

THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 478. Vol. XL.

DECEMBER, 1930.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

Recitations for the Parties.

CHRISTMAS BELLS.

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old, familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat,
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!
And in despair I bowed my head;
"There is no peace on earth," I said;
"For hate is strong,
And mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"
Then pealed the bells more loud and deep;
"God is not dead; nor doth he sleep!
The Wrong shall fail,
The Right prevail,
With peace on earth, good-will to men!"

Longfellow.

CHILDREN.

Come to me, O ye children!
For I hear you at your play,
And the questions that perplexed me
Have vanished quite away.
Ye open the eastern windows
That look towards the sun,
Where thoughts are singing swallows,
And the brooks of morning run.
In your hearts are the birds and the sunshine,
In your thoughts the brooklets flow,
But in mine is the wind of Autumn
And the first fall of the snow.
Ah! what would the world be to us
If the children were no more?
We should dread the desert behind us
Worse than the dark before.
That to the world are children;
Through them it feels the glow
Of a brighter and sunnier climate
Than reaches the trunks below.
Come to me, O ye children!
And whisper in my ear
What the birds and the winds are singing
In your sunny atmosphere.
For what are all our contrivings
And the wisdom of our books,
When compared with your caresses
And the gladness of your looks?
Ye are better than all the ballads
That ever were sung or said;
For ye are living poems,
And all the rest are dead.

Longfellow.

CHILDREN, HANG UP YOUR STOCKING.

Big boys say it's all a fable,
Father Christmas isn't able
To provide the Christmas toys
For the waiting girls and boys.

I'm ten times as old as them;
I think Santa Claus a gem;
He has never missed me yet,
And I know I'm not a pet.

So hang your stocking on the rail;
Think he'll come, and you'll not fail.
Go to sleep, don't make a noise,
If you want some Christmas toys.

WE ARE SEVEN.

I met a little cottage girl;
She was eight years old, she said;
Her hair was thick with many a curl
That clustered round her head.

"Sisters and brothers, little maid,
How many may you be?"
"How many? Seven in all," she said,
And wondering looked at me.

"And where are they? I pray you tell."
She answered, "Seven are we;
And two of us at Conway dwell,
And two are gone to sea.

Two of us in the churchyard lie,
My sister and my brother;
And in the churchyard cottage, I
Dwell near them with my mother."

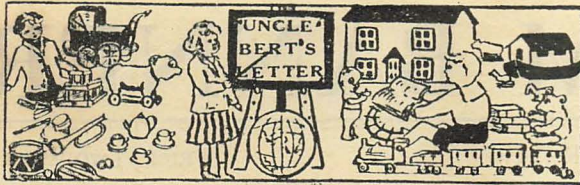
"How many are you, then," said I,
"If they two are in heaven?"
Quick was the little maid's reply,
"O master! we are seven."

"But they are dead; those two are dead;
Their spirits are in heaven!"
'Twas throwing words away; for still
The little maid would have her will,
And said, "Nay, we are seven!"

I WONDER.

I wonder why a cat says "meow?"
And why a doggie says "bow-wow?"
When I can say most everything,
And laugh, as well as sing.

As I can do much more than they
I'll have to join them in their play,
To see if they can learn someday,
If they won't run away.



My Dear Boys and Girls,

Now for the revelation of the contents of my Xmas page stocking I promised you last month.

What do you think is the first thing I find? A hole. This forms the entrance for my hand to enter on its discovery voyage so here we go.

The first item is a rather distressing event, a story of a modern highwayman who in real life is really a young Lyceumist dressed as such, attending a party on Xmas evening.

It occurred at a modern house, which was gaily decorated with paper chains, Chinese Lanterns, Holly and Mistletoe.

While the main party were romping in the parlour, along the passage crept this notorious highwayman, wooden sword in hand.

His main intentions were set upon playing the part his dress represented. To this end he decided stealing would be a great idea.

Hanging on the gas bracket was a large bunch of Mistletoe, "Ah, an idea," said he, "shall I steal that?" While he was thus meditating a sweet little girl came and stood beneath it. Alas, he was caught. Was it too late? but being an ever-ready Lyceumist, he was able to decide very quickly his line of action.

He stole a kiss instead, what a crime; should he say he was sorry; but here this sweet Lyceumist came to his rescue as such young people always do.

"I promise you full pardon on one condition only and that is, that you put it back," and he did. Thus endeth the first lesson.

Auntie Ruth will have her little joke. Feasting her "take away" on walnuts she asked me if I had heard the story of the three nuts? When I said No, all she said was "Too bad."

Cousin Doris thinks I ought to ask you a few riddles.

1. Why is Sunday the strongest day of the week?
2. When is a naughty boy at school like a chair?
3. At which School lesson do you become stronger than an Elephant?
4. When is a girl not a girl?

If you cannot answer these perhaps you can tell me what three figures multiplied by four will make twenty-one?

Before giving you the answers, I suggest you stop here and work them out before reading further. We will return to our party. They are just having few individual efforts.

Our young friend the Highwayman was first on the programme; he sang "The girl I left behind me."

Then another little girl who had been playing Kiss in the Ring in which she had picked one boy every time she had a chance, sang "Charlie is my darling."

Little Johnnie's turn was next; he had eaten so much of the good things set before him and he obliged with "Oh! dear! What can the matter be."

One boy singing about not being a sailor bold, broke

down at a most critical point "Smack me mother, Smack me mother Dear," and she did.

Another sad fate came to the boy who recited "Where are you going to my pretty maid." Having made all arrangements to see her home, someone intervened by singing "Who's that a-calling"; behold it was the pretty maid's father so another fixture was thus cancelled. "Home Sweet Home." concluded a happy evening.

Here are the answers to the Riddles.

1. Because all the others are week-days.
2. When he is being caned.
3. Art, when you draw a Castle.
4. When she is a little cross.
5. 5 $\frac{1}{4}$

I hope you see the point, if not I suggest you mistake a bunch of Holly for an air Cushion.

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLES:—

No. 161. All who worked out their names as requested did well, and are to be congratulated.

No. 162.—Sweet Summer Land.

THIS MONTH'S PUZZLE.

No. 163.—Xmas Riddle-me-dee (by Cousin Doris).

My first is in tea, but not in dinner,
My Second in plump, but not in thin.
My third is in rain but not in snow.
My fourth is in knee, but not in toe.
My fifth is in hive, also in Bee
My sixth is in you, but not in me
My whole is what I hope you will
This course enjoy and have your fill.

No. 164.—Xmas Quotations.

1. PxxCx xNx xOOx Wxxx xx xxL Mxx
2. Xxxx xxMxx xxT xxxE x xxAx.
3. x xxRxY xxxS xxD x HxxPx xxW xExx.
4. Gxx xxSx Yx xxRxx GxxTxxxEx.

In conclusion we jointly wish you all a Merry Xmas. May Father Xmas fill your stockings with heaps of good things.

May it be the happiest time you have ever had, but while you are enjoying yourselves, I want you not to forget those who will be less fortunate than yourselves.

There is a saying which runs "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

What can you children give? Your little purses are not large enough to buy big presents for all you would like to.

Of course Mamma and Dadda must have a little present, but then there are so many others whom you would like to give to too.

Money and presents are not the only things you can give away.

The greatest gift of all is Love. It costs nothing, but has a value of its own.

It cannot be bought for gold or silver, and yet it brings untold happiness to those on whom we bestow it.

Then make this Xmas the happiest for all.

Scatter love and happiness everywhere you go, and in return yours will be a Happy Xmas.

With Love, and best wishes,

Your loving friend,

2, Villiers Rd.,
Osterley, Middx.

UNCLE BERT.

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.

MARRIAGE.

BACUP.—The marriage of Dorothy May Ward, of Bacup Lyceum, to Harry Savoury, took place on Saturday, November 1st. Mr. H. Shaw, D.V., of S.E. Lancashire L.D.C., officiated, and H. N. Shaw, of Stacksteads, supplied suitable music for the occasion.

Many happy memories go with them and still remain an asset to the Lyceum movement.

COOPER—DANIELS.—On the 26th November, 1930, Harry Cooper, of Blackley, to Mary Daniels, of Harpurhey. Present address, 32, Voule Street, Blackley, Manchester.

IN MEMORIAM.

FARRINGTON.—In loving memory of our little Roger, aged five months, who passed to the Higher Life, Oct. 24th, 1930.

Mr. and Mrs. Farrington, Milnsbridge.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Grange Road. In memory of Joseph, Benjamin and Joan, infant children (triplets) of Mr. and Mrs. Danks, born 3rd June, 1930, passed to the higher life 2nd September, 28th October and 5th November, respectively. "God folds them in His bosom."

£2,000 Effort Fund.

Dear Lyceumists and Friends,

This month my report is a pleasing one. I am delighted with the response to my appeal, and I thank most heartily all who have contributed to the fund this month. It is pleasing to note that an old worker in the Lyceum Movement still retains his interest sufficiently to follow its progress, and I very gratefully acknowledge the generous donation from Mr. Albert E. Sutcliffe, Halifax of £12. This is indeed a splendid encouragement and should stimulate each and all concerned to further effort, in order to achieve our object. I also further acknowledge the following:—Miss Gladys Last, London, collected in farthings, 2s.; Mr. Chapman, Alma St., Halifax, fine paid by Miss Halliday, another culprit calling Mrs. Reynolds, Miss Rayner, 1s.

Peace Sunday Collections to hand are as follows:—Nottingham, Mechanics Hall, per Mr. O. Peel, 10s; Whitley Bay, Miss Maud Gardener, 2s 6d.; Fulham, London, Mrs. Keeling, 3s. 9d.; Liberty Progressive, Leicester, Mr. Kenney, 5s.; Hackney Progressive, London, Mr. Wemborn, 3s. 6d.; Bradford St. Bolton, A. Bromiley, 6s. 4d.; Attercliffe and Darnall Joint Session, per Mr. A. Guy, 6s.; Bacup, S. Carter, 5s.; Eastwood, Notts, Mr. Barnes, 2s. 6d.; South Shields, Cambridge St., per Mr. Knott, from C. Stoker, collected by Mr. J. Cook, 5s.; Forward, Handsworth, Birmingham, Miss A. Brown, 3s. 3d.; South Manchester, Princess Hall, J. Woodcock, 3s.; West Melton Lyceum, Mr. Wm. Guest, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Dean, King St., Bury, by B.S.L.U. Collection Card, to commemorate Peace Sunday, 6s., Leeds, Easy Road, Mr. Howard, 2s. 6d.

There are two orders for the Musical Recital, "The Reality of God" to hand this month, one for a sample copy from Miss Louie Gray, Secretary of the West of Scotland Lyceum Workers Guild, 3d. I trust that our friends in Scotland will carry out their scheme and that I may receive their esteemed order shortly. The other order is from Wakefield, per Miss Harding, 150 Hymn Leaflets, 6s. 9d. I trust others are considering my

offer too, Please note, Hymn Leaflets of the work are 4s. 6d., per 100 post free. Recitation Leaflets are 2d. per copy and you require 18. Odd copies of the complete work are 3d. Orders for Hymn Sheets of less than 100 are 1d. each. Please send your orders to Mrs. J. Reynolds, 118, Cremorne St., Nottingham, when the same shall receive prompt attention.

Our receipts this month are as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
By Donations.	12	2	0
„ Fine		1	0
„ Order for "Reality of God."		7	0
„ Peace Sunday Collections.	3	6	10
	£15	16	10

I thank each and all who are helping in various ways to keep this Fund alive.

