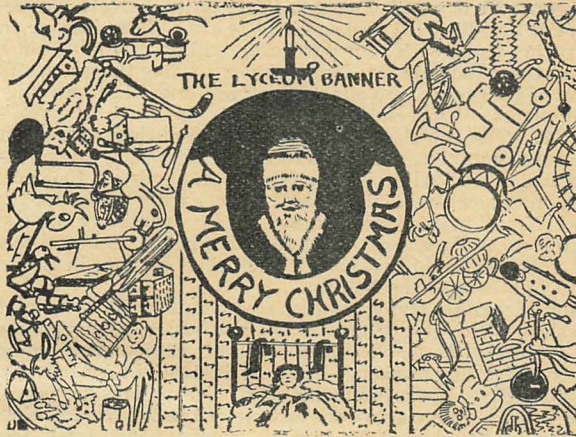


# THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 442. Vol. XXXVII.

DECEMBER, 1927.

PRICE TWOPENCE.



LIVE SWEETLY.

By W. GEO. WHEELER.

Just to perceive the Sunshine and the Flow'r,  
My Lord most dear;  
Just to live sweetly through each passing hour,  
And never fear.  
Just to think lovingly of all mankind  
By night and day;  
Just to be peaceful in the inmost mind  
Through all life's way.  
Just to believe that Love will subject Hate,  
Though Hate seem strong;  
Just to believe that God's my only fate  
To conquer wrong.

## Opening of a Lyceum at Acton, London.

The opening up of a new Lyceum in the Western Section of the London District Council's Area should be accepted with great hopes of future advancement of our Movement.

A few Lyceums in the past have been started in this crowded populated area, but each from time to time has lapsed. It is therefore hoped that all encouragement will be given to this new centre, the address being The Cottage, Woodhurst Rd., Spencer Rd., Acton.

On Sunday, October 30th, the Opening Session was conducted by Mr. Fruin (Pres., L.L.D.C.), who was supported by officers and members of the Council, and delegates from various London Lyceums.

The afternoon programme took the form of an Open Session, including a Special Dedication of the Lyceum to the Service of God and the Angel World, during which Mrs. Golden was presented with a large bunch of Chrysanthemums by Doris Fruin, on behalf of the L.L.D.C. Their colours were white, yellow and red, symbolising that from the centre of all Purity, the radiation of spiritual vibrations created spiritual Power.

After the Dedication, Mr. Fruin pinned Lyceum Badges on the newly elected Conductor, Mr. Hobbs, and a number of children who were enrolled as Lyceumists. Encouraging remarks and greetings were given by Mr. Miles (D.V.), Mrs. Fruin (A.D.V.), Mrs. Bell, and other delegates.

The Session was continued by the evening service, when the Hall was packed. Mrs. Golden and Mr. Fruin jointly conducted the naming ceremony of Betty Hobbs (daughter of Lyceum Conductor). Mrs. Golden giving the spirit name "Snowdrop."

Mr. Bell ably rendered a solo from the Lyceum Manual, "As Gentle Words." Messrs. Fruin and Miles gave addresses outlining the advantages of Lyceum Education. Mrs. Golden and Mr. Hobbs expressed their appreciation to all who had assisted to make the opening services such a great success.

## The National Spiritualist College.

(Printed at the request of the United Districts Council.)

The National Spiritualist College was founded in July, 1926, and is recognised by The Spiritualists' National Union, Ltd., and The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union, as an Educational Institution, legally established as a Body within the orbit of the two Unions, and an integral part of their activities.

The College is being conducted in close co-operation with the National Education Scheme; the College Governing Board being also the Joint Education Committee. But there is no confusion of duty or function. The function of the Joint Committee is to carry on the Advanced Education Scheme and conduct the Grade Examinations (through the S.N.U. Education Committee—which forms a section of the College Board); and the function of the Governing Body is to organise and supervise and encourage the Educational and Class work carried on by the Churches and Lyceums, operating as Local Branches of the College.

The COLLEGE Constitution was adopted by both Unions in 1926; the Local Branch Constitution has since been drawn up as a Guide to all legitimate activities under Article II (b) of the Constitution, and also to enable Churches and Lyceums to organise themselves as Units of the College. Hints and suggestions on organisation, etc., for Local Branch officials and members, and Interpretations of Advanced Education Scheme Regulations which may be of service to students and tutors have also been included in "The COLLEGE BOOKLET."

It is hoped that all eligible Churches and Lyceums will adopt it as an item of normal policy to join the College and establish Local Branch activities in vigorous operation—and that those not yet eligible will set up Education Committees on lines similar to those laid down for Branch Committees, and make active membership of the College their educational objective. In ensuring the success of the College they will be raising the status of the Organised Movement, and thus bringing honour to themselves as members of such a Movement and as pioneers in its educational and progressive efforts.

There is one thing we must remember. The long threatened attack on our position has begun, with the usual accompaniment of misrepresentation and abuse. Our reply to that is not to rush into print to defend our Cause—which is in no need of apology—but to set to work and build up an educated Movement, every member of which will be able to defend his or her belief both scientifically and philosophically. To do this all must study, and it is the duty of all who are zealous educationists to work without ceasing in our individual Districts as missionaries of educational Spiritualism until the absolute necessity of study is realised—and acted upon—by every Body attached to the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. And when this great work has been accomplished we may rest assured that the Spirit Organisers of our Movement will open up new vistas of progress and give us new opportunities of working for the mental and spiritual advancement of mankind. But we need not waste time looking forward and wondering what tasks the future will bring forth. Let us do the duty that lies nearest us; our next duty will then have become clearer. So will our Movement be raised to the position it was destined to occupy, and so shall each of us be able to say that we have done our utmost to help in the accomplishment of its destiny.

"Let each man do his best;  
Who does the best his circumstance allows  
Does well, acts nobly—angels could do no more."

## THE LYCEUM BANNER—BOUND VOLUMES.

The Bound Volumes of the LYCEUM BANNER for 1927 will be ready early in the new year. Place your orders early to secure a copy. Price 5/6 post free.

## B.S.L.U. Conference, 1928.

## INVITATIONS.

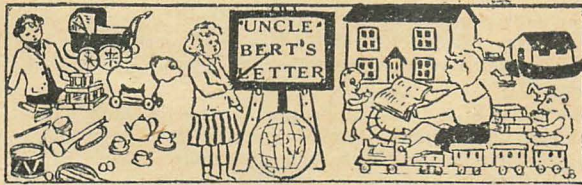
The Management Committee are desirous of proceeding with the details for the success of the 1928 Annual Conference.

No invitations are yet to hand, but we understand some Lyceums and District Councils have been considering an invitation. We await the invitation and hope some Lyceum or District Council will definitely decide to invite the Conference. The conditions were printed in the November issue of the BANNER.

If no invitations are received by the General Secretary before January 7th, 1928, the Management Committee will select the venue and make the necessary arrangements.

This method will probably be more costly, so we appeal to Lyceums to send an invitation at the earliest possible moment.

G. F. KNOTT,  
General Secretary.



My dear Boys and Girls,

To most of you there is one word uppermost in your little minds this month, "CHRISTMAS." So in order that you may enjoy this letter I want you all to enter into the real spirit of the season.

First of all, Auntie Ruth, Doris and I, will exchange Greetings with you, wishing you all, old and young, a "Jolly Xmas."

I have been reading a book about the various customs regarding Christmas time for the past five hundred years. I do not intend to go into the various details, but I find that Eating, Drinking, and making Merry appears to have been the rule throughout this period. Much the same as to-day. The main differences which stand out are perhaps a few of the Xmas dishes. In olden times the Boar's Head was the main item of the menu, while our favourite Xmas Pudding does not get much mention.

Just to give you an idea of Christmas years ago, I will try and give you a description of a very old steel Engraving (Picture) I saw. Here you see a large room, in the centre a long table, around which sit a number of men and women in the costumes of their day. Coming towards the table is a procession led by a Jester. (That is a man who wears a cap with bells on it, holding in his hand a bladder, this he would use for hitting the person he was about to speak to, his duty being to amuse those present with jokes). Following the Jester came two Trumpeters, then the servant carrying above his head the dish upon which is a large boar's head all steaming hot. Holly and ivy seem to form the main decorations, while one can see the open hearth in which a fire is ablaze. Two men are drawing a large log, which we should term a full size tree, for burning on the fire. This gives you just a brief idea, but there is one thing missing in the picture; there are no children.

From what I have read I think you boys and girls live in a much happier time; for Christmas to-day is considered to be a real Children's Festival.

A modern picture in my imagination is that of seeing you boys and girls all busy with strips of paper and the gum pot, making paper chains. Ah! what a sticky mess some of you are getting in too, why there's one little boy already sticking to the chair he's been pasting on. Oh, help! pull him off quickly, or he'll be too late for his Xmas Dinner. There's another little girl sampling mother's mince pies, her fingers are so sticky with gum, that she's having to have a tug of war with it.

A naughty little boy who thinks he's little Jack Horner, has put his thumb in the Christmas Pie, and by gum it has stuck. His mother will catch him in a minute, then I expect stuck will get another letter in it between T and U, don't you?

There's father's clean shirt, which was on the table, it too has come into collision with the gum brush, its button holes are all stuck together. That will make another Study in the

morning. This being Xmas Eve, everybody's feeling merry and bright, so who cares.

Picture No. 2. A shopping we will go. A shopping we will go. (You can fill in the rest of the song). Now we really enter Fairyland. Everybody is busy buying presents in shops which are ablaze with lights. A present for mother, father, brother, sister, not forgetting Uncle Bert. But do not send mine by post. I would much rather send a motor lorry along for them. (What a neck I've got. Yes, quite correct, I have a neck, size of collar, 14½, not so big after all). I can just see you all trotting home with your purchases, and as they must not be seen by those they are for, I can see you stuffing them down the sleeves of your coats, in your stocking legs and other convenient hiding places. Thus ends picture No. 2.

No. 3. The cat sleepers, I am not suggesting you are all little pussy cats, oh, dear no, I am only suggesting this picture shows you all tucked up in your little warm beds, on the end of which hang stockings, pillow cases, etc., with the hopes that Father Xmas will do his usual duty by examining all such stockings to see how many holes there are in the heels and toes, you see he has to do this in case the things he puts in the top should fall through the bottom.

Many of you are trying another record stunt, that is trying to go to sleep with one eye open. Oh you saucy young pussies. Now Picture 4, 5, 6, all joined together, Christmas morning! Mother and father awakened before it is daylight by pattering feet and little voices yelling with glee, "Santa Claus has been." There being no more peace for anyone of the household, Xmas day has really started in earnest, smoke pours forth from thousands of chimneys, sweet smelling odours fill the air with appetising forces. The stuffing department is now to be seen at full working power, ending with the good old English Plum Pudding. (I wonder if you will all have room for a bit). Of course nobody wants any tea Xmas day, so on with the party.

Even the days of the Jester, when it was customary to have a little entertainment between each dish served, could not have been so gay as these. The mistletoe hangs in the (Castle) hall, that sounds alright, but oh, look, what are those two dark objects I see underneath it. Oh, it's alright, it's one of my girls whispering to one of the boys, I am sorry I cannot hear what they are saying, so you will have to guess this little bit for yourselves.

Now we must draw to a close as it is getting late, so we will have the presents off the Xmas tree, and finish up with a few Bons Bons. Bang! Bang! Bang! Golly what a lot of funny hats. Let's look at one or two mottos: "Kiss her once, kiss her twice, Kiss her three times over." Well I am sure you will be doing that without instructions. Here's another, this one is from the Lyceum Manual: "Laugh, frolic, dance, and be merry; but be ye also pure." I do not intend preaching any Sermons to you this month, just a word of warning only.

Christmas time throughout all ages has presented to mankind the temptation for overindulging in wines, gambling, etc. As Lyceumists, I ask you at this season to "Watch your Steps." Let your conscience be your guide, standing firm against all temptations which will deface your characters. The words of this motto are all sufficient for my lesson. Off to bed we now toddle, trusting to luck to tell its own story in the morning, or as some prefer to say, "The day after the night before."

## PUZZLEDOM CORNER COMPETITIONS.

Many answers received to Puzzle No. 76 (October issue). Sentence from the letters B.S.L.U. The best selections were: "Broadcasting Sunshine, Lessens Unhappiness," Mr. McFarlane, Portsmouth.

"Be steadfast, Live Upright," Florence Stuart, Liverpool. "Boys Sing Like Uncle (Bert) from Bury (needless to say I have not been to Bury yet, or the sender might have a different opinion).

## ANSWERS No. 78:

Telegram. Telephone. Cablegram.  
Messenger. Carrier. Wireless.

## No. 79.

Andrew Jackson Davis.

## No. 80.

If you feel blue, find something to do that will help someone else, who is bluer than you.

## ANSWERS RECEIVED FROM:

Miss D., Ivy, Celia, Alice, Ingham Whitehead, Horace, Irene, Madge Tyrer, Ivy Whittle, Lucy Manuell, Ellen and Florrie Barnett, Gladys Bayliffe, Mrs. Robinson, Messrs. J. & W. Taylor, Madge Spence, Miss Powell, Miss Walmsley

(Newton Heath), Doris Nash, (Manor Park), Dennis Glanville, Eric Hayward, Portsmouth; Mrs. Nellie Dean, Ernest Morris, Frank Pedlar, Leslie and Florence Morris, Edith Taylor, Willie Owens, Edith White (Bury), Iris Thornton (South Manchester), Florence Stuart (Liverpool).

The Manchester and Salford District Council Area won the Test, Newton Heath scoring 19 points, Bolton D.C. came second.

