

THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 447. Vol. XXXVIII.

MAY, 1928.

PRICE TWOPENCE

THE FROG DOWN A WELL.

A Fable for the Lyceum.

By HENRY G. SWIFT.

A little Green Frog there once lived down a Well;
What the World was above him, he never could tell.
The water was deep and so far from the top,
It seemed all his life in this Well he must stop;
So he dwelt in his little dark hole in the side,
Never dreaming the World up above was so wide!

One day down the Well something dropped with a splash,
And the little Green Frog from his hole made a dash.
He was greatly alarmed as he croaked, "Who are you?"
And there in the well he saw Frog Number Two.
Said his visitor strange, none the worse for his fall,
"Oh, I've only dropped in for a friendly call.

"There are some things in life I would like you to know,
Which a Frog never learns in a Well down below."
Asked the other, "But Where have you come from, and
Why?"—

I never knew Frogs could drop down from the Sky!"
"That's just what I've come down to tell you," said he,
"So please pay attention and listen to me!

"At the top of this Well there are fields full of flowers,
And glorious Sunshine that gladdens the hours,
Where the grass is so green and the Day is so bright,
Where song-birds in freedom on high wing their flight,
Where are wonders no brain of a Frog could conceive
Where are sighs, which, tho' seen, you'd at first disbelieve."

And he told of much more, but the Green Froggie said,
"You are making it up, now, all out of your head!"
Said the other Frog, "No; all these marvels I'll show.
You'll so rise in the World that wings you will grow!"
Then he bade him jump in when the bucket was full;
They together embarked, as the rope gave a pull.

They soon reached the top, and then quickly hopped out,
And the little Green Frog in amaze looked about;
For there was the Country, the flowers and the grass,
The bright Summer Sun, and the pond smooth as glass,
And the hills and the valleys in garments of green
With the blue sky that spread o'er the far distant scene!

He gazed up at the sky, and the beauties around;
And thought he, "it's a glimpse of Heaven I've found!"
Then the little Green Frog, with a tear in each eye,
Shook hands with his brother when bidding good-bye.
And said he, "I am glad, as of course, you can tell,
That you showed me the World's not contained in a Well!"

MORAL.

Too oft are we prone, in our prisons of clay,
To see all that is in our World of To-day;
To our own narrow corner of Life so confined,
To measure the Whole with a finite mind!

THE ANNUAL B.S.L.U. CONFERENCE.

The 39th Annual Conference of the B.S.L.U. will be held in Manchester on May 26th and 27th.

There was considerable delay in obtaining an invitation and the M.C. approached the Manchester and Salford L.D.C. and the South Manchester Spiritualist Church to accede to the requirements of the Union.

The M.C. were cordially met and an appreciated invitation came to hand at the opportune moment.

On behalf of the Union we accord our pleasure to the District Council and the South Manchester Church and Lyceum for their service to the Union and the housing of the Conference and Delegates, at a period which is, to them, an awkward time.

The London Lyceum D.C. has forwarded a written invitation to the B.S.L.U. to hold the 1929 Annual Conference in London.

RETIREMENT OF MR. J. E. HART, M.I.P.S.

We regret to learn Mr. J. E. Hart, the Area Representative for Area "F," has had a serious breakdown in health. He has been forced to accept the advice of a specialist to cease his activities in tuition work and for the Lyceum and Spiritualist movement, for at least twelve months.

Mr. Hart has been Area Representative for the past two years. He was re-nominated and withdrew after the vote had been taken but before the results were declared.

He is also compelled to withdraw from his nomination for Vice-President of the Union and resign from his position as President of the Manchester and Salford L.D.C.

Mr. Hart has been 22 years in various offices and was fulfilling his fourth year as President of the M. & S. L.D.C.

Mrs. Hart is assisting her husband with the duties of Billet Secretary, so Mr. Hart has promised to complete the B.S.L.U. Conference arrangements.

We wish our colleague a quick return to his normal vitality and regret his forced retirement from active work in the movement. The M. & S.L.D.C. is faced with the duty of finding a successor to fill the gap caused by an earnest and enthusiastic worker.

OPENING OF A NEW CHURCH AT HYDE.

The late Clarendon Street Church and Lyceum opened their new Church in George Street, Hyde on April 21st. Mr. North (Hyde) opened the Church. Dedications were given by Mr. Oaten, and Miss Elliott representing the Lyceum. About 360 sat down to a meat tea and were well attended to by a happy band of workers.

A large number of friends attended the Lyceum, and a very pleasant session was enjoyed by all. Recitations and pearls were well responded to by our young Lyceumists.—N. Cartwright, Sec.

LYCEUMIST COUNCILLORS.

We compliment Councillor Jessy Greenwood, J.P., and Councillor John Hawkins on their success and election as Councillors for their respective Urban District Councils.

LYCEUM MANUAL KNOWLEDGE TEST.

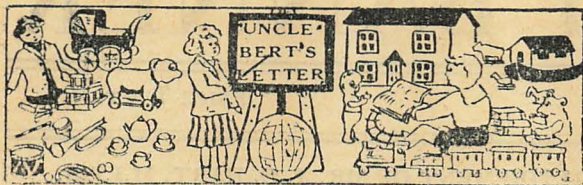
The following knowledge test has been contributed by Mr. J. G. MacFarlane. The test has been placed before Portsmouth Lyceumists and will probably prove interesting to many other Lyceumists who claim to know the *Manual*.

1. Where is the pearl "Be firm, and just, and true," to be found?
2. Where is the "general salute" mentioned?
3. Where can we find the Lyceumist's pledge?
4. How many times, and where, is the name of "Jesus" mentioned?
5. What is the Lyceumists' Love Feast?
6. What chain speaks of the "Lyceum Movement"?
7. Where are magnetic draughts referred to?
8. Where do we find reference to nick names?
9. Where are the principles given?
10. Where are the Fox Sisters mentioned?
11. What is the left hand symbol?
12. What chain contains 5 rights?
13. What three vices are we told to conquer?
14. How and where is the fifth commandment given?
15. What is the legitimate work of every session?

BLACKPOOL NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST CHURCH, ALBERT ROAD, BLACKPOOL.

REVISED ORDER OF SUNDAY SERVICES.

10-30 a.m. Public Circle. 2-0 p.m. Lyceum.
3-0 p.m. Liberty Group. 6-30 p.m. Church Service.
Visitors will be cordially welcomed.



My dear Bunnies,

I think you have all earned this title by your cackling reports of your adventures with the Hot Cross Buns at Easter. What wonderful hens they found this year. Auntie Ruth received two lovely soap eggs, Cousin Doris had an egg full of handkerchiefs, and some of you have had eggs which disguised themselves as Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, and I even saw some with a dear little baby doll inside.

I have often heard about the Goose which laid the golden egg, but I am still looking for the hens which laid all this year's Easter eggs. I am sure they must be "Some birds."

Many of you have told me how you spent your Easter, so I think it is only fair that I should tell you what Auntie Ruth, Doris and I did.

We went from one grand Movement to another, and instead of spending Easter amongst Lyceumists we spent it with boys and girls and workers of the Rechabite movement in South Monmouthshire, Wales.

The Rechabite movement is the largest Temperance Society we have, and, as I am an old Band of Hope boy, and also a Past Superintendent of the Juvenile Temple of the Independent Order of Good Templars, both of which are temperance societies, I was quite at home; and although the workers knew we were Lyceumists they extended us a very warm welcome to take part in their meetings.

Now, I am going to tell you about a real living picture we saw concerning a Shepherd and his lambs on the mountain side. You have all read or heard the Biblical story of the Good Shepherd; how there were ninety and nine sheep safe in the fold, but there was one lost. The story tells how the Shepherd sought until he found this one, and then carried it safely home.

On Easter Monday we were walking over the mountain, when we saw a shepherd coming towards us carrying a dear little lamb only one day old. Cousin Doris and some of our friends ran up to hear all about this dear little lamb, and the good shepherd let them nurse it while he told them the story about it. Although only one day old, unfortunately its mother had died, and this good man was carrying it home, where it was to be cared for by human hands until it was old enough to look after itself.

Here is a lesson for you boys and girls concerning your Lyceums. You may have a membership of ninety and nine members, but somewhere outside is one, unloved and uncared for. Have you ever thought how by seeking that one you can be like the Good Shepherd?

Why, it reminds me of one of the songs the children sang at a meeting I attended during Easter. Here is the chorus:—

"Tho' sun or moon we cannot be,
To make the whole world bright;
We'll find some little cheerless spot
And shine with all our might."

That is one picture. Now I will tell you of another adventure. I have always had a desire to walk from one side of the mountains right over the tops, to find what lies on the other side, and, for the sake of the boys and girls in Wales, we decided to walk from Griffithstown to Abercarn. But, unfortunately, we missed the track. When you are surrounded by mountains which all look alike, it is not an easy matter to decide which is the one you want to cross, as there are no signposts to direct you. For miles on all sides you can see nothing but towering mountains.

For quite a time we thought we were lost sheep, and began to think we might have a night on the mountains, as it would be very dangerous to wander on in the darkness.

Here is another lesson. It was suggested it would be safer to turn back and try and follow the track backwards, when one of our number said, "Surely you are not going to be beaten yet?" It was this spirit which urged us on, until at last we struck a cottage, where we received directions which put us on the pathway which led to our destination.

Oh! boys and girls, how often we are tempted to give up along the pathway of duty, because we cannot see the end in sight or because we stumble on the way. It is just the spirit of grit

and backbone we need to carry us on. Let us strive to create it within our characters.

The other adventure, which was not at all a pleasing one, was our endeavour to find a Lyceum.

We visited Pontypool Church, but found no mention of the Lyceum. We then visited Newport, Charles Street, to find the door closed. Then on to Manidde, but without success.

Thus we spent Easter. Of course, needless to say, we had some great fun with temperance workers we met at Garndiffarth, Sebastopol and from Risca and other tongue-twisting places. We were unable to understand quite a lot of things they said to us, and us to them. But at one social we played "Bobby Bingo"; that is the Welsh song for "Kiss in the Ring." Of course, we had no trouble in understanding that.

I feel sure this report will interest some of the boys and girls of Wales, as well as others.

Our Welsh comrades have a great uphill work in carrying the Lyceum education into the many towns and villages, especially at this time, when there is so much depression in the mining areas. So I want all you boys and girls to join with me in sending them encouraging thoughts.

I was delighted to get a letter from a Lyceumist in Scotland last month, who is engaged in giving artificial sunshine to the sick. You will remember my telling you about this last month. He says he quite agrees with me as to the power of the natural sunshine as a health-giving power.

This letter seems to form the link. England, Scotland and Wales, and it only needs Ireland to make it complete.

To all of you the coming Summer opens up new attractions.

The order of the month is "Away to the playing fields," with your bats and balls, for open-air exercise; or to the swimming baths.

If you cannot score a century you may get a duck, and although you may not be able to swim the channel, you can try the width of the bath.

Success in all sport, as in other things, largely depends on how much perseverance and determination you put into your efforts. So let these two words be the keynote of your ambitions. I hear several Lyceums, are hoping to form Sports Clubs for their members this year, I wish you all success. It is a section of our movement too long neglected; but I hope a great forward move will be made this year, and that all such sections will keep me posted with their results.

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLES.

No. 92.	1. Swedenborg.	2. Kersey.	3. Kitson.	
	4. Tennyson.	5. Longfellow.	6. Hardinge	Britten
No. 93.	1. Hand in Hand with Angels	212		
	2. Let it pass	45		
	3. Clap your hands for Joy	314		
	4. Be kind to others	211		
	5. Do Good	69		
	6. Cherish Kindly feelings	50		
No. 94.	1. Daffodil.	2. Crocus.	3. Daisy.	
	4. Bluebell.	5. Snowdrop.	6. Violet.	

Replies have been so "numberous" that I regret space will not permit a list of individual names, but writers will appreciate the receipt of their letters under their Lyceum's name:—

Acton, Manor Park, Hackney, Glasgow, Leeds, Stockport, Bury, Manchester, Moss Side, Ripley, Hanley, Peckham, Hamilton, Portsmouth, Bury, South Manchester, Newton Heath, Bolton. Total, 78 letters.

The winners of Test Match. Congratulations to Portsmouth 34 points; Bury 13; Newton Heath 12½, South Manchester 9.

PUZZLE THIS MONTH.

No. 95. Going into my Garden, just guess what I found:—
DPSSREI, LCLTAARREPIS, NNSOILEDDA,
LLLWRESAFO, SSRWOPA, EHLOKCEUYS.

No. 96. "For Manual Searchers." Find me a reading which refers to:—Gates, Steps, Hills, Roses, Stars, Lillies, Trees.

No. 97. "A Pearl."
TxxRx xS xxxHxNx xxKx xxE xxL xF
AxxxExxAxLxx xOx GxxAxxxxG xHx
xHxxLx Ox xNxxxVxxxR.

"Liberty Section." The results of Test Match show the value of workers who collect children's letters and send them in batches.

"Subject for thought." The link of co-operation of Adults with children and its value.

With Love,

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

BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

The above Union will hold its

39th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

At 3 p.m. on Saturday, May 26th and 10 a.m. on Sunday, May 27th, 1928, in the

Princess Hall, Princess Road, Moss Side, Manchester.

(Kindly loaned by the South Manchester National Spiritualist Church).

President: MISS EDITH ELLIOTT, A.N.S.C., of Manchester,

NOTICE TO DELEGATES:—Guides will be present at all the Manchester Railway Stations. Please display your Lyceum Badge. Delegates arriving at Victoria and London Road Stations proceed to Piccadilly and board Tramcar No. 44. Alight from the Car at the Alexandra Hotel. The Princess Hall is over Seymour Meads' Tea Stores, two minutes' walk along Princess Road.

Delegates arriving at Central Station will board a Tramcar No. 40, at the Station Exit. Those arriving at Oxford Rd. Station Exit will board a Tramcar No. 44. Ask for the Cars going to Moss Side. All the Tramcars mentioned will pass the Alexandra Hotel, where Delegates must leave the cars. Guides will direct the Delegates from the Car to Princess Hall. The Billet Secretary is Mr. J. E. Hart, M.I.P.S., 47, Fairburn Street, Moss Side, Manchester. The Billet charge is 5s. 6d. The charge for meals during the Conference is 5s. od.

AGENDA.

1. OPENING EXERCISES AND WELCOME.
2. APPOINTMENTS:—(a) Messenger; (b) Tellers; (c) Scrutinisers; (d) Member for Standing Orders Committee.
3. MINUTES OF LAST CONFERENCE.
4. CORRESPONDENCE.
5. PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.
6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:—

(a) TO AMEND THE BYE-LAWS:—

I.—From Tyneside District Council.
Bye-Law 10. Sec. 5. 'Delete all the words between the word "Conference" on the third line, and the word "new" on the seventh line.'

II.—From Southern District Council.
Bye-Law 10. Sec. 1. (H) 'Delete the words "Southern England" and insert a new clause (I) to read "Southern England".'

III.—From the Management Committee.
Bye-Law 13. (k). 'After the word "Conference" insert the words "or the unanimous vote of the Management Committee present at any of its quarterly meetings".'

(b) GENERAL:—

I.—From Southern District Council.
'That Parliamentary Procedure shall be adhered to regarding the introduction of motions by proxy at the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union Conference, in the event of the delegate(s) from the body in whose name such motions stand, being prevented from attending.'

7. REPORTS:—(a) Management Committee; (b) Treasurer; (c) Auditors; (d) £2,000 Effort; (e) Trustees; (f) Banner; (g) Education; (h) College; (i) Manual Revision; (j) U.D.C.; (k) Federation of Youth; (l) Peace; (m) Home of Rest; (n) Overseas; (o) International; (p) S.N.U. Conference and E.C.; (q) M.C. Interim.

8. ELECTIONS:—
(a) Elect Officers:—(i) President; (ii) Vice-President; (iii) Treasurer.
(b) Declaration of the result of the Election of the Area Representatives.
9. ELECT S.N.U. E.C. REPRESENTATIVES.
10. (a) Elect Auditor.
(b) Elect four B.S.L.U. Members of the Joint B.S.L.U. and S.N.U. Arbitration Board.
11. ELECT REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER CONFERENCES.
12. PLACE AND DATE OF NEXT CONFERENCE.
13. MOTIONS:—
To amend the Bye-Laws:—
(i) *From Burnley North Street, Lyceum.*
Bye-Law 1. Sec. 6. 'Delete the first clause commencing at the words "one" and finishing at the word "questions," and insert in its place the words "The method of voting shall be by card votes: each Lyceum vote to represent the number for which contributions have been paid during the current year of membership".'
14. NOTICES OF MOTION FOR NEXT CONFERENCE.
15. VOTES OF THANKS.
16. CLOSING EXERCISES.

NOMINATIONS.

President: Miss E. Elliott, Mr. J. Slimin.

Vice-President: Mr. G. A. Mack, Miss E. Elliott, Mr. J. Slimin, Mr. E. G. Cox, Mr. W. Burrows, Mrs. L. Nurse.

Treasurer: Mr. C. J. Williams.

Auditor: (one wanted): Mr. C. T. Batley, Mr. E. Wilson, Mr. E. Aked, Mr. R. Slater, Mr. J. Walmsley.

NOTICE TO DELEGATES:—Fourteen days' notice in writing must be given to the General Secretary of all questions relating to the business of any Conference, excepting the last one.

PUBLISHING FUND ACCOUNT.

EXPENDITURE.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	INCOME.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
To Stock of Publications, Dec. 31st, 1926		592	17 5	By Manuals, Songsters, etc	.. ..	698	4 1	
„ „ „ Trading	.. ..	1	18 7	„ Trading..	.. ..	7	10 0	
			594	16 0			705	14 1	
„ Office Fittings and Furniture Dec. 31st, 1926.			61	16 9	„ Stock of Publications, December 31st,				
„ Printing and Binding:—					1927..	558	7 1		
Manuals	.. ..	140	15 11	„ Stock, Trading..	.. ..	4	13 11	
Songsters	23	0 0				563	1 0	
Outlines	3	17 6	„ Office Fittings and Furniture..	.. ..		55	13 0	
Various	10	5 6	„ Deficit balance to Accumulative Fund			97	17 7	
Badges..	52	19 8						
			230	18 7					
„ Trading..		10	6 9					
„ Postages and Stationery		38	13 2					
„ Fire Insurances		2	15 0					
„ Labels, Packing paper, etc		3	5 7					
„ Adverts: <i>Lyceum Banner</i>		10	0 0					
„ Audit and Stocktaking		6	7 0					
„ Sundries			8 4					
„ Bank Commission (G. Sec.'s Account)		1	13 0					
„ Proportion of Salaries (¾)	310	8 6						
„ Proportion Rent, Light, Meetings, etc.								
(¾)	150	17 0						
			461	5 6					
			£1422	5 8				£1422	5 8

'LYCEUM BANNER' ACCOUNT.