With greetings and best wishes to all,

Yours sincerely,

118, Cremorne St., VICTORIA G. REYNOLDS,
Nottingham. Hon. Sec.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD L.D.C.

PRESENTATION OF SHIELD AND BELL.

A social meeting was arranged for Presentation of the Shield and the Bell to the winners. This was held at Ramsden St., Huddersfield, to whom our sincere thanks are due for the splendid way in which they received and entertained us, and made us feel at home. The first part of the evening was taken up by Concert items; various Lyceumists taking part.

Mr. Dracup (Alma St.), Concertina Solos; Miss M. Firth (Brighouse), Piano solos; Miss G. Haigh (Ramsden St.), solos; Miss G. Haigh and Mr. A. Saxon (Ramsden St.), duets; Mr. A. Saxon (Ramsden St.), violin solos; Miss R. Riley (Elland), Elocutionist; Miss Haigh and Mr. Saxon (Ramsden St.) accompanied on the piano.

After the Concert came the presentation of the Shield and Bell. Mr. Barnes, Adjudicator, was present, and handed over the Shield and Bell to the Conductors of Alma St. and Ramsden St. respectively. He gave words of advice and encouragement to the Lyceumists assembled, and fired us all with the desire to make our Lyceum the best for next year. Mr. Harding, unfortunately, was ill, and unable to be present.

Mr. T. Ellis then presented Mr. Barnes with a wallet as a slight token of our gratitude for the work done on our behalf.

Supper was served by Ramsden St. friends and then the rest of the evening was given over to games and dancing. It was a splendid evening, and one to be long remembered.

Sowerby Bridge, Hebden Bridge, and Queen's Road, were needed, and then it would have been perfect.

G. HALLIDAY, Sec.

MR. and MRS. TINKER RETURN TO ENGLAND.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Tinker, who left Manchester a few months ago for South Africa, are returning to England. The climate has proved most injurious to their health. The dust-laden hot air has adversely affected Mrs. Tinker.

There is a son and his family in Johannesburg who have done all they could to make the parents comfortable, but they dare not stay.

Mr. Tinker proposes to resume his work for the Movement on his return.

£5 CROSSWORD. DAULBY HALL LYCEUM.

The Daulby Hall Lyceum Committee wish to inform all competitors who send in solutions to the Crossword advertised in the November BANNER that IF NO CORRECT SOLUTION IS RECEIVED A PRIZE WILL BE GIVEN TO THE NEAREST CORRECT SOLUTION.

Our Education Department.

HINTS, NOTES AND NEWS ITEMS.

Conducted by the EDUCATION SECRETARY.

WHAT CONSTITUTES A CHRISTIAN?

Mr. H. Doswell, Conductor of Great Harwood Lyceum, writes in reference to the article in No. 2 Handbook on Christianity and Spiritualism, and Mr. Tinker's statement that many modern Christians "do not accept the idea of a sacrificial God-Man or his special divinity"—regarding Jesus as being "merely a man" with high spiritual development. Mr. Doswell also refers to the Spiritualist conception of the resurrection as being in the order of nature, and of heaven and hell as states of mind, and ends up with a criticism and a question.

"I agree," he says, "that there are people of the present day who attend orthodox churches and who inwardly have these convictions; but, on the understanding that the term Christian refers to a person who accepts the interpretation as being a follower of Christ, believing in him as our Saviour, and the manner of redemption as taught—i.e., the eleventh-hour atonement—I ask the following question: 'Can the person who agrees with me that Jesus was merely a man be a Christian?' If so, I am a Christian as well as a Spiritualist."

If we accept Mr. Doswell's definition, the person cannot be a Christian unless he accepts the definition. But all Christian sects do not agree on what the definition should be. For instance, the sect in which I was brought up did not believe in death-bed repentances; others consider that "belief in Jesus" means following his example, and that Jesus "saved" us by his life and not by his death. I don't think that a belief that Jesus was merely a man would, *of itself*, make one a Christian—otherwise all Buddhists, Muslims, etc., who know of Jesus, but do not consider that he was specially divine, would be Christians. Neither do I think that such a belief need be any barrier to anyone who wishes to accept Jesus as his spiritual leader and exemplar. If he makes "what would Jesus do" the guide to all his actions, I think all who know him would call him "a real Christian"; though perhaps we might find bigoted people who would insist on the letter instead of the spirit, and would not accept him. It is a very vexed question, and the definition would lie with the orthodox body which the man desired to join—and he would have to conform to the rules of the body of which he became a member.

What do other students think?

SPEAKERS WHO ARE TAKING GRADE V.

Mr. J. Le Noury, A.N.S.C., the Sheffield District Council Visitor, sends the following hints *re* preparing for the Grade V. Examination:—

"I have found it most beneficial when speaking on Church platforms, and also when our Lyceum Elders have taken the Church services, to pick a thought, a sentence, a paragraph, or even the whole article, from one of the Handbooks, and let that be my subject. By reading similar matter by other authors and building it up in one's mind, a subject—or the material for one—has been easy. Generally, I have picked up the

thought, etc., and subjected it to examination mentally. I have enlarged on it, and tried to find out what a critic would say about it—and the reply. Then I have written it down in essay form and compared it with other authorities, if possible. Then, memorising the main points in the argument, I have left the paper at home when I went to address the Church. The minor points I left to inspiration at the actual time. Sometimes, of course, I have, from one section of knowledge, stumbled on a new idea, and subjected it to the same procedure."

Even Grade V. students who are not speakers would find this an excellent method of preparation, and I heartily recommend it to them.

HANDS ACROSS THE SEA.

An interesting account of conditions in New Zealand, and of Lyceum work there, has come to hand from Miss R. Burgess, Conductor-Secretary of the Dunedin Lyceum, which, under Miss Burgess's fostering care, consistently takes part in our Education Scheme and is a Local Branch of our College. Home Lyceumists will join the Education Committee in congratulating Miss Burgess on having been appointed National Lyceum Conductor at the recent A.G.M. of the Spiritualist Church of New Zealand (the National body created by an act of the New Zealand Parliament), and on having been allotted a page in *The Message of Life* in which to bring the Lyceum Movement to the notice of New Zealand Spiritualists. In Miss Burgess's capable hands the page should be of great service to the New Zealand Lyceum Movement.

Although industrial conditions in New Zealand are very hard, Dunedin Lyceum has sent a donation of ten shillings to our Education Fund. Home Lyceums PLEASE COPY.

THE STUDY OF OUR HANDBOOKS.

The Education Committee again impress on students the need of a personal study of our Handbooks in preparation for the Grade examinations. It has been urged that these Handbooks require too much memorising, but the books and the articles are short and interesting, and contain matter that every Spiritualist, let alone every Lyceumist, ought to know. Let us take No. 1 Handbook. No Spiritualist child over eight should be ignorant of our Principles, and some Lyceums are providing for this by reciting the Principles as part of the opening exercises of the Session. Again, no Lyceumist over twelve should be ignorant of the story of Hydesville, or about Children in Spirit Life or the Lyceums in the Summerland. They should be taught these things, whether they go in for the Education Scheme or not. And what Lyceumist should not be ashamed to be unable to tell the story of Alfred Kitson's life and work for Lyceum teachings and ideals? Lyceumists ought to be glad that all this knowledge has been provided for them in brief and cheap form, and I at least do not think it any hardship that they should be asked to memorise the facts on which our Movement rests. When these are taken away, there is very little of No. 1 Handbook left, and even with them there are only 45 pages to learn in eight and a half months—36 weeks—one-and-a-quarter pages per WEEK.

Three years is given for the study of No. 2. Hand-

book:—Just over 13 pages for Grade II.; the same 13 and a further 23 for Grade III. (and, of the 23, 16 are devoted to the History of the Lyceum Movement, which every Lyceumist, again, should WANT to know); and these, with a further 10, are again studied for Grade IV. The History is the only part that has to be (and rightly) memorised—not so much dates as events and how they arose from each other—and the rest of the articles are guides for study, and for studious thought, to the students.

I will not dissect No. 3 Handbook, as that is only introductory to other sources of knowledge. But I would urge every student up to Grade IV. to obtain the necessary Handbook from Mr. Knott (*see* back cover of the BANNER) and also a copy of *Summaries and Glossaries* as a guide to the writing of the summaries asked for in every Grade but V. And Grade IV. students should obtain *The Oral Grade Reader* for examples of how Group Lessons can be prepared. And remember, you cannot hope to do really well at the examinations unless you have studied your Handbook as well as the *Manual*.

OUR SPECIAL FUND.

Since my last Notes, further donations to our Education Funds have been received from Rotherham, Droylsden, Brighton (Mighell Street), Dunedin (N.Z.) and Lewisham Lyceums, and the Committee acknowledge with gratitude these practical proofs of interest in our educational work.

OUR CORPS OF COLLEGE VISITORS.

Since last month Nottingham District Council has adopted the College Visitors idea, and London Council has asked for further particulars. There are still some Councils that have made no reply to the appeal.

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 Handbooks.

(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.

Our Mutual Aid Bureau.

THE SPIRIT-BODY AND ITS FUNCTIONS.

All the contributions to our symposium on the nature and functions of the Spirit-body have now been published, and the Editor has promised you that my summing up of the position will be brief. Thanks to the contributors, it will be very easy for me to keep his promise, for, although each writer approached the subject from his or her own point of view, there has been a general agreement on the vital points at issue.

The query about fighting in the spirit spheres may be briefly dismissed with the general agreement that, as all sorts of people go to the Spirit World and carry

their mental and spiritual tendencies with them, all sorts of conditions and occurrences are possible.

All the contributors have concentrated on the first query, and our readers who have followed the discussion should now have a clear and comprehensive grasp of the ideas on the subject accepted generally by students and investigators. Messrs. Berry, Kitson, Knott and Oaten have each given us their idea of the nature, formation, building and refining of the Spirit-body and how its functions may alter or fall into disuse. The Spirit-body is a replica (and companion in growth) of the physical body, and the after-death vehicle of the spirit's manifestation in a Spirit World suited to its nature. Malformation of limbs or organs disappear with quickening spiritual knowledge and realisation, and all functions connected with physical expression are eventually abandoned, altered or refined. Miss Dean's experiences of thought forms are very interesting, as is Mr. Berry's intriguing theory regarding the ultimate atomic basis of both physical and etheric bodies (with him I prefer "etheric" to "spirit"). Mr. Haigh has "dived through" ordinary conceptions to some purpose, and has supplied us with a wonderful spiritual vision of creation and the purpose of life; while Mr. Gow, after endorsing Mr. Tinker's and my own statement of the case, reminds us of Tien Sien Tie's teaching that "it is the *principles* at the back of the bodily functions (absorption, assimilation and elimination) that are carried into the next life," and that we shall never properly understand Spirit Life until we are actually living it—even if then, he adds.

As for my own contribution, I merely stated, as impartially as I could, a case for discussion—and I am more than pleased with the edifice that has been built on a very unambitious foundation.

Readers are strongly advised to re-read the discussion as a whole.

WHAT IS OBJECTIVE CLAIRVOYANCE?

Next month I shall open a discussion on the following inquiry from Barrow (Dalkeith Street) Study Group—forwarded by their Secretary, Miss E. F. Lawton, G.N.S.C.:—

"During a discussion on Objective Clairvoyance, several members could not accept clairvoyance as the *actual* 'seeing' of the spirit forms, thought forms, or the contents of sealed letters, etc., but thought all forms of clairvoyance were more or less mental pictures. The point was raised that in clairvoyance the spirit of the medium saw the manifesting spirit. Could your readers enlighten us as to what really is Objective Clairvoyance?"