**THIS MONTH'S PUZZLES.**

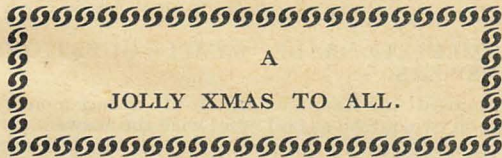
No. 81. (What we do at Xmas).

- |           |        |
|-----------|--------|
| 1. E·H·G· | G·E·N· |
| 2. W·O·E  | P·M·N  |
| 3. R·E·E  | P·E·S  |
| 3. C·E·T  | H·I·S  |

No. 82. (A Muddled Christmas Wish).

A INTEGEGR OT YM ELLITT DEINFR  
ITHS EMIT FO SSTMARIHC YLLHO  
AYM SSPPENIHA NO JYO TTDNEA  
DNA LAL ETH ITEM EB LJYOL.

As my next month's letter has to go to the printers very early, owing to Christmas Holidays. I shall be pleased to get your replies early this month.



2, Villiers Road, Your Loving Friend,  
Osterley, Middlesex. UNCLE BERT.

**THE HYDESVILLE MEMORIAL.**

**AN OBELISK ERECTED AT ROCHESTER.**

Unveiling by Mary T. Longley, the veteran American Medium.

During Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's visit to America a few years ago, he suggested that an International Memorial should be erected in Rochester to commemorate the Advent of Modern Spiritualism and the fortitude of the Fox Family in becoming the first mediums in organised Modern Spiritualism.

The Memorial is a shaft of light barren granite, 25 feet high and bears a bronze tablet at the base. It will be unveiled by Mrs. Mary T. Longley, on December 4th, 1927.

A four days' Convention has been arranged when a pilgrimage will be made to the spot where the Hydesville Cottage originally stood. A "Marker" will be there to indicate the plot, stating its place in history.

There will be a symposium of Spiritualistic and Lyceum greetings and essays read from many countries. The B.S.L.U. has sent a contribution and official greetings. The Gen. Sec. has sent two essays and some educational literature for the Exposition.

The whole arrangements have been made by Mrs. M. E. Cadwallader, editor of the *Progressive Thinker*, who suggests that all Lyceums and Churches should sing "The World hath felt a Quickening Breath" on Sunday, December 4th, and concentrate in thought force to create a spiritual vibration to spread around the world and draw the minds of humanity to the consciousness of spirit-communion.

Finally, there is the feeling that many British Spiritualists and Lyceumists would like to have a small share in the memorial dedicated to the beginning of a cause which has brought comfort into their personal lives. All donations will be acknowledged in the *Progressive Thinker*, and can be sent to the Lyceum BANNER Office, or to Mrs. M. E. Cadwallader, 106, Loomis St., Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.

**ANTI-VIVISECTION.**

The Anti-Vivisection and Humanitarian Review, 6d. per copy, is published every two months. It was founded in 1909 by Miss L. Lind-af-Hageby, and is obtainable from the Manager, 35, Old Bond Street, London, W.1.

A love and defence of animals permeates the Review. There are articles dealing with the failure of Insolin and the Vivisectionist Methods of dealing with Diphtheria. Lieut. Col. J. F. Donegan, C.B., LL.D., in the report of a serio comic speech ridicules vivisection, and relates a large number of discoveries which are an overwhelming testimony of medical reform without the aid of vivisection.

**Our Lyceum Guild.**

(GUILD LEADER—Miss M. E. KITSON, B.A., F.N.S.C., 37, South Street, Savile Town, Dewsbury, Yorks.)

**GREETINGS.**

We wish each Guildite and non-Guildite reader the old, old wish:—A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May your holiday be full of fun and frolic; laughter and enjoyment, and happy surprises.

**OUR ESSAY COMPETITION.**

Before you see these words in print, each competitor in the recent Essay Competition will know his or her results and marks; but at the time of sending this to the press some of the essays have not come back from the Examiners, so we must postpone list of winners till next month.

**BOOKS YOU'LL ENJOY READING.**

Here is the second half of the list sent in. The first half appeared last month:—

**BOOK LIST.**

<i>Title.</i>	<i>Author.</i>
The Willing Horse .. ..	Ian Hay.
Quinneys .. ..	H. A. Vachell.
Pollyooly; and Second Pollyooly Book .. ..	Edgar Jepson.
Angel Unawares .. ..	Queenie Scott Hopper.
Little Women and Good Wives; and Jo's Boys .. ..	Louisa Alcott.
The Senior Prefect; and the series of six "Dimsie" Books .. ..	Dorita Fairlie Bruce.
The Series of School Tales .. ..	Evelyn Smith.
Any of her Books. .. ..	Christine Chaudler.
Her Schoolgirl Stories .. ..	Dorothea Moore.
The "Pollyanna" Books .. ..	Eleanor Porter.
Children of the New Forest .. ..	Captain Marryat.
Mr. Midshipman Easy .. ..	.. ..
The "William" books .. ..	Richmal Compton.

**TO RECITE AT THE LYCEUM.**

**TWO LITTLE BIRDIES.**

Two little birdies,  
One winter day,  
Began to wonder,  
And then to say,  
"How about breakfast,  
This wintry day?"

Two little maidens,  
One wintry day,  
Into the garden  
Wended their way,  
Where the snow lay deep  
That wintry day.

One, with a broom,  
Swept the snow away;  
One scattered crumbs,  
Then away to play;  
And birdies had breakfast  
That wintry day.

**IF.**

If we noticed little pleasures  
As we notice little pains;  
If we quite forgot our losses  
And remembered all our gains;  
If we looked for people's virtues,  
And their faults refused to see,  
What a comfortable, happy,  
Cheerful place this world would be.

*The Two Worlds* has noted in its columns that it is 40 years since its introduction by Mrs. Emma Harding Brittain and Mr. E. W. Wallis, as a Spiritualist newspaper. It has a wide circulation over the world and is growing in popularity.

## The Education Department.

THE ASSOCIATE (B.S.L.U.) SECTION OF THE NATIONAL JOINT EDUCATION SCHEME.

### IMPORTANT TO INTENDING CANDIDATES.

This month your entrance fee, to take the examination, and name *must* be sent in to the B. S. L. U. Education Secretary. Please ask your Lyceum Secretary if he (she) has your name on the list, and remind him (her) to be sure to send in List and fees soon.

The examinations will be held on Sunday, 19th February; so try to get through the allotted work in Handbook and Manual by the end of January, to give you February for revision and memorising notes, etc.

### THE WORKERS WIN.

#### GRADE V. AND ENTRANCE EXAM.—TO TUTORS AND STUDENTS.

By the kindness of Mr. Gush, D.N.U., F.N.S.C. (of Huddersfield), who has successfully coached students for Grade V. and for the S.N.U. Entrance Examination, we are giving NOTES OF LESSONS, as prepared and used by him in his classes, on the Grade V. Handbook (No. 3.)

If these are used along with their respective Chapters, and then learned, they will be found of great help in grasping the important points, and in summarising what has been studied. The first set of these Notes was given in September.

#### NOTES ON "THE EFFECTS OF SPIRITUALISM ON SCIENCE, PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION."

ELLIS T. POWELL, LL.B., D.Sc.

(Handbook No. 3—for Grade V. and Entrance Exam. Students).

1. Before the time of Modern Spiritualism it was held that all the available data for the study of Science, Philosophy and Religion were in the hands of Mankind.
2. Some of the data Man had won for himself, but in the field of religion it was held that he had been largely helped by revelations from super-physical sources.
3. It was also generally held that this process of revelation had come to an end, and, for Western people, was contained in the Bible. The general view held was that the Bible constituted a quarry in which man could go on working for ever—it being inexhaustible.
4. A new revelation was considered impossible; and the idea that our knowledge might be supplemented by psychic investigation was received with ridicule.
5. These old ideas have largely passed away, greatly helped by the scientific demonstration of Man's survival beyond Death. Faith in man's survival based upon the ancient revelations was a wonderful thing; but there were millions who could not be intellectually persuaded of it from that source. By the modern scientific testimony of survival, gained from psychic sources, millions have been intellectually convinced of its truth.

#### PHILOSOPHY.

6. Each individual spirit is a part of the Deity plunged into space and matter for a defined purpose, which can be partly discerned.
7. The philosophical inference that time and space, on any other plane of existence, might be very different, has been confirmed by information from "the other side."

In time it will doubtless be possible to frame an entirely new system of philosophy, built upon the results of psychic investigation and the guidance of high incarnate intelligences.

8. The old idea that IF there were any other invisible worlds they were to be found in the direction of extended space has been shown to be wrong. Sphere within sphere—matter interpenetrating matter—has replaced it. The passage from one world to another does not necessitate travelling great distances, but the development of psychic powers to make the inner worlds visible. We are separated from these invisible worlds NOT by distance but by states of consciousness.

#### SCIENCE.

9. There is hardly a scientific problem upon which psychic knowledge does not shed new light.

The theory of evolution by natural selection has been illuminated by psychic teachings, extending it to worlds

beyond the physical—Evolution being a process embracing everything which exists.

Possibly also the discovery of ectoplasm has led many scientists to review their theories on the constitution of matter and the possibilities of the moulding power of thought thereon.

#### RELIGION.

10. In regard to the effect of Spiritualism upon religion, it may be said that it has been revolutionary. The whole conception of GOD, the Universe and Man having been changed by the incursion of teachings from the spirit side.
11. The psychic interpretation of the New Testament has yielded great results.
12. Many of the most quoted texts have, as a result, taken on a new significance.

#### UNAVOIDABLE CONCLUSION.

13. The influence of Spiritualism upon Science, Philosophy and Religion has been of an ennobling, amplifying and uplifting character.

(Compiled by W. G. Gush, D.N.U., F.N.S.C.)

#### INTERMEDIATE GRADE—SAMPLE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

As promised, the Examiner who wrote in last month's Notes has sent on two questions on Logic, with the answers, as a guide to tutors and students preparing for the March Intermediate Grade Examination.

*Ques.* 1.—Describe Inductive Reasoning, and state how you distinguish causes from other antecedents. (Jevons, ch. 15-24; E. on R., 8-11).

*Ans.*—Inductive Reasoning is the process of getting true propositions about natural laws from the facts in Nature, by observations in experience and experiments and by deductions therefrom. Thus we may obtain our Seven Principles by inductive reasoning from the "proven facts of (and by) spirit communion between departed spirits and man." Of course, we never start observation and investigation with an empty mind. We take the known to help us to find the unknown, the laws of resemblances being relied on. But seeming resemblances sometimes hide important differences. That is one of the first dangers to inductive reasoning. We must get accurate observation of really similar things when apparently similar things may be different (*as artificial fruit*); and *vice versa* (*as whales and cows*). Accurate and full observation is first needed for inductive reasoning, which is essentially concerned with distinguishing causative from other antecedents. Knowledge already acquired helps to detect among varied conditions those which may be *necessary* antecedents for the production of certain events or results; also to detect conditions presenting obstructive forces, and the differing results from the clash of conflicting forces. Thus for a successful seance we know we need certain conditions—of rooms, quiet surroundings, lighting or shade, furnishings, weather, sitters, mediums—and spirits, though too little attention is paid to reasoning about them and their comfort. In the event of failure, we have to find what alterations can be made to cut out the cause of failure. We have to make careful experiments for that. Certain events generally follow the provision of other events or conditions, which may be, therefore, considered causative of those that follow, especially as the latter are invariably absent when those antecedents are absent. To be certain of what are necessary antecedents, therefore, repeated occurrences of just those antecedents must invariably be followed by certain events; cause and effect must be proved by *invariable partnership*. As the actual cause is not easily discovered in the complicated course of nature, experiments are made, where a selection can be made of supposed causes and close scrutiny made of all processes. Every seance is really an experimental process to some sitters and to the controlling spirits.

After collection of facts apparently related as cause and effect, theories or hypotheses are formed as to the forces that cause the effects. Thus for phenomena we have theories of unconscious cerebration, fraud, automatic nervous action from sitters, telepathy from the living, etc., and spirit action. Without giving syllogistic instances of deductive reasoning, it may be best to quote the rule that a hypothesis must cover or fully account for all the facts by its stated law. Only one of the above hypotheses—that "the phenomena are produced by the action of discarnate spirits (generally using mediums)"—covers all the facts; though some facts supporting all or some of the

other theories may also be present. That is important in inductive reasoning—to allow for all the facts and forces that may contribute to the total effect, and be able to detect the *most causative*—the dominant forces. Thus when we get the propositions in the hypotheses about Spiritualism we turn to the distinctive facts, and investigate further to see which theory best fits the whole and most important facts. Then we may be able to syllogise correctly, and further verify by wider experience of Nature—and Man. That is how our Seven Principles are verified—not completely by communion with spirits, but by using the facts found thereby for hypotheses, and verifications of them from spiritual forces wherever operative. We thus maintain our full rights to the title of Spiritualists.

*Ques.* 2.—Describe, propositions, premises and terms, as they are used in a syllogism. (Jevons, ch. 10; E. on R., ch. 5.)

*Ans.*—A syllogism is composed of three statements of related facts, placed together for argument and decision. They are therefore termed “propositions.” Three propositions are contained in the following syllogism:—

- (1) “A. T. Connor is a Spiritualist;
- (2) All Spiritualists are believers in Personal Responsibility; therefore,
- (3) A. T. Connor is one of the believers in Personal Responsibility.”

