

THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 437. Vol. XXXVII.

JULY, 1927.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

Presidential Address.



Read by Miss E. ELLIOTT, of Manchester, at the 38TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, in the Mechanics' Hall, Nottingham, on June 4th and 5th, 1927.

Fellow Lyceumists,

It must be very gratifying to everyone here assembled to know that we are meeting in the City wherein the first Lyceum in England was started, in 1866, 61 years ago; although it was only short-lived, we are proud to-day to find we have 289 Lyceums affiliated to the B.S.L.U., comprising a membership of nearly 17,000, which is the outcome of a steady progress, born of patience and persistency that speaks of strength and endurance.

The Civic Welcomes that have been accorded to us at the two previous Conferences proved a delight and stimulus to all, and the fact that we have again been welcomed into this City by the Civic Authorities, proves that the barriers of prejudice and intolerance are gradually being broken down, when they realise that amongst Lyceumists and Spiritualists there are to be found loyal, peaceful citizens, who are seeking to practice their religion in the same manner as other religions, who are accorded "Liberty and Freedom."

In reviewing the work of the Union during the past twelve months, it has been a very strenuous time, in view of the industrial conditions that have prevailed, but steady progress has been maintained throughout. This year the Conference meets to decide upon the revision of the Constitution. This will require careful thought and consideration, and we would advise delegates, when discussing amendments, etc., not to lose sight of the principles involved. Let us keep before us the policy of "constructiveness" rather than "destructiveness," so that there will issue a Constitution and Bye-laws that will be in conformity with the principles for which we stand "JUSTICE, TRUTH and RIGHT."

Ainsworth Trust.

It was in 1899 that Mr. J. Ainsworth first suggested to the Lyceum Union the founding of a "Home of Rest" for sick Lyceumists, but owing to the unsatisfactory conditions attached to the offer, the E.C. decided not to accept it. The offer was repeated several times, but it was not until after the demise of

Mr. Ainsworth, in 1906, that Mr. Venables reported £500 had been bequeathed to the Union, to aid in establishing a "Home of Rest." Since then, however, much time and money has been spent in trying to obtain the legacy, owing to it having been contested. Having passed into the Charity Commissioners' control, we have to fulfil the conditions attached to the bequest. Since 1917 the legal disabilities which obtained have been eliminated, through our affiliation to the S.N.U. Other difficulties have been presented that have delayed the Trustees from claiming the £500. And now, after 21 years of legal juggling, the Ainsworth Trust is beginning to materialise, by our ability to use the interest accruing from the capital in furthering the object for which it was intended. The Home of Rest Fund, which was started in conjunction with the above, seems to have been lost sight of, by the fact that less than £1 has been contributed during the last 16 years. Let me then appeal for your loyal and sympathetic support of this fund, to enable the Trustees to administer the scheme to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Education.

The Education Committee are still going strong, and our thanks are due to the untiring efforts of the Secretary, Miss M. E. Kitson, B.A., and the Assistant Secretary, Mr. A. T. Connor, for their wholeheartedness in this branch of the Union's activities. I feel sure that we cannot do better, in shewing our appreciation, than by increasing our interest in the Education Scheme, until we can truly say every Lyceumist who is eligible has taken up the scheme.

The Joint Education Scheme, too, I believe, will prove a great asset to both Unions, and here lies the link that will ultimately be the unifying force of both the B.S.L.U. and the S.N.U., Ltd., that can only be successful through natural growth. The National Spiritualist College is now a real live factor, and we heartily congratulate the Secretary upon the first year of its activities which augurs well for its future success.

The Rota Scheme.

Last year it was decided to adopt the Rota Scheme, so that the quarterly business meetings of the Union could be arranged well in advance. This was brought into operation in April, and, judging from the support given, we feel certain of the success that will attend the Scheme in the future. To those D.Cs. who have so readily fallen into line with the scheme we tender our wholehearted thanks in making the way easier for conducting the business of the Union, and so helping to remove the difficulties that have confronted the General Secretary in arranging these meetings. We trust that all D.Cs. will support the scheme as their turn comes along. Remember the Union is yours, and its responsibilities must be jointly shared.

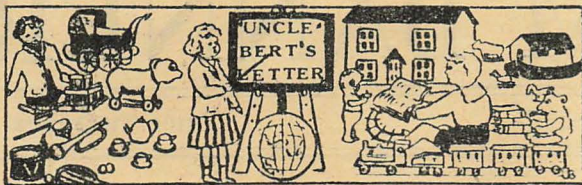
The Triennial Congress of the International Spiritualist Federation will be held in England during September, 1928, when, for the first time in the history of the Movement it is proposed that the B.S.L.U. will conduct a National Open Session, with the object of giving a practical demonstration of our methods of training our children in our Sunday Schools, according to our system of education. We trust that it will prove worthy of the Movement and add lustre to the remaining sessions of the Congress. We solicit the co-operation of all Lyceumists in this venture, and we feel sure its success is assured.

Inter-relations.

The Inter-relations Agreement, as adopted by the B.S.L.U. and the S.N.U. last year, does not seem to have been thoroughly grasped by Churches and Lyceums. We strongly appeal to both sides to be more observant towards this agreement, so that "harmony" and not "discord" shall prevail.

The Union's activities have been removed to a more commodious office, and the facilities under which the General Secretary and his clerk are now working are more congenial than hitherto. I believe it is a move in the right direction, for each year opens up fresh fields of labour, and as the activities

(Continued on page 120).



My Dear Boys and Girls,

I do not suppose any one of you will need reminding that this is the last month at school, before the Summer Holidays start.

What a great time you will all have then, one whole month's freedom, which you can call your own.

I hope you will all endeavour to take full advantage of it, getting as much fresh air and sunshine as you can. Some of you will be going away with your mothers and fathers to the seaside or country; some of you to camp; others will find enjoyment near their homes, but wherever you go, you must all set yourselves an ideal, and the best one I know is to "Seek Happiness."

The first place to find happiness is within your own lives. If you are happy yourselves, you cannot fail to make others happy, therefore you can spend this last month at school, preparing plans and ideas for next month's holidays, and I will not give you the cane.

One good idea would be to make up your mind that you will not get out of bed at the wrong side for the whole month. You all know what that means without me explaining it. Another would be to lend a hand every day to someone.

Now just prepare your own plans, practice them every day this month, then you should all be certain to have a right good time.

As each month goes by (the months having now run into years) when I sit down to write my letter to you, I have to put my thinking-cap on, and ask myself what lesson shall I give you this month.

Of course, you've all heard the story of the dirty window, but as you cannot see through it, I will not say any more about that.

Then there is the story of the bell, but as that has been told (toll) that is not much help.

Then there is the Scotchman who lent the Jew a five pound note. No one seems to think it is true, so that will not do. I must chance getting a splinter in my finger and scratch my head for something else.

What do you say if this month we try and find a few lessons from "Links and Chains."

I do not mean Golf Links, but even these provide us with a good lesson. You hit a ball, then walk after it and hit it further. This is Progress in the finest sense of the word, for there are heaps of boys and girls, men and women, who start a work, but never follow it up to the winning post like the golfer has to do.

The links I am thinking of are those which by being united together form chains.

There is the watch chain; the one I am wearing has nearly fifty links in it. Each tiny link has its own work; that is, to hold those in unity next to it, and the whole form a chain of protection.

Then there is the bicycle chain, a much stronger chain, but its formation is the same. This is a Chain of Progress. You all know once the chain slips off your bicycle, you have to come to a standstill.

There are also those heavier chains we see attached to cranes on big buildings or in shipyards. Also the coupling chains between railway waggons, etc. In every case, whether large or small, heavy or light, every chain is dependent upon each separate link for its strength and usefulness.

In big works, where heavy chains are used, you will find one man's duty is to examine these links daily, for if one was to break, it might mean many lives being lost, and much damage being caused to the machinery.

Although we sometimes read of an accident caused through the breaking of a chain, what it really amounts to is that one or more links have broken.

I think that will convey to you the importance of each link in the chain being fitted to play its part in unity with the rest, while the whole chain gives us the well-known motto "Unity is strength."

Let us now look at three chains in our Lyceum Session.

These I will call "The Chain of Friendship," "The Chain of Service," and "The Chain of Progress."

The Chain of Friendship is one of the most happy chains we have in the movement; nearly every session we attend we see and hear one of its links. "I bring you the fraternal greetings of the — Lyceum." At once such a link is added to the chain of Love, Comradeship, or as I have chosen to call it Friendship. This link is also seen in our individual lives by the number of friends we make, from some of whom time and distance appear to divide us. But this is not so, for if a friendship is founded on love it cannot be broken. Even discord seldom breaks a link once formed, it only cracks it, and is often rewelded. And so this ever widening chain of Friendship goes on day by day throughout our whole life.

Think for a moment, boys and girls, how many friends you have had, and some of whom you have no idea where they live now. How can these be links in the chain?

They are still links because from time to time you send a loving thought out to them, and they in turn return it.

I think this is a beautiful thought for every Lyceumist to think over.

The Chain of Service. This I need not spend much time to explain. Every Lyceumist attending a Session is a link of that Session. It is by each link realising that they must do their part, whether by taking part in the various readings, by individual effort or by holding office.

If there is a cracked or broken link, that is to say any one, who is not willing to do their little part, the whole session suffers, therefore test yourselves, ask yourselves, "Am I a true and useful link in my Lyceum?"

If you find, as some of you may do, there is a little crack somewhere, then get rewelded into a full chain of service and usefulness.

"The Chain of Progress," here I am going to give you two beautiful quotations which were expressed at the Nottingham Conference.

Miss Elliott, our President, referred to children as being "Buds of promise," while Mr. Kitson referred to himself as being "A young man in an old body." I cannot do justice in the remaining space I have to these thoughts.

Boys and girls, you are the Buds of Promise, and once Mr. Kitson was but a Bud of Promise, but by endeavouring to live out the teachings of the Lyceum Movement in his daily life, he has progressed as the rose does into a beautiful flower of love. Although age makes its mark year by year, yet within the flower is the beautiful picture of Progress, a copy for you boys and girls to follow.

You can all become Alfred Kitsons if you will, and when you become aged men and women look back and say, "How beautiful the Chains of Service, Friendship and Progress have been."

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLES.

No. 63. Price (Middx.), Brown (Hamp.), Bridges (Soms.), Blunt (N.Z.), Fender (Surrey), Staples (Notts.)

No. 64.
$$\begin{array}{r} 231 \\ 123 \\ \hline 312 \end{array}$$
 Total 6.

No. 65. (1) When the threepenny bit.
(2) Tiger-Lily. Dandy-Lion.
(3) The Door bell.

Answers received from:—

Hilda Unsworth, Bolton; Nellie Dean, Bury; Doris Riley, Sowerby Bridge; Gladys Bayliffe, Ivy Whitehead, Newton Heath.

THIS MONTH'S PUZZLES.

No. 66. (1) What is most like a lady?
(2) What four letters mean "Peep-bo."
(3) Why is the letter T like an island?

No. 67. A Contundrum.
My first is a carriage, my second shows decay,
My whole is a vegetable.

No. 68. Fill in the missing Nursery Rhyme words.
Little Miss — and little boy —, With Jackie —, and Tom — too, Went to C —, And said Jack to — Had stole a crooked — From Mother — till.

Greetings to all.

Yours loving friend,

2, Villiers Rd.,
Osterley, Middlesex.

UNCLE BERT.

Education Department.

THE NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST COLLEGE.

(Under the auspices of the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U.)

ASSOCIATE SECTION (B.S.L.U.)

of the

NATIONAL JOINT EDUCATION SCHEME.

CONCERNING CONFERENCE.

Conference adopted the Report of the Education Committee (as printed in the May LYCEUM BANNER) and re-elected the Committee *en bloc*.

At a meeting of the Committee held immediately after Conference the Officers and Sub-Committee were also re-elected; and the work for the new session was approved.

FURTHER EXAMINATION RESULTS.

The papers from Wellington, N.Z., did not arrive till too late for the results to be included in the RESULTS BOOK. We have pleasure in giving it now, and heartily congratulate our overseas comrades on the good results, and wish them every success in next year's exams.

WELLINGTON (New Zealand).

GRADE II.

Name.	Marks.	Class.
Frank Iveson Easton ...	95	Distinction.
Lena Webb ...	95	Distinction.
Gladys Webb ...	95	Distinction.
Mrs. Elizabeth Webb ...	93	Distinction.
Harry Barton ...	64	Second.
Isis Flora Ruddell ...	63	Second.
Esma Harper Ruddell ...	57	Second.
Eric Moat Ruddell ...	53	Third.
Elva Lillian Harris ...	41	Third.

GRADE I.

Robert Jardine Ross ...	92	Distinction.
Dorothy Nixon ...	52	Third.
Winston C. Wahren ...	51	Third.

AMENDED RESULTS (from printed lists).

Henry Abbott (West Pelfon) ...	V.	72	First
J. M. Stewart (Croydon) ...	III.	95	Dist.
Augusta O. Stewart (Croydon) ...	III.	54	Third

NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST COLLEGE.

The Conference has adopted the College Report and thus endorsed the College Board's nominations for the Degree of Fellow. It now remains for the S.N.U. A.G.M. to adopt the report, after which the new Fellows will receive their Diplomas. Conference also adopted the Board's suggestion that the Governing Board should be granted discretion with regard to the eligibility of Local Branches, and voted a donation of ten pounds to the College funds.

AN IMPORTANT INTERPRETATION.

The discretion granted to the Governing Board was put into concrete form at a meeting of the Emergency Committee held at Huddersfield on 9th June, when it was decided that "When ten or more candidates have been entered for an examination, and less than ten are able to sit, the Emergency Committee, if satisfied with the reasons given on behalf of the absentees, may consider that the Church or Lyceum concerned has fulfilled the conditions of Article 5 (a) of the College Constitution and is eligible for membership as a Local Branch." A list of those eligible under the above interpretation appears below, and it is hoped they will take full advantage of the decision. (The number in parenthesis gives the number of candidates entered.)

NEW ENROLMENTS.

Enrolments for 1927-1928 have already commenced, and the following Lyceums have been registered as Local Branches:—Halifax (Alma Street), Blyth and Hackney. The following Associates, also, have applied for and been awarded their Diplomas as A.N.S.C.:—A. Jones (Caerau), L. Shipley (Nottingham), A. Collinge (Manchester), B. Hardwick (Jarrow), W. Ball (Belper), Elsie Barker (Hull) and A. Bruce (Rotherham). The Board hopes that all Lyceums and Lyceumists

eligible for enrolment will make early application, and that all Associates will use their Degree in their official Spiritualist work.

As soon as possible after the S.N.U. A.G.M. the Local Branches Constitution, published in last month's BANNER, will, together with the College Constitution, Interpretations and other helpful matter, be issued as a "College Booklet," and it is hoped that all Lyceums interested in educational work will use the information supplied for the mutual benefit of their members and the Movement. As will be seen, a Lyceum need not wait to begin Local Branch work until it has become a Local Branch. It can carry on with a Special Education Committee.

LYCEUMS ELIGIBLE AS LOCAL BRANCHES.

(Having 10 or more entrants for exams.)

