enjoyed by all. Over 100 took part in Marching and Callisthenics. The beautiful solo singing of Mrs. Firth, of Brighouse, was very much appreciated.

In the evening a great propaganda meeting was held. Over 200 were again present. Councillor T. Blythe, J.P., ex-Lord Mayor of Bradford, was Chairman, supported by Mrs. Wade, of Brighouse, Mrs. Bolton, D.N.U., of Bradford, Councillor H. H. Clarke and Mr. Dixon, of Shipleigh. Mr. Mark Todd gave two beautiful solos.

It was a most glorious week-end, and we shall be able to hand over £10 10s. od. to the Sir Titus Salt's Hospital, Saltaire.

We take this opportunity of thanking all who helped in any way to make our effort such a great success.—Wm. Simpson, Sec.

WELLINGTON, Kent Terrace, N.Z.—On Sunday evening, the 8th of August, the Lyceumists splendidly rendered the Service of Song entitled "Rest at Last." There was a large audience, who listened with evident interest as the reader, Mrs. Webb, read the pathetic and somewhat sad story. The soloists were Mrs. Ryan, Mrs. Tong, Mrs. Webb, and the Misses L. and G. Webb. The Musical Director was Mr. Hy. Barton, and our Lyceum Conductor, Mr. R. Webb, officiated as Chairman. The Lyceum sessions during the month have been well attended. Greetings to the Lyceums in the dear Homeland.—(Miss) L. Webb, Sec.

WINNIPEG, Colson Avenue.—We held our Harvest Festival on Oct. 3rd. The Sunday School was decorated. Many were present and we had several visitors. Pearls and recitations were given by Sylvia Parkinson, Clara Dale, Irene Turner, Daisy Knox, Edna Brown, Olive Forrest, Millie Crawley,

Verna McLeod, Harry Towns, Viola Dale, Helen Lawrence, and Kenneth McLeod. Song by Mrs. Knox. Two duets by four members of intermediate. Pianoforte solos were given by Mrs. Parkinson, Sylvia Parkinson and Verna McLeod. Reading was given by Helen Lawrence. The conductor made a presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Chadwick on the occasion of their marriage.—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 October 27th.
- RULE 3.**—Lyceums taking 1 dozen copies are allowed free insertion of 25 words; 2 dozen, 50 words; 3 dozen, 75 words; 4 dozen copies or over, 100 words.
- Additional words to be paid for at the rate of 6d. for every nine words. This Rule does not apply to Lyceums numbering fewer than 30 members.
- RULE 4.**—All Reports must reach this Office not later than November 24th, to ensure insertion in the December issue.
- RULE 5.**—Colonial Reports, if posted to the Lyceum Banner within 7 days after the events reported, will be inserted in the next issue after receipt at the "Banner" Office.

**BARROW**, Ramsden Street.—We held our Open Session on October 10th. Recitations by Mary Howbrook, Mary Broadbent, Blanche Scott, Ruby Scott, Frances Jones, Edna Denny, Gordon Haznell, David Brown, Norman Oakley and Walter Jones.—L. Brown, Sec.

**BIRKENHEAD.**—The Lyceum took the services on October 10th. Open Session was held in the afternoon. In the evening Mr. Thompson conducted the service of song, entitled "Little Sunbeam," composed by E. Thompson, a Lyceumist. Mr. Edwards opened and closed with prayer; Mrs. Winters kindly gave her services as clairvoyant. The Church was packed to its uttermost, and the day was brought to a close with the knowledge that the efforts of all were appreciated by everyone present.—Milly Hemsall, Sec.

**BRIERFIELD.**—We held our Open Session and Harvest Festival on October 3rd, conducted by Mr. Dilworth and Miss Oldfield. The following helped to make it a successful session: Mary Davis, Phylis Spencer, Violet Rhodes, Edith Bird, Elsie Farrow, Mona Berry, Jim Holgate and Miss Graham.—T. Wane, Sec.

**BURY**, King Street.—Open Sessions, October 3rd. In the afternoon the children rendered recitations and solos. In the evening the children and elders entertained with recitations and songs, which everyone enjoyed. Fraternal greetings were exchanged with Bury, Sidney Street, and Bolton, Bradford Street.—T. Lever, Sec.

**CHESTERFIELD.**—On October 3rd we held our Open Session, which all enjoyed. There was a good selection of recitations and songs. Recitations by Ernest Heath, Leslie Driver, Kenneth Bown, Avis Bown, Jessie Orwin, Connie Slater, Linda Heath, Marion Wagstaffe, Sidney Hobster, Alice Holland, Harold Hobster and Lily Marriot; songs by May Wheatley, Lily Slater and Mr. Heath.—K. H. Widdowson.