Now, we have many exponents and clairvoyants amongst our Lyceumists, and the Editor hopes that some of them will take part in the discussion and assist us with an account of their personal experiences. Every contribution will help towards a reliable conclusion.

A. T. CONNOR, F.N.S.C.

We are pleased to acknowledge, with the Union's appreciation, a donation from Southampton Spiritualist Church Lyceum of £6 13s. 4d. to the B.S.L.U. Capitation Fund. The total received from this Lyceum during 1930 is £8 14s. 4d.

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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Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, 8-30 a.m. to 6-0 p.m.; Tuesday and Saturday, 8-30 a.m. to 12 noon. Callers by appointment.

DECEMBER, 1930.

THE CHRISTMAS PARTY.

Christmas is that period of the year when children look forward to a very happy time. We hope that older people will always provide the conditions for happy social parties where simple pleasures can be enjoyed.

Our modern fireplaces are not big enough for the old yule log, but we can always give the home to the children and allow them to decorate it as they desire. With paper trimmings, shaded lights, evergreens, and the buying of sweets, the children will be enthused. And Father Christmas must never forget any child's stocking.

The Lyceum party, too, must be held, and everybody can have a jolly time in the general romp.

We wish every Lyceumist a very, very happy Christmas:

WILL FATHER CHRISTMAS COME TO THE B.S.L.U.

Amid all the busy things Father Christmas will have to prepare, it will be nice to think that the empty "stocking" of the B.S.L.U. office may not be passed over. If he hasn't time to drop down the chimney there is a little trap door through which he can put his hand and leave his little packet. We only want a little packet, for "good stuff lies in little compass."

We are sure there are many Lyceums would like to help Father Christmas in his annual work of pleasing the youngsters. There are some children in Spirit who do not need any more toys and it will be a nice sentiment to know that some earthly children are being helped to understand that children who pass away can come back with their Spirit guardians and teachers and sometimes visit our Lyceums.

Little tributes in service and love are constant memories which bring pleasure and help to remove the pain of parting from those who have gone a little higher.

The LYCEUM BANNER sends Greetings to all Lyceumists at sea and in every land.

THE SPIRITUALISTS' EXEMPTION BILL.

Mr. W. T. Kelly, the Member for Rochdale, introduced a Bill in the House of Commons on Wednesday, 26th Nov. to relieve Spiritualists and mediums from persecution under the enactments relating to witchcraft and vagrancy whilst genuinely exercising their psychic powers, whether in religious or scientific investigation.

Consent to introduce the bill was given without a division. Contrary to the opinions of the press we hope to gain religious liberty before the present Parliament dissolves.

SPIRITUALISM AND PSYCHICAL RESEARCH (EXEMPTION) BILL.

Mr. Kelly: I beg to move,

"That leave be given to bring in a Bill to relieve spiritualists and mediums from prosecution under the enactments relating to witchcraft and vagrancy whilst genuinely exercising their psychic powers whether in religious practice or scientific investigation."

I wish that someone more qualified than myself was in charge of this Measure so that it might reach the Statute Book speedily. It is amazing that in this year of grace this country should still deny religious freedom to certain sections of the community. It is rather a blot upon the country to find prosecution and even persecution operating not only against those who profess the spiritualist faith but also against those who are connected with the scientific investigations which these particular bodies are undertaking. Very many eminent men and women are members of this particular faith. It is perhaps only fair to the House for me to say that I am not a member of this particular organisation, but when I realise the eminent people who are doing such splendid work and who are adherents to the spiritual faith I wonder all the more why we allow Statutes under the Witchcraft and Vagrancy Act, which may be used still against people who are doing such splendid work, to continue to operate. I have tried to picture the feelings of the country if that great lovable soul, that great writer and doctor who recently died, Conan Doyle, and that great scientist Sir Oliver Lodge, had been hauled before the courts on the evidence of some informer and had to prove that they were not rogues and vagabonds. Yet that is the position at this moment. Any one of these fine gentle souls who are connected with this movement might at any moment be hauled before the courts.

It may be a surprise to some hon. Members to know that only one penalty can be imposed. There is no question of a fine. The only penalty under the Act of 1735 is one year's imprisonment, and once every quarter during that term of imprisonment to be placed in the pillory of the market town in the county where the information was laid. That is the law at the present time, and it may be operated against eminent people who are connected with this wonderful organisation. I admit that the penalty has not been imposed upon them, but there is prosecution and persecution going on at the moment. Many of those who desire to play their part in the faith in which they believe are in dreadful fear of prosecution, not for any offence or for injury to others, but because they may be professing that faith, and, what is even better, putting it into practice.

But it is not only the medium who may be brought before the courts. Many hon. Members of this House are likely to be brought within the meshes of the law. (Hon. Members: "Name!") It may be any hon. Member. They may be presiding at some gathering in connection with this organisation and it only requires the information to be laid; and we know how informers can prepare their evidence. There may be hon. Members who would not mind very much if some hon. Members were dealt with in this way, but is it to the credit of this country that we should deny religious freedom to these people, whose only object is to put into practice what their conscience has dictated.

It is the proud boast of this country that it gives freedom, but we can hardly claim that we are a freedom-loving people if we still leave hanging over the head of this great organisation, composed of some of the gentlest in our nation, the possibility of these prosecutions and the penalties attaching to them. Because of that danger, I am asking for this Bill to be carried. It has but one operative Clause, which is that certificates may be given by the genuine organisations in this movement, under the approval of the Home Secretary, which would assure the community against any of that fraud which is operating under the title of Spiritualism and psychic research at the present time. (An Hon. Member Member: "A coupon!") You may speak of it as a coupon if you like, but, as far as I am concerned, I would have preferred to have seen them in exactly the same position as every other religious body in the community. They have a right to that position; but, in order to meet the curious mind of some of our people, the spiritualists themselves are prepared to undergo an examination and to have certificates in order to prove that those engaged in their particular worship are genuine, and have also the approval of the Home Secretary.

Not only is there the difficulty in that direction, but we find that there is hardship in the courts. The courts refuse to recognise them as a body which may hold property, and have once or twice decided against them in the matter of bequests which have been made to them. Not only the courts, but the Charity Commissioners have refused to recognise them as a charitable body. In fact, at this moment they are in the uncertain position of not knowing whether the property which they are holding is quite safe against any information which might be laid as to their being a body which is illegal. A body with 600 churches in this position is surely a position which we ought not to allow to continue. Even at the moment that is awful to everyone of us, when we lose one of our pals or friends by death, the right of interment with their own service is refused, because of the state of the law. I am asking that this Bill should be passed into law, so that these genuine spiritualists may not only profess but may worship according to what their conscience has dictated to them, and in the hope that, having been given that freedom, they may have the opportunity of developing in the same way that every other religious body in the country now has. I ask, and I am sure that I ask not in vain in this House, for that freedom for these people, so that they may have an opportunity of developing their faith.

Question put, and agreed to.

Bill ordered to be brought in by Mr. Kelly, Mr. Oliver Baldwin, Sir Ernest Bennett, Mr. Charleton,

Mr. Herbert Gibson, Captain W. H. Hall, Lieut-Commander Kenworthy, Mr. Knight, Lieut.-Colonel Watts-Morgan, Mr. D. G. Somerville, and Miss Wilkinson.

WE EXPRESS OUR 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 Fund are as follows:—

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

CAPITATION FUND. Southampton (Cavendish Grove), £6 13s. 4d. Total received during 1930, £16 4s. 11d.

PATRON FUND. Mr. H. Barnes (Bradford), 15s. Total received during 1930, £3 17s. 6d.

SUPPLEMENTARY FUND. Mr. W. T. Coleman, 5s. 6d. Total received during 1930, £29 os. 3d.

Mr. Dan Griffiths, A.N.S.C., has been elected an Alderman by the Barrow-in-Furness Town Council. We compliment Mr. Griffiths on his elevation. He is a valiant Lyceumist and propagandist who has worked many, many years for the success of Lyceum principles to operate in personal and civic life.

AN INVITATION.

I wonder what the children did
Before the parties came?
Perhaps they just the thimble hid,
Or wandered down the lane.

I know it's nice to be dressed up
And dollies fine to nurse,
A ribbon on our little pup,
And coppers in my purse.

I once was told that fairies played
When grandma was a girl,
As in the woods she often strayed,
A daisy crown to whirl.

If I'd a party I'd invite
The Fairy Queen along,
This little tale I would recite
And ask her for a song.

CALGARY, Canada.—Thanksgiving Sunday, Nov. 10th. Pearls by Lyceumists. Readings by Teddy Cowlin and Rev. Ada M. Garrad. Solo by Raymond Parkyn. Pianoforte solos by Margaret Dams, Jean Poyser and Victor Dams. Recitations by Hermania Peters. We decorated the Church with fruit and vegetables, and on Monday (Thanksgiving Day) we gave these to needy families.—H. E. Thomson, Sec.

LIVERPOOL, "Star of Progress," Boaler Street.—Sunday, 16th Nov. Conductor, Mr. William Roberts. We were favoured with several visitors from St. Helens, Daulby Hall and Birkenhead Lyceums. Various individual items, mainly by visitors. Church members took part in the evening discussions and our Church President, Mr. Moore, gave a short address towards the close. A day well spent.—A. E. Howells, Retiring Sec.

We shall print next month an Appeal for the "Conan Doyle Memorial Fund." Donations may be sent to A. C. Grigg, Esq., Hon. Treasurer, The Conan Doyle Memorial Fund, Lloyds Bank, Ltd., 121, Oxford Street, London, W.1.



Dear Little Imps,

A jolly Christmas to everybody, and may you all find a full stocking when you awaken on Christmas morning. Nowadays, most of the children I know hang up pillow-cases instead of stockings. It is true, pillow-cases do hold more, but those children miss the fun of turning out the *toe* of their stocking, and finding all the little surprises. My stocking toe always held a bright new penny in amongst the sweets and nuts, and you know how lucky a shining penny can be!

Fairies are such very helpful people that you may be sure that they are especially busy at Christmas time. Our story shows us that.

THE CHRISTMAS FAIRY.

The Christmas Fairy had worked so very hard. She had helped people to choose the right presents, had made so many mothers remember all of their shopping, and done many odd jobs, so that everything should be quite ready for Christmas Day. Then, just as she thought her work was finished, she had found a family full of grumbles. Now, no Christmas Fairy can bear to hear folks grumbling on Christmas Eve, and so this fairy forgot all about being tired as she wondered how to change those grumbles into chuckles. It seemed no easy task.

Mr. and Mrs. Grey were not a bit poor, and Jerry and Joan should have been perfectly happy. They had plenty to eat, and they had more toys and books than they could count. Yet, on this Christmas Eve they had the grumbles.

Mr. and Mrs. Grey didn't know what to do about it, but, then, they didn't think about inviting the Christmas Fairy to help them.

In the morning they had all gone into town to see the shops. It was there that the Christmas Fairy had found them grumbling. They were looking into the window of the big toy shop. "There's nothing there that I want," grumbled Jerry. "I'm tired of books, and trains and silly toys. I hope Father Christmas brings me a real bicycle this year." "Why Jerry," said his dad, "we have no room for any more big things. You never use your tricycle or your scooter now, so you can't need a bicycle." "I just knew you would say that," muttered Jerry. "I never can have anything I want."

"What would you like, Joan?" asked Mrs. Grey. "I don't know what I want," answered Joan. "I've enough dolls, and I don't want any more furniture or tea-sets, and I hate sewing baskets. I know! I'd

like that big doll's house." "Oh! but Joan," said her mother, "you have one doll's house now, and you never play with it." "Well, it isn't big enough, and I'm tired of that one, anyway," grumbled Joan.

