

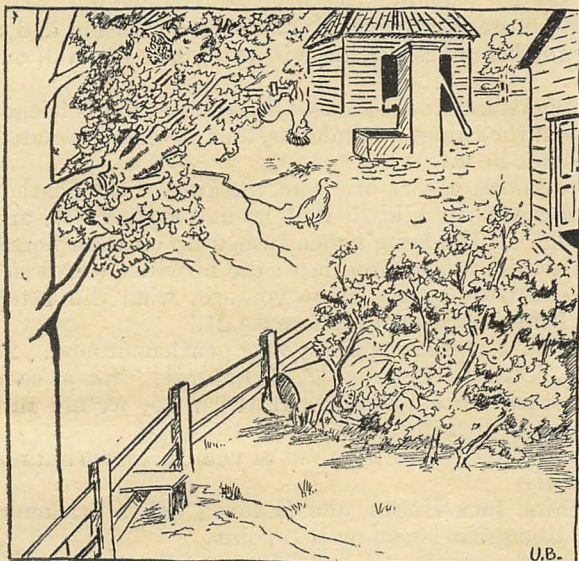
THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 476. Vol. XL.

OCTOBER, 1930.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

The Children's Puzzle.



Jack and Jill went up the hill
And sought the farm-yard pump,
Both fell over in a spill
Because they failed to jump.

Out of sight, with all their might
The farm-yard pets have hidden,
Jack and Jill are out of sight
Through playing tricks forbidden.

Find Jack and Jill and Mother
With the animals in sight,
That each may help another.
To get over their sad fright.

THE AINSWORTH HOME OF REST SCHEME.

A list of Convalescent Homes was printed in the September Banner.

If any Lyceumists, who cannot afford to pay for convalescence at the seaside, wishing for treatment at any Home controlled by a local Charity, the B.S.L.U. Secretary will try to arrange for treatment at the Home of the patient's choice.

Application Forms can be obtained from the Clerk to the Ainsworth Home of Rest Scheme, G. F. Knott, 20, Toad Lane, Rochdale, Lancs.

Miss M. E. Lawton, Graduate of the National Spiritualist College, has been appointed Organising Secretary for the B.S.L.U. Annual Conference which will be held during Whitsuntide 1931, at Barrow-in-Furness. An enthusiastic Conference Committee has also been elected. That's good,

£2,000 Effort Fund.

Dear Lyceumists Everywhere,

Now that we are well over the Summer, with its holidays and picnics, etc., I am looking forward to Lyceumists turning their attention to making some special effort to augment the £2,000 Effort Fund.

May I ask that you will consider allocating one of your Social Events for this purpose. Do let us "keep the ball rolling."

I have very little to hand this month. The donations received are as follows:—from Mr. Ed. Nellist, Redcar, Yorks, 5/-, being a Burial Fee accepted and passed on to our Fund; Mrs. Amy Bolton, Mich., U.S.A., per Mr. Knott, 2s. 9d.; fine received from Mrs. Paling, Beeston, Notts, for calling Mrs Reynolds, Miss Rayner, 6d.; and 1s. 0d. from Mrs. Reynolds for signing herself Miss Rayner, bringing the total to 9s. 3d.

Two orders for the Musical Recital have been received, one from Mr. A. M. Cherriman, Derby, Charnwood Street, Hymn and Recitation Leaflets, 9s. 9d., and the other, per Miss Thornton, Southend and Westcliff Lyceum, 1s. 3d. for five sample copies.

I do hope that Lyceums are seriously considering my offer. The Musical Recital "The Reality of God" is suitable for a Special Service, and is arranged in two leaflets; Hymn Leaflets 4s. 6d. per 100, post free. All orders less than 100, one penny each. Recitation Leaflets, 2d. per copy, post free, and you require 18. Odd copies of the complete work, 3d. Please send your orders to Mrs. J. Reynolds, 118, Cremorne Street, Nottingham.

I sincerely thank all who have contributed once again, and also those who have sent orders for the Musical Recital.

Kindly note, donations, no matter how small, will be welcomed. Do not delay; keep sending. Let us continue to add and add until we have achieved our object. Do please help.

With greetings to each and all,
118, Cremorne St., Yours sincerely,
Nottingham. VICTORIA G. REYNOLDS.

LYCEUMS ARE NEEDED.

If any Church exists without a Lyceum, not only are the children being religiously neglected, but the adults are missing a golden opportunity of providing the necessary liberty groups for the discussion of Spiritualism in its many aspects. There should be a Lyceum in existence as one of the operations of every Church.

NORTH LONDON SPIRITUALIST LYCEUM.

Special Notice.

On and after Sunday, Sept. 28th, all Sessions will be held at the New Church of the N.L.S.A. in Hornsey Road. 14 'Bus from Finsbury Park and 110 'Bus from Highgate stop at the door; one minute from Hornsey Road Station, L.M.S. Railway.
NELLIE C. WHORLOW,



My dear Boys and Girls.

In the first place I must say how delighted Auntie Ruth, Cousin Doris and I have been this month to receive letters from several Lyceumists who have not written to us for quite a long time. Especially do we welcome a batch of letters from the South Manchester Lyceumists.

When I commenced to write this page in 1923, this Lyceum was the first to enter into co-operation with my efforts. The late Mr. Randolph Hope being the then live wire. When I tell you that one of the children who then used to write to me, has grown up in the Lyceum and has now restarted the interests in that centre, you can imagine how pleased I am.

I could mention a host of other workers who have assisted me, but space being limited I will leave them to my personal correspondence list.

The answers to Puzzle 159.

Wisbech.	Stratford.	Derby.
Bolton.	Brighton.	Manchester
Portsmouth.	Bury.	Glasgow.
Sheffield.	Hebburn.	Dukinfield.
Laisterdyke.	Sth. Shields.	Grimsby.
	Craghead.	

For those Lyceumists who evidently were unable to find their own district, this list will remind you that I expect to hear from you this month or you may cause me to warble "Where are my wandering Lyceumists to-night," and this might cause pain to some who are well acquainted with my vocal powers.

This month I want to introduce to you a very old friend of yours.

I do not exactly know how old he is, where he was born, or who discovered him, but discovered under unusual circumstances he certainly was. When I was a little boy,—Ah, let me see how long ago was that—well never mind, you get quite enough addition sums to do at school, so I will not add to them; but even then, this friend was, according to my parents and friends, amongst the famous characters. I have never seen a real photograph of him, but several paintings and drawings.

My word he is curious looking chap. At first sight, you cannot tell whether he is coming or going.

He was once very strong, but alas, in the end his strength failed him.

Who can this mysterious person be? Really, I should like to leave it here and make this a guessing competition, but that would hardly be fair, and if I were to add "to be continued in our next" it would only make you cross, so I had better continue. I am sure you all know him as much as you know your closest school chum. Just come with me into your nursery, playroom, or by that cosy kitchen fire; there we shall find him in all his glory.

Before telling you his name in full, let me try and draw a little pen picture.

First I must have a brick wall, then a lot of horses and some men looking after them. Now a crowd looking at a very serious accident. Strange to say I must not have a Policeman or an Ambulance Car.

Leaving this pen picture I can see a dear old, old lady nursing a little girlie, she evidently knows all about it, for she is rocking to and fro in a rocking chair and is singing a well known Nursery Rhyme. As she comes to the end of the verse the little girlie looks up into her face saying "again!! again!!" Now we are really getting quite warm towards reaching a solution and a little further investigation will bring him down at our heels.

I understand he sat on a wall, boasting to his friends below of the things he could do, and of what a wonderful person he was.

You know, a sort of "I'm the king of the Castle" business. Then I learn that he had a great fall, and although all the King's men rushed up on their horses to assist him, it was too late: the mischief was done, Someone truly said "There you are, what did I tell you, Pride always goes before a fall."

Of course you know this young gentleman now. So for the lesson; "Be humble, Be natural;" for as soon as we start to boast about what we can do, we are sure to meet with failure.

It is quite right to be proud of your successes but not boastful.

I think Jack Hobbs, the famous English cricketer, gives us a great lesson on this point.

He said recently, "Cricket is one of the finest games to keep you from getting a swollen head, for one day you score three figures and the next innings you are out for a duck."

Here is one of the finest characters of sportsmanship I know, often elated with great successes but still humble in his own achievement.

Does it not bring us back to S.C.R. 71.

"Keep your balance" should you ever
Climb the giddy heights of fame;
Better you had ne'er ascended
If your climbing ends in shame.

So now when you are singing this favourite Nursery Rhyme to your younger Brother or Sister, remember this lesson concerning it.

PUZZLE No. 160.—SWEETS. (Muddled).

AACMRESL
EAISNLLSDEAB—
RAPEMSTIN
DDPSORCAI—
TPNEIPMPRES
BSAURGLAERY—

USEFUL PEARLS.

"It is useless thinking out clever ideas unless we carry them out."

"The only way to find out how far you can go, is by going."

"Success rarely comes to the man who is too lazy to go after it."

"If you cannot help, move on please."

With love,

UNCLE BERT.

2, Villiers Road,
Osterley, Middx.

Our Education Department.

HINTS, NOTES AND NEWS ITEMS.

WHAT THE BOLTON D.V. THINKS.

Mr. W. H. Cliff, A.N.S.C., District Visitor of the Bolton L.D.C., when applying for his Diploma as an Associate of the College, said—"We are so full of doubts and fears, but really we do not know what we can do until we make the attempt. I feel sure that if all our Lyceumists could only realise the joy that comes to us students at times like this, when writing up for the result which rewards our efforts, there would be less effort needed to get them to join the Education Scheme."

Mr. Cliff, like myself, is well over 18 years old, and I have very great pleasure in recommending his opinion to our younger Lyceumists. We claim that the Lyceum Movement is educational, but it cannot be that unless our Lyceumists go in for education. Our Union membership is somewhere about 15,000—but only about 1,500 take part in the Education Scheme.

THE COLLEGE.

At the May examinations 17 Lyceumists qualified for the Associate Degree, and the College Diploma has been applied for and awarded to Lillie K. George, Annie Dean, Eva Hilda Wicks, Ronald Marsh, William H. Cliff, Margaret E. Thompson, William H. Markham, James Le Noury, Edna Holt, Walter Taylor, Dorothy Cartwright and Frank W. Dunn. The College Board Acknowledges with thanks donations received from Associates when applying for the diploma.

Every Lyceum or Church with ten members who have entered for the examinations is eligible to enrol as a Local Branch of the College, and the following Lyceums have registered:—Croydon, Daulby Hall, Fowler Street, South Manchester, Grange Road, Southend and Westcliff, Southampton, Horwich, Attercliffe and Dewsbury. If your Lyceum is eligible, will you please ask the Secretary why you haven't joined up.

COLLEGE VISITORS.

College Visitors Committees have been appointed by Tees Side, Southern Counties, Bolton, Halifax and Huddersfield, Liverpool, Leeds and North East Lancashire Councils. So far I have not been informed of any refusals, but some Council Secretaries have not yet replied to our appeal. I would be very sorry if any Lyceum District Council refused to help in education.

EDUCATION FUND COLLECTIONS.

The Education Committee acknowledges with thanks collections received from Whitley Bay, Clapham, Barrow (Dalkeith Street), Plaistow, and Southend and Westcliff Lyceums. These are the collections taken on the Sunday or other occasion when the Education Scheme Certificates were presented to the successful students. The net cost of the Education Scheme is about fifty pounds a year, and it is hoped that as many Lyceums as can afford it will send along this special collection. Every little not only helps, but encourages. If you are not Secretary of your Lyceum, will you please ask him or her to bring our appeal before the Lyceum Committee.