<i>Birmingham D.C.</i>	<i>North-East Lancashire D.C.</i>
Handsworth (10).	Burnley, Hammerton Street (10).
Wolverhampton (10).	
<i>Bolton D.C.</i>	Colne (11).
Bolton, Bradford Street (16).	Fleetwood (26).
<i>Bradford D.C.</i>	Barrow, Dalkeith Street (12).
Laisterdyke (11).	Lancaster (11).
<i>Coventry D.C.</i>	<i>Nottingham D.C.</i>
Coventry, Broadgate (12).	Belper (15).
<i>Halifax & Huddersfield D.C.</i>	Hucknall (17).
Brighouse, Commercial St. (24).	Lincoln, Midland (14).
Halifax, Alma Street (15).	Long Eaton (13).
Quarmby (10).	Nottingham, Mechanics' (13).
<i>Leeds D.C.</i>	Nottingham, Beaconsfield Street (10).
Castleford (42).	<i>Sheffield D.C.</i>
Hull, Dairycoates (12).	Rotherham (23).
Leeds, Armley (10).	Scunthorpe (14).
<i>Liverpool D.C.</i>	Darnall (19).
Liverpool, Daulby Hall (19).	<i>Southern Counties D.C.</i>
Southport (12).	Exmouth, Hulham House (11).
Wigan (15).	Portsmouth, Temple (31).
<i>London D.C.</i>	Southampton (25).
Brixton (16).	<i>South-East Lancashire D.C.</i>
Clapham (14).	Rochdale, Regent Hall (11).
Fulham (24).	Todrorden (13).
Forest Hill (31).	<i>South Wales D.C.</i>
Hackney (23).	Caerau (17).
Hampton Hill (14).	<i>Tees-side D.C.</i>
Lewisham (16).	Middlesbrough (19).
North London (14).	<i>Tyneside D.C.</i>
Tottenham (32).	Blyth (15).
Stratford (12).	Gateshead, Beaconsfield (14).
Southend and Westcliff (34).	Hirst (12).
Croydon (21).	Jarrow (11).
<i>Manchester D.C.</i>	Heaton and Byker (25).
Progressive (13).	South Shields, Fowler Street (24).
Moston (13).	Whitley Bay (10).
Newton Heath (24).	<i>Overseas D.C.</i>
Salford (11).	Wellington, New Zealand (14).
South Manchester (39).	
Stretford (21).	

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHEME.

For information about the ASSOCIATE SECTION (i.e., Oral Grade to Grade V.) apply to the Hon. Education Secretary (B.S.L.U.):—

Miss M. E. KITSON, B.A.,
37, South Street,
Savile Town,
Dewsbury (Yorks.)

For information about the NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST COLLEGE apply to the College Secretary and Secretary of the Joint Education Committee:—

Mr. A. T. CONNOR,
19, Oakhurst Road,
Forest Gate,
London, E.7.

For information about the GRADUATE SECTION (i.e., the Advanced Courses) apply to:—

Mr. T. OLIVER,
S.N.U. Education Secretary,
272, Edmund Road,
Sheffield.



Hello Kiddies!

Here we are once again. Some of you were very fortunate in choosing the month of June for your holidays. What a glorious time you must have had, romping about on the sands and on the seashore, enjoying the brilliant sunshine, and breathing in the healthy sea air. This month, children, our little chat must be cut short owing to lack of space, so I want you to write and send along to me a story to fit in with the pictures below. I know that many of you are good story-writers and will easily make a short fairy story. FOUR PRIZES will be given to the four Guildites who send in the best stories. Age limit will be 12 years. Now, both pictures represent one story and you are expected to write from 50 to 100 words. Send to address given below. Here are the pictures, so get to work right away.

BEST STORY COMPETITION.



This represents a little girl meeting a bunny rabbit in a wood. She makes friends with it, the bunny being quite tame.



THE PRINCESS FREE; THE RABBIT
MURIEL J. [unclear]

This is a picture of a Princess meeting the rabbit, which has been trapped in the wood. Now make up your story from this, kiddies, and try to win one of these splendid prizes. Toby books also will be sent to all who send in efforts.

MAY COMPETITION.

This competition was very disappointing to me. No doubt many of our Guildites found the jig-saw puzzle very puzzling indeed (it was rather tricky, I admit, but forgive me, kiddies). However, the three (3) Guildites who each made a good

attempt to discover the solution have been awarded mystery prizes, and I'm sure they are delighted with them. Their names are Zillah and Elsie Burrows (Halifax), and Ingham Whitehead (Newton Heath). I congratulate each of them; they did splendidly.

HOBBIES.

Letters have been received from Mary A. Williams (London), and James Le Noury (Sheffield), concerning their chief hobbies and advice is being given by correspondence. Other enquirers should send to the Guild Imp, 8, Tudor Road, St. Annes-on-Sea, enclosing stamped envelope. It is hoped the ultimate result will be the forming of Hobbies Classes in our Guild Classes in the near future, so Guildites send along for advice on the hobbies in which you are most interested, and if I cannot help you, I am sure I can find someone who will. So look up your *Guild Aims and Rules* and choose now the hobby you fancy.

TOYS TO MAKE.

In the August issue young Guildites will have an opportunity of making for themselves a useful toy at very little cost. A diagram and instructions for making this toy will be given. So, little ones, look out for next month's *Banner* and our *Kiddies' Corner*.

CAUGHT OUT.

In the meantime, kiddies, just have a try at this little "catch." I know most of you like to work out a little puzzle. Well, here it is: Without consulting a calendar, can you tell the day of the week upon which any date in 1927 falls? It is quite simple, all you want to know are the month numbers, which are as follows this year:—January 6th, February 2nd, March 2nd, April 5th, May 0 (no number), June 3rd, July 5th, August 1st, September 4th, October 6th, November 2nd, and December 4th. Ask someone to give you a date in any month of this year, add to it the month figure, as given above, then divide the result by seven (7). The remainder, after dividing, will give you the day upon which the date occurs, thus if one is left over after dividing, it means Sunday, and so on; if seven, then Saturday is indicated. Here is an example for you to follow:—Date given to me is April 17th, I add to it the April number, 5, that makes it 22. This, divided by 7, we find it goes three times, leaving one (1) over, so April 17th is on a Sunday. Hurry up, kiddies, get your calendars and try this "catch" on your friends.

TOBY BOOKS.

There are many Guildites who have not yet received a copy of "Toby." Now this children's magazine is a most interesting book, both for young and old Guildites, and copies have been sent specially for YOU by the proprietors of this book. Every one is singing its praises, so don't be backward. Send along your name and address, together with one penny stamp (1d.), which is cost of postage, to address below.

In conclusion, I wish to thank those who have sent such nice letters during the past month. All have now been replied to, and dear me, what a busy time I have had! Now, so long, kiddies, and DON'T FORGET the Competition. Let's make it a real bumper.

Yours lovingly,

THE GUILD IMP.

8, Tudor Road,
St. Anne's-on-Sea.

Our Lyceum Guild.

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

OUR GUILD CLASSES.

During the summer months, most of the Guild Classes make rambles, visits to local places of interest, and visits to other Lyceums their chief week-end features, and, during the week, the members go to the swimming baths, on cycling trips, or play cricket or tennis.

Then, for the season of long evenings and winter months, there is an entire change of programme. Reports from various centres, for several years, give interesting accounts of week done, and perhaps a *resumé* of their activities will give ideas to our Leaders of new classes, and suggest ways and means of making GUILD NIGHT pleasant, interesting and profitable.

Most classes vary their programme from week to week. Some have two, and take them on alternate nights. But, whatever the plan adopted, each night's programme should include: singing, physical exercises, study, hobbies and recreation.

Singing. Lyceum songs, and occasionally a new one from the *Spiritual Songster*. Community singing of folk songs, etc. Solos and duets by members.

Physical Exercises. Callisthenics (including new drills from the Second and Third Series—one or more new exercises per evening). Ordinary drill exercise. Indian clubs, marching.

Study. Small groups or full class, as desired. Reading and discussion of some book* (*not* fiction) of interest—from the library or loaned by a member. Reading of papers by members. Short lectures by members, or speaker, etc.

Till mid-February, study of the Handbooks and Manual for the B.S.L.U. Education Examinations.

[*Excellent books are those set for the Advanced Grades (list free on application), being of general interest and giving a good all-round knowledge of Spiritualism as "a science, a philosophy and a religion"; irrespective of specific study for exams.—M.K.]

Discussion of *Manual* selections, and members' difficulties in Lyceum Session or private reading and study.

Hobbies. By members individually or in groups.

At some classes members provide their own tools and materials. At others they are bought out of Lyceum funds; and articles made are sold at the Lyceum Bazaar or Sale of Work.

The hobbies taken up include drawing, painting, plasticene modelling, fretwork, knitting, sewing, crocheting, embroidery, canvas-work, rug-making, basketry, leather-work, shorthand, Esperanto, first-aid, sick-nursing, photography.

Recreation. Story-reading or story-telling, music, recitations, dancing, games.

(Games can be "quiet ones," e.g., dominoes, draughts, chess, cards, snakes and ladders, ludo, tiddley-winks, etc.; also active ones, such as ring games, hunt the slipper, a-hunting-we-will-go, team racing, etc. The children will readily suggest many and varied games learned at school).

Miscellaneous. Learning of plays, operettas, dialogues, etc., for Lyceum concerts and other efforts to raise funds.

GUILD BADGES.

(a) *Promotion Badges.* Will those of our members who were successful in last February's examinations and have not yet sent for their new badges, please apply early for them. (For full particulars, and how to apply, please refer to the GUILD PAGE in last month's issue.)

(b) *Merit Badges.* Our Essay Competitions, to win merit badges, are held annually, and next month we shall announce the subjects set for the essays. Each competitor can WIN, for a merit badge is awarded for each essay scoring 85% or more marks. We hope for a record entry this time.

THE GUILD LEADER—Miss M. E. KITSON, B.A.,
37, South Street,

Savile Town,
Dewsbury (Yorks.)

Essays from Derby Lyceum.

JESUS OF NAZARETH.

Jesus came to this earth as an example to all of us. We do not look on him as a Saviour, but as an elder brother. No one can save us; we have to work out our own salvation. If we do not do it while on earth we have to do it in the Summerland. If we followed in Jesus' footsteps we should lead a very good life.

V. CARTER, Aged 12.

MEDIUMS.

A Medium is a person who is a messenger for the Spirit people. They let the Spirit people influence them and give messages to their friends on earth. They also develop their sight to see their loved ones, to let the people on earth know that their loved ones live, and watch over them.

AUDREY RANDLE, aged 12.

Correspondence.

GREETINGS FROM NOTTINGHAM.

Dear Mr. Knott,

I am feeling my most sincere thanks are due to all those many delegates who manifested such warm appreciation of the fact of my being the only member left in the physical body who helped, if only in a very small way, to start England's first Lyceum in Nottingham during 1866. I am also deeply pleased that I was able to present the B.S.L.U. with such a life-like portrait of my father-in-law, Mr. Jeddiah Hitchcock. I had no idea a photo of him existed, until a year or more ago, when a very old friend of his, knowing I was related, very generously offered it for my acceptance.

I regret so many delegates had to leave without having the opportunity of more closely inspecting the very striking likeness of the "Father of England's First Lyceum."

And, here, let me pay my tribute to dear Alfred Kitson for his many years unceasing labour in unfolding the principles of the "Lyceum Plan," which has reached such widespread appreciation.

I hope all delegates who attended the 38th Conference of the B.S.L.U. in the "home" of the Lyceum movement will long retain pleasant memories of their visit.

Names of those who took part in forming England's First Lyceum at the old Mansion House, Robin Hood's Chase, Nottingham, 1866:—

Mr. Jeddiah Hitchcock and Mrs. Mary Hitchcock, Mr. J. Hopewell, Mr. J. B. Herrod, Mr. Storer, Mr. and Mrs. Morton, Mr. Bilson, Mr. T. Stretton, Mr. J. J. Ashworth, Mr. Higginbottom, Miss E. Hitchcock, Miss Gamble, Miss Hefford and Miss Hallam.

With all good wishes,

Yours fraternally,

J. J. ASHWORTH.

LYCEUM IRREGULARITIES.

To the Editor,

SIR,—I am not a District Visitor, but pay occasional visits to local Lyceums, and feel that much might be done to make these wonderful schools just what they were originally intended to be, and what, at one time, they were; institutions without a peer. Unfortunately, that cannot be said to-day of many of them. Last Sunday I went to one near the river Tyne, and found conditions far from commendable. I reached the precincts of the Hall by 2-26, and read on the Board that the Lyceum opened at 2-30, but at 3-10 a start had not been made, though close on thirty children had then assembled. At that hour I came away, disappointed and sorry, and found that late openings were regarded as expected, for, a few yards from the place I met four mites, and one remarked as they passed, "Hurry up, we'll be late." "No fear," came the answer, "they'll not be started yet." Two youths enjoyed a "fag" inside the building, a proceeding altogether outside the ideals of our beloved Founder, destroying as it did all sense of reverence, and likelihood of discipline. I trust that these lines meet the eyes of those referred to, and recollection identify them.

This Lyceum does not stand alone so far as conditions and practices at variance with successful work is concerned, but perhaps a change will be effected from thence forward, in case someone less considerate than the present writer criticises more harshly, and without withholding the name of the Lyceums in question.

Yours fraternally,

AN OLD LYCEUMIST.

YOUTH.

The vision of a larger power sustains the dream of youth. Personal and passionate it may be; but no good intention can harm the loom of destiny. Whatever is harmful in action must be produced by some strong influence which becomes associated with the youthful mind from the growing contact with older people. It is therefore wise to surround young people with harmless amusements and pure thoughts.

The Lyceum Banner is issued to help the Lyceums and provide a definite link between all Lyceumists everywhere. A Lyceumist without a *Banner* is like a frame without a picture.

THE LYCEUM BANNER:

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

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

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JULY, 1927.

The Golden Chain.

One of the outstanding features of Lyceum work is the perennial application of the virtues expressed in the Golden Chain Recitations. Every time they are read some new feature can be found to illustrate the accomplishment of the beatitudes.

The plastic power of virtue is always present and infuses its influence in all objective sentient life. Anything worth the making increases its value as an objective creation when noble desires enter into the production.

Competitive desire has little ambitions which pale into insignificance when compared with the powerful results of united endeavours.

One man may compete with his fellows and become a favourite preacher, but the people who build the church are the members who gather together and provide the place in which the preacher can outline his discourse.

It sometimes happens that the preacher gathers around him sufficient followers to provide a church. Another method is produced when the members feel the desire to build the church and then look round for the leader, either from among themselves or from outsiders.

The full value of a church, or a congregation of people for any other purpose, comes into being when the leader and the members can blend their efforts and produce a commonweal. Economic adjustments become a secondary matter when the object is unified in a common desire.

The development of the physical, intellectual, moral and spiritual natures of men is a social duty which cannot be worked by a competitive system. The display of the best traits of human nature need time and experience to prove their worth. The quietest natures are often the deepest thinkers and, with encouragement and the proper environment, may become the inspiration to guide more active minds to the production of things required for spiritual needs. Spiritual growth and emancipation are the immediate ultimates of human efforts, despite the false conception for the accumulation of worldly effects as a type of personal greatness. Cardinal Wolsey lost his personal greatness because he had worshipped his king instead of his God.

The religious influence should be the chief power behind commerce and economics, but we find the opposite method has been applied, especially when men falsely say "God has called them to a new church," when the purpose of removal is really a higher stipend. It is nice to read of the men who are above price and accept their spiritual changes with a view to serving God and humanity in a new sphere, without consideration of a rise or fall in the salary.

The right to education and culture is an acknowledged right. The best results will come to the Lyceums and Churches where the leaders and members are joined in the common task of unbounded enquiries into the phases of all conditions, ranging from the material to the esoteric as the gateway to spiritual genius.

With this method in operation we can pass beyond hedonism to the altruistic plane and circle round the transcendental theories in our search for truth.

The glimpses we get of the harmonies of life through poetry, music, and the other exalted arts will infuse the love of philosophy, imagination and dreams from which spring an idealism that will have its effect on conduct.

Those who merge to these conditions will, at first, be small in number, and the joyous permeation of their example will bear fruit in the minds of others in due season.

Many Spiritualists wonder why we do not get more exalted expressions from spirit people about the exaltations of pure spirituality. The majority of spirits who come to us in our circles are earthbound and mentally interested in the old physical associations. We attract and support the maintenance of this attitude in our constant demands for tests of identity which links the spirits with earthly memories. Thus there are but few mortals whose chief desire is to transcend the physical conditions and draw down the exalted wisdom of spirits with clearer vision and high motives.

Another barrier is that we demand words rather than sensations; objective evidences as more important than intellectual concepts.

The purer and more enlightened spirits merge into the higher planes as the earth-ties cease to hold them with us. Their mortal friends transcend into the spiritual condition and the longing for earth's association ceases.

It is only the missionary spirits who descend from their congenial spheres and make the sacrifices to merge their inspiration with the few earth minds that can release themselves from the bonds of physical conditions. Though there be but few who experience the actual contact with the higher spiritual beings, it is the common lot of all, both mortal and spirit, to feel the religious joy of emotions that bring within our sensations the spiritual virtues which are impersonal and yet may become characteristics of all.