Mrs. Grey sighed, and looked at Mr. Grey, as she said, "Oh! dear! what a lot of grumbles. Perhaps it is because we are tired. Let us go home now in the bus." Whilst they were on the bus, the Christmas Fairy grew busy. She helped them to notice the people in the streets. The bus took them along some very poor streets, and they saw ever so many ragged little children at play. One little girl hugged an old dolly made of stockings. A little boy was pulling a box along, and pretending it was a train. None of the children seemed to have any *real* toys. The Christmas Fairy gave Mrs. Grey a good idea, so that by the time they reached home she had thought of a plan.

After dinner, Mrs. Grey sent the children up into their playroom whilst she had a little chat with her husband. "Did you see those poor kiddies with those awful toys, Daddy?" "I did," he said, "and it made me think that Jerry and Joan have too many toys. I know, we'll get them to play at Father Christmas this year, and see if that will stop the grumbles."

Mr. and Mrs. Grey went up into the playroom. "Hello, kiddies," said Mr. Grey. "I had a message from Father Christmas. He is short of toys and wants you to help him." "We can't," said Jerry. "We have spent all our money now, so we can't buy any more toys for him." "Yes! said their dad, "I told him that, and he says old toys will do."

"Oh! I know," said Joan, "let us send him all the toys and books we never play with now. I've a lot I'm tired of; he can have those." "Right," said Jerry; "let us see who has most to give away." The children started to sort out their toys, and Mr. and Mrs. Grey slipped out of the room, for the children needed no help.

At tea-time, a very excited and happy boy and girl hadn't a grumble left. "Dad and Mam, come and see what we've found for Father Christmas," they cried. Up in the play room Jerry and Joan had each made a pile of toys. Teddy bears, balls, books, ships, dolls, trains, kites, were heaped upon the floor. They had mended some of the toys that were a wee bit broken and Jerry had even put his rocking horse to be given away, whilst Joan had put her favourite doll amongst the pile. "What a wonderful heap of toys," cried Dad, and Mother suggested that he'd better ask for a cart to take them off to Father Christmas.

The children went early and happy to bed that night, and each was hoping that Father Christmas would be pleased with their toys. When the children were asleep, Mr. Grey sent off all the toys, with a special message for Santa Claus.

This was the letter:—

"Dear Father Christmas,

Jerry and Joan would like all of these toys to be given to poor little boys and girls. Mammy and I want to tell you that NOW there is room in our house for a big doll's house for Joan and a real bicycle for Jerry. Could you get them, please? We will leave the play room window open for you.

With our best wishes,

MAMMY AND DADDY GREY."

Father Christmas was so pleased with the big load of

toys that he was very careful to find the right bicycle and the right doll's house for Jerry and Joan. They had such a happy Christmas, but really the happiest one at their party was someone they couldn't see. Who? Why! the Christmas Fairy, who made her home inside the fairy doll at the very top of the Christmas tree.

Have a jolly time, Imps!

Love to you all from

MEG.

THE S.N.U. FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure to report the following income, and would especially mention the gift of Egeria, earmarked for the Reserve Fund; the splendid help received from Miss Estelle Stead on behalf of the Members of the W. T. Stead Library Bureau, £105; income from the special meeting held at Portsmouth Temple, the speakers being Mr. Hannen Swaffer and Mr. Maurice Barbanell, the collection (£3 6s. od.) helped to bring their donation to £10 15s.

For all donations, large or small, the Committee are truly grateful, and thank everyone most sincerely for the contributions received. The response is fairly good so far.

Apart from the two special gifts, the October income only shows an increase of £10, so we are looking forward to receiving help from those Churches or Lyceums who have not yet sent their collections or donations. Please do so as soon as possible and help the Committee to feel their anxiety is relieved for another year, and the good work may still go on.

With grateful thanks,

Yours gratefully,

32b, North St.,
Keighley, Yorks.

MARY L. STAIR,
Hon. Secretary.

Personal donations received during October:—The gift of Egeria £85, Rev. G. Vale Owen 5s., Mrs. Ruth Hey 10s., Mr. and Mrs. Waterhouse 10s., J. H. H. London 10s., An old friend of the Cause 5s., Mrs. McLauchlan 10s., Three Marsden Friends 7s. 6d., Mr. A. Scott 7s. 6d., Mrs. Marshall Hancock 10s., Mrs. E. E. Green £3 3s., W. T. Oversby £1, H. Allen George 10s. 6d., Mrs. M. Walker 3s. 6d., J. S. Hawick 10s. 6d., G. F. Berry 10s., A. Garlick 5s., Robertus £1 1s., Mr. and Mrs. H. Stair 10s., F. Wilmot 5s., P. W. Oversby 5s., Mrs. Bennion 5s., J. J. Ashworth 10s., Mrs. Griffiths, Barrow Home Circle 10s., E.R.O., 1st. C. Surrey St., Bristol 5s., E. Leach, Eastbourne, per Mr. H. A. Bentley £1, Mr. Whitmarsh, fee from Acton Spiritualist Mission 10s. 6d., Mrs. L. M. Hare, payment Healing Circle, Southampton 7s. 6d., P.S. 17s.—Total £100 17s. od.

The gift of Egeria is earmarked for the Reserve Fund, and the donor wishes me to mention that it is the tithe of the profit on the sale of a property.

Churches contributing during October, 1930:—

London:—Dover £1, Battersea £1 10s., Brixton Brotherhood £4 4s., Hackney Church and Lyceum £2, Manor Park £2 2s. 9d., Plaistow £1 1s. 6d., Ilford Psychical Research Society £2 2s., South London Mission and Lyceum, £2 16s., Woolwich and Plumstead £1, Surbiton Christian Spiritualist Church 10s. 6d., Lyceum 2s., Sutton, Surrey £1 1s., Luton £2 2s., Acton Mission 10s. 6d., Crouch End £3 4s. 6d., Cambridge £2 1s., Thenton £2 11s., East London, Earlham Hall £1, Wembley £2 os. 9d., Marylebone Association, Speaker's Fee £1 1s., London Spiritualist Mission, Cambridge Place £11 2s. Members of W. T. Stead Library Bureau, per Miss Estelle Stead, £105.—Total £150 2s. 6d.

Southern District.—Worthing £5, Plymouth, Morley St. £5, Ventnor 14s. 6d., Portsmouth Temple £10 15s., Portsmouth Lyceum 5s., Reading, The Society for Psychical Research, special meeting conducted by Mr. Hannen Swaffer and Mr. Maurice Barbanell, £2 2s.—Total £23 16s. 6d.

South Wales.—Cardiff 1st Church £2 5s., Swansea £1 1s.—Total £3 6s. od.

Scotland.—Lochgelly 10s., Paisley 6s.—Total 16s.

North Midlands. Mansfield 1st, Dallas St. £1, South Wigton 5s., Eastwood, Notts. 5s., Coalville, Leicester, 3s. 6d., Hucknall, Darbyshire Lane, 10s., Nottingham, North Sherwood St., £1 1s., Sutton-in-Ashfield 8s.—Total £3 12s. 6d.

South Midlands.—Cannock, 16s., Smethwick, Church Lane, £1 2s. 9d., Coventry, Lochkurst Lane, 4s. 6d., Coventry, Broad gate Progressive, £1 1s., Coventry, Bull St., £1 16s., Total £5 os. 3d.

Lancashire.—Birkenhead, Hamilton 18s. 3d., Rock Ferry Occult Research 12s., Runcorn, Ashridge, St., 10s., Colwyn Bay £1, Accrington, Pearl St., £1, Accrington, Abbey St., 7s. 6d., Lancaster, Gt. John St., £1, Congleton £1 1s., Wrexham, £1, Heywood, Willingham St., 5s., Barrow Psycho, 3 quarters Members Tax £1 15s., Barrow, Dalton Road Church, £1 10s., Poulton-le-Fylde, special meeting, speaker Miss Sunderland, £1 5s.—Total £12 3s. 9d.

Yorkshire. Sheffield District Committee £2 2s., Harrogate 8s. 6d., Barnsley, North Pavement, £1 1s., Barnsley, Grace St., £1, Heeley Lyceum Church, Gifford Road, 10s., Heeley Lyceum, Gifford Road, 10s., Heeley, Woodseats, late Bramall Lane, 10s., West Melton 10s., Mrs. Marshal Hancock's Class 5s., Hemsworth 6s., Leeds, Brunswick Place, £1, York, Spenn Lane, £1 5s.—Total £9 7s. 6d.

Northern District Area.—Cramlington and Seaton Delavel 7s. 1½d., Newburn-on-Tyne 10s., New Shildon, Newland, Avenue, £1, South Shields, Fowler St., 15s., Smalwell 4s., West Ryton 2s. 6d., Newbiggin-by-the-Sea 10s., North Shields Rippon Hall Church, £1 7s., Personal subscriptions £1 6s., Gateshead, Rectory Hall Lyceum 5s., per Mr. W. D. Todds Retiring collection, at J. Gills Testimonial Meeting £1 6s., Retiring Collection, High Shields Conference 8s. 6d., Dudley National Spiritualist Church 5s., Mr. J. Ridley 2s. 6d., Mr. and Mrs. Drude 2s. 6d.—Total £8 11s. 1½d.

Churches total, £111 16s. 1½d. Stead Bureau £105.—Total £216 16 1½d.

TRANSITION OF MR. JAMES LORD, OF HEYWOOD.

Heywood, William St., regret to report the passing, at the age of 65 years, of their esteemed worker, Mr. James Lord, who was Vice-President and Treasurer of the Church, and Conductor of the Lyceum.

Mr. Lord has been a Spiritualist for over 35 years, and was a past member of the E.C. of the B.S.L.U. He had also been President of the South East Lancashire L.D.C., attending many Conferences of the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. in various positions.

For some years his health had not been very good and he devoted his energies to the welfare of the local Church and Lyceum.

His Labours have been much appreciated by local friends, who gave him a public funeral. A few hundred people attended the interment ceremony on Nov. 8th, conducted by Mr. G. F. Knott, Appropriate hymns were sung.

We tender our sympathy to Mrs. Lord and family and hope her knowledge of Spiritualism will be a consolation in the physical loss of her constant companion.

THE INDIAN GIRL'S LAMENT.

“Thou'rt happy now, for thou has passed
The long dark journey of the grave,
And in the land of light, at last,
Hast joined the good and brave—
Amid the flushed and balmy air,
The bravest and the loveliest there.

Yet oft thine own dear Indian maid,
Even there, thy thoughts will earthward stray—
To her who sits where thou wert laid,
And weeps the hours away,
Yet almost can her grief forget
To think that thou dost love her yet.

W. C. BRYANT.

Lyceum Manual Test, No. 24.

A splendid entry from 38 juniors greeted me this month, but the seniors have failed to send in their attempts in like numbers. They are indeed so few that the test result will be held over for another month and the questions reprinted. It will be advisable for all attempts to be submitted as the result may be quite surprising to every entrant.

The correct answers and markings for the Junior Test are:—

Marks.