THE 1931 SUMMER SCHOOL.

There will be no S.N.U. Summer School in 1931, as

the International Congress will be meeting during the period when the Summer School would be running, and the S.N.U. have generously decided not to provide any competition likely to interfere with the success of the Congress. I attended the Summer School held at Matlock in 1929, and I can confidently recommend it to Lyceumists with educational leanings. They will get their money's worth.

PLEASE HELP.

Please make this page useful by sending along any items of information likely to be helpful to other students. I am getting lazy, and want other Lyceumists to help me with my monthly article.

STOP PRESS NEWS.

Since going to Press, Coventry District Council has adopted the "College Visitors" idea; Bradford Milton Lyceum has sent a donation to the Education Fund, and Dunedin (New Zealand) Lyceum has registered as a Local Branch of the College. Wouldn't some of our eligible Home Lyceums, who have not registered, like to join hands in the College with our Overseas Comrades?

SECRETARIES PLEASE NOTE.

(1) ALL the text-books needed for the B.S.L.U. Scheme are supplied from the General Offices by Mr. Knott. Mr. Connor does not stock or sell ANY Hand-books.

(2) When writing for pamphlets, leaflets, etc., please send a stamped addressed envelope large enough to hold what is asked for, and

(3) ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE on Education matters to the Hon. Education Secretary, Mr. A. T. CONNOR, F.N.S.C., 13, Claremont Road, Forest Gate, London, E.7.

A NEW CHURCH BUILDING OPENED AT WIGAN.

On August 23rd, we opened our new Church and Lyceum at Crompton Street, Wigan. About 400 people walked in the procession. We met at the old rooms in Millgate, and after the singing of "The World Hath Felt a Quickening Breath" we marched down to the new Church, led by the Ince Public Reed Band.

Arriving at the Church we sang "Our Father God Eternal." Mr. Berry, the General Secretary of the S.N.U., opened the door of the Church and bid us welcome.

Mr. Knott then took the hand of our Conductor, and the Lyceumists followed down the steps into the School room. The children shouted "Hurrah" when they entered the Lyceum. The speakers for the opening were, Mr. Berry, Mr. G. F. Knott, Mr. Rossiter (our President), Mrs. O'Keefe, Mrs. Clitheroe, and Mrs. Morris.

During the afternoon our President presented Mr. Berry with a small key, after which our Conductor presented Mr. Knott with a similar token.

The Sunday morning Session was conducted by Mr. Knott. Mrs. Clitheroe, our Conductor, gave the invocation. The S.C.R. was taken by Stanley Bird, Harold Connor and Mr. James. M.R. by John Bird, Allen James, and Horace Litherland. G.C.R. taken by Mr. Knott. Pearls were given by Arthur Bladen, W. James, Horace Litherland, Mr. Watkins, Stanley Bird, Allen James, Mrs. Clitheroe, and John Bird. Recitation by Harold Connor. Songs by Minnie Hunter and Mary Litherland.

Mr. Knott was the Church speaker for the day. A most enjoyable time was spent by all during the week-end.

We thank our Daulby Hall friends for allowing Mr. Knott to take our services on the Sunday.

M. EACHUS, Sec.

Calendar of Saints (L.M. 145).

BY ALFRED KITSON.

In order to help Lyceumists to understand in what way the men and women enumerated in the "Calendar of Saints" have benefitted humanity and helped in the world's progress to entitle them to be called "Saints" we purpose giving brief sketches of their lives, as space permits, and month by month. We shall take them in their alphabetical order. We feel sure Lyceumists will welcome this added interest to the pages of the Lyceum Banner.

JESUS THE CHRIST. (No. 145).—A short time before Jesus was born his parents, Joseph and Mary, had to undertake a journey from Nazareth, a town in Galilee, where they lived a humble life, to Bethlehem, in Judea, to be taxed or enrolled, in accordance with a decree issued by Augustus Caesar, the Roman Emperor. The distance they had to travel was about seventy miles from Nazareth, and ten miles further than Jerusalem. When they arrived at Bethlehem they were unable to find accommodation at the Inn as it was already over-crowded so they had to lodge in one of the stables during their stay, and while so doing Jesus was born, and after being wrapped in swaddling clothes, he was laid in the manger. His birth took place four years before the date reckoned as the beginning of the Christian era. At the time of his birth Angels appeared unto some Shepherds who were attending their flocks by night, as it was the season when lambs were born, and announced the birth of Jesus and said "*Peace on earth, to men of good will,*" as being the mission of the new born child.

The name "Jesus" occurs only in the New Testament. It is translated "Joshua" in the Old Testament.

The term "Christ" is not his surname as Christians are led to suppose by it being conjoined with Jesus as "Jesus Christ," as we often hear it, but is from the Greek term "Christos," which means "anointed." There are two recognised methods of anointing: (a) by oil, which is still observed in Christian Churches; and (b) by spirit power. Jesus was made "*Christos*" by the descent of spirit in the symbolical form of a dove, when he was being baptised in the river Jordan by John the Baptist.

The term Jesus is not used much above sixty times in the N.T. Jesus Christ is found but five times in the Gospels, but it is found one hundred and sixty times in the Epistles.

Simeon the aged sage, who had anticipated the birth of the Hebrew Messiah, came by the guiding power of the spirit to the temple, when the parents of Jesus brought him at the age of eight days according to the law. Simeon took the child in his arms and gave thanks to God, and said, "Lord, now lettest thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word," and Anna, an aged prophetess, coming into the temple at the time, gave thanks also unto the Lord at being allowed to live to see the birth of the promised Messiah.

Magi, or "wise men," who were the priests of the Parsee's religion, are said to have come from the East, having seen the star, or herald of the birth of Jesus, which guided them to Bethlehem where they found the child, and made some costly presents to it.

Joseph was warned in a dream to flee with Jesus and his mother into Egypt, as Herod was seeking to

destroy the child by ordering the slaying of all male children under two years of age. At the death of Herod, Joseph was told in a dream to return to Nazareth as he who sought to slay their child was dead.

There is no further mention of Jesus until at the age of twelve he accompanies his parents to Jerusalem. "The age of twelve was a critical age for a Jewish boy. It was the age at which, according to Jewish legend, Moses had left the house of Pharaoh's daughter, and Samuel had heard the voice which summoned him to the prophetic office; and Solomon had given the judgment which first revealed his possession of wisdom; and Joseph had first dreamed of his great reform."

"According to one Rabbinical treatise, the "*Sepher-Gilguline*, up to this age (12) a boy only possessed the *nephesh*, or animal life; but henceforth he *began to acquire the ruach* (or divine portion of God), which if his life was virtuous, would develop at the age of twenty into a reasonable soul."

So Jesus was acting in accordance with the Jewish legend of precocious boys when his sorrowing parents, having lost him, found him in the temple, disputing with the learned doctors who naturally marvelled at his wisdom.

We next find him at thirty years of age, presenting himself, with others who had been attracted by his preaching, to John the Baptist, to be baptised by him in the river Jordan. To both of them this act marked a great event, and its significance to them took shape in the vision of a dove descending upon the head of Jesus; and they heard a spirit voice which said "This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased." On this day Jesus became Christos, or anointed with the power of the spirit, which felt to be a direct endowment of spirit power, and confirmed him in the belief of his spiritual mission.

The national conditions into which he entered, and which he felt called upon to reform were unsound, both religiously and politically. Politically, the Jews were subject to Rome. Among the great majority of the people the Roman rule was very unpopular, and the old national aspirations concentrated themselves into a passionate desire for, and occasional efforts after freedom. There were, however, two sections of the nation whose main interest ran in other directions. One of these was the party of Sadducees, who held in their hands all the political influence of the high-priesthood—an influence which they made the highest, next to the Roman power, in the state. Their preoccupations, therefore, were political rather than religious, and to them all sedition, all striving for freedom, all striving of patriotic feeling was unwelcome as tending to disturb the balance which was so favourable to them. The other party was that of the Pharisees, who were much more concerned with religions than with political issues. They had preserved the old Jewish religious traditions, but in a form that was stereotyped and without vitality. Their religion was content in ceremony, and their morality in minute and irrelevant points of conduct. Formalism had frozen religious life as expressed in the dominant, religious caste, and all the evils attendant on the existence of such a caste were being felt to the full by the people. But among all these adverse conditions there was left a "righteous remnant in whom the more vital religion of prophetic times survived, and who waited humbly for some visitation of their tribal God, Yahveh, which should redeem his

people from the rule of Rome, and set up once more in Jerusalem a religion pure and undefiled. This hope was shared in a less devote and more national fashion by the mass of people. It was the hope, rooted far back in Old Testament prophecy, of a Messiah, who at this time was conceived especially under the form of a national deliverer from present tyranny.

The first notable step Jesus took in preparation for his public work was the selecting of the men who were to be his companions in it, twelve of them. He inspired in them a strong personal love, evidently he represented to them the embodiment of the highest which they had yet seen, a spiritual force which gradually took shape in their minds as being a revelation of God.

The people saw in him a new prophet who could only be explained as the reincarnation of Elijah or Jeremiah (Matt. XVI., 14). They looked upon him as one who would turn aside to relieve human suffering; who cared for little children, and even exalted them, on simple human levels. And because holiness, the "perfectly good will," seemed to him the supreme good, his effort to help was often concentrated on helping the people to reach this good. But this aspect of Jesus was less popular, than his aspect as a healer of physical ills, or as a possible saviour of the nation; and it was to his increasing emphasis that his kingdom was not of this world that the disaffection of the people before his death may be traced.

The length of Jesus' public ministry, from the call of the Apostles to his death, covered a period of three years, or according to a different view, of two years and a few months. It falls, in any case, between the spring of A.D. 26, and the Passover of A.D. 29, and it was mainly in Galilee, with a journey into the region of Tyre and Sidon, and visits to Jerusalem. Its record shows on the one hand, constant labour both in teaching and in healing; and on the other hand, frequent contests with the Scribes and Pharisees, whom he denounced in very strong language. He called them Hypocrites who shut up the Kingdom of heaven; who devoured widows' houses, and for a pretence made long prayers; who did all they could, by land and sea, to make a convert, and then made him two-fold more wicked than themselves. He also called them blind guides, who strain at a gnat and swallow a camel; he also likened them to serpents, and a generation of vipers, and whited sepulchres which outwardly appear beautiful but inwardly were full of dead men's bones, and all uncleanness. (Matt. XXIII).

He had outraged the prejudices and heaped scorn and contumely on the ruling classes, and challenged their powers and such a person could not be allowed to live. But how were they to get rid of him? The crime of which Jesus was accused was his claim to be the Messiah and the son of God, with, apparently, a subordinate charge of hostility to the most venerable institution of the nation. His answer to the most high priest's question "Art thou Christ (Messiah), the son of the blessed?" was answered in the affirmative: "I am and ye shall see the son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven." This assertion which stirred the anger of the assembly, was declared by Caiaphas to be blasphemy, and condemning him, they carried him to Pilate, the Roman procurator, in whose hands lay the final passing of the death sentence.

To gain from Roman justice the desired sentence, it was necessary to alter the charge against Jesus to that of treason towards the emperor—a charge based on the claim of Jesus to kingship, and on a direct falsehood to the effect that he had been found "forbidding to give tribute to Caesar." To the end Pilate maintained the innocence of Jesus and when he finally yielded it was under the pressure of fear. The cry of the Jews, "If thou let this man go thou art not Caesar's friend," was full of menace to Pilate, owing both to political circumstances of the time under Tiberius Caesar, and to his own position. His sense of justice gave way under the pressure of religious and political hatred of the ruling classes who incited the mob, when Pilate offered to set Jesus free in place of the criminal Barabbas, to call for Barabbas to be set free, and Jesus to be crucified. So Jesus died a martyr for his religious conviction, and moral principles, and not as a vicarious atonement for the sins of mankind, as is taught by Christians. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." (Gal. VI. 7.)