EXPENDITURE.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	INCOME.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
To Outstanding Accounts, Dec. 31st, 1926		69	2 5	By <i>Lyceum Banners, etc.</i>	.. ..	412	6 4	
„ Printing etc., <i>Banners</i>		376	13 9	„ Adverts and Reports	.. ..	23	0 6	
„ Carriage £63 7s. 8d.; Labels 10s. 6d.		63	18 2	„ Outstanding Accounts, Dec. 31st,				
„ Blocks £6 17s. 10d.; Posters £9		15	17 10	1927..	.. ..	50	3 10	
„ Postages £9 5s. 3d.; Stationery, £1 3s. 9d.			10 9 0	„ Deficit balance to Accumulative Fund		127	8 3	
„ Proportion of Salaries (¾)	51	14 9						
„ Rent, Light, Meetings, etc.								
(¾)	25	3 0						
			76	17 9					
			£612	18 11				£612	18 11

ACCUMULATIVE FUND ACCOUNT.

		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
To Deficit Balance, General Fund Account	.. ..	113	6 3	By Balance, Accumulative Fund, Dec. 31st, 1926	.. ..	1211	1 4
„ Defect Balance, Publishing Fund Account	.. ..	97	17 7				
„ Deficit Balance, <i>Lyceum Banner</i> Account	.. ..	127	8 3				
„ Balance	.. ..	872	9 3				
		£1211	1 4				£1211	1 4

CERTIFICATES' DEPOSIT ACCOUNT.

		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
To balance	.. ..	12	12 0	By Balance, Dec. 31st, 1926	.. ..	10	5 0
				„ Transfer from General Fund Account	.. ..	2	7 0
			£12	12 0			£12	12 0

LYCEUM HOME FUND ACCOUNT.

		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
To Balance:—				By Balance, Dec. 31st, 1926		165	14 3	
S.U.D.C.	.. ..	100	0 0	„ Interest, S.U.D.C.	.. ..	3	16 0
Bank	.. ..	72	4 4	„ „ Bank	.. ..	1	15 1
			172	4 4	„ Income Tax Refund		5	11 1
							0	19 0	
			£172	4 4				£172	4 4

(Continued on page 71).

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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MAY, 1928.

THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

Our thought are all turning to the Annual Conference of the B.S.L.U. This is the opportunity we have to rub shoulders and find "Who's Who." One often feels that the best part of the Conference is during the intervals of the business when London can meet Manchester. and Glasgow sleeps with Grimsby or Liverpool.

We get real inspiration in the ecstatic moments when we reach the culmination of any objective and gain inspiration to do more and go further.

The growing youth is always with us, changed it may be, but still youth, with its dreams and aspirations. Huxley said "Sit sown before a fact, like a little child, or you will learn nothing."

It is in the innocence of youth, before it knows the meaning of a lie, that we find our sweetest happiness if we are in search of an unsullied elysium.

In nature's human garden of growing thoughts no weeds prevail till there unfolds the dawn of human choice. We have taught the child that "that" is "mine" and "this" is "yours," and very few things are "ours." And thus we breed the worship of the substance of the spirit rather than the utility which arises from its use.

Life may be as free as thought, our troubles as light as air and peace become—no longer a dream—a well-ordered scheme of happy relations in a co-ordinate life, when faculty predominates and selfishness is negated.

This is the spirit in which at least some of us, whose dreams are not shattered, may enter into the associations of another Conference.

May we see it close with a regeneration of hope and goodwill for the commonwealth of a spiritual emancipation and diverge to the separate Lyceums with the benediction of a truth-binding love of spirit guidance, and service to humanity.

G. F. KNOTT.

A FOUNTAIN PEN FOR LYCEUMISTS.

There is a pen being stocked by the B.S.L.U. called the "Platignum Pen." The price is 1s. 4½d. post free.

The pen has a double screw, pocket clip, self-filler, and when filled writes over 2,000 words before re-filling is needed.

The secret of its cheapness and utility is that the makers have found a substitute for the usually high-priced gold nib. The metal, called "Platignum," is a non-corrosive and non-tarnishing alloy with the flexibility of gold and many times its strength.

The Pens are made in England and are at present being used and recommended by Lyceumists who are clerks, students, proof-readers, etc. Whoever sees the Platignum Pen in use says "Get me one."

Send 1s. 4½d. for a sample Pen to the B.S.L.U. Office, 20, Toad Lane, Rochdale, Lancs.

We hope the heavy cost of printing the voluminous Conference Reports may be compensated by added interest in the success of the B.S.L.U.

DELEGATES TO THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

During May there will be issued to all Lyceums a copy of the 1927 Conference Minutes, an Agenda for the 1928 Conference, and (if application has been made to the General Secretary) Delegates' cards to attend the Conference.

All the Conference reports are printed in this issue of the BANNER (excepting previous datal reports).

The billet charge is 5s. 6d. per Delegate. Inclusive Meal tickets are 5s. for three meals. Tea on Saturday and Sunday 1s. 6d. each. Lunch 2s.

The Princess Hall Spiritualist Church, Princess Road, Moss Side, Manchester, possesses separate Halls in one building, for the Church and Lyceum.

The Conference will be held in the Church Hall and meals will be provided in the Lyceum Hall.

The directions for reaching Princess Hall are printed on the Agendas.

Delegates requiring Billets are requested to send 5s. 6d. to the Billet Secretary, Mr. J. E. Hart, 47, Fairlawn Street, Moss Side, Manchester, before May 19th, or accommodation cannot be guaranteed. (Please state when applying for Billets whether Mr., Mrs., or Miss.)

The Management Committee Report.

During 1927 the numbers on which fees have been paid were 289 Lyceums and 15,679 Lyceumists. There is no change in the number of affiliated Lyceums, but there is a decrease of 376 Lyceumists.

The payments on the new basis of payment, operating during 1927 were £204 3s. od., a decrease of £12 18s. od. for the same number of Lyceums during 1926.

There have been 20 Lyceums newly affiliated during the year. 14 Lyceums have lapsed membership through non-payment of Fees. Six Lyceums have been closed down.

208 Lyceums were returned as members of District Councils. The Amendments to the Union's Constitution and Bye-Laws, passed at the last Annual Conference, have been circulated to all affiliated bodies.

The B.S.L.U. have sent the annual donation of £5 5s. od. to the S.N.U. Fund of Benevolence.

The £2,000 Effort grows very slowly and we urge Lyceums to support the Effort with a view to stabilising the finances of the Union and increasing our opportunities for trading, etc.

We strongly urge the necessity of financially supporting the Union by making all possible purchases of books, etc., from the Union, and in any other way helping to keep the Union in a stable position during the period of industrial depression.

Attention is called to our Treasurer's statement on our financial position and its consideration is requested by all Lyceumists.

We have refrained from any unnecessary expense during the year, with a view to retaining a financial balance.

The Union is affiliated to the National Council for the Prevention of War (formerly the Peace Society), and the Federation of Youth. We sent representatives to the Annual Meetings of both organisations.

The International Spiritualist Federation Triennial Congress is being held in London during September next, and the B.S.L.U. is preparing a Lyceum Session in the interest of Foreign Delegates.

Admission to this Session will be by ticket. A Souvenir of the Session is being prepared.

A new District Council has been formed in the Birmingham district. The only district at present without a council is South Wales.

The M.C. have conferred with the Trustees in consideration of the Ainsworth Legacy and the operation of the Home of Rest Scheme.

We regret to record the passing to the higher life during the year of four prominent supporters of the Lyceum cause: Alderman Jabez Chaplin, J.P., Mr. James Stewart, Mrs. Reuben Latham and Mr. Tom Tyrrell.

The Education Scheme has continued to grow and the work becomes more onerous year by year. We record our great appreciation of the labours of the two Secretaries, Miss M. E. Kitson and Mr. A. T. Connor, in their earnest efforts to improve the intellectual status of the movement.

Enthusiastic meetings of the Management Committee have been held in Saltaire, Halifax, Castleford and Attercliffe, in co-operation with the respective District Councils and Attercliffe Church and Lyceum. We cordially thank these districts for their loyal support.

£2,000 EFFORT FUND ACCOUNT.

				£ s. d.	£ s. d.					£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
To Balance:						By Balance Dec. 31st, 1926	..	..	..	..	47 ⁰	10	2
S. U. D. C.	45 ⁰	0	Donations	..	..	..	..	17	3	9
Bank	5 ⁶	13	Interest, S. U. D. C.	..	..	..	13	16	2	
					4	" Bank	..	..	..	2	9	3	
					4	Income Tax Refund	..	..	..		2	14	0
											£506	13	4

BALANCE SHEET.

LIABILITIES.				£ s. d.	ASSETS.				£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
Accumulative Fund Account	872	9	3	Outstanding Accounts (L. B.)	..	..	50	3	10	
Lyceum Home Fund Account	172	4	4	Cash in Bank: Treasurer	..	..	79	0	8	
£2,000 Effort Fund Account	506	13	4	" " Secretary	..	..	20	0	0	
Certificates; Deposit Account	12	12	0	" " Trustees	..	..	52	14	2	
Outstanding Account	137	12	8					151	14	10
							Lyceum Home Fund Account	172	4	4	
							£2,000 Effort Fund Account	506	13	4	
							Certificates Deposit Account	12	12	0	
							Stock: Education Department	..	189	9	3		
							Publications	..	..	563	1	0
							Office Fittings and Furniture	..	..	752	10	3
										55	13	0	
											£1701	11	7

CHAS. J. WILLIAMS, Treasurer.

March 17th, 1928.

Audited and found correct,

 W. THISTLETHWAITE, }
 G. A. DIXON, } Auditors.

NOTE:—Any Delegate to the Annual Conference who wishes to question any item in the Above Accounts, Balance Sheet, or Trustee's Accounts, must give seven day's notice to the Union's Treasurer, Mr. C. J. Williams, 108, London Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex.

COMMENTS ON THE FINANCIAL POSITION BY THE TREASURER.

With the publication of Accounts and Balance Sheet for 1927, shewing such a large deficit on the year's work, a few comparisons may be both helpful and welcome.

Apart from the M.C. and Conference expenses, which must vary according to the district visited, many items of expenditure have increased during the past two years, while the income has decreased, mainly through the economic conditions and prevailing industrial depression.

The office expenses in 1925 were £58 12s. 7d. In 1926 the amount was £113 17s. 11d. (including removal and new fittings), 1927, £95 1s. 7d. The salaries have only increased to the amount of the Clerk's nominal annual rise. These figures affect the BANNER and Publishing Fund accounts as well.

The donations are £20 more than in 1925. Affiliation Fees have increased by £14 6s. 0d. The Conference Committee's Expenses are heavier. The Education Department accounts for a large share of the year's deficit.

A careful scrutiny will reveal the decrease of income and, as our responsibilities, Nationally and Internationally, are increasing, every effort is needed to maintain our position in Progression's Race, and to stabilise the finances of the Union.

C. J. WILLIAMS.

The Lyceum Banner Report.

The present edition of the BANNER is 5,000 copies per month. The highest circulation was in 1926, when the monthly issue rose to 5,600. There has been a slight improvement in the distribution during the last few months.

The BANNER is sent to 16 countries overseas.

It is pleasing to find some of the articles and quotations have been used in the foreign press.

A number of Churches are using quotations for platform readings.

All the last features have been retained and some new ones added, especially the childrens' sections.

The Education Scheme has been encouraged at length. The

newly founded National Spiritualist College and Joint Education Scheme have been able to reach a large and growing number of students by this publicity.

As the official organ of the Union all activities have been reported.

More District Councils could use the BANNER for the publishing of the Agendas for their meetings.

As most advertisements are unsuitable for the BANNER, we have to depend largely on Lyceums for advertisements. There is not much financial gain from this source.

Mr. R. Stevenson and Uncle Joseph have ceased to contribute for business reasons.

The many contributors are heartily thanked for their Articles, particularly, Miss M. E. Kitson, Mr. A. T. Connor, Uncle Bert, The Guild Imp, Verontas, Uncle Joseph, and the President. Over 120 children wrote letters during April to the BANNER contributors.

The Editor thanks all the Lyceum Secretaries who send in the monthly reports to keep the children interested in that section of the paper.

There is an apology due to the contributors of occasional articles and essays as the Editor has not been able to print many items that remain in the files awaiting insertion.

There could be an increase in the Sales if the journal was pushed a little more in the Lyceums and Churches.

There is apparently a big loss on the paper. Much space is given to the many activities of the Union, for which no charge is made. The utility and publicity rendered to the Lyceums and the direct touch which the BANNER gives to Lyceumists justifies its existence and it is a binding force in the movement.

Each issue averages 27,000 words, and thus our official organ contains more copy than any other Spiritualist paper in Great Britain.

The isolated districts, where few Lyceumists exist, are given encouragement to send in reports, etc., as a means of propaganda.

It is a pleasure to record increasing good wishes for the success of the paper from interested readers, particularly from overseas.

G. F. KNOTT, Editor.

£2000 Effort.

STATEMENT OF LYCEUMS', D.CS', AND PERSONAL DONATIONS TO DATE.

This year there has been some improvement in the amount of donations as from last year. If you remember, our last year's total to Conference was £8 1s. 4d. This year's total is £28 19s. 7d., not a very great one considering that we have to thank our good friend, Mr. T. F. Smedley, for a further donation of £10, on top of the £50 he had previously donated. What are we going to do about the effort? Are we asking too much from the Lyceums? Personally I think not, if only the Lyceumists of the Union are really interested. Then the question naturally comes, How are we to really interest Lyceums? I have tried to push the collecting cards, which could be made an easy way of raising the money by personal donations. I have suggested the "shilling per year per Lyceumist" idea. I have

asked for a self-denial week, whist drives, socials, parties, but all with no great success.

What can we do to raise the money? I would be glad if we could get some real workable idea, which would raise the money quickly, so that the money could be brought into use, or, if the capital could not be used the interest upon the £2,000 would be a useful asset to the Union. Do let us get something done. It is no use passing pious resolutions at Conference and then leaving Conference and doing nothing. The interest on the amount now in bank is helping nicely, but I do wish to see the Fund grow quicker.

This month's donations are as follows:—Farthings collected, 2d.; Nelson Lyceum, 12s. I return grateful thanks, on behalf of the Union, for these donations, and hope there will soon be a great improvement.

Yours fraternally,

29, Kliffen Place, W. BURROWS, Hon. Sec., £2,000 Effort.
Coronation Road, Halifax.

DONATIONS.

£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
<i>Birmingham District:</i>		Blackpool	10	0	0
Handsworth	1 1 0	Blackburn, St. Peter Street	10	0	0
<i>Bolton District:</i>		Burnley, North Street ..	10	0	0
Bolton, Bradford Street ..	10 0 0	" Hammerton St. ..	0	5	3
Bury, King Street	10 4 0	Colne, Cloth Hall	0	10	0
<i>Bradford District:</i>		Darwen	10	0	0
Bradford L.D.C.	9 0 0	Lancaster, Gt. John Street	10	0	0
Keighley	4 10 0	Nelson	1	7	0
<i>Coventry District:</i>		<i>Nottingham District: L.D.C.</i>			
Coventry, Bull Street	1 18 0	Leicester, Rupert Street ..	1	11	0
<i>Halifax and Huddersfield District:</i>		Mansfield	0	7	0
Halifax, Alma Street	12 18 6	Nottingham, Hawarden Ter.	0	5	0
Huddersfield, Ramsden St.	5 0 0	" Mechanics' Hall	1	18	0
" St. Peter St.	1 0 0	" Beaconsfield	0	17	6
Quarmby	0 10 0	" Gladstone Hall	0	19	0
Sowerby Bridge	10 0 0	Sutton in Ashfield	0	10	0
<i>Leeds District:</i>		Northampton	0	5	0
Batley Carr	5 5 0	Lincoln	0	7	0
Castleford	0 13 0	<i>Sheffield District:</i>			
Dewsbury	10 0 0	Chesterfield	0	10	0
Hull, Holborn Hall	2 13 6½	Rotherham	1	0	0
Leeds, Armley	13 0 0	Scunthorpe	0	17	6
" Psycho	10 5 0	Satcliffe	0	12	0
" Roxburgh Road	0 12 0	Heeley	2	0	0
Heckmondwike	0 6 0	Hillsborough	0	3	0
South Emsall	0 2 6	<i>Southern Counties District:</i>			
Wakefield	0 5 0	Brighton, Old Steine Hall			
Horsforth	0 10 0	(now Mighell Street) ..	3	10	4
Cleckheaton	2 19 0	Reading	1	0	0
<i>Liverpool District:</i>		Southampton, Cavendish			
Liverpool, Daulby Hall ..	10 10 6	Grove	0	5	0
Runcorn	12 4 6	<i>South East Lancashire District:</i>			
Southport	2 10 0	Heywood	1	5	0
Wigan	10 0 0	<i>Teeside District:</i>			
<i>London District:</i>		Middlesbrough, Grange Rd.			
North London	0 10 6	West	0	6	1
Kingston-on-Thames	0 8 6	<i>Tyneside District:</i>			
Peckham	1 11 0	Gateshead, Eden Progressive	10	0	0
Hackney	0 18 0	Hirst	1	3	3
Southeast and Westcliff ..	4 4 0	Newcastle, Heaton and			
London L.D.C.	1 10 0	" Byker	10	0	0
<i>Manchester District:</i>		" Rutherford Street	2	5	0
Moston	5 2 6	" Whitley Bay	0	10	6
Princess Hall	5 19 0	<i>Lyceums in Areas:</i>			
Pendleton, Ford Lane	3 0 0	Tunstall	0	7	9
Moss Lane	18 6	Wisbech	0	7	6
<i>N. E. Cheshire District:</i>		<i>Overseas Lyceums:</i>			
Hyde	3 0 6	Winnipeg	10	0	0
Macclesfield	12 0 0	Wellington, N.Z., Kent			
Stockport, Central	10 0 0	" Terrace	5	5	6
Glossop	0 13 0	Wellington, N.Z., Spiritual			
<i>N. E. Lancs. District:</i>		Church, Incorporated ..	1	1	0
Accrington, Pearl Street ..	1 15 6½	<i>National Donations:</i>			
Barrow, Dalkeith Street ..	1 0 0	B.S.L.U. Management			
" Dalton Road	0 5 0	Committee	10	0	0
Barnoldswick	0 5 3				
<i>United Districts Council ..</i>					
	11 6 0	<i>Personal Donations:</i>			
<i>Personal Donations:</i>		Mr. T. F. Smedley	60	0	0
Mr. T. F. Smedley	60 0 0	Sir A. C. Doyle	10	0	0
Sir A. C. Doyle	10 0 0	Mrs. Pickles	11	0	0
Mrs. Pickles	11 0 0	Mr. Sutcliffe	5	0	0
Mr. Sutcliffe	5 0 0	Miss Tims	0	10	0
Miss Tims	0 10 0	Miss Elliott (by Sales of			
Miss Elliott (by Sales of		Badges, Collecting Cards,			
&c.)	2 14 6	Miss E. Midgley, London ..	0	5	0
Miss E. Midgley, London ..	0 5 0	Miss Stair, Keighley	1	0	0
Miss Stair, Keighley	1 0 0	Mrs. Dean, Bury	0	2	0
Mrs. Dean, Bury	0 2 0	Mr. and Mrs. Wigley, Belper	0	2	0
Mr. and Mrs. Wigley, Belper	0 2 0	Mrs. Pickles (Sale of			
Mrs. Pickles (Sale of		Pamphlets)	1	5	0
Pamphlets)	1 5 0	Miss Elliott	1	5	0
Miss Elliott	1 5 0	Mr. Burrows	1	5	0
Mr. Burrows	1 5 0	Mrs. Nurse	1	5	0
Mrs. Nurse	1 5 0	Miss Raynor	1	7	0
Miss Raynor	1 7 0	Mr. J. K. Jones	0	12	6
Mr. J. K. Jones	0 12 6	Mr. H. C. Guy	0	10	0
Mr. H. C. Guy	0 10 0	Mr. Mack	1	5	0
Mr. Mack	1 5 0	Mr. J. Jackson	0	12	6
Mr. J. Jackson	0 12 6	Mr. Williams	0	5	0
Mr. Williams	0 5 0	Mr. Kitson	0	5	0
Mr. Kitson	0 5 0	Mr. Knott	0	2	6
Mr. Knott	0 2 6	Miss Cleland, Glasgow ..	0	10	0
Miss Cleland, Glasgow ..	0 10 0	Mr. Emmott, Halifax	0	1	0
Mr. Emmott, Halifax	0 1 0	Mrs. Mallinson, Halifax ..	0	1	0
Mrs. Mallinson, Halifax ..	0 1 0	R.R.	0	3	0
R.R.	0 3 0	Two Babies	0	0	2
Two Babies	0 0 2	Mrs. Raymond, Liverpool			
Mrs. Raymond, Liverpool		(by Collecting Cards) ..	1	6	6
(by Collecting Cards) ..	1 6 6	Conference Delegates at			
Conference Delegates at		Wollaton, per Miss Rayner	1	5	3
Wollaton, per Miss Rayner	1 5 3	Anonymous	0	2	0
Anonymous	0 2 0	Mr. Smith, Sheffield	0	1	0
Mr. Smith, Sheffield	0 1 0	Mr. Smith, Sale of Bookmarks	0	15	0
Mr. Smith, Sale of Bookmarks	0 15 0	Mr. Hart	0	15	0
Mr. Hart	0 15 0	Mr. Cox, Sale of Bible Studies	0	6	0
Mr. Cox, Sale of Bible Studies	0 6 0	Mr. Cox (Cost of Block in			
Mr. Cox (Cost of Block in		BANNER)	0	6	0
BANNER)	0 6 0	Mrs. Dean (by Collecting			
Mrs. Dean (by Collecting		Cards)	0	12	0
Cards)	0 12 0	Mr. and Mrs. A. Chapman,			
Mr. and Mrs. A. Chapman,		Halifax	0	2	6
Halifax	0 2 6	Mr. W. Musgrove, Blackpool	0	2	0
Mr. W. Musgrove, Blackpool	0 2 0	Mr. and Mrs. Coleman,			
Mr. and Mrs. Coleman,		Lewisham	0	10	6
Lewisham	0 10 6	A few friends at Skegness,			
A few friends at Skegness,		per R. E. Singleton	0	5	0
per R. E. Singleton	0 5 0	Mr. G. F. Knott (profit on			
Mr. G. F. Knott (profit on		Sale of Book)	0	0	7
Sale of Book)	0 0 7	Mrs. Wilby, Halifax	0	1	0
Mrs. Wilby, Halifax	0 1 0	Mr. Keeling (Cost of Collect-			
Mr. Keeling (Cost of Collect-		ing Cards)	0	18	6
ing Cards)	0 18 6	Hulham House Lyceum	2	4	0
Hulham House Lyceum	2 4 0	Letchworth	0	6	0
Letchworth	0 6 0	Farthings Collected	0	0	9
Farthings Collected	0 0 9				