Beauty, goodness, truth and love are divine forces which express their power in grace, charm, understanding and harmony. So may we all be happy in divine wisdom and personify the virtues in ourselves.

The golden chain of fraternal love links persons in unified expression. The objective separateness of each link remains, but the combination reaches farther, becomes greater and displays more utility. With the happy band of concord and the linked experiences and associations which couples us all with the beings in the post-mortem states we have a chain which we can climb and, mounting into the experiences of eternity, we enjoy the spiritual sojourn.

The surroundings in the Lyceum may give each member some inspired exaltation which may not raise him to the full sense of "Glory to God in the highest," but will certainly provide a link with other people to whom he has not previously been quite so near, and bind him to undiscovered joys which in themselves are sufficient stimuli to remain within the golden chain of spirit lore.

Holy truth, eternal right,
Let them break upon my sight;
Let them shine serene and still;
And with light my being fill.

G. F. KNOTT.

The Rugby Spiritualist Church have opened a Lyceum with Mr. C. Brierley as Conductor, and Miss K. Farrer as the Secretary. We shall be glad to hear of any Lyceumists passing through Rugby who can give the Lyceum a visit to support their efforts and encourage the children.

THE B.S.L.U. CONFERENCE PICNIC.

A most enjoyable picnic was held on the Monday after the Conference, and the amateur photographers were very busy. There was a proposal that a group photo should be sold and the proceeds devoted to the £2000 Effort. The enlargements from the one-eighth plate negative cost 5½d. each, so that the idea has not gone beyond the production of one dozen prints. These can be obtained at 7d. post free, until the dozen are cleared. The photographs can be produced in bulk at a cheaper rate, but unless orders can be guaranteed for a large quantity the idea will not be extended.

THE B.S.L.U. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

President: Miss E. Elliott, 91, Morton Street, Middleton, nr. Manchester.
 Vice-President: Mr. G. A. Mack, "The Orchid," Norman Road, Runcorn, Cheshire.
 Treasurer: Mr. C. J. Williams, 108, London Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex.
 General Secretary: Mr. G. F. Knott, 20, Toad Lane, Rochdale, Lancs.
 B.S.L.U. Adviser: Mr. A. Kitson, 37, South Street, Savile Town, Dewsbury, Yorks.

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A. Miss H. Cleland, 5 Napiershall Street, Glasgow.
 B. Mr. J. Slimin, 32, Cooper Street, Roker, Sunderland.
 C. Mr. J. F. Smith, 174, Worthing Road, Sheffield.
 D. Mr. W. Burrows, 29, Kliffen Place, Coronation Road, Halifax.
 E. Mrs. L. Nurse, 33, London Road, Newton Drive, Blackpool.
 F. Mr. J. E. Hart, 47, Fairlawn St., Moss Side, Manchester.
 G. Miss V. G. Rayner, 112, Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham.
 H. Mr. E. G. Cox, 138, Kirkwood Road, Peckham, London, S.E.15.

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Mr. Alfred Kitson, 37, South Street, Savile Town, Dewsbury, Yorks.
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 Mr. Rueben Latham, 178, Colne Road, Burnley.
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 Mr. Will Edwards, 67, Havelock Street, Oswaldtwistle, nr. Accrington.
 Mr. J. Shuttleworth, 8, Shaftesbury Avenue, Darwen.

£2,000 EFFORT REPORT.

Dear Lyceumists everywhere,

Now that Conference is over I am hoping that Lyceumists all over the United Kingdom and the Colonies will get *really* busy and try make up the leeway we lost last year. This month the donations are larger than usual, and I hope they will be maintained and made still larger. They are as follows:—A further donation from Mrs. Raymond of 15/6, which she has obtained by the use of the collecting cards. Accrington, Pearl Street Founder's Day Collection, 3/0½d.; R.R., 1/-; E.B., 1d.; Peckham Lyceum, 504 farthings (10/6); and from delegates assembled at Wollaton Hall on the Monday after Conference, £1 5s. 3d. A total for this month of £2 15s. 4½d.

To all these people I offer the Union's sincere and grateful thanks for their remembrance, with a hope for further donations to come. In these donations everyone shows how (if only by the suggestions thrown out from time to time in this report) the fund could be quickly realised. In Mrs. Raymond's case it is the collecting cards. R.R.'s by the shilling suggestion. E.B. is by the little ones' pennies. Peckham donation is by the farthings, and the delegates' donation is by collection at a party. Now note each of these is an individual effort. How much more good could be done by collective effort? I have outlined many ideas and schemes for the obtaining of the sum needed, but it requires individual and collective effort to get things moving. I know there are many individuals who are sympathetic towards the fund, but there are far too many who are apathetic. Now please do let us put our backs into the work (WE ALL are pledged to help) and the result will not be long in accruing. Best wishes to all Lyceumists everywhere.

Yours fraternally,

W. BURROWS.

29, Kliffen Place,
 Coronation Road, Halifax.

Hon. Sec., £2,000 Effort.

The B.S.L.U. Conference at Nottingham.

EVENING PROPAGANDA MEETING.

Miss Elliott, President of the Union, presided at the evening propaganda meeting.

Mrs. Nurse, of Blackpool, pronounced the invocation.

In her opening remarks, Miss Elliott expressed her pleasure in being in Nottingham during the week-end, and she felt sure she was expressing the sentiment of all present.

She said: If we introduce Spiritualism into everyday life it will follow that men and women will be upright in all their

dealings. Spiritualism will help them to deal rightly in all that concerns the welfare of humanity.

Miss Elliott stated that she was aware of the numerous old Lyceumists and Spiritualists, who, although in spirit, were present at the meeting. She wished to thank these spirit people for the help they had given to her.

There was a change in the personnel of the Management Committee. Mrs. Tims was leaving, and Mr. Cox was taking her place.

As the retiring member from the M.C., Mrs. Tims was asked to address the meeting.

She told how she first entered Spiritualism, 20 years ago. The speaker at her first meeting said he had been a Spiritualist for 20 years and it had always satisfied him. When he found something better then he would accept the better one. Now, after another 20 years, Mrs. Tims said that she could truly repeat that statement. For 20 years she had been meeting Spiritualists in almost any place mentionable, and she had always found them honest and upright men and women. They have been men and women worthy of the name.

Mr. Kitson said there were times when words were too weak to express the feelings. He wished to associate himself with the thanks to the Nottingham people.

He spoke of his youth. When only a youngster of nine he was so impressed with a fear of God that he really wished to "die" before he committed any wrong. As he grew he became associated with Spiritualism, and then came the revelation of the Lyceums from the Spirit Land. There had been testimonies of a future life from people of all sects. The Seven Principles of Spiritualism came from the Spirit land. Mr. Kitson went on to explain the Seven Principles.

He appealed for all to try and assist the children's cause, for the welfare of the children.

Mr. Collingham, of Nottingham, nicely rendered a solo entitled "The Children's Home."

Miss Elliott, on behalf of the Liberty Group of the Nottingham Evidence Lyceum, presented Miss Rayner, the Conductor of the Lyceum for 13 years, with an illuminated address, and briefly prefaced the presentation with a few appropriate remarks. She said she could best express herself in the remark of one of the Lyceumists who said of Miss Rayner, "We love her." What an amount of feeling is expressed in those three words. Miss Elliott expressed her great pleasure in presenting the address.

Miss Rayner, in accepting the address, could say very little. She was most agreeably surprised, because she knew nothing at all about the presentation, but she loved her work, and because of that she did all she could. It was a labour of love, which she had tried to fulfil conscientiously. Her work in Nottingham had been helped by others. They had worked together harmoniously. She thanked the Liberty Group for their kindness.

Mr. Ellis, of Nottingham, said he could not further enlarge upon the words of the address. Those words expressed what he felt better than he could say it.

Mr. Knott said the occasion gave him great pleasure. He was always impressed by the quiet, peaceful smile of Miss Rayner, and fully appreciated her work.

A Lyceumist, of Nottingham, played a lovely violin solo which was encored by an appreciative audience.

Mrs. Paling, the S.N.U. Representative, said that after such lovely music it was hard to break the charm and come down to earthly things.

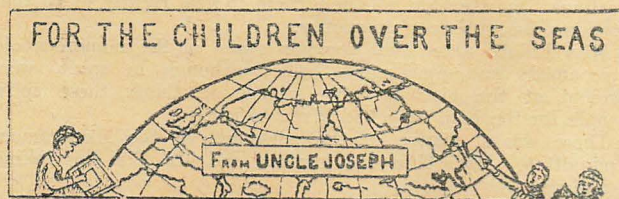
She asked parents to try to retain the faith of their children. The lives of their children largely rested with the parents. If a child cannot confide in its mother, something must be wrong. As the children grow faith is apt to wane, but parents must try to keep it alive so that in times of stress the grown-up child will come to the parents for advice and help.

When that faith of children in parents is established universally then will Spiritualism have accomplished something for which it came into the world.

It was Mr. Mack's pleasant duty to thank everybody who had done the least little bit towards making the week-end a success. He thanked all who had in any way done some of the work entailed.

Mr. Williams appealed for those who, during the early days of Spiritualism, gave their all to the movement. He asked for generous support to the Fund of Benevolence.

Mr. Slimin pronounced the benediction.



ABOUT DEMONSTRATIONS.

Dear Children,

In the market-place there is a big crowd waiting; different bodies are drawn up, each with a beautiful banner; children chattering, grown-ups talking, bandsmen arriving with a lively martial tune; people going to and fro, eagerly consulting one another.

Excited voices, happy laughter, anxious glances at the sky, to see if our sportive English climate is going to treat us kindly.

Hark! A lady stands out in the square, announces a hymn, the band plays very softly, the crowd stand very attentively, and a hundred or two voices, childish and adult, join in happy chorus a song of praise to their school of learning.

A brief halt, then the band is playing again, and we are moving off up the street, and as we go there is many a prayer of hope for our future work, and of thankfulness for some little thing achieved.

Now we are in a big open space, the children intermix, boys this side, girls that, and they prepare for a march round, for this is LYCEUM DAY and we are showing the town what WE can do. The band plays again, and marching round, boys meeting girls and marching two and two, we go through seemingly intricate movements, but all with a purpose, and always coming out right in the end.

What a pretty sight, and how many a mother's heart swells with pride as her little girl or boy walks past, with proud smile and a heart of content. We are showing off, and we have a right to, because all acquit themselves so well.

Anniversaries and social meetings keep coming round, don't they? During the past month, where we live, there have been a lot of processions with their bands playing, banners waving, young children hand in hand, and older ones talking and nodding to acquaintances in the crowd who look on and applaud, and wish they were amongst the walkers once more. Yes, it is a pretty sight indeed, girlies dressed up in white, boys dressed up in their best, each with their buttonhole, and seeing that banners are erectly carried, announcing their particular school.

It is Children's Day, and everybody is rejoicing, because we want the children to be happy.

But what is the good of it all? Why a procession at all? It is a terribly hot day, children are dusty and tired, the sun beats down.

Yes, some of the children are tired, and some are a little thirsty, but would they miss the show? Not they! We have all a special reason for being here. We are commercial travellers, and we are showing our samples; for here comes to fruition the fruits of our labours.

A lot has had to be done before we could come to this day. Mothers have been planning and sewing, teachers rehearsing songs and drills, baskets and bouquets of flowers to be made up. Secretaries and Marshalls conferring together. Bands polishing up their instruments. Municipal powers arranging the traffic so that we can walk along in comfort and safety, but it has been worth it, for we have been showing the world that our work has not been in vain. Our Demonstration has been a success, and people have had the pleasure of seeing that their efforts have met with reward and approval.

That's all, children; just a showing off; but the idea was that we were proving that we could do things.

Yes, but what has it all to do with us; what is it all about? Well, it has a lot to do with us, especially in our little corner, for we are demonstrating by our efforts in our own quiet way; certainly we have no bands playing, but we have harmony going forth, in the happy thoughts we express in our letters. Hymns of praise, too, as we wish others well and send them loving greetings. Mental visions of our friends across the seas, (and they will be having mental visions of us) from the tone of the letters we receive.

It is a procession, and we are telling not only our native city, but the whole world that our work is great, and good, and help-

ful, for it is making for unity of purpose, and for the happiness of many, and not for just the few.

There has been a lot of work done, before even we have got so far. You have had your letters to write, and have been wondering whatever to say to someone you have never seen, and may never see. How will they like your letter, and will they reply? The hopes and the fears, and then back comes the answer, and away go the letters again, and so the great round goes on.

Now, speaking of replies; I am very sorry that in many cases we have still to receive some replies, and if this reaches those overseas children who have had a letter and not replied to it (and we hope it will, of course), we want them to remember that if they do not write (or if unable to do so, find someone else to take their duty on), they are BREAKING OUR LINK and disappointing someone over here.

Will Overseas Conductors please help us by organising their children and asking them kindly if they have had a letter, and whether they have sent off their answer; a small thing, but it helps us over here. There are only a few cases, of course, but still even these few cause heartbreaks and we want our work to be as efficient as possible.

We have had some fine letters from Overseas, many of us, and reports of progress.

A nice letter from Sydney, where Miss Ruby Brown, their Secretary, reports a successful Lyceum. By the way, the address of that Lyceum is Leigh House, 233, Casilereagh St., Sydney, N.S.W., so will you all please note that, as some of us have been sending our letters wrongly, and it has caused a little inconvenience, naturally. Now we want you to send out loving thoughts to Sydney that their work may be even more successful, thus demonstrating kindness.

To Dunedin, where their Conductor, a hard worker of a highly successful and happy Lyceum, has been very ill, but is looking forward to a return in health and strength to carry on. We want you to send out your thoughts here also. Wellington, where two Lyceums are bravely holding forth and watching our work with great interest; some of us have had some good letters from these places.

New Plymouth, not doing quite so well, but let us send out a prayer on their behalf, and trust that interest will revive.

Christchurch, doing fairly well, too, and we hope will do better; Canada, well the reports speak for themselves, don't they? We are coming on and making friends, and so we must go on, hoping, praying, thinking, and WORKING for the one great end, the furtherance of Love, and Truth, and world-wide harmony.

Watch for the Open Sessions and Anniversaries; by the way, I still want secretaries to tell me of these, so that if possible we can announce them. If we could have them by the 18th of each month for the month following we could put them in our letter, and then we could all rejoice in thought, if not in physical contact.

Our Letter has nearly come to a close, and I have just a list of things I want you to do this month.

Take part in your session programme, for by doing so you are learning.

Put your best into the work, for only the best is good enough.

Look after those who are absent, and find out what is the reason of their absence.

Don't let the sunshine tempt you away from the Lyceum.

You can always have your walk afterwards.

A cheery letter to a sick member will help them as much as a visit.

Now, that is all, and quite enough to remember, but plenty of good can be done if we follow out the suggestions, and by doing so we shall be demonstrating our Lyceum teaching, and after all, that is what we are here for, isn't it.

Demonstrate kindness of heart, and helpful service is everything.

Greetings to all Lyceums, and thanks for so many happy and helpful letters.

Yours lovingly,

UNCLE JOSEPH.

SUTTON IN ASHFIELD.

July 10th.—ANNIVERSARY AND PARADE—July 10th.
Headed by the Huthwaite Prize Band, at 1.30 from Church to Market Place. All new songs, etc. Come and see the children.
All are welcome.

The Story of Calgary.

Calgary is a prosperous little city with a population of 70,000, and is steadily growing larger. It is situated some forty miles from the Rocky Mountains. Calgary is the largest city of Alberta, and distributing centre for the east of British Columbia, west of Saskatchewan, and Central and Southern Alberta.

Fifty-one years ago it was established as a Royal North-west Mounted Police Post, and named Fort Brisbois, which later was changed to Calgary. However, it is believed to have been founded by La Verandrye and his sons, French explorers, in 1751. In his report, the post was described as at the junction of two rivers, which corresponds to the Bow and Elbow Rivers. Also he says that it was 300 leagues from the Saskatchewan river, which is around the present location or Calgary.