- I. 1. Work, No. 35.
- I. 2. Go Forward, No. 401.
2. 3. Do not Wait. Nos. 238, 389.
- I. 4. There must be something wrong. No. 61.
- I. 5. Backbone, No. 82
- I. 6. The Homeland. No. 316.
- I. 7. { Sometime. No 85.
- I. { The Hereafter. No. 210.
- I. 8. { The Summerland, No. 312.
- I. { The happy Spirit Land, No. 394.
- I. { Heavenly Mansions. No. 216.
- I. { The Hereafter. No. 210.
- I. 9. { Our Rights. No. 143.
- I. { Good-night. No. 319.
- I. 10. { Daybreak. No. 423.
- I. { Morn Amid the Mountains. No. 338.
- I. 11. { The Kingdoms of Nature. No. 107.
- I. { The Senses. No. 129.
- I. 12. Get up Early. No. 46.
- I. 13. { Love. No. 118.
- I. { Wisdom. No. 116.
- I. 14. Home Affections. No. 208.
- I. 15. Speak Gently. No. 36.
- I. 16. Sing all Together. No. 302.

25.

The half-crowns have been awarded to:—

Joan Heapy, of "Homeglen," St., John's Road, Ryde, aged 10 years, with 16 marks.

Horace White, of 20, Downey Road, Wandsworth, S.W., 18., aged 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ years, with 14 marks.

Honorable mention is earned by Winnie Hotten, Rose Malcolm, Prudence McColl, Phyllis Baker, Vera Haslam, Matilda Groom, Gordon Snook, G. E. Shackle, Kenneth Parker, Sidney Hobster, Paul Webster, Colin Ruston, James Morgan, Ernest Mauley, George Sharpe, Reuben Watts, and Laurence Harding each of whom had 12 or 13 marks.

LYCEUM MANUAL TEST, No. 25.

Junior Section.

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

What Manual Titles do the following suggest to you and what are their numbers in the Manual.

1. Repetition.
2. There's harmony all around.
3. Lyceum Sunday.
4. Steady boys, steady.
5. Angel Visitors.
6. Be of assistance.
7. Farmers.

8. School.
9. On the benches in the park.
10. Second Principle.
11. Here we are again.
12. Never changes.
13. Many happy returns.

LYCEUM MANUAL TEST.

Senior Section.

Prizes will be given for the best sets of answers from one boy and one girl between 14 and 21 years of age and one adult.

Trace the authors hidden in the following lines and name one of their compositions in the Manual.

1. If you this authors' name would guess
A musket find without its Bess.
2. The Keeper of the Door will tell
The author's name, not Ethel Dell.
3. This author from America, an elongated male
Exceeded three score years and ten, before he
crossed the vale.
4. This author edited 'Good Words,'
Was chaplain to a Queen,
His essays, travels, stories all
Were very good I wean.
5. This author is a kind of perch
Sometimes connected with a Church.
6. In far New Zealand with a flat
This author's found, just think of that.
7. "The Wanderer of Switzerland"
"The Indian from the West,"
Are titles of the pieces which
Disclose this author best.
8. This author was born in Southampton
He wrote "The improvement of mind,"
Now search in your reference volumes
His name you will easily find.
9. If you know who wrote "Cheer boys, cheer,"
You've got this Manual author here.
10. A gardener would quickly see
This author in a small chick pea.
11. If $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. in a woman
Or less than $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. in a man,
This organ is much below standard,
An author now trace if you can.
12. Whatever creed he doth embrace,
His object is to help the race.
"All colours" he delights to choose,
His service many Churchmen use.
13. This author when on Holland's ground
Means "to be silly" I have found.
14. "Barry Cornwall" was connected with this author,
As a poet patriotic *he* gained fame.
His powers he transmitted
And another one was fitted
To add laurels to *his* most illustrious name.
15. To books of tune that harmonize
You'll see this author's name applies.
16. Join a pippin to this author
'Twill a citron species place,
And in other ways you'll notice
'Tis an easy one to trace.

17. Just think of "two" then put them down on paper
Now nothing add, then what you've written there
Will give an easy clue to trace this author,
Which every one who's right, will say is fair.

TEST COUPON, No. 25.

Name

Address

Age (if under 21)

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

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.

MOHAMMED, No. 145.—Mohammed, the founder of the Islam religion, was born at Mecca, A.D. 571, and buried at Medina, on the spot where he died, A.D. 632. His father, Abdallah, died before his son was born. When five years of age he visited Medina which is 240 miles north of Mecca, with his mother, Amina, who died during their return journey. He was then taken care of by his paternal grandfather, Abd—al-Muttalib, who was the chief of a Koreish family in Mecca. At his grandfather's death Mohammed was adopted by his uncle Abu-Talib. At twelve years of age he was engaged minding sheep and camels in the neighbourhood of Mecca. At twenty-five years of age he was recommended by his uncle to take charge of a trading caravan belonging to a wealthy Koreishite widow named Khadija. In charge of this he travelled to Bostra, sixty miles east of the river Jordan, on the road to Damascus. His honesty and diligence won Khadija's affection; and this marriage, though she was fourteen years his senior was a very happy one. Khadija bore him two sons, who died young, and four daughters of whom the most famous was Fatima.

Mohammed's life previous to his announcement of his mission was passed among a people with whom revenge was a religious duty and blood feuds were common; whole tribes being involved in them. Drunkenness and gambling prevailed largely. Female children were often buried alive as soon as born. Women were in general mere chattels; polygamy and divorce were frequent. Idolatry, divination, and bloody sacrifices (sometimes of sons by their fathers), and sensualism were prevalent.

When Mohammed was about thirty-five years old, the Kaaba or shrine of the sacred black stone, was rendered insecure by a flood, and it was decided to rebuild the walls and cover them with a roof. During a dispute as to who should place the black stone in its position in the walls, Mohammed was chosen to decide the question, and he took off his mantle, and placing

the stone on it said, "Now let one from each of your four divisions come forward and raise a corner of this mantle." This was done, and Mohammed with his hand guided it to its place; and this decision increased his influence among his fellow tribesmen. Other incidents are recorded, showing his capacity for forming warm friendships, for showing gratitude and kindness and for wise paternal judgment.

About his fortieth year Mohammed became more and more contemplative and frequently retired into solitary valleys. His favourite resort was a cave at the foot of Mount Hira, three miles north of Mecca. One night, while he was in the cave, during the month of Ramadan, engaged in pious exercises, the angel Gabriel came to him, in a vision, and held a silken scroll before him and compelled him to recite what was written on it, and it is asserted that this is the ninety-sixth sura (the name given to the chapters of the Koran meaning 'reading'), beginning; "Recite! in the name of the Lord who created man from congealed blood! Recite! for the Lord is the most High, who hath taught the pen, hath taught man what he knew not. Nay, truly man walketh in delusion when he deems that he suffices for himself; to thy Lord is the return."

On his return home he confided to Khadija what he had seen and read while in the cave. She comforted him and confirmed him in the belief that it was a revelation from God. On a subsequent occasion when he was in deep distress his attention was arrested by hearing a voice which said, "O! Mohammed, thou art in truth the prophet of Allah, and I am Gabriel," Mohammed said later, "Inspiration descendeth upon me in one of two ways; sometimes Gabriel cometh and communicateth the revelation unto me as one man unto another, and this is easy; at other times it affecteth me like the ringing of a bell, penetrating my very heart, and rending me, as it were in pieces, and this is it which grievously affecteth me."

Mohammed at first preached his doctrines privately amongst his friends. Gradually his appeal was extended to the whole of the Koreish and their slaves, but the Meccans in general paid little heed to him. They were already familiar with the essence of his teaching about the one God, and the necessity of truth and righteousness, which was not to their liking; it was a doctrine, which if followed out, demanded painful changes in their daily life, a true obedience to the all-powerful Judge of man, accompanied by prayer, almsgiving, a temperate life, no murder, no slaying of baby girls, no idolatry. If the slaves, the children of the lower classes heard him gladly that was an additional reason why the haughty Koreish would not listen to him. They ridiculed his pretension of being a prophet of Allah, and demanded a sign from heaven. Persistent persecution at length drove him and his followers from Mecca, and it is this Hajira or flight to Medina (which is 240 miles north of Mecca) in July 622, which marks not only the year from which the Mohammedans compute their era, but the turning point in the prophet's career. Cordially welcomed, and hospitably entertained at Medina, it was from this city that he set out on those wars which resulted in the conquest of Mecca and the subjugation of Arabia to his rule.

These wars started from a desire to be revenged on his persecutors. A guerilla war resulted in the plunder of rich caravans on their way to Mecca. At length the

exasperated Meccans, joined with the Bedouins and organised an expedition against Mohammed and his followers. A series of sanguinary battles terminated in the complete victory of the latter and the capture of Mecca. In ten years from the Hajira he numbered his followers by the thousands. Notwithstanding his success, neither regal state, nor personal ambition ever appealed to him. Although captive women were condemned to slavery or concubinage and polygamy was countenanced, yet for twenty-three years Khadija was Mohammed's only wife, but after her death in 619, he had several. At his own death in 632 all Arabia acknowledged his spiritual and temporal power.

Says one historian, Fetishism, animal worship, especially of the sun and heavenly bodies, as well as ancestor-worship, undoubtedly existed among the Arabs before Mohammed's time. And he had to build upon the state of things he found deeply ingrained in his people. How powerful his influence and that of his successors was, may be gathered from the fact that they elevated an obscure dialect into a language as widespread as Latin in the days of the Roman empire, and that to this day new conquests are being made to Islam and the Arabs."

In our next issue will appear sketches of Nightingale (Florence), Newton, (Sir Isaac), and Paine (Thomas).

REVIEWS.

Great Ghost Stories, by Harrison Dale. Cloth 7s. 6d. Herbert Jenkins, Ltd., 3, York Street, St. James', S.W.1.

This book is a collection of Ghost Stories by writers of fiction. The compilation is an interesting change from the real ghost stories; few of which are well written.

The introduction contains a very comprehensive bibliography of books containing the varied styles of ghost tales.

There are fifteen stories by British and Foreign Authors. Some of the tales are verbose, but others will give the reader an interesting hour.

Egremond's Release, by T. Hodgson. Cloth 7s. 6d. Arthur H. Stockwell, Ltd., 29, Ludgate Hill, E.C.4.

The physical and occult history of Bolton Abbey, near Skipton, is told in rhyme, around the theme of a son who was drowned.

The boy's mother builds the Abbey and stays, as a spirit, around the ruins.

The author claims that Lady Romille, the boy's mother has requested the publishing of the book, after having been drawn from haunting the Abbey to a medium on the North Pacific shores.

It is a spiritualistic story in which Egremond finds release and works among the spirits, held to the Abbey by custom and habit, with the object of making them free.

The rhyme is narrative and interspersed with epigrams. The following lines give the tone of the book:

"With Thought and Reason as the motive power
 "From Nature's all potential pulse and bower
 "Let Science gather up some Truths to bind
 "The human family in a common mind.
 "Then creed will wilt and have no seed to sow
 "From lack of ground or room in which to grow."

District Visitors' Reports.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.

The following Lyceums have been paid a visit.

West Vale, Oct. 5th. Plenty of visitors. Good Session. Marching very nice. A few pearls and recitations. Comments on readings very good.

Elland, Westgate, Oct. 19th. 14 scholars present. Singing very good. Marching and callisthenics good. Comments on readings fairly good. A few pearls and recitations. The Lyceum was well conducted.

Quarby, Oct. 12th. Nice attendance of scholars. Singing was good. Marching and callisthenics very good. Explanations and responses rather good. A few pearls and recitations by the children.—W. Buttle, D.V.

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD DISTRICT.

Since my last report I have visited the following Lyceums: Hollinwood, Byrom St. Sept. 14th. Prompt start. Present 23. There is an improvement in this Lyceum. Many questions were asked on the readings. A few efforts from the members were followed by marching and callisthenics. A good Session throughout.