Mr. J. Bell and Mr. G. A. Mack paid for two blocks and Miss Heap paid for the production and cost of the Bookmarks. Mr. Alfred Kitson has donated copies of "The Persistency of Early Teaching."

B.S.L.U. TRUSTEES' REPORT.

The trustees have met as occasion required to meet the Union's requirements and facilitate the transfer of the Ainsworth Legacy.

The Home of Rest Scheme, which was referred back to the Trustees from the last Conference, has been reconsidered and, after consultation with the Solicitors of the Union, is now amended and printed below.

The Home of Rest Scheme has been approved by the Charity Commissioners, and Mr. J. Venables, J.P., who was the sole Legatee and Stakeholder on behalf of the Union, and the Charity Commissioners, has signed the official application for the capital amount arising from the Legacy to be transferred to the Charity Commissioners for the Home of Rest Scheme. The interest accruing will be used for the Scheme.

The Trustees have taken the Management Committee into their confidence and consultation in preparing the Scheme.

The legal part of the Scheme will be controlled by the Trustees.

The administration of the Scheme will be handed over to the existing Management Committee of the Union.

THE LYCEUM HOME OF REST SCHEME.

THE JOHN AINSWORTH TRUST FUNDS.

1. That the funds of this trust be invested in the name of the Official Trustees of Charitable Funds.
2. That an Executive Committee of seven persons be appointed to manage and control the said funds and that such Executive Committee be appointed by the Trustees for the time being of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union, who shall have power to fill vacancies, and that for the time being the following persons shall constitute the said Executive Committee, namely:—Mr. Alfred Kitson, Mr. Reuben Latham, Mr. Thomas Hoole Wright, Mr. William Edwards, Mr. William Pimblott, Mr. James Shuttleworth, and Mrs. Jessy Greenwood.
3. That the Income arising from the said Trust Fund shall be utilised by the Executive Committee to provide suitable accommodation at seaside places for Lyceumists, children

or adults, needing rest, requiring treatment or convalescence at the seaside or other suitable place where circumstances render them unable to meet the cost themselves.

4. The following rules shall apply:—
 - (a) No person shall be assisted as aforesaid for more than 14 days in any twelve months.
 - (b) Applicants must have had their names on the register of an affiliated Lyceum for at least twelve months prior to application being made, and unless prevented by sickness, have attended the Lyceum on not less than 25 Sundays during that period.
 - (c) The applicant must be recommended by the Lyceum and the application signed by the Lyceum Conductor and Secretary.
 - (d) The application must in all cases be accompanied by a medical certificate, and any suggestions from a doctor as to the place of convalescence would receive due consideration.
 - (e) Applicant, or the Lyceum recommending, would be expected to pay the return fare to the home while the Governing Board would provide maintenance during the sojourn in the Home.
 - (f) All applications to be sent to the Home of Rest Secretary on the forms provided for that purpose.
5. *Granting Applications.* All applications, time permitting, to be submitted to at least four members of the Governing Board before being granted. Urgent applications to be dealt with by the Chairman and Secretary.
6. *Visits.* A Local Lyceum official residing in the town in which the indigent Lyceumist is staying to be appointed to visit the Lyceumist at least once during the stay in the home and report to the Secretary of the Home of Rest.
7. *Accounts.* All books and accounts to be submitted to the Union's Auditors annually, and a Statement to be prepared for Conference and the Charity Commissioners.
8. This Scheme may be revised or altered from time to time by a two-thirds majority of the Trustees and Management Committee of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union, with the consent and approval of the Charity Commissioners.

JESSY GREENWOOD, Chairman.
G. F. KNOTT, Secretary.

TRUSTEES ACCOUNT.

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
£2,000 Effort Fund Account	506 13 4	Sowerby Urban D.C. Mortgages	550 0 0
Lyceum Home Fund Account	172 4 4	Bank £52 14s 2d. ; £56 13s. 4d. & £72 4s. 4d. ..	181 11 10
Capital Account	52 14 2		
	£731 11 10		£731 11 10

CHAS. J. WILLIAMS, Treasurer.

March 17th, 1928.

Audited and found correct,

W. THISTLETHWAITE, }
G. A. DIXON, } Auditors.

EDUCATION REPORT TO CONFERENCE.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE, 1927-1928.

- Chairman: Miss A. HESP, F.N.S.C. (Leeds).
 Hon. Secretary: Miss M. E. KITSON, B.A., F.N.S.C. (Dewsbury).
 Assistant Secretary: Mr. A. T. CONNOR, F.N.S.C. (London).
 Members: Miss M. E. LAWTON, A.N.S.C. (Barrow).
 Mr. E. A. KEELING, A.N.S.C. (Liverpool).
 Mr. R. LATHAM (Burnley).
 Ex-officio: Miss E. ELLIOTT, A.N.S.C. (Liverpool).
 Mr. G. F. KNOTT, D.N.U., F.N.S.C. (Rochdale).

Sub-Committee.

NATIONAL JOINT EDUCATION SCHEME.

B.S.L.U. ASSOCIATE SECTION.

THE EXAMINATIONS, B.S.L.U.

The B.S.L.U. (i.e., the Associate Section) Scheme has had a successful year in the studies undertaken and the examination papers worked; and a further 28 candidates are now eligible for the A.N.S.C. Degree, having obtained 70% or more marks in this year's Grade V. Examination.

B.S.L.U. CANDIDATES.

District Councils.	Entered.	Sat.	Passed.
Birmingham	26	24	24
Bolton	48	40	36
Bradford	29	23	20
Coventry	20	16	16
Halifax and Huddersfield ..	53	46	39
Leeds	91	77	73
Liverpool	62	47	43
London	262	200	179
Manchester	129	107	105
N.E. Cheshire	13	11	9
N.E. Lancs.	103	78	73
Nottingham	68	52	38
Scottish	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Sheffield	89	48	42
Southern Counties	66	54	52
S.E. Lancs.	20	17	15
S. Wales	33	24	24
Tees-side	59	45	38
Tyneside	155	106	99
Area Lyceum	1	1	1
Canada	1	1	1
Totals	1328	1017	927
No. of Lyceums	120	118	117

Will all D.C.'s please do their best to send up their numbers of candidates next year, and help us to have some from every Lyceum in each D.C.

THE GRADES.

Grade.	Entered.	Sat.	Passed.
V.	69	63	48
IV.	64	54	50
III.	134	112	93
II.	241	195	191
I.	483	365	326
Oral	337	228	219
Totals	1328	1017	927
Lyceums	120	118	117

The official booklet of EXAMINATION RESULTS (price one shilling) gives full particulars, viz., Committee, Examiners; Marking Scheme; Summary per Grade, Summary per Class in each Grade; the entrants, sitters and successes per Grade for each DISTRICT COUNCIL; List of A. N. S. C. Degree Holders; and of those eligible for the Degree; and the detailed results of the 118 Lyceums that entered candidates.

THE WORK OF THE SCHEME.

All the usual activities have been carried on, but as these are the same in kind (but ever growing in amount) there is nothing in particular to report.

The activities include:—Propaganda letters and circulars to Lyceums and to individual candidates, monthly articles in the BANNER, quarterly reports to the M.C., half-yearly meetings, correspondence, sale of education literature; and the work for and after the examinations themselves, culminating with the despatching of certificates and the issue of Results Books.

The work grows steadily year by year; but all with the cause of education and progress at heart will not be satisfied (i) until every Lyceum trains its members in the work and enters them for the examinations—from Oral Grade to Final; (ii) until success in Grade V. is a necessary qualification for Conductors and Leaders; (iii) until the G.N.S.C. Degree is an essential qualification of all accredited platform workers; and (iv) until piffle and twaddle will NOT be tolerated from our platforms by the audiences, trained and educated to follow and appreciate intellectual addresses and evidential phenomena.

NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST COLLEGE.

The activities of the College during the past year will be found recorded in the appended College Report to Conference. The Constitution for Local Branches has been drawn up and approved, and, together with the College Constitution and various interpretations and hints, has been issued in the COLLEGE BOOKLET as a guide to all Churches and Lyceums which wish to carry on educational and class work under the College Scheme. The College 'idea' is gradually appealing to the educational enthusiasts in the various Districts.

JOINT EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

The Joint Education Committee met twice since last Conference, and reports of the business done were published in the LYCEUM BANNER and NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST. Knotty points from the work during the year have been considered, and the Committee's decisions and or interpretations published in the Education Pages of the Official Journals.

The second Entrance Examination and the first Intermediate Grade Examination under the National Scheme have been held, and the Joint Committee is greatly encouraged by the results attained. The numbers concerned are not large, but they are full of hope and promise for the future. Of 27 applicants for the Entrance Examination, one proved to be, unfortunately, ineligible, one had to withdraw through illness, and 24 sat at the examination; and of the 19 who entered for the Intermediate Grade Examination, 18 sat through its three three-hours Sessions.

The Entrance Examination papers have been marked and returned by the Examiners, and 21 of the 24 sitters have qualified to sit for the Intermediate Grade. How the Intermediate candidates have fared at the hands of the Examiners still remains to be seen; but, however they may succeed or fail, the fact remains that 18 adult Spiritualists sat through nine hours at an examination on a Course comprising five text-books on general Spiritualism, two on Logic and one on Evolution. Their reward? That a body of Examiners shall express in marks an opinion on the value of the knowledge they have gained through

a year's hard study! And if they have failed they are going to try again; and if they have succeeded they are going to study for and sit at two further exacting examinations—in the pursuit of a comprehensive knowledge and balanced understanding of Spiritualism. Verily it is a marvellous thing, this Spiritualism, and to the right type of mind its call is irresistible.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

The full Committee met in September and April; and any of its work and decisions other than those connected with routine work and ordinary business, have been made known in the monthly Education Article and/or by circulars to Lyceums.

The Sub-Committee met in October and February with the S.N.U. members, as the Joint Education Committee and College Governing Board.

EDUCATION PRINTING AND PUBLICATIONS.

Only the usual printing for carrying on the routine work has been done during the past year; though a very heavy printer's bill has to be met. This is due to our having had two years' credit; and the total includes such big items as (i) new certificates for the Grades, nearly £26, but a two years' supply; (ii) Oral Grade Readers, £30; (iii) a two years' supply of the foolscap examination paper, and the large envelopes to take and bring back Lyceums' candidates' papers.

SALES OF STOCK, 1927.

Book.	Sold.	In Stock on 31st Dec., 1927.
Oral Grade Reader ..	150	2240
.. .. Primer ..	500	2228
No. 1 Handbook ..	579	2094
.. 2	355	1873
.. 3	305	2129
.. 4	124	2733
.. 5	148	4066
.. 6	58	2930*
Summaries and Glossaries	340	3529

(* 1,700 held by printer, in addition).

Sales are still low, for the bad economic conditions prevented Lyceums from buying quantities of handbooks for propaganda work, and even made many Lyceums unable to buy books for study, and so kept them out of this year's exams.

THE COMMITTEE GIVES THANKS TO:—

- (i) The Editor of the LYCEUM BANNER, for the space so readily given month by month for Education Articles, to help on the work.
- (ii) The small army of willing and voluntary workers who have combined to make the Scheme a success. This army consists of candidates, tutors, conductors, secretaries and committees, of M.C. officers and members, of generous donors to the funds, of writers of articles; and of examiners, who annually devote hours to the arduous job of marking the papers. Each individual's help is needed and counts towards the success of the work.

On behalf of the Education Committee,

M. E. KITSON, B.A., F.N.S.C.,

Honorary Secretary.

A. HESP, F.N.S.C.,

Chairman.

National Spiritualist College.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1927.

During the past year there has been a slow but steady awakening of interest in the College and its aims and objects. Inquiries have been received from Churches, Lyceums and District Councils and a District Group, as well as from individuals; and the United Districts Council has recommended the College to its affiliated Districts; so the Governing Board feels confident that when economic conditions become settled, every branch of the Organised Movement will take advantage of our College and its Constitution, and play an appropriate part in its local, district and national activities.

During the year 19 Local Branches were enrolled, and on 31st December, 1927, the membership of the College consisted, in addition to these, of 1 District Centre, 52 Associates and 9 Fellows. The number of Local Branches is not as high as had been hoped for, but many eligible Lyceums seem unwilling to assume the responsibility of being units of the College, and until

this unwillingness is gradually overcome the Local Branch membership will vary with local conditions. As a result of the distribution of the suggested Constitution for Local Branches it is hoped that most if not all of the eligible Lyceums will, in due course, register with the College.

The College is indebted to the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Messrs. Smedley and Kitson, Southend and Westcliff Lyceum, and various individual Spiritualists, for donations to the funds. The financial assistance thus received has enabled us to provide all the required Forms and Diplomas, and also to issue a 32-page guide to College work, entitled *The College Booklet*. The Board has decided to issue a Leaflet of hints on the formation of classes and on methods of study, which it is hoped will prove a helpful companion to the Booklet.

The Board also records its grateful appreciation of the support given to the work of the College by the Editors of the NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST and the LYCEUM BANNER; their generous guaranteed allotment of space in their journals for our reports and announcements has provided us with an assured contact with the Movement.

The College Board nominates Mr. Robert A. Owen, D.N.U., for the award of the Degree of Fellow (F.N.S.C.). Mr. Owen was a pioneer of Study Group and general educational work in both Unions, and until his removal to Dublin was an active member of the B.S.L.U. Education Committee.

A. T. CONNOR, F.N.S.C., Hon. Secretary.
W. G. GUSH, D.N.U., F.N.S.C., Chairman.

THE NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST COLLEGE.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DEC., 1927.

INCOME.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Balance from 1926	.. .. .		33 5 10
Donations:—			
British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union	.. .. .	10 0 0	
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle	.. .. .	5 0 0	
Messrs. Smedley and Kitson, from sales of "Bible Studies"	.. .. .	5 0 0	
Southend and Westcliff Lyceum	.. .. .	1 0 0	
Varying amounts from Lyceumists when applying for their Diplomas	.. .. .	2 9 0	
Registration Fees from 19 Local Branches	.. .. .		23 9 0
Bank Interest	.. .. .		4 15 0
			0 11 4
			£62 1 2
EXPENDITURE.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Printing:—			
Diplomas, Forms, etc. (1926)	.. .. .	7 1 6	
"Booklet," etc. (1927)	.. .. .	15 19 8	
			23 1 2
Postage, Stationery, etc., for Circulars to Local Branches and Special Appeals	.. .. .		0 10 0
Balance:—			
In hands of Trustee-Treasurer (in Bank)	.. .. .	34 10 0	
Hon. Secretary	.. .. .	4 0 0	
			38 10 0
			£62 1 2

(Signed) THOS. H. WRIGHT,
Hon. Treasurer and Trustee.

Audited and found correct,
(Signed) ROBERT A. OWEN, } Trustee-
REUBEN LATHAM, } Auditors.

S.N.U. Education Examinations.

1928 Questions.

GRADUATE SCHEME—INTERMEDIATE GRADE.

READING COURSE. (In FIVE Sections, A—E.)

TO CANDIDATES.

Time allowed—not more than THREE hours.

Answer FIVE questions—not more than ONE from each section. 20 marks are allowed for each answer; possible total, 100.

Place before each Answer the SECTION and NUMBER of the relative question (as A, 1; C, 2; E, 3, etc., as the case may be).