In our next issue will appear brief sketches of Kant, Laplace, Morse and Mozart.

MRS. COLBOURNE, OF MIDDLESBROUGH.

We regret to report that Mrs. Colbourne, one of the good workers in the Tees-side District, has passed to the higher life.

Mrs. Colbourne, prior to her marriage, in March 1926, was a Miss Cissie Galloway. She was a great worker along with our late Lyceumist, Mrs. Naylor, and not unlike her, she carried an infirmity of her physical frame which seemed to bring forth all the spiritual beauty and purity from within. All her thoughts were for the younger children of our Lyceums to which end she worked. Her life here on earth was no easy path, having to put up with great physical disability since birth. She dedicated her life to the spirit world. Her great helpers responded tenfold and influenced her speaking, clairvoyance, etc., in which she excelled, and these gifts drew her into the hearts of all her hearers.

Her life was a grand lesson to all with whom she came in contact, it shewed all the beauties of our Spiritualism and what it could do to all who embraced it. Her passing was one of severity at the end, and was hastened by cardiac failure, at the early age of 34. We have lost a grand worker, but we know she will still carry on in the spirit and we still look to her for guidance. She was attached to Wilson St. United Church and Lyceum until her passing over on July 16th, 1930.

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.

BIRTHS.

CHEETHAM HILL.—On September 21st, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Hesling received the earthly name of "John Edward." Spirit name, "Light."

IN MEMORIAM.

HARTLEPOOL.—1, Princess Street. In loving remembrance of our dear daughter, Ellen Elizabeth Platts, who passed to the higher Life, October 3rd, 1929.

"In loving thoughts always."

FATHER AND MOTHER.

GATESHEAD.—Rectory Hall Lyceumists pay loving tribute to their staunch friend, Mrs. Hall, who, on August 23rd, passed through the mists of death to the sunshine of fuller life. We wish her God speed, rejoicing in the knowledge that to-day she garners the result of those self-sacrificing yesterdays.

THE LYCEUM BANNER

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

EDITOR: G. F. KNOTT, F.N.S.C.

Terms to Lyceums and Societies:

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

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OCTOBER, 1930.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM THROUGH EDUCATION.

For many, many years Spiritualism has fought its way through many forms of opposition. Ridicule has been overcome. Ostracism has been banished. Science is beginning to lose its apathy. Religion is finding Spiritualism to be a help instead of a hindrance. Philosophy is exalted, and the research becomes transcendental. In all walks of life Spiritualism is becoming an attraction.

It is essential that the people who speak and act for our truths shall represent our cause in an intelligent manner. Our children have inherited the burden of being the descendants of parents who have held what have been thought to be peculiar views.

Most people to-day are feeling that Spiritualism in some of its forms has an indirect bearing on their lives. That is a big advance and the taunts will gradually die away, because almost every adult has had some kind of psychic experience.

It is essential that we who are Spiritualists can provide some sensible explanation to the many queries which are arising. Our children will be faced, in the future, with enquiries that demand a positive answer, and the old order will be changed.

We cannot claim legal advantages for mediums, as we are trying to do by an Act of Parliament, without facing the consequent liability of defining mediumship and the introduction of powers to govern the lectures and demonstrations during which our mediums are operating.

There is always danger in establishing human authority over the actions of adherents in any religion. As our College Secretary has aptly written, "we must prevent the establishment of a priesthood" by producing Lyceum and Church Membership which is educated above the position of allowing an individual's own opinions being controlled by whoever becomes the pastor, speaker or medium in the service of our churches.

The medium requires religious freedom under the law, and the ordinary Lyceumist and Spiritualist must be provided with the opportunity of an education through a study of our principles.

Mediums obtain their evidences through spirit-people

using their minds and bodies. Young Lyceumists and students obtain their learning from more advanced students who have had sufficient experience to analyse the truth of survival of bodily death and its implications.

Our claim to be progressive is thus demonstrated when we supercede the priest by the institution of speakers, mediums and leaders who do not demand the acceptance of priestly deliveries, but offer guidance from a larger knowledge by the exposition of precepts and practices any student may choose to follow, in so far as is appreciated or understood.

It is an axiom of Spiritualism that the leaders are always, themselves, looking for clearer explanations and probing methods of research in the pursuit of truth.

Our facts are undeniable, if any student will undertake a study of them. Our philosophies are based on sound reasoning. It is upon this basis we founded the education scheme. It has stood the test of ten years' operation and continues to supply the students year by year with fundamental knowledge of individual traits which provides the mediums with the necessary power to prove our truths.

We state that every Spiritualist needs this informative knowledge, and it is advantageous to writers of the various forms of mediumship to understand the sources of inspiration which are given under the control of spirits.

Does there not now exist at least one scheme which can operate the certification of responsible persons through the joint operation of the S.N.U. and the B.S.L.U.

It is somewhat prophetic that we have already created the machinery—before anyone knew what actual shape Spiritualist freedom would work out for itself—which meets the expected demand for certification. The founders of the scheme are certain that spirit-guidance played no small part in the institution.

Every S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. student who has passed through a course, and particularly if they have passed the tests set in the examinations, must feel elated that the evidence of such tests has had great weight with the Home Secretary that, not only are Spiritualists demanding religious freedom, but that there is ample evidence that thousands of students are behind the demand for religious justice in the opportunities to practise mediumship and lead the world to a better understanding of psychic and spiritual forces.

If any Lyceumist or Church member has not already joined the students in their studies surely there is no better inducement can be offered than that all who do so are proving themselves worthy of their religion in the eyes of those who are responsible for making the laws of the land in which we live.

CHEETHAM HILL bids farewell to Mr. Tinker.

On Sunday, September 21st, our morning Session was conducted by Mr. Tinker prior to his leaving England for South Africa.

We had a good attendance, ten other Lyceums being represented, also the B.S.L.U. by Miss Elliott, and the Manchester and Salford L.D.C. by Miss Ashton. We had a most enjoyable time, and all present extended greetings and good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Tinker. The Cheetham Hill Lyceumists presented to Mr. Tinker a wallet and to Mrs. Tinker a case of coat-hangers. We wish them every success and happiness.—F. Gershon, Sec.

The Management Committee at Parkgate.

The M.C. of the B.S.L.U. will hold a

LYCEUM PROPAGANDA OPEN SESSION

in the Parkgate Spiritualist Church,
Ashwood Road, Parkgate, nr. Rotherham,
at 2-30 p.m. on Sunday, 12th Oct., 1930.

In the evening a LYCEUM PROPAGANDA MEETING
will be held.

The President of the B.S.L.U., MRS. V. G. REYNOLDS,
will take the CHAIR.

Hymn Sheets will be provided.

NOTE.—A Ham Tea will be provided at a charge of 1s. each.
Friends travelling from Leeds and Wakefield to Parkgate
can come direct by Burrow's 'Bus.

THANKS.

We gratefully appreciate the financial help given to the
B.S.L.U. by Lyceums, Lyceumists and Friends. More money
is needed to carry on the work.

Anyone can become a Patron of the Union by subscribing
2s. 6d. or more to the Funds.

The Supplementary Fund needs your support if we are to
meet the expenses during 1930.

Donations to the Special Funds are as follows:—

GUARANTEE FUND. H.G. £1, "Cutlery" 10s. Total
received during 1930, £10.

CAPITATION FUND. Total received during 1930, £9 11s. 7d.

PATRON FUND. Mr. J. E. Ball 5s., Mr. A. H. Colbourne,
2s. 6d. Total received during 1930, £3 2s. 6d.

SUPPLEMENTARY FUND. Mrs. M. E. Pickles £1. Total
received during 1930, £28 14s. 9d.

THE LYCEUM MANUAL.

The attention of Lyceums is drawn to the fact that
the Annual Conference has decided that the present
edition of the Lyceum Manual shall be continued
without revision for at least another ten years.

The Minister of Education says "It is a splendid
book." We would like to hear of every Lyceumist
possessing his or her own copy.

THE S.N.U. FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.

The title of this fund needs no advertisement. We
are glad to receive all donations in aid of needy old
mediums and workers.

Ten shillings a month is all that the funds will allow
for the veterans who have pioneered Spiritualism and
blazed the trail when our subject was unpopular.

It is sometimes said we are not replacing the old
Mediums and it can also be said that we have neglected
some of the old workers who are still amongst us; too
old and infirm to work any longer. Their burdens can
be made lighter by your gratitude.

If this little appeal reaches the right people; those
who are grateful for what Spiritualism has brought to
them, we are sure there will be some small sacrifice
made for the old folks.

Send your donations to the BANNER office or to Miss
Stair, 32B., North Street, Keighley, Yorkshire, and it
will be broadcast to the homes where its appreciation
will be experienced. Respond to this invitation as
you would to a birthday party. R.S.V.P.

S.N.U. Fund of Benevolence.

23rd ANNUAL APPEAL.

Fellow Spiritualists and Lyceumists.

Again the time has come to make the Annual Appeal on be-
half of the old workers.

Without this appeal we could do little, for year by year the
work grows larger, more money is needed, and our old workers
are rapidly advancing to that stage where a little help from the
Fund is a blessing. A goodly number of them are in receipt
of the old age pension, and with a small grant from the Fund
are able to enjoy their latter days by their own fireside, a privi-
lege which every Britisher values, for his home is his castle,
and these old workers are worthy of our help and sympathy.

Since our last appeal, I am afraid times have not improved,
but we shall have these dear old souls with us in the body, whose
lives can be made brighter through a small sacrifice on our part.

Whatever measure of religious freedom we enjoy to-day is
largely due to their labours in the past, and I feel sure you will
not be lacking in doing your part to help the Fund for another
year's work.

The pensioners watch with interest the response to this Annual
Appeal, and their letters of gratitude and appreciation for the
help received testify to the good work the Fund is doing. All
the work is voluntary—only the bare cost of postage and sta-
tionery is expended; all the money collected goes for the benefit
of those for whom the Appeal is made. Surely most of you can
give up some little luxury, if only for one week, and this little
put into the Church's collecting box, or forwarded direct to the
Honorary Secretary, will be appreciated.

The Fund exists to help those who cannot help themselves,
through sickness and old age. During 1929 we gave in grants
£462, and the income was £523 10s. od. 546 grants were sent
to over 50 pensioners for long and short periods, but to do this
the Reserve Fund was drawn upon to the extent of £25, and now
stands at only £186. Think what this means and let us receive
at least sufficient money for a whole year's work. At the present
time the grants are inadequate to meet most of the needy
cases. The Committee feel they must not let their generosity
run away with them and allow the Fund to be depleted entirely,
or the work will be seriously hindered. The ages of most of
these old people range from 70 to 87 years of age and at present
other needy cases require assistance.

To those Churches who have contributed in past years, we
again solicit your help. To those who have as yet scarcely
realised their responsibility in a National sense, we ask your
consideration of this appeal and await a favourable response.

The Fund is yours, for your workers—those who have worked
in Societies or on the platform for a number of years and are
really in need of help. It is estimated that in our Union we
have over 30,000 members. Just think how much the Fund
would benefit if we all contributed our share, say 6d. at least.
I know you have local funds, many of you, but let me appeal
to the National Spirit which slumbers in the breast of so many,
and urge every one to help.

What say you, fellow Spiritualists and Lyceumists? You
can do your share to help with a long pull, and a strong pull,
and a pull all together. Will you, dear friends, *do your part*
and again show your brotherhood in a practical manner?