The first two propositions contain the facts from which the third is derived, and being *put first* for that purpose are termed “premises,” the third being the “conclusion” drawn from the others. The terms used are “A. T. Connor” (A.T.C.), “Spiritualists” and “Believers in Personal Responsibility” (B. in P.R.). As “A.T.C.” is a singular term, and the *lesser in Quantity* of those used, it is the minor term. “B. in P.R.” is the greater in numbers (or largest class) indicated, and provides the major term. Spiritualists are included in those providing the major term, and thus they connect A.T.C. (minor) (a Spiritualist) with the Believers (major). That is the office of the middle term. “A.T.C.,” as the minor term, gives the title of minor premise to the first proposition. The “Believers,” as the major term, gives the title of major premise to the second proposition. These propositions would retain their titles, and the argument would be the same, if the propositions were transposed, as is the common form. The middle term, “Spiritualists,” is contained in both premises, and thus it links them in the logical relationship which provides the conclusion. This contains further evidence of the necessary connection through all the propositions by having the minor term (A.T.C.) for its subject and the major term (Believers) for its predicate.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

The College Board gratefully acknowledges the receipt of a donation of five pounds from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. The Board will be grateful for donations from Churches or Lyceums or Councils, or from individual Spiritualists, in aid of the College funds. Many very necessary activities are being delayed or curtailed which could be put in full operation if the requisite financial support was forthcoming.

#### LOCAL BRANCHES.

Derwent Street (Sunderland) and Catherine Street (Doncaster) Lyceums have registered as Local Branches. We are waiting for the remaining “Eligibles” to do their part in fulfilling a prophecy that fifty would register as a result of the 1927 examinations. Thirty-seven are still required. Has YOUR Lyceum shown its appreciation of the working of the Education Scheme by taking advantage of its eligibility and joining up with the College as a Local Branch? If not—WHY NOT?

#### FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHEMES.

For information about *Oral Grade and Grades I., II., III., IV. & V.*, send stamped, addressed envelope to:—  
Miss M. E. KITSON, B.A., F.N.S.C.,  
Hon. Ed. Sec., to B.S.L.U.,  
37, South Street,  
Savile Town,  
Dewsbury, (Yorks.).

For information about the College, and Advanced Scheme, send stamped, addressed envelope to:—  
Mr. A. T. CONNOR, F.N.S.C.,  
College Secretary,  
19, Oakhurst Road,  
Forest Gate,  
London, E.7.

## Correspondence:

### DISTRESS IN FLEETWOOD.

Dear Friends,

I have been very much impressed to make this appeal on behalf of our stricken Lyceum and Church at Fleetwood.

All of us who have read the newspapers can realize in a small measure what an awful devastation the sea has made.

I have seen a photograph of the Church, taken when the flood was at its height, and only the upper part is visible. The organ and piano are ruined. The whole place will need repairing and renovating before they can possibly hold services there. As some of you are aware, it is a new Church and has only been opened about two years.

I am appealing to all Lyceumists and friends on their behalf. Any small or large amount will be thankfully received and acknowledged through the BANNER, but whatever you do please give quickly, as their need is urgent.

Our President, Miss Elliott, is also collecting personally, but I shall be glad to be able to second her efforts in this direction.

Yours faithfully,

W. BURROWS.

[EDITOR'S NOTE.—A Fleetwood Distress Fund has been opened in the BANNER and Miss Elliott has handed her collections to the General Secretary. Mr. Burrows is invited to send his collections through the Union. We endorse his appeal.—Ed.]

### THE MYSTERIOUS KUNDALINI.

The Mysterious Kundalini, by Dr. Vasant G. Rele. Price Rs. 3/8. D. B. Taraporevala Sons & Co. Kitab Mahal, Bombay, India.

This book is dedicated to those interested in the science of Yoga and contains a Foreword by Sir John Woodroffe.

The book is an extension of a Paper read before the Bombay Medical Union and is an attempt to explain Yoga and its operations by our present knowledge and Western ideas of anatomy and physiology.

The various nerve centres are located in six plexuses which the student of Yoga claims to be able to control when he has reached full development of his powers.

The book has many mystifying terms not commonly understood. There are exercises and diagrams which explain the various stages, some of which are impossible to Western adults. The basis of man is founded on the reincarnationist theory. “Man inherits on birth his mental and physical capital according to his actions in previous births and has to increase them by manipulation, but there are even among such, different grades. Hence one cannot be a Yogi in one incarnation.”

The author defines Kundalini Yoga as ‘a science of physical and mental exercises of a particular form by which an individual establishes a conscious control over his automatic nervous system, to be in tune with the infinite.’

To those who are attracted to the mysticism of the East the book will have an alluring charm.

*Self-Culture*, an Indian quarterly magazine states: “The prime object of arousing Kundalini is to attain cosmic consciousness. The Kundalini is the individualised expression of the great cosmic power, and the reunion or merger of the microcosm.”

G.F.K.

### 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.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—We regret to announce the sudden transition of our Brother, John Bessant, (Jack), aged 40 years. “An ardent worker and a lover of the children's cause.”  
Still, still with thee.”

STOCKTON-ON-TEES, Brunswick St.—In loving remembrance of my life-time friend and Sister Lyceumist, Rosa Westbrook, age 17, who passed to her higher destiny on November 29th, 1926.

“Our loss is her gain.”

—J. Mills.

# THE LYCEUM BANNER:

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

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

Terms to Lyceums and Societies:

The *Lyceum Banner* is supplied at 1/9 per dozen copies (18/12) up to four dozen. Additional half dozens may be ordered. All orders for four dozen copies and upwards are supplied at 1s. 8d. per dozen. All parcels sent post free. Accounts due quarterly: March, June, September and December. Single copies, 2½d. post free.

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DECEMBER, 1927

## Facing the Future.

We are nearing the end of 1927 and most people will be glad to see its close in the hope that the new year may usher in a more prosperous time.

The scarcity of money affects the success of Lyceums; not only do we find less financial support, but the poverty in industry has its reflex in causing people to isolate themselves from social and religious work. Their minds are centred in economic disturbance. The trouble to make ends meet does not allow the disbursement of time or money in between the money earned and the requirements of everyday life. Hence we find the interest in things outside the bare necessary pursuits may be as keen as ever, but the economic interests intervene and prevent the usual support to ideals and voluntary institutions.

Despite the foregoing, we are happy to realise the sacrifice many Lyceumists have made to keep the B.S.L.U. in the progressive expansion it has always espoused. The outstanding feature of the year has been the founding of the Nationalist Spiritualist College. We are passing through the critical period when the Lyceumists have passed the final Lyceum Grade and are merging into the Church Graduate section of the Education Scheme.

There are great hopes for the future of the Spiritualist movement in the merge which is taking place. One of the most serious drawbacks to financial progress is the large amount of money paid in railway fares for the itinerant platform workers. The movement is gradually demanding an educated platform with good phenomena. Very few people are endowed with the dual gifts of oratory and outstanding phenomenal mediumship. Possibly the best method is to have a speaker and a psychic in connection with each Church, but before that point is made there are other things to be considered.

The Lyceums have, through the years, gradually become stronger. A number of adults has always been part of the Lyceum system. Now we often provide Lyceum Days when the Lyceumists have a public Open Session and conduct the evening services. It does not concern the writer where the collections go. That is a matter of local arrangement. The fact that the Lyceums have sought to give public exhibitions of our system and occupy the Church platforms as speakers denotes the natural merge into Church membership.

This step from the Lyceum to the Church is not only desirable; it is a duty and a filial recognition of the favours given to the Lyceum to pursue its happy course in educating the children and adults who attend the sessions. The right-minded Spiritualist will not place a stone wall of separateness between the institutions which are known as Lyceums and Churches in organised Spiritualism.

Many Spiritualists have already broken down these barriers; Spiritualism is the central force; the Lyceum and Church both need a building for the operations; one building is used for both purposes. Both sections are teaching and propagating our principles; both sections are needed: some are attracted to one

section more than the other, but members of one section should in every effort be sympathetic to the doings of the other section. The necessity of Lyceums for the education of the young cannot be denied. We must educate our own young people to justify our existence and find the exponents and demonstrators for the Church of the future.

In these days of necessary economy we may eliminate most of the travelling expenses. We pay for distant platform workers. The S.N.U. Graduate, if he can satisfy national examiners of his ability to expound our principles, should be able to gain the confidence and support of the local Church. The method of supplying our own platforms would not only produce a larger number of free speakers, but would ensure a larger attendance when Speakers from a distance visit the Church.

The result of a small experiment in the above direction has proved a few things which would be beneficial to the movement.

It retains the sincere Spiritualist and ceases to cater for the shallow-minded wonder-monger and gossip.

It produces definite and trustworthy local leaders.

It saves the cost of speakers' travelling expenses.

It gives sequence to study.

It forces normal speakers to prepare more than two subjects each year.

It prevents a platform of conflicting ideas.

The system already exists in the Lyceums. It could easily be adapted in Church routine. New speakers and partly developed mediums could start with one spirit description and gradually increase their powers until a whole seance could be conducted. The Church would be more composite than individualistic. The accumulation of funds previously squandered would inculcate the desire for a church building owned by a real membership. The solid link between Churches and the national movement would have a definite cement: the Church deeds would naturally be in a Joint Trust, just as the B.S.L.U. has a Joint Trust with the S.N.U. Ltd. We should have solved most of our economic difficulties. That sense of financial security would unite the members and provide a strong psychic centre that individual domination could not pierce. The national outlook would be one of coherence and the temperament of the Conferences would be unity and harmony, trust and confidence and a greater opportunity for spirit guidance along the right path of real progress. Such then are the dreams, based on a successful local experiment, for the consideration of thinking Lyceumists and Spiritualists and national delegates.

The Education Scheme is growing to such dimensions and reaching that period when some tangible expression of the force and tendencies must find an outlet for its energies. Here we find a scheme which has resulted in founding a College which is the property of neither Union, but belongs to both Lyceum and Churches in the spirit of fusion, for it is jointly controlled by a National Board, subject to the goodwill of both National bodies.

The nation is waiting, nay, more, it is demanding a clear statement concerning immortality and the condition of life after physical death. There are millions of psychic experiences occurring outside our organised movement and many people are demanding an answer. It is our duty to supply an explanation with an educative portrayal of human and spiritual powers, so that enquirers may have an intelligent answer to their perplexities. It is little concern of ours that other bodies may be discussing prayer-books and other sacramentalisms founded upon hypothetical inferences. Our task is to build on the facts of spirit communion and use the inheritance our pioneers have given us to help humanity to understand physical, mental, moral and spiritual verities and explain more fully the personal and social powers we can develop to make life more lovable and harmonious. We can either face our responsibilities or become, as other movements have done, the pioneers of an idea that has been swallowed up in the morass of society.

What has been written is purely the personal view of the writer, detached from any official expression of the movement's wishes. The sole object is to produce a few items for discussion so that the result may be to find our movement retaining its influence and powers as an organised body, propagating universal principles for the assistance of mankind, to overcome national and religious separation, and provide unified expression in the pursuit and propagation of eternal truth. Principles will persist though men pass by. It is our duty to prevent sectionalism in our movement and pass on to the rising generations a cause which rises above race or language and unites mortals with spirits for the progress of humanity.

G. F. KNOTT.

## £2,000 Effort Report.

Dear Comrades,

This month I have only two donations; again both are from individuals. Mrs. Dean, of Bury, has by the collecting cards gathered the amount of 12/-. This is not the first donation Mrs. Dean has been good enough to collect. Our good friend, Mr. Kitson, has forwarded to me 5/- for the sale of his pamphlet. On behalf of the Union I extend to these two good helpers my sincere thanks, with a wish that others might do likewise.

We are all looking forward to Christmas. Why not send a little present to the Secretary for the Fund? Try and feel that it is *Your Fund*, and that this appeal is really meant for *you*, and then respond as well as your purse will allow. Let us all try to rise to the occasion, and let the fund grow quickly. Remember the collection for the A. J. Davis Sunday in January, and forward it as early as you can.

Yours fraternally,

W. BURROWS,

Hon. Sec., £2,000 Effort.

P.S.—Don't forget I still have the collecting cards and pamphlets and bookmarks for anyone who would like to send for them.

## The Management Committee at Halifax.

The Management Committee held the quarterly business and propaganda meetings at Halifax on October 8th and 9th, 1927, and met with an enthusiastic reception by Alma Street and Queen's Road Lyceums and the District Council. The public meetings were an inspiration to the M.C. and all those who attended.

All the M.C. members were present, under the presidency of Miss Elliott, who had charge of the proceedings during the whole of the week-end.

Most of the M.C. business dealt with the internal affairs of the Union.

The amendments to the Constitution and Bye-Laws, as well as the Conference Minutes, were endorsed and are being printed.

The circulation of the Amendment Slips to the Lyceums has taken place.

A standing vote of sympathy with the relatives of Ald. Jabez Chaplin, J.P., and Mr. James Stewart was solemnly accorded.

Arrangements were reported for the provision of a reporter for the 1928 B.S.L.U. Conference. No invitations are yet to hand.

The Treasurer reported the receipts £905 18s. 10d. Expenses, £830 1s. 6d. Lyceum Home Fund, £168 11s. 3d. £2,000 Effort, £495 13s. 4d. Certificate Deposits, £10 19s. 0d.

A suggestion was made that an inspiring appeal be made and incorporated in the A. J. Davis Session Programme in the January *Banner*, for the £2,000 Effort.

The General Secretary reported that three Churches had taken supreme control of their respective Lyceums.

The I.S.F. Committee have accepted the B.S.L.U. proposal to hold a Lyceum Session on September 9th, 1928, during the I.F.S. Congress in London. The M.C. are conferring with the London L.D.C. to produce a successful session based on the programme outlined in the *Lyceum Manual*.

A full report of the I.S.F. Committee arrangements for the full Congress is given elsewhere in this issue.

A District Council appealed for financial assistance and the M.C. replied that D.Cs. must be self-supporting, and preference cannot be given to any District Council.