Read through the further instructions on the paper sent you before the Examination. *Every mistake means the loss of marks.*

A.—"THE SEVEN-POINTED STAR."

1. (a) Write your interpretation of "The Seven-Pointed Star";
(b) What do the seven points of the star denote?
2. If "The Brotherhood of Man" was faithfully practised throughout the world, what, in your opinion, would be the result?
3. Are the following Principles of Modern Spiritualism true?
(a) The continuity of Life, and (b) the Communion of Spirits and the Ministry of Angels.
State your reasons clearly.

B.—"INTRODUCTION TO SPIRITUALISM AND LYCEUMISM."

1. (a) State the Principles of Spiritualism in their correct order.
(b) Which Principle is the most important?
(c) State your reasons for this opinion.
2. Where is Hydesville? Describe the events that concern our Movement which occurred there and at Rochester.
3. What do you know of the activities of Children in Spirit Life?

C.—"MODERN SPIRITUALISM."

1. (a) It is often stated that Spiritualism was introduced to stem the tide of Materialism. Do you think this is true? Give your reasons.
(b) Mention the names of seven pioneers of Spiritualism, and describe the events that led to the establishment of Spiritualism as a Movement.
2. What do you know of the work of "The Dialectical Society" and its Report which was eventually published?
3. (a) Describe the phenomenon of Spirit Control through Mediums.
(b) Does sensitiveness help in this control?

D.—"HINTS TO STUDENTS OF SPIRITUALISM."

1. (a) What is meant by Control?
(b) State the various phases of Spirit Control, and describe the work of the Control in each circumstance?
(c) Summarise the evidence which Spiritualism offers in proof of Man's survival of bodily death; and show how each phase of phenomena contributes towards it?
2. (a) Enumerate some Spiritualistic Phenomena, together with the theories which, non-Spiritualists claim, are sufficient to account for them.
(b) Describe the activities and functions attributed to the Subliminal or Subjective Mind, and show why the "Subliminal Mind" Theory is said to be the strongest case against Spiritualism.
3. Defining Spiritualism as "a science, a philosophy and a religion"—
(a) Outline briefly the Spiritualistic Concept of each of the Seven Principles, and
(b) State which aspect—as represented by Principles—would appeal to (i) the Scientist, (ii) the Philosopher, and (iii) the Religious man; supplying, if need be, the reason why.

E.—"PSYCHIC PHILOSOPHY."

1. (a) How would you define "A Moral Law"?
(b) How does Spiritualism help Man to find the connection between "the Facts of Life" and "the Laws of Morality"?
2. (a) Define "the Senses," "the Intellect" and "the Conscience."
(b) Outline the growth of Mediumship, from the time of the Fox Sisters—showing how the Spirit People have appealed to the Senses, the Emotions, the Intellect and the Conscience, in turn.
(c) From which of these has the Religious Aspect of Spiritualism emerged?
3. "The need of the day," we are told, "is a belief that shall rest neither on Dogma nor on Instinct"—
Outline some of the essential points of such a Belief, and say in how many essentials Spiritualism meets the need;

PHILOSOPHY COURSE;
TO CANDIDATES.

Time allowed—not more than THREE hours.

Answer FIVE questions, 20 marks are allowed for each answer.
Possible total, 100.

Read through the further instructions on the paper sent to you before the Examination. DO NOT copy out the questions.

1. How do we reason, and how do mistakes in reasoning commonly arise.
2. What are the meanings of *concrete*, *abstract*, *positive*, *negative*, *opposite* and *ambiguous* terms?
Give instances—especially of ambiguous terms.
3. What are the rules of Classification necessary to secure "a precise statement of the qualities which are just sufficient to mark out a class?"
4. What are the rules for Propositions, and for the distribution and non-distribution of subjects and predicates?
5. What are the rules for the Syllogism?
What does Mr. Connor give as the *purpose* of a Syllogism?
6. How do you discover the Major and Minor TERMS and PREMISES and the Middle TERM?
7. What are the mistakes in the following:—
"All true Christians are virtuous;
Spiritualists are not true Christians; Therefore
Spiritualists are not virtuous."
8. What are the steps to Inductive Reasoning given by Jevons; and what rules are given by Mr. Connor?
9. How would you get, and TEST, evidence of IDENTIFICATION of Spirits by (a) clairvoyance, (b) trumpet, (c) materialisation?
10. How do our different classes of phenomena verify our generalisations regarding (a) Human Survival, (b) the existence of the Spiritual Universe?
(Question based on *Essays on Reasoning*, ch. 8-11.)

EVOLUTION COURSE.

TO CANDIDATES.

Time allowed—not more than THREE hours.

Answer questions 1 OR 2, and any FOUR others; 20 marks are allowed for each answer. Possible total, 100.

Read through the further instructions on the paper sent to you before the Examination. DO NOT copy out the questions.

1. Explain what is meant by the Survival of the Fittest, and give a brief account of the process of Natural Selection.
2. State what to you seems the most acceptable theory of the development and growth of Man's social instincts, from the primitive barbaric state to the present order of Society (with its classes and complex duties). Why does this theory seem acceptable to you?
3. In what way were the various Earth systems of stratified rocks laid down? Describe any one of these systems, with its fossil contents.
4. How do Animals and Plants (a) agree and (b) differ in (i) External form, (ii) Internal structure, and (iii) Function?
5. Give the two main groups into which Animals are divided, and a description of the lowest known Animal.
6. Describe the Solar System, and state the theory advanced to explain the birth and evolution of the Sun and Planets.
7. Taking the cell as the structural starting point of all life, describe the stages by which the cells arise, divide, and go to make up living organisms.
8. State what evidence can be adduced in support of the common descent of all living things, and give two examples of the derivation of species.
9. Give an outline of the course of mental development from the lowest to the highest Life-forms, and show the difference between Instinct and Reason.
10. Discuss briefly the origin and development of Language and the Useful Arts, as marking Man's advancing Mental Evolution.
11. State the difference between Morals and Theology, and give a definition of Conscience which will account for the varying standards of Right and Wrong.

LYCEUM MANUAL REVISION COMMITTEE.

The Committee has met twice since last Conference, in July and November, and on each occasion for a Saturday and a Sunday. Progress has been slower than in 1926, but there has been no decrease in the amount of work done, the slow progress being due to the exceedingly careful consideration required by Golden Chains 128 to 136. The reports in the September and December

issues of the LYCEUM BANNER (pages 143 and 197-198) will give an idea of the quality and variety of the work accomplished, as a result of which one Golden Chain has been accepted, one held over for further consideration, and the Committee is making recommendations for the deletion of some of the present Chains and the alteration and/or retention of others.

At the November meeting, at the request of the Management Committee, the MS. of 'Helps to the Study of the Lyceum Manual' was handed to Mr. G. F. Knott for return to Mr. Kitson, who had withdrawn his offer of the MS. to the Lyceum Union.

The Committee has decided that it is necessary to ask Conference for authority to consider the advisability of revising the Principles as given in G.C.R. 136, on the understanding that any proposed amendments would be presented to next Conference for specific consideration and decision.

The Committee considers that two meetings per year are essential to the completion of the Revision within a reasonable time.

A. T. CONNOR, Hon. Sec.
E. A. KEELING, Chairman.

The Spiritualists' Lyceums United Districts
Councils.

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE B.S.L.U. CONFERENCE.

Since last Conference two meetings have been held. One at Wigan, the other at Fleetwood. One matter which has been to the fore was the provision of "A Children's Manual" or "Children's Section of the Manual." The considered opinion of the districts is—that steps should be taken to issue such Manual, or make such a section of the New Manual and/or the present Committee should draw up a Lesson Plan on the lines of the Oral Grade Scheme. Such a children's section could be an extension of the now well-known Oral Grade Primer. The need is evident, and most D.C.s have expressed an opinion—that as a children's movement—we should cater and provide fully for the juvenile section of the movement.

Concerning the motions referred back to the Council—from the last B.S.L.U. Conference, (1) *Re* "affiliation with the B.S.L.U. making D.C. membership automatic," we report that this is a matter which has been under discussion for many years, and has been the subject of much controversy. The present conditions obtaining under the present Constitution and Bye-laws display an anomaly, viz.—"That where a D.C. is established, any application for membership of the B.S.L.U. must bear the signatures of the D.C. President and Secretary—and all visiting necessary in connection with the application—must be made by the District Council's D.V., and the cost of such visits, etc., are borne by the D.C." and yet, membership of the D.C. by the Lyceum in question is optional.

In the discussions of this question in the past many cases have been evidenced, that membership of the Union was a pecuniary one. At the U.D.C. meeting held in the Tyneside District in 1923 this matter was fully discussed, and 12 sections of the movement unanimously agreed, that the time was now at hand, when compulsory membership of the D.C. should be made and constitutionally provided for, and would give their support to any motions to further this end. This would require the re-drafting of the Articles of Sub-section B of the Constitution, Article 3 and Bye-Laws 3 and 4.

Manchester and Salford D.C. motion.

"That all Lyceums shall be represented at Conference through the District Councils by a number of delegates proportionate to the number of Lyceums in the District Council: such delegates to be elected at the A.G.M. of the D.C.—the delegates' expenses to be pooled equally between all Lyceums in the District Council."

Article VII provides that Lyceums shall themselves elect their representatives, and such a change as is here implied means that the Lyceum as a unit would lose touch with the Conference—excepting by way of the D.C.

We are of the opinion this would be a distinct loss, as the Union primarily exists for the Lyceums. The pooling of expenses would be desirable, as it would help the Lyceums who were numerically weak.

Mr. Conner, the late President of the Council, in his Presidential Address at Hyde in March 1924, elaborated a scheme for organisation, in which he viewed the day when the movement would have grown fourfold, but perhaps it would be better to give you his actual words, which will convey to you the position more lucidly than we can put it.

"Last Whitsun, (1924) with 236 'Home' Lyceums, 145 Lyceumists (including the M.C.) attended Conference—but 370 delegates were entitled to attend. In the same proportion, with 1,000 Lyceums, over 1500 delegates would have to be taken into consideration, and even if only fifty per cent. of them attended, the problem of billeting 750 (even at their own expense) and providing the adequate hall-accommodation for the Conference sessions, would be greater than most Lyceums or Districts would be willing to tackle. To avoid this it might be found necessary to so alter the character of Conference that there would be little, if any, increase in number of attending. The problem here is, how the alteration could be made without involving injustice to any section.

The only solution that suggests itself is the division of the Union area into Provinces, somewhat on the present Area lines: the North Western (or Lancashire), Yorkshire, North Eastern, Scottish, Welsh (or Western), Midland and Southern Provinces. These would send delegates to Conference in the proportion of 5 to every 10 or part of 10 Lyceums, and the delegates would be chosen from and by the D.C.'s in each Province pro rata to the Lyceum strength of each D.C. Supposing the scheme in operation, and taking the Jan. 1924 BANNER List as a basis—Lancashire, with 5 D.C.'s and 68 Lyceums, would send 35 delegates, representing N.E. Lancs. (14), Manchester (7), S.E. Lancs. (6), Bolton (4), and Liverpool (4). The seven Provinces, schemed out in this way, would send a total of 135 delegates; and as the number of Lyceums increase, the Conference delegation could be kept within workable limits by reducing the number of delegates allowed per ten Lyceums or some other method equally effective and equally fair.

Another problem is the amount of time that would be devoted to the Conference business. With our present membership, two days are not sufficient to allow full discussion of all the business, so we can imagine the congestion with four times as many Lyceums. What is the solution—more days for Conference, or less business to be discussed? The first is not practicable, as very few delegates could attend for more than two or at most three days; and in the second, which is practicable, lies the danger of the Movement being deprived of its democratic nature and basis—which must be preserved. Yet if Conference is to be confined to two days, some method must be devised by which much that is now done in Conference shall be done elsewhere, and only submitted for Conference approval and adoption. The safest practical solution would appear to be that each Union Lyceum would hold its A.G.M. in January, when resolutions could be drawn up, and sent for discussion to the D.C. meetings in February. Adopted resolutions would be sent by the District Secretary to the General Secretary early in March and published in the BANNER for April. The Conference delegates in each Province could then meet on the third week-end in April (as a Provincial Council), discuss ALL of these resolutions and vote on them—a record of the voting being forwarded to the General Secretary. At Conference, the total votes for and against each item would be declared. If the voting showed a decisive majority either way, the result would be adopted—should the voting be very close, Conference could be given the power to decide whether a limited time would be allowed for re-discussion and a new vote on the subject concerned. In this way Conference (which would really be the Grand Council of the United Provinces) could dispose of all its 'business' items on Saturday, when the Business Manager would preside; and reserve matters of education, philosophy, etc., for discussion on the Sunday, with the Union's President in the Chair. Thus could be preserved for our President his dignity as head of a religious and educational movement.

With 1,000 Lyceums, and (it is hoped) a majority of Lyceumists in the Education scheme, the present organisation could not cope with the necessary clerical work. The Education Committee could still be elected by Conference, with power to initiate policy, draw up syllabuses and set questions. But each Province would have to conduct its own examinations—receive entries; prepare and forward admission cards and all examination requisites; appoint examiners, tabulate results and forward them to the National Council Secretary for publication.

There are many other changes which would become necessary—the D.C.'s and even the M.C. would be affected—and the problems of finance and of local, district and national administration, would require deep and impartial consideration; but time will not allow for any more outlining, so I can only hope that these problems will be raised in discussion, and during the discussion we should bear in mind that one of the objects of the U.D.C. is to collect, consider, initiate and disseminate ideas or projects that may be beneficial to the Movement."

This presents an ideal much to be desired, but until that day dawns we shall have to carry on in the same old way.

The membership of the Council remains the same,—12 Coun-

cils are in membership. None have withdrawn since last Conference.

Thanking all who have made our work a pleasure,
C. T. BATLEY, *President*,
J. SHUTTLEWORTH, *Secretary*.

The Peace Report was printed in the January BANNER (page 11).

The Federation of Youth Report was printed in the April BANNER (page 49).

The Home of Rest Report is incorporated in the Management Committee and Trustees Reports.

THE OVERSEAS REPORT.

The Lyceums overseas keep in touch with the Union chiefly through the BANNER.

During the Hydesville Memorial Celebrations the B.S.L.U. was represented by Mrs. M. E. Cadwallader and Mrs. M. T. Longley. Two essays, and our President's greetings, were sent and incorporated in the celebrations. The B.S.L.U. will be perpetuated by the donation of £10, sent by the Management Committee, on behalf of the Union.

The Lyceums continue in Canada and New Zealand. Australia and South Africa are not too vigorous.

The greetings from Lyceums have been chiefly conveyed in the BANNER reports, and through the "Overseas" page.

There are signs of an increased awakening in various districts.

It is pleasing to record a case was won in the American Courts with the assistance of the *Lyceum Manual* and a Spiritualist Church was proved to be a religious association.

Our trade overseas has not been quite as good as in former years. We are hoping greater results will accrue through the increasing correspondence.

G. F. KNOTT.

THE INTERNATIONAL SPIRITUALIST FEDERATION.

The full report of the meeting of the I. S. F. Grand Committee, held on September 26th, was printed in the November issue of the BANNER (1927), page 179.

Since that date the S.N.U. International Committee has met to arrange the details of the Triennial Congress to be held in London during September 8th to 15th.

A Reception Committee has been instituted to work in conjunction with the S.N.U.

All representative Spiritualist organisations in London have been asked to co-operate towards the success of the Congress.

A Lyceum Session will be part of the Congress, and will take place during the Sunday afternoon.

The London Spiritualist Alliance have kindly granted the use of their Rooms during the Congress.

Particulars of the Congress and an appeal for funds has been circulated to all countries.

The report of the last Congress was delivered during the year and is in the archives of the Union.

The Reception Committee meet on May 19th, to complete the local arrangements for the Congress.

G. F. KNOTT, B.S.L.U. Delegate;

Spiritualists' National Union Annual General Meeting.

July 2nd and 3rd, 1927.

DELEGATES' REPORT.

TO THE DELEGATES ASSEMBLED AT THE CONFERENCE OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION, MAY, 1928,

In submitting this Report it must be noticed that much of it is out-of-date, e.g., the production of an Annual Diary, etc., but a true record of the event must necessarily mention all such matters.

The Conference was held at the Caxton Hall, on Saturday, 2nd July, and at the Artworkers' Guild on Sunday, morning and afternoon. Mr. R. A. Owen, of Dublin, presided at all meetings. Both Mr. Connor and myself received fraternal recognition, also Mrs. M. H. Wallis, and Dr. A. Wallace.

The confirmation of Minutes and Reports were accepted with few comments.

The Conference adjourned at 12 o'clock (Saturday) to receive the "Articles of Association and Memorandum of Association," which were eventually referred back to the Council.

The Interim Report disclosed a decrease in membership (both Churches and Members). The sales publication was the lowest on record; the *National Spiritualist* showed an approximate loss of £60, with a prospect of its withdrawal unless more encouragement was shown by the Union, so that it would justify the Council continuing the paper. The general financial position was extremely serious.

During the session many donations were given by a number of delegates, amounting to about £35, towards the deficit on the paper, and other promises followed. Orders for about 500 of the new Diary were given from the floor of the Conference.

One general collection was announced, instead of taking the same at all the meetings. The result was stated to be satisfactory.

The most interesting event was the presentation of an Official President's Badge, to take the place of the "gilded farthing" worn by a few of us with pride on account of its history, as well as the honour it confers. Mr. and Mrs. Richardson, of York, were the donors and instigators of the idea. Mrs. Richardson gracefully invested the President by placing it in position and giving it her blessing. It was gratifying to myself to see the accomplishment of this desire on their part, and my own share in the matter, for I had the pleasure of suggesting the inscription on the back of the badge, and, together with our good friends, helped to see it through to a successful issue. The Vice-President, Mr. Keeling, will wear the old badge whilst in office.

Balloting took place at intervals during the session, resulting in the following appointments:—President, Mr. R. A. Owen; Vice-President, E. A. Keeling; Treasurer, T. H. Wright; Subscribers' Representative, J. Jackson; National Councillor, Miss Stair; Auditors, J. M. Stewart and A. G. Newton.

The business generally was of the usual stereotyped kind, consisting of attempts to alter the date of the A.G.M., proposed alteration as to holding of Consultative or Mass Meetings, etc.

A proposed Eighth Principle was referred to the Council for consideration and report.

The President's Address was well received and ordered to be printed in our Press.

I beg to thank the Conference for the great privilege of being their delegate to the S.N.U. Conference and trust the good feeling prevailing between the two Unions may be sustained.

JESSY GREENWOOD.

S.N.U.E.C. Report

The S.N.U. E.C. have met in Sunderland, Manchester, and Edinburgh since the last A.G.M.

The Area Scheme for the invitations to the E.C. is not proving a success.

A few more Lyceums are supporting the Fund of Benevolence. The Finance Committee have met as occasion required and made some approved adjustments.

The Pooling Scheme is now in operation and has funds in the Pool.

The Publications Committee have been active, but finances prevented any serious outlay at the present time.