A few days after this small party of Mounted Police had settled, Father Doucet, a Roman Catholic priest, who was half starved through living alone except for an Indian boy, visited them and had his first good meal in months. He had been living in a log cabin thirty miles west of the post.

At this time two stores, the Hudson Bay Co. post and I. G. Baker's store, made the centre which form the town.

With the news of the coming of the Canadian Pacific Railway towards Calgary, a large flow of settlers came in, and on August 28th, 1883, the first train arrived.

Before the coming of this train the freight had been brought on the Missouri steamboats to Benton, Montana, U.S., then hauled by bulls, horses and mules in teams to Calgary.

In the year 1884 came the first big step, Calgary was made a town, with a Mayor and four Councillors to govern a town of five hundred people, and an area of sixteen hundred acres. This council brought about a school which was free to all children. This was built near the police barracks.

Following this advance, a fire broke out in a jeweller's store, and, having no fire brigade, it had to be fought with snowballs and a bucket force organised on the spur of the moment. Then a hook and ladder brigade was formed with a bucket squad. This, however, was disbanded in the summer of 1886, but after a fire in which 1,000,000 dollars' worth of property was lost, a Fire Department was organized, and is still in existence. The old fashioned horse and hand equipment has given place to the most up-to-date machines.

Up till 1886 a town constable looked after the interests of the people, but then a constabulary was established with three constables. Now we have a Police Force of 65 constables.

In 1872 a house built 25 miles west of the city was given to the Roman Catholics. Two years later this was enlarged. In 1879 a chapel was built near the barracks in Calgary. Since then the Roman Catholics have progressed and helped Calgary greatly. They have a large church and a large amount of ground on which convents, schools and other buildings have been erected, the land having been given to them for their pioneer work.

Opening with a missionary here in 1883, the Anglicans have overcome great financial difficulties and have succeeded in getting churches and halls. Having a big following they have done much towards helping the small town to grow. Other religions also have had their difficulties, but the people are grateful for the help to make a big city, and so they have supported all the churches faithfully.

In our paper one evening we had a question and answer column, and there appeared the question as to there being any Spiritualists in Calgary, and to apply to Mr. R. Hill. This was in March, 1911. Three people sent letters. As a result of this a committee was formed to see if it was possible to rent a hall. As the cheapest was 12 dollars, it was decided to hold meetings occasionally at the home of Mr. Hill, and circles were held.

In July, 1912, Mrs. Duvall, a medium, came to the city. She held a circle and then a meeting. It was a case of come early or no seat. Here members of the Hill circle met Mrs. Cadman, who invited them to a circle held in her home. After two years, in July, 1915, having 38 dollars in the funds, they opened a Lyceum. This money was paid back to the ladies' circle in a year and then turned over to a library fund. The Lyceum was then affiliated to the B.S.L.U., and has remained so. As the circles held in members' homes grew too large, the hall was taken for Sunday evenings for this purpose. Now feeling that a society would be better, one was organized on December 3rd, 1916, and affiliated with the S.N.U. Mrs. Settle occupied the

platform for 6 months. Members of the Executive thought capable were allowed to occupy it. Two years later the Western Star came into being, although the First invited them to our church. Under the name of the Calgary First Spiritualist Church the two societies amalgamated in August, 1924. There is an independent society in Calgary at present, but Calgary is too small for two societies just now. During this time the Lyceum was working hard to keep the doors open. Up till last year the Lyceum has been run by the "teenage" children. They have occupied the offices and carried along. In our library we now have some 150 Spiritualist books besides the fiction for the young folks. From time to time we have foreigners in our Lyceum, having had Germans, Norwegians, Dutch and Danish, besides people from different parts of the British Empire. During the past year we have come into possession of a church. The fixing up and buying has made a very hard year, but it has passed successfully. Nothing ventured, nothing got. So now we have our church we shall have to work hard to clear off the debt. We are progressing fine.

During the years 1901-7 the progress of Calgary was fast. In 1908 Andrew Carnegie contributed 50,000 dollars towards a Public Library. With the influx of settlers the population increased by 5,000, so that in 1911 it was 55,000. During this year the Hudsons Bay Co. and the C.P.R. erected new buildings. The new fire headquarters were built, and the new city hall opened. Featuring next year the other two railways entered Calgary, and natural gas was used for the first time. New industries were opening up, and the city was the distributing point for Southern Alberta. Now it has still furthered that achievement, as it is the distributing point for South-Eastern British Columbia, Western Saskatchewan, as well as Southern and Central Alberta.

Recently a large oil refinery employing hundreds of men and representing an outlay of 3,000,000 dollars was erected by the Imperial Oil Co., to take care of the oil production from the Turner Valley, 38 miles south of Calgary. At the present time four wells are producing casing-head gasoline and one well gives a large quantity of crude oil, besides others with small amounts of crude oil. One well produces 500 barrels on an average a day. It has done this for two and a half years. Outside capital is slowly coming in to develop the field, and soon it will have many more derricks in the field.

Up to the present time the city is showing its growth by the amount of building going on in it. Houses are going up every day and there is no better sign of progress than this. We send our greetings to the British Lyceums.

THE LYCEUM BADGE.

The A.J.D. Lyceum Badge has been reduced in size from one inch to three quarters of an inch in diameter.

The new Badge fastens with a pin, is made of a rolled gold rim, with the photo of A. J. Davis in the centre and the letters S.C.P.L. on the top portion of the Badge.

The prices are:—Single Badge, 9d. each, postage 1½. Per dozen 8/- post free.

Orders must be prepaid and sent to—

G. F. Knott,

B.S.L. Union,

20, Toad Lane,

Rochdale, Lancs.

A LESSON IN PROSE.

There stirs within our heart a noble feeling. Conscious as we are to do our part, we oft-times wonder if, on this earth, we may turn creeds asunder, and worship Truth; that solemn Truth which ever tends to broaden minds. Forsooth, we are not lost, though groping in life's pathway. We shall most sure find the everlasting light. 'Tis just a simple lesson, the key-stone lies, not in self alone, but the Brotherhood of Man. With peace on earth and free hearts expanding. Truth will clear its morning light. God's laws will see all things put right.

REX.

Tommy, the Bootblack.

AN INSPIRATIONAL STORY.

By FLORENCE MORSE.

Reprinted from the *Lyceum Banner* of 1894, by kind permission of Miss F. Morse.

Part III.—THE LAND OF FLOWERS (*continued*).

Mrs. Barnes looked intently, not daring to move, almost afraid to breathe, for fear Jennie's face would vanish. As she gazed, the soft light she had seen first seemed to come again, and spread out until she saw, not only Jennie's face, but her entire figure; then another form gradually grew visible, and Tommy and Jennie, hand in hand, stood before her. For a minute or two she saw them standing there, then they vanished from her sight, leaving her happier than she had been since Jennie had passed on.

It would be impossible to tell how delighted Tommy was; he danced about the room, too pleased to speak, as he watched Jennie kiss her mother and the tiny baby.

"Oh, Tommy, I am so happy. Mother saw us. We can come again, she will know I am not dead, and perhaps I can make her hear me if I speak to her. May I stay till father comes? I should like to see him too."

"Yes, we will wait; but do not be grieved, dear, if he does not see you."

Before Jennie could reply, the door of the room opened and Mr. Barnes entered. After greeting his wife, he sat down. Jennie ran to him, and seating herself on his knee, put her arms round his neck, and softly called, "Father, dear."

"Nellie, I can hear Jennie calling as plainly as I could when she was alive."

"Yes, I saw her, just before you came in. It was not imagination; I really saw her, and Tommy also."

"Then what I heard that gentleman say the other evening about people coming back again after they are dead is true, for if Jennie comes, others can too."

"Come, children," said the teacher, "they both know of your presence. We will try to find Jimmy. You can come here very often now." So the two children followed her out of the room, down the stairs, and into the busy streets, to begin their search for Jimmy.

They soon found him. He had changed a little, and was taller and looked stronger than when Tommy parted from him. He no longer carried a bootblack's box, and Tommy noticed that, instead of rags, he wore a tidy suit, a cap free from holes, boots that did not need patching, and was altogether (by comparison) a prosperous-looking boy.

"Why, Jennie, he ain't a bootblack any longer! Wonder what he is, an' how he got them clothes. Do you know, teacher?"

"No, Tommy."

"Dont yer? I thought yer knew everything," replied Tommy, feeling very much disappointed, for it was the first question 'the teacher' had been unable to answer.

They followed Jimmy as he hurried on down street after street, until, finally, he entered a warehouse; then up flight after flight of dirty stairs till he reached the top and entered one of the rooms.

In it were sitting a respectable man and woman, whom Tommy, Jennie, and the "teacher" discovered, by listening to their conversation, were the caretaker and his wife.

"Well, Jimmy," said Mrs. Lever, "how have you got on to-day?"

"Beautiful! Bein' errand boy is ever so much better than cleanin' boots. Yer remember I told yer about Tommy? Well, I saw ther little girl he saved, ter-day, an' it's made me think I'd like ter have him 'ere, so he could see how I am getting on. He wouldn't know me now, would he?"

"Jimmy, I'm here; I can see yer, an' I do know yer."

But Tommy's voice fell on ears that could not catch the sound of a spirit voice, and his efforts were useless.

"Don't grieve, Tommy, you can come again. Perhaps next time we may find some means of communicating with your friend, but now we must return to our home."

Tommy followed very reluctantly. He would have much preferred to stay, but he knew the teacher was wiser than himself, so he obeyed.

They were soon back to the home, glad to rest in its pretty rooms, to eat the delicious fruit, and then to sleep.

"Tommy, would you like to come on the lake with me, and on to one of the rivers?" asked Harold, some little while after the visit to Jennie's mother and Jimmy.

"On a river, Harold? Is it anything like the Thames was?"

"I don't know; I never saw the Thames," replied Harold, smiling, "but I expect it is a great deal prettier, and you will see ever so many people and boats."

"Steamboats?"

"No, we don't have steamboats *here*. Will you come?"

"Yes. Are we going alone?"

"Yes; I've been so many times that I may go; you know the children here aren't always being told they must not go anywhere alone. We are taught to rely on our own intelligence, and, besides, no one where we go would harm us; they love children."

"Are there people who don't?"

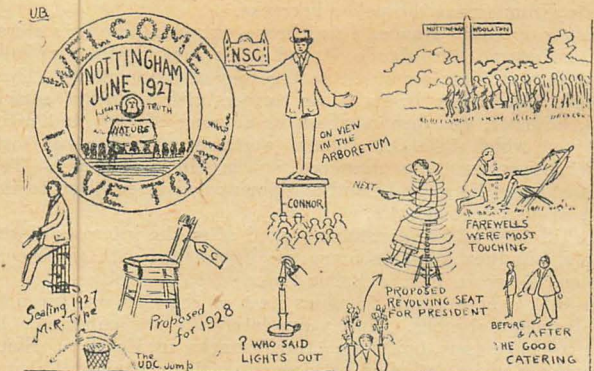
"Yes; same as there is on earth, but not near this home; this is the children's valley. I'll guide the boat, Tommy, because you don't know where we are going."

The little boat skimmed along, scarcely seeming to touch the surface, across the entire length of the lake. The trees grew quite close together here, forming an arch over a narrow stream; into this Harold guided the boat. Tommy was delighted.

"I'm glad yer asked me ter come, Harold; I've been dead a long time, but this is the nicest place I've seen. Oh, look!" he exclaimed, as through the trees he saw, looking like a path of silver, the wide, swift-flowing river.

(To be continued).

THE B.S.L.U. CONFERENCE.



In the picture are a few items which occurred during the Conference and the Picnic along with some suggestions for 1928. Ask your Delegate to explain the items. A very nice picnic was arranged and some lovely and interesting things were seen.

Births, In Memoriam, and Marriages.

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

IN MEMORIAM.

BIRSTALL.—Miss Lilian Bennett passed to the Spirit Land on Sunday, June 5th, Deeply respected.—T. Mason, Sec.

RIPLEY, CODNOR AND DISTRICT.—Mary Hartle passed to the Higher Life, April 30th. Her remains were laid in Mother Earth on May 4th.—J.E.E.

DONCASTER, Catherine Street.—On May 20th, 1927, Lily Ball, aged 5 years 10 months, passed to the Higher Life. "Open the door for the children."

Mrs. Webb, Sec.

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

Held on Saturday and Sunday, June 4th and 5th, 1927,
in the Mechanics' Minor Hall, Nottingham.

President: Miss E. ELLIOTT, of Manchester.

Mr. Masters, of the Beaconsfield Society, introduced the Deputy Mayor, Alderman Charles Foulds, and said it was his great pleasure to ask Alderman Charles Foulds, representing the Mayor (who was attending another meeting) to welcome the Conference to Nottingham.

The Deputy Mayor, Ald. Foulds, after welcoming the Conference, referred to the Christian Endeavour Conference being held in Nottingham, and also to the latest acquisition to the City, Wollaton Hall and its beautiful collection of butterflies in the museum there. To the B.S.L.U., as an educated body, a visit to the University would be valuable.

The President, Miss Elliott, in reply said she was pleased to say on behalf of the Conference how much she appreciated the welcome, and assured the Deputy Mayor that we, as a Lyceum movement, stand for the education of the children and endeavour to bring out the moral and intellectual side.

The President of the local Church thanked Ald. Foulds for attending and extending the welcome.

The President then informed the Conference that Mr. J. J. Ashworth, the oldest Lyceumist in England, desired to make a presentation of an enlarged, framed photograph of Mr. Hitchcock, the founder of the first Lyceum in England. He was desirous of making the presentation at once, as he was in advanced years.

Mr. J. J. Ashworth said he was very pleased to be able to venture so far to present a photo of the founder of the first Lyceum in England. He referred to the opening of the Lyceum in 1866, and was pleased to see so many were present. He had the pleasure of attending the first Conference, and although he was at this one he did not know where he would be for the next. The photo had been enlarged from one which was not known to be in existence, but on being brought to light it was taken to the same man, Mr. A. J. Gibson, who had enlarged the photo of Mr. A. J. Davis, the originator of the Lyceum movement.

The President then greeted all the Delegates and friends present at the Conference, and hoped that all the deliberations would be good, and appealed to the Delegates to avoid protracted discussions.

CONFERENCE APPOINTMENTS.

- Messenger*: Mr. Cook (Parkgate).
Tellers: Mr. E. Wilson (Dewsbury), and Mr. G. P. Robson (Tyneside D.C.).
Scrutineers: Mrs. George (Liverpool, Boaler St.), Mr. Dobby (Lincoln), Mr. Swindells (Manchester, Progressive), Mr. H. C. Guy (Southern Counties D.C.).
Standing Orders Committee: Mr. Mack, Mrs. T. Tims, Mr. W. Burrows from the M.C., and Mr. E. A. Keeling was elected by the Conference.
Minute Secretary: Mr. W. E. Bennett (Manchester).
Assistant Secretary: Miss Dean.
Credential Officers: Mr. Thistlethwaite and Mr. Dixon.

FRATERNAL GREETINGS TO THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOUR CONVENTION.

- Mr. Keeling proposed and the Conference agreed to the following resolution:—
The President, Officers, and Delegates present at the Annual Conference of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union, having heard from the Deputy Mayor, Alderman Foulds, that the Christian Endeavour Movement are also in Conference in the City of Nottingham, have unanimously agreed to ask the Officers, and Delegates of the Christian Endeavour Movement to accept their very fraternal greetings, together with their sincere wishes for a harmonious and successful Conference.

The resolution was signed by the President and Secretary and taken by messenger to the Christian Endeavour Convention.

The B.S.L.U. Secretary received a reply from the Chairman of the Christian Endeavour Council on June 16th.

"The Christian Endeavour Convention received with much pleasure your fraternal greeting during our meetings at Nottingham. I was requested to thank you for your courtesy in sending so kind a message. Yours faithfully, W. Knight Chaplin."

- Mr. Latham moved, Mr. Dickinson seconded,
That the Standing Orders Committee meet to decide which are the most important items on the agenda.
- An amendment
That the most important items on the agenda affecting the constitution be discussed first, was put to the Conference.
For 14. Against 59.
The amendment was defeated.
- The original resolution was then put to the Delegates.
For 24. Against 42.
The motion was defeated.
- The Agenda was then declared to stand as printed.
- Mrs. Paling and Mr. Oliver, the S.N.U. representatives, and Mr. M. Clegg, were then invited to seats on the platform.