**CLECKHEATON.**—We held our Lyceum Anniversary on October 17th. The Open Session was conducted by Mr. Harding, of Wakefield. Many Lyceumists took part in questions and answers. A solo and a duet were rendered. Pearls well explained, and a splendid address was given at the evening service, which was enjoyed by all. Special hymns were sung.—A. E. Rayner, Sec.

**COLNE.**—Open Session was held on October 3rd. We had with us Mrs. Mary E. Pickles, of Blackpool, who gave us some very sound advice. The whole session was well carried out by all concerned.—H. Crabtree, Sec.

**DARLINGTON**, Northgate.—On October 10th we held our quarterly Open Session, combined with our annual Harvest Festival, which was a general success. Recitations, solos, etc., were given by the children at the afternoon session.

In the evening we gave a successful service of song, entitled

"The Triumph of Spiritualism," ably read by Mrs. Marley. Violin solos by Mr. Key.

On October 13th we treated our Lyceumists to a free tea, and a concert was given at night by the Bluebird Concert Party, in aid of our new church. We are pleased to report our Lyceum is progressing favourably.—R. P. Christophner, Sec. and Conductor.

**DONCASTER**, High Street.—We held our Open Session on October 3rd, conducted by Miss L. V. Batty. Several Lyceumists took part and made a huge success. Mr. Cook, Parkgate, paid us a visit. Our Lyceum has had a great loss with the passing away of Mary Nutter, at the age of eighteen years. We held a Memorial Service on October 10th, which was nicely attended. Several Lyceumists spoke about our dear sister, who had so patiently borne her illness. We pray that God will send a comforter to her dear mother, also a Lyceumist, in her sad trial. Mary was her only child.—Mrs. Webb, Sec.

**FLEETWOOD.**—We held our Open Session on October 3rd, which was well conducted. The usual routine was gone through in splendid order. Recitations by Lily and Jenny Yarwood, Alice Yates, Edith Richardson and Frank Harris; solo by Nellie Cooke; chorus by Kitty Thurston, Nora Harris and Agnes Christopherson; several pearls. A surprise visit was paid by Mr. R. Latham, the Adjudicator for the Shield.—(Mrs.) E. K. Firth, Sec.

**GRIMSBY.**—On October 3rd we held our Open Session and Lyceum Weekend. We had the pleasure of the company of Miss Nancy Pumps, our speaker for the weekend. A most enjoyable and educative weekend resulted. Solos by N. Hockley, E. Robinson, R. Howard; recitations by M. Willey, U. Willey, Kitty Willey, S. Willey, I. Jewitt, Z. Wilson and N. Godsall; quartette by F. Pilkington, Z. Wilson, S. Willey and V. Willey.—P. Stanham, Sec.

**HORWICH.**—On September 26th we held our Harvest Thanksgiving, our church being well decked with flowers and fruit. Mrs. Ormrod, of Bolton, gave a very nice address appertaining to the subject.

On September 28th the married ladies gave a Social, which was very successful. The proceeds realized £6, which was handed over to the Church.—L. Wilkes, Sec.

**HUDDERSFIELD**, St. Peters Street.—We held our Open Session on October 3rd, conducted by Mr. Garside. We had recitations by Elsie Kerrison, Mary Midgley and Leslie Midgley; solos by Mr. Wallis, Lillie Wilson, Eva Farnhill, Miss Meredith and Miss Hinchliffe; pianoforte solo by Florence Senior. We had a very pleasant time.—Elizabeth Farnhill, Sec.

**LANCASTER.**—We held our Open Session on October 3rd. The following took part:—Solo by M. Verden; duet by A. Coupland and Edna Parkinson; recitations by Betty Kelly, Ralf Parkinson and A. Coupland. We are commencing our winter's work by rehearsing a sketch.—E. Thompson.

**LEICESTER**, Liberty Progressive.—Open Session, October 3rd. In the absence through illness of our Conductor, Mrs. F. Thwaites, the session was taken by Bro. Jayes. The usual items were rendered. Invocation by Bro. Jayes. Recitations by Miss E. Hurst, Annie Hughes, Doris and Horace Jayes, Kitty Townsend; duet by D. Jayes and A. Hughes; solo by Bro. Jayes.

**LEICESTER**, Rupert Street.—On October 3rd we had our Open Session with a large attendance of Lyceumists and friends. The following Lyceumists took part in the session:—Misses D. Goldsmith, E. Wicks, A. Bingley, E. Goldsmith, A. Hughes, D. Jayes, M. Coysh, Mrs. Dehoue, Master W. Coysh and Horace Jayes. Nurse Welbourne gave a short address, which was well received. It was the best session we have had for a long time. Miss E. Wicks conducted.—Mr. J. Wicks, Sec.