Miss Elliott was appointed as delegate of the Union to the National Council of the N.C.P.W., which will be held during December, in Manchester.

Mr. Alfred Kitson withdrew his MSS. of "Helps to the Study of the Lyceum Manual."

The sales were reported to be slightly below last year's figures.

Lyceums at Morecambe, Dalmeir, and Rugby were accepted into membership.

The next meeting has been invited to Castleford, under the auspices of the Leeds Lyceum District Council, and will take place on January 14th and 15th, 1928.

A very hearty vote of thanks was passed to all who had helped to make the visit so successful, with special mention to Mr. and Mrs. Dracup, for the use of their home.

## Propaganda Meetings.

Miss Elliott conducted an inspiring Open Session during the afternoon.

All the Lyceums in the District were well represented.

The Officers of the Union and the Management Committee supported the President on the platform. Miss V. G. Rayner invoked a blessing on the Session.

Miss Halliday, the Vice-President of the Halifax and Huddersfield L.D.C., welcomed the M.C. on behalf of the District Council, and Mr. Ingham, the Church President, extended the welcome on behalf of the Queen's Road Church.

Miss Elliott responded and said the hospitality had been A.I. It was an inspiration to see such loyal support from the many district Churches and Lyceums. She was proud of the zealotness of the Yorkshire district, and realised that fraternity was deep in their hearts.

A happy band of children, representing the various Lyceums, drew the M.C., one by one, from the platform, and presented a lovely white rose to each member and addressed an appropriate verse to each officer and Area Representative. Dad Kitson got a hearty ovation from the whole assembly.

Miss Halliday presented a gift from the Council (an umbrella) to Miss Elliott, and hoped she would not only be shielded from the rain but that it would keep her from harm and bring down inspiration and protection from the Angel world.

Miss Elliott feelingly thanked the H. & H.L.D.C. for the loving welcome and their useful present.

Mr. Mack, the Vice-President, conducted the S.C.R. and explained the lesson it contained.

Mrs. Wicketer gave a recital, which was well rendered.

The connective readings of the M.R. were read by Mr. J. E. Hart, Miss Cleland, and Mr. Williams.

A large number of Lyceumists took part in the physical exercises, but the crowded room forced some of the Lyceumists to be seated during the callisthenics.

Norma and Beatrice Anderton rendered recitations.

Greetings showed 24 Lyceums were represented in the session.

There was a call for Mr. Kitson to speak, and he said it was a red-letter day which awoke reminiscences. He bore his testimony to the inspiration of the angels for the existence of the movement.

Mr. J. F. Smith gave the benediction to a great session.

Miss Elliott presided at the evening meeting. Miss Cleland prayed for an entrance into the silence of understanding love and to the heavenly Father to lead us from the unreal to the real, from darkness to light, and from earth to heaven.

Miss Elliott said as a result of the week-end we had had a real welcome, and further described the machinery of the Union. The Lyceum does not only cater for the children. When we speak of the children's movement, we speak of all those who are willing to educate themselves. We see the truth presents us with a shroud. We are saturated with an influence, and God is speaking to the soul. 'Tis no dream of idle fancies. Spiritualism is the light of the world and its power is seen.

Mr. Kitson spoke of the flowers being dropped by our angel-friends. It lies with us to see, if we can, our angel friends. The Spirit world is just as natural as this world. It is a figure of speech to say that things are supernatural.

Mrs. Nurse quoted "It is often the last key on the bunch that opens the door." We have gone from materialism to the last key on the bunch; the spirit people found the key of the brain of the child that unlocked the door of immortality. Unmistakably they, with us, have the flowers of the world, until we too are transplanted. The symbol of red roses had given her three great tests of spirit return. It is better to start now and progress so that we may understand.

Mr. C. J. Williams spoke of the memory box of a child. He appealed for all to put into the child's mind something which will be useful. The children will be able to lay an even better foundation than we can and a far greater movement will result.

Mr. Knott thanked the local friends for the splendid entertainment during the week-end and hoped all would have pleasant memories of the visit.

Mr. Burrows appealed for a good collection towards the heavy expenses.

Mr. Smith closed the meeting with the benediction.

## THE FLEETWOOD FLOOD.

## An Appeal.

Our readers will have seen the news and pictures in the press of the disastrous Flood which occurred in Fleetwood last month.

Events like the foregoing soon pass from public memory, but those who experience the awful loss of life and property never forget and sometimes never recover from such disasters.

Middleton received much help after their flood, but the town is left with a debt of £250,000.

The Spiritualists and Lyceumists of Fleetwood have been among the worst sufferers, some having lost completely their household goods. The water rose, in some houses to the top of the bedroom windows. The damage is inconceivable unless one has seen the destruction. For instance, a well-made piano had not a single key left intact and the woodwork is all warped.

The water reached 18 inches above the platform in the newly built Spiritualist Church. The Hymn books, Lyceum Manuals and Library books have been washed out and need replenishing. The people are getting back to their homes, but most of the furniture is beyond repair.

In the foregoing short description of the conditions at Fleetwood we have probably given sufficient details to head an appeal to Lyceumists and Spiritualists to send their practical sympathy in money resulting from some form of self-denial for one week or longer.

All cash sent to the BANNER for the Fleetwood Distress Fund will be forwarded to the persons appointed by Fleetwood Spiritualists for the disbursement of the Fund. Send your mite at once.

## DONATIONS.

Collected by E.E.:	£	s.	d.
Mrs. Nuttall .. .. .	0	2	0
Mrs. Teasdale .. .. .	0	2	0
Mr. Turley .. .. .	0	1	0
A. Elliott .. .. .	0	1	0
Mrs. Hunt .. .. .	0	2	6
Miss E. Elliott .. .. .	0	2	0
Mrs. Boothroyd .. .. .	0	2	0
A Friend .. .. .	0	2	6
South East Lancashire L.D.C. .. .. .	1	0	0



My Dear Kiddies,

The Christmas holidays are upon us, and each of us, will, I am sure, have quite a rollicking time.

Parties, socials, with all the happiness which Christmas brings will be our lot, and we'll have such fun playing all the popular games, pulling crackers, etc.

But don't make yourselves ill by eating too much pudding, or too much turkey or goose.

Let us remember those who are not so fortunate as we are, and help in any way possible to give them an enjoyable time such as we shall have.

By helping others, you know, we help ourselves at the same time, spiritually. This is our teaching. So if you know of any poor children who are unable to buy the good things that are customary during the festive season, try to help just a little. Here let me wish all of you a really merry and enjoyable Christmas.

## OUR "BIRD" COMPETITION.

The result of this cannot, of course, be given this month, but the full list of prizes, and the winners will be published in the January BANNER.

## ORIGIN OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE.

I wonder how many could tell me how the Christmas tree was originated. There are many stories concerning this, but this one is, I think, the most popular. Here it is.

## THE CHRISTMAS TREE.

On Christmas Eve it was wild and stormy. The snow was falling fast, and the forester made fast the door, and pulled his chair up before the blazing fire. He was alone, all his family having retired to rest some time ago. Suddenly he heard a faint knock upon the door. The forester opened it, and found a small child on the threshold.

Lifting up the child, he found he was almost exhausted, so the forester wrapped him up in several blankets, making him comfortable for the night. Next morning the whole family were aroused by the sound of Angels singing, and found that their little visitor was the Christ-child.

Going outside and breaking a branch off a fir tree, the Christ child said:—I have gladly received your gifts and this is my gift to you. Henceforth this tree shall always bear fruit at Christmas, and you shall always have abundance.

## ESPERANTO GROUP.

In this section we are meeting with a fair amount of success, but there is still room for more students. So now, Guildites, don't delay. Start the New Year well and learn Esperanto. The first Lesson is waiting here for you. Send to-day for it, enclosing a stamped envelope, to The Esperanto Leader, c/o The Guild Imp, at the address given below.

## BIRTHDAYS.

The closing date for these is long past, but I have still received Birthdates from Guildites during the past two months, and presents have been awarded, but now this section must definitely close. Will Guild Class leaders please note.—Thanks.

## LETTERS.

I have been looking over the letters you have sent me during the present year. They number 95. (Isn't that a lot, Kiddies!) They have given me very great pleasure, you know, and I sincerely hope you will continue writing during 1928. Also, try to make our total number of Guildites up to 3,000 by next December. Can we do this? Let's try, anyway. If each one gains just one member, we shall exceed that amount. Reckon it up for yourselves.

Now for a Christmas Pearl, it is called:—

## A CHRISTMAS WISH.

White against the darkening sky,  
The frosted boughs bend low,  
And restless eyes pause, thanking God,  
That beauty should be so.  
Oh, may you always, as you pass,  
At tired end of day,  
Find beauty that will make you pause  
In wonder on your way?

To all Lyceumists and Guildites I give my greetings, hoping they will accept my warmest wishes for a Happy Christmas.

With Love to you Kiddies, and Fraternal Greetings,  
Ever Yours,  
THE GUILD IMP.

## FAREWELL.

Mr. R. Stevenson, who has been Guild Imp for the last two years, has asked to be relieved after this issue.

From January onward, the KIDDIES' CORNER will be conducted by a new Imp—*Verontas*, who is the author of this month's Guild Story.

We all join in wishing Mr. Stevenson every success in his new activities, and regret losing his services. We wish to give him our sincere thanks for having interested and instructed us so long.

GUILD LEADER.

RIPLEY, CODNOR AND DISTRICT.—We held an Open Session on October 30th. Conductor, Mrs. Geo. Sheldon. Every Lyceumist gave a pearl. The children all did their part wonderfully well. Marching and callisthenics were well done, under the leadership of Mr. H. Outram, Assistant Conductor. Recitations were also given by the children. We had a good time and a good congregation.—J. E. Eyre, Sec.

## THE JANUARY LYCEUM BANNER.

Lyceum Secretaries and other Contributors are requested to note that the last day for receiving Reports and Articles for the January BANNER is December 17th.

## British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

### LYCEUM MANUAL REVISION COMMITTEE.

Minutes of the Meeting held at Savile Town, Dewsbury, on Saturday and Sunday, 5th and 6th November, 1927.

Present:—Mr. E. A. Keeling (Chairman), Misses E. Elliott, G. M. Halliday, A. Hesp, M. E. Kitson, M. E. Lawton, Messrs. G. F. Knott, G. A. Mack, J. Nurse, J. Shuttleworth and A. T. Connor (Hon. Secretary).

The Minutes of previous meeting were read and, after several minor alterations, accepted as amended—a special acceptance being voted for the items in print (taken from THE LYCEUM BANNER).

Arising, the Secretary reported that Mr. Kitson had withdrawn his offer to the M.C. of the MSS. of "Helps" and the Calendar of Saints, and that the M.C. had requested the return of the MSS. to Mr. Kitson. The MSS. were handed to Mr. Knott and returned to Mr. Kitson.

Mr. De Brath's G.C.R. on *Matter and Life* was accepted as printed later.

The draft of the letter to Mr. Wells was approved.

The question of the restoration to G.C.R. 125 of the readings omitted since 1918 was again raised, and a letter appealing against the restoration was read from Mr. Kitson. It was decided by 6 votes to 4 that the restoration should stand, but that another vote should be taken at the end of the "G.C.R." revision. Mr. Connor gave notice that he reserved his right to bring the matter before Conference for a final decision.

The final readings of G.C.R. 133 were reconsidered and altered to read:

*Con.* What has Man to avoid?

*Lyc.* His great enemies are ignorance, disease and injustice.

*Con.* What does he owe to himself?

*Lyc.* The maintenance of the health of that body by which he is related to the physical order; the cultivation of such practical energy as may enable him to fulfil his duties in the moral order; and the proper development of those faculties which he possesses as a spiritual being.

*Con.* What does Man owe to his neighbour?

*Lyc.* The fulfilment of his duty to himself will necessarily lead him to a perception of his duties to others, which must include a recognition of the equal rights of all to the amenities of life, and thereby to do unto others as he would they should do unto him.

The Golden Chain by Mr. Stanley De Brath, M.I.C.E., is as follows:—

*Con.* What are the aspects of Nature manifest to our senses?

*Lyc.* Matter, Energy and Mind.

*Con.* What is Matter?

*Lyc.* That of which all tangible substance is made—it has mass.

*Con.* What is Energy?

*Lyc.* That which is manifest as Heat, Light, Electricity, Magnetism, Gravitation, Cohesion, Radio-activity, and Nervous Power.

*Con.* How does it differ from Matter?

*Lyc.* Matter is composed of chemical atoms—it is normally unchangeable. Energy is very easily interconvertible from one form to another.

*Con.* What is Mind?

*Lyc.* The power that directs Matter, both in the Cosmos and in ourselves.

*Con.* What is the basis of Matter?

*Lyc.* The chemical atom.

*Con.* What is an atom?

*Lyc.* A minute particle which is a centre of Energy.

*Con.* How do we know this?

*Lyc.* By the sciences of Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics.

*Con.* What is Time?

*Lyc.* Time is duration—it is measured by the swing of the pendulum.

*Con.* What is Space?

*Lyc.* The distance between masses of matter.

*Con.* Are these final truths?

*Lyc.* No, they are statements of the material world.

*Con.* Is there any other world?

*Lyc.* Yes, we know that; because Mind is shown by Memory

and Love, which have in themselves no relation to time and space.

*Con.* Are there any other facts which reveal another world?

*Lyc.* Yes; the atom has been divided.

*Con.* Of what do the atoms consist?

*Lyc.* Of electrons and protons.

*Con.* What is an electron?

*Lyc.* A very small particle of "negative" electricity, much lighter than the proton.

*Con.* What is a proton?

*Lyc.* A much heavier mass, supposed to be "positive" electricity.

*Con.* Why do we make a difference between these and Matter?