MINUTES OF LAST CONFERENCE.

- Mr. Latham moved, Mr. Springate seconded,
That minutes be taken as printed. *Carried.*
- In reply to a question the President stated there were no Parliamentary Rules in print. A Committee has been appointed for their preparation.
- Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Slater seconded,
The adoption of the Minutes of the last Conference. *Carried.*

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Miss Elliott read her President's address. Mr. Mack (Vice-President) occupied the chair during the discussion (*See page 105 for the text of the address*).

- Miss Clarke moved, Mr. Shuttleworth seconded,
The acceptance of the President's address. *Carried.*
- After Mr. Dickinson had made comments, Mr. Latham, Mr. Rankine, and Mrs. Greenwood agreed that it was a beautiful address.
- Mr. Connor moved, Mrs. Raymond seconded,
That it be printed in the BANNER, and submitted to the Spiritualist Press. *Carried.*
- Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Latham seconded,
The Adoption of the President's Address. *Carried.*
Miss Elliott resumed her position in the Chair.
- It was agreed,
That all the Reports be accepted as printed.

THE M.C. REPORT.

- Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,
That the M.C. be instructed to affiliate with the Federation of Youth.
For 83. Against 2.
The Report was adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

- Mr. Williams presented the Treasurer's report and gave the Interim Report.
Balance of Income over Expenditure, £115 18s. 7d.
Outstanding Liabilities, £87 10s. 6d.
£2,000 Effort, £478 16s. 6½d.
Lyceum Home Fund, £165 14s. 3d.
Certificate Deposit Account, £10 19s. 0d.
The Report was adopted.

AUDITORS' REPORT.

- Mr. Thistlethwaite briefly referred to the passing on of our late Auditor, Mr. Frank Ball. He declared that the books were in order and was well satisfied with the efficient manner in which they had been kept.
Mr. Dixon, who assisted in the completion of the audit in Mr. Ball's place, corroborated Mr. Thistlethwaite's statement.

21. Mr. Walmsley moved, Mr. Lloyd seconded,
The adoption of the Auditors' Report. *Carried.*

LYCEUM BANNER REPORT.

22. The Editor reported there were 65 Lyceums who did not have BANNERS, and 114 Lyceums who took one dozen or less.
23. Mrs. Pickles stated that it was not fair to contributors' articles to find that when visiting Lyceums they had not read the intelligent articles published.
24. Mr. Ellis moved, Mrs. George seconded,
The adoption of the Banner Report. *Carried.*

EDUCATION AND COLLEGE REPORTS.

25. Miss Kitson referred to the work that had been done during the year:—Examinations in February. Printed Results. List of Lyceumists, who since 1921 have become eligible for the A.N.S.C.
- Miss Kitson asked Conference for a relaxation of conditions regarding Lyceums who were unable to obtain the requisite number of sitters for the examination for the College scheme, owing to the abnormal conditions ruling during the past year, which had made it difficult for some Lyceums and Lyceumists to pay the expenses. The Emergency Committee of the College Board suggest that for 1927-28 the qualifying standard should be lowered from TEN sitters to EIGHT ENTRANTS. The results of the examinations produced for the First Grade for Graduates for the College, were 72 Lyceumists; 19 others have passed the Entrance Examination.
26. Mrs. Raymond moved, Miss Clarke seconded,
That £10 be donated to the National Spiritualist College. *Carried.*
27. Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Shuttleworth seconded,
The adoption of the Education and College Report. *Carried.*

CREDENTIAL REPORT.

- 27a. Officers 5, Area Representatives 8, Trustees 3, Auditors 2, Education Committee 2, Revision Committee 2, D.V., Birmingham 1, U.D.C. 1, District Councils 20 (representing 15 D.C.s), Delegates 70 (representing 52 Lyceums). Total 114. There were also present S.N.U. Fraternal Delegates 2, Assistant Officer 1, Reporter 1, Accepted Visitor 1, Press 2.
28. *The report was adopted.*

TRUSTEES' REPORT.

29. Mrs. Greenwood said she was pleased to move the acceptance of this report, and outlined the history of the Home of Rest and the Ainsworth Legacy. Reference was made to the services rendered by Mr. Venables, and she wished the Conference to move a vote of thanks.
30. Mr. Keeling moved, Mrs. Nurse seconded,
This Conference places on record its unstinted appreciation of the service rendered to the B.S.L.U. by Mr. John Venables, in connection with the John Ainsworth Legacy. *Carried.*
31. Mrs. Greenwood informed the Conference that the sum at their disposal was about £60 accruing from interest from the Ainsworth Legacy. A Scheme had been put forward through the Solicitor to the Charity Commissioners.
32. Mr. Slimin raised some controversial points.
33. Mr. Edwards informed the Conference the fund arising from the Legacy and interest was just over £1,100. The interest on this amount, at 5% is £55, and this amount can be used for the Home of Rest.
24. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Walmsley seconded,
That the Home of Rest Report be referred to a Conference Committee for consideration and the drafting of a scheme to place before the Charity Commissioners.
35. When it was found that it would involve delay, the motion was withdrawn.
36. Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Armitage seconded,
This Conference approves section 4 (Objects) of the

Home of Rest Scheme and refers back the Remainder for more detailed consideration.

37. Mr. Connor recorded his protest against time being wasted.
38. Mr. Davies moved, Mr. Batley seconded,
The adoption of the Trustees Report. *Carried with 2 dissentients.*

U.D.C. REPORT.

39. Mr. Shuttleworth moved, Mrs. Pickles seconded,
The acceptance of this Report. *Carried.*
40. Mr. Keeling asked if the U.D.C. could tell us of the work they had done during the past year.
Mr. Shuttleworth replied it would take too long.
41. Mr. Robson asked how many District Councils were in the U.D.C., and how many had withdrawn within the last 10 years.
Mr. Shuttleworth replied 11 were in, and 3 withdrawn.
42. Mr. Latham moved, Mrs. Nurse seconded,
The adoption of the U.D.C. Report. *Carried.*
43. A telegram, which had been sent by Mr. R. A. Owen, S.N.U. President, was read by the President.
"Best wishes for successful Conference and sincere greetings to all."

MANUAL REVISION REPORT.

44. Mr. Keeling said there was nothing to add, the work being interesting but very difficult. The ultimate issue did not depend on the Manual Revision Committee, but the movements of its constituent parts. He also referred to the resignation of Mr. Kitson.
45. Mr. Dickinson referred to the question of expression marks in the Songster.
46. Mr. Keeling replied that the expression marks were badly in need of revision and suggested an alteration in the new edition of the Songster.
47. Mr. Kitson said a few words as to his resignation.
48. Mr. Keeling also referred to "Helps to the Study of the Manual."
After discussion,
49. Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Latham seconded,
This Conference instructs the Management Committee to refrain from printing and/or publishing a revised edition of HELPS TO THE STUDY OF THE LYCEUM MANUAL, until such time as the MANUAL Revision Committee has completed its work or an agreement as to the contents of "Helps" has been arrived at between the Management and Revision Committees.
- 49a. Mr. Mack moved, Mrs. Nurse seconded,
That the question be now not put. *For 6, against 67.
Mr. Keeling's resolution was then put and carried.
For 86, against 6.*
50. Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Williams seconded,
The adoption of the Manual Revision Committee Report. *Carried.*

NOMINATIONS IN PLACE OF MR. KITSON for a seat on the MANUAL REVISION COMMITTEE.

- 50.a First Vote. Mr. Mack 44, Mr. Edwards 15, Mr. Slimin 12, Mr. Hart 20, Mr. Wilson 3.
51. Second Vote. Mr. Mack 53, Mr. Edwards 15, Mr. Slimin 7, Mr. Hart 20.
52. Mr. Mack was declared elected.

CREDENTIAL REPORT.

53. Officers 5, Area Representatives 8, Trustees 3, Auditors 2, Education Committee 2, Revision Committee 2, D.V. Birmingham 1, U.D.C. 1, District Councils 21 (representing 15 D.C.s), Lyceum Delegates 72 (representing 54 Lyceum). Total 117. There were also present S.N.U. Representative 1, Assistant Officer 1, Reporter 1, Accepted Visitor 1.
The report was adopted,

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

55. Mr. Slimin moved, Mr. Burrows seconded.
 That the S.N.U. E.C. Report be accepted. *Carried.*
56. Mr. Keeling spoke about the Summer School.
57. Mr. Knott asked those who were particularly interested in the literary side to attend the S.N.U. Summer School. There would not be a great amount of study, but a real holiday with a small portion devoted to educational work.
58. Mr. Keeling replied to a number of questions about the arrangements and fees of the Summer School, and stated there would be Lyceum Sessions if enough Lyceumists attended and desired them, otherwise the meetings would be as the guests desired. He appealed for support of the Summer School.
59. *The report was carried.*

S.N.U. CONFERENCE REPORT.

60. Mr. Connor said the B.S.L.U. were treated generously at the last S.N.U. A.G.M.
61. Mr. Shuttleworth moved, Mr. Slimin seconded,
 The Report be adopted. *Carried.*

OVERSEAS REPORT.

62. Mr. Knott informed the Conference that Mr. Parker, one of the oldest workers in the Yorkshire Area, who is now in America, writing to Uncle Joseph, stated how difficult it is to get the Sunday School spirit amongst the American people.
63. Mr. Knott then read a Winnipeg letter from Mr. Brown, reminiscent of Lyceum days in Nottingham, and conveying greetings from Winnipeg Lyceum.
64. Mr. W. Mason, a Past President, sent his annual message but it was delayed in the post and could not be read to the Conference.
65. Mr. Keeling then moved, Mrs. Tims seconded,
 The adoption of this Report, the same to include item 2 of the "General" motions. "That this Conference heartily approves the holding of a Lyceum, session during the I.S.F. Congress, and appeals to Lyceumists to make this National Lyceum session a great success, and an example of our educational system." *Carried.*

£2,000 EFFORT.

66. Mr. Burrows said that since the report was printed Mrs. Raymond had sent 25s. 6d., obtained by Collecting Cards, also further sums of 3s. 0½d., and 504 farthings had come to hand. This year only £8 1s. 4d. had been collected as against £30 8s. 9d. last year, and the delegates were asked to take the information back to their Lyceums and try to augment the Fund. Mr. Wood (Blackburn) had asked about a receipt for £10, and the delegates were informed of the circumstances of the case, and the matter would be adjusted with the Lyceum.
67. Mr. Burrows moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,
 The adoption of the Report. *Carried.*

INTER-RELATIONS REPORT.

68. Mr. Slimin moved, Mr. Robson seconded,
 The adoption of the Inter-relations Report. *Carried.*

INTERNATIONAL REPORT.

69. Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Hart seconded,
 The adoption of the International Spiritualist Federation Report. *Carried.*

SECRETARY'S INTERIM REPORT.

- Statistical Position.**
70. The Secretary reported a decrease in most districts in Lyceumists, but an increase in Lyceums.
 275 Lyceums have paid their fees for 1927.
 18 had not paid their fees.
 16 new Lyceums had affiliated.
 4 Lyceums had closed.
71. A question was asked if any Lyceums had been allowed to hold back their fees for any length of time on account of bad times.

72. The reply was that there was one case last year, and the fees were paid later. They applied this year, on account of the coal trouble.
73. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Springate seconded,
 The adoption of the Report. *Carried.*

DATE OF NEXT CONFERENCE.

74. It was agreed,
 That the next Annual Conference be held on May 26th and 27th, 1928.

PLACE OF NEXT CONFERENCE.

75. Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Connor seconded,
 That the Place of Next Conference be left in the hands of the Management Committee. *Carried.*

SUNDAY MORNING.

After singing a hymn, Mrs. Tims gave the Invocation. 17 children marched into the Hall to the tune of "Hand in Hand with Angels."
 The children gave recitations of welcome composed by Miss Rayner, and then sang "God Bless the Lyceum Evermore."
 It was a very prettily arranged welcome. Miss Elliott and Mr. Kitson were presented with bouquets. The children then merged amongst the Delegates, and within a very few minutes all were wearing buttonholes and happy smiles.
 The children then withdrew from the Conference during the hearty applause from the Delegates.
 The President. I am sure you will all appreciate the welcome extended to us this morning. It was a very impressive one, and we hope that it will remain with us throughout the remaining sessions. I have never seen so Flowery a one before and it was unique. She expressed pleasure for the charming welcome of the children.
 Mr. Kitson said he was fully aware of the honour given to him, and joined with the President in appreciating the Welcome.
 Mr. Clegg was very pleased to convey his sentiments on the greeting.

ARISEN WORKERS.

76. Mr. Knott gave us a list of 'Arisen Workers,' specially referring to the work of Mrs. Naylor (Middleborough), Mr. R. Hope (Manchester), Mr. F. F. Ball (Lancaster) and Mr. J. K. Jones (Sheffield). Permission was sought and given to include Miss Felicia R. Scatcherd, who had been an earnest supporter of Lyceum work.
 All Delegates paid their respects by standing.
 Mrs. Jessie Greenwood, J.P. spoke a few words, appropriate to the memory of those who had "gone higher."
77. Mr. Kitson referred to the list of 'Arisen Workers,' and said that many delegates would not be aware of the work done by Mrs. Naylor as her active work was done many years ago.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

78. **President.**
 Mr. Keeling withdrew his nomination and Miss Elliott was *elected unopposed.*
79. **Vice-President,**
 Mr. E. A. Keeling. 48.
 Mr. G. A. Mack. 65. *Elected.*
80. **Treasurer.**
 Mr. C. J. Williams was declared *elected unopposed.*
81. **Auditor.**
 Mr. C. A. Lloyd 16, Mr. G. A. Dixon 68, Mr. R. Slater 29.
 Mr. G. A. Dixon was declared *Elected.*
82. **Area Representatives.**

The Area Elections resulted in the election of the following:—
 (A) Miss H. Cleland. (E) Mrs. L. Nurse.
 (B) Mr. J. Slimin. (F) Mr. J. E. Hart.
 (C) Mr. J. F. Smith. (G) Miss V. G. Rayner.
 (D) Mr. W. Burrows. (H) Mr. E. G. Cox.

83. **S.N.U. E.C. Representative.**
 First Vote. Mr. W. Burrows 41, Mr. J. E. Hart 42, Mr. C. J. Williams 30.
 Second Vote. Mr. W. Burrows 61, Mr. J. E. Hart 49.
Mr. Burrows was declared elected.

AGENDA, ITEM 15.

84. Mr. Knott moved, Mrs. Willey seconded,
A very hearty vote of thanks to all the local friends for Hospitality during the week-end of the Conference, especially to the work of Miss Rayner and her band of very willing helpers who had done so much for the comfort of the delegates.

Agreed.

NO. 7. GENERAL MOTIONS.

85. Mrs. Watson moved, Mrs. Raymond seconded.
That the nominations for the election of the Education Committee be governed by article IX of the Articles of Constitution.
86. Arising out of this Miss Kitson and Mr. Connor raised the questions of National Work and attendance at Lyceums. Mr. Shuttleworth replied that it was governed by Article 10, sub-section C.

The motion was withdrawn.

NO. 1. GENERAL MOTIONS.

87. In view of another Committee being necessary for the revision of the Songster, Mr. Drinkwater asked permission to withdraw the motion.

Agreed.

88. Mr. Shuttleworth moved, Mr. Burrows seconded,
That the present Revision Committee consider the Songster along with the Revision in general, and to get all opinions necessary to facilitate the completion of the revision of the Songster simultaneously with the New Manual.

Carried.

9b. ON THE AGENDA.

ELECTION OF THE B.S.L.U. ARBITRATION PANEL.

89. The President of the B.S.L.U., the Chairman of the Trustees, the President of the U.D.C., and Mrs. M. E. Pickles, representing the floor of the Conference, were elected as the B.S.L.U. section of the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. Joint Arbitration Board.