**LEICESTER**, Silver Street.—On October 3rd we held our Open Session. Callisthenics and marching were well rendered. Solos by Mr. Hurst, Master W. Coysh and Miss C. Lowe; recitation by Miss G. Geddes. We thank all friends for their help and support.—E. Underwood, Sec.

**LINCOLN**, Coultham Street.—Open Session, October 3rd. Mrs. Sharrack took all the services. A large number of members and friends were present. Mrs. Raspin, of Lincoln, assisted by Mrs. Sharrack, named an infant, Muriel Lillian Boddy, spirit name "Joy." The Lyceumists gave songs, recitations and pearls. All spent an enjoyable weekend.—N. Willey, Sec.

LIVERPOOL, Boaler Street.—Having won the Liverpool Lyceum District Council's Shield for 1927, it gives us great encouragement to go forward hoping to reach perfection.—W. G. Gates, Sec.

LONDON, Brixton.—Our Harvest Festival took place last month. There was a fine display of fruit and flowers, etc., and the session was a great success. Some of the proceeds were sent to the local Orphanage and the rest were distributed among the poor. We are now working hard to organise a concert, to take place in November.—Frank B. Cross, Sec.

LONDON, Tottenham.—Owing to alterations at the Chestnuts, we are carrying on our sessions at Warmington House for the time being, but we are keeping up our usual high standard of work. Our sessions are very bright and interesting, and our education classes are in full swing.—Eileen Gladman, Session Sec.

MANCHESTER, Higher Openshaw.—On September 18th we held a Social, in aid of the District Council Funds, the occasion being the Shield presentation, of which we are proud to be joint holders with Newton Heath. The presentation by Bro. Mansfield was accepted by the late Conductor, Mrs. Molineux.

On Sept. 26th we held our Open Session, conducted by Bro. J. W. Partington, and all had a very enjoyable time. The following items were rendered: recitations 13, solos 1, duets 3, quartettes 2, pearls, good response. Seventeen Lyceums were represented during the day.—S. Molineux, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Higher Openshaw.—On September 11th the morning session was conducted by Miss Porter. Her lesson was "Brotherhood." The connective readers expressed their thoughts very well.

The evening Session was conducted by Mrs. A. Smith. Her lesson was "Never give up the Right Way." The connective readers expressed their thoughts thoroughly. Recitations by Margaret Bassett, Adelaide and Dora Holden, Beatie and Hilda Nash, Lena, Phillis and Doris Haith, Bessie Maclure, Harry Tyreman, Stanley Gardner, Edward Maclure, George Reed and George Skears.

The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Bray was named Joyce, and its spiritual name, Lily. Mrs. Cooper conducted the ceremony. The day was a huge success. 14 Lyceum representatives gave greetings. We extended ours in return.—A. T. Smith, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Swinton.—On Oct. 10th we held our Open Sessions, and various Lyceums were represented. An enjoyable time was spent by all. Children from the Eccles Lyceum rendered various items of singing and recitations during the evening session. Mrs. Ball, of Eccles, led the children in the singing.—Leonard Breedon, Sec.

NELSON.—A most enjoyable time was spent at our Open Session on Oct. 3rd, when the following Lyceumists rendered items. Recitations by Hilda Sutcliffe, Mary E. Jackson, Doris Bulcock, Cedric Pidwell, and George Dodgson. Songs by Ida Middlebrook, Bertha Robinson, Emery Raw, and a violin solo by Elsie Spencer. Greetings to all Lyceums at home and abroad.—Cissie Smoothy, Sec.

NEWCASTLE, Benwell.—We held our Open Session on Oct. 3rd, when Mrs. Price, of the Central Church (in the absence of our expected speaker) very ably took the service, and gave all present a very encouraging message. A solo, duet, and also an interesting reading by Mrs. Anten, was rendered. All helped to make up a very beautiful spiritual service.—Thos. McCallum, Sec.

OLDHAM, Central.—On Sept. 26th we held our Harvest Festival. We had a grand display of fruit. At the evening service we had the naming of the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Glover by our President, Mr. Standish. The baby was named Harry, spiritual name, Happy. Good attendance.—J. E. Chappell, Sec.

OLDHAM, Elliott St.—We held our Open Sessions on Oct. 3rd. We had a few visitors from other Lyceums, including Mr. J. E. Hart, Representative for this Area. There were duets and recitations well rendered by the Lyceumists. Best greetings to all Lyceums.—M. Harper, Sec.

PRESTON, 68, Lancaster Road.—On Oct. 3rd we held our Open Session. We had a very good session throughout. The following contributed items: Recitations, J. Hatch, Solo, Miss F. Hough, Duet, R. Daniels and A. Curtis.—Rd. Smalley, Sec.