*Lyc.* Because matter is atomic, and till the atom is formed the electron is non-material.

*Con.* From what substance are the electrons formed?

*Lyc.* We do not know—presumably from the ether.

*Con.* What is the ether?

*Lyc.* The Substance which conveys energy from the sun to the earth.

*Con.* Why do we suppose such a substance must exist?

*Lyc.* Because Light is a vibration and there must be something to vibrate.

*Con.* What do we know of the Ether?

*Lyc.* Very little, except that it is connected with all manifestations of energy and with the 'intelligent forces' of psychic science; that all motion in it is propagated with the speed of light.

*Con.* What is its relation to ourselves?

*Lyc.* We have organs of sense which are sensitive to some of its vibrations as Heat and Light.

*Con.* Are there vibrations to which we are not sensitive?

*Lyc.* Yes, a vast number. Our sensitiveness is the measure of our development.

The Minutes were ADOPTED.

Under Correspondence, the Secretary's liability for reports to the M.C. was discussed, and it was ruled by the Chairman that the liability was met by forwarding a copy of the Minutes of each meeting.

At the 1928 Conference the Committee will be represented by the Chairman and Secretary, who were appointed to draw up the Conference Report.

It was decided to adjourn at 9-20 p.m. and to resume at 9-30 a.m. on Sunday.

Place and date of next meetings:—At Halifax, on 23rd and 24th June, 1928, at 3-30 p.m.; and Liverpool, on 3rd and 4th November, at 3-30 p.m.

The Revision proper was then resumed with G.C.R. 136, and after long and searching consideration, it was decided to recommend that it should be amended to read as follows, it being considered that many passages which might be thought offensive could be left out without in any way altering the essential teaching:—

*Con.* What does Spiritualism prove?

*Lyc.* It proves man's continued conscious individual existence after physical death and the reality of a spiritual universe.

*Con.* What effect has such proof upon humanity?

*Lyc.* It destroys all fear of death, annihilates the doctrine of eternal punishment, and substitutes the cheering assurance of infinite progress, through repentance.

*Con.* What else does it do?

*Lyc.* It sweeps away the idea of a personal Devil, and locates the sources of evil in man's own imperfect development.

*Con.* What does Spiritualism affirm?

*Lyc.* On the testimony of discarnate human spirits it affirms that every soul must arise and become its own Saviour, thus denying the doctrine of vicarious atonement.

*Con.* What does it say regarding God?

*Lyc.* It advocates the worship of an Infinite, Eternal and all perfect Spirit, an Alpha and Omega, all Love, Wisdom and Law; and ignores the ancient conception of a partial and vindictive God.

*Con.* What are its views regarding Heaven and Hell?

*Lyc.* It regards Heaven and Hell as states of happiness and misery dependent on the good or evil within the soul itself, and not upon the acceptance of any particular doctrine or teaching—thus denying the old theological conception of Heaven and Hell.

- Con.* What is it hostile to, and what does it promote?  
*Lyc.* It is the death-blow to superstition, sectarianism and religious persecution, but the friend and promoter of all reforms that tend to elevate and benefit humanity.
- Con.* What standard of truth does it adopt and how is it enforced?  
*Lyc.* Whilst Spiritualism proclaims that there is a standard of truth in everything, it acknowledges Man's incapacity to discover All Truth, and therefore it fetters no one's opinions; and advocates its beliefs, but never enforces them on anyone.
- Con.* What theories does it accept regarding spiritual life?  
*Lyc.* Concerning spiritual life, state and being, Spiritualism accepts only those theories that are sustained by proven facts and corroborative testimony.
- Con.* What effect does Spiritualism have upon Science and Religion?  
*Lyc.* Its phenomena—being based upon immutable principles of law—open up endless arenas of new research for science, and, its consensus of revelations being founded upon facts, tend to place true religion on the basis of science, and to vitalise science with all that is true and practical in religion.
- Con.* What good does it do for humanity?  
*Lyc.* Spiritualism is a ceaseless incentive to practise good; it reunites the friends separated by death; strengthens the weak and desolate by the knowledge of Angel presence, guidance and protection; and cheers the afflicted with the certainty of another and better world, where Love and Justice reign supreme.
- Con.* Is there anything in Spiritualism to fear?  
*Lyc.* It is terrible only to the guilty, because it proves that all wrong-doing and wrong-thinking—which have their effect upon the individual—must be atoned for, by personal suffering and compensation, before the guilty soul can attain happiness.
- Con.* Has Spiritualism any creed?  
*Lyc.* Not in the usual meaning of the word creed, but there are certain Principles which most Spiritualists affirm.
- Con.* What are these Principles?

At this point began a discussion on the number, and present wording, of the Principles. It was decided that the number should not be increased beyond six. The Chairman ruled that it was not in the terms of reference to consider the revision of the Principles. The Chairman's ruling was accepted without question, but it was resolved to "ask Conference for authority to consider the advisability of revising the Principles as given in G.C.R. 136—any proposed amendments to be presented to the next Conference for specific consideration and decision."

Members who thought alterations were necessary were invited to send their proposals to the Secretary, for circulation to the Committee, it being understood that those who disagreed with any proposals should forward their opinions to the Secretary for the information of the authors of the proposals. It was suggested that the proposals in the November *Revision Notes* should be used as the basis of a public discussion in the BANNER, but it was decided to leave this to the decision of the individual members.

The proceedings ended with a hearty vote of thanks to the Dewsbury friends for their hospitality, and to Mrs. Kitson for her hospitality and catering.

A. T. CONNOR, Hon. Secretary.

#### INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CENTRE.

This Club has been started in order to provide a centre for mental intercourse and exchange of ideas between young people of different nationality, outlook and environment, who, recognising the unity of the human family, believe that the will to understand and appreciate the other person's point of view is essential to the solution of the social and international problems of the present day.

The first series of meetings will be held at FRIENDS' HOUSE, EUSTON ROAD (opposite Euston Station), on Mondays, at 7 p.m.

There will be opportunity for social intercourse at each meeting. Refreshments 6d. per head. Collection for expenses. Communications to EILEEN HERSEY, B.A. (Hon. Sec.), c/o 421, Sentinel House, Southampton Row, W.C.1.

#### PENDLETON SPIRITUALIST CHURCH AND LYCEUM.

New Address:—

HIGHFIELD CHAMBERS,  
 94, BROAD STREET,  
 PENDLETON, SALFORD.

One car stop further than last address, Opposite Temperance Billiard Hall.

#### Our Lyceum Guild Story.

TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING.

BY VERONTAS.

There was once a land where all the children were very unhappy, and found life very gloomy. I am sure you would never guess the reason why; though you will agree with me that it would make anyone gloomy, when I tell you. It was because every one of them was too busy to have any time for play, or even to laugh!

Let me explain. The king of that land, which we will call Grumpy Land, was a great scholar and student, and—like lots of other people who are not kings—thought that everybody else must or should like the things that he liked. So in order, as *he* thought, to make all his people happy, he made a law that from a certain day children were not to be allowed to play at games or read fairy stories, but that all their time was to be spent in learning Greek, or Latin, or even Arithmetic, and all sorts of nasty things like that. No wonder the young folks were gloomy. They had to spend all their time in learning things; enough to make anybody miserable—even a grown-up.

The one who suffered worst from this law was Princess Merry Heart, the king's daughter; because he had made himself her teacher, and although other children might dodge their lessons (when Teacher was not looking), or even find time to smile, she was never able to do anything but study. Over and over again she pleaded with her father to do away with the horrid law; she had even asked him to do it for her as a birthday present; but King Pedant always thought she was joking, and so he laughed very heartily when she asked him, and made her a birthday present of some more lesson-books.

This unhappy state of affairs went on, until one day our poor little princess suddenly remembered that the fairies objected to this law of her father's, and that the Fairy Queen herself had called to see the king about it. She had pointed out that all work and no play was bad for everybody, and that too much study would only make them stupid.

"Stupid?" said the king. "But I study a great lot; in fact, I spend all my time in study."

"I know you do," replied Queen Mab. "I was thinking of you."

"That means I am stupid," cried the king.

"You have said it yourself," said his visitor, "but it is true for all that. I am glad there is *something* we can agree about. And now let us agree about another thing—that you will put an end to this silly new law of yours, and allow your people's children to be happy and healthy as they are in other countries."

But she had annoyed the king, who, like lots of other people who are not kings, hated anybody to think that he could be mistaken or silly.

"I won't," he shouted, just as if he was arguing with his wife; "I won't—I won't change the law; and if you bother me I shall make it harder, and every child will have to study more than it does now."

This shows that the Fairy Queen was right about him being stupid—for if you have to spend all your time doing a thing, how can *any*-body, even if he *is* a king, make you do more?

As I have said, the Princess suddenly remembered about this, and also that Queen Mab, before leaving the palace, had cast a fairy spell on the king—that on the day when a child of Grumpy Land (which used to be called Jolly Land) should say . . .

WHAT was it the child must say? . . . Some rhyme or other . . . Well, whatever it was, on the day some Grumpy Land child should say it, all the king's plans would go wrong; he wouldn't be able to read or write or remember things he knew quite well; and he would have to repeal (what an *awful* word, but it only means "to do away with") his silly joy-killing law before things would come right again.

Night after night, while lying awake in her cot, Merry Heart tried to remember the fairy rhyme. It was not a very hard one,

but somehow she could not quite get it; and until she said the exact words the spell would not begin to work. Meanwhile things got from bad to worse. At first, children who fell ill were not asked to study—but now the king, in order to make their illness pleasant, wrote essays on their illness, and sent the essays for them to read. This was simply awful; for it is bad enough to have the 'flu or the measles, without having to read essays about them. And it was hearing of this while walking in the park that caused Merry Heart to remember the rhyme.

"He is stupid," she cried; "as stupid as can be." And then like a flash the correct rhyme came to her, and in an excited voice she said:

"Ickery, dickery, nickery, nee,  
King Pedant's as stupid as stupid can be;  
So come, fairies all, and let us tor-ture him,  
And tease him and vex him until we cure him."

Queen Mab may not have been much of a poet, but she was a good queen and a clever fairy, and the magic in her words was all right; and no sooner had Merry Heart said them than she was surrounded by fairies of all sorts and sizes and colours, and they danced round her and cheered.

"Hurrah, hurrah," they shouted; "we'll soon cure him now." And with a final burst of "Ring a ring o' roses" they went skipping away.

\* \* \* \*

While all this was happening out in the park, King Pedant was in his study, thoroughly enjoying himself in writing an essay to be sent to two little girls who were bad with mumps. He sat back in his chair, stroking his long white beard and reading what he had written, and was feeling rather proud of the nice long words he had been using, when suddenly all the writing started to get mixed up, the words splitting up into letters which dodged all over the page, and wouldn't stay still for a minute. And as he stared at them, what do you think happened? Why his pen grew two thin legs, jumped off its rack and started doing the cake-walk on his desk, throwing first one leg and then the other up in the air. He gazed at it in horror; and just then the door flew open and a gust of wind sent all his papers flying about the room. He dashed after them, sometimes jumping in the air, sometimes crawling on the floor and bumping his head; then he noticed the door and rushed to slam it. But in his rage he forgot his lovely long beard, and he roared with pain as it got caught in the door. Releasing it, he heard somebody laughing, and turning round he saw the Fairy Queen reclining on top of his desk, using his book on "Self Control" as a couch.

"What does this mean?" he yelled. "How dare you come into my private room without having been sent for."

"It means," replied Queen Mab, "that we are tired of trying to coax you into being sensible, so we are going to worry you into it; and you will get no peace until you allow your people's children to play."

King Pedant was too angry to speak; he just glared as Mab went on—

"Why don't you go on with your essay? It is a good one, sure to give mumps to any child that reads it. But perhaps even your pen has got tired of your essays, and wants a little bit of pleasure. And don't forget—you'll have no pleasure of any kind till Grumpy Land children have the same rights as other children." With this she went.

As the days passed the king found that what she had said was only too true. When he tried to read, the words and letters played hide and seek over the page; when he tried to write, his pen started doing the Charleston; when he made an appointment to go to a meeting, he always forgot it till it was too late to go. And worst of all, he had made up his mind to go with his wife to the dentist, and read her his essay on "How to bear Pain" while she was having two teeth taken out—and he forgot all about it until he saw her coming back. As the Fairy had said, he had no pleasures of any kind.

And at last he brought things to an end through his bad memory. He went to visit a school, and complained to the teachers that the children all looked white and weary—and, forgetting all about his own law, ordered that the school, and every other school in his Kingdom, should be closed for two months. The children's cheers reminded him of his law, but it was too late then, as he could not admit that he had made a mistake—and in a month or two he saw by the improved health and happiness of all the children that he had *not* made a mistake.

So the King of Jolly Land (called for a while Grumpy Land), just like a lot of people who are not kings, found out, after causing a lot of needless trouble, that it is possible to have too much of a good thing.

## The National Spiritualist College.

Established in July, 1926, by The Spiritualists' National Union, Ltd., and The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

Awards its Associate (A.N.S.C.), Graduate (G.N.S.C.) and Diplomat (D.N.S.C.) Degrees to successful students in the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. Sections of the National Joint Education Scheme.

Examinations held in February (B.S.L.U.) and March (S.N.U.) each year.

For "THE COLLEGE BOOKLET," and all information on the activities of the College, write (enclosing 1½d. stamp to the College Secretary:—MR. A. T. CONNOR, F. N. S. C., 19, Oakhurst Road, Forest Gate, London, E.7.