I wish to thank all those Societies who have contributed to
the Fund's needs in the past, and hope for a continuance in the
future. Thanks are also due to the Editors of the *Two Worlds*,
Light, *The Lyceum Banner* and *The National Spiritualist*, for
inserting reports and appeals and for assistance in many ways.

All donations will be published in the usual way. See to
it that your Church's name and also the Lyceum is included,
for I feel confident the children would help if they were asked to
do their share.

Please do not forget the date, October 19th, and let us have
your best collection.

All donations to be sent to the Honorary Secretary.

I remain, with grateful thanks,
(MISS) MARY L. STAIR, Hon. Sec.,
32B, North Street,

Keighley, Yorks.

Cheques payable to M. L. Stair.



Dear Little Imps,

October brings us happy times indoors, when our own games, and our story books have to make up our play-time. Isn't it a treat to find out all over again, that indoors can be just as jolly as out of doors? If you haven't enough story books, why not make one? Just fasten some pieces of brown paper together to make a "book," and paste into it all the stories and verses and pictures which you like. If the stories have no pictures, draw them. If the pictures have no stories, write them. You will find that making your own books will fill many happy hours.

You will all have heard about the elves who helped the poor shoemaker. But I don't think you can have heard about the magic shoes which they made.

THE MAGIC SHOES.

One night, ever so long ago, four little elves were at work in the shoemaker's shop. The first little elf cut up leather. The second little elf stitched the pieces together. The third little elf made "soles" and "heels" and the fourth little elf hammered in the nails. They were all very busy indeed, and for a long time they worked without speaking. Nothing could be heard but the sound of "snip, snip, snip," "stitch, stitch, stitch," and "hammer, hammer, hammer."

The four little elves were so hard at work, that, for a time, they did not hear the quiet knocking at the door. Outside, waited an impatient little elf, who had just had a very big idea. When no-one answered his knock, the little elf called out, "Hello, there! Please let me in. I've such a splendid idea. I *must* tell you all about it." The four little elves stopped working, and one of them opened the door for their little visitor. In bustled merry, little, Mr. Redcap.

"Making more shoes, you busy elves? I've a lovely new idea. Why don't you make some *magic shoes*, for a change? People would like them, and buy them, and we would enjoy the fun, even more than the people themselves." "Magic shoes? How can we make magic shoes? Do you mean shoes that won't keep still and must go on walking or dancing?" "No! no! no!" laughed Redcap. "I mean shoes which never grow tired." If you would only make shoes like that, you would make so many people happy. Do try, please, you clever shoemakers!" The four elves listened to Redcap, smiled, and promised to make some magic shoes. "We'll cut, and stitch and hammer with thoughts that never grow tired," said they. "Surely that will make magic shoes!"

When morning came, and the four little elves went

home, they had left four pairs of magic shoes amongst the just ordinary shoes in the shop. They had made magic shoes to fit a man, a woman, a boy and a girl. Each little elf asked a fairy friend to watch what happened to those shoes. Of course, the shoemaker didn't know. He thought all the shoes in his shop were just like yours and mine, and very often grew tired.

Mr. Slowman wanted some new shoes. He tried ever so many pairs but was very sure that only the one pair would do. They were magic shoes. He decided to wear the new shoes, and carry the old ones home. Mr. Slowman stepped into the street slowly, and began to walk slowly homeward. He never, never, hurried—and always his walking was as slow as his name. Magic shoes were never made for slow folks, and somehow, he couldn't understand why Mr. Slowman's steps grew quicker and quicker—until he was actually running. Everybody stopped to stare, and some people wondered whether to send for a doctor or a policeman! Mr. Slowman running! What would happen next? Mr. Slowman wondered about that, too, for all that day he found he could only run, and never walk, until, at bedtime, he changed into his house slippers. Then, once more, he became slow. He couldn't understand it at all, and the strangest thing was, that his feet were not even tired.

Betty and Basil were twins, and Grandad had promised them new shoes for their sixth birthday. He went with them to choose them at the shoemaker's shop. Strange to say, they both chose magic shoes, and Mummy promised they could wear them that day, and all through their birthday party. The children were delighted, but Mummy and Dad soon began to wonder what was happening. Now Betty was a very quiet little girl, who loved to just look at picture books. To-day, she couldn't sit still. She couldn't even walk, but danced wherever she went. Even whilst she helped Basil to light the candles on the birthday-cake, her feet kept wanting to dance, and just wouldn't keep still. It is really very awkward when, even at a party, your feet keep dancing about under the tea-table. Basil was a little tomboy—who generally made a dreadful noise with his feet. That day he tripped about like any fairy girl. He played at Scouts with his boy friends, but found he could only trip—and Scouts aren't expected to trip on parade, are they? Only at bed-time did the children's feet stop their dancing and tripping. Mother only thought they didn't want bed-time—when they said that their feet were not the least bit tired!

Poor Mrs. Truelove needed new shoes. She was a widow with five children, and somehow, she always seemed to be so busy, and yet she was very cheery. Mrs. Truelove, never told her three little boys, and her two small girls, that nearly always when they were in bed, her feet were so very tired that she wished she might be in bed early too. Then she bought those magic shoes, and she thought she had never felt so gay and so lively. She had had *such* a busy day, baking and cleaning and shopping, that she had been walking or standing nearly all day. Yet, she was ever so surprised, that her feet didn't ache one bit, that night. "I've never had shoes like these before," she cried. "Why it feels like walking on air. I do hope they are always so comfy," and a very happy Mrs. Truelove went to bed that night long after the children were asleep.

Four little shoemaker elves listened to the stories told by their fairy friends. They laughed about Mr. Slowman, and they laughed about Betty and Basil, but when they heard about Mrs. Truelove, they cheered with joy. "The next time Mr. Redcap calls," they said, "we shall tell him that we shall make magic shoes just for the mothers with so many things to do." "Yes," said the fairies, "all the Mrs. Trueloves in the world would be glad of magic shoes. You'll need to put some love-thoughts in with your never-tired-thoughts, as you cut, and stitch and hammer, if they are to be really magic shoes."

Cheerio, Imps,
Lots of love from

MEG.

Lyceum Manual Test, No. 22.

Another very disappointing month with only 20 entries, these including 8 from my own Lyceum at Portsmouth. Not one attempt from London Lyceums this time, and one wonders whether the officers ever call attention to the BANNER or encourage their scholars to enter. One London Lyceumist had to write me for a copy of the paper as it was unobtainable at the Lyceums she visited.

The correct answers to the Junior Test are:—

1. S.C.R. 10.—Verse 5.
2. S.C.R. 76.—Verse 3.
3. G.C.R. 117.—3rd and 4th lines.
4. G.C.R. 138.—14th Lyceum part.
5. S.C.R. 1 and M.R. 229.
6. L. S. 418.—Verse 4.

The prizes have been sent to:—

Marion Walker, aged 12, Harpurhey, Manchester, for a fine attempt containing 4½ correct answers.

Gordon Snook, aged 11, Bighi, Malta, with 5 correct. Honourable mention is due to Arnold Raymond (Bootle), Laurence Harding (Bristol), and Sylvia Durman (Portsmouth).

The correct answers in the Senior Section are:—

- | | | |
|-----|--|--------|
| 1. | Programme (10). G.C.R. 148. | Marks. |
| | L.S. 313. L.S. 388. | 4 |
| 2. | M.R. 207 | 1 |
| 3. | Death (G.C.R. 113). | 1 |
| 4. | S.C. 97. G.C.R. 109 | 2 |
| 5. | S.C. 51. S.C. 60. S.C. 90. L.S. 303 | 4 |
| 6. | Chas. Swain. | 1 |
| 7. | S. C. 20. G.C. 141. L.S. 343. Outlines of Spiritualism (at end of book) | 4 |
| 8. | On title page, and immediately following the Index. | 2 |
| 9. | S.C. 44. G.C. 136 (twice). G.C. 146. G.C. 147. | 5 |
| 10. | "A pure heart, a sound head, and a peaceful spirit" (S.C. 66.) "Merit" (M.R. 214), and "All that is noble, virtuous, good and kind in our lives" (M.R. 212). | 3 |
| 11. | Work. (W or K). | 1 |
| 12. | A Psalm of Life. | 1 |
| | | — |
| | Total | 29 |

The prizes have been awarded to:—
Helen Jones, aged 17, of Attercliffe, Sheffield, 16

marks. Reuben Grice, aged 17, of R.A.F. Station, Ruislip, 14 marks. Mrs. E. Paling, of Beeston, Notts. 19 marks.

Honourable mention is due to Dorothy Snook (Malta); Mrs. Cretney (Liverpool); Mrs. Lea (Southsea), Mrs. Rose (Southsea); Mrs. Gershon (Manchester) each of whom had over half marks.

I do not propose to set a test for the Seniors this month but will appeal to them to try and interest the younger scholars in the "Manual" and the BANNER and if necessary give the coupons from their own papers to these Juniors as an encouragement to try.

The test for the Juniors is as follows:—

LYCEUM MANUAL TEST, NO. 23. JUNIOR SECTION.

Age not to exceed 14 years. Two half-crowns for the best attempts from a boy and girl.

Put the following lines in their proper order and say where you can find them in the Manual.

1. The morning chime we listen for.
2. Mind a happy man makes a sound.
3. So the angels told me.
4. No light I hear, no sound I see.
5. Of the soul and the sparrow bee.
6. Of the good we sow but seeds.
7. Heavenly echoes from the sweet state.
8. Be in the good that is to ring.
9. They do as then vex us now.

TEST COUPON No. 23.

Name

Address

Age (if under 21).....

All entries must be sent to Mr. J. G. Macfarlane, 6, St. Piran's Avenue, Copnor, Portsmouth, not later than October 20th, 1930.

LETTER BOX.

Dear Sir,—May I pen a few words to express my sincere thanks for your article in the last issue of THE BANNER, in reference to "Calendar of Saints." I am sure that I write on behalf of Lyceumists everywhere for the added interest THE BANNER has given us, and we shall look forward with pleasure to those that are to follow.

CALENDAR OF SAINTS.

It is through getting to understand the lives of those who have lived before us, and who have come to us again and again in spirit manifestations, that we know something of what progress means spiritually and materially. To sum up in a few words, they were men and women of vision, and by vision let us not confuse it with mere clear-sightedness, but in its deepest and truest sense—insight. They were men and women who dug under the surface of the hard crust of life and got to the heart of things. They were not content and—let us be thankful—did not take the easy path of least resistance. At the cost of health, reputation and even life itself, they gave their message to the world, and won for us a glorious inheritance. We owe much to our Saints. We have entered into the harvest of their labours and need to get the still widespread and crude idea rooted out, i.e., that God is out of reach, shut off from us as a supernatural being; creeds and dogmas can go. This only is essential, that we are spiritual beings, part of a Divine mind, which we term as God, his goodness flowing through all life, linking us together by a chain of Fatherly Love. We must look for his action in our own lives.

VICTOR W. MANN,
Asst. Sec., Smethwick Lyceum.

OUR MUTUAL AID BUREAU.

MR. HAIGH'S VIEWPOINT.

We are agreed on the point of replicas of our physical body and bodily organs persisting in the Spirit World. We have direct evidence of the former in clairvoyant testimony and in that of the phenomena of materialisation. I consider it a rational view that these bodies are organised. Spiritualistic mediumship, if we accept its reality, abounds with proof of replicas of feelings and emotions persisting in the Spirit World, just as surely as replicas of form.