Maskell St., Oct. 5th. Present 25. This Lyceum is slowly gaining its old standard of efficiency. There were several questions upon the readings, also a little discussion which was enjoyed by all. Marching and callisthenics were good. Session good.

Stretford, Watson St., Oct. 5th. 2-30. Prompt start. This Lyceum is well to the fore in efficiency. The "Harvest Session" was a most enjoyable one.

Moston, Church Lane. Prompt start. Present 40. There is an improvement here, the children being attentive, and also eager with their efforts. Marching and callisthenics were fair. The Session tone is improving.

Newton Heath, Allan St., Nov. 2nd. Prompt start. Present 48. This Lyceum is "par excellence" in every way. The Conductor here is original with the Session and I think this makes it more enjoyable. There were questions on the readings and also items from the children. A most instructive and enjoyable Session throughout.

Longsight, Shepley St., Nov. 9th. Prompt start. Present 39. The members of this Lyceum are very enthusiastic in the work. Great interest is shown in the children. Several recitations and pearls. Marching and callisthenics were very good. Session very good.

Droylsden, Durham St., Nov. 16th. Prompt start. Present 31. The Lyceum is pushing ahead. There were comments on the readings and a few items from the children. Pearls from all. Marching and callisthenics were good. Session good.

Wishing all Lyceums "The compliments of the Season."—G. Ashton, D.V.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT.

Parkgate Lyceum was visited on the 6th July, when a prompt start was made. The explanations to the S.C.R. were excellent. Large numbers marched. In the individual efforts there were recitations in abundance. The interest generally is keen. Singing was of a good quality. Co-operation in all ways is the secret of the success of this Lyceum. Very large numbers of young children were present.

Aug. 17th, Barnsley, Grace St. The invocation was inspiring. Explanations to the S.C.R. showed good intelligence. Marching smartly performed. The method employed in the G.C.R. shows progress is not lacking. Open Session was a popular item. Pearls of good moral value were said. Nice number of interested young people present.

By request, Winnington, a new Lyceum, was visited on Sept. 14th. Questions, and questioners, were well to the fore. Marching and callisthenics are being tackled in the proper way. A good start has been made, and the spirit of comradeship and goodwill, which was so prevalent on my visit, was fine.

Mexborough, Sept. 21st. Children responded well to questions on the S.C.R. An able account was given of the G.C.R. The children's conduct was very good. A harmonious Session. The present Officers are to be congratulated on their work in trying times.

West Melton commenced punctually when a visit was made on Sept. 28th. A very difficult G.C.R. was taken, and a ready response was given. Young readers did very well in their explanations. Conduct was fairly good. An enjoyable Session. With a large room even more progress would be inevitable.

35 Lyceumists were present with a hearty greeting when Scunthorpe was visited on 12th October. The reading of the S.C.R. was exceptionally good. The connective readings of M.R. 230 were explained in a fine manner. Vocal efforts in the Open Session were pleasing. Good number of elders and several visitors. The children were well behaved.

Short Sessions have been held at Rotherham and Thurnscoe. The Marching and callisthenics were the best features.

James Le Noury, A.N.S.C., D.V.

SOUTHERN COUNTIES DISTRICT.

Devonport Lyceum, Aug. 17th. Session held in Spiritualist Hall, Ferry Road, Devonport. A warm welcome was accorded me by the lady Conductor. Mr. Holroyd, the Secretary, was the conductor for the afternoon Session. Present 22. Pearls from all. Questions brought ready answers. Callisthenics need special comment. Splendid effort in a needy quarter. Success to the workers there.

Eastleigh Lyceum, Oct. 5th. Session held at Church Hall, Scouts Headquarters, Eastleigh. Mrs. Eley, Conductor, gave greeting to all visitors and handed the Session over to "Uncle Bert." Present 80. Greetings from Portsmouth, Southampton, and Ryde. A joyous Open Session. Pearls were good and responses splendid. Recitations, solos, violin, and a trio all added to the harmony put forth by this young Lyceum. All honour to the workers. E. M. Taylor, A.N.S.C., D.V.

District Council Reports.

BOLTON DISTRICT.—The quarterly meeting of the Bolton L.D.C. was held on Nov. 15th in the Deane Road National Spiritualist Church, Bolton.

Mr. Walsh, Treasurer, presided until the arrival of Mr. Charnley, President.

Minutes were adopted after a few questions had been satisfactorily answered.

Correspondence was accepted.

The President's Address was short, but interesting to the Council Members.

The Treasurer reported a balance of £4 1s. 8d. This amount included the Demonstration Fund.

The D.V. reported visits to Horwich and Bolton (Bradford St.), and gave both Lyceums glowing reports.

All reports were adopted.

There was a long discussion regarding the Demonstration for 1931, and the matter was eventually referred back to the Lyceum for full discussion. A special meeting for Demonstration business will be held on Dec. 6th at Radcliffe.

Dates and places for 1931 Council Meetings were fixed.

Deane Road Lyceum signified their intention of entering the Shield competition again, and the Council expressed its appreciation of this step.

The best thanks were extended to Deane Road Church for their kindly hospitality. Miss Bleackley suitably replied.

A DEAN, A.N.S.C.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.—Quarterly Meeting held at Alma St., on Nov. 9th, 1930. There were present 18 Officers, delegates and associates.

The most important business was the Adjudicators' Report, which showed that Alma St., with 86½ marks and Ramsden St., 84½ marks had again won the Shield and the Bell. It was decided to hold an adjudication in 1931 on similar lines.

The best thanks of Council were given to Mr. H. Barnes, of Bradford, and Mr. Harding, of Wakefield, for acting as Adjudicators.

Please note.—Will all Lyceums please send in to Secretary not later than Jan. 12th, 1931, all nominations for office for next year.

Next meeting: Elland, Feb. 8th, 1931.

Change of date:—May meeting from 2nd to 3rd Sunday.

An open Session was held in the afternoon conducted by Mr. T. Ellis, Vice-President. The Peace Programme was taken from the BANNER. Various delegates took part in the readings. Mr. P. Chapman conducted the Marching, and the following Lyceumists contributed items;—E. Dracup and N. Ambler, piano solos; A. Thorpe, C. Thorpe, K. Chapman recitations; A. Oakes and Mrs. Mitchell, readings.

Evening Services was also taken by the D.C., Mr. Ellis being in the Chair. Mrs. Mitchell gave the invocation and benediction.

Miss G. Haigh rendered "The Homeland" and recited; Mr. Saxon gave a reading, and Mr. E. Smith gave clairvoyance. A happy day.

LONDON DISTRICT.—The first of the Season's dances was held at Holborn Hall, on Saturday, Nov. 15th, 1930. This was well supported and a most successful event, the proceeds being devoted to the Children's Xmas Party to be held later. A special feature was the attendance of a number of Indian gentlemen who were given a cordial welcome, to which they suitably responded amid much applause.

Mrs. Bell and the Members of the Social Committee deserve our appreciation. Mr. Pearson's Band added to the success of the evening.

A Lyceum Propaganda Meeting was held at Letchworth Garden City on Saturday, Nov. 22nd. Mrs. Calway outlined the method of conducting a Lyceum. Mr. J. Calway spoke on the Education and College Scheme. Mr. Fruin referred to the value of Spiritualist Churches having their own Sunday Schools.

Mrs. and Miss Fruin, Miss Pennington and Miss Last attended.

SOUTHERN COUNTIES DISTRICT.—The Quarterly Meeting was held at Parish Hall, Eastleigh, on Saturday, Nov. 1st. Representatives from Portsmouth, Reading, Southampton, Ryde, and Eastleigh. Invocation offered by Mrs. Taylor, D.V. Mrs. Eley, Eastleigh Conductor, extended invitation, and Mr. Lawrence, President, suitably responded.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted. Arising from correspondence it was agreed that Mrs. Taylor's expenditure on BANNERS to Devonport be met by Council funds.

The Treasurer's report showed Balance in hand £3 14s. 8d. The D.V., reported visits to Plymouth and Eastleigh. It was proposed to forward reports for insertion in BANNER.

Notice was given of next Quarterly District Council Meeting of Churches, to be at Worthing.

Secretary reported 8 Lyceums in affiliation and an increase of five Associate Members.

In Open Council we unanimously agreed that a letter be sent to Miss D. Cornell, Conductor of Ilford Lyceum, who at present is lying sick at Ventnor Consumptive Hospital.

The Secretary agreed to forward detailed account of origin and aims of £2,000 Effort Fund.

An invitation for Annual General Meeting to be held at Cavendish Grove, Southampton, was accepted with thanks for Feb., 28th, 1931. Also a preliminary invitation for May meeting to be held at Ryde, I.O.W.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Eastleigh Lyceum and moved by the President, who terminated the meeting with benediction.

H. C. GUY, Sec.

TEES-SIDE DISTRICT.—The Quarterly Conference was held at the Witton Park Lyceum on Sunday, 9th November, when in addition to the usual routine business, the following items received attention:

Minute No 212, Art. 5.e. was rescinded and the following substituted. "Art. 5.e. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Officers and one Representative from each Lyceum in the District Council."

The Birthday Celebrations Scheme was referred back to Lyceums; will Secretaries please communicate with the D.C. Secretary in regard to same.

The Secretary is to arrange with Miss Elliott to conduct a rally on 21st June, 1931. It is expected that all the Lyceums in the D.C. will support this effort.

The Secretary was instructed to write Mr. Knott protesting against the poor binding and printing of Manuals.

The following Notices of Motion were presented for consideration at next Conference.

"That the Rota System of holding Conferences be dispensed with and a place centralised for all Conferences."

"That the time of commencing Conference be retarded to 11-30 a.m. so that all local means of transit may be taken advantage of."

Stockton (Brunswick St.)

"That in future this Council meet on the 3rd Sunday in November instead of Peace Sunday."

Shildon (Newlands Av.)

The afternoon session was conducted by the Council Secretary. The following Lyceums gave their greetings—Gurney Valley, Shildon, Middlesbrough (Wilson Street), Shotton, Stockton (Brunswick St.), Darlington (Progressive), Darlington (Psychological), Middlesbrough (Grange Rd.), Horden, Witton Park. A paper was read by Mr. Millar (Stockton) entitled "A Criticism of Golden Chain Recitations No. 139 and 148" which was keenly discussed. Successful evening services were conducted by various members of the Council.

ED. NELLIST, A.N.S.C., Secretary.

SILVER PAPER.

AINSWORTH HOME OF REST SCHEME.

We shall be glad to receive any Silver Paper from Lyceumists for the benefit of the above Scheme.

If odd bits are sent in ordinary letters (under 2 oz.) when Secretaries are writing to the General Secretary, the despatch will not cost anything extra for postage.

The D.C.'s have become collecting centres and pass the paper to the General Secretary by hand as occasion permits, otherwise the postage may be more than we shall receive for the paper.

We acknowledge with thanks receipt of silver paper from:—Mr. Alfred Kitson, Dewsbury; Oldham, Central Lyceum; Mrs. Walsh, Mrs. Carr, N. Dean, Harold Kaye and Joan Oddie, Bury; Miss G. M. Walker, Darwen; Blackpool Lyceum (per Mrs. Rothwell); Mr. Marriner, York; Miss Doris Stephenson, Edinburgh; Mrs. N. E. Liddle, Westcliff; Baron St. Lyceum, Rochdale; Mr. and Mrs. R. Bowmer; Fred Carter, Blackpool; Cheetham Hill Lyceum; Miss Janey Robinson, Daulby Hall Lyceum; Longsight Lyceum; Bolton, Henry St., Lyceum; Bolton, Deane Road, Lyceum; Earby, Onward Lyceum; Mrs. M. Paul, Dunedin, New Zealand; Lewisham Lyceum; Woolwich and Plumstead; New Malden; Miss I. Graham, Gateshead; E. N. Marston, Stockport; Accrington (Argyle St.) Lyceum; Miss Horton, Middleton (Old Hall St.); Joan Morgan, Peckham; Liverpool (Daulby Hall); Mrs. Sims, Manchester (Progressive).