## The S.N.U. Fund of Benevolence.

Dear Sir,

It gives me great pleasure to report the following income for October. I wish to express the Committee's grateful thanks to all Churches and Lyceums who have responded to the Annual Appeal, the list is composed of 12 Lyceums, 66 Churches, 31 personal subscribers; not a large number, but there is *still* an opportunity before the year closes, for those whose Lyceum or Church names are not in the list, to just jog the memory of those in Office, and see what can be done to swell the Funds, and so assist the old workers. Times are hard for many, we know, but the dear old folks cannot work for themselves, and here is an opportunity for the young to show their appreciation of the work done in the past. We have far more freedom to-day, so let us do our best to assist if only by a special collection in the Lyceum, a whist drive, a concert, or in any way you think will bring the money in. All donations will be acknowledged by receipt and through the press.

I also wish to express my grateful thanks to all who have sent their good wishes for the Fund and its secretary, I fully appreciate your good thoughts and wishes. Now Lyceumists, don't hesitate to send along your portion, if only small; it helps to swell the total. Awaiting your favours and plenty of work in acknowledging your donations, and making the hearts of the old folks happy.

I beg to remain,

Yours gratefully and fraternally,

MARY L. STAIR,

Hon. Secretary.

### CHURCH DONATIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Sheffield District Committee .. .. .	1	1	0
Baeup Church Collections and Donations .. .. .	2	15	6
Wimbledon Church .. .. .	2	16	0
Great Harwood Church .. .. .	0	5	0
Manchester, Longsight .. .. .	1	0	0
Mrs. Marshall Hancock, Class .. .. .	0	6	6
Tottenham Church .. .. .	3	3	0
Southend Church .. .. .	2	2	0
Camberwell Church of the Spirit .. .. .	2	2	0
Surbiton Christian Spiritualist Church .. .. .	0	17	0
Devonport, Terry Hall .. .. .	0	10	0
Birkenhead, Hamilton Street .. .. .	1	15	0
Barnsley, North Pavement .. .. .	1	1	0
Gateshead Rectory Hall Lyceum .. .. .	0	5	0
Castleford Lyceum .. .. .	0	5	6
Hetton-le-Hole and District .. .. .	0	10	0
Brighouse Alliance .. .. .	0	12	0
Eastleigh Church, Hants .. .. .	0	15	0
Whitley Bay Church .. .. .	0	14	0
Idle Church and Lyceum .. .. .	0	10	6
Whitley Bay Lyceum .. .. .	0	10	0
Moston S.N.U. Church, Proceeds, Seance by Mrs. Burtenwood .. .. .	1	5	0
Plaistow Church .. .. .	1	1	0
Salford Central .. .. .	1	2	9
Bowes Park and Palmers Green Church .. .. .	1	1	0
Slaithwaite Church .. .. .	0	10	0
B.M.U. Church, Heywood .. .. .	0	10	0
Tantobie Church .. .. .	0	2	6
Bradford, Otley Road, Church and Lyceum .. .. .	0	15	0
South Shields, Fowler Street Church .. .. .	0	16	0

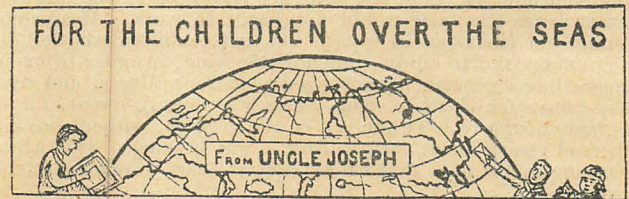
Hackney Church .. .. .	1	11	0
Dover Church .. .. .	1	12	7
Bolton, Henry Street .. .. .	0	10	0
Manchester, Openshaw .. .. .	1	5	0
Birmingham, Small Heath .. .. .	0	2	6
Halifax, St. Paul's .. .. .	2	0	0
Hucknall .. .. .	0	4	6½
Stainforth .. .. .	0	5	0
Plymouth, Morley Street .. .. .	1	1	0
South London, Peckham Church and Lyceum .. .. .	1	16	8
Kingston Church .. .. .	1	18	6
Newbiggin Church and Lyceum .. .. .	0	10	0
Newcastle Spiritual Evidence Church, 1926 & 1927 .. .. .	4	4	6
Derby, Charnwood St .. .. .	1	0	0
Blyth Lyceum .. .. .	0	5	0
Rock Ferry Progressive Lyceum Church .. .. .	0	8	6
Armley Lyceum .. .. .	1	0	0
New Shilden, Newlands Avenue .. .. .	1	0	0
Wallsend, Carville Road .. .. .	0	8	0
Swalwell Union Society .. .. .	0	7	0
Barrow, Orange Hall .. .. .	1	10	0
Goldthorpe Central .. .. .	0	8	6
Middlesboro' .. .. .	0	3	8½
Manor Park .. .. .	2	0	0
Horden Church .. .. .	0	10	0
Ealing Church .. .. .	2	2	0
Hampton Hill .. .. .	0	5	0
Battersea .. .. .	1	12	0
Portsmouth Temple .. .. .	4	7	1
Portsmouth Lyceum .. .. .	0	5	0
Nottingham, North Sherwood Street .. .. .	1	1	0
Skipton Church .. .. .	1	0	0
Manchester, Cheetham Hill .. .. .	1	1	0
Lochgelly .. .. .	0	16	4
Nottingham Progressive .. .. .	1	1	0
Hirst Church .. .. .	1	0	0
The Ilford Psychological Research Society .. .. .	2	2	0
Blackwood Central .. .. .	0	5	0
London Mission, Pembridge Place .. .. .	18	6	6
Easington Lane .. .. .	0	5	0
Bishop Auckland .. .. .	0	10	0
Barrow Psycho, two quarters Membership Tax .. .. .	2	11	6
Sparkhill, Birmingham .. .. .	0	7	3
Newcastle Central, Blandford Street .. .. .	0	7	6
Coventry Lyceum, Broadgate .. .. .	0	5	0
Eastwood and District .. .. .	0	5	0
Ventnor, Isle of Wight .. .. .	1	7	0
Coventry Church, Broadgate .. .. .	0	13	0

## PERSONAL DONATIONS.

A Friend .. .. .	0	2	6
W. J. Doyle .. .. .	0	3	6
Mrs. M. Walker .. .. .	0	3	6
Lady Doyle .. .. .	5	0	0
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle .. .. .	10	10	0
E. R. O., Bristol .. .. .	0	5	0
H. Marsden .. .. .	0	2	0
Mrs. Cox Home Circle .. .. .	0	10	0
Mrs. Fairbairn .. .. .	0	10	0
Mrs. J. Butterworth .. .. .	0	5	0
A Grateful Mother, per Mrs. Cox .. .. .	0	10	0
Mrs. Marshall Hancock .. .. .	0	10	0
Henry Bubb .. .. .	5	0	0
Mr. & Mrs. F. Bessant .. .. .	1	1	0
Mr. and Mrs. Purver .. .. .	0	3	0
A Secretary .. .. .	0	10	0
Lewis and Edith .. .. .	1	0	0
H.D. .. .. .	0	5	0
W.D. .. .. .	0	2	6
A Friend, Batley .. .. .	0	10	0
Mr. and Mrs. Gilling .. .. .	0	5	0
Johannisaier .. .. .	0	10	6
From a Beginner .. .. .	0	10	0
Mrs. M. Armstrong .. .. .	0	10	0
Mrs. E. E. Green .. .. .	2	2	0
Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Liles on their marriage .. .. .	0	7	0
A. Teague, S. Africa .. .. .	2	2	0
A. Scott, Cardiff .. .. .	0	7	6
Mrs. Ruth Hey .. .. .	0	5	0
Rev. Wm. Heald .. .. .	0	5	0

£34 7 0

Church and Lyceums total .. .. . £98 15 11



## INFLUENCE.

Dear Children,

I have been thinking very much about this word and its meaning. It is rather a big word for some of us, so perhaps we had better have a talk about it and see if we can get a message with it.

Now, first of all, it suggests something flowing doesn't it? Or perhaps I was thinking of *confluence*. No! I was thinking of influence because that flows; a confluence is a joining or a flowing together. An influence is an inflowing or coming into one.

We speak of a man as a person of influence. He can ask that certain things must be done, and they are done. Men are ordered here or ordered there by the influence of this or that man, so we have got another meaning to the word, and that is power.

Now that is a good idea with which to start our seeking. We have a plain straight meaning for our word. It means power. Now what can we make of that? We hear engineers talking about 'horse power, candle power, foot power, and oh, ever so many kinds of power, and do they all mean influence?

Well, yes, they do: each in their different way. For instance, an engine performs a certain work which would take so many horses to do it; or a light is so bright that it equals the light from so many candles, so it is really influence just the same. We will come back to this in a moment, but I want to tell you something else first.

I was taking a walk along a country road, and I came across a small band of people. One man had a musical instrument, and with him were some girls and some small children, and they were going along singing with might and main, and people were coming to the doors of the cottages to see what it was all about. It was not a very big band, but they had influence in opening the doors of houses, so you see that power was being wielded by them.

This month brings us to a season which we all look forward to with eagerness and expectation. We are thinking of that time which so many people celebrate as the birthday of a great and wonderful teacher. So much does the world think of Jesus of Nazareth that most lands hold special days of rejoicing for it.

Many and wonderful are the stories which lead up to this season of rejoicing, and each sect has its own particular version. But think of the power which the birth of this one has wielded. The whole world stands on tiptoe to celebrate the anniversary of the Birth of Jesus!! Wonderful! How we should all of us like a birthday time like that. Well perhaps, we can't have so many people thinking about our particular birthdays, but after all many people do think of us and wish us happy times, so we are not so badly off after all.

Well, that brings us to talk about ourselves. Let us see, now. Last month we talked about houses. Oh yes, and we found out we had to help to build them, help to fill them didn't we? Well, do you know we funny people cannot get away from houses because we are building them every minute, and so we have to use influence or power all the time.

Christmas! A glad time, a sad time, and busy time for all. It is getting towards the end of our first year. With the next letter we hope to have a birthday too, and how many shall we have to wish us a happy time?

First of all, though, let's reckon up what we have done. Shall we get on to 'statistics.' That is a rather hard looking word, but after all it only means seeing what work we have accomplished during the twelve months. You know at this time a great many big firms 'take stock,' that is, they look over their books to see if they have been using their influence for profit or loss, and we must do the same, mustn't we? Only in our case the gain is not in money. No! but perhaps it is a gain of far greater value, namely, a lot of good friends. The postman walks solemnly up and deposits a lot of letters in your letter box, and you find that some friend of yours has been writing to their uncle. Your Uncle has decided to link you two up so that the influence of your two homes might mingle in a joint harmony. So you see you are using your influence to make a happy union with a new found friend.

Have you kept count of the letters you have sent and the letters you have received? Well do you know that we have been linking up *dozens* of Lyceumists each week, and as each link means two letters that is at least 24 or 30 letters each week, sometimes more. Now then, suppose we say 24 letters each week and 52 weeks to the year, how many is that? Over a thousand letters a year, so that we should be using our influence somewhere I think, and if our letters are going to and fro like that, then the power must be flowing from one to another like a great big river: Such love has come from one to another.

Here we are in New Zealand. They tell us that Summer has come, and we hope it is not a wet one.

Australians too are quite busy, and we find that they are carrying on in spite of the fact that the distance between the Lyceums is so great that when they do have a visitor from another Lyceum they almost make a jubilee of it, because it is such a way for them to come!

But then, your letters can always go, can't they?

Then what about America, that big land is not quite so far away. They, too, are sending their influence to us, and we to them, and oh, how glad we are to get their letters and to speak to them with our pens.

Such then is your influence and mine that we are each a tiny link in a big, big chain, and your influence, my influence, and their influence go to make a big circle of influence that can be used to brighten the world. Now we are going to go back to the horses and candles. Well, it would take many horses to make as much power as your letters make when they are sent in love, and it would take many, many candles to shew the light of friendship sent in your letters, so you will see that we are right in using the engineers' terms and saying that we have so much horse power and so much candle power for good, and for the spreading of the Gospel of Love and friendship.

Now children, when the time comes for your Christmas rejoicing just remember those who have not so many toys as yourselves and ask the angel friends to send them love and joy, and remember the absent friends in far off lands, some of whom will be thinking of you, and you of them.

And remember that influence has to be used to build that beautiful house of yours, so let the influence be a good one, and try you very, very hardest to make a light shine over your friends.

God bless and help every one of you and may the festive season be a real source of song to God and the Angel World for the spreading of the message of Love and Truth.

Yours lovingly,

UNCLE JOSEPH.

#### TRANSITION OF MR. J. JONES, OF HANLEY.

The Hanley Church and Lyceum have suffered a great loss by the passing into the Higher Life of their beloved President, Mr. J. Jones, at the age of 64 years.

He had only been confined to his bed a few days when he passed on suddenly, owing to heart failure, on Wednesday, November 2nd, 1927.

Mr. Jones was one of the founders of the Hanley Church and had been its President for 20 years and was the Lyceum's first Treasurer when it commenced in 1911, which position he held until 1926.

Mr. Jones was a lovable man and he endeared himself to all by his many acts of kindness; to know him was to love him, and it can be truly said that his way was the way of peace.

The interment took place on November 5th, at Hanley Cemetery, and his old friend and co-worker, Mr. F. Britten, of London, conducted the ceremony. Appropriate hymns were sung in the presence of a large congregation.

The chief mourners were Mrs. J. Jones (widow), Mrs. Spevin and Mrs. Ramsden (sister and niece respectively) and Mr. Dunfield (nephew).

The local Churches were represented and many floral tributes were sent.

At the Memorial Service the Church was crowded, and Miss Barton, of Manchester, was the speaker. Mr. Mackson gave the sympathy of the Church and Lyceum to Mrs. Jones and other mourners.