The Exponents' Committee have entered seriously into their work in conjunction with the National Spiritualist College. The number of entrants for diplomas is considered excellent, and a big step forward has taken place in the provision of educated Speakers for the Movement.

The Parliamentary Committee are held up till a Mover of the Bill can be found.

The Healing Committee has a new personnel, and the conditions are being explored.

Psychic Science has also been considered, but the machinery is not yet in operation.

The position of the *National Spiritualist* has been improved, through the financial support which has been given. The question was raised concerning two private Correspondence Schools. In reply to queries, it was agreed the S.N.U., whilst appreciating the desire for an educated Spiritualism, could not give their approval to the schools over which they had no jurisdiction.

The S.N.U. objected to the use of the Diploma for professional purposes, other than that for which it was granted.

The Arbitration Board is arranging methods of procedure and has reported that the S.N.U. E.C. has jurisdiction over the discipline of Churches.

There was also a report on the Keighley case, giving the verdict in favour of the existing Lyceum officials, as the time of office for the old officials of the Lyceum had expired, and the contesting Lyceumists are no longer members of Keighley Lyceum.

Mr. John Stewart was appointed Assistant Treasurer, Mr. T. H. Wright having given notice of his retirement.

The E.C. were not satisfied with the present professional Auditor, and the Officers were appointed to find another accountant.

It was decided to recommend to the A.G.M. that the question of a chain for the Presidential Badge be dropped.

The E.C. is recommending to the A.G.M. that all delegates pay their own cost of billeting and travelling.

It was decided only to make loans from the Parliamentary Fund at six months' recall.

A three weeks' Summer School is being held at Bangor. Some stringent resolutions for the S.N.U. A.G.M. Agenda are sent in by the Glasgow Association, affecting the relations of the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U.

The arrangements for the I.S.F. Congress were reported and have been issued in the Press.

New efforts are being made to get an M.P. to move the S.N.U. Bill.

An important Sub-Committee was appointed to prepare a report of the "Proposed Eighth Principle." The report has been approved by the E.C. for submission to the S.N.U. A.G.M.

The text of the report is printed below:—

The S.N.U. E.C. Sub-Committee has given full and careful consideration to the proposal to add to the well-known Seven Principles of Modern Spiritualism a new principle based upon the following proposition:—

"That a new principle be added to the Seven Principles of Spiritualism, declaring that while admitting that every creed has its own message from on high, however distorted by human frailty, we in the Western World acknowledge the original teaching and example of Jesus of Nazareth and look upon them as an ideal model for our own conduct."

And begs to submit the following as its unanimous report:—

Since the revelations of Spiritualism are universal, we recommend that it is not in the interests of Spiritualism or of the Churches affiliated to the S.N.U. that the well-known Seven Principles of Spiritualism now embodied in the Memorandum of Association of the Union should be added to or remodelled in such form as to reduce the universality of the basis of membership, which at present is open to people of all races, colours and religions.

We recognise that spiritual truth is one and universal, and that all religious systems have resulted from an incursion from the spirit world, manifested through chosen instruments. These inspired men have revealed in varying degrees and in their respective periods and countries, new and higher aspects of God, the spiritual nature of man, and glimpses of the whence and whither of man's origin and destiny.

Recognising further the changing and controversial views regarding the person and work of Jesus current among the orthodox Churches of Christendom, and recognising equally the wisdom of safeguarding the movement of Spiritualism from the unjust reproach of being "anti-Christian," we affirm that the development and unfolding of religious ideas from earliest times to the present age conforms to a law of evolution exactly as does the growth of man's perceptions and his acquisition of scientific knowledge.

Zoroaster, Gotama "The Buddha," Jesus "The Christ" and Mohammed, are the recognised founders of great religions known by their names, which still exist and give spiritual consolation to innumerable congregations. Nearest to the Western World, and accepted as its special Teacher, is Jesus. His teaching, as represented by the Sermon on the Mount, the Golden Rule, and the New Commandment, admittedly embodies an ideal ethical and spiritual standard for human conduct; and the story of His life and self-sacrificing death has been and remains an inspiration and comfort to millions of His followers.

Spiritualism, however, bases its position upon the universal manifestations of the continuity of personal life after physical death and the uplifting influence of incarnate spirit people upon the incarnate. It therefore accepts all these great founders as inspired and as revealers of Spiritual Truths to mankind, and builds its own philosophy and teaching not only upon the Truths revealed to mankind through these ancient teachers, but also upon the New Revelations received by this generation through modern Seers, Prophets, and Mediums.

Since Spiritualism accepts all revelations of Truth as progressive, it is unwise to impose restrictions which fetter liberty of thought. The S.N.U., therefore, welcomes into its ranks every Spiritualist who can conscientiously subscribe to the Seven Principles, leaving him freedom to exercise liberty of interpretation thereto, and to enjoy any further opinions which do not contravene the Statutory Principles.

We recommend that a proposition which shall introduce the above Report for discussion and vote be drafted for the next Consultative Conference, and that a copy of this Report be circulated to each member of the Union, together with the various organisations who participated in the previous Consultative Conference.

The E.C. have published a list of local speakers, in addition to the official list of Diploma Holders.

The remainder of the business has been of a domestic character.

W. BURROWS.
G. F. KNOTT.

The B.S.L.U. Annual Roll of Lyceums.

BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT.					
No.	Name.	1927.	1928.		
1.	Handsworth	60	76		
2.	Walsall	100	100		
3.	Wolverhampton, Drummond Street	49	49		
4.	Stirchley	29	34		
5.	Smethwick	35	45		
BOLTON DISTRICT.					
6.	Bolton, Bradford Street	75	80		
7.	" Deane Road	48	48		
8.	" Henry Street	34	43		
9.	Bury, King Street	45	41		
10.	Horwich	90	80		
11.	Radcliffe, Railway Street	45	47		
12.	Bury, Freetown	34	24		
13.	Leigh, Market Buildings	22			
14.	" Evans Street	49	60		
15.	Walkden	24	46		
BRADFORD DISTRICT.					
16.	Bradford, Harker Street	44			
17.	" Whetley Lane	18	18		
18.	" Manchester Road	20	19		
19.	" Otley Road	25	39		
20.	Saltaire	34	45		
21.	Shipley	27	27		
22.	Windhill	35	36		
23.	Laisterdyke	59	59		
24.	Skipton	42			
25.	Idle	28	28		
COVENTRY DISTRICT.					
26.	Coventry, Bull Street	20	28		
27.	" Foleshill	—	38		
28.	" Broadgate	57	55		
29.	" Lockhurst Lane	45			
30.	Nuneaton	88	77		
31.	Rugby	32	34		
HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.					
32.	Brighouse, Commercial Street	96	98		
33.	Halifax, Alma Street	58	72		
34.	" Queen's Road	69	57		
35.	Hebden Bridge	30	27		
36.	Huddersfield, Ramsden Street	35	25		
37.	" St Peter Street	56	30		
38.	Marsden	41	30		
39.	Quarmby	39	31		
40.	Slaithwaite	55	42		
41.	Sowerby Bridge	79	79		
42.	West Vale	23	37		
43.	Elland, Westgate	28			
LEEDS DISTRICT.					
44.	Batley Carr	45	37		
45.	Cleckheaton	54	57		
46.	Dewsbury	144	150		
47.	Leeds, Armley	90	69		
48.	" Psycho	48	36		
49.	" Easy Road	62	65		
50.	Littletown	48	47		
51.	Normanton, Queen Street	35	25		
52.	Wakefield	58	46		
53.	Heckmondwike	25	30		
54.	Hull, Dairycoates	98	90		
55.	" Holborn Hall	50	32		
56.	Moorthorpe	48	43		
57.	Castleford	70	70		
58.	Morley, Queen Street	26		38	
59.	Scarborough	14		—	
60.	Birstall	36		48	
61.	Leeds, Horsforth	38		25	
62.	" North	18			
63.	Morley, Cross Church Street	38		34	
64.	Leeds, Alpha Street	50			
65.	Ossett and Horbury	—			
66.	York, Spen Lane	32		47	
67.	Hull, Gipsyville	32		58	
68.	Normanton, Assembly Street			39	
LIVERPOOL DISTRICT.					
69.	Birkenhead	83		90	
70.	Chester	26		26	
71.	Crewe, Mill Street	50		50	
72.	Liverpool, Daulby Hall	61		78	
73.	" Boaler Street	37		70	
74.	Runcorn	35		34	
75.	Southport	50		45	
76.	Warrington	99		89	
77.	Wigan	42		37	
78.	Rock Ferry	27		38	
79.	St. Helens	45			
LONDON DISTRICT.					
80.	Battersea	48		60	
81.	Clapham	36		26	
82.	Fulham	88			
83.	North London	70		78	
84.	Kingston	47		44	
85.	Little Ilford	50		27	
86.	Manor Park	56		50	
87.	Peckham	32		36	
88.	Plaistow	31		48	
89.	Tottenham	68		55	
90.	Woolwich	34		48	
91.	Walthamstow	68		80	
92.	Lewisham	60		60	
93.	Hampton Hill	28		31	
94.	Hackney	40		38	
95.	Croydon	43		50	
96.	Forest Hill	50		59	
97.	Bowes Park	48		29	
98.	Southend and Westcliff	60		50	
99.	Surbiton	42			
100.	Eltham	66		49	
101.	Romford	29			
102.	Harrow	12			
103.	Brixton	93		100	
104.	Stratford	50		49	
105.	Chatham	35		35	
MANCHESTER DISTRICT.					
106.	Hollinwood	50		50	
107.	Manchester Progressive	54		49	
108.	Cheetham Hill	30		29	
109.	Collyhurst	76		80	
110.	Moston	100		80	
111.	Newton Heath	87		73	
112.	Hr. Openshaw	94		60	
113.	Pendleton	135		104	
114.	Salford	50		60	
115.	Princess Hall	80		80	
116.	Moss Side	40		25	
117.	New Manchester	47		69	
118.	Longsight	68		58	
119.	Lr. Broughton	30			
120.	Stretford	60		60	
121.	Openshaw	47		47	
122.	Swinton	50			
123.	Eccles	46			
124.	Droylsden	35		42	
125.	Harpurhey	40		47	
126.	Northwich	30		50	
NORTH-EAST CHESHIRE DISTRICT.					
127.	Heaton Norris	50		50	
128.	Hyde	54		70	
129.	Macclesfield	58		67	
130.	Stockport, Central	77		52	
131.	" Lr. Hillgate	38			
132.	Ashton-u-Lyne	60		54	
133.	Denton	60		59	
134.	Leek	58		60	

NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

135.	Accrington, Pearl Street	40
136.	Blackburn, St. Peter Street.....	93
137.	Blackpool	70
138.	Brierfield	54
139.	Burnley, Hammerton Street	55
140.	" North Street	119
141.	Clitheroe	33
142.	Colne	53
143.	Darwen	114
144.	Earby	73
145.	Fleetwood	150
146.	Great Harwood	52
147.	Nelson	97
148.	Padiham	50
149.	Preston, Moor Lane	66
150.	Rishton	42
151.	Barrow, Dalkeith Street	94
152.	Lancaster, Great John Street	79
153.	Rawtenstall	50
154.	Accrington, Argyle Street.....	40
155.	Barrow, Dalton Road	50
156.	Barrowford	37
157.	Barnoldswick, Albert Road.....	50
158.	St. Annes-on-Sea	28
159.	Lancaster, Alliance	50
160.	Morecambe	25

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.

161.	Belper	100
162.	Eastwood	47
163.	Hucknall	48
164.	Leicester, Rupert Street	47
165.	" Silver Street.....	43
166.	Mansfield	94
167.	Nottingham, Hawarden Terrace.....	52
168.	" Mechanics' Hall.....	100
169.	" Sherwood Street North.....	45
170.	" Pearson's Buildings	50
171.	Sutton-in-Ashfield	85
172.	Hyson Green	50
173.	Beeston	41
174.	Long Eaton.....	37
175.	Leicester, Liberty Progressive.....	70
176.	" Excelsior	34
177.	Derby, Charnwood Street.....	40
178.	Ripley	36
179.	Lincoln, Coultham Street.....	50
180.	Ripley, Codnor and District.....	46
181.	Lincoln, Midland	44

SCOTTISH DISTRICT.

182.	Dundee, Fabian Hall	30
183.	Edinburgh, Gayfield Square.....	99
184.	Glasgow, Association	99
185.	" S. M. U.	18
186.	Aberdeen	24
187.	Glasgow, Northern.....	50
188.	Edinburgh, India Buildings.....	38
189.	Glasgow, Southern.....	40
190.	Rosyth	32
191.	Glasgow, Raiths Hall	47
192.	" Henrietta Street	30
193.	Dalmeir, Broadway	50

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT.

194.	Barnsley, North Pavement	80
195.	Chesterfield	87
196.	Mexborough	90
197.	Rotherham	68
198.	Sheffield, Attercliffe	136
199.	" Heeley	80
200.	West Melton	73
201.	Parkgate	78
202.	Doncaster, Catherine Street.....	31
203.	" King's Arcade	39
204.	Sheffield, Darnall	70
205.	Wombwell	39
206.	Stainforth	34
207.	Scunthorpe	48
208.	Barnsley, Grace Street	48

SOUTHERN COUNTIES DISTRICT.

209.	Portsmouth	58
210.	Southampton	120

31	211.	Brighton	45
110	212.	Devonport	8
65	213.	Exeter	27
57	214.	Reading	45
54	215.	Worthing	—
54	216.	Bristol, Providence Hall	59

SOUTH EAST LANCASHIRE.

22	217.	Bacup	72
60	218.	Dearnley	50
117	219.	Heywood	31
97	220.	Middleton, Gilmour Street	48
130	221.	Oldham, Elliott Street.....	43
44	222.	Rochdale, Penn Street	44
92	223.	" Regent Hall.....	57
50	224.	Todmorden, Eagle Street.....	50
45	225.	" Roomfield Buildings	40
41	226.	Littleborough	25
87	227.	Rochdale, Baillie Street	44
65	228.	Oldham, Waterhead	34
46	229.	Middleton, Burton Street.....	32
50	230.	Heywood, B. M. U.	—
64	231.	Royton	15
35			
50			

SOUTH WALES DISTRICT.

50	232.	Caerau	48
	233.	Newport, Charles Street	50
	234.	Tredegar	34
	235.	Cardiff, Park Grove	39
	236.	Newport, Albany Hall	39
	237.	Cardiff, Central	28
	238.	Ystrad	42
	239.	Barry Dock.....	28

TEES SIDE DISTRICT.

43	240.	Darlington, Psycho	67
100	241.	" High Northgate	50
44	242.	Gurney Valley	89
43	243.	Middlesbrough, Grange Road	98
47	244.	Shildon, Psycho.....	70
45	245.	Stockton-on-Tees, Cecil Street	88
38	246.	" Brunswick Street	67
70	247.	West Hartlepool, Charles Street.....	70
42	248.	Darlington, Witton Park.....	47
22	249.	New Shildon, Newlands Avenue.....	44
48	250.	Horde	42
40	251.	Grangetown	49
44	252.	Bishop Auckland	16
40	253.	Middlesbrough, Wilson Street.....	100
40	254.	West Hartlepool, Musgrave Street	78

TYNE-SIDE DISTRICT.

30	255.	Hetton and District	90
—	256.	Hirst	93
29	257.	Jarrow	108
47	258.	Newcastle, Benwell	97
43	259.	" Heaton and Byker.....	100
50	260.	" Blandford Street	39
40	261.	" Wallsend	60
43	262.	South Shields, Fowler Street	77
50	263.	" High Shields.....	49
40	264.	" Cambridge Street	78
25	265.	North Shields.....	100
25	266.	Sunderland, Derwent Street.....	88
59	267.	Gateshead, Rectory Hall	119
83	268.	West Pelton	48
80	269.	Sunderland, Victory.....	35
80	270.	West Stanley	49
128	271.	Blyth	45
85	272.	Craghead	50
74	273.	New Delaval and Newsham	42
60	274.	Newbiggen	37
37	275.	Whitley Bay	50
50	276.	Gateshead, Beaconsfield Hall	127
95	277.	Southwick-on-Wear	47
40	278.	Houghton-le-Spring	49
42	279.	Dawdon	40
70	280.	Ashington	50

AREA LYCEUMS.

120	281.	Grimsby	98
120	282.	Hanley	146
	283.	Tunstall	80
	284.	Northampton	44

OVERSEAS.

285.	Calgary	45	35
286.	Hamilton, East.....	—	—
287.	Johannesburg	22	
288.	Wellington, Kent Terrace.....	50	
289.	Winnipeg, Polson Avenue	47	41
290.	Methuen	—	80
291.	Sydney, Leigh House.....	25	
292.	Dunedin, N.Z.	47	—
293.	Toronto, West	47	
294.	Wellington, Cambridge Avenue	45	

The foregoing figures are compiled returns for which payments of Fees were made during 1927 and 1928.

The total figures are: 1927, Lyceums 289; Lyceumists, 15,679.

During 1926 the totals were 289 Lyceums and 16,945 Lyceumists.

COURT OF ARBITRATION.

S.N.U. AND B.S.L.U.

The Court has held two meetings and has appointed Mr. E. A. Keeling as Chairman and Mrs. M. E. Pickles as Secretary.

Two outstanding disputes have been considered and recommendations made thereon. The Rules of Procedure Governing Disputes are under consideration and when completed will be submitted to both organisations for adoption and publication.

M. E. PICKLES, Hon. Secretary.



DEAR FELLOW IMPS,

The tubes for sending along your Royal and Ancient Certificates have at last arrived in my Earthland Branch Office, and before you read this all who have sent in stories, puzzles, letters, or any other efforts for the CORNER will have received a nice new Certificate fit to be framed, if you so desire.

The number of workers continues to grow, and I am looking forward to the time when nearly all our Kiddies up to twelve will be working members of our Order. But I want to draw attention to the two new Rules (8 and 9) which I have had to add. I need the name of your Lyceum, so that my Secretary can put it on the Certificate; and I don't want any of you to be satisfied to copy stories or pieces of poetry out of your lesson books and send them along. I want YOUR work, so that we shall all know that when you grow up you will be a man or woman with ideas and opinions of your own, and able to express them. So remember, I want YOUR OWN stories and efforts—YOUR WORK.

OUR CONUNDRUMS.

The answers to Elsie Storey's puzzles are:

What chins are never shaved? Urchins (Ur-chins).

What is it that is full of holes, and yet holds water? A sponge.

As green as grass; as white as snow; with whiskers like a cat—what is it? A spring onion.

And if the letter T is put back into the proper places in the jumble of letters sent in by Frank George, the sentence will read: Three tired tinkers tried to trot to Tottenham.

Doreen Hedderley has sent me thirty-seven kisses and three puzzles, of which I will give you one; and two from a new member, Doris Nash, of Manor Park (London). Here are the three, Doreen's one first:

What is the difference between an angler and a dunce?

Why is a black hen cleverer than a white hen?

What is it that has a bed but never sleeps?

A NATURE STORY.