A more interesting point to me, however, is: *If the "Spirit" World is another "material" world—only made of a different kind of matter—where do progress and evolution come in?*

In this question are suggested three things, viz., Spirit, Matter and Progress or Evolution. That is, Spirit, Matter, and One Aspect of the interaction of Spirit and Matter—one aspect of Life. To complete a foundation for our philosophy we must add another—Involution.

I should like, if possible, to *dive through* the ideas surrounding this subject or question, and come up on the other side of it. So—on Orthodox lines: In the beginning was God, dual in nature, God-Spirit and God-Substance, Positive and Negative, irresistible Activity and immovable Mass. To me "in the beginning of manifestation," between two acts of Creation—if one can visualise it; when Spirit, which had been in manifestation, had returned to its Source, and Matter to its state of complete inertia.

You will say that I am making a great call upon your imagination—but I want you to imagine that YOU were the one dilatory Spirit, who arrived too late to take part in this new outflow of Spirit and were thereby condemned to be a looker-on, not an actor, in this new manifestation. I am sure that you would have a grand experience. First, the stupendous shattering, by the Spirit, of Matter into seeming nothingness, and the mating in essence of Spirit and Matter. This seeming Nothingness was formless and void of forms, but infinitely responsive, Wedded Spirit responding to the call of its parent—Body (this was visualised by Andrew Jackson Davis) after long ages of condensation, as the "Fire-Mist." In the beginning of formation, God created all things perfect: Universe, atoms, plants and herbs of the field; even Man was perfect before any manifestation was expressed in material—or, as is said of plants and herbs of the field, *before they grew*: before they were in the ground. What a human sequence—the Thought, the Plan, the material Structure; the Thought, the Thought-form, the physical Embodying of the Thought-form.

How shall we define a manifestation? A point in the Nature-Body where God-Spirit is finding expression. What is Involution? The wrapping of Spirit, Thought-form, in material; the crucifixion of Spirit upon the cross of Matter. What is Evolution? The re-arranging, unwrapping, unfolding and discarding of the cruder wrapping; the resurrection of Spirit so that the perfection of Thought may be expressed. What is Creation? The God-like stupendous and instantaneous fulfilment of Purpose, when Thought and Act are one. Again, what is Evolution? The expression of the stupendous Patience of God; by infinitesimal steps,

infinitely varied, He approaches His Purpose, each labour-filled moment stretching towards Eternity. The difference between the two—Creation "whole" or "piecemeal."

Now, what of the God-Head? We have the choice of two conceptions; one, that of an infinitely Unknowable, Incomprehensible Something—and as such extremely mysterious and not very helpful; the other, a Human God which Man has made in his own image, has realised, and is perfecting as he himself evolves. Is Parenthood Man's highest ideal?—then God is our "Father-Mother God. Is Love Man's highest conception?—then, to Man, God is "Love." Of the God-Head Man conceives infinite Will, Wisdom and Power. In the beginning of manifestation, God involved His perfect Thought-forms in the homogeneous mass which He had conditioned, each Becoming a point in that Nature-Body where he purposed to find expression.

As a "looker-on" you would realise this when great centres of activity became manifest, primal substance whirling at a stupendous rate about its radiant centre: God's Thought. You would see these whirling creations condensing as matter sought to return to its pre-Creation state, until partially solidified structures, great globes of fire, were whirling along ordered paths through an eternity of seeming space. With God you "moved (or brooded) upon the face of the deep," when one orb became Heaven and Earth, which was as yet without forms. To counteract the return of matter to its pre-Creation condition, God instituted laws; He embodied them as universal Powers—the wind, rain, heat, cold, waves and chemical action. As a looker-on you witnessed the three outpourings of Thought-forms to establish the Kingdoms upon the Earth. You saw Will, Wisdom and Power manifested in the Mineral Kingdom—solidity and strength, art, science and beauty, in the structure of rock and precious stone alike. You saw beauty and variety of colour and form, and also growth, in the Vegetable Kingdom; art and science, growth, movement and purposive action in the Animal Kingdom. In the snowflake, the mineral crystal, seeds, the dandelion with its fairy wings to waft it afar, the fir-cone with its many seed divisions, and the acorn with its strong casings—in all you saw manifested art, science, the power of formation, beauty and utility. You marvelled at the beauty, art, and scientific adaptation of the physical body and its internal organisation, and the Life which informed all. You noted the progress in form and in expression; you heard Man, seemingly born in the middle of things, ask of the heavens—as he looked backward into the past and forward into the future—"What am I? Am I Spirit or Form? I am evolving, truly, but is it a spiritual evolution, or one of material formation, or both? What is Spirit, Soul, Spirit-Body and the Spirit-World?" And you, from out of your experience, answer—"Spirit is God; Soul is that Perfect Thought representing your place in Infinite Purpose; Spirit-body is the first wrapping about the Perfect Thought, and the first step upon the path of Involution. The Spirit World is your immediate environment, from which the material of your Spirit body may be replenished." To some you would say that the Soul is equipped with innumerable permanent atoms, atoms vibrating at tremendous rates; that the Spirit, active through each in turn, clothed itself first with the substances which responded to its highest vibrations—

that is, the most responsive material into which it plunged in the fulfilment of its purpose, material which did not altogether cause it to forget its Spirithood or (shall we put it?) cause it to lose consciousness of its Spirithood. To all you would say that Man, clothed in his spiritual and physical bodies, manifests qualities as the prism manifests colours; that the white light of Spirit is graded into qualities as the sun's light is graded into colours, from infra-red to ultra-violet—from selfishness to perfected Selfhood, which is selfless; from ignorance to knowledge; from the inarticulate to the articulate. So Spirit emerges from its disabilities within the meshes of Material to the freedom of its Spirithood. So does Formation keep pace with, precede or follow, the freeing of Spirit. Progress comes as we come to KNOW God as Father, and under all circumstances strive to honour that relationship.

Correspondence.

Question:—Can you supply our Lyceum with a set of Standing Orders suitable for Lyceums?

Answer:—A model set of Standing Orders' is printed below.

G. F. KNOTT, *Editor*.

MODEL STANDING ORDERS.

1. Any person may become a member of this Lyceum, if approved by the Committee, after — attendances have been made at the Lyceum Sessions.
2. The Annual and Quarterly Meetings of the Lyceum shall be arranged by the Conductor and Secretary.
3. The secretary shall give notice of the meeting at the Lyceum Session(s) one (or two) week(s) prior to the date of the meeting.
4. Special meetings shall be arranged by the Conductor and Secretary as urgent business requires consideration and decision.
5. The Conductor shall preside at the meetings. In his (her) absence, when no assistant Conductor has been appointed, any Officer or member of the Committee shall be elected Chairman of the meeting.
6. The Agenda shall be prepared by the Secretary and handed to the Chairman. The meeting shall have power to add items to the Agenda for discussion.
7. Except with the special consent of the meeting the mover of a resolution shall be limited to five minutes, and each subsequent speaker to three minutes. No member shall be allowed to speak more than once, except the mover of a resolution, who shall have the right of a three minutes reply. (Except under (a) and (b) of No. 15). The mover, in replying, shall not be allowed to introduce any new matter.
8. When an amendment to any motion is made, no further amendments shall be considered until the first one has been disposed of.
9. If a first amendment be carried it shall displace the original motion and become itself the question, whereupon any further amendment may be moved.
10. If a first amendment be negatived, subsequent amendments to the original motion may be moved.
11. The mover of an amendment has no right of reply to the discussion.
12. The method of voting shall be that a separate vote shall be taken for and against each amendment.
13. When the final motion has obtained a majority vote, a Substantive Vote shall be taken and the Chairman shall declare the subject of the motion carried or lost, according to the votes given for and against the Substantive Vote.
14. A Substantive vote is not necessary when only a motion is voted on without any amendment having been moved.
15. The following formal motions may be moved and seconded at any stage of the discussion. No discussion is allowed on these motions.
 - (a) To adjourn the discussion.
 - (b) To proceed to the next business (that the question be not now put).
 - (c) That the question be now put.
16. No complaint shall be made against the personal conduct of any Lyceumist by another Lyceumist in any meeting or Lyceum Session.
17. An Official Grumbler shall be appointed whose duty it shall be to receive complaints against the conduct of any member.
18. The Official Grumbler shall lay any complaint before the Conductor and Secretary, who shall deal with the complaint, or, if considered sufficiently serious, call a Committee Meeting to which the two people concerned shall be summoned. An attempt shall be made to conciliate the difference of opinion, failing which, the decision of the Lyceum Committee shall be binding on the members concerned in the grievance. Any Lyceumists may finally appeal to be disciplined by the Lyceum General Meeting.
19. The Standing Orders shall also include the Constitution and Bye-laws of the B.S.L.U., as at present in force, or as may be amended by any Annual Conference of the B.S.L.U.
20. Any Member absenting himself from the Lyceum for eight consecutive weeks shall be notified of his (her) absence. If no attendances are made during any consecutive 13 weeks the Lyceumists will be considered as having automatically resigned, and his (her) name shall be erased from the Lyceum Register.

Charity.

BY CHAS. W. DIXON, A.N.S.C.

The dictionary defines charity as universal love: the disposition to think favourably of others: almsgiving. There is also a saying that charity should begin at home. I firmly believe that all good things should begin and be practised in the home life, for it is there that we train ourselves and the younger members of the family to realise our duty to each one of the community. I also firmly believe this may grow into selfishness at times, for I have found some homes where charity, although considered a virtue among its members, has been allowed to remain as such in the home only, no attempt having been made to carry it into the outside world.

It has been said we have quite enough to do to look after ourselves without having to worry about the people outside.

If men and women would realise by extending the hand of charity to those in need, that not only happiness would spring up within themselves, but the world would so reach a condition of harmony that happiness which is a spiritual virtue would blossom forth like the flowers in spring.

How should charity be put into general practice? Should we give to everybody who appears to be in so-called difficulties, and would we be doing them justice by doing so? These are questions which require a tremendous amount of thought followed by wise judgment.

For instance the beggar in the street to whom you may give a coin or two, are you really helping him to improve his position, or are you helping to make him lazy? or on the other hand are you lightly shifting a responsibility from your shoulders by thinking no more about it after having tendered your coin or two to him?

Many people think they have shown great charity by giving a large donation to some charitable institution, afterwards expecting to see their names in a prominent position in the press, and would be very upset if their name did not appear there.

I think that charity should be extended to all to the best of our ability, but we must precede charity with knowledge, first of all endeavour to find out the cause of the trouble, having found the cause then we should do all in our power to find ways and means to remove the cause, by setting into operation machinery for reform.

It is not always necessary to give alms, but it is necessary to extend to all, love, Swedenborg said—The Divine Essence is Love and Wisdom, for these two are the essentials of all things in men's lives. Realising this we should be able to extend our charity wisely, because Wisdom which is knowledge rightly applied will help us to find the right way.

I will give the following quotation from a theosophical work which in my opinion shows how charity should be put into practice.

To feel to every child as you would feel towards your own, and as willing to help any one in trouble as you would be to help your own brother, then you have made the splendid transmutation of a personal emotion into a universal virtue, and you realise why love lies at the root of all virtues, and why its opposite, hate, is the root of all vice that disintegrates and destroys things worth living for.

We cannot at once catch the applause of the vulgar and expect the approbation of the wise.

Some men make parties: some parties make men.

Philosophers must bear bravely: the people expect it.—Seneca.

The man who groans with reason deserves pity rather than reproach.

District Visitors' Reports.

COVENTRY AND DISTRICT, Norman Avenue, Lyceum, Nuneaton.—It was a nice Session with 72 present. Prompt

start. Marching and callisthenics were good. Singing good. This is our largest Lyceum, and promises some good workers.