Mr. Alfred Kitson, the Adviser to the B.S.L.U., sends a monthly parcel of Silver paper for the Ainsworth Home of Rest Fund. We regret Mr. Kitson's name was missed from the November list.

The Children's Puzzle.



Find the way to the Christmas Pudding by starting at the bottom and passing along the Xmas without crossing any lines.

Special Reports.

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

CARDIFF, First, Park Grove.—Our Open Session held on October 12th was popularly supported. Miss Edwards conducted assisted by Miss Goodenough, with Mr. Geo. Harris Chairman. The programme included recitations, pianoforte solo, duet solo, pearls, silver and golden chains, and hymns; presentation of Education Certificates to Members. Two Naming ceremonies were performed.

The success of both the Open Session held in July and the above mentioned is the pleasing reward of nine months' junior organisation and administration which has brought increased membership and renewed enthusiasm.—R. H. McNish, Assist. Sec.

DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND.—Sept. 21st was Open Session. The Certificates were presented to successful students in the B.S.L.U. Examinations. There was not a large attendance owing to so much sickness, but one or two visitors were present. Pearls by all present. Recitations by Eric Downes, Colin and Irene Bachop, Frances Anthony, Joan Hargreaves, Lorraine Hoynes, Jean McConnell, Mavis and Kitty Dobbin, Jean Robinson and Mr. Gore. Readings by Miss Burgess and Mrs. McConnell. Musical solo by Mr. Hargreaves.

Mr. Stables, Church Vice-President, told the children a story, after which he presented the Certificates and spoke on the value of the Education Scheme, and urged them to take it again this year. He complimented all on the results obtained. He gave the benediction. Greetings to all Lyceums and best wishes for continued success of the BANNER.—Miss R. Burgess, Con.-Sec.

LEICESTER, Rupert Street.—This Lyceum gave a service of Song, "The Bridge of Love," at their Church during September. A member of an adult school was present and was so delighted at the splendid way it was given that we were asked to give it at one of the largest women's adult schools in the city. It was with much pleasure that the Lyceum gave this service of song again and the words of appreciation and thanks will long be remembered. It was not only the giving and receiving but the fact of how people are realising that Spiritualism is a true religion of usefulness, striving to help all humanity towards the golden age of peace and joy, and uniting all hearts.

MANCHESTER, Newton Heath.—Oct. 25th. A Social and Dance was enjoyed by all. The Valdianians Dance Band were in attendance.

Oct. 26th. Liberty Group. Our Speaker was Mr. Jones, his subject being "Will power." A subject which opens the mind. A Vote of thanks was conveyed to Mr. Jones in the usual way.

Nov. 15th. A splendid knife and fork tea was provided by the ladies for their effort. During the evening dancing was heartily enjoyed by all. Once more the Valdianians Dance Band supplied the music.

Nov. 23rd. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. McClellan was named during the Session by Miss Watson. The children sang "Open the Door for the Children" and "Heart Flowers." The earthly name of the child is Joan, and the spiritual name "Rosemary." The flowers used were a red rose for "Love" and chrysanthemums for "Purity and Sincerity."—R. H. Baycliffe, Sec.

SMETHWICK.—Wednesday, Nov. 19th. 64 guests assembled at the Coming of Age Celebrations of our esteemed Lyceumist, Miss Nellie Maybury. After the usual speeches and a toast, we sat down to a splendid spread, followed by programme of dancing and intermediate games. A happy feature was the presentation of a Ladies' Handbag, given by Lyceumists, as a token of love and goodwill. The proceedings concluded with our impressive parting salute.—Victor W. Mann, Assist. Sec.

WELLINGTON, Kent Terrace.—On Sunday evening, 21st Sept., we held a Special Lyceum Session, in place of the customary Church Service. We had a splendid gathering of Lyceumists and also a considerable number of Church Members.

With the exception of the marching and callisthenics, which were omitted, we held a complete Lyceum Session.

The connective readings to the Musical Reading were read by Miss R. Waring, Mrs. Ricarlton, and Mr. S. Harris. The Golden Chain Recitation was conducted by Mr. Parkins. A vocal trio was rendered by Miss L. Webb, Mrs. Dray and Miss G. Webb. Mrs. R. A. Webb rendered a solo, after which she made a few brief remarks on the Lyceum.

Our Lyceum Conductor, Mr. R. A. Webb, presided at this beautiful and most successful service.—S. Harris, Sec.

LYCEUM REPORTS.

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

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

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

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

RULE 4.—All Reports must reach this Office not later than December 20th, to ensure insertion in the January issue.

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

ACCRINGTON AND DISTRICT Joint Lyceums.—On Oct. 12th Mr. Latham, of Burnley, presented the successful candidates of the B.S.L.U. Exams. with their Certificates at the Massed Sessions at Padiham.

Great Harwood won the Silver Bell for the second year in succession. The possible marks were 450. The results of the competition being,—Great Harwood 421, Accrington (Pearl St.), 400, Accrington (Argyle St.) 373, Padiham 320.—Walter Taylor, Sec.

ACCRINGTON, Pearl St.—Nov. 2nd. Recitations by Phyllis Edwards, Nellie Laycock, Miss Dobson, of Preston. Solos by Hilda Swift, Alex Taylor, Willie Crabtree. Duets by Nellie Laycock, Hilda Southworth. Hilda Neild, Gladys Jenkinson, Hilda and Walter Swift. Quartette by Hilda Southworth, Nellie Laycock, Phyllis Edwards, Francis Laycock. We had a very enjoyable time together and are undoubtedly marching forward with the leaders.—Mr. Fazackerley, Mr. Edwards and Miss Kenniford. Miss J. A. Kenniford was responsible for the education of the five successful entrants for Oral Grade.—W. Hilton, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—Nov. 2nd. Open Session. Recitations by Edna and Clifford Jones, Florrie and Muriel Watson, Jimmy Henderson, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Edwards. A solo by Mrs. Harper and a duet nicely rendered by Lilian Harding and Leslie Hamilton. Six pearls were given and explained. A nice Session.—D. Dunn, Sec.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter St.—Oct. 26th was our Lyceum Day. We held two Open Sessions, ably controlled by our Conductor, Mr. J. N. Railton.

In the afternoon the following gave recitations:—O. Parker, and B. Hinchcliffe. Solo by Mrs. Hall. Duets, E. and B. Robinson, D. Parker and D. Timmings. Quartette, by J. Robinson, J. Council, F. and A. Robinson.

Evening Session, recitations by D. Parker and E. Bundle. Duologue by B. Bundle and B. Hinchcliffe. Pianoforte solo by Miss E. A. Riding. Piano and violin duet by A. and F. Lancaster.—Mr. Tom Wood, Sec.

BRADFORD, Laisterdyke.—On Nov. 2nd we had a very interesting and harmonious Open Session, which was ably conducted by Mr. Hargreaves. The songs, solos, duets, and recitations were well rendered by the various Lyceumists.

On Nov. 9th we rendered a Song Service entitled "Marching Onward." The reading was taken by Mr. Wilfred before a good congregation.—J. Babbs, Sec.

BURNLEY, Hammerton St.—Open Session, Nov. 2nd. In the afternoon solos were rendered by Phyllis Tattersall, Phyllis Crossley, Doris Brougham, Alice Graham, and two new Lyceumists. Recitations by several of our younger Lyceumists. Piano solo by Doris Holgrace. We had not many visitors but we had one of our old Conductors present, Mr. Harold Horne, who got a good reception. Greetings were sent to us from one of our old Assistant Conductors at Bristol.

In the evening we had as speaker Mr. Baker, of Hapton, who gave us a very good subject. Music, Marching, and callisthenics were very good all day, and everybody had an enjoyable time.—Mr. H. Clarke, Sec.

CHESTERFIELD.—Nov. 2nd Open Session. Mr. Bown conducted and Mr. Campbell offered the invocation. Individual

items by the children—Ivy Hall, Irene Hobster, Glyn Cowell, Jessie Orwin, Evelyn and Norman Clements, Sidney Hobster, Vera Rippon, Louie Gore. Pianoforte solo by Avis Bown.

Nov. 9th "Peace Sunday" and Adjudicator's visit. Recitations by Irene Hobster, Norman Clements, Jessie Orwin, Jimmie Rippon, Sidney Hobster, Ivy Hall, Leslie Driver, Mr. E. Hobster. Pianoforte solo by Avis Bown. Quartette by Misses L. Gore and M. Wheatley, Mr. Bown and Mr. Heath. A welcome was given to Mrs. Bruce.—M. Wheatley, Min. Sec.

CLECKHEATON.—Open Session, Nov. 2nd, conducted by Mr. T. Brooke. Invocation by Mrs. Ledgard, of Dewsbury. Our Conductor read a story entitled "The House of Gifts" in connection with the Silver Chain Recitation entitled "Do Good." Pearls by Henry Taylor (2), Jack Hearsley, Miss M. Wilkinson, Mrs. Ledgard (2), Irene Wilson and Gladys Hutton. Recitations by Joyce Sharp, Irene Wilson. Solos by Harry Taylor. Duet by Benny Walker, and Henry Taylor. Trio by Dorothy Garside, Doris Garside, and Eva Rowley. Hymn No. 62 was sung altogether. Mrs. Ledgard spoke to everyone from the youngest upwards expressing that each one has his or her own candle to burn, no matter how small, and no one is too young. She also impressed on each one that "The Workers Win." An enjoyable Session was spent.—M. B. Robinson, Sec.

DARWEN.—During the week-end of Oct. 26th and 27th, we held our Anniversary. The speaker was Mr. A. T. Connor, of London.

On Saturday a Social was held.

On Sunday, Open Session in the morning. Children's service in the afternoon; and an evening service. Mr. Connor came up to every expectation. Good attendances at every meeting. We had a happy and instructive time.—G. M. Walker, Sec.

DEARNLEY.—Oct. 19th. Open Session, conducted by A. Bamford. Pearls, recitations and solos were given by Lyceumists and friends. A pleasant time was spent.—Mrs. Whitham, Sec.

DEWSBURY.—Open Session, Oct. 26th. Conductor, Miss M. Hirst. Pearls, 32. Recitations by Margaret Greenwood, Dorothy Dunn, Cyril Heys, Chrissie Greenwood and Cathleen Stott. Solos by Louis Gregory, Clarissa Phillips. Quartette by Mr. A. Kitson, Mr. E. Wilson, Mrs. V. Phillips, Miss M. Hirst. Drill Instructor, Mr. C. Phillips. Pianist, Miss N. Whitworth.

Naming ceremonies were performed by Mr. J. Whittles. The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Taylor was named Iris Taylor, spiritual name "Daisy." The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Goodwill was named Mary Goodwill, spiritual name, "Sincerity." A spirit message was given by Mrs. Ledgard.

We were pleased to have two of our Lyceumists back in the Lyceum, Mrs. Greenwood and Mr. R. Phillips, after their serious illnesses, and we also had Miss Ethel Collier with us. A very enjoyable Session.—V. R. Phillips, Sec.