Frances Echevarria, of Daulby Hall (Liverpool) Lyceum sends in the following touching account:—

A TRUE STORY (OF OUR CAT AND TWO KITTENS):
Dear Guild Imp,—I wish to become a member of the Royal

and Ancient Order of Kiddies, by sending this true story. I live by the River Mersey. At high tide our kitchens are flooded. One night we were wakened by the cries of our cat, who had carried one kitten upstairs. It was trying to get the other, who was floating on the wash-board. Only for my uncle it would have drowned. With love,

How awful it must have been for the mother cat to think that her kitten was going to be drowned. And I wish Frances's uncle was young enough—he *deserves* to belong to our Royal Order. Doesn't he?

AN "IF I WERE" STORY.

Mary Stout, of Fowler Street (South Shields) Lyceum, sends in

IF I WERE A FAIRY.

If I were a fairy I would live in a rose and always long for Summer time. I would have a mushroom for my table and a rose petal for my table cloth. On Summer nights I would play on the lawns; I would dance in the dingles with the elves. I would fly with my beautiful wings and seek out all the poor little children and cripples, and help to make them happy and ease their pain.—MARY STOUT.

You seem to be a good-natured girl, Mary; but being a fairy isn't *all* sleeping on rose leaves and drinking honey. Look at me, even; I'm an Imp, and supposed to be like little boys and have nothing to do but get into mischief, yet my Queen always manages to find something useful for me to do. Isn't it dreadful, to be an Imp and to have to do useful things! And yet, like Mary, I can't help liking my work.

A RE-MARK-ABLE LIFE STORY.

Lily Burrell, of South Shields, does not say to which Lyceum she belongs, but her story is very interesting:—

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A PENCIL.

Oh! what a noisy place I was made in. There were clattering noises, chattering tongues, and machinery going. First I was a rough piece of wood, and then I was smoothed to a round neat pencil, with a hole through me for lead to be put in so I could write. I have a white rubber hat and a red coat. Next I found myself being packed into a large box where it was so dark I could not see one of my companions. We journeyed on and on till we were carried into a room, where we were put on the top of something. Soon we were carried into another large place. We travelled over cobble stones and then over smooth stones until we were taken into a large business shop and placed upon the counter. The next minute a little beam of light shone in; we knew then that the box was being opened. Next the lid was pulled off, and we were then put into the window. We had just been placed there when a boy came running in and asked to be shown a good pencil. So he took one out of the window, and it was me. How delighted I was. The boy then placed me in his pocket and walked out again. Now I am very short, because he has been chewing off my cap and then the wood. Now I am short and worn, and lie in his old waistcoat pocket beside his marbles and knife. I never get used now, because he has a new pencil.

What a sad ending to a noteworthy life: I should think the old pencil will feel cut to the quick every time the new pencil is taken out to be sharpened. But never mind; you *have* made your mark.

OTHER NEW MEMBERS;

Two splendidly-written copies of poems have been sent in by Fowler Street Lyceumists, but they are too long for this Page. Doris Skelly sends "The War-song of Dynas Vawr," and Mary Skelly sends "The Lamb." I am sending Certificates, but I'd like to get something of their very own from Doris and Mary. Walter Richardson, of Stratford (London), and John Eke, of the same Lyceum, send in stories which I think they were too excited to finish. Walter started on "The Golden Dustman," and John "The Treasure Seekers." Have another try, both of you; you'll be sure to manage it next time. Leslie Perkins sends "a description of a shipwreck," and becomes a worthy member of our Royal and Ancient Order.

Herbert Mason (Hanley) sends three "verse puzzles" and three riddles; Winnie Scott, of Newcastle, sends an essay on "Wagtails," and quite a number of "old Members' have written or sent efforts. All these must be held over till next month, as this month's space has all been used up. But I must mention that Annie Sherran, who puts R.A.O.K. after her name to show that she is a worker in Our Corner, likes her

new Certificate very much and is going to have it framed. Heaps of love and kisses, Annie; and also to Irene Tyrer, who has sent me such a beautiful Easter Egg (though I wish it wasn't only a drawing, as it has made me feel hungry).

Will Winnie Scott please tell us the name of her Lyceum, so that we can put it in her Certificate.

Vera Newton (Grimsby) sends answers to two of our puzzles; and we hope to hear from her again.

THE ROYAL AND ANCIENT ORDER OF KIDDIES.

Doesn't the Name of Our Order look just grand? I *thought* you would like it. And it takes so little to qualify for membership—unless you are over twelve.

1. You don't need to fill up or send in any Form.
2. You don't have to pay any fee.
3. You just send in an effort for Our Kiddies' Corner.
4. It may be a fairy tale or any other sort of story; a letter about yourself, your holidays, your pets, your hobbies; you may send in a puzzle or the answer to a puzzle; y u can send in *anything*, so long as it is useful to somebody.
5. Send your effort to VERONTAS, c/o Miss Kitson, 37, South Street, Savile Town, Dewsbury, Yorks.
6. As we cannot have more than a page in the BANNER, we may not be able to get all efforts printed each month. But *whoever sends in an effort* will be enrolled as a member of the Order, and get a Certificate just the same. It is sending in the effort that counts for membership—for really, the prize for doing a thing is in having done it.
7. A list of members will be kept, and they will get one mark for each effort sent in (but not more than one for each month); and in the December issue each year will be printed a list of the nine members who have earned most marks during the year.
8. Give the name of your Lyceum, so that it can be filled in on your Certificate.
9. DO NOT copy pieces out of books; send me along something YOU have written yourself.

Your loving Brother Imp,

VERONTAS.

OUR ESPERANTO GROUP.

Esperanto, the simple language compiled by Dr. Zamenhof, of Warsaw, and first published in 1887, is the second language for all people of the various classes and countries, by which they may easily communicate with one another. It is a neutral language, belonging to all nations alike, and therefore accepted by all without national prejudice.

The time required to learn Esperanto is a mere fraction of that which is necessary for any other national language. It can be learnt in a few weeks or months (according to the time devoted to study) by anyone of ordinary intelligence. It is spoken and written in the same straightforward, natural way by people of all nationalities. In spite of its simplicity, it is exceedingly flexible. It has a remarkable richness, and a surprising capability of expressing every possible idea and shade of thought. There is NO mystery about Esperanto, and it is the free possession of all who learn it. No one need refrain from learning Esperanto in the belief that there is nothing worth reading in the language, as a large and varied selection of books is available. These largely consist of translations from the national languages, but many original works in Esperanto have already appeared.

Send all enquiries and communications to:—

MR. W. TAYLOR,

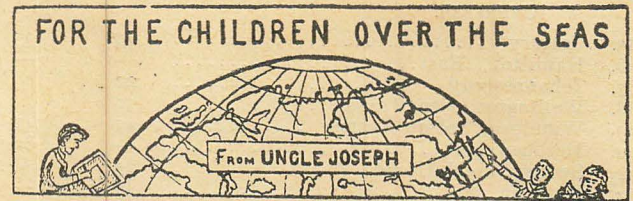
1, Willow Street, Failsforth, MANCHESTER.

A NEW LYCEUM AT CONGLETON.

A further step of progress was made by the Congleton Society on Sunday, April 15th. The Lyceum was opened in the presence of a good number of interested workers.

Mrs. Davies (Liverpool) and Mrs. Sumner (Vice-President), opened the door, while the children marched in to the singing of "Open the Door." Mrs. Davies gave the invocation, and also dedicated it to the training of the children in the laws of truth and right. Mrs. Sumner and Mr. Leigh (Macclesfield) also gave short addresses. The results are most encouraging: thirteen children were enrolled at the opening and were increased to 25 members the following Sunday. This should prove a great asset to our Church.

Mr. Leigh has very generously offered to initiate the local workers into the conduct of a Lyceum.—D. Burgess, President.



Dear Children,

"March Winds, April Showers, bring forth May Flowers." What an old, old saying, but yet always new. We see the same thing every year, Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter, and how we look forward to each season as it comes. Yes, even to old dark Winter, with its frosts and snows, because even if it brings long nights it also brings seasons of cheer with it. Spring for the beginning of things, Winter for the end, and so on; thus round and round the circle runs.

Just now we are looking forward to Summer in England; across the seas another season holds its sway; but I remember one man who said he had the seasons all in one country. He found Summer at the bottom of a hill, and Winter at the top.

We talked about music last month, and of course it all joins on, for after all music is only another form of speech, and so is Nature. Everything has a tale to tell; and this brings us to News. Yes, news from the earth of things growing anew; news from the skies of welcome rain to refresh the earth and make the crops grow.

"Beautiful weather," quacks the Duck as the showers fall. A fine day says the farmer as he takes a look at the sun which is smiling down and drawing the plants up out of the ground to see what is happening in the world just now.

Yes, that is all in Nature. See that old oak tree there; hundreds of years old by the look of it; what a tale it could tell of people who are gone far away from here; it has seen gay Cavaliers and stern Puritans arguing in a fierce way, and fighting it out with swords; but that is *not* the kind of nature we want to talk about, is it? No, this oak saw a great many better pictures; it saw little boys and girls resting underneath its spreading branches and picking up acorns to play with; lads and maidens danced beneath it in the summer evenings; old men and women greeted it as an old friend and recalled many dances that *they* had in their youth.

See that gay streamlet leaping and dancing down to its friend, the river. That, too, can tell tales of high mountains, and mad jumps down the hillside; of a placid run through a smiling meadow filled with cows and sheep all feeding; birds singing their song of love, and flowers going nod, nod, nod all day long.

Flowers, yes they are our emblems of love. With them we dedicate our little ones, and give them "names." We bring them into our homes, and they shed their beauty around. When we lay the earthly casket back into the ground, we lay flowers with it, as a tribute to the soul which has vacated the body and soared to higher things.

Walk quietly; oh so quietly, because a rabbit has just popped its head out of a hole, and is busy washing itself at its door; isn't it pretty the way it uses both its front paws; so as to make a clean job of it. Now a cat only uses one paw at a time, and oh we *don't* like to see a cat wash over its ears, because we say it is going to rain; but I suppose even a cat must wash its ears sometimes, and of course we must have rain, for no rain, no grass; no grass no milk; and no milk no food; and so we go on and on; all one big circle all the time.

Yes, Nature is a great teacher. See that busy bee there; it is hovering above a flower; now it has gone into it; it is taking something out, and that something will be taken to the hive to be turned into honey to feed baby bees, and other babies as well if the bee-keeper knows his business.

Ha, there is an ant. What use are they? Oh, they are all useful in their own way you know, and in any case they are very interesting. Some ants are farmers in a small way. They keep little insects which give them liquid just as our cows give us milk, and the ants also sow plants; at least some of them do. And the birds, too, are capital sowers; just take a look at the Coral islands.

First we get a tiny insect building, building secretly beneath the waves until by and by the coral rocks come right to the top of the water. Then by some mysterious means or other the rocks are covered with soil and the birds drop seeds on them, and we have an uninhabited island all ready for some Robinson Crusoe to come and live on.

But to be serious for a moment, that is how many of these islands become clothed with beautiful trees and grass and plants,

Mother Nature has pressed everything into her service, for she believes in work, work, all the time, and her motto, like our President's, and like ours also is, "The WORKERS win." And Mother Nature will have nothing to do with half-hearted ones at all. They must go and do their best if they want a reward from her; but the service is well paid in the beautiful flowers and refreshing fruit which come as a result of so many animals and persons all working to one great end—the working of Mother Nature's will.

That river there was once a little stream; of course it was a long time ago; but it has to work hard, year after year, cutting its way through the rock; eating away a little earth there, making a bank here and going on busily down to the great sea.

Oh yes, there is a lot we could talk about in Nature. But let us look at some other things in Nature; there is Human nature: good nature, evil nature. Yes, we have to mention that also, but we are trying to get rid of that. Some people say that wasps have evil natures, but that is only when they are disturbed, and they are like human beings in that; we don't like being stopped when we are busy doing something, do we? Yet, sometimes we have to be guided in different directions from those we had intended.

But what has all this to do with us? Ah, that is what we are trying to find out. Let us deal with *our* natures a little while.

First of all, we mentioned Nature, and we have talked about it; then we mentioned seasons. And how these seasons had each their own little bit of news for us. Now we are getting at it; Nature brings news, and it is news we want all the time; Nature also brings names, and they help too. We all have a name, and we are known by that name, as everything in nature is. And that name we bear is something to live up to, and something we want to make good and true. For we are Lyceumists, and that is the best name in the world to us, for our whole world is the Lyceum, with its Silver chains of good thoughts, its Music of good deeds and its Golden chains of Love; and of course we have the whole March of Life in which to deal with it.

But news, news, what about that? Well, that is for you and for me to deal with isn't it?

Well, here you have some news to send right across the boundless ocean. That isn't right is it, to call the ocean "boundless" for wherever we sail we come to a land, though once people believed that if they sailed on and on they would find a place where there was no land at all only water everywhere; but they only found new lands and new plants and new knowledge, which is the best thing in the world.

And it is to those new lands which we are always turning, for we have friends there; friends who are looking for our letters and for the loving links which bind us, as the days are going by. Oh how well those Lyceum songs fit in with our work, don't they? We are scattering germs of the beautiful in every letter we send; or at least we are trying to, and trying is half the battle anyway.

Hello, bang goes the door, here is another letter, and some very interesting news too; some lovely views of that place across the sea. What beautiful places they have, but so have we also, for Mother Nature is bountiful with her fine scenery, and we have some in our land as they have overseas; so you have a lot to talk about all the time.

Here is a letter from Australia wishing their brothers and sisters over here God speed and hoping the Lyceums are getting on well, because they live too far away to have a Lyceum to go to. Oh no, they don't; they have it at home, and that is the finest place in the world to have the Lyceum; they have taught us a good lesson; start your Lyceum in the home, then it will gradually grow out into the world also, because the Lyceum stands for Love, and where love is the Angels dwell. Love comes in Nature, too, for without love, Nature could not be, and without Love we should not have those links which entwine round all of us and join friend to friend the world over.

Do you know, in every corner of our globe, wherever the sun pops its head, there is a Lyceum? Yes, that is right, for every Lyceumist is a Lyceum unto himself, and he can have his session and send his greeting by the magic of his thought.

I was at a Lyceum only the other day, and they had a beautiful little ceremony. Only a few of them, but after the invocation they stood and sent out their thoughts in one strong link—to other Lyceums. And to absent Lyceumists. Do you know, chicks, it was a fine thing to me that simple little request of the Conductor's; but it brought out the best of our natures; for we were thinking of others, and of course you know other thoughts would come back in exchange.

Now there is something each Lyceum can do; just have that half minute of thought for other Lyceums, and pretty soon, each

Lyceumist will be having a half-minute for someone else, and the great work will go on, and love will be born anew each moment, and no time ever lost.

And what about a lady who unselfishly went out to a shipwreck with her father. It was a bad stormy night but she and her parent pulled out into the angry sea and together they saved the sailors from the fury of the waves. I don't suppose she was a Lyceumist as people understand the word, but to *us* she was, for she believed in service for others and *that* is the teaching of our Lyceum. Her name was Grace Darling and her name will live for ever along with many other heroines who have performed deeds of valour to save life and not destroy it. And remember chicks, that we, too, can launch a boat on the sea of life and save shipwrecked souls, and that is *Human* nature in its best light and the light we want, if we are to be true Lyceumists.

Now then, are you all tired? Well, then let's roll up our paper then, but first of all, don't forget; read those reports of what each Lyceum is doing, and then try to do something like that for YOUR Lyceum. Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, and in imitating you might, nay, you will be improving your own Lyceum, and in improving your Lyceum you cannot help but gather knowledge. Just try and do your best all the time; put your best nature out all the time; let all your actions and thoughts be good ones; think for others, as well as for yourselves, and then our Lyceum system will grow stronger and stronger, and the links be real ones.

One Lyceumist told me that Love is blind; perhaps it is so, but you know the blind see, but in a different way from us, and it isn't always the eyes that see most; Blind folk see with their feelings, so if love is blind love feels, and so must we feel for the light and truth in this world, and make Mother Nature work her best for you and for me. May God bless us every one, and help us to grow a garden of love in this world of ours, and sow the good seeds of kindness wherever we go.

Yours lovingly,
UNCLE JOSEPH.

THE BRITISH FEDERATION OF YOUTH.

YOUTH'S CHARTER.

1. A SOUND MIND IN A SOUND BODY.

More and better education.
Contact with Nature.
Open-air games and gymnastics.
Cultivation of the Arts and practice of the Crafts.
Plain living and clear thinking.

2. THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE.

Equality of opportunity.
Equality of law of the sexes.
The right to follow one's vocation.
Development of a wider sense of Responsibility.

3. THE ELIMINATION OF WAR.

Removal of economic rivalry.
Universal moral and material disarmament.
Removal of national and racial prejudice.

4. THE CONSTRUCTION OF PEACE.

Personal contact with other nations.
Development of the pacific powers of the League and of the World Court.
Facts, not opinions, as the basis of thought and action.

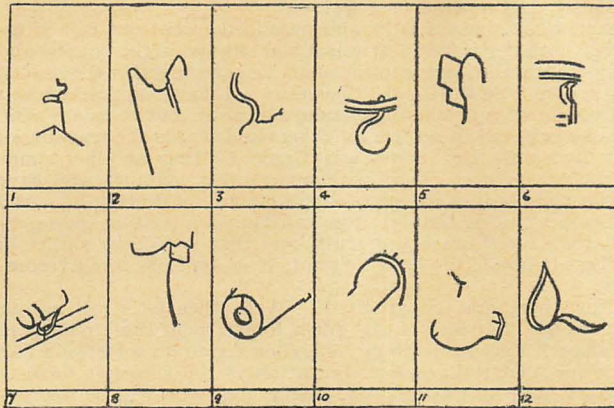
TWIN-SOULS AND NATURE;

BY W. GEO. WHEELER.

Wide circular realms of measureless blue,
'Mid exquisite snow peaks of tender'st cloud,
Where flash-lights of heav'n in glory abound,
My soul and thy soul unite in the true.

'Mid sweetest of skies and noblest of seas,
The flash on the beach, the ripples afar,
Love's golden sunshine that never can jar,
My soul and thy soul with nature acquiesce.

THE CHILDREN'S PUZZLE.



Can you continue these lines and show what they represent?

The Management Committee at Attercliffe.

The Management Committee of the B.S.L.U. held the Quarterly Meeting in Attercliffe Church on April 14th and 15th. The income for the quarter showed a big drop compared with 1927. The Treasurer promised to add a statement calling attention to the financial position of the Union.

The sales are not as great as usual and the fees have been paid slower.

The BANNER continues at 5,000 copies per month.

The reports dealt with details of the I.S.F. Congress, Souvenir, Discipline, Audit, Federation of Youth, £2,000 Effort, Publishing Services of Song, S.N.U. E.C., Education, arranging M.C. visits, Arbitration, Home of Rest, Annual Conference details, Income Tax Returns, Nominations for Officers, etc. The items are all outlined in the various Conference reports.

Mr. R. Robb was thanked for his initial efforts in the Birmingham District for the institution of a Lyceum District Council.