Stoke Lyceum, Ball Hill.—24 present. Readings were good. Singing was fair. Marching and callisthenics done nicely. This is a growing Lyceum, and hopes to join the Council next year.

Broadgate Lyceum, Cox Street.—27 present. Prompt start. Readings were good. Singing was good. Marching and callisthenics were carried out well. Good discussions in the Groups. There is the making of a good Lyceum.

LEEDS DISTRICT, Hull, Dairycoates, August 31st. 39 present. Silver Chain good. Explanations by Conductor and children. Musical Reading; three children gave good explanations. The Golden Chain was a long reading for young Lyceumists.

Hull, Holborn Hall, September 7th.—12 present. Silver Chain; interesting discussion. 12 pearls with explanations were very good. It was an unorthodox Session, but full of interest.—A Daisley, jr., D.V.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT.—Officially this is a District Visitor's Report, but I wish to be known—unofficially—as the District Encourager, so look at the comments below and beat it next time. One likes the attitude of the majority of the Lyceums in asking me to give their fraternal greetings to every other Lyceum I visit. On most occasions a real good welcome has awaited me, and also I must extend thanks to those who have so kindly entertained me.

I visited Darnall on May 25th, and found quite a good sprinkling of elders. 48 present; a very good attendance in accordance with the register. Marching and callisthenics were done very well. Explanation of G.C.R. was satisfactory. The singing was up to standard, and readings were quite good. There was an exceptionally large number of small children present, little buds ready to burst open into beautiful flowers.

On June 1st, I visited Gifford Road, Heeley Lyceum. The smaller children show aptitude in the marching and callisthenics. The M.R. was made very interesting by the various experiences which were told relative to the Spirit World. This Lyceum has quite a commendable idea in presenting, at the appropriate time, birthday cards. The Session was gone through in nice time. Large number of young people present, who take an active part in the Lyceum.

Whit-Sunday morning found me at Chesterfield, Low Pavement. Good start with a nice few present. S.C.R., 58 was taken; the reading being extra good. Explanations on the M.R. were bright and brief. The Lyceum went into Group Session, and I was favourably impressed with both the subjects under review, and the manner in which the children were taught. The conduct of the Lyceum was excellent, and on the whole it was a very homely Session.

In the afternoon, I went to the Hollins Lane Lyceum. A goodly number were present. Callisthenics were done fairly well, the square march also being done well. The readings were as good as one could wish. The Lyceum, on the whole, seems well organised. An enjoyable afternoon was spent in their company.

A prompt start was made at Doncaster, Catherine St., when I visited them on June 15th. The marching and callisthenics were done very fair. The singing was of a hearty character, and there was a large number of recitations in the Individual efforts. Explanations by the various readers of the M.R. showed progressive ideas. One couldn't grumble at the conduct of the Lyceum, and one notes that this Lyceum is no waster of time.

I found another prompt starter in the Wombwell Lyceum, when I visited them on June 22nd. There was a 100 per cent. attendance—very good indeed. The Chain and Square Marches were done in a fine manner. The invocation and benediction were eminently suitable for young children. A great number of pearls were given. Large number of small children present. One the whole the Lyceum was good.—J. Le Noury, D.V.

SOUTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT, Heywood, William Street, September 14th.—Although the members are very low the pioneers are still holding on. Our thanks to Mr. Jim Lord, Mr. Purcell, and Mr. Marcroft, for plodding on under great difficulties, and may their labours be rewarded to the full in the very near future.

There were 12 present, and a morning was well spent,

which I shall not forget. Hoping that on my next visit I shall see William Street well paid for their efforts.

On Sunday afternoon, September 14th, I visited B.M.U. Lyceum, Heywood, but found that owing to trade depression and non-attendance of adults to take up office, and also their Musical Conductor having left the District, this Lyceum had not been opened for a few weeks, but I am glad to state that every effort is being made to continue, as the Lyceum is not defunct.

I sincerely hope the Lyceumists in charge will be able to announce in the near future that they are once again in full swing.—H. Shaw, D.V.

District Council Reports.

UNITED DISTRICTS COUNCIL. Notice of Council Meeting.—The above Council will hold the A.G.M. and Election of Officers on Saturday and Sunday, October 18th and 19th, 1930, in the Sheffield District.

Agenda.—Minutes; Correspondence; Reports—Secretary, Treasurer; Conference; President's Address; Re-organisation; Date and Place of next meetings; Election of Officers.

Will delegates to this meeting please inform the Sheffield D.C. Secretary of their requirements.

Nominations are required for Officers.

J. Shuttleworth, *Secretary*,
8, Shaftesbury Avenue,
Darwen, Lancs.

BOLTON DISTRICT.—On Tuesday, September 23rd, the Bolton L.D.C. held a Social in the Bolton, Bradford Street Church, when the Certificates for the B.S.L.U. Examinations were presented by Mr. G. F. Knott, Gen. Secretary, B.S.L.U., to the successful students from Bolton, Bradford St., Bolton, Henry St., and Bury Lyceums.

In a short speech, Mr. Knott outlined the utility of the Education Scheme, and spoke of the force it was going to be in helping the Spiritualist Bill through Parliament. Mr. Charnley, President of the Council, spoke a few words, and Mr. White and Mr. Jones expressed the thanks of the Council to all helpers.

The proceeds from the Social were £3, and this amount has been sent to Mr. A. T. Connor, as a donation to the funds of the B.S.L.U. Education Scheme.

The best thanks of the Council are extended to Bolton, Bradford Street Church and Lyceum for organising the Social and allowing us the use of their Church for the event.—A. Dean, A.N.S.C. Sec.

COVENTRY DISTRICT.—Our Silver Bell Competition resulted as follows:—Nuneaton, 91 marks; Coventry (Bull Street), 87 marks; Coventry (Broadgate), 86, and Rugby (Sheep Street), 81 marks.

H. BURROWS, A.N.S.C. Sec.

LEEDS DISTRICT.—The Quarterly Conference was held on Saturday, September 13th, in the Wellington Road Church, Dewsbury, at 3-30 p.m. The Conference opened with the singing of Hymn 395. Invocation by our dear old friend, Dad Kitson. The local Welcome by Mr. J. Whittles, was accepted on behalf of the Conference by Mr. L. Tweedale, President.

President's Address.—He welcomed everybody to the Conference, not forgetting Dad Kitson, whom we are always pleased to see with us; also another stalwart for Spiritualism, Mr. Davis, of Castleford, who would, later on in the Conference, have an opportunity of speaking to us. He said we had a lengthy Agenda. We had gathered together to further the Lyceum Cause.

The Silver Bell Competition would be brought before delegates to decide upon. Mr. Whittles, of Dewsbury, was the only one who had accepted the Council's invitation to frame a Scheme for the Competition.

Each Lyceumist was playing an important part in the Lyceum movement. We all ought to take the Education Scheme as laid down by the two Unions, for education was a very necessary thing to-day.

The Minutes of last meeting were accepted, and confirmed after a few questions had been satisfactorily answered.

Correspondence was accepted and filed.

Reports.—The D.V. was instructed to visit Watson St., Normanton, re re-opening. Mr. Daisley's reports of Dairy-

coates and Holborn Hall (Hull) were very interesting, and showed marked progress.

The Field Day Secretary reported abandoning of the Demonstration. The Financial Report showed a deficit. The Auditors gave a report, and the Silver Bell Sub-Committee reported on their business.

The Treasurer's report showed Cash Income, £7 8s. 4½d.; Expenditure, £1 9s. 5d. Balance, £5 8s. 11½d.

The reports were accepted.

Invitations for 1931 Conferences were deferred to December Conference.

Open Council.—A letter of appreciation is to be sent to Castleford Lyceum for covering the deficit on the postponed Demonstration, caused by the terrible explosion at a Chemical Works, when valuable lives were lost. The Secretary's letters of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Barnes (Bradford) for a donation of 5s. 0d., and Mrs. Adamson (Castleford) of £1, were approved. The Council is very grateful for the gifts.

Mr. Davis (Castleford) outlined a scheme suggesting a centre be formed and Lyceumists be elected from various Lyceums in the District, and a course of study be undertaken in various subjects. The cost to be borne by a small subscription. It was finally decided to form a Sub-Committee to deal with the suggested Scheme. Mr. Davis was thanked for his interest and undertaking to formulate this Scheme for our benefit.

Mr. Connor's suggestion was adopted and a Committee was elected, consisting of the Officers.

Re the Silver Bell Scheme of Mr. Whittles: The Secretary was instructed to send a copy to each Lyceum, and a special meeting be called at Dewsbury on November 15th.

The date and place of the December meeting was left for the Secretary to arrange.

The Field Day Notice of Motion, given by Castleford, to amend arrangements re Bands, is to be discussed at the December meeting.

It was agreed that Mrs. Riches (Castleford), the Field Day Secretary, 1930, be thanked and her services recorded in the Minutes. A letter of appreciation is to be sent to her.

Vote of thanks to the Dewsbury friends for the use of the Church for our business, and for such a splendid tea, was moved by the President and seconded by the Secretary.

Roll Call.—Officers, 5; Field Day Secretary, 1; Fraternal Delegate, L.D.C., 1; Honorary Associate, 1; Associates, 2; Delegates, representing 11 Lyceums, 15; Lyceums represented—Armley, Batley Carr, Batley, Castleford, Cleckheaton, Dewsbury, Hemsworth, Normanton (Queen Street), Morley (Queen Street), Psycho (Leeds), Wakefield.—

A. W. Harding, Sec.

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD DISTRICT.—The quarterly meeting of the above Council was held on Saturday, September 6th, in the Droylsden Progressive Lyceum, Durham Street, Droylsden; Mr. R. W. Marks, President, in the chair. The attendance was good, 17 Lyceums being represented by 25 delegates.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Correspondence included an invitation from Newton Heath Lyceum to hold a Demonstration in their district in 1931, and this was referred to Lyceums for consideration and report at next meeting.

The Assistant District Visitor, Mr. P. H. Barlow, tendered his resignation, which was accepted with regret. Miss K. Ellis was appointed Asst. D.V. in his stead.

The E.C. had obtained an estimate for a Silver Bell for the competition of merit, and it was decided to arrange the purchase and solicit the financial aid of Lyceums.

A letter of apology for non-attendance was received from Miss E. Elliott, Vice-President B.S.L.U.

The D.V. and Asst. D.V.'s reports were adopted, and the Conference report given by Mr. Marks was favourably received and thanks given to the delegates.

Arising out of a discussion re a proposed study class for Conductors, the general point of view seemed to be that a class was desired not simply for Conductors, but for all senior Lyceumists, and it was finally decided to give the scheme a trial, and the class will meet on the first Fridays in January, March, June and October, under the chairmanship of an E.C. member; the E.C. to arrange syllabus and provide opening speakers for the various subjects discussed. The first meeting will be held at the Salford Central Lyceum, Chapel Street, Salford, on October 3rd, at 8 p.m., and it is hoped a good number of Lyceumists will attend.

The letter from the Education Committee was discussed, and in view of our present commitments in Committee work, it was decided to review the matter again at our A.G.M. in February, 1931. A committee of five was elected to review our present rules and standing orders and report at next meeting. It was decided to continue with the pooling scheme for the expenses of delegates to Conference, and a hope was expressed that the scheme would continue to flourish.

Matters for discussion at our next meeting include the suggestion that the D.C. approach the Manchester and District Group for representation at their meetings, and inviting them to send a representative to our meetings.

A vote of thanks was given to our Droylsden friends for their kind hospitality.—G. A. Dixon, Sec.