RAWTENSTALL.—On Oct. 17th we held our Lyceum Anni-

versary. In the afternoon we had an Open Session and in the evening our Speaker, Mr. Hibbert, of Bolton, held a good audience spellbound for well over an hour. Altogether we had a real good day.—Mrs. Greenwood, Sec.

ROTHERHAM.—Oct. 3rd, Open Session. A very enjoyable service was conducted by Mr. C. Davis. The following gave recitations: Mrs. Metcalfe, Mrs. Bruce, Miss Hemsall and Mr. C. Davis.—Annie B. Hollis, Min. Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—We held our Open Session on Oct. 3rd, conducted by Mrs. Thwaites. There was a good response of recitations by the girls and one boy, Albert Gilbert. Football is now in full swing and we are looking forward to players of promise. The Church have kindly lent us their ground adjoining the Church for the girls netball to play. We are pleased to say our Tennis Club has been quite a success.—N. Thwaites, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Heeley, Gifford Road.—On Oct. 3rd we held our Anniversary Services at Mearsbrook Vestry Hall, and had an excellent attendance at both services. Prizes were distributed by Mr. Smith, of Attercliffe, and our Mrs. Clive. A concerted item was rendered by Liberty Group members. A duologue, "Presence of Angels," was rendered by Muriel Clive and Edith Maw. Songs and recitations were given by A. Taylor, C. Higginbottom, B. Taylor, H. Greaves, M. Stevenson, M. Overment, C. and E. Sanders, Edna Cundy, L. Wagstaff, Miss C. Hopkins, K. Magness, C. Holland, W. Furniss and B. Higginbottom.—J. E. Overment, Sec.

STOCKPORT, Central.—On Oct. 3rd we held our Open Session, conducted by Mrs. Ennion. Readings, pearls and recitations were very good. At 6-30 Mr. J. H. Marston, Mr. Parfitt and Mrs. Edwards took G.C. and M.R. and S.C. Readings and gave full explanations. Mr. Bates and Miss Joules recited. Miss Laura Ward sang "In that sweet land of sunshine." Miss Reese gave Clairvoyance at both meetings. Many thanks are due to them for their splendid efforts.—Mrs. Springate, Sec.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES, Brunswick Street.—On October 17th the Lyceum held their Anniversary Services. In the evening we had a Service of Song, "Twinkling Stars," which was a great success.

On October 24th the Election of Officers took place. Conductor, Mr. J. Miller; Assistant, Mr. A. Hickman; Secretary, Mr. S. Williams; Treasurer, Mrs. Brown; Guardian, Mr. R. Ruddock; Captain of Guards, Mr. Burton; Guards, E. Miller, C. Harker and H. MacNamara. Leaders: Liberty, Mrs. Williams; Excelsior, Mr. Burton; Deacon, Mr. Miller; Shore, Miss Westbrock; Fountain, Mrs. Ruddock. Musical Conductor, Mrs. Dodsworth; Pianist, Miss Cannon; Assistant, Miss E. Hickman; Auditors, Mr. Harrison and Mr. Brown.—S. Williams, Sec.

ST. ANNES-ON-SEA.—October 3rd, a very pretty ceremony took place. The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Crabtree was named by Miss Beckett, of Preston. The name of Eric was given, spirit name "Victory." Great interest was taken in the ceremony which was the first to be held in St. Anne's Lyceum. The number of friends who witnessed the event were impressed by the beautiful ceremony.—L. M. Evans, Sec.

TORONTO, Progressive.—We held a social evening on Saturday, October 2nd. A splendid programme was given by Mrs. Byrd, Mr. and Mrs. Fraiser, Mrs. Mandbridge, and Mrs. Downez. Refreshments were served and followed by dancing. A most enjoyable evening was spent.—E. Richardson, Sec.

WEST PELTON.—An Open Session was held on October 3rd and many Lyceumists took part to make a very enjoyable session. Miss Gray conducted Mr. Greenwell was the organist.—A. Dryden, Sec.

WHITLEY BAY.—On October 3rd we held our Open Session. Mrs. Pickles (Blackpool) addressed the meeting. Pearls and recitations were given by Lyceumists. A most enjoyable afternoon was spent.—(Mrs.) M. Hall, Sec.

WINNIPEG, Princess Street.—We held our Open Session on October 3rd. Recitations and pearls were said by Mrs. Burley, Grace White, Molly Pilkington, Mr. Walker, Paul Beicher, Mr. Pearson; Dolly Sutherland sang a beautiful song; Grace White and Molly Pilkington sang solos; Ivy Vernon, Alice Pilkington and Nora Vernon sang a trio. There was not as many present as we would have liked, so we are looking forward for a good attendance in the near future.—Mrs. M. Armitt, Sec.