The Attercliffe Church and Lyceum were cordially thanked for the loan of the Church, collections, and hospitality, along with Mrs. J. F. Smith, for her assistance as hostess on Saturday, when the M.C. enjoyed her tea.

OPEN SESSION.

Mr. Smith opened the Session and Miss Hilda Chiltern welcomed the M.C. with appropriate and original verses. Each member of the M.C. joined a circle of children and received a separate greeting from Masters T. Thorpe, T. Wood, B. Reynolds, B. Frost, Misses C. Johnson, I. Smith, H. Jones, D. Cartwright, M. Mason, M. Brooks, N. Gale, C. Fukes, and V. Fukes.

The session was interesting, the items being discussed with earnestness and vigour.

PROPAGANDA MEETING.

Miss Elliott (President) was in the Chair at the evening meeting and spoke of children being like flowers unfolding to the rays of the sun. In the complexity we are trying to find out what unity is. Our Lyceum teaching tells us to go forward with our exertions, and the pathway is marked out for us, as we are our own saviours. We realise heaven and hell are spiritual states and we can express ourselves to things we learn in the Lyceum, helping us to make a better world.

Mr. Burrows used the illustration of building on material foundations as a guide to the building of character. In the school you find some questions you cannot answer. Our children ought to be encouraged to ask questions. The Lyceum training has something which no other system has. We do not set ourselves up as immaculate. We ask our children to accept only those things which they feel to be true. Don't think of worldly things, only for the value they are in this world.

Eight years ago Sheffield had a large share in the foundation of an Education Scheme which has grown and advanced to its present position.

Mr. Knott spoke of "The spangled heavens" and man's place as a spiritual being in the universe.

Mr. Williams thanked the local friends and said it was nice to know that we had been well fed and housed. To all who

had done anything during the week-end the M.C. were extremely grateful.

Southend and Westcliff Lyceum Anniversary.

The above Lyceum held their fourth Anniversary week-end on March 31st—April 2nd.

On Saturday evening we held a Reception for the purpose of welcoming Mr. Ernest Keeling, of Liverpool, who had travelled so far especially to be with us. We also had Mr. Fruin, the President of the L.L.D.C., and Mrs. Fruin. Mr. Fruin ceases to be anything but "Uncle Bert" directly he enters Southend Church, and his wonderful friendliness and understanding, his helpful hints and kindly encouragement, have done much towards making our Lyceum what it is.

On Sunday morning the ordinary service was held, Mr. Keeling taking "Habits," as his subject. Mrs. Nicholson was the soloist. Mrs. T. Tims the clairvoyante.

In the afternoon an Open Session was held. We held but two Open Sessions in a year and are always sure of a good attendance. We invited London Lyceums to send delegates, and provided lunch and tea for all.

The L.L.D.C. to the number of eleven were with us, and 16 London Lyceums were represented.

"The Official Welcome" was given by four little girls dressed as fairies: "Welcome," "Love," "Forget-me-not," and "Good Luck." Two "Silver Star" and two "Golden Star" fairies with wands, wings, and head-dresses complete, exquisitely designed and made all in paper by Mrs. Claire Simpson. They were a very pretty picture as, with appropriate little speeches, they presented a Silver horseshoe trimmed with a large spray of carnations and tied with blue and gold ribbons to Mr. Keeling. A golden one was given to Mrs. Tims, our Conductor, and sprays and buttonholes to the L.L.D.C. and visitors.

An Individual Effort, given once before, was repeated for Mr. Keeling's benefit, called "The gathering of the Nations." Our Lyceum can form a tableau representing the Home Countries—England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland.—Our neighbours, France, Holland, Denmark, Italy, Switzerland, Spain, Hebrew, America, and Germany—Our Colonies—New Zealand, India, and South Africa. Each country representative carried a shield bearing the name of their country, the national flower, and wore their national colours, and presented to Mr. Keeling a card, bearing the word "Welcome" in their native tongue. When the tableau was complete we added to it Mrs. Williams, the B.S.L.U. Treasurer, and Mr. Keeling himself, the Vice-President of the S.N.U. Then they all sang "Oh beautiful my country."

The Session was only half through when our time was gone, and we had to forego the pleasure of hearing Mr. Fruin, Mr. Miles, or any of the L.L.D.C. speak. Miss Fenton, our Captain of Guards, was presented with a Songster, and the two Misses Habgood with presentation edition Manuals, for special services rendered to the Lyceum.

In the evening the whole Lyceum took the specially erected platform. Before the service commenced they sang "The Spirits' Home." Then the clear ringing voice of the twelve year old Chairman, Jack Brooks, announced the two minutes Silence, which was followed by the chant "For you we are praying." Then little Eric Hart gave the "Lyceum Salute" and the congregation sang "Oh God of Light and Love." Muriel Thornton gave the 23rd Psalm as it is written in the Bible. Kathleen Simpson followed with the same Psalm as the Indian says it. Violet Tims recited "He and She." Miss Chapman was the soloist.

Miss Habgood rendered the beautiful solo and chorus "Silently now I wait for Thee"—the words and music of which was kindly sent to us by the Eltham Lyceum.

Miss White rendered the solo part of "Go Forward." Mr. Keeling gave an address which will not be forgotten. Mrs. Tims spoke on the work of the Lyceum and another Anniversary Sunday was added to those which are only a memory. Mr. Sydney Jones was the organist for the day, our Church organist, Miss White, once more good-naturedly standing aside, so that the Lyceum could "do it all themselves." The whole of the Church Officials, from the President downwards, stand aside on Lyceum Sunday and allow us to carry on in our own way. Our thanks are due to them and to all who helped to make the week-end a success.

On Monday the local Co-operative Choir, numbering 40 Artistes, gave us a Concert for the Church Funds, which was very much enjoyed. We are now looking forward to a good Summer Session and send our fraternal greeting to all Lyceums;

F. B. S. KEMP, Sec.

Births, Marriages, and In Memoriam.

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.

BURY, King St.—We regret to announce the transition of our Church President, Mr. W. Weilding on April 17th. He was accidentally killed at work.

"The face of death is towards the SUN of Life,
His shadow darkens earth; His truer name is ONWARD.

LIVERPOOL.—Rooley.—In memory of a dear Mother who passed to the higher life, May 3rd, 1920.

"We who loved her sadly miss her."
Edie, Bert, and son-in-law, Arthur.

District Visitor's Report.

LEEDS DISTRICT.

I visited Armley on Sept. 11th, 1927. The readings were explained in a most able manner. Singing good. Marching and callisthenics good. A few pearls and recitations, 2 solos, and one duet. The Conductor took a great interest in the children.

South Kirkby, Oct. 16th. I had the pleasure of visiting this Lyceum which had been open two months. Mr. Smith is a very capable Conductor. There was a splendid session and I am hoping to see a decided improvement on my next visit. 50 present. Great interest is taken in the children. The keynote here is "Happiness."

Hemsworth, Oct. 16th. This Lyceum has only been open a short time. There was a very fair session and I am hoping to find a great improvement on my next visit. Great interest is taken in the children. I wish them every success.

Normanton, Assembly St., Oct. 23rd. This Lyceum is a new one and is doing very nicely. We had a splendid session with interesting children. There is great scope for activities.

Leeds, Easy Rd., Nov. 6th. 38 present. The singing and readings, pearls and recitations were good. Marching and callisthenics were good. The general tone of this Lyceum is improving.

Birstall, Nov. 13th. 31 present. Singing and readings very fair: explanations good. Marching and callisthenics nicely done. Three pearls.

Dewsbury, Nov. 20th. 76 present. Singing very good. Readings were very clear and distinct. Questions were very ably explained by the Conductor. Marching and callisthenics were very good. Great interest was taken in the children.

Leeds, Alpha St. Nov. 27th. 35 present. Fair response to readings. Singing very fair. Three recitations. Marching and callisthenics were good. General behaviour very fair.

Heckmondwike, Dec. 18th. 24 present. Mental efficiency good. Many responses to the readings from the children. Four pearls, one recitation, three solos.

Cleckheaton, Jan. 22nd. 48 present. Singing was good. Readings were very clear and distinct. Two pearls, three recitations, one solo. Marching and callisthenics very good. A very nice session and a few new scholars. A very interesting discussion was taken on the G.C.R. "Wisdom."

Morley, Queen St. Feb. 5th. Prompt start. 17 present. Singing fair. Readings were very fair. Many questions were very ably explained by the Conductor. Marching and callisthenics good. Three recitations. Two solos.

Morley, Cross Church St. Feb. 5th. Singing fair. Questions were very ably explained by the Conductor. Five pearls.

Wakefield, Feb. 12th. Singing very good. Good response to readings. Great interest was taken in the children by the Conductor. Five pearls, one solo, one recitation. Marching and callisthenics were very good.—H. Spencer, D.V.

District Council Reports.

BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT.

A Tea and Social was held by the above Council on Easter Monday, April, 9th at the Forward Spiritualist Church, Handsworth. The event was well attended, over 100 sitting down to tea. We were pleased to welcome friends from all affiliated Lyceums and also from Sparkhill Lyceum.

After tea, community singing and games were indulged in and

enjoyed by all, after which came the concert items, including folk dancing, songs, recitations, pianoforte and violin solos, etc. Each Lyceum contributed some item. Refreshments were served about 9-0 p.m. Dancing was indulged in until about 10-45 p.m. to conclude a very enjoyable and successful day.

This was the first attempt the Council had made of this description and the Council wishes to thank all who supported and helped to make the venture such a success.

A Meeting of the above Council was held at Wolverhampton Spiritualist Church, Drummond Street, on Sat., Apl. 14th, when Mr. Frost welcomed all Delegates and Associates and stated that he had come to look upon them all as friends.

The Treasurer's report showed a good and substantial increase in our funds, and it was decided that we had sufficient to open an account. This course was decided upon and Trustees elected.

The D.Vs' report was very good and was commented upon by various members, showing that the Council is now settling down to the work of improving the Lyceum work of the district.

The Associate Representative report showed that 45 associate members had been enrolled.

Mr. Smith was elected to act as Adjudicator to the Coventry District Council in their Silver Bell Competition, as requested by the Coventry District Council.

The question of bringing in unaffiliated Lyceums was discussed and it is hoped to accomplish much work in this direction in the near future.

A most enjoyable tea was provided by the Ladies of the Wolverhampton Church which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Mr. Frost thanked the Ladies for the part they had played in adding to the enjoyable nature of the meeting.

The meeting showed that the Council is now well established and is beginning to look round for opportunities to uplift the cause of Lyceumism which has been for so long at a standstill position in Birmingham District. It is hoped to accomplish much work in the near future.—D. Straw, Sec.

BOLTON DISTRICT.

The next meeting of the above Council will be held at Leigh, Market Buildings, on Saturday, May 19th, 1928, at 3.15 p.m. Agenda—Opening Exercises, Roll Call, Minutes, Correspondence, President's Address, Reports, Conference business, Demonstration business, Open Council, Closing Exercises.

Delegates and Associates are requested to attend and to bring the May issue of the Lyceum BANNER to the meeting.—A. D., Sec.

LEEDS DISTRICT.

EASTER CELEBRATIONS.

Under the auspices of the Yorkshire District Council our Council conducted a Massed Lyceum Open Session on Easter Monday, Apl. 9th, Mr. Howard (Easy Road) conducted. Mr. Smith (President of the Y.D.C.) gave the invocation. S.C. "What I Live For" evoked many questions, and a very lively and interesting discussion followed. G.C.R. "The Religion of Use" was read. Discussion was good and instructive. Connective readings from the M.R. were read by Lyceumists from Wakefield and Easy Road, and were very ably explained.

Solos, Miss A. Ledger (Wakefield) and Mr. Ingle (Easy Rd.). Duet, Mr. Ingle and Miss Gill (Easy Road). Marching Conductor was Mr. T. Tweedale (Wakefield, and President of our Council). Pearls were numerous and Mr. B. Davies (President S.D.C.) gave the benediction. The Session was a very good one and I think one of the best ever held and was thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

Lyceums represented:—Wakefield, Easy Road, Birstall, Morley (Queen St.), Morley Cross Church St.), Normanton (Queen St. and Assembly St.), Barnsley (North Pavement and Grace St.), Bradford (Idle, Bankfoot, Ripley St.), Yeadon, Belle Vue, and Milton.

Societies: Belle Vue and Milton, Bradford.

Mr. Smith (President), Mr. Oliver (Secretary Y.D.C.). Mr. Ben Davis and Mr. Rawlinson (President and Secretary S.D.C.) Mr. Leng (Secretary Bradford D.C.) and Officers of the District Council. About 140 Lyceumists and Church members were present.—A. W. Harding, Sec.

NORTH EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING.

The above Council will hold the second quarter's meeting on Saturday, May 19th, 1928, in the Church and Lyceum at Colne. Commence at 3-30 p.m. Will all delegates to this meeting bring the May issue of the Lyceum BANNER along with them.

Agenda.—Minutes, Correspondence, Reports, President's Address, Conference business, Open Council, Notices of Motion. Tea will be provided by our friends at Colne at a nominal charge.—J. S., Sec.

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.

The Annual Meeting of the Nottingham, L.D.C. was held on Saturday, March 17th at the N.S.E.S. Mission Room, Lincoln Street.

The Minutes, Correspondence, Education, Propaganda, Financial, District Visitors', and Auditors' Reports were adopted.

Items of special note were discussed *re* the suggested Childrens' Manual, when a Childrens' Section was favoured. United gathering of Lyceum in the District for the presentation of the Silver Bell; the President's Address, which referred to the progress of the movement in the Nottingham District; the growth of the District Council from five Lyceums to sixteen; the special efforts of the Council; organising Mass Meetings, and participating in entertaining the M.C., the U.D.C., and finally in 1927, the B.S.L.U. Annual Conference.

Election of Officers:—President, Mr. L. Shipley; Vice-President, Mr. R. Slater; Secretary, Miss V. G. Rayner; Treasurer, Mr. O. Peel; District Visitor, Mr. Reynolds; Temperance Visitor, Mr. T. H. Marsters; Auditors, Mr. A. Shipley and Mr. Sharpe.

Mr. R. Slater was elected Delegate to Conference.

There was a good attendance of Delegates, fourteen Lyceums being represented.

It was agreed to have a Social and Dance on April 28th. A vote of thanks closed the meeting.

PRESENTATION OF THE "SILVER BELL."

A Grand United Gathering for the Presentation of the Silver Bell took place on Sunday, April 22nd at the Mechanics Minor Hall, North Church Street. The Hall was filled to the limits of its seating capacity by various Lyceums, fourteen of which were represented. There were also interested visitors.

Mr. L. Shipley presided and was supported by the Council, Lyceum Conductors, and Adjudicators.

The programme included a S.C.R. and pearls.

Two violin solos by Joseph Hitchener were very much appreciated.

The announcement of the results of the Silver Bell competition was a feature of the afternoon.

The Adjudicators, Mr. J. E. Collingham and Mr. Hecknall each addressed the meeting with very critical, but helpful, remarks.

Eastwood Lyceum was announced the winner of the Silver Bell with 89% marks.

Mr. R. Slater, Conductor, received the Bell with much pleasure, on behalf of his Lyceum, from Mrs. George, who had the honour of presenting the same.

Sherwood St. Lyceum were the recipients of a Certificate for having held the Bell during the past twelve months.

There were a few remarks from Miss Rayner, Area Representative, and Mr. J. J. Ashworth, member of England's first Lyceum.

Mr. Marsters and Mr. Brown accorded thanks to Mrs. George and the Adjudicators. It was a very enthusiastic meeting.—Victoria G. Rayner, Sec.

TEES-SIDE DISTRICT.

The Quarterly meeting of the above Council will be held at Grangetown on Sunday, May 13th, when a good attendance is desired. The President, Mr. J. Riley, will read a paper at the afternoon session which will be followed by discussion.—Ed. Nellist, 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.

ACCRINGTON, Pearl St.—Under the auspices of the Accrington, Great Harwood, and Rishton Joint Lyceums Committee, two Massed Sessions were held at the above Lyceum, on Apl. 1st, conducted by Mr. Fazackerley of Accrington, ably supported by Miss R. Swift, Mrs. H. Cooke, Mr. Barker, Mr. English, Miss C. Waterhouse, Miss H. Swift. The following contributed songs and recitations—Alice Wilson, Nellie Laycock, Walter E. Swift, Amelia Judge, Lizzie Holden, Miss Taylforth, Lily Crawford, Francis Laycock, Annie Crawford,

Annie Gregory, Mr. W. Taylor, Miss Barnes. Solos, Miss R. Swift, and Mr. Baxter. Duets—Mrs. Doswell and Mr. Baxter, Miss Barker and Miss Bradshaw. Mandoline solo, Harry Rimmer. Pianoforte solo by Harold Wilson and Ernest Musgrove. There were keen discussions on the readings. Over 50 Lyceumists took part in the marching and callisthenics. These Massed Sessions are a success and make most enjoyable days.—Miss Davis, Joint Lyceum Sec.

BOLTON, Deane Road.—On Good Friday we had a picnic to Heywood Park and appealed to Heywood friends to cater for us, which they did willingly. In the evening we had a social, opening with marching and callisthenics, this being a union of the two Lyceums. We feel thankful for the outing and greeting, and hope to meet together again with the same success.—E. Bleackley, Sec.

CROYDON.—We held our 4th Anniversary on March 4th when we had the pleasure of welcoming Mr. and Mrs. Fruin, also Mr. Miles, and other visitors. The attendance was good. Pearls and efforts were excellent.

The Lyceum conducted the evening service at which both Mr. Fruin and Mr. Miles addressed the audience. So ended a perfect day.—F. Newton, Sec.

HULL, Gipsyville.—We are pleased to report still progressing. On Easter Monday we held our first real effort for the Lyceum Funds. It was a Social which resulted in a nice profit. We hope to hold more events of this sort. We send fraternal greetings to all Lyceums.—C. A. Halstead, Sec.

RAWTENSTALL.—On Sat., Feb. 24th, we held our Annual Tea-Party, Prize Distribution and Concert. About 140 partook of tea which was well served by Lyceumists. Mr. C. Ridings distributed 40 prizes, of which 36 were "firsts." Mr. Riding was one of our first Lyceumists in Rawtenstall.

The Concert, which was given by Miss C. Pickup and her pupils, consisted of classic, character, and sketch dancing. Miss L. Stansfield also gave two solos. Miss M. Smith gave two humorous recitations. Everybody was happy in the children's cause.—Mrs. Tann, 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 April 25th.

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 May 23rd, to ensure insertion in the June 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

BACUP.—Apl. 1st. Open Session. Pearls, recitations, songs, and violin solo were rendered by our young Lyceumists. All were enjoyed. Mr. H. Shaw conducted the session.—B. Lord, Sec.