NORTH-EAST CHESHIRE DISTRICT.—On Sunday, September 14th, we held a Massed Session at Stockport Central Lyceum.

There were representatives from Ashton-under-Lyne, Macclesfield, Hyde, and Heaton Norris.

Mrs. Edwards, President of the Council, conducted the Session.

Each officer of the Council was presented with a rose by Miss A. Springate. Mrs. Ennion expressed the thanks of the Council.

The Silver Chain Recitation was conducted by Mr. Dransfield, of Ashton-under-Lyne, who is a past President of the Council. Delegates from Ashton, Macclesfield, Heaton Norris and Hyde took part in the Musical Reading, and gave good expressions of thought.

Marching consisted of forming the word "Love." Callisthenics were well done.

Mrs. Edwards announced she had a pleasing duty to perform, and that was to present to Master Lewis Smith the prize awarded by the Council to the Lyceumist under the age of 14, who gained the highest number of marks in the B.S.L.U. examinations in our District.

The prize offered by Mr. Springate for the adult members, was won by Mr. L. Wakefield. The prize in each instance was an Officer's Manual.

The Conductor then asked for greetings, as the time was too advanced to allow individual efforts. Greetings were given from Ashton, Hyde, Heaton Norris and Macclesfield. Mr. H. Ennion replied for Stockport, and Mrs. Edwards replied on behalf of the Council.

In the evening a Service was held, at which the Officers of the Council were the speakers. Madam Laura Ward was the soloist. Madam Ward and Mr. Ennion rendered a duet.—E. Lloyd, Sec.

NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.—The quarterly meeting was held at Blackpool, on Saturday, September 20th.

Mr. Batley was unable to be present and Mr. Latham opened the meeting.

The Minutes were taken as read. The Secretary stated only seven written promises had been received about the Summer School.

The expenses of the E.C. and Delegates attending meetings was referred back. A resumé of the discussion will be compiled by the Secretary and sent to the Lyceums.

The Secretary gave a detailed report of pooling, 1924-1930.

The Treasurer reported an income of £4 12s. 10½., Expense £11 15s. 6d. The expenses are owing to the Cottage Fund.

Credential Report—Officers, 4; Delegates, 15; Associates, 1; District Visitors, 2; Total, 22. Lyceums represented, 8. Not represented, 16. Pooling Expenses, 13s. per Lyceum.

Mr. Dickenson gave the B.S.L.U. Conference Report, in which he mentioned the special items, especially relating to the Education Scheme.

It was decided to only send one delegate to the U.D.C. meeting and the Burnley, North Street Lyceum's resolution be forwarded to the U.D.C.

It was carried that the D.V. make the visits to Lyceums which the E.C. consider are necessary.

It was agreed not to include the cost of teas in the pooling of expenses.

The Council decided to act as Agents for the Education Scheme and the National Spiritualist College.

A Vote of Thanks was given to the Blackpool friends.

The Secretary promised to write Mr. Batley re his sickness and absence.

The next meeting will be held at Lancaster, Gt. John Street Lyceum, on December 6th.

The Editor thanks those Lyceums who have increased the "Banner" orders.

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.

DUNEDIN, N.Z.—August 17th was Open Session during a glorious day of sunshine. A few visitors present. Pearls by all, and recitations by Irene Bachop, Joan Hargreaves, Lorraine Hoyne, Joy Thurston, Frances Anthony, Jean McConnell, Garnet Asher, Edith and Jean Robinson, and Mr. Stables, Church President; reading by Mrs. McConnell and Miss Burgess. Song by Mr. Gore.

In reply to Macclesfield, we have a grandfather and grandchild in our Lyceum, aged 78 and 8.

Greetings to all Lyceums and best wishes for success of BANNER. Miss R. Burgess, Con.-Sec.

MACCLESFIELD.—Our Lyceumists helped to make a very successful time at the Harvest Festival on Sept. 21st and 22nd. During a very nice Session in the morning little Margaret Edge gave a recitation and the tiny Lyceumists sang "Clap your hands for Joy." Marching and callisthenics were well done, under the leadership of Miss Dean. Mrs. Pimblott played the accompaniments.

Afternoon Service. The Lyceumists sang "Again we've met, all hail the Greeting." Mrs. Ida Glenn gave the connecting thoughts, "Haste to the Field of Labour." The children again sang "Clap your hands for Joy," and Mrs. Henshaw and Miss Hulley sang a duet very sweetly. Councillor J. Potts was in the chair.

On Monday night, at a Social, the girls gave "The Trotting March" and also "Country Dance." For each of them they received a well-deserved encore. Songs by Mrs. Edmondson, Mrs. Henshaw and Mr. Massey. Solo dance by Miss Hulley. Each one received an encore. Refreshments and dancing made a very happy close to our Harvest Festival.—Hannah Rushton, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Newton Heath.—August 31st we had two enjoyable meetings at our Open Sessions. Visiting Lyceums were well represented. The Children's individual efforts were ably rendered, and I am sure we are all progressing.

On Sept. 21st we had the pleasure of having once more as our Liberty Group Speaker, Mr. R. W. Marks. His subject was a very interesting and instructive paper on "Personal Responsibility." By the questions that were asked it shows that fresh avenues of thought were opened. At the close a cordial vote of thanks was given in the usual way to Mr. Marks.—R. H. Bayliffe, Sec.

LONDON, Rochester Square.—On September 6th, about 36 children and adults took part in a picnic outing to Queen's Woods, Highgate. The children spent most of their time paddling in the pond, and gathering blackberries. Altogether quite an enjoyable time was spent. We arrived home tired, but happy.

Sunday, September 7th, will ever be remembered as a Red Letter Day to our Lyceum and friends. In the presence of close on 100 people, the baby daughter of our beloved Treasurer and her husband, the Assistant Conductor, was named by Uncle Bert, President of the L.L.D.C. The names are Audrey Jean; spirit name, Rosebud. Each child of the Lyceum was given a flower, which was placed on the baby as they marched slowly past her while the congregation sang "Open the Door for the Children." The significance of this ceremony must be felt in the fact that this is the first baby to be named at our Sessions, and that our Treasurer is always looked upon as the Founder of this Lyceum, and that this little girl was the first to receive the spoon presented by the Council, who, on all other occasions had presented a badge to the babies being named. As most Lyceums also presented badges in this way to their babies, another badge was thought unnecessary, hence the advent of the spoons. Everyone present expressed their pleasure in the ceremony, and it is, I feel sure, one of those events which we will never forget. Uncle Bert had to forego another engagement to officiate on this occasion, but we feel sure he will never regret having done so. The presence of the Angel World was very evident, and we feel sure that this little girl will grow to be an earnest worker in the cause of Spiritualism.—D. M. Jordan, Sec.

NEWCASTLE, Rye Hill.—On September 21st, under the leadership of Mrs. Price, we held our Anniversary Service. A short descriptive poem, entitled "Light," composed by our Conductor, was recited by five of our youngest members, The entire Lyceum then gave a splendid rendering of Mrs. V. G. Reynolds' Musical Recital, "The Reality of God." Solos by Miss J. Price, Miss I. Bilton, and Miss A. Statardo. Quartette by Masters Bilton and Statardo and Misses Hayles and Caris. Duet by Miss S. Rutherford and Miss Statardo.

Great credit is due to the efforts of the children for the success of the service, and to our Musical Conductor, Mrs. Proud, who officiated at the organ.—A. Richardson, Sec.

LYCEUM REPORTS.

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

RULE 2.—Record only the events occurring after Sept. 24th.

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

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

RULE 4.—All Reports must reach this Office not later than October 22nd, to ensure insertion in the November issue.

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

ACCRINGTON, Argyle Street.—On September 14th, Mr. W. Taylor conducted the Session, which was attended fairly well. Readings, pearls and recitations were very good. Marching and callisthenics were enjoyed by all. Musical Director, Mr. Clegg.—F. Holgate, Sec.

ACCRINGTON, Pearl Street.—September 7th, Open Session. The following contributed items. Recitations by Willie Edwards, Jean Chew, Francis Laycock, Walter Swift, Ivy Kenniford, and Nellie Laycock. Solos—Nellie Laycock and Mr. Houlker. Trio—Jean Chew, Francis Laycock, Phyllis Edwards. Duets—Phyllis Edwards and Jean Chew; Alex Taylor and William Crabtree; Bessie and Jean Hilton; Hilda and Walter Swift. Singing, marching and callisthenics were all executed with one accord. Our progression is decidedly stupendous.—W. Hilton, Sec.

BEESTON.—September 7th, Open Session, conducted by Mr. Coulson. Marching by Mr. G. Paling, and callisthenics by Mr. P. Weston, were well done. Silver Chain by Ethel Mellows. Musical Reading by P. and H. Weston and John Wright. Recitations by Elsie Jolliday, Miss Eva Lawey, Miss K. Gore, Miss M. Dable, Mr. R. Gore. Everyone enjoyed the Sessions.—G. Paling, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—September 7th, Open Session. Recitations by Mr. Taylor, Muriel and Annie Watson, Rodney and Edna Jones, Lillian Harding, Leslie Hamilton, and Mr. Edwards, and a little visitor, Edna Kenny. Solos by Mrs. Dean, Jimmy Woodley, Beattie Callaghan. A pianoforte solo by Mr. Whiteley. Three pearls.—D. Dunn, Sec.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter Street.—On August 31st, we held our usual monthly Open Session. Recitations by D. Parker, E. Holding, J. Riley, C. Railton, and A. Mooney. Duets by D. Timmings and D. Parker; J. Robinson and J. Counsell. Mr. G. Mayman was our speaker.

On September 7th, Harvest Sunday. The Church and Lyceum were beautifully decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables. Recitations by O. Parker, E. Holding, A. and C. Railton, M. Wood, J. and I. Entwistle, E. Rothwell. Solo by W. Railton. Duets by D. Timmings and D. Parker; M. Robinson and J. Counsell. Pianoforte solos by M. Lawrence and E. A. Riding. Duologue, A. and E. Derbyshire.

Mrs. E. Holden named the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hardman—earthly name, "June"; spirit name, "Sunbeam." Mrs. J. Greenwood, J.P., presented flowers to the Lyceum children. There were about 200 present, who enjoyed a good Session, ably conducted by Mr. J. N. Railton, our Conductor.—T. Wood, Sec.

BRADFORD, Laisterdyke.—Open Sessions, September 7th, conducted by Mr. Hargreaves. The Silver Chain and Musical Readings were well conducted, quite a good discussion arising therefrom. A very pleasing incident in the afternoon was the distribution of Certificates to 14 successful Candidates in the recent B.S.L.U. Examinations.

—J. Babbs, Sec.

BRISTOL, Providence Hall.—On September 7th, we made a presentation to Dorothy Billet and Alan Rogers, who, having won scholarships, were leaving us to take up residence at their new schools.

CHESTERFIELD.—September 7th, Open Session. Mr. Bown conducted. We had an enjoyable Session. Items by Norman, Kathleen and Evelyn Clemments, Harold and Irene Hobster, Irene and Glyn Cowell, Avis Bown, Leslie Driver, Ivy Hall, Vera Rippon, Mr. Cowell and Mr. Heath.—M. Wheatley, Session Min. Sec.

CLECKHEATON.—Open Session, September 7th, conducted by Miss Robinson. Pearls by Ethel Scholes (2), Miss Wilkinson, Master H. Hoarsley, Irene Wilson, Mr. T. Brooke, Henry Taylor, Gladys Nutter, Lily Watson, Jack Walker, and Mrs. Broadbent. Recitation by Vera Watson. Solos by Henry Taylor and Irene Wilson. Eva Rowley and Ethel Scholes sang a duet. One of our scholars, Mr. T. Brooke, went to Blackpool Lyceum, and fraternal greetings were exchanged. An enjoyable Session was spent.—Miss M. B. Robinson, Sec.