2 REPRESENTATIVES TO S.N.U. A.G.M. AND CONFERENCE.

90. Mrs. J. Greenwood, J.P., and Mr. C. J. Williams were appointed Delegates to the S.N.U. A.G.M. and Conference.

TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION.

1, 2, and 24, TO AMEND CONSTITUTION.

91. Mr. Robson moved, Mr. Batley seconded,
(i). Art. (iii), Page 3. Insert new clause (g) "Promoting the Teachings of Spiritualism."
(ii). Insert new clause (g) "The Teaching of Spiritualism as a Science, a Philosophy, and a Religion."
(xxiv). After the word "promote" insert the words "the Teachings of Spiritualism and."
92. After much discussion Mr. Slimin moved an amendment that the new clause should read "promoting the study of Spiritualism as a science, a philosophy, and a religion." which was put to the Conference and was carried, the voting being
For 93. Against 7.

93. Miss Hesp moved,
That the new Clause become Clause (c) of Article (111). Objects and that (c), (d), (e), (f), become relatively (d), (e), (f), (g).
Agreed.

3 TO AMEND CONSTITUTION.

94. Mr. Batley moved, Miss Lawton seconded.
(art. IV. Page 3.) "Delete the phrase commencing "consisting" and ending "Bye-Laws" and substitute the words "of eight members elected at the Annual Conference of the Union."
Mr. Batley said it would help the business of the Conference especially at Conference, and after a great deal of discussion in which several delegates joined, the motion was put to the vote as follows. *For 43. Against 73.*
The motion was defeated.

CREDENTIAL REPORT.

95. Officers 5, Area Representatives 8, Trustees 3, Auditors 2, Revision Committee 2, Education Committee 2, D.V. Birmingham 1, U.D.C. 1, District Councils 21 (representing 15 D.C.s), Lyceum Delegates 72 (representing 54 Lyceums). Total 117. There were also present S.N.U. Representative 1, Assistant Officer 1, Reporter 1, Accepted Visitor 1.

The Report was adopted.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

Immediately on resuming,

96. Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Williams seconded,
That the B.S.L.U. be officially represented at the S.N.U. Summer School and that the President attend for two weeks as our representative.
Carried unanimously.
97. Miss Elliott said she could only say "I thank you" at the moment, and she would attend.

No. 4. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

98. Mrs. Watson moved, Mrs. Raymond seconded,
Insert after the word "Committee" the words "they shall conduct all the business of the Union between Conferences except such legal business as is specially assigned to the Trustees in the Trust Deed."
Carried unanimously.

Nos. 5, 10, 12, 16. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

99. Mr. Jones moved, Mr. Betts seconded,
Art. vi. Page 4. Delete the words "and United Districts' Council."
Art. viii. Page 5. Delete Clause (e).
Art. xi. Page 6. Delete Clause (c).
Art. xi. Page 7. Clause (a) Delete the words "and the United Districts' Council."
100. After a good deal of discussion these motions were put to the Conference. *For 21. Against 90.*
The Amendments were defeated.

No. 6. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

101. Art. vii. Page 4. 2nd paragraph 'delete the words "Names on their Register".'
This amendment was withdrawn.

No. 7. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

102. Mrs. Watson moved, Mrs. Raymond seconded,
Art. vii. 2nd paragraph insert after the word "register" the words "and one further delegate for not less than 25 out of each succeeding 50."
For 35. Against 60.
The motion was lost.

No. 9. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

103. Mr. Jones moved, Mr. Betts seconded,
Art. vii. "Amend the whole article to admit the following principle: 'That all Lyceums shall be represented at conference through the district councils by a number of delegates, proportionate to the number of Lyceums in the District Council, such Delegates to be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the District Council, the Delegates' Expenses to be pooled equally between all Lyceums in the District Council.'"
104. After discussion,
Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Connor seconded,
That the motion be referred to the U.D.C. for more mature discussion, which was put to the Conference. *For 71. Against 11.*
The Amendment was carried.

105. The amendment was then put as a substantive motion. *For 82. Against 55.*
Carried.

No. 1. BYE-LAWS.

106. Mr. Dickinson moved, Mr. Ellis seconded,
Bye-law 1. Page 26. Section 6. Delete the whole section and substitute the words "voting shall be according to Lyceumists on Register. One Lyceumist one vote."
The motion was withdrawn.

No. 15. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

107. Mr. Slimin moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,
 Art. x. Page 6. Last paragraph. "After the word
 "months" insert the words "during the five years
 previous to the annual conference."
 108. Mr. Heath moved, Mr. Shuttleworth seconded, an
 amendment that the motion should read,
 "during the three years previous to the Annual Con-
 ference." For the Amendment 63. Against 24.
 109. A further amendment was moved by Mr. Wilson, Mr.
 Dobby seconded,
 "during the eight years previous to the annual con-
 ference." For 11. Against 73.
 The Amendment was defeated.
 110. The original Amendment was then put as a sub-
 stative motion. (Three years instead of five).
 For 68. Against 15. Carried.

No. 13. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

111. Mr. Batley then asked for
 Art. x. Page 6. Delete 3rd paragraph, commencing
 7th line up."
 to be withdrawn. Agreed.

No. 14. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

112. Art. x. 3rd paragraph, 2nd line "After the word
 "Conference" insert the words "as defined in
 article vi."
 The U.D.C. Delegate having departed this was withdrawn.

No. 17. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

113. Mrs. Raymond moved, Mrs. Watson seconded,
 Art. xii. "Delete 2nd paragraph and substitute the
 words 'one Auditor shall be elected annually for
 a term of two years. They shall be eligible for
 re-election if the necessary conditions are ful-
 filled. If at any Annual Conference it should be
 necessary for any reason to elect two Auditors,
 the one receiving the highest number of votes shall
 serve for two years, and the one receiving the
 second highest number of votes shall serve for
 one year only.'" Carried unanimously.

No. 18 AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

114. Mrs. Raymond moved, Mrs. Watson seconded,
 Art. xiv. Page 7. "Delete the word 'such' and sub-
 stitute the word 'they.'" Carried unanimously.

No. 19. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

115. Mr. Robson moved, Mr. Walmsley seconded,
 Art. xv. "insert after the term "(sub-section B.)"
 the words "all affiliated Lyceums within a dis-
 trict council's Area (by virtue of that fact) shall
 become members of the said District Council and
 subject to the financial obligations of same".
 After discussion it was declared that the motion was not
 in order. The subject was referred to the U.D.C.
 116. Item 20 was declared out of order.

Nos. 21 & 29 AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

117. Mr. Burrows moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,
 Art. xvi. "Delete the words "less than eight weeks"
 and substitute the words "later than the 23rd of
 March."
 Art. xvi. "Delete the words "less than eight weeks"
 and substitute the words "not later than the 23rd
 of March.'" Carried unanimously.

Nos. 22 & 23. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

118. Mr. Williams moved, Mr. Burrows seconded,
 That the title should be "Spiritualists' Childrens Pro-
 gressive Lyceum of"
 119. After discussion an amendment was put to the Confer-
 ence that the title should read "Spiritualists' Pro-
 gressive Lyceum of" but
 was defeated. For 40. Against 47.
 The Original Motion was put.
 (not a two-thirds majority) For 60. Against 32.

No. 26. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

120. Mr. Mack moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,
 Art. v. "Insert the after word "body" the words
 "provided such rules are in conformity with the
 current inter-relations agreements of the British
 Spiritualists' Lyceum Union and the Spiritualists'
 National Union, Ltd.'" Carried unanimously.

121. CREDENTIAL REPORT.

Officers 4, Adviser 1, Area Representatives 8, Trustees 3,
 Auditors 2, Education Committee 2, Revision Com-
 mittee 2, D.V. Birmingham 1, U.D.C. 1, District
 Councils 21 (representing 15 District Councils), Lyceum
 Delegates 71 (representing 55 Lyceums), Total 116.
 There were also present S.N.U. Representative 1,
 Assistant Officer 1, Reporter 1, Accepted Visitor 1.
 The Report was adopted.

No. 25. AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION.

122. Mr. Robson moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,
 Art. iv. "Insert after the word "required" the words
 "the Conductor, Secretary, and Treasurer, to be
 eligible for office, must be a member of a Lyceum
 for the twelve months previous to election to
 office: new Lyceums in process of formation
 excepted."

123. Mr. Williams made an amendment that the
 term be reduced to six months.
 which on being put to the Conference was defeated, the
 voting being For 9. Against 80.

124. The Original Motion was then put to Conference.
 For 89. Against 2. Carried.

No. 27. AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION.

125. Art. v. "2nd Paragraph "delete the number '12'
 and substitute the numner '16'.
 Mr. Latham moved the withdrawal. Agreed.

TO AMEND BYE-LAWS.

- No. 6. Section 6.
 126. Mr. Robson moved, Mr. Walmsley seconded,
 "Delete the amount "2s." and substitute the amount
 "1s." For 66. Against 5. Carried.

No. 2. BYE-LAWS.

127. Mrs. Watson moved, Mrs. Raymond seconded,
 Section 6. 3rd paragraph. "Delete the number "20"
 and substitute the number "50."
 128. Mr. Connor suggested 40 instead of 50 as a compromise
 to the Liverpool motion.
 Mrs. Watson agreed, but Mrs. Raymond did not accept the
 alteration.
 129. Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Burrows seconded, an amend-
 ment that the number should be 40.
 and on this being put to the Conference, the voting was
 For 62. Against 21.
 The original motion was lost, so the amendment became the
 substantive motion, the voting being.
 For 74. Against 0. Carried unanimously.
 130. Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Robson seconded,
 The Conference Close at 5-15 p.m., and the unfinished
 business was deferred to the next Annual Con-
 ference.

G. F. KNOTT,
 General Secretary.

There are some changes which have been made in the
 B.S.L.U. Constitution and Bye-laws. The Amendments will
 be printed and circulated in due course at a later date.
 Lyceum Secretaries are requested to preserve the amendments
 and insert them in their official copies of the Constitution.

G. F. KNOTT,
 General Secretary.

HANDSWORTH "FORWARD" LYCEUM.

It is with deepest regret we announce the transition of our worthy President, Mr. E. W. Jones, which took place at his home, 77, Hampstead Road, Handsworth, on May 7th, after long suffering. He was the Pioneer and Founder of our Lyceum. The service was held at the Forward Church, May 11th, Mr. E. Spencer, of Brighton, officiating. Six Lyceum Leaders conveyed his physical body to rest. For 12 years he was an ardent and tenacious worker for the cause, and at times he struggled under adverse circumstances, but eventually reaped his reward, by attaining the best Lyceum in Birmingham. On Sunday, May 15th, we held our Lyceum Memorial Service, and several officers spoke admiringly of his wonderful services to the Lyceum. We know that we shall always be able to feel his spiritual influence near, to help us to carry on with the work he has left us to do.—E. V. Babb, Sec

SHEFFIELD, Gifford Road.—On June 5th we held our Open Session, conducted by Mr. Hopkins. A good number of solos and recitations were well rendered.

On June 12th we had a visit from Miss Jones, D.V. for Sheffield, who spoke a few words to us.—A. Truelove.

(PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS (continued from page 105).

of the Union are constantly increasing, the time is not far distant when we shall probably have to increase our business premises to meet the demands of the people.

Thus we are reminded of the £2,000 Effort. This fund has not met with the success it deserves. Each year new suggestions are made to obtain the desired amount, and yet the apathetic way in which the fund has grown makes one wonder whether Lyceums are satisfied to continue trading under the present system, or whether they are desirous of bringing our publications within the reach of all at a reasonable cost. If you want to reduce your financial obligations we appeal to those Lyceums who have not yet paid their quota to this worthy object to do so, and at the same time you will be helping to place the Union on a sound financial basis. In perusing the £2,000 Effort Report I find there are only 21 Lyceums and one D.C. that have contributed their full quota of £10. 60 Lyceums have contributed part quota; the remainder has been raised by personal efforts and personal contributions. What of the remaining 160 Lyceums? We again appeal to you to rally to the call and play your part in the £2,000 Effort with your financial support, and so bring the fund to an early completion.

During the year the Union sustained the severe loss of a faithful and valued servant, in the person of Mr. F. F. Ball, who has served in the capacity of Auditor to the Union for many years, previous to which he had served as Area Representative on the M.C. Upon his promotion to the higher life we offer our heartiest congratulations, and feel sure his interest in the Union's welfare will still be as strong as ever.

During the year I have attended many demonstrations and conducted Lyceum Anniversaries and Open Sessions, all of which have been a source of real pleasure. These events have given me a greater incentive to go forward with increased zeal and energy in the work of Lyceumism. For the many tokens of kindness that have been shewn me throughout my term of office I wish to tender my sincere thanks to one and all. Our Overseas Lyceumists have sent their greetings and good wishes. I wish to record my appreciation of them. It is these little personal touches of goodwill that "Helps us to smile when things seem to go dead wrong." There are many points I would like to deal with, but, owing to the importance of this week-end Conference, I don't wish to weary you with a lengthy address. But I wish to take the opportunity of tendering my thanks and appreciation to the Officers and M.C. for their loyal support and kindness they have afforded me during my office. Also the General Secretary, who has ever been ready and willing to assist whenever he could. Yet, throughout the whole period there has been the consciousness of those above us whose influence and power has guided and sustained us and helped to direct our activities for the ultimate good of all. Let us then stand "Shoulder to Shoulder." Let us not be content to rest upon the laurels of the Pioneers of the past, but press forward, ever keeping in mind "THE WORKERS WIN."

LONDON LYCEUMS DEMONSTRATION AT BATTERSEA.

On Sunday, June 19th, the Annual Demonstration of the London Lyceums District Council was held at the Town Hall, Battersea, when a very large and representative gathering of Lyceumists attended. The Chair was occupied by "Uncle Bert" (Mr. Fruin, President L.L.D.C.), who was supported by members of the Council. Others invited to seats on the platform were Mr. H. Boddington (President, L.D.C., S.N.U.), Miss Marston (Psychic College), Mr. C. J. Williams (Treasurer, B.S.L.U.) and Mr. E. G. Cox (Area Representative, B.S.L.U.).

After the opening salute all joined in singing "Welcome to all." Mr. Stewart then gave an inspiring invocation, and after the Lord's Prayer a Two Minutes' Silence was held in honour of those departed Workers and Pioneers of our Cause.

The Chairman then gave a hearty welcome to the visitors, after which he stated he had had letters from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Lady Grey of Falloden, Mr. Connor, Uncle Joseph and Ida Young. He regretted the latter young lady and Mr. Drury were unfortunately absent through illness.

The silver chain, "Scatter the gems of the beautiful," was then read by Mr. Cox. Time would not allow of discussion and the musical reading, "How to live," was then taken, the readings being given by Mesdames Barnard, Petz and Tiffin. One pearl from each Lyceum present was then taken. The marching and callisthenics were then gone through, conducted by Mr. Dix, of Fulham, who received the hearty congratulations of all present for his splendid management.

Mr. Fruin then introduced Mr. H. Boddington to the gathering and that gentleman said he was pleased to have the opportunity of being present and begged all present to be more loyal to their principles. Giving the story of Daniel, he set the vast gathering singing "Dare to be a Daniel."

Mrs. Fruin was then called upon to present the prizes for Elocution and Singing. In introducing Mrs. Fruin, "Uncle Bert" said he knew of no one more worthy of making the presentations than that lady, his wife. The following were the prize winners:—

SENIOR ELOCUTION.

Miss Lily Elliott, Plumstead Lyceum.
Miss Roberta Abbott, Fulham Lyceum.

SENIOR SINGING.

Miss A. Lewis, Clapham Lyceum.
Miss K. Gomery, Walthamstow Lyceum.

JUNIOR ELOCUTION.

Miss Margaret Ella, Fulham Lyceum.
Miss I. Reynolds, Walthamstow Lyceum.

JUNIOR SINGING.

Miss Hilda M. Holloway, Tottenham Lyceum.
Miss Elsie Kebby, Bowes Park Lyceum.

Bouquets were then given to Mrs. Fruin and Mrs. Barnard by two little Lyceumists.

Mr. A. E. Young (Secretary, L.L.D.C.) then gave the Silver Bell Report.

Mr. Fruin, in presenting the Silver Bell to the winning Lyceum, Tottenham, congratulated their Conductor on the work accomplished by them.