BEESTON.—We held our Open Session on Apl. 1st. The Conductor, Mr. Coulson, gave a few words to the children. Miss Hall and Mr. Paling took part in the marching and callisthenics, which were well done. Solos by Miss Hallam, Ivy Sawyer, Kathleen Gore. Recitations by Queenie Gore, Ida Gore, Ivy Sawyer. Many pearls were given.—G. Paling, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—Our usual Open Session was held on Apl. 1st. Recitations were given by Annie Watson, Dorothy Aitken, Elsie Makin, John Woodley, James Woodley, and Edna Jones. A solo was given by Albert Thompson. Pearls were given and were well explained. The Session was an educational one and very instructive.

On Apl. 8th we were honoured by a visit of Mrs. and Miss Nellie Dean, of Bury.—J. Hirst, Sec.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter St.—March 25th was our Lyceum Day. In the afternoon we held our Open Session. Marching and callisthenics were good. The following gave recitations,—I. Lightbown, C. Railton, J. Parkinson, J. Entwistle, A. Railton, L. State, I. Entwistle, and E. Wood. Duet by Miss N. and E. Robinson. Violin and piano duet by Miss A. E. Riding and

J. Sharples. Mr. G. F. Knott was our speaker. He gave us an inspiring address. The session was enjoyed by about 120 Lyceumists and friends.—Thos. Wood, Sec.

BOLTON, Henry St.—On Apl. 1st we held our Open Session and Lyceum Sermons. We had a good attendance. A duet was given by two Lyceumists. The whole of the Lyceum rendered a Lyceum Song. Pearls and recitations were given by Lyceumists. Our speaker should have been Mr. Walsh of Bolton, but he was unable to be present through sickness. Mrs. Johnson of Bolton, filled the gap. We all had a very happy time together.—Wm. Monk, Sec.

BRADFORD, Laisterdyke.—A delightful Session was held on Apl. 1st, conducted by Mr. L. Wilfred, with a large attendance. Mr. H. Barnes named the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. Babbs. The names given were "Evelyn," spirit name "Rose."—J. Babbs, Sec.

BRADFORD, Ripley St.—We held our Open Session on Apl. 1st. Solos and recitations were given by Misses Hilda Turner, N. Leng, L. Plumb, V. Solmon, A. A. Wilkinson, Joan McKay, Albert Wilkinson, Mr. T. Pickles, and our organist, Miss Bairstow.—E. Pickles, Sec.

BURY, King St.—On Apl. 1st we held our Open Session. Visitors from Radcliffe, Leigh, Bolton (Bradford St.) and Bury (Sidney St.), helped to make the session harmonious and enjoyable. Mr. Charnley, President of the B.L.D.C., was present at the afternoon Session.

On Apl. 22nd Mrs. Smethurst of Cheetham Hill, conducted a touching Memorial Service to our arisen President.—A. D. Sec.

CALGARY, Canada.—On Mar. 26th we held our Open Session, celebrating the 80th Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism. A fair attendance. A fine programme was enjoyed. Nearly all gave pearls. Mrs. Eshelby, the Assistant Conductor, took the session, and gave a few words on "Spiritualism." Recitations by Shirley Clements, Lorna Yoxall, Miss Wintle, Tommie Wintle, and Roy Ferguson. Reading by Dorothy Browning. Violin solo by Jack Eshelby. Song by Raymond Parkyn. Duet by Elsie and Lena Peters. Pianoforte solos by Margaret Dams, Victor Dams, and Mervyn Eshelby. All had an enjoyable and happy afternoon. Wishing the BANNER and all other Lyceums success and prosperity.—Wm. A. Garrad, Sec.

CLECKHEATON.—We held our Open Session on Apl. 1st. Our friend, Mr. Stinton, of Birstall, conducted. Recitations by Miss B. Boswell, G. Hutton, E. Rowley, S. Wright, and Frank Rose. We had a lovely duet by Misses A. Rayner and A. Wilson. Trio by D. Garside, C. Wright and E. Rawley. It was a really good session with having Mr. Stinton with us and everyone thoroughly enjoyed it.—T. Brooke, Sec.

COLNE.—We held our Open Session on Apl. 1st. The following rendered items, which were well received:—Duets by Misses Blackburn, A. Spencer, and K. Hooper. Recitations by Misses Rowlands, A. Williams, L. Ensley and K. Price. Mr. Townley gave a short talk on "Ben Hur" which created great interest. Mr. F. Blackburn was leader. Attendance not up to standard. Singing good.—Thos. Hargreaves, Sec.

DARWEN.—On Apl. 1st we held a very enjoyable Open Session, having with us Mr. J. Simmonds, of Preston.

On Good Friday the younger ones spent the day rambling in the Ribble Valley. Though tired in the evening, they returned to school and had an enjoyable social.—Dorothy Coghlan, Ban. Sec.

DENTON.—We held our Open Session on April 8th. We had a good attendance. Lyceumists responded well with recitations, pearls and solos. Marching and callisthenics were very good. Greetings were received from various Lyceums. The children were congratulated by the visitors on the marching and general behaviour. Mr. W. Howarth, and Mrs. Lomas conducted.—Edith Bradbury, Sec.

DONCASTER, Catherine St.—We held our Open Session on Apl. 1st, conducted by Miss Johnson. The following took part, A. Crossland, Phillis Wilcox, Muriel Holloway, Winnie Holroyd, Mrs. Crossland, Lewis Gomersal, Mrs. Ball, Miss D. Batty, Mrs. Maltby, and Mr. Trout. All helped to make the session a success. The marching and callisthenics were very good. Mr. Bates gave the benediction. A very joyful afternoon was spent.—Mrs. Webb, Sec.

EARBY.—We held our Open Session on Apl. 1st when the following rendered items. Recitations by O. Wilkins, D. Seddon, N. Hodkinson, F. Clarke, E. Harrison, W. Hancock, W. Waddington, and T. Hancock. Songs by K. Hodkinson. Duet by M. Ennis and J. Blackburn. Trio by E. Taylor E.

Tattersall, M. Ennis. Hymns were sung by the boys of the Beacon Group and part of the Liberty Group.—Miss B. Smith.

EASTWOOD.—We had a social on Good Friday evening and had a very good time. The object was to raise the Church Banking Account to £100, but we fell five pounds short. The sum raised £33 16s. 3d. was by the lady members private boxes and the Ladies' Sewing Party's grand effort.—Thos. Walker, Sec.

FLEETWOOD.—We again held a happy Open Session on Apl. 1st. The marching and callisthenics very smartly done. The singing and readings very well rendered. Recitations by Kenneth Harris, Tom Smith, Harry Horne, Edith Richardson, Doris Parkinson, Irene Watkins, and Laura Moore. Duets by Lillian Frith and Irene Watkins. Solo by Mrs. Parkinson. Pianoforte duet by Mrs. Rae and Miss Emma Firth.—Mrs. E. K. Firth, Sec.

GRANGETOWN.—The following officers for the ensuing year were elected at the Annual General Meeting. Conductor Mr. Hill. Secretary, Mr. E. Nellist. Treasurer, Mr. Baxtrem. Guardian, Mr. W. Nellist. Musical Conductor, Miss Palmer. Captain of Guards, Mr. G. Nellist. Librarian, Miss Allen. Leaders, Messrs. Hill, E. and G. Nellist, Mesdames Ainsworth, Raine, Parnell, Palmer and Smith.—Ed. Nellist, Sec.

GREAT HARWOOD.—We held our Open Session on Apl. 1st, when the following Lyceumists took part. The readings were conducted by Mr. Nelson, H. Crooks, F. Pickvance. Recitations were given by W. Taylor and Rosa Bagshaw. A solo by Mrs. Doswell.—C. Waterhouse, Sec.

GRIMSBY.—Pleasant Sunday, April 1st. In the morning we had solos by Mr. Ryecroft and Rene Chapman. Recitations by H. Tartellin, R. and Mrs. Howard and Doreen Burkill. A quartette by Norah Eddington, Gladys Greenwood, Vera and Rene Chapman.

In the afternoon we had a number of recitations and songs.

On Easter Monday our Society held their annual Easter Tea and Concert. Mrs. Howard, Mr. Smith and Miss Cole tutored the Lyceumists in songs and plays and they were much appreciated.—W. Piercey, Sec.

HANLEY.—We held our Prize Distribution on Mar. 4th, when Mrs. Jones very ably distributed 110 prizes, 67 firsts being Manuals. Songs and recitations were nicely rendered by Phyllis Baddeley, Fred Colclough, and Jack Cubley. Our Conductor, Mr. Rowley, was chairman, and we had a nice gathering of parents and friends.—A. Mason, Sec.

LEEDS, Armley.—On Apl. 7th we held our Easter Social. Prizes were given for Fancy Dress and a really enjoyable evening was spent. Refreshments were provided. The dresses comprised, Fairy, Miner, Baker, Pirate, Woolshop, Japs, and others. 10 prizes were given.—George Lee, Sec.

LEICESTER, Liberty.—On Apl. 1st we held our Open Session. Mr. W. Beck conducted, as our Conductor, Mrs. Thwaites, was ill. Recitations by Horace Jayes, Elsie Clements, Doris Jayes and Yvonne Deboux. Duets by Messrs. A. and T. Gamble. Doris Jayes and Elsie Clements. Solos by Mr. Beck, Mr. Jayes, and Lavinia Garrett.—S. Wheatley, Sec.

LINCOLN, Midland.—On Mar. 28th, the adult Lyceumists gave a Concert before a large and appreciative audience. Sketches entitled "Complications in a Coffee Room" and "My Turn Next" were greatly appreciated and evoked much mirth. The characters were taken by Mesdames Carp, Crane, and Dobby. Messrs. Blakey, Crane, Barker, and Dobby. Mr. R. Leversidge acted as Chairman.—A. Dobby.

LINCOLN PROGRESSIVE, Coultham St.—Quarter Day, Apl. 1st. all week-end meetings taken by our Conductor, Mr. Raspin.

On Apl. 11th we held a Memorial Service in memory of our young arisen sister, Elsie Muriel Willey, who has been in spirit three years. Mrs. Raspin gave a trance address followed by clairvoyant descriptions.

Three social events have been very successful.—N. Willey, Sec.

LIVERPOOL, Boaler St.—Apl. 1st, Miss Kirkham conducted the naming ceremony of the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Bambery. The name given was Walter George, spirit name 'Tulip.'—L. George, Sec.

LONDON, Brixton.—During the month of March we held our Lyceum Session as usual. On the 24th March we held a combined Church and Lyceum Social. There was a large attendance and it was a great success.—Frank B. Cross, Sec.

LONDON, Clapham.—On Mar. 25th we held our 11th Anniversary at which seven other Lyceums were represented. It was conducted in the form of an Open Session in the afternoon and we were favoured with the presence of the Vice-President, District Visitor, and Assistant District Visitor of the L.L.D.C. After the afternoon session, which was a great success, tea was provided, and this was followed by the evening service, in which the above members of the L.L.D.C. and some Lyceumists took part. Various addresses, solos, etc., were given and we hope that a great impression has been made which will greatly benefit our Lyceum in the future.—Phyllis Lewis, Sec.

NORTH LONDON.—March 11th, we conducted the evening service which was very much enjoyed by the congregation. Letters were received by me commenting upon the talent of the children and on the teaching they received. We as officers are very grateful indeed for interest shown and expressed.—Nellie C. Whorlow.

LONDON, Stratford, Idmiston Rd.—Open Session on Apl. 1st. Recitations by May Brand, D. Walters, Gertie Webb, Violet Walters, Lily Flynn, June Bates, Barbara Bates, and Winnie Copelin. Songs by Lily Copelin, Betty Houghton, and Florence Christopher. Mr. A. T. Connor gave an address on "The Psychic Aspects of Lyceum Drill." We are pleased to report increased interest and support by Church members. Several visitors, including Mr. Phillips (Vice-President), and Mrs. Phillips attended our Open Session.

Sales of BANNERS increased since January by two dozen. We are working hard for the concert on May 16th in aid of our Manual Fund.—Eva. C. Connor, Sec.

LONDON, Tottenham.—On March 25th we held our Open Session. During the afternoon a very interesting ceremony was performed by our Conductor, Miss Ridding, in the naming of the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Morement. Earthly name "Winfred Marie," spirit name "Iris." A Lyceum Badge was presented to the child.—W. H. Markham, Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH, Grange Rd.—April 1st. Open Session was well attended. Pearls were numerous. Marching and callisthenics fair. A large number of musical items contributed to a pleasant afternoon.

We have formed a Branch College at Middlesbrough. Why not do the same at your Lyceum? Education is the salvation of Spiritualism.—J. Abbott, A.N.S.C., Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH, United.—On Easter Sunday we held our Open Session. Numerous pearls, recitations, and solos were very nicely rendered.

In the evening the Church service was taken by Lyceumists with a musical service, which was greatly appreciated. An Easter day well spent.—R. Massey, Sec.

NEWCASTLE, Heaton & Byker.—On April 1st we held our Open Session. Pearls and recitations by Miss L. Wardle, Doris Ronaldson, Olga Fybus, Edna Hughes, May Barker, Nellie Moore, Willie Page, Jim and David Ronaldson, Mrs. Wardle, Harry A. McEwen, and Elliott Gregson. Solos by Miss Wardle and Mr. Lunn. A very enjoyable session all through.—S. J. Hunter, Sec.

OLDHAM, Central.—On Saturday, March 24th, we held a Ladies' Leap Year Effort.

On Sunday, Mar. 25th Church Anniversary. Speaker was the President, Mr. Standish, for the twentieth year.

On Apl. 8th Lyceum Anniversary and Open Session was well attended. We had visitors from three other Lyceums and they wished us every success.—Mrs. H. Clegg, Sec.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Apl. 1st, we held our Open Session. Pearls were rendered by all present. Recitations by Doris Mays, Iris Grice, Irene Sanford, Douglas Russell, and Jimmy Wilmer. Piano forte solos by Joyce Tebby, T. Grice, and W. Paget. Solo by Vera Chambers. A pleasing session was enjoyed by all.—C. Stuart-Jones.

PRESTON, Moor Lane.—We held our Open Session on Apl. 1st. We had a very good time. The following contributed.—Recitations by Nellie Martin, Arthur Cavanagh, Edith Tallon, The Children's group sang "Angels Lead my Footsteps."—R. E. Tallon, Sec.

RADCLIFFE.—An impressive Memorial Service was held on Sunday, Apl. 8th to our arisen sister, Mrs. Hardman, who was our treasurer. Miss Sandiford was the speaker, "Love" being her subject.—V. M. Haworth, Sec.

ROCHDALE, Regent Hall.—On Apl. 1st we held our Open Session. Very good attendance. Numerous pearls, recitations, and solos were rendered. The marching and callisthenics were good.

On Easter Saturday we held a Grand "At Home" and Operetta, entitled "Jan of Windmill Land." All Lyceumists took a part. Host and Hostess, Mrs. and Mr. Jenkinson. Chairman, Mrs. Dawson. It was a great success.—D. Richards.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—On April 15th we held an Open Session. The B.S.L.U. Management Committee were holding their business meetings at our Lyceum that week-end. The Management Committee were welcomed by Miss H. Chilton. Each member was welcomed separately by a Lyceumist saying a poem and presenting each with a carnation. At the close of the welcome the members formed a circle and sang "Go Forward."

Miss Elliott conducted the Session. Mr. Mack took the Silver Chain, "What I live for." Miss Rayner, Mr. Burrows, Mr. Slimin, and Mr. Hart took part. The Golden Chain was read by Mr. Cox. Recitations and pearls were given by Lyceumists. Greetings were given from various Lyceums in the district. The "Welcome" poems were composed by Mrs. Taylor.—Mr. E. Johnson, Sec.

SMETHWICK.—Apl. 15th and 16th were our Anniversary days, and we had a glorious time. The speaker was Mrs. Gilbert, of Derby a very able worker in the Lyceum cause. Our motto, "Love, Unity and Progress" displayed on the rostrum, was evident at the afternoon Session, when the Mayor, Alderman Morris, an old Smethwick Lyceumist, and the Church President, Mr. Phillips, occupied the platform. The children's parts were performed admirably. Recitations by Miriam Parkes Evelyn Peters, Rose Haywood, Emily Barrett, Bridy Powell, Alfred Powell, Ivor Wright, Violin solos by Tom Dealey.—J. Cotton, Sec.

SOUTHAMPTON.—On Mar. 21st we entertained 86 old-age Pensioners to Tea and Concert. Our Concert Party delighted the old folks with a repetition of their previous week's programme. Each lady was given a packet of tea, and each Gentleman received some tobacco. Auld Lang Syne was sung.

On Apl. 1st our Conductor, Mrs. Hart, ably conducted a double naming ceremony. The daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Hassam, "Freda Joan Eileen," and Mr. and Mrs. Brown, "Gloria Joan" received the spirit names of "Buttercup" and "Peace."—E. W. Long, Sec.

STOCKPORT, Central.—On Apl. 1st we held our Open Session, conducted by Mrs. Ennion. Marching and callisthenics were well done. We had a good number of pearls and recitations. It was a good session throughout.

At 6.30 three of our Lyceumists conducted the meeting, Mrs. Ennion presided and Mrs. Edwards gave the invocation and benediction. Mr. J. H. Marston gave the address which was very interesting. Mrs. Sanderson conducted the after service. Our very best thanks are due to them for their efforts.—Mrs. Springate, Sec.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES, Brunswick St.—On April 1st we held the usual Open Session. Golden Chain and Silver Chain Recitations fairly well read. Marching and callisthenics good. A few pearls were given. Recitations from the Shore Group. Songs were rendered from the Liberty and Beacon Groups. An Enjoyable session resulted.—A. Williams, Sec.

WEST PELTON.—Open Session was held on Apl. 1st. The following contributed.—Mr. Wishart, D. Douglas, J. Cockfield, J. Wishart, E. Hobson, O. Sport, Miss Grey, J. Douglas, L. Abbott, G. Morton, L. Wishart, H. Sharp, P. Armstrong, and Mr. Abbott. Conductor, Mr. Abbott. Organist, Miss Robinson.—A. Dryden, Sec.

WINDHILL.—Open Session held Apl. 1st. Singing, reading and recitations by the Lyceumists were enjoyed by all present. A progressive day well spent.—Mrs. Feather, Sec.

WINNIPEG, Polson Avenue.—We held our Open Session on March 4th. We had a very good session. All the children chose their parts well. Pearls, songs, and recitations were given by Daisy Knox, Olive Forrest, Irene Turner, Harry Forrest, Verna McLeod, Mr. Chadwick, Raymond Parkinson, Hazel Dale, Sylvia Parkinson, and Mr. Brown. Quartette by Messrs. Forrest, Chadwick, and Misses Brown and McLeod.

We held another Open Session on April 1st. There was a good turnout of scholars and they all did there parts very well. Pearls, songs and recitations were given by Daisy Knox, Raymond Parkinson, Irene Turner, Olive Forrest, Sylvia Parkinson, Edna Brown, Mr. Chadwick, Mr. Brown, Harry Forrest, Hazel Dale, Verna McLeod, Harry and Willie Towns, and Ella Crawley. We had Mr. Simmonds with us, He is an old-time Lyceumist from London. He gave us a few remarks on his Lyceum work in the old land.—J. Knox, Sec.