

THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 479. Vol. XLI.

JANUARY, 1931.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

NEW YEAR IN ENGLAND.

Awake, I discern the darkness,
That covers the earth with gloom,
Eerie, is the ghostly starkness,
In the absence of the moon.

And yet the memories survive,
From the light of yesterday,
The cold bleak dawn will soon arrive,
In the curtains damp and grey.

The clouded sun will distant show,
In the later hours to-day,
No shadows from the deep red glow,
Or radiance round can play.

The seasons roll, a time is born,
When the brighter days appear
But England oft is cold, forlorn,
At the birth of a New Year.

So we must make some warmth of heart,
Brightness spreading in our ways,
To make the light of love a part
In our yearly roundelays.

FOUNDER'S DAY PROGRAMME.

To be observed on the last Sunday in January.

Compiled by MISS E. ELLIOTT, on behalf
of the Management Committee.

To-day marks the 68th Anniversary of the foundation of the first Lyceum on earth. Since then, much pioneer work has been done, and many "Ideals" have been achieved. But there remains much that needs to be accomplished before *we*, as an organised movement can extend our activities in the cause of Truth and Education. We are reminded of those Pioneers who shouldered the noble task of presenting a new truth to the world. Some names are A. J. Davis, Emma H. Britten, J. J. Morse, H. H. Kersey, James Burns, and there is till one with us—Alfred Kitson.

Let these workers be an inspiration to us to follow where they have led and with co-operation and persistent effort the much desired object will be achieved.

This country is still in a state of economic disabilities and as a result, the Lyceum Union has suffered financially. Each unit of the Union, too, has suffered. Yet it is necessary that the business must be carried on.

Again it is my duty to implore Lyceums and Lyceumists to remember the debt we owe to those who "Fought the good fight" that we might be freed from the errors of the past; that Truth may reign triumphant.

Many years ago the £2,000 Effort was inaugurated to from the nucleus of a Trading and Publishing Depart-

ment of the Union. This fund is moving very slowly, and realising how worthy a project it is, and the advantages to be gained when achieved, I would strongly appeal for your loyal support in a practical way. This can be done in many ways. Each Lyceumist should see to it that a resolution is passed for a special collection to be taken annually and a specified sum be stated. I am confident your efforts in this direction will be well received. Individual efforts, too, would accomplish much. Send your donations as a "Memory Gift" to those of your "Loved Ones" in spirit.

Again, if the 14,000 Lyceumists who are members of the Union, contributed twopence each, it would bring approximately £116. Shall we then make our objective for Founder's Day £100, and every keeping "Truth" in mind there is no reason why this should not be achieved.

Thought for the Day.

Service is the main road to true success
And selfishness the short cut to genuine failure.
Opening Song 315, S.S99.

Invocation.

Silver Chain Recitation. 88.

Musical Reading. 228. S.S. 190.

Golden Chain Recitation 149.

Suitable reading to be read by the Conductor.

Recitations, pearls, solos, &c.

Marching and Callisthenics.

Closing Song. 410. S.S 184.

Benediction.

"Let us then be what we are, and speak what we think, and in all things keep ourselves loyal to truth."

Send your donations to the £2,000 Effort Secretary, Mrs. J. Reynolds, 118, Cremorne St., Nottingham, who awaits with eager anticipation a record day.

THE SPIRITUALISTS' BILL.

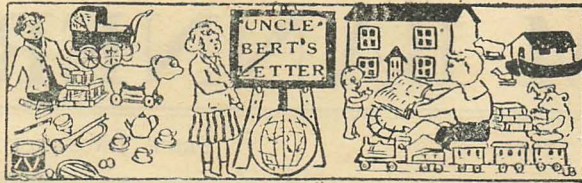
Mr. W. T. Kelly, the Member who has charge of the Bill in the House of Commons has put the Bill down for the Second Reading each day when there has been a possibility of the measure being put before the House. There has not yet been an opportunity to proceed beyond the First Reading and printing of the Bill.

Mr. Kelly writes: "Believe me I am determined to get the measure through. You would be delighted to see the interest there is in the Bill."

TO DISTRICT COUNCIL SECRETARIES.

A list of Lyceums in each District will be sent to the District Council Secretary during January, along with comparative numbers during 1929 and 1930. The complete list will be published in the May BANNER.

A request is made that the list be read to the Annual District Council Meeting. The strength of the Union can then be tested by the increase or decrease which has taken place.



My Dear Boys and Girls,

"Full up inside," said the Conductor to a lady about to board a bus who was returning from a Xmas Party.

Evidently she misunderstood the Conductor's remark, and thinking his remarks were of a personal character, she turned on him saying, "Yes my good man, so would you be if you had had Plum Pudding, Mincepies, Xmas Cake, Jellies, Blancmange, Sweetmeats, as an after course to other Xmas Dinner."

I am afraid many of us can feel a certain amount of sympathy with our lady friend.

But there, as I heard it said by more than one person "It is worth it" for Xmas only comes once a year.

Now it has passed, but I have tried to picture all you children on Xmas morning in your nighties and pyjamas scrambling over your beds to reach your stockings, which contained so many good things.

Then the excitement when the postman arrived with Greeting Cards, and here Auntie Ruth, Cousin Doris and I thank you for your beautiful cards.

It was all a great time, and now while Father Xmas is about to take a well earned rest, another old friend of ours who has been working away quietly during the past twelve months has come to light.

You all know that old chap I am sure, and you must have seen pictures of him.

You might think from these that he is waiting for the eggs to cook for his breakfast as he always has an hour-glass with him or you might think he is an Australian Cousin going to cut the grass as he has a sythe too.

This would not be quite a correct idea of him. I rather fancy at five minutes to twelve on December 31st, he brings out his egg timer or hour-glass, watches it very carefully and on the stroke of Twelve he makes one mighty sweep with his scythe and cuts off the old year, saying, "off comes your head and on goes a cabbage" or such like remark. Of course this is only my idea, and it reminds me of my mother who after watching a conjurer do some very clever tricks said "I know how they are done, but I did not quite see how he did them."

I think this changing of the year comes under the same heading; therefore you may not agree with my idea, but have a better one to tell me in your next letter.

In any case 1931 has arrived. My first duty is to extend to you boys and girls, adult readers and co-workers our joint good wishes for a Happy and Prosperous Year, not forgetting our Scotch Lyceumists who make more of the New Year's day than they do of Xmas.