DEWSBURY.—Open Session, August 31st. Conductor, Mr. C. Phillips. Pearls 19. Recitations by Clarissa Phillips, Dorothy Dunn, Margaret Greenwood, Ettie Day and Cyril Hey. Solos by Miss A. Bentley, Miss F. Senior, and Miss M. Hirst. Presentation of Certificates by Mr. A. Kitson, who spoke in an interesting way.

On Monday, we had the Lyceum Rooms beautified by the young men and young ladies of the Lyceum. Mr. W. Hey was in charge of the decorations, assisted by Mr. C. Phillips, Mr. J. Whittles, Mr. N. Greenwood, Mr. A. Holdsworth, Mr. G. Leadbetter, Mr. L. Bland, Mr. H. Gregory, Mr. E. Whitworth, Mr. S. Senior, Mr. A. Oakes, Mr. V. Hartley, Mrs. Hartley, Mrs. Ledgard, Mrs. C. Phillips, Mrs. Gregory, Mrs. Dunn, Miss M. Hirst, Miss F. Senior, Miss N. Whitworth, Miss A. Bentley, Mr. V. Phillips, Mr. E. Wilson.—V. R. Phillips, Sec.

EARBY, Greenend Avenue.—Open Session, September 7th. Recitations by G. Blackburn, O. Wilkins, K. Hodgkinson, D. Taylor, N. Taylor, D. Seddon, F. Clarke, and J. Hancock. Songs by A. Wilkinson, T. Hancock, F. Clarke, W. Hancock, D. Seddon, G. Blackburn, and K. Hodgkinson. A good time was spent together.—Mrs. D. Dawson, Sec.

FLEETWOOD.—September 7th, Open Session. Recitations by Gladys and Jessie Ainsworth, Doris Parkinson, Marie Dews, Minnie Wright, Ruth and Dorothy Harris, and Kathleen Hague. Duets by Violet Forshaw and Ruth Harris; Lily Frith and Irene Watkins; Dorothy Harris and Violet Forshaw; Mary Gibson and Mona Bettess; Ruth Harris and Kathleen Hague. Several good pearls brought our happy Session to a close.

On August 31st, our Conductor named William, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Spencer; Spirit name, "Valiant."—L. Vollans.

GREAT HARWOOD.—September 7th, Open Session. S.C. by Eileen Shaw. M.R. by Mrs. Owen. G.C. by May Pickvance. Recitations by Greta Johnson, May Pickvance, and Annie Aspden. Duet by Mrs. H. Doswell and Mr. W. Doswell. Solo by Miss A. Fletcher.—H. Norris, Sec.

GRIMSBY.—We held our Pleasant Sunday, on September 21st this month, owing to the Musical Conductor's absence—better late than never. Items were nicely rendered by Zita Giles, Mabel Trash, Harry Shaw, Edna Swift, Ethel Robinson, Doris Chapman, Connie Eddington, Georgie and Willie Chapman, and Mr. Ryecroft, after which we had marching and callisthenics. We extend our heartiest wishes to all Lyceumists.—P.S. Sec.

LANCASTER, Alliance.—We held our Flower Sunday on August 24th. Open Sessions were held morning and afternoon, when several recitations and solos were well received by a number of visitors. The evening service was marked by the Naming Service of a daughter of an old Lancaster Lyceumist.—A. F. Rushworth, Sec.

LEICESTER, Liberty Progressive.—Open Session, Sept. 7th. A good attendance of scholars and friends. The

following items were rendered and enjoyed by all present: Solos by Sylvia Garratt, Miss Chamberlain, Mr. H. Jayes. Duets by Mrs. Russell and Miss Ashby; Irene Ashby and Ethel Gamble; Mr. T. Kenney and Miss Ashby. Trio by Lavinia Garratt, Doris Jayes, Doris Garratt. Recitations by Horace Jayes, Jacky Whitbred, Alice Gamble, Miss Frost, Joan Whitbred, Elsie Norman, Elsie Clements, Lavinia Garratt. Pearls were good.—T. Kenney, Sec.

LINCOLN, Coultham Street.—August 26th, the Mayoress, Mrs. Nowel, presented the Certificates to the ten Lyceumists who all passed in the B.S.L.U. Examinations, also the Certificates to the three Officers who had passed the Entrance Grade of the National Spiritualist College Scheme. The chair was taken by the City Sheriff, Mr. H. Green. A very good programme was given by the young Lyceumists. A spray of flowers was presented to the Mayoress. In replying to the vote of thanks, Mr. Green said they had spent a very enjoyable evening.—N. Willey, Sec.

LONDON, Clapham.—The presentation of the B.S.L.U. Examination Certificates on August 21st, by a keen Clapham Lyceumist, has provided a very stimulating influence in confirming S.C. No. 3, and it is with great pleasure that we record our success in the L.L.D.C. Annual Singing and Elocution Competition. Two firsts, a second, a third and a fourth place out of five entrants is certainly very encouraging.—H.R.B.

LONDON, Stratford, Idmiston Road.—Saturday, Sept. 6th, accompanied by many friends the Lyceum spent a glorious day at Thorpe Bay.

September 7th, Open Session. Conductor, Mrs. Soones. Among many enjoyable efforts by Lyceumists was a first address by Miss Chapman. Attendance was nearly 100 per cent. Pearls and explanations of readings showed continued progress. Other efforts were recitations by Rose Gardiner, Doreen Walters, Violet Walters. Song by Molly Stoffer. Violin solo by Maire Connor.—R. H. Bates, Sec.

LONDON, Tottenham and Edmonton.—We are still having bright and harmonious Sessions. Readings, pearls, and items are always up to the standard. Greetings to all Lyceums.—W. H. Markham, Sec.

LONDON, Tottenham, High Road.—In the Silver Medal Competition we secured a first and a third prize for singing, which is good for a new Lyceum.—E. Brimsfield, Session Sec.

LONDON, Walthamstow.—On September 7th, we were visited by two members of the L.L.D.C., Mrs. Calway and Mr. Miles. The happy Session was conducted by Mrs. Calway.—D. Thomas, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Stretford.—September 21st, Open Sessions. The evening Session was very nicely blended with a Naming Ceremony, performed by the Church President, Mrs. Jackson, dedicating Norma Dawson with the spiritual name of "Courage." We presented the Education Certificates to Minnie Partington and Ronald Marsh, A.N.S.C.—Benj. Partington, Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH, Grange Road.—Sunday, September 7th, was Lyceum Sunday, when the Lyceum conducted the Church Services.

In the evening, a musical service was given by the Lyceum children. It was very well attended and appreciated.

The following day, we had a Tea and Concert, which was a great success, both socially and financially.—K. Gibson, Sec.

OLDHAM, Central.—On September 13th, we commenced our Winter Socials. We had a visit from our sister Lyceumist, Edith Potter, who was able to be with us once again.

We all extend our sympathy to Frank Jones, of Royton, in the sad loss of his wife, Bella. We know she understood the after-life, owing to her having been Conductor of Spring Garden Street Lyceum some years ago.—Mrs. H. Clegg, Sec.

PORTSMOUTH.—August 31st, Open Session and Presentation of Certificates for B.S.L.U. examinations. They were presented by Mr. A. Davis, speaker for the day. He also presented to Eric Hayward, on behalf of the Lyceum, a fountain pen, as he was leaving the city. Recitations by Pat Clarke, Iris Grice, Daphne Blackshaw, Sylvia Durman, and a little girl visiting the Lyceum. A solo by Vera Chambers. Greetings were exchanged. It was an enjoyable Session.—C. Stuart-Jones, Sec.

PRESTON, 68, Lancaster Road.—We held our Open Session at the 6-30 service on September 7th, Lyceumists and friends taking part. A very good Session was enjoyed by all.—E. Curtis, Sec.

PRESTON, Moor Lane.—Open Session, September 7th. Harold Kilner, Connie Tallon and Mr. H. Waring rendered recitations. A number of Lyceumists quoted Wayside Pulpits or gave Pearls; each one giving his or her opinion of the meaning of their own pearl. This proved very interesting. The marching and callisthenics were well done.—Helen Kilner, Sec.

RUGBY.—August 30th, Annual Outing. A very delightful time was spent at Wickstead Park, Kettering. Fortunately the weather was fine and everyone seemed very happy.—E. Weller, Sec.

SCUNTHORPE.—We are still progressing, but slow. On September 14th, we held the Church Harvest Festival, some of the Lyceumists helping. How nice it is when we can work in harmony and love.—Ivy Sprakes, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—On September 7th, we held a Special Open Session for the Distribution of Examination Certificates. Mr. A. Bruce, of Rotherham, distributed the Certificates. We had 22 successful candidates out of 24. It was a good Session.—E. Johnson, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Heeley, Gifford Road.—September 7th, Open Session. Individual items were rendered by C. Higginbottom, G. Walker, N. Nutt, O. Nutt, E. Marples, J. Beaton, M. Overment, E. Wragg, M. Fox, W. and A. Nutt, V. Porter, and Ed. Marples. A very enjoyable Session was spent by all.—B. Higginbottom, Sec.

SOUTH MANCHESTER.—Open Sessions, September 14th. Many recitations and a pianoforte solo were rendered by Lyceumists. The marching and callisthenics were thoroughly enjoyed. There were seven Lyceums and the District Council represented during the day. An interesting discussion took place on the readings and all seemed to enjoy themselves.

Liberty Group was held on September 21st, and conducted by Mr. W. W. Ely, the subject being, "Body, Soul and Spirit." Much discussion took place and much knowledge was gained. At the close, Mr. Ely was thanked for his services, and for the interesting time he had given us.—J. Woodcock, Sec.

WEST HARTLEPOOL, Musgrave Street.—We held our Open Session on September 7th. A good number was present. 29 Pearls, 4 recitations, 1 trio, and 2 duets. A happy and enjoyable Session.—E. Platts, Sec.

WEST PELTON.—Open Session, September 14th. A pleasant afternoon was spent. The Lyceumists responding were W. Hardy, D. Douglas, Mary Bell, J. Hornsby, C. Hornsby, D. Hornsby, S. Johns, E. Hobson. Conductor was Mr. E. Dryden.—A. Dryden, Sec.

YORK.—September 7th, Special Lyceum Session, commencing at 10-30. Opening Hymn, 408. Conductor, Mrs. M. Fowler. Certificates were distributed to Miss A. Gibson and Miss M. Gibson. Two neckties were presented to George Moses, and an umbrella to Miss E. Andrews, for being unable to attend any pleasure functions. S.C.R. 84, M.R. 236. Marching and callisthenics were rendered with success, and we closed our morning Session with the hymn 401.—S. Whitwam, Sec.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS, Dalkeith Street.—Open Session, August 31st. We were favoured with the presence of Miss Elliott, who distributed the Certificates gained in the recent examination. She emphasised the value of education in every walk of life. Miss Lawton conducted.—A. Taft, Sec.

LANCASTER, Great John Street.—The Open Session held on August 31st was a successful one. More children took part than have been doing for a little time. Recitations by E. Stephenson, D. Bleasdale, T. Partridge, W. Partridge and B. Corbett. Some of our older girls gave us selections from the *Lyceum Manual* which were fully appreciated. "We are carrying on."—Marion Swale, Sec.

WEST MELTON.—Sept. 13th, Harvest Festival. The successful candidates in the B.S.L.U. examinations were presented with their Certificates. Sessions were well attended and good interest was shown.—Wm. Guest, Sec.