DONCASTER, Catherine St.—Open Session, Nov. 2nd, conducted by Miss Johnson. Invocation by Miss Batty. Callisthenics and marching were well done. The following Lyceumists did their part—L. Middleton, M. Holloway, V. Heaton, M. Wattam, Mr. Wilman, P. Wilman, Mrs. Wilman. We were pleased to have three visitors from Laisterdyke Lyceum. Fraternal greetings were exchanged. An enjoyable Session.—Mrs. Webb, Sec.

EARBY, Greenend Avenue.—Open Session, Nov. 2nd. Recitations by D. Taylor, E. Hancock, I. Sprout, G. Blackburn, N. Taylor, O. Wilkins, J. Hancock, R. Hancock, D. Seddon, F. Clarke, W. Hancock, N. Seddon, T. Hancock, and Mr. Millican. Songs by J. Sprout, T. Hancock, A. Wilkinson, F. Clarke, D. Seddon, G. Blackburn, L. Sprout. A duet by A. Wilkinson and Mrs. Millican. A good time was spent together.—Mrs. D. Dawson, Sec.

EARBY, Onward.—On Nov. 8th and 9th we held our first Lyceum Week-end with Social on the Saturday, and on Sunday evening we gave a Service of Song, "The Two Golden Lilies." A good time was well spent with good attendances.—Mrs. Clark, Sec.

EDINBRUGH.—We held our Open Session on Nov. 2nd. Songs and recitations were rendered by every child. On Oct. 31st, we held our Hallowe'en Party which was a great success.—Doris Stephenson, Sec.

FLEETWOOD. The Open Session on Nov. 2nd was not up to our usual standard. Mona Hague, Doris Parkinson, Violet Forshaw, Dorothy Harris, Marie Dews, and Roy Jackson gave

recitations. Duets by Ruth Harris and Violet Forshaw, Dorothy Harris and Kathleen Hague. A good number of pearls brought our Session to a close.—L. Vollans, Sec.

GREAT HARWOOD.—Open Session, Nov. 9th. S.C. by Mr. Doswell. M.R. by H. Norris, Florrie Pickvance and Mr. W. Doswell. G.C. by Mrs. Whittle. Recitations by May Pickvance, Rosa Bagshaw, and Greta Johnson. Trio by Mrs. W. Doswell, Mrs. Owen and Eileen Shaw. In response to the questions of the Conductor, the Oral Grade Students gave excellent answers. Benediction by Mrs. Whittle. A very happy and interesting Session.—Philip Doswell, Sec.

GRIMSBY.—Nov. 2nd. Pleasant Sunday. An enjoyable Session was spent when recitations were rendered by Edna Swift, Zita Giles, Hilda Eddington, Albert Letch, Georgie Chapman, Fred Thompson, Vera Chapman, Doris Chapman, Solos by Miss Cole, Mr. Rycroft, and P. Stanham. A duet by George Watts and Joe Chapman. We had marching, callisthenics, and pearls. Heartiest wishes to all.—P. S. Sec.

HYDE, George St.—Nov. 9th. Open Session with a good attendance. In the afternoon Session we held a Two Minutes' Silence to uphold Peace Day. On our Rostrum was the word "Remembrance," surmounted with poppies, placed there by the ladies. 21 recitations were given by the children in the afternoon and a good number at night. Several visitors from Droylsden Lyceum were present, and greetings were exchanged. Good wishes to all Lyceums from Hyde.—N. Cartwright, Sec.

LANCASTER, Alliance.—Open Session held 2nd Nov. Splendid attendance and Session. Solos and recitations by the Misses E. Kirk, Hodgson, Moss, Lillian Atkinson, Bernard Simpson, Thomas Cole. A duet by D. Kirk and C. Parkinson. A really fine Open Session was enjoyed by all.—A. F. Rushworth Sec.

LEICESTER, Liberty.—Open Session Nov. 2nd. A large number were present. Recitations by Elsie Garrett, Lily Jayes, Horace Jayes, Jacky Whitbread, Doris Garrett, Mrs. Watts, Elsie Clements, Joan Whitbread. Solos by Alice Gamble, Ethel Gamble, Mrs. Russell. Duets by Lavinia Garrett and Doris Jayes, Miss Frost and Mrs. Russell. Quartette by Mr. A. Gamble, Mr. F. Gamble, Mr. T. Kenney and Mr. H. Jayes.—Thom. Kenney, Sec.

LEICESTER, Rupert St.—Nov. 2nd. Open Session. Recitations by Misses C. Fisher, L. Jayes, B. Fisher, Mr. Moody, Horace Jayes. Solo by Miss Ivy White. Duets by Misses M. Coysh and D. Jayes, Miss D. Goldsmith and Mr. H. Jayes.—Mr. J. Wicks, Sec.

LONDON, Rochester Square.—This Lyceum is going well, we have enrolled fifteen new members within the last two months and we have quite a good number studying for the B.S.L.U. Education Scheme.

Oct. 26th. Harvest Thansgiving Service. Quite an enjoyable Session. Mr. Forsyth and Mr. Dilsen spoke to us on the harvest and were thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

On Nov. 9th, we held, as we think did most Lyceums, a Remembrance Session. We adhered, as far as possible, to the programme set out in the BANNER. We do heartily thank God and the Angel friends for their co-operation in helping us to progress as we are doing.—D. M. Jordan, Sec.

LONDON, Stratford.—Open Session, Nov. 2nd. An enjoyable afternoon, with excellent singing and responses to readings, under our new Conductor, Mrs. West. Mr. Fozzard, in an interesting address took us for a trip round a printing works. Individual efforts were rendered by Rose Gardner, Lily Flynn, Molly Stoffer, Marguerite Lake, Walter Skeels, and trio by Betty Houghton, Barbara and June Bates. Progress is being maintained. Anniversary is being celebrated Sunday, Jan. 18th, and Xmas Tree and Party, Saturday, Jan. 3rd.—R. H. Bates, Sec.

LONDON, Tottenham, High Road.—We are making great strides in the Lyceum teachings. Everybody works hard. The Sessions are a great pleasure. Happy Xmas to every Lyceum.—M. Brinfield, Session Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH, Grange Road.—We held our Open Session on Nov. 2nd when we had a very enjoyable Session. We had a number of solos and recitations and Mr. Berry, General Secretary, S.N.U., who was at Middlesbrough for the week-end, spoke to the Lyceum, and told the children a story.—K. Gibson, Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH, Wilson St.—On Oct. 26th, the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gastleton was named Millicent Rose, spirit name Lily. Our Conductor, Mr. Massey, performed the ceremony.—J. Kent, Sec.

MIDDLETON, Old Hall St.—Our Potato Pie Supper, held Nov. 18th for Lyceum Prizes, was successful. Let us make it better next time.—S. Moorcroft, Sec.

NOTTINGHAM, Mechanics' Hall.—Officers elected for 1931. Conductor, Mr. Farnath; Assistant, Mrs. Farnath; Guardian, Miss Clayton; Captain of Guards, Alec Brown; Guards, Jack Hitchener, Ernest Sharp, George Vardy, Irene Buckley and Ivy Reynolds; Organist, Miss Ledgard; Assistant, Miss Fell. Violinist, Mr. Joseph Hitchener; Musical Director, Mr. Farnath; Marching Conductor, Mr. Sharp; Assistant, Arthur Tunney-cliff; Marching Leaders, Miss Clayton and A. Tunney-cliff; Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Sharp; Auditors, Mrs. Sherwood and Miss Tunney-cliff. Lyceum Council Representatives; Mr. Farnath and Mrs. Baker.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Oct. 26th a Naming Ceremony was performed by Mrs. Hayward, our Conductor. The baby received the names Doreen May, spirit name "Lily." A number of friends were present.

On Nov. 3rd we held our Open Session. Pearls were given by all present. Our Conductor spoke about "Peace" and then let the Lyceumists express their thoughts upon it. Recitations by Gerald Chambers, Stella Mitchell, Jean Theasby, Pat Clarke, Iris Grice, Betty and Jack Lea. Solo by Vera Chambers. An enjoyable afternoon was spent.—C. Stuart-Jones.

ROCHDALE, Regent Hall.—The Annual Meeting of our Lyceum took place on Oct. 27th, 1930, when the following Officers were elected for the ensuing year. Conductors, Mr. Cooper and Miss Edna Richards; Secretary, Mr. J. Nurse; Marching Conductors, Mr. T. Rayner and Mr. E. Hudson; Callisthenics Conductors, Mrs. Cooper, Alice Richards, Edith Yates; Guardians, Granville Hudson, Irene Hudson and Doris Clarkson.

The Annual Tea Party will take place on Dec. 6th, when Mrs. Dawson, retiring Conductor, will present the prizes.—J. Nurse, Sec.

SALTAIRE—Lyceum Anniversary. Mr. W. Mayes conducted very fine singing which had been rendered well by the Lyceumists, solos and quartettes being given by Misses Evans, I. Whitley, Quigley, Platt, L. Harris, and Messrs. A. Hall, Simpson, and H. Harris. H. Mayes played the organ. Mr. I. Wilford gave an inspiring address. The afternoon was well attended and recitations were given by E. Hopwood, J. Bradley, L. Holmes, L. Kitchen, etc.

Nov. 2nd Open Session. A good number attended. The usual routine was gone through. Then plenty of pearls were given by the children. Recitations by Misses M. Bradley, I. Kitchen, E. Kitchen, L. Holmes, and E. Hopwood.—F. A. Atkinson, Sec.

SCUNTHORPE.—Nov. 9th was our Lyceum week-end. Our speaker was Miss Dickens, of Goole. A nice time was spent. I send all Lyceumists a Hearty Greeting for Christmas, and trust all will have a happy and enjoyable time.—Ivy Sprakes, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Gifford Rd.—Nov. 2nd Open Sessions, in which fifteen Lyceumists rendered individual items. On this day we were pleased to welcome the L.D.C. Adjudicator.—Muriel Clive, Sec.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES, Brunswick St.—Nov. 2nd, the following Officers were elected for 1931: Conductor, Mrs. Williams; Guardian, Miss Hickman; Leaders, Mr. Miller, Miss Hickman; Mr. Ruddock; Secretary, Mr. Miller; Treasurer, Mrs. Brown.—J. Miller, Sec.

WEST MELTON.—Nov. 2nd Open Session. Recitations by H. Wilkinson, Madge Penaluna, Nora Uttley, Mrs. Staley, Ivor Vardy, and Harold Poole. Duet by Jessie Poole and Madge Penaluna.

Nov. 9th Peace Day Programme. Mr. Rawlinson, the S.D.C. Secretary, assisted. Five visitors.—Wm. Guest, Sec.

WEST PELTON.—Open Session Nov. 2nd. Lyceumists responding: R. Pearson, L. Chambers, M. Chambers, J. Hornsby, N. Robinson, J. Hall, R. Pounder, M. Robinson, W. Hardy, A. Pearson, D. Douglas, E. Hobson, S. Johns, D. Hornsby, Isa Gransbury, L. Dryden, L. Abbott, M. Bell. Conductor, Miss McLean. A. Dryden, Sec.

WINNIPEG, Princess St.—We held our Open Session on Sunday, Nov. 2nd. There were not many present but everyone did their part. Pearls and recitations were said by Freda Bosiger, May Armitt, Molly Waterson, Chrissie Lindsay, Mrs. Burley, Alex and James Lindsay. Solos by Molly Waterson, May Armitt, Freda Bosiger, Reading by Alex Lindsay. Fraternal greetings to all Lyceumists.—Mrs. M. Armitt, Sec.