Mr. Jones has left a fitting memorial behind him. It was only last February that we came into our new Church, and we still pray and hope for his guidance and inspiration.—H. Marland.

#### TRANSITION OF MRS. W. H. PEEL, OF SOUTHPORT.

We regret to announce that Mrs. Peel passed away on Nov. 24th, 1927, at the age of 44 years. Mrs. Peel has been a life-long worker in the Lyceum, being Conductor at Huddersfield (Ramsden Street) for many years, and on removing to Southport, reorganised the Lyceum there. She has been Conductor there for many years. She was, at the time of her passing over, a member both of the Lyceum and Church Committees.

We pay our respects to her arisen spirit and sympathise with Mr. Peel in the loss of her physical companionship. We know her great love for Spiritualism will keep her still within our ranks.

A number of Short Essays on "Catch the Sunshine," by Johannesburg Lyceumists, are in print and will be in the BANNER shortly. There has been so much print that the Editor has been unable to insert the essays in the last two issues.

#### USE MY YEARS.

By W. GEO. WHEELER.

Use my years

That I may use my years for Thee alone,  
That I may fill the sacred hours of time  
And make them valuable for Thee.  
That I may act as Thine own self would act  
If Thou wert not Thyself, but me.

That I may feel the Love that burns in Thee,  
That I may act the deeds Thy soul doth prompt  
And so take soul in tune with Thee.

That I may tread the path Thy feet would tread  
If Thy vast Life had compassed me.

## District Council Reports.

### THE UNITED DISTRICTS' COUNCIL.

The U.D.C. held its Annual Meeting and Election of Officers in the Wigan National Spiritualist Church on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 15th and 16th, 1927.

Mr. C. T. Batley presided over delegates from North East Lancashire, Tees-Side, North East Cheshire, Halifax and Huddersfield, and the Management Committee.

Correspondence was read from Tyneside, Sheffield, the Management Committee, Mr. Batley, Joint Education Committee, Nottingham, and Bolton.

The title of the U.D.C. was defined as "The Spiritualists' Lyceums United Districts' Council."

It was decided to request each District Council to discuss the proposal for a Children's Section of the Lyceum Manual, and send the findings to the U.D.C.

Extra awards in Lyceum competitions for educational attendances and success was stated to be inapplicable in the present form to northern Lyceums.

The Income was £17 2s. 3½d. Expenditure £12 3s. 6d. Balance £4 18s. 9½d.

12 D.C.s are in affiliation with the U.D.C. 4 D.C.s are unaffiliated.

9 Councils had paid fees before Sept. 30th.

The Conference report was given by Mr. Shuttleworth, who stated the Banner report seemed to be wrong in the details. Some of the discussions were out of place for such a Conference.

It was agreed that the time is opportune for Lyceum Leaders to shoulder the full responsibilities and develop their gifts to bring out the best.

The meeting expressed a desire for the "Foreword" of the College Booklet to be printed in the Lyceum Banner.

*Election of Officers.*

Mr. Batley was elected President, and Mr. J. Shuttleworth Secretary-Treasurer. Mr. Burrows and Mr. Ellis, Auditors. Mr. Batley thanked the meeting for their confidence, and stated he was pleased to see the first Chairman (Mr. W. Edwards) of the U.D.C. present.

Mr. Edwards gave a precis of the work achieved by the U.D.C., which he described as a live force in the movement.

In "Open Council," Sir A. Keith's "Evolution of Man" was discussed.

The unfoldment of the psychic possibilities of the younger adult Lyceumists was emphasised.

The support given to the compulsory membership of Lyceums to the D.C.s was confirmed.

Fleetwood was chosen as the venue of the next U.D.C. meeting in March, 1928.

Delegates were requested to ask D.C.s to consider invitations for Oct. 20th and 21st, 1928, March 9th and 10th, 1929, and October 19th and 20th, 1929.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to the Wigan friends for their hospitality to the Council.

Thanks were also expressed to Mr. Batley for presiding and to Miss Joules for acting as Secretary *pro tem.* Mr. Shuttleworth had to leave the meeting for business reasons.

## OPEN SESSION.

Mr. James Watkins welcomed the U.D.C. by reading some original verses appropriate to the occasion.

Mrs. Ciltheroe introduced Mr. Batley to the Session and beautiful roses were presented to the Delegates by a baby Lyceumist, described by Mr. Batley as a "little angel in our midst."

Miss Rayner, Mr. Burrows, Mr. Edwards, Miss Eachus, and Mr. Ellis took prominent parts in the session.

## EVENING SERVICE.

The evening service was conducted by Mr. Batley and Mr. Bland. The theme was "Lyceum training and its benefits."

The D.C.'s not represented at the meetings are requested to consider the points raised in the report, to be prepared for the next U.D.C. Meeting at Fleetwood.

## BOLTON DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above Council was held at Radcliffe, November 12th. 16 Officers, Delegates and Associates were present, representing 7 Lyceums. Considerable business was dealt with, ably conducted by our President, Mr. Charnley.

A Massed Session, in aid of Council funds, will be held at Radcliffe on Dec. 11th, 1927. It is earnestly requested that all Lyceumists will make a special effort to be present to make the Session a success, remembering the motto "United we stand, divided we fall."

The Annual Council Meeting will be held at Bradford St. on Feb. 20th, 1928. Delegates, Associates and friends are cordially invited.—D. Ward, Sec.

## THE LONDON L.D.C. VISIT PECKHAM.

On Sunday, Oct. 23rd, we had the Annual visit of the London Lyceum District Council, and the Session was conducted by our ever popular President, "Uncle Bert," who emphasised his pleasure at seeing the Lyceum in a stronger numerical condition than on his previous visit. He was supported by Mr. Miles (D.V.), Mrs. Barnard, Mrs. Petz, Mrs. Bell, Mr. Calway, and Mr. Cox (Area Representative). Mr. Miles (Uncle Smiles) gave his usual story, and the afternoon's session was thoroughly enjoyed.

After tea and a walk around the environs of Peckham (not forgetting Rye Lane), the Council members occupied the platform of the Church, the speakers being Mr. Fruin, Mrs. Petz, and Mr. Miles.

An interesting evening was enhanced by Mrs. Petz presenting a Banner in memory of one of the Founders of the Peckham Lyceum, Mr. William Stebbens (Joint Conductor with Mr. Petz). The Banner is a beautiful purple one, and has an inspirational portrait by Mrs. Petz.

Mr. Fruin, in dedicating the Banner, said he was pleased to officiate in doing honour to an old worker, and hoped all would keep his memory before them.

Mrs. Stebbens, who was present, was handed the beautiful white chrysanthemum with which the Banner was dedicated.

## NORTH EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

## NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING.

The above Council will hold the last quarterly meeting on Saturday, Dec. 17th, at St. Peter Street, Blackburn, at 3-30 P.m.

Business.—Minutes, Correspondence, Reports,—Financial, Secretary's, U.D.C., D.V.'s, Adjudicator, Open Council, Notices of Motion.

Tea will be provided by our friends at Blackburn at a nominal charge. A full attendance is desired, as business is very important.—J.S., Sec.

**Special Reports.**

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

BARROW-IN-FURNESS, Dalkeith Street.—A Service of Song was given by the Lyceumists of the above church on Sunday evening, October 30th. It was much enjoyed by a large congregation, who showed their appreciation in a tangible manner. Mrs. Griffiths, Conductor, was in the chair.—(Mrs.) Annie Abbott, Sec.

BRADFORD, Laisterdyke.—We had a good time at our Open Sessions on Nov. 6th. Opened by singing "In the March of Life." The S.C.R. and the connective readings of the M.R. raised questions, and many interesting opinions were expressed. Marching and callisthenics were gone through exceedingly well. Our Lyceum has won the Silver Shield for the fourth time. "The Workers Win."—J. Babbs, Sec.

DUNEDIN, N.Z.—The Annual Meeting and Election of Officers was held on Oct 2nd. The report of work during the year was very satisfactory, and the Balance Sheet gave evidence of the loyal workers during the year. The Bank account is steadily increasing. We are anxious to wipe off the debt on the piano.

Miss Burgess was again elected Conductor, also Secretary-Treasurer. Mr. Hargreaves, Musical Conductor. Mrs. Asher, Librarian; Mr. Englefield, Guardian of Groups, also Callisthenic instructor and leader of second class. Mrs. Brooks, leader of Marching; Captain of Guards, Margaret Asher; Guards, Hazel Pratley, Edith Asher, Jean McConnell; Leaders, Mr. Hargreaves, Mrs. Englefield, Mrs. McConnell, Freda Asher and Mr. Baird.

Greetings were received from Mr. Knott and the Dunedin Lyceum heartily reciprocate those greetings, also greetings to all Lyceums. These kindly thoughts received from time to time from the leaders of the Lyceum Movement in the old Country link us more closely together, although separated by so many thousands of miles. Miss Burgess also thanks those who have sent good wishes during her recent illness. Best wishes for the success of the Banner, and Uncle Joseph's Overseas Page.—Miss R. Burgess, Con.-Sec.

JARROW-ON-TYNE.—On Sunday, Nov. 6th, we held our Open Session with a good number present. There was a good number of pearls and recitations from children and adults. Greetings to all Lyceums.—J. Dunn, Sec.

JOHANNESBURG.—A welcome return to a large attendance marked the opening Sunday of September. A most enjoyable morning was spent. Mr. Utton sang a solo, "Vale." Pianoforte solos were well rendered by Ruby Hill and Lily Levy. A large number of essays were written in response to the Conductor's appeal for papers on the Silver Chain "Catch the Sunshine." The following all read papers of their own composition:—Ruby Hill, Florence Arvidson, Alma Arvidson (age 9), Lily Levy, Billie Edwards, Eddie and Dorothy Moss, Harry Hocknell, Marion Bennett and Olive Lewis.

The morning pleasantly reminded one of the Open Session Sundays of 9 or 10 years ago, when nearly all did their best to make the first Sunday a real "open session."—E. A. Hart, Sec.

WINNIPEG.—Polson Ave.—We held our Open Session and Anniversary Service on Sunday, Nov. 6th. The Lyceum conducted the afternoon and evening services. The children made a splendid showing at both services. Pearls, songs, recitations and pianoforte solos were given. The following contributed items:—Daisy Knox, Verna McLeod, Dolly Sutherland, Mrs.

Chadwick, Edna Brown, Arthur Redmond, Ella Crawley, Sylvia Parkinson, Millie Crawley, Irene Turner, Mrs. Parkinson, Mr. Brown, Mr. Knox, Hazel Dale, Mrs. Knox, Lennie Towns, Willie Towns, Harry Towns, Kenneth McLeod, Harold Greest, Clara Dale, Olive Forrest, Harry Forrest, Raymond Parkinson, Duet, Sylvia Parkinson and Edna Brown. Quartette, Misses Brown and McLeod, Messrs. Forrest and Chadwick. Duet, Mrs. Parkinson and Mrs. H. Forrest. Mr. W. T. Brown was the Conductor.

Short addresses were given by Messrs. Brown, Knox, Forrest and Chadwick. A circle was conducted by Mrs. Forrest and Mrs. Brown.—J. Knox, Sec.

WINNIPEG, Princess St.—We held our Open Session on Nov. 6th. We had a good attendance, although several of our Lyceumists were sick with colds, etc. Pearls were said by the following:—Miss M. Welsh, Grace Welsh, May Armit, Grace White, Mary White, Mrs. Haller, Mrs. Burley, Mrs. Armit, Evelyn Brown, Louis Rimmer, Donald Dempster, Albert Pearson, Lorne Rothwell. Miss G. White and Miss E. Brown sang a uet, after which we had marching and callisthencis, which were very good. I am sorry to say that we have a dear sister very sick in hospital, and we hope and pray to God to give her a speedy recovery. We hope things are a little brighter in the old country.—Mrs. Armit, Sec.

WELLINGTON, Kent Terrace, N.Z.—The Sessions during August were very interesting and well attended. We received our results of the B.S.L.U. Exams., and we were very pleased with the number of passes gained. (All those who sat were successful). The Certificates were distributed at an Open Session on 28th August, 1927, when items were given by Ray Jarvis, Eileen Swede, and Misses Nixon, and G. and L. Webb. Greetings to all fellow Lyceumists.—R. J. Ross, Sec.

PENDLETON.—On November 20th, we had an interesting ceremony, the naming of the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Barrans.

Mrs. Knowles, Vice-President of our Church, conducted the service, and gave the names of "Sylvia Adeline," spirit name "Lilie." The service was very impressive.—H. Greenwood.

SHEFFIELD, Heeley, Gifford Road.—On November 6th we held our Open Session, conducted by Mr. Hopkin. A good number of recitations, solos and duets were ably rendered by the young children. An enjoyable afternoon was spent by all.—A. Truelove, Sec.

#### A TORONTO BAZAAR.

Toronto Progressive Spiritualists' Lyceum held its first Bazaar on Saturday, November 12th, in the Royal Templars' Hall, Toronto.

The Bazaar was opened by His Worship the Mayor, Thomas Foster, who was received by Mrs. Byrd (the Pastor), Mr. Walley and Mr. E. Richardson (the Secretary).

The Pastor presented the Mayor with an *Officers' Manual*. "Flowers of the Garden" was sung by the Lyceumists while Dorothy Ramsden and Gerald Earl walked slowly down the Hall and presented the Mayor with a bouquet of red roses.

All the Officers wore red roses, the Mayor's favourite flower. Everyone had a good time and the Bazaar was a great success.—E. Richardson, Sec.

## LYCEUM REPORTS.

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

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

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

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

RULE 4.—All Reports must reach this Office not later than December 16th, to ensure insertion in the January 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.