Mr. Williams was then introduced by the Chairman. Congratulating London on their fight for Lyceum prestige, Mr. Williams urged all to do their part.

Miss Marston, Psychic College, said this was the first occasion she had been on a Lyceum platform and she had found something which she had found lacking in Spiritualism. The Lyceum was the greatest blessing Spiritualists could have. She brought "God Speed" from Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie, of the Psychic College.

Mr. Miles, D.V., emphasised the spirit of "play the game" and loyalty to Conductors.

Mr. Cox then congratulated the Council on the number present and hoped even larger halls would be required for future gatherings.

The Chairman then spoke on the power from the Spirit World for the education of the soul, wishing we should ever go forward.

After the singing of "Daybreak," Mr. Fruin closed with prayer.

TUNSTALL.—A great day for Tunstall was the expression of our oldest members on Sunday and Monday, June 12th and 13th. The event was our Lyceum Anniversary, and a procession from the Church to the Town Hall. The procession was headed by a Banner, followed by 200 people. It was an event never attempted before. Mrs. Jeffries, of Stockport, spoke on "God is a Spirit," and was listened to with rapt attention. Mr. Andrew MacLaren, M.P., was the Chairman, and presided over 800 people. The children surpassed all expectations by the rendering of the Hymns. A Choir of 80 voices rendered anthems in a tuneful manner. In spite of bad trade we raised over £30, an increase of £14 over the previous year. Mr. A. Lovatt trained the children and choir. Mr. Brammield was the pianist.—L. Smith, Sec.

District Visitors' Reports.

LEEDS DISTRICT.

I have made the following visits:—

Batley Carr on Dec. 12th, 1926. 35 present. No questions or comments. Singing very fair. Conductor's parts very ably explained by those who read them. The readings were very nicely read together. Marching and callisthenics were very good. Pearls, solos and recitations were given.

Liversedge, Dec. 19th, 1926. Present 34. Several questions were asked and very ably explained. The singing was good and the conductor's parts well explained by those who read them. Marching and callisthenics were good. Recitations and pearls were given.

Wakefield, Jan. 23rd, 1927. Questions which were asked were very ably explained by the Conductor. Singing was good but no explanation to the connective readings. Questions were asked on the G.C.R., and very ably explained. Recitations were given. 35 present.

Heckmondwike, Feb. 6th, 1927. The singing was fair. The G.C.R. explanations were good. Pearls, solos and recitations were given. The marching and callisthenics were very fair.—H. Spencer, D.V.

LONDON DISTRICT.

During the year commencing Feb. 28th, 1926, to Feb. 13th, 1927, I have had the pleasure of visiting once or more the following Lyceums:—Peckham (2), Clapham (3), Hampton (4), Southend (2), Battersea (3), Kingston (5), Brixton (3), Lewisham (2), New Eltham (2); also Bowes Park, Walthamstow, N. London and Harrow, Tottenham, Dover, Surbiton, Stratford, Plaistow, Woolwich, Chatham, New Malden, Manor Park, Little Ilford and, of course, Battersea Demonstration and Royal Albert Hall Armistice Day Ceremonies; making in all 50 visits. As a general survey, my impressions are that we are steadily making progress, larger attendances, higher spirituality, and certainly more enquiries show a keener and more enquiring mind being developed, which augurs well for the future, and if maintained must of necessity produce a clearer atmosphere for producing that Heaven upon Earth of which we are so much in need. Marching and Callisthenics in some cases could be improved. Efforts, however, have improved, and I am glad to report more music and singing has been included in the items. Taken as a whole, I can congratulate all the earnest workers for the fruits of their labours, and wish all God speed in our glorious movement.

Fraternally yours,
Fred John Miles, D.V.

DISTRICT VISITOR'S REPORT.

On January 9th I paid a visit to Lochgelly Lyceum, where I was pleased to find good progress being made. The members have greatly increased during the last few months, there being an attendance of between 50 and 60. Pearls were plentiful and well rendered. This being a comparatively new Lyceum, there is a lot of work to be undertaken, but with leaders who are enthusiastic and interested in the children's cause, good progress will, I feel sure, be made in that district.

On January 30th I attended the Edinburgh Spiritualist Church Lyceum, and thoroughly enjoyed the session. The responses and pearls were well given and the Conductor (Mrs. Duncan) explained to the children the meaning of Founders' Day.

On February 20th I visited Rosyth Lyceum, and was pleased to see that notwithstanding the large numbers who have had to go to the South of England (consequent on the closing of

Rosyth Dockyard) they are still carrying on and gathering numbers again. The session was ably conducted by Mrs. McKenzie, a special feature being the manner in which Pearls were given with meanings. A very fine recitation was given by one of the young Lyceumists.

Lyceums in the East of Scotland are somewhat scattered, but it is hoped that before long it will be possible for visits to be exchanged more frequently and thus strengthen the bond between Lyceumists in the different towns.

Agnes S. Blaik, D.V. for East of Scotland.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.

On February 27th I visited Alma Street Lyceum and found it in a very healthy state. There were 40 present. Readings very good and effectively led. Marching and callisthenics well done. A good number of elders were present, this Lyceum should lack nothing in the way of teachers and leaders.

On April 10th I visited Elland Westgate Lyceum. 14 present. Though small in numbers, they lack not in efficiency and able conductorship. The readings were well read, and responses good. Pearls, and quotations from the Manual were given by the scholars and their explanation was excellent. Marching and callisthenics were well rendered.

May 24th, Sowerby Bridge Lyceum was visited. 55 present. The singing was very good and readings well led with good responses. The marching and callisthenics were well done in spite of small space. A very good session with group lessons and a splendid liberty Group.—F. Baldwin, D.V.

SOUTH EAST LANCASHIRE.

Feb. 13th, Oldham, Elliott Street. Afternoon session. 42 present. Singing, readings, recitations and pearls, good. discussion on readings, marching and callisthenics good.

March 6th, Royton, Whittaker Street. Morning session, 9 present. This Lyceum is not as strong as usual, owing to changes having taken place. I am pleased they have joined the B.S.L.U.

April 3rd, Middleton, Gilmour Street. Morning session. 30 present. Everything passed off satisfactory. This Lyceum is not quite so strong as on my last visit. The officers are doing their best to improve it. I wish them success.

March 13th, Waterhead Street. Morning session, 24 present. A nice homely session. Good singing. Plenty of discussion on readings. Marching good. Mrs. Kelly, a medium, promised to give prizes for Essays on Spiritualism. The winners will receive the prizes on July 3rd.

April 15th, Heywood, Manchester Road. Morning session. 22 present. Singing, pearls, solos, and readings good. Readings explained. Marching and callisthenics very good. This is a new Lyceum opened in connection with the British Medium's Union.

Oldham, Hooper Street. 32 present. Usual standard. Changes have taken place in this Lyceum. Singing good, a few pearls and recitations. A nice discussion on readings. Marching and callisthenics very good. Good music. Any Lyceum which has a good musician ought to be proud.

May 8th, Rochdale, Regent Hall. Morning session, 22 present. Singing good. A few pearls and one recitation. A number of solos were sung. Readings fairly well explained. Marching and callisthenics fair. I gave a short lesson to them on stars and planets. The afternoon session was better attended. We had a nice discussion in the Liberty Group.

HERBERT BUCKLEY, D.V.

District Council Reports.

NORTH EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

The Council held the second quarterly meeting on Saturday, May 21st, at Vernon Street, Nelson.

Mr. Batley presided, and was supported by all the officers. Invocation by Mrs. Nurse. Miss Lawton and Mr. T. Wood were appointed credential officers.

The Minutes were taken as typed, accepted and adopted. Lengthy correspondence was read by the Secretary. The correspondence re Lyceums' arrears was also read and adopted.

The financial statement was read by the Treasurer and accepted. The Secretary's report dealt with some correspondence he had had with the L.M.S. Railway. Co. It was resolved that the Secretary keep in touch with the Railway Co. and if possible arrange Conference bookings and see what facilities can be offered to the delegates from the Council journeying to Nottingham.

The Southern D.V. reported visits to Preston, Rawtenstall, Barnoldswick, and Earby, which were accepted. The D.V. raised the question re Songsters being put to more use, his opinion being that it would make for a better tone, rhythm, and harmony. To Lyceumists he pointed out that all had equal responsibilities in the Session. The report was referred to the Lyceums.

U.D.C. report was given by the delegate, who dealt with the education, children's Manual, or section, and the various amendments to the Constitution. Opinions were expressed that the U.D.C. motion was only from lack of understanding, and instead of having finished its work, the real work was only just beginning. The usefulness of a body or section cannot be measured in terms of £ s. d., but by the service rendered to the movement. The report was accepted.

Mr. Clarke, of Earby, reported that he had attended a Charity Fete at Saltaire, and had given the N.E. Lancashire greetings. His action was endorsed, and agreed to encourage these fraternal exchanges.

The President's address dealt with many and varied matters; education re the growth from oral up to the College; the need of a more educated Spiritualism; Children's Manual, and an extension on the lines of the oral grade primer; granting of marks on the various Lyceum competitions as a stimulus to the Education Scheme. The address was accepted. It was agreed these matters be discussed in our Lyceums, and reports be submitted.

Credential Report. Officers and E.C., 7. Delegates 21. Associates 16. Visitors 1. Total 45. Pool 12/- per Lyceum.

The Agenda for the Conference was then discussed in detail and various suggestions were made. The date of the next meeting is September 17th. The Secretary is arranging either Blackpool or Fleetwood.

A vote of thanks to our Nelson friends closed a busy day's programme. Mr. Rau accepted our thanks.—J. S.

TEES SIDE DISTRICT.

The Tees-Side District Council conference was held at Shildon, Newlands Avenue, on Sunday, May 8th, 1927. There was a fairly representative attendance, with the majority of Lyceums represented. There were many keen discussions on the various items of business brought before the Council.

Special notice is asked for in respect of E.C. meetings, which in future will be held as per resolution. Due notice of time and place will be given. It is to be hoped that all Lyceums will be represented.

We enjoyed a good Open Session during the afternoon. Our thanks are due to those who interested themselves in our welfare.—G. A. Atkinson, Sec.

Special Reports.

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

WINNIPEG, Canada, Polson Avenue.—We held our Open Session on June 5th. We had a splendid turnout of scholars and visitors. We had the pleasure of having four visitors from Burnley, England, who were passing through Winnipeg on their way to their new home in Edmonton, Alta. A hearty welcome was accorded the visitors by the Lyceum. Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead and Miss Whitehead and Master Whitehead were the guests of Mrs. Parkinson, Atlantic Avenue, who were schoolmates in Burnley Lyceum. Pearls, songs and recitations were given by the following: Daisy Knox, Sylvia Parkinson, Edna Brown, Verna MacLeod, Mr. Chadwick, Mr. Whitehead, Harry Guest, Olive Forrest, Harry Forrest, Dolly Sutherland, Harry Towns and Miss Lawrence. Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead also made a few remarks at the close of the Session.

Election of Officers, May 25th.—Conductor, W. T. Brown; Asst. Con., Miss Anderson; Capt. Guards, H. Forrest, sen.; Guards chosen every Sunday by Conductor; Secretary, J. Knox; Treasurer, Miss Anderson; Mus. Directors, Miss MacLeod, Miss Lawrence, Miss Brown, and Mrs. Parkinson; Liberty Group, take class in turn; Auditors, Mrs. H. Forrest and Miss Lawrence; Sick Committee, Mr. and Mrs. Chadwick.

We had a very successful half-yearly meeting. The Balance Sheet showed a fine report which indicates we had a very successful six months. The Conductor gave a vote of thanks to all the retiring officers.—J. Knox, Sec.

DEWSBURY.—On May 29th we held our Open Session, conducted by Mr. J. H. Collier. Pearls 8. Recitations by Mrs. Jackson, Hilda Bennett, and Margaret Beevers. Solo by Mr. Hey. The speaker for the day, Mr. McDonald, spoke to the Lyceum and was very interesting to all. We also sang our Anniversary Hymns.

We held our Whitsuntide Treat on June 6th, headed by Darton Main Colliery Band, and proceeded to the field in Sugar Lane. We also sang our Anniversary Hymns at several places on the route. Tea in the field, was enjoyed by scholars and friends. We finished a very pleasant day at the school. Mr. L. Bland was our Musical Conductor. Mr. J. H. Collier was in charge of the Banner. Mrs. L. Bland and Mrs. E. Wilson in charge of the stall in the field. The collectors were Miss P. Kaye, Miss A. Bentley, Miss N. Haddinnall, Mrs. V. Phillips, Mr. Hey, Brook Duart. Banner carriers and string bearers were M. E. Whitworth, Mr. W. Poole, Mr. Gregory, Mr. H. Whitworth, Mr. Whitworth and Mr. N. Hartley. Mr. S. Senior gave the Secretary a helping hand. A happy and enjoyable day was spent. The Secretary thanks all who helped to make it a success.—V. R. Phillips, Sec.

DONCASTER, Catherine St.—We held our Open Session on June 5th; also the Memorial Service of our little Lyceumist, Lily Ball, aged 5 years 10 months, who has attended the Lyceum since babyhood. A very impressive service, Miss L. V. Batty, Mrs. Gosling and Mr. Webb taking part. Mr. Webb officiated at her interment, which was well attended by members and friends. We have indeed lost a promising bud which would have bloomed into a beautiful flower. She was at the Lyceum the Sunday previous to her passing away. We pray that God will give her parents and relatives strength to bear the cross.

Mrs. Gosling unveiled the photo of Mary Nutter, a late Lyceumist. We rejoice to know they have only gone a little while before. The service was well attended.—Mrs. Webb, Sec.

HUDDERSFIELD, St. Peters St.—We held our Open Session on June 4th, conducted by Mr. Garside. We had recitations by Mary Midgley, Leslie Midgley, and Jack Dyson. Pianoforte solos by Phylis Wilson and Eric Hollingworth. Solos by Mrs. Conlan, Eva Farnhill. Trio by Walter Buttle, Arnold Whitley, and Stanley Kitson. We had a very pleasant afternoon.—Elizabeth Farnhill, Sec.

LINCOLN, Progressive, Coultham St.—Open Session June 12th. A very enjoyable programme. Good attendance. Our Lyceumists have been working very hard, and gave a concert on June 21st, followed by a dance, in aid of our annual outing. It was greatly appreciated by the audience.—N. Willey, Sec.

NORMANTON, Queen St.—On May 22nd, Anniversary, Mr. Wilson, of Cleckheaton, was the speaker. Special hymns were sung, and the following Lyceumists recited:—Winnie Burns, Connie Williams, Mary Dixon, Louie Hunt, Selena Williams, Hilda Jones, Louie Hunt, Florence Dixon, Hannah Beecher, Rosie Dixon, Lucy Beecher, Kenneth Calcutt, Silas Beecher, Thomas Jones, Eric Lilley, Arthur Lilley, Winnie Burns, Laura Hunt, Selena Williams and Hilda Jones. Selena Williams sang two solos.

On Saturday, June 17th, we had our Anniversary Treat, and went to Wakefield Park, where we all indulged in games, races, etc. We had tea in the park, and everyone had a most enjoyable day.—E. Calcutt, Sec.

OLDHAM, Central.—On June 10th, Whit Friday, the children were taken to Doghill Pleasure Grounds for their yearly treat. All had a good time. The Lyceum is still progressing, and a welcome is extended to all who care to visit us.—J. E. Chappell, Sec.

WEST HARTLEPOOL, Musgrave St.—On June 5th we held our Open Session. There was a fairly good attendance. Mr. Cook, Conductor, opened with prayer. There were seven pearls. Recitations were said by Ronald Macklam and Mrs. Cranston. Solos were sung by Mr. Cook, Mary Petty, Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Jefferson.—E. Platts, Sec.

BLYTH.—On June 12th we held our Anniversary Service. The Lyceumists rendered a service of Song, "Sunshine and Showers," conducted by Mr. Leslie. Solos by Mary Glover, Betty Mitchelson, Mr. Fenwick, Masters John Thompson and Wilson Robson. Ten Certificates of this year's Examination were presented by Mr. Leslie, our founder. We have organized a choir and are hoping for good results.—F. S. Parsons, Sec.