Millions of people throughout our land and overseas have expressed this wish to one another this week, how many of us stop to think how much we mean it, or if we express this greeting because it is "an old fashioned custom."

Suppose I say to you "I should like you to have some sweets" and let the matter rest there, it would

not bring you very much satisfaction. On the other hand, if I say to you "I should like you to have some sweets, here is a penny to get them with." that makes all the difference.

In the first place I have only set you longing, in the second I have given you the means whereby you can satisfy that longing.

I hope this simple illustration will make my lesson clear to you.

We have not only to wish our friends a Happy New Year, we have to follow that wish by putting into action something which will assist our wish to be fulfilled.

We have got to give them an example of Happiness which will turn their frowns into smiles, their sadness into gladness.

It seems such a great task, but we have the means given to us in our Manual. S.C.R.78.

"Come to our Lyceum, say the Angels to mankind,
'Tis heaven's way to teach you to elevate the mind,
Unlike the "Spider and the fly" we seek to cheer
and bless,

And give no invitation from a heart of selfishness.

I am convinced by the hundreds of letters I have received during the past seven years, that the Lyceum is a real school of happiness, never have I known one of you to express it otherwise.

So shall we couple with our New Year wishes wherever we can this invitation to the Lyceum.

This at least will put our New Year's message into practice and at the same time increase interest in our glorious movement.

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S PUZZLES.

No. 163.—TURKEY.

No. 164.—

1. Peace and goodwill to all men.
2. Xmas comes but once a year.
3. A Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year.
4. God rest ye merry gentlemen.

THIS MONTH'S PUZZLES.

No. 165.—TITLES OF WELL KNOWN BOOKS (Muddled).

1. ETTTLI MOWNE
2. LNCEU MTSO BNCAI
3. OTM RWBNSO YDOOLHSSCA.
4. SREILVLGU LSVERAT.
5. CAIEL NI NALDDERONW.
6. SERUTAER ANDSLI.

No. 166.—A NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE FROM THE MANUAL.

FxxxAxD xxExx xO xOxxUxR.

We now set off for the eighth year, and I trust the well known saying "Make new friends, but keep the old" will be true of the correspondence received through my humble efforts in this page.

With love,
2, Villiers Rd., Your loving friend,
Osterby, Middx. UNCLE BERT.

BLACKBURN, ST. PETER ST. LYCEUM
Send the Season's Greetings for their
future welfare to all Lyceumists and
Lyceumists at home and abroad.

Mr. T. WOOD, Hon. Sec.

Our Education Department.

THE NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST COLLEGE.
(Under the auspices of the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U.)
ASSOCIATE (B.S.L.U.) SECTION
of the
NATIONAL JOINT EDUCATION
COMMITTEE.

THE AIMS AND WORK OF THE EDUCATION SCHEME.

Our aim as a Movement is to **earn** the right to be called **progressive**, and to equip our Lyceumists for dealing **intelligently**, and with the **confidence of knowledge**, with all inquirers, investigators, opponents and critics. It is earnestly hoped that all who have not yet started to study will make a start at once, and thus prove to all critics that Lyceumists realise that their movement is **an educational one**. The desire of the Education Committee is that **each Lyceum, as a body**, should take up the Scheme, and make it an integral part of the Lyceum's work by taking the selections from the Lyceum Manual for study and discussion in the Sessions, and by using the articles in the Handbooks for Group Lessons. (If TEN or more students from a Lyceum sit at the annual examinations, the Lyceum is eligible for membership of the College, and to be registered as a LOCAL BRANCH).

THE SCHEME—ITS GRADES AND SCOPE.

To explain the Scheme briefly—The Oral Grade, which lays a foundation of Spiritualist knowledge, is laid down in the Oral Grade Primer (5d. **post free**). Grade I is an introduction to Lyceumism, wherein the student will learn the reasons which make Lyceums necessary, and also become acquainted with the great ideals underlying the Lyceum Movement. In Grades II and III, great stress is laid on the value of discussion in drawing out the mental powers of the students. So in Grade II the Philosophy, and in Grade III the Phenomena, of Spiritualism should be thoroughly studied and discussed. It is hoped that all who can spare the time will not confine themselves to the necessarily narrow limits laid down in order to make our Scheme coherent and progressive, but will study other and more advanced works than those selected. If this is done, the student who has passed through the first three Grades should be eminently fitted for the post of Group Leader.

The Group Leader is really the most important member of a Lyceum; and, unless he (she) possesses a wide knowledge and a high conception of duty, he (she) will not be worthy of the great responsibility often too lightly assumed. The Syllabus for Grade IV is calculated to prepare efficient Group Leaders who should soon graduate into very capable Conductors.

With Grade IV ends the Course of especially Lyceumist training, and Grade V has been planned as an introduction to Spiritualism-in-general, and as a Preliminary Course to the Advanced (S.N.U.) Scheme and a College Diploma. The Committee hope, therefore, that all Lyceums and Lyceumists will take up the full course of studies here laid down, and so fit themselves for whatever duties may confront them in the future.

To serve man is an effective way of worshipping God.

HOW TO TRAIN LYCEUMISTS FOR THE EXAMINATIONS.

The Education Committee has realised that many, who otherwise would take up the Education Scheme, are unable to do so because of the difficulty of finding Tutors or of arranging mid-week classes; and also that many well-informed and competent Spiritualists would gladly act as tutors if they only knew how to set about the task. To meet these difficulties, the booklet "**How to Prepare for the Examinations**," has been drawn up; and it is hoped the result will be a great increase in the number of students—and of candidates sitting at the examinations. A copy may be obtained from the General Secretary by any Conductor or Tutor who forwards a stamped addressed envelope.

In this Booklet you will find that each Grade has been catered for, from the Oral Grade upwards. The suggested Session Programme will be useful to students in Grades "Oral" to IV., and the Programmes for Groups or Mid-week Classes can be used by students who have to do the best they can without a Tutor. The Sections on "How to Set" and "How to Answer" Questions will be of great assistance to both Tutors and Students, and the "solitary student" who strictly follows the instructions in setting and answering his own questions will have no difficulty in answering those set by the examiners.

TO WIN SPIRITUALIST DEGREES.