BIRKENHEAD.—Our usual Open Session was held on Nov. 6th. Numerous recitations were given by Florrie and Annie

Watson, Margery, Elsie, Eileen and Peggy Dixon, Mildred Hirst, Marie Leighton, James Woodley, Edith Winters, Geo. Cameron, Doris Leighton, Eileen Edwards, Mr. Breakall and Mr. Hicks. Solos by Albert Thompson and Norah Whiteley. Pearls were given by the younger Lyceumists and explained.—John Hirst, Sec.

BIRMINGHAM, Storchley Lyceum.—On Nov. 20th we were paid a visit by two Lyceumists from the Sparkhill Lyceum. Greetings were exchanged and then the service was conducted as usual.—H. Fletcher, Lit. Sec.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter St.—On Oct. 30th we held our Open Session. About 80 Lyceumists and friends took part in the marching and callisthenics. Recitations were given by Edna Wood, Jean Entwistle, Ivy Lightbown, and Mrs. Desbysire. Solos: W. Railton and Miss May Robinson. Duet, Miss E. Hopper and Miss B. Wilkinson. About 120 Lyceumists and friends were present.

Oct. 6th, annual Election of Officers. The following were elected for 1928:—Conductor, Mr. E. Holding; Assistant Conductor, Mr. A. Moorey; Secretary, Mr. T. Wood; Treasurer, Mr. J. Entwistle; Financial Secretary, Mrs. Sutton; Musical Conductor, Mr. W. E. Mason; Callisthenic Conductor, Mr. J. Francis; Guardian, Mr. T. Holland.—Thos. Wood, Sec.

BRADFORD, Ripley.—Open Session, Nov. 6th, when a glorious time was spent. Recitations and solos by A. Wilkinson, K. Sherwin, L. Plumb, Mr. Plumb, Mrs. Pickles. Our speaker for the day, Mrs. Fox, of Elland, gave a few encouraging words to the Lyceumists.—E. Pickles, Sec.

BRIERFIELD, John St.—We held our Open Session on the 6th of November, conducted by Miss Graham. Our Speaker, Miss Sunderland, of Blackpool, was present, and explained the S.C. reading. The following helped to make the Session uplifting:—Jim Holgate, Dorothy Kettlewell, Phyllis Spencer, Mona Berry, Mary Davis, Margaret James, Ethel Spencer, Edith Bird, Alice Harper, Alice Rason, Edgar Midgley, Arthur Sewell, Olive Bradshaw, Ronald Spencer, Willie Tatham.—T. Wane, Sec.

CLECKHEATON.—Open Session, Nov. 6th. There was a very good attendance. All participated in hearty singing in honour of our arisen and glorious dead of the late war. Solo by Miss Raynor. Recitation by Gladys Hutton, and pearls by Miss Schofield and Mr. Marshall. The Session was well conducted by Miss Tolliday.—Tom Brooke, Sec.

DARWEN.—On Nov. 5th we held our Annual Tea Party. An excellent tea was served, and followed by a concert, given by Lyceumists.

Nov. 6th was our Lyceum Anniversary. In the afternoon we had a wonderful Open Session. The Speaker was Mr. Peers Owen, of Bolton. A successful week-end, spiritually and materially.—D. Coghlan, Banner Sec.

DEWSBURY.—We held our annual Lyceum Effort for the Building Fund on Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday, Nov. 1st, 2nd and 5th, which took the form of an Operetta entitled "Cupid and the Ogre," which was both musical and amusing. The principals, chorus and child dancers took their respective parts excellently, and their efforts were much appreciated by good audiences each night. The singing and comedy parts reflected great credit on the two joint coaches, Messrs. L. Bland and E. Wilson, who were ably assisted by a very good orchestra. It is hoped that the Building Fund will benefit substantially.—H. Gregory, Sec.

DONCASTER, Catherine St.—Harvest Festival, Oct 16th. Our Open Session in the afternoon was well attended. In the evening the Lyceumists rendered a song service, "Harvest Supper," which was a huge success.

On Monday we took all the meetings and had a public tea, after the sale of fruit, etc. We realized the sum of £5, after handing over to the Church half of the collections.

On Nov. 7th we held our Open Session conducted by Miss Batty. Invocation, Mrs. Webb. During the session Mr. Webb unveiled the photo of our late Lyceumist, Lily Ball, which was very impressive: five of our youngest Lyceumists sang "Open the Door for the Children." We felt that our session had done good to the strangers present.—Mrs. Webb, Sec.

EARBY.—We held our Open Session on Nov. 6th. The following contributed items:—N. Hopkinson, O. Wilkins, E. Clark, W. Wintersgill, S. Warrington, D. Wright, E. Smith, E. Taylor, N. Ennis, Q. Dawson, E. Taylor, A. Nuttall, A. Bannister and M. Knight.—F. Wood, Sec.

GRANGETOWN.—Open Session, 6th November. The District Council President spoke about "Echoes." Pearls good. Violin duet by Messrs. W. Nellist and Shipman. Excellent session.—Ed. Nellist, Sec.

HOLLINWOOD.—On Nov. 6th, the following officers were elected:—Conductor, Mr. H. Ball; Assist. Conductor, Miss L. Burns; Secretary, Miss L. Ball; Treasurer, Miss J. Fairbotham; Leaders, Mr. C. Mycock and Miss N. Lomas; Guards, Mr. F. Fairbotham and Miss E. Snape; Delegates, Mr. H. Ball and Mr. D. Melville. A vote of thanks was passed to retiring officers.—Miss L. Ball, Sec.

IDLE.—We held our Open Session on Nov. 13th. A very interesting time being spent together. Nearly all the Lyceumists contributed to the programme.—A. W. Jacques, Sec.

LEICESTER, Liberty Progressive.—On Nov. 6th we held our Open Session. Pearls were good. We had a discussion on Musical Reading and Golden Chain, the Conductor asking each child to explain their Reading. Solos by Mr. Beck and Master Kenneth Saunders. Trio by Misses L. Garrett, Maggie Taylor and Rosie Townsend. Duet by Doris Jayes and Annie Hughes. Recitations by Mrs. Hurst, Ethel Gamble, Yvonne Dehoux, Elsie Clements and H. Jayes.

LANCASTER, Alliance.—On Nov. 6th we held our Open Session. We were favoured with recitations from Ada Aldren, Annie Towers, Alice Jones, Florrie, Frank and Reg Denison, Clara and George Parkinson. Mrs. Shearsmith, of Manchester, visited the Lyceum, and fraternal greetings were exchanged.—R. Askew, Secretary.

LANCASTER.—Our Open Session held Nov. 6th was the best this year, and all present showed their appreciation to those who rendered the various items. The following gave recitations:—M. Dodd, A. Bond, C. Bell, J. Peel, I. Hodgson, M. Kendal, R. Kendal, D. Bleasdale, B. Kelly, and A. Coupland. A united effort by E. Parkinson, A. Wilson, N. Dodd, I. Hodgson, A. Coupland and B. Kelly. We are still "all hands aloft" for our Lyceum Stall; as busy as busy can be.—Marion Swale.

LINCOLN, Coultham St.—Open Session Nov. 6th. Good programme and attendance. Nov. 11th, Armistice Day, two services were taken by Mr. Rospin (one for Lyceumists). He gave trance addresses at both meetings, followed by Clairvoyance.

Two social events this month have helped to swell our funds, both being very successful.—N. Willey, Sec.

LINCOLN, Midland.—We have had a successful 10 days' Mission in November, given to us by Mrs. Garlick, of Rochdale, free of charge. All meetings were well attended; the congregations were very pleased with her varied deliveries, and are looking forward to a third visit. Other Societies please note our excellent recommendations for her.

Dec. 19th, return visit of Miss Brammer, of Hanley.—Cecil Crane, Sec.

MANCHESTER, South.—On Nov. 12th, Openshaw original Prize Band, under the Conductorship of Mr. Hughes, played for a musical and social evening, for the benefit of our Lyceum Christmas Party. The music rendered was excellent. Other items included a special one called "Trip to Blackpool." The vocalist was Miss Hughes, Soprano, and Mr. McDonald, Humorist. Last, but not least, was the excellent way in which our young Guildites have been trained by Miss G. Heald and Miss H. Hartness in classical dances and toe dancing; every item was well applauded. A hearty vote of thanks to all brought a pleasant evenings' enjoyment to a close.—W. C. Robinson, Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH, Grange Road.—We held our Open Session on November 6th, conducted by Mr. Roeder. Pearls were given by every Lyceumist present. Recitations by Gwennie Wilson, Maude Wilson, and Mr. A. Colbourne. Solo by Mr. Roeder. Duet, Misses Cooper and Stephenson. Quartet by M. Wilson, S. Pearson, D. Hudson and H. Wilson. Enjoyed by all.—George Gills, Sec.

NEWCASTLE, Heaton and Byker.—On Nov. 6th we held our Open Session, conducted by Mr. Lunn. Pearls, recitations and solos, individual efforts were splendid, the elders showing a good example to young Lyceumists. Greetings were also given by Mr. Hunter and Mrs. Walmsley, who had paid a visit to other Lyceums. A very good session throughout. Time went too quickly.—S. J. Hunter, Sec.

NOTTINGHAM, Beaconsfield St.—On Nov. 6th we held our Open Session, conducted by Mr. Pinder. Pearls were good, and recitations were rendered by Eunice Winfield, Pattie and Doris Brown, Florrie Jones, Ida Allen, Sheala Partridge, Ronnie Ostick, Alfred and Edward Brookhouse. Solos by Misses M. Garton and A. Watson, Winnie Sharpe, Irene Stanton, Kathleen Ostick, Eileen Partridge, Florrie Jones and Irene Ferrill. Marching and Callisthenics were very good. Mr. L. Johnson spoke very encouraging words to the children. We all spent a very happy morning.—Marie Sanderson, Con.

NOTTINGHAM, Mechanics' Hall.—On Oct. 30th we had a very successful Open Session and Naming Service. Miss Rayner (our Conductor) named the first born infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood, both Lyceum Members (Mrs. Sherwood being our ex-Assistant Conductor). The child received the earthly name of Arthur John, and the Spirit name of Valiant. Recitations were rendered by Alec Bown, Vera Clark, and Albert Buckley, also a vocal solo by Mrs. Farnath, and a violin solo by Joseph Hitchenor. All items were well rendered. There was a good attendance of visitors, and a very enjoyable afternoon was spent.—O. Peel, Sec.

OLDHAM, Central.—On October 30th we held our Ladies' Day, which was well attended. Mrs. Blakey, President for the Ladies, occupied the chair. The speakers were Mrs. Hough, Mrs. Hersine and Mrs. Evans. We have started our winter socials, and a welcome is extended to old and new friends who wish to join us.—Mrs. H. Clegg, Sec.

OLDHAM, Elliott St.—On Sept. 16th we held our Open Sessions. The Lyceumists joined together in trying to make the Sessions a success, and no doubt they succeeded to a great extent. The pearls and recitations, solo, etc., were well said and sung.—M. Harper, Sec.

PARKGATE.—We held our Open Session on November 6th. The following rendered recitations, solos and pearls:—E. Dowell, E. Davis, J. Cook, C. Harvey, M. Wood, R. Wood, Mr. Davis and Mr. Stokes. Mr. F. Cook conducted.—J. Morris, Sec.

PRESTON 68, Lancaster Rd.—Open Session, Nov. 6th. The following contributed:—Joan Blackburn, E. Curtis, Messrs. C. Brierley, J. Brierley, D. Rae, C. Curtis, M. Holderness and Mr. Rae. We had a bright session.—Evelyn Curtis, Sec.

PORTSMOUTH.—Nov 6th; enjoyable Session and good pearls. Interest in the Lyceum still maintained by the children.

20 Officers and Lyceumists visited Southampton Lyceum for their Anniversary on Oct. 30th. All groups busy studying for B.S.L.U. Exams.—L. Paget, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—On Nov. 6th we held our Open Session. The session was conducted by Mr. Armitage. The marching and callisthenics were very good. Recitations by Kathleen, Alice and Beatty Jukes, and Alice Thorpe. Also we had recitations by three Lyceumists from Rotherham, George and Norman Johnson and George Oates, and one from Sidney Lawton. We also had a solo from Miss M. Salmon. We had a few inspiring remarks from Mr. Oates and Mr. Davis, two Officers of the Sheffield District Committee. We had a very enjoyable session all through.—Mr. E. Johnson, Sec.

SOUTHAMPTON.—On Sunday, the 30th October, we celebrated our 15th Anniversary. At the morning church service, taken by the Lyceum, R. Harwood and E. Saunders read papers. A Service of Song, "In autumn's golden days," was enjoyed by the 162 present in the afternoon, including friends from Portsmouth, Brighton and Eastleigh.

At the evening church service, also taken by the Lyceum, Mr. Reeves read a paper, and Mr. Guy (Portsmouth Lyceum) gave an address.—R. Chalk, Sec.

WALSALL.—On Nov. 6th our Open Session was held, and was very successful. The following Lyceumists contributed to a good programme:—Dorothy Beckett, Violet Willets, Rosie Hollinshead, Olive Hadley, Freda Smith, Thurla Hollinshead, Evelyn Kelly, Betty Tomes, Adrienne Kirby, Dorothy Wilkes, Rosie Tennant, Norah Johnston, and Albert Beckett.—L. Wadsworth, Sec.

WEST PELTON.—We held our Open Session on Nov. 6th. The following Lyceumists took part:—L. Abbott, L. Dryden, P. Armstrong, R. Drydon, and D. Douglass. A pleasant and spiritual time was spent together. Conductor, Mr. H. Abbott. Lyceum small, but well equipped.—Mrs. M. Abbott, Sec., *pro. tem.*