CALGARY, Canada.—On May 8th we held our usual Sunday Session and celebrated Mothers' Day. A fairly large number were in attendance. Mrs. Eshby took the Silver Chain Recitation, which was "Home," while Mrs. Garrad took the connective readings in No. 203 Musical Reading. Pearls on "Mother" were given by nearly all in the room. Readings were given by Mrs. Crawford, Lorna Yoxall, Dorothy Browning, Mr. Adam, W. Garrad. A fine programme followed: Recitations being given by Shirley Clements, our youngest member, Raymond Parkyn and Ethel Rushton, and a solo by Hilda Peters. After very instructive lessons in the classes a very enjoyable session came to a close. With best of luck to all Lyceums and the Banner.—William A. Garrad, Sec.

JARROW-ON-TYNE.—May 28th. During the afternoon Mr. G. Hardwick presented the prizes and Examination Certificates to the Children and grade candidates.

Mr. N. E. Ainley spoke about Mediumship at the Evening Service. Everything went off well, thanks to all helpers.

On June 5th we had an Open Session. Recitations and solos were rendered by the children and adults.

At the evening service two of our own Lyceumists, Miss Evans and Mrs. French, occupied the platform. Our conductor, Mr. C. Daniels, was in the chair. The children rendered solos and recitations during both evening services. Best wishes to all.—J. Dunn, Sec.

LONDON, Lewisham.—On Tuesday, June 7th, we held a Social for the children and parents. The children came to tea in large numbers. After tea followed recitations, songs, music and games, which were quite numerous. Mr. Beeston kindly gave his services as conjurer. We then finished up a most enjoyable evening with dances. The music was provided by the Osman Dance Orchestra. Our President, Mr. Corkill, acted as M.C. We would express our sincere thanks to all helpers, who made it such a success.—E. Last, Sec.

LONDON, North London.—On June 12th we celebrated our 16th Anniversary. The Services, morning and evening, were well attended.

During the afternoon the hall was packed. The President of the Church distributed the prizes. Medals were awarded for good conduct. In return for loving service, Mr. and Mrs. Pulham were presented with a hall mirror. There were delegates from many Lyceums. The visitors included Auntie Ruth, Uncle Bert, Mr. Miles, Mr. Cox, and Mr. Clegg. A very successful day was concluded with a solo "A Perfect Day" by Claude Lovack.—Nellie C. Whorlow, Sec.

NEWTON HEATH.—On June 10th we held our Annual Trip to Grasscroft, when a good number of Lyceumists enjoyed a splendid country outing. Various games and rambles were taken, races run and prizes awarded to the winners. All thoroughly enjoyed the trip.

On June 12th, our Open Sessions, conducted by Mr. R. W. Marks, held both interesting and informative lessons, many questions being asked and opinions expressed, which will sow seeds of knowledge. The singing was ably conducted by Mr. Tonge, while Miss Ball officiated at the piano. Marching and Callisthenics conducted by Mr. Hood and Miss Frost respectively were well performed. Recitations and songs were enjoyable. Representatives from eight Lyceums, and the D.V. gave greetings.—J. Taylor, Sec.

RAWTENSTALL.—We held our Open Session on May 22nd. Conductor, Mrs. Greenwood. During the Session our Sister, Mrs. Walmsley, of Cloughfold, named two babies. One was named Harold Bullen; Spirit name, Steadfast. The other was named Martha Blunt; Spirit name, Progress. We followed on with a recitation by P. Greenwood: duets by Mrs. Greenwood and M. Entwistle, M. Smith and P. Greenwood; solos by Lily Rickerson, Mr. Standfield, Mr. Rickerson, Mr. Bullen, Miss V. Marshall and E. Entwistle. We had a very enjoyable morning.—Mrs. Greenwood Sec.

A CANADIAN REPORT.

It was my privilege to visit Edmonton Lyceum on May 29th. The Conductor, Mr. D. Daken, handled the session very well, although only 18 years old. There were pearls from all in the room; also recitations by Alice Moss, Nancy Criston, and Gladys Daken. Readings by Mrs. Moss, Mrs. Porter, Mr. R. Scott, and Mr. Moss. A violin solo by Mr. D. Daken.

Mrs. G. H. Garrad, of Calgary, spoke a few words of encouragement.

The marching was good, and it was a splendid session.

The Conductor is the second Vice-President of the Church. Mrs. Maxwell is the Musical Director, and has been faithful to her position for six years. Mr. J. Jones is another one holding the fort.

I was in Lethbridge in March, and saw Mrs. Lindley, and am pleased to say I believe she has taken a new lease of life. I was talking on Lyceum work in Medicine Hat a little while ago, and hope to see one there soon. I am keeping in touch with as many Spiritualists as possible along this line. Our greatest trouble in Canada is a floating population.—Mrs. A. Garrad.

LYCEUM REPORTS.

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

RULE 2.—Record only the events occurring after June 22nd.

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

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

RULE 4.—All Reports must reach this Office not later than July 27th, to ensure insertion in the August issue.

RULE 5.—Colonial Reports, if posted to the Lyceum Banner within 7 days after the events reported, will be inserted in the next issue after receipt at the "Banner" Office.

ACCRINGTON, Pearl St.—Open Session held June 5th. Recitations and solos by Nellie Laycock, Harry Rimmer, Francis Laycock, W. E. Swift, May Thompson, A. E. Anderson, Mr. Chambers and H. Swift.—A. E. Anderson, Sec.

BARNESLEY.—We had our Whitsuntide Trip to Cawthorne on Whit Tuesday. It was a beautiful day and delighted us all. We had races for the children. Prizes were given by Mrs. Moddern, Mrs. Gelder, and Mrs. Hampton. A good tea was given by the Church. We all enjoyed ourselves immensely.—H. Lucas, Sec.

BARROW, Ramsden St.—We held our Open Session on June 5th. The following Lyceumists took part: Hilda Deelay, Blanch Scott, Mary Broadbent, Frances Jones, Elsie Fenton, Ethel Huddleston, Olive Huddleston, David Brown, Dennis Bennion, Gonden Haznell, Herbert Johnson, Gordon Johnson, and Jackie Huddleston. A duet was rendered by Vera Harris and Amy Johnson.—L. B., Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—On June 5th we held our Open Session. Various social items were rendered by young Lyceumists. Pearls were given and explained. During the session, our Conductor named an infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton. The name given was Georgina, spirit name, Rose. The session was an enjoyable one and the attendance large.—John Hirst, Sec.

BOLTON, Bradford St.—Election of Officers, June 5th:—Conductor, Mr. Cliff; Assistant, Mr. Booth; Sec., Miss Holt; Assistant, Mr. J. Holt; Marching Leader, Miss H. Bromiley; Assistant, Mr. Cliff; Musical Director, Mr. Lyles; Guardian, Miss Walker; Captain of Guards, Miss Bromiley; Guards, Stella and Nora Bromiley, Margaret Buckley, Phyllis Speakman; Auditors, Mr. Brown, Mr. Lintott; Treas., Mr. Riding; Representatives to Church, Miss Holt, Mr. R. Johnson; Rep. to B.L.D.C., Mr. Cliff. Mr. R. Johnson; Children's Leader, Miss Bromiley; Girls' Leader, Miss Thwaites; Librarian, Mr. Edwards; Assistant, Mr. J. Thwaites. A vote of thanks was given to all retiring officers.—Edna Holt, Sec.

CHESTERFIELD.—On June 5th we held our monthly Open Session. The following Lyceumists rendered items: Lily Driver, Leslie Driver, Linda Heath, Ernest Heath, Connie Slater, Lilian Slater, John Slater, Mona Longden, Sidney Hobster, Avis Bown, Marian Holland, Jessie Orwin, Eveline Clements and Marion Wagstaffe.—Arthur Sutherland, Session Sec.

CLECKHEATON.—Open Session held June 5th. We had a good session with Whitsuntide hymns, well rendered by the Lyceumists and friends.—A. E. Rayner, Sec.

GREAT HARWOOD.—On June 12th we held our Open Session. A fairly good number of recitations and solos were rendered by various Lyceumists.

On May 29th we held the naming ceremony of the son of our Conductor and Lyceumist, Mr. and Mrs. Doswell. The baby's name was Jack. Mr. W. Taylor conducted the ceremony.—Miss Davis, Sec.

LANCASTER.—On May 29th we held our Flower Day. An Open Session was held in the afternoon with a fair attendance of visitors. Prizes for best display of wild flowers were won by D. Bleasdale, E. Townley, Doris Kirk, D. Lindsay, J. Gardner and F. Martindale.

In the evening a service of song, "Rest at Last," was given. Miss Swale took the reading. Mr. Verden, M. Bowskill, and Mr. Beecham rendered solos and duets with a chorus of Lyceumists. The singing was conducted by Mr. Beecham. We had a great day.

On June 11th, the portrait of the late Mr. F. F. Ball was unveiled by Miss Elliott, before a large congregation. The Lyceum chorus contributed musical items.—E. Thompson, Sec.

LEEDS, North.—We held our Flower Service on May 29th. Reading and prayer by the Conductor, Mrs. Carncross. The children gave essays on Flowers. A recitation by Master Gerald Trenholme. A few adults gave addresses and readings which they had written.—Mrs. Land, Sec.

LEICESTER, Liberty Progressive.—On May 22nd we held a Naming Ceremony by our Conductor, Mrs. T. M. Thwaites. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Miller was duly named Lucie Irene Miller, Spirit name "Prudence." On June 5th a good attendance of Lyceumists and friends. Pearls were good. Recitations by Mrs. Hurst, Mr. F. Gamble, Elsie Clements and Kitty Townsend. Solo by Mr. T. Kenney. On Tuesday, June 7th, we held our 6th Annual Treat at Nanpanton. About 150 sat down for tea. We held sports and a Ladies' and Gent's football match. In the evening we had a Concert and Dance, which closed a glorious day. All were happy and contented.—S. Wheatley, Sec.

LEICESTER, Rupert Street.—On June 5th we had our Open Session. Solos and recitations were ably rendered by the scholars, everyone doing their best; good attendances of friends and scholars. June 6th: We had our Annual Outing to Frisby on the Wreake, large numbers of friends going with us, when we all spent a very enjoyable time together. June 15th: Mr. Beck, our Assistant Conductor, distributed the prizes to the scholars. Miss E. Wicks conducted the Services.—Mr. J. Wicks, Secretary.

LONDON, Brixton.—On June 5th we held our Flower Sunday. There was a beautiful display of flowers and a very large attendance of Lyceumists. We had 45 visitors. A very important event was the naming of four young children. They were named by Mrs. Maunders, the Vice-President of our Church, who gave them their spiritual names. We had a very nice service in the afternoon. In the evening we had about a dozen Lyceumists taking part in the service. The little girls rendered two of our Lyceum songs, and we had readings by Miss Mollie Lampon, Mr. H. Leake, Mr. John Pett and Mr. F. B. Cross. Songs were rendered by Miss Kathleen Melloy and Mr. Geoffrey Dawker. Throughout the day we had delightful services.—F. B. Cross, Sec.

LONDON, Peckham.—On June 5th Mr. Holt, of Battersea, conducted our Lyceum, this being the first visit under the scheme for the interchange of Conductors. The Session was very harmonious; at the close Mr. Holt presented our Conductor with a small book of "Pearls" to commemorate the event.—Florence Franklin, Sec.

LONDON, Tottenham.—We are still keeping up our title—Progressive Lyceum. On June 19th we won the L.L.D.C. Silver Bell for the second time, the previous occasion being in 1924. Hilda Holloway won the 1st Silver Medal for the Juniors' Singing. Fraternal greetings to all Lyceums.—W. H. Markham, Sec.

NELSON.—Our Lyceum of late has been very active. Whit-Monday's Procession was a success. 300 walked and many pretty groups were witnessed. Our reputation of being the best was the note of the day, thanks to all who helped to make it so. Saturday, July 11th, was our Hospital Gala, and again we featured in this event. Our Morris Dancers gained 1st and 2nd Prizes. We have two sets of dancers now. A pretty group of girls attired in white each carried a letter of red flowers, forming the word "Success"; this was a great attraction. We wish them all continued progress.—Mrs. A. Parkinson, Sec.

NEWCASTLE, Benwell.—Open Session held June 5th. Songs and recitations were given by many Lyceumists. Mr. William Dixon told a good story which we all enjoyed. On the Sunday evening previous we gave an Open Session to the parent Church, during which songs, recitations and pearls were rendered. Mr. Anten also gave an interesting address.—Mrs. Anten.

NEWCASTLE, Heaton and Byker.—On June 5th we held our Anniversary Service. The chair was taken both afternoon and evening by Mr. and Mrs. Hall, our D.V. and past Vice-President of the T.L.D.C. Recitations, dialogues, solos and quartette were well rendered by scholars and officers. A song recitation was given by seven scholars which was well received, also action song by seven tiny tots. At the evening service Mr. Hall presented 19 Certificates to the successful students of the Education Scheme, which was recommended to all Lyceumists. We expect to have a bumper number for next year, as we don't like to be beaten in the North by other D.C.'s.—S. J. Hunter, Sec.

OLDHAM, Elliott St.—We are carrying on about the same as usual, except that the children are improving in their solo and duet singing.

Mrs. Jessy Greenwood, J.P., visited our Church, joined our afternoon Lyceum, and helped to make it a pleasant Session.—N. Harper, Sec.

PORTSMOUTH.—May 22nd. We were visited by Mrs. E. Clements, D.N.U., who presented the B.S.L.U. Examination Certificates to 25 successful candidates, and spoke some very encouraging words to each one.

On June 5th we held our Open Session, which was greatly enjoyed by everyone.—L. Paget, Sec.

RIPLEY, CONDOR AND DISTRICT.—One of our Lyceumists, Mary Hartle, passed to the Higher Life on April 30th, and her remains were laid in Mother Earth on May 4th.

It is very pleasing to know she realised there is no death, and she still lives. There were many sympathisers. Although she was a cripple and had to go about with the aid of crutches and a chair, she always had a cheery smile for everyone.—J. E. Eyre, Sec.

ROCK FERRY.—Open Session, June 5th. Several strangers present, who, before leaving were as one of the family. Songs and recitations by the children. Recitation by Mrs. Langdon applauded by all the Lyceum.—Wm. Roberts, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—We held our Open Session on June 4th. The Session was conducted by Master Thwaites, Assistant Conductor. We had an enjoyable Session together. The marching and callisthenics were good. The individual efforts were very good.

On Whit Monday we took all the Lyceum children to Brinsworth Common. The children had games and racing. We gave the children tea and a bag of sweets. The children enjoyed themselves, and we all had an enjoyable week-end.—E. Johnson, Sec.

STOCKTON, Cecil St.—An Open Session was held on June 5th, with a fair attendance. The usual offices were well performed. Pearls, recitations; and solos were good, especially from the Daisy Group. An excursion of Lyceumists to Pistor on Whit Monday was greatly enjoyed.—G. A. Atkinson, Sec.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—We are holding our Anniversary and Parade and we shall be pleased to see all our old friends and many new ones. Parade, 1-30 p.m. from church. Services 3 and 6-30 p.m. Refreshments provided as usual for visitors. Do not forget the date is July 10th.—W. S. Matthews, Sec.

WELLINGTON (Kent Terrace), N.Z.—We held an Open Session, of much interest, on April 17th. Items were given by Eileen Swede, Esma Ruidell, Mena Ruidell, Misses Nixon and G. and L. Webb and Mr. Ross. A prize, donated for the best item given by a junior, was won by Mena Ruidell. On the 18th a Lyceum Picnic was held at Day's Bay, when, in spite of rather inclement weather, everyone had a jolly time. Greetings to fellow Lyceumists.—Robt. J. Ross, Sec.

WEST PELTON.—Open Session held June 5th. The following Lyceumists responded: L. Abbott, L. Dryden, B. Gransbury, D. Douglas, T. Dance, J. Robinson, W. Milford, E. Hardy, H. Milford, J. Douglas. Conducted by Mr. Abbott, Organist, Mr. A. Greenwell.—(Mrs.) A. Dryden, Sec.