All Lyceumists are eligible for the Education Scheme Course, and the value of working through it is twofold, viz. (i) the Grades are all important parts of a complete whole—the B.S.L.U. Scheme—and working through them gives the earnest, progressive Lyceumist an all-round knowledge of essential facts and teachings, and a sound basis for deeper and wider reading and study (such as given by the S.N.U. Advanced Course); and (ii) when Grade V has been passed (with 70 or more marks per cent.) a Lyceumist is awarded the A.N.S.C. Degree (Associate of the National Spiritualist College). *Only* LYCEUMISTS can win this degree, but the S.N.U. Scheme confers the later one of G.N.S.C. (Graduate of the National Spiritualist College).

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.

Facts do not influence my Actions so much as the *view* I take of them. Therefore it is essential that my view-point shall be clear and sure.

J. H. HAIGH.

Thoughts that entwine and permeate provide the growth of friendship.

A LITTLE SEED.

Said the little seed, "I slept
Right through the winter's cold.
In spring a stalk then crept
To make leaves, green and gold.

The rich ripe fruit then came,
Full of the bright red juice,
To feed the sick and lame;
And so I was of use."

A thought was born one day,
And came to a good boy;
Mother he'd help some way,
And he was full of joy.

His mother's lovely smile
Made others happy too.
Now think a little while,
Say, was that good boy you?

LYCEUM MANUAL TEST, No. 25.

Seniors and Juniors have apparently been too busy preparing for the Xmas Season this month, as their attempts are much fewer than usual.

The correct answers are as under:—

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Over and over again. | No. 94. |
| 2. The World is full of Music | No. 47. |
| 3. Children's Day | No. 372. |
| 4. Stand Firm. | No. 226. |
| 5. Spirit Friends. | No. 53. |
| 6. Help others. | No. 74. |
| 7. The Sowers. | No. 91. |
| 8. The Lyceum. | Nos. 108 and 363 |
| 9. Rest for the Weary. | No. 207. |
| 10. Brotherhood. | No. 103. |
| 11. Again we've met. | No. 368. |
| 12. Truth. | Nos. 130 and 228 |
| 13. Anniversary Greetings. | No. 329. |

The prizes have been sent to:—

JUNIOR SECTION: Joan Heapy, aged 10, "Honuglea", St. John's Road, Ryde (with 9 correct). Horace White, aged 12 $\frac{3}{4}$, 20, Downay Road, Wandsworth, S.W. 18. (with 7 correct). These are the same two winners as in November.

SENIOR SECTION: K. H. Widdowson, aged 17, 2, Holme Road, Chesterfield (with 12 correct). Miss A. M. Reeves, 2, Well Street, Ryde, I. of W. (with 13 correct. No girl between 14 and 21 submitted an attempt.

JUNIOR TEST, No. 26.

Two half-crown prizes will be awarded for the best answers from a boy and girl, ages not to exceed 14 years.

1. What author and title in the Manual can you trace in "He and welfare gay."
2. Where is the longest chain referred to in the Manual?
3. Where do you find four following verses with a letter "Z"?

4. Where is frost-bite referred to in the Manual?
5. What are you told is the silver lining of life?
6. When do you read of gold refining?
7. Where are you told to keep a straight path?

The correct answers in the Senior Section are:—

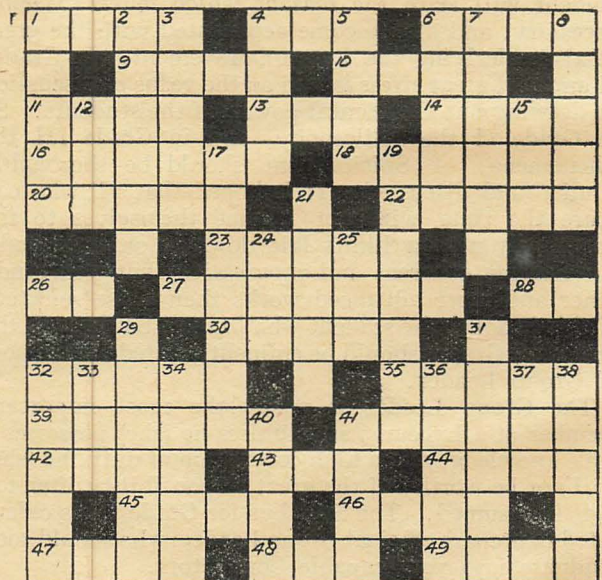
1. Brown (A Brown Bess is a musket).
2. Tyler. (Doorkeeper).
3. Longfellow (An American poet.)
4. Norman Macleod.
5. Pope (Perch—a fish).
6. Addison. (Addison's Flat in New Zealand).
7. Jas. Montgomery.
8. Watts.
9. Chas. Mackay.
10. Fitch.
11. Lightheart.
12. Dyer.
13. Doten.
14. Adelaide Proctor. (Her father was "Barry Cornwall").
15. Bristol (Bristol Tune Book.)
16. Adams.
17. Booth (Both O). A booth is a "fair."

SENIOR TEST, No. 26.

This is not a "Manual" Test but hidden in the crossword is a pertinent message to Lyceumists.

Prizes will be awarded to the correct solutionists who discover the message in its entirety.

One each to a boy and girl between 14 and 21 years, and one for adults.



CLUES.

Across.

1. Cut.
4. Distinguishes.
6. Encounter.
9. Egotistical.

Down.

1. Health (Lat.)
2. Desires.
3. Jewish month.
4. Tip.

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 10. Manner. | 5. Girl's name. |
| 11. Girl. | 6. Tooth. |
| 13. Dog Lead. | 7. G. F. Knott. |
| 14. Foreign Coin. | 8. Barter. |
| 16. French Isle. | 12. Army initials. |
| 18. Ceased. | 15. Colour. |
| 20. Upset. | 17. 1931 starts. |
| 22. Corrode. | 19. Sleeping partner. |
| 23. We are all in this. | 21. Article of food. |
| 26. Enclosed. | 24. Month (Abb.) |
| 27. Schools. | 25. Ear. |
| 28. Direction. | 29. Some worship here. |
| 30. Gem if reversed. | 31. Roll and tumble. |
| 32. Game. | 32. Elated. |
| 35. Ever wet. | 33. Intoxicant. |
| 39. Changes. | 34. Earn. |
| 41. Companion. | 36. Escape. |
| 42. Fruit. | 37. Boy's name. |
| 43. Everybody. | 38. Changes. |
| 44. Bone. | 40. Sailor. |
| 45. Brook. | 41. Chimney. |
| 46. Open | |
| 47. Yeast. | |
| 48. Pointer. | |
| 49. Animals. | |

TEST COUPON. No. 26.

Name

Address

(Age if under 21).....

All entries must reach Mr. J. G. MacFarlane, 6, St. Piran's Avenue, Copnor, Portsmouth, not later than Jan. 19th, 1931.

OUR MUTUAL AID BUREAU.

It was the intention of Mr. A. T. Connor to start the discussion on "Objective Clairvoyance," but pressure of work and ill-health, he regrets, has prevented his considered introduction beyond his notes in the December BANNER.

The Editor will welcome contributions from Clairvoyant mediums; their personal knowledge will be very helpful to students.

OBJECTIVE CLAIRVOYANCE.

By G. F. KNOTT.

The best means of testing objective clairvoyance is by asking a clairvoyant how he, or she, *sees* spirit people. This method has been adopted whenever I have been the chairman or entertainer for any friendly medium at the local Church at which clairvoyant descriptions have been given.

The large majority of clairvoyants have replied that they do not see the spirit people, but receive mental impressions and physical sensations which come to their minds. Hence the inference that the major portion of clairvoyance is not objective.

There are a few mediums who have told me they see spirit people as normally as they see human beings in the streets.

Other mediums say it is only when the members of the congregation have brought along the sympathetic spirits that objective discernment is possible.

Yet another class of mediums only see objective spirits when they are under influence, or control.

In one outstanding instance I have seen a spirit built up objectively and radiated in her own aura. This occurred in absolute darkness and the experience was entirely unsought. I think it would have been impossible to have seen that spirit objectively if there had been any sunlight or any manufactured illumination. A few weeks later Tom Tyrell gave me a description of the spirit and the conditions in the haunted house where the event occurred. He confirmed the vision when he said I had *seen* that spirit.

There are few clairvoyants who actually see spirits, as it is much easier for the spirit to give mental impressions to an adult. Objective clairvoyance is much more common among very young children who often see and talk to spirit children.

Sometimes a medium's face adapts itself to the features which belong to the controlling spirit. Such changes have been noted by non-Spiritualists. Is not such a sight a form of objective clairvoyance, though it is described as transfiguration. There have also been materialisations when some sitters can see forms and other sitters at the same seance cannot discern any forms.

I once sensed a medium was under control, but I could not see the spirit. At the same moment I photographed the medium and the picture showed the control to be a coloured person with curly hair. Why should the lens of a camera be capable of passing an image to a sensitised plate, which the human eye cannot discern?

Has the medium, who sees spirits objectively, the power to pass peculiar rays through the eyes to the mind, such rays being beyond the normal power of mediums who do not *see* spirit people?

As the "eye" of the camera differs from human sight, so may we find there are human eyes which differ in the registration of the objects which appear before them, according to the relative rays which find an intelligent response in the gazer.

Clairvoyance must, in the course of time, pass through many subdivisions. A large portion of present-day clairvoyance will be transferred to other definitions.

Objective clairvoyance will always remain the basis of the "clear-seeing" of spirit people.

AINSWORTH HOME OF REST.

All the patients who have returned from convalescence under the Ainsworth Home of Rest have improved in health as a result of treatment at the seaside.

Forms of application for Convalescent Lyceumists can be obtained from the Clerk to the Ainsworth Home of Rest Committee, 20, Toad Lane, Rochdale, Lancs.

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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JANUARY, 1931.

An Old Man's Tale.

We enter life surrounded by parental care, and nature gives us the power to imitate older people. Thus we learn to do things and think thoughts which are common to all. Our tempers and moods become affected with tendencies which make or mar disposition and character. Some of us get spoiled and others become oppressed. At times we get too much of our own way and at other periods we are victims of oppression. We may become slaves to habits or seek constant change.

We soon reach the age when we can please ourselves in some of the things we do. When we reach that age it is good to remember all we say and do is heard or seen by other people. We speak and they listen. Would we say the same thing if we could be the listeners? Would we do the same same thing if we happened to be someone else? If we could think twice before we speak once and try to listen to what we are saying we should many times not say anything because we may offend other people. At the least we should not say many of the things we do.

There was once a young man fell in love with a young lady and they became married. They lived in a big town but there was not much work and so they decided to go and live on a farm in a land far away over the seas.

It was very hard work and the young wife felt lonely after living with so many people in a big town. She wanted to return to the land of her birth, but would not leave her husband, who liked to be a farmer, fell trees and conquer the forest.

One day, he came home very tired and found the cows had strayed. He grumbled to his wife and said hastily she could at least have looked after the cows while he had been working so hard felling trees to prevent forest fires from burning down their log cabin.

The following day the cows strayed again, so the farmer's wife though she was sick went to look for them. A big storm came on. When the farmer reached his home his evening meal was unprepared. There was a note on the table from his wife which read, "the cows have strayed again and I have gone to find them."

The man then regretted his hasty words of the previous night and went out to find his wife. He was out in the storm all night and did not find his wife till

morning dawned. She lay dead from cold and exposure. He tenderly carried her home and lived a long, lonely life of remorse.

Whenever he heard anyone speak harshly he asked them, for his sake not to be cross and to remember it may cause a life-long sorrow and regret.

One night, after a heavy storm, in which he had been out to help some farmers to house their cattle, he was sat with some more men around a camp-fire. He was asked why he so seldom talked to anyone, except when they spoke unkindly. He replied "I will tell you a true story."

Then he revealed the sad story of the loss of his wife, and a poet has, since the old farmer's death, put the story into rhyme. There are a few lines worth remembering.

Boys flying kites can draw in their white-winged birds;

But you can't do that way when you're flying words.
Thoughts unexpressed may sometimes fall back dead;
But God himself can't kill them when they're said.

I once heard a very eloquent reciter—he taught ministers the art of eloquence—repeat the poem. His wonderful intonation and expressive voice brought many tears to the eyes of his audience.

This record is a string of words compared to the settler's story, but I hope it will influence others in retarding hasty words which may hurt their dearest friends.

The short homely poems of sixty years ago, written by some forgotten poets, contained many loving sentiments. Fortunately we have a few in the *Lyceum Manual* and the hymn books. The verses written by C. Swain are typical of the kind I mean.

We bring to life the vibrations from a musical instrument to create a sweet song. May we not also touch the chords of mutual emotion to make harmonious Lyceums.

Our children will respond to the vibrations and join in the chorus; someday to play a solo part and enrapture others with the charm of their individuality.

Surely the continuation of our existence is justified by such methods of education and unfoldment. In this spirit the editor humbly locates himself in every Lyceum and wishes every Lyceumist a Happy New Year. An inward peace come to those who love harmony.

G. F. KNOTT.

AN OLD LYCEUMIST (OVER 70) OFFERS TO HELP THE B.S.L.U.

One of the very oldest Lyceums workers in London, Mr. W. T. Coleman, has made an interesting and helpful offer to Lyceums.

The postscript to his letter reads.—"The Article by Mr. Berry in the November BANNER is good. The Editorial is also good. Then there is Uncle Bert, he seems to be better each time. And there is Miss (ha! ha! not caught yet) Mrs. J. Reynolds—a really nice lady—going to bring us a lot of money if asking for it will get it. Cheer up! we'll get that £2,000 yet."

I nearly forgot dear old Dad Kitson; he sent me instruction long before the *Two Worlds* started. He is a good old soul. God bless you all.

Mr. Coleman's offers.

Mr. Coleman had given away thousands of copies of G.C.R. 136 and 142 printed on loose sheets.

To help the funds of the Union he is now willing to supply any Lyceum with loose copies of "The Teachings of Spiritualism" and "The Aim of Spiritualism" on separate sheets.

Mr. Coleman is also offering a Hymn and benediction printed on one sheet, on gummed paper, to paste in the hymn book.

The Hymns are:—

604

Open my eyes that I may see
Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me!
Help me to set the higher self free.
So shall I serve and worship Thee.

CHORUS.

Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God Thy will to see;
Open my eyes illumine me,
Spirit divine!

Open my ears that I may hear
Voices of truth serene and clear;
And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
Discord and strife will disappear.

Open my mouth and let me bear
Witness unceasing to Thy care;
Open my heart and teach me to share
Love with Thy children everywhere.

605

Grant us Thy peace, O God of peace and love,
Who dwellest in the shining worlds above,
Grant us with Thee for ever to abide;

Where is no night or falling eventide;
Till that day break and earth's dark shadows
cease,

O God of peace and love grant us Thy peace,
Thy peace.

The cost of either of the G.C.R.'s is 1s. per 100.

The Gummed sheet containing the two hymns is 2s. per 100. All the proceeds will be given to the B.S.L.U.

Send your orders to Mr. W. T. Coleman, 4, Leahurst Road, Lewisham, London, S.E.13.

SONG.

Stay, stay at home, my heart, and rest;
Home-keeping hearts are happiest,
For those that wander they know not where
Are full of trouble and full of care.
To stay at home is best.

Weary and homesick and distressed,
They wander east, they wander west,
And are baffled and beaten and blown about
By the winds of the wilderness of doubt.
To stay at home is best.

Then stay at home, my heart, and rest;
The bird is safest in its nest;
O'er all that flutter their wings and fly
A hawk is hovering in the sky.
To stay at home is best.

Longfellow.

Heartiest New Year Greetings to all Lyceumists.

FROM THE PRESIDENT.

Come each and all and draw aside for a brief space, from the festivities and merry making, and enter the communion chamber of your own inner sanctuary, and reflect upon the general condition of our Lyceum Movement.

Yes, truly it came as an inspiration from the Spirit World, and earnest souls have brought it to its present status. From one Lyceum we have evolved into an organisation with functioning powers which are world-wide in their effect.

What enthusiasm for the fulfilment of an ideal so beautiful, yet practicable, for spiritualising mankind, or in other words, drawing humanity nearer to God. What loving sacrifice has been rendered by the pioneers of this movement, for the materialisation of those methods, as adopted in Summerland Lyceums here upon earth. Unselfish service for the promotion of the true progress of the Cause, has brought us to where we are to-day, a body known as the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union. Its machinery is composed of Special Committees for specific sections of work which are filtered through to the Lyceums by its varied branches; the United District Council and the District Councils.

Only those who have entered into the various fields of activity can fully comprehend the cost in true service of such an achievement, and value it at its true worth. All honour to our earnest workers, past and present, for their work shall not be lost; the good poured forth will find responsiveness in some who are akin, and shall later have effect in fuller attunement, when the natural beauty of such souls shall find complete expression in the same unselfish labour of love.

And yet as we reflect here in the silence, we are conscious that at the present time, there is a great lack, as though we had lost something, an essential something, which gives impetus to noble work and loving deeds. Is it, I wonder, that we have become mechanical in our service, through the application of set routine, which we have allowed to kill initiative? If so, then we are failing in the fulfilment of the grand ideal as revealed to Andrew Jackson Davis, by those highest and noblest angel friends. For after all, our object is not how powerful and perfect an organisation we can become merely as such; but how many real men and women we can evolve, fitted to shoulder the various duties and responsibilities of life, nobly and well. These are they whose souls are filled with love for the whole of creation: such love as finds its expression in unselfish service to God, and seeks its fulfilment in thought and action in application to everything in the walks of life each day and hour and fleeting moment, with the full consciousness of the grand process of its achievement.

Oh, let us keep alive the appreciation of values in application to all life and being, and whilst here in the inner sanctuary of our own souls, let us draw, from the sacred silence, strength and power, and all the essential requisites for the revitalisation of our Lyceum Movement, that it may play its part successfully by adding its quota for the true emancipation of mankind.

Oh, may the New Year bells peal forth the wondrous message, and ring in that sweet inspiration from on high, to bless earth's people, aye, and the lower creation

too. Let us remember our mission to the little children, to assist them to the joys of a beautiful life, by the emulation of purity, truth, and concord, radiating with a warmth of enthusiasm for all things good. Thus shall we keep aglow the Sun of Spirituality, without which life would become dark and void, even as would the earth, were the light and warmth of the Sun withdrawn from it. If we can accomplish this, then will our New Year reflection be worth while, and once again we shall find ourselves aglow with the energy of enthusiasm and love, keeping march with the Angels who will never forsake us, so long as we are true to their Service.

Oh, ye comrades in a Movement
Unsurpassed for methods true,
Guard with tender loving kindness
Little children, lead them through.

Teach them something of the message,
Borne to Earth by Angel friends,
Which reveals a higher service,
Where love and duty blends.

Sow the seeds for inspiration,
By a life that's pure and sweet
Cultivate those innate pow'rs
And the nobler spirit greet.

Breathe the finer emanations
Of the Spirit World around,
Tuning in, by love, in silence,
To that atmosphere profound.

Impregnated with a glory,
Comprehended by the pure,
They who seek that light shall find it,
For its sake will much endure.

For there is a lasting sweetness,
In the knowledge of that life,
Revealed by inner consciousness,
Annihilating strife.

Oh, how many hear the music,
Those grand harmonious strains.
Pouring forth a wondrous story,
Which Love and Peace explains.

Oh, ye comrades, teach the children,
As our Lyceum Cause provides,
That their growth may find fulfilment,
Where Love and Truth abides.

Then this life will be much brighter,
Humanity will be more true,
For the power divine within us,
Will permeate the whole world through.

VICTORIA G. REYNOLDS.

THE LYCEUM MANUAL.

There has been a large and unaltered reprint of the Lyceum Manual. The union has decided not to change the text for another ten years. We hope that Lyceums holding up orders because they think there is being some change, will now order their supplies.

The price list is printed on the back inside cover of the LYCEUM BANNER.

The Self and the Silence.

(By R. A. WEBB, Dilp., S.N.U.)

There are times in our lives when we ought to 'pull ourselves together,' so to speak. When we ought to apply a silent soliloquy to the examining and the squaring up of ourselves. The said 'squaring up' being not only mental but physical in its nature and application. When nothing we think or do seems to pan out alright, or when nothing we strive or work for brings happiness and success, it is time to call a halt, and to sit down in some quite corner or in some peacefully secluded grove of nature and have it out with ourselves. If the 'having it out' with ourselves uncovers an agony of soul that sears and stabs, and burns, what matters if thereby we are purified, re-strengthened and redirected. If such a silent uncovering brings a torture of mind, a sweat or an icy chill of body, it is worth the Gethsemane if we emerge with a better knowing of ourselves, a clearer vision of our possibilities, and a renewal of urge to think and act with greater helpfulness and zeal. Such closettings, meditations and silences, are a necessity, and may be made a boon to human souls travailing in the depressing shadows of weakness, sorrow, or failure.

It is well to occasionally get right away from hurry and the noise of modern life; away from dust and glare, speed and jostle. To sit and recline in some flowered park or in some wilder place of nature, is not a waste of time but rather a solace and a recuperation for mind and nerves. Such a resting of one's self helps us to discover and become more familiar with those silent, but potent, forces known as intuition, impression, imagination, sub-consciousness, super-consciousness, and inspiration. We gradually realise by a continuance of such silences and meditative practices, the fullness, the wealth and the strength of our psychic and spiritual self. We learn to go apart, to enter the silence for the gaining of calmness and poise, illumination and wisdom.

In very truth 'day dreams,' and in fact, 'dreams of the night,' are not always the chimera they are said to be by people of matter of fact and practical type. They may be, and often are, the promptings and the visions from the soul within, that we should not neglect to take notice of, for our well-being, as in some cases, they are inspirations from the souls discarnate. Not all the wisdom and success in the world is engendered in the crowd and hustle of life, but more often in secluded studies, quiet places, and bed-time reflections.

There is an old saying 'Still (silent) waters run deep,' and it enshrines a truth most valuable to humanity, namely, that really great and important things are born in the meditative silence. In such absorbed and thoughtful silences we not only more greatly discover our-self, but we may also place ourselves en rapport with kindred souls whether carnate or discarnate, in similar thought, aspiration and vibration. 'Birds of a feather flock together,' and it doth also appear that thoughts of feather flock together.

LYCEUM REPORTS—February issue.

Lyceum Secretaries are requested to be as brief as possible when compiling reports for the February BANNER. Space will be required for the insertion of the List of Lyceums, and we do not wish any reports to be crowded out.



Dear Little Imps,

A Happy New Year to all Imps! May you all be happy and well throughout the year!

You know, on New Year's Eve, lots of grown-up people make "resolutions." That is a grand word and sounds very fine, but really, it only means that they think about last year, and plan about next year. The only strange thing about it, is that so very often, all these good resolutions are like

PIE-CRUST.

Mrs. Smart was busy making pie-crust, and Tony was busy watching her. Pie-crust was such good stuff and one never quite knew what it was to hide. Sometimes, it covered apples, or currants, sometimes it was rolled around sausages, and at other times it covered the meat for dinner. Then, there were the party times, when the pie-crust was for jolly little tarts. No wonder Tony loved baking days, and always watched patiently until he knew the treat for the day.

This time, Mrs. Smart made such a lot of pastry. There was to be a party at the Lyceum on New Year's Day, and she had promised to help with the teas. Tony's eyes grew round with wonder as he watched lots of little tarts growing from his mother's clever fingers. Just then Mr. Smart came in, and he laughed when he saw the trays of tarts.

"What a lot of pie-crust, Mother!" he said. "Why you must have made almost as much as people will use for their New Year Resolutions."

Mrs. Smart only laughed, but Tony was puzzled. He was seven year's old and thought he knew about most things. Still, he was certain he had never eaten any New Year Resolutions. Yet, Daddy had said that they were made of pie-crust and Daddy knew almost everything. Well, perhaps there would be some at the party. He would wait and see.

New Year's Day came and Tony helped to carry the tarts to the party. As the tables were being prepared, he watched for any new kind of cake that might be the "New Year Resolutions"—but there didn't seem to be anything he had never seen before. It was all very queer. Tea had started when Billy Smith came in. Somehow Billy was always late, but Tony couldn't understand how his chum could be late for a party.

"Late again! Billy!" called out Mrs. Smart. "Yes," he answered "so that is one New Year Resolution gone."

"Ah! pie-crust again!" laughed one of the grown ups. Tony couldn't understand this a bit. Billy hadn't brought any cakes, and he hadn't had any tea yet. Where could his New Year Resolution have gone? He must ask Billy about it, after tea.

Then Mary Brown said that her New Year Resolution had gone, and Tony knew she had only eaten one mince pie. How could it have gone and where were those New Year Resolutions? Tony had seen Mary spill her tea, but then, Mary always was clumsy and spilt something every party day.

Billy and Mary were laughing about their lost Resolutions when Frank Williams and Jean Grahame joined them. "Mine's broken too" said Frank, "for I have forgotten to bring a book I had promised to lend." "Yes! and mine is gone now" said Jean "for I didn't get up early to help mother!" "Oh, dear—these pie-crust resolutions" they laughed.

Tony could stand this no longer, "But where are your New Year Resolutions?" he asked.

"My mother made lots of pie crust, and Daddy said there would be enough for all the New Year Resolutions. Yet I cannot find any, and I looked on every plate on the table."

Then everybody laughed aloud, and started asking each other for a piece of New Year Resolutions, until Mary saw Tony's puzzled face.

"Oh Tony!" that is a funny idea you have. New Year Resolutions are not to eat. They are the little promises we make to ourselves on every New Year's Eve. Mine was "I won't be clumsy," but I was clumsy at tea—and so my resolution was broken as easily as a pie-crust can be broken."

"Yes!" said Billy "Mine was 'I won't be late,' and that was very soon broken." Then Frank said "Well, mine was *I won't forget* for you know how I do forget things. But my resolution was no use, for I did forget." "That is just the same for me" said Jean "for my resolution was *I won't be lazy*.—but I am lazy even yet."

"Oh! now I understand," cried Tony. "No wonder I couldn't see any New Year Resolutions on the table. I thought they were a new kind of cake. Let me see! 'I won't be clumsy,' 'I won't be late.'; 'I won't be lazy,' and 'I won't forget!' I know! All the New Year's Resolutions that break like pie-crust, must be the 'I won't' ones."

Billy and Mary, Frank and Jean looked at each other for a moment, until Billy said "Tony! you are the cleverest of us all. I wondered why all my resolutions broke so easily. Next year *my* resolutions will be '*I will*' ones, no more pie-crust I won'ts for me!"

Just then Mr. Smart came up. "Now children" he said "I'll tell you the best resolution for a party, and it won't be made of pie-crust." "What's that one?" asked the children. "Let us all have a jolly time together." answered Mr. Smart. Of course that resolution was kept, but as Tony told his Daddy "It had no 'I won't' in it, so it couldn't be broken."

Cheerio, Imps and

Love from

MEG.

Conan Doyle Memorial.

At a Meeting held at the Grotrian Hall, London, on Wednesday, November 19th, 1930, Vice-Admiral J. G. Armstrong presided over a large attendance, representative of the Advisory Council, the Executive Committee and Trustees of the Conan Doyle Memorial Fund.

There were present:—Lady Conan Doyle, Miss Mary Conan Doyle, Mrs. Philip Champion de Crespigny (Principal British College of Psychic Science), Mrs. M. A. St. Clair Stobart, (Committee Chairman of the Spiritualist Community), Miss Estelle Stead, (Borderland Library), Mrs. C. A. Dawson-Scott, (Founder Survival League), Frank W. Hawken, Esq., (Secretary, Marylebone Spiritualist Association), Maurice Barbanell Esq., (Secretary London District S.N.U.), Hannen Swaffer, Esq., (President Spiritualist Community), John Lewis, Esq., (Editor International Psychic Gazette), S. O. Cox., Esq., Colonel Livingstone, (Secretary Grotrian Hall), and W. R. Bradbrook Esq., Hon. Secretary.

Ernest W. Oaten, Esq., Chairman of the Executive Committee, Mr. George Craze, (President Marylebone Spiritualist Association), Major D. D. Milne, Hon. Trustee; Sir Robert Gower, D.C.L., M.P., Hon. Trustee; A. C. Grigg, Esq., Hon. Treasurer and Denis Conan Doyle, Esq., were unavoidably absent.

It was unanimously decided that the Memorial should embody the objects outlined in the announcement now published. With these in view Lady Conan Doyle is issuing a universal Appeal which, with the support of all in sympathy, it is hoped will realise the ideal of "devoted service to the highest and the best interest of all."

A HOME OF WELCOME AND SOLACE.

Those who feel grateful affection for Sir Arthur Conan Doyle wish to fulfil the desire of his heart by establishing and endowing a worthy Memorial in London, not only as a focal point of the Spiritual and Psychical Truths to which he so unselfishly devoted his time and energy, and for which he so sacrificed his last strength, but also as a veritable ENGLISH HOME OF WELCOME TO ALL of like thought visiting London from the Provinces and Overseas of whatever nation; a Home of sympathetic guidance, consolation and enlightenment to the bereaved in the hour of their need for comfort and assurance—of rest and change. Such an institution would include besides hospitable and congenial accommodation, a *Library, Reading and Writing Rooms* for study and research, a *Museum* for the display of authentic examples of supernormal photographs, paintings and writings, moulds of attested materialisations, and records of manuscripts and portraits of pioneers marking the history of the Movement. These treasures can easily be lost to the world if not housed as a sacred trust. A *bureau of Information* regarding Spiritualistic Societies and Communities not only in London and the Provinces but in all parts of the world, and particularly for introducing visitors to the interests most appealing to them.

Psychical and Spiritual Research.

Amongst the difficulties facing all Spiritualist communities is the most urgent need for true and finely-

trained mediumship. This vital necessity requires the best brains unselfishly applied to the satisfactory solution of the problem. It is difficult to exaggerate the importance of environment, sympathetic care and understanding of the psychic faculties, whether inborn, spontaneous or developed by long and patient endeavour. The spiritual character and mental poise of the sensitive instrument must ever be the predominating factors in the use or abuse of the gift. It is hoped that funds will be forthcoming to secure more ideal and healthier conditions in which may be developed the power to demonstrate the fact and philosophy of survival.

Rural "Rest and Healing" Homes.

It is also desired to provide means to assist or support suitable Rural Rest Homes for the recuperation of workers exhausted in the service; such homes of rest would naturally prove also Houses of Healing and Training for psychic sensitives especially gifted in this supreme form of ministry. It may also be possible to strengthen the *Funds of Benevolence* for old and distressed workers.

Co-operative Service.

The ideal of the inception of the Memorial may be described as devoted service to the highest and the best interests of all Spiritualistic brethren. Every existing organisation and every member of such will be served by the Memorial and the amenities it will provide. It will prove a Clearing-House for spreading the results of Psychical and Spiritual Investigation throughout the world, co-ordinating activities by mutual council and Spirit guidance.

Realising the distinct yet potentially co-operative fields of action in Physical Science, Psychical Research and Spiritual Truth, the proposed Centre will greatly assist in unifying and utilising the points of contact in each, emphasising throughout the universal Power of the Spirit.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED.

The support of all who believe in the recognition of man's Spiritual nature and the fact of personal survival is confidently looked for, in order that the Memorial shall truly represent the interests of the whole Movement, and form a great step in the direction of world peace. Even those admirers of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle who do not at present subscribe to his Spiritualistic convictions will agree that Truth and Justice were his dominating characteristics, and will undoubtedly wish to be associated with a Memorial which before anything else upholds those principles, together with the universal power of the Spirit of God to contact and aid the evolution of the human race.

Donations may be sent to:—A. C. Grigg, Esq., Hon. Treasurer, The Conan Doyle Memorial Fund, Lloyd's Bank, Ltd., 121, Oxford St., London W.1.

CHEAP BOOKS.

We draw the attention of our readers to the books donated to the Union by our esteemed Adviser, Mr. Alfred Kitson.

All the books (see the front cover) are being offered at half-price.

We request the Lyceums to adopt the Founder's Day Programme, and, where possible, to donate the collections to the £2,000 Effort Fund.

SANTA FILOMENA.

(Florence Nightingale).

Whene'er a noble deed is wrought,
Whene'er is spoken a noble thought,
Our hearts, in glad surprise,
To higher levels rise.

The tidal waves of deeper souls
Into our inmost being rolls,
And lifts us unawares
Out of all meaner cares.

Honour to those whose words or deeds
Thus help us in our daily needs,
And by their overflow
Raise us from what is low.

A lady with a lamp shall stand
In the great history of the land,
A noble type of good,
Heroic womanhood.

—Longfellow.

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 the alphabetical order. We feel sure Lyceumists will welcome this added interest to the pages of the Lyceum Banner.

NIGHTINGALE, Florence. (No. 145.) was born at Florence in 1820. At six years of age she was conscious of a Mission. At twenty-five her life was an empty weariness. At thirty-one she longed for death to release her from the terrible round of her idle life. She wanted to work, to be a nurse. Her loving parents were scandalised. No lady worked, and nurses were looked upon as an objectionable class. Notwithstanding her parents objection she went through a course of training at the Protestant Deaconesses' Institute at Kaireswarth in Germany and afterwards studied the French methods in Paris. Returning to England she reformed the management of the sanatorium for governesses in Harley Street, London. When the reports of the sufferings of the English troops in the Crimean war reached England, she offered her services. Within five days she had gathered together forty women with whom she sailed for Scutari (October 1854). The conditions she found are indescribable. The hospital was a filthy decaying pesthouse. There were no proper means of transporting supplies or men; no proper cooking arrangements; no notion of ordering special diet or drugs, and no one to see whether those supplied were taken; no soap, no clean linen.

In a short time the hospital contained *four miles of beds* and she had established kitchens, laundries, clothing stores, often at her own expense. The death rate under her management fell from 42 per cent to 22 per thousand.

She had a passion for saving life and a conception of nursing that went far beyond sick-bed attendance. She knew that men were killed not only by the bullets of the enemy, but by the incompetence of those who were in charge of their well-being. There she toiled among the victims of the war. Her nightly rounds ministering to the physical needs and speaking the words of sympathy and encouragement so eagerly awaited by the soldiers, won for her the title of the "Lady with the Lamp." Thus she toiled until the British troops left the town in July 1856.

The feeling of the nation for her life-saving work found expression in a gift to her of £50,000, with which she founded the training home for nurses which bears her name.

NEWTON, Sir Isaac. (No. 145.) He was born at Woolsthorpe, Lincolnshire, in 1642, and died at Kensington, and was buried in Westminster Abbey, 1727. The story seems to be true that the fall of an apple in the garden at Woolsthorpe late in 1665 started the train of thought which led him to the discovery of universal gravitation. He certainly then deduced the rule of inverse squares from Kepler's third law, and attempted to verify it by the observed motions of the moon. It was not until 1685 when Picard's improved value for terrestrial radius was at his disposal, and he had overcome the difficulty of calculating the attraction of a sphere upon an adjacent particle, that he ascertained the agreement to be exact. The great work embodying his conclusions was published in July 1687. Book III showed the working of the attractive principle in the solar system, and demonstrated the subjection to it of comets. Newton's optical researches began in 1666, when he resolved white light into its constituent colours. Two years later he constructed the first reflecting telescope.

In papers communicated to the Royal Society in 1672 and 1675 he described his prismatic experiments, and the phenomena of thin plates. His results were collected in a volume on *optics*, in which the emission theory of light was advocated. He became professor of mathematics at Cambridge in 1669. In 1696 he became warden, and in 1699 master of the mint. Newton was knighted by Queen Anne in 1705, and acted as president of the Royal Society from 1703, until his death in 1727.

The first account of his new calculus was in the form of two letters drawn up for Wallis in 1692, and he corresponded with Leibniz on the subject in 1693. The controversy regarding their respective claims to priority dragged on from 1705 to 1725. The facts elicited left no room for doubt of Newton's claim to priority. His disputes with Flamstead were no less wearisome. He was engaged in 1694-5 on the laborious task of perfecting his lunar theory for which purpose Flamstead's observations were indispensable. They were communicated partially and reluctantly and the annoyances involved caused Newton to abandon his pursuit of the moon's inequalities. This controversy embittered seven years of his life.

PAINE, Thomas (No. 145) was born at Thetford, Norfolk in 1737 and died 1809. His father was a Quaker and staymaker. In 1761 he became a petty government official, then an artisan and finally a journalist. When about 39 years of age he went to

America. At first he settled in the Quaker City, obtaining literary work in Pennsylvania with Mr. Aitkin, a bookseller. The Government of King George III. was determined to enforce the Boston Ports' Bill, which was strongly resented. General Gage, who commanded at Boston, decided in April 1775 to destroy some colonial military stores in a magazine at Concord, a few miles from the metropolis of Massachusetts. But he was checked and driven back by the farmers. Thomas Paine's pen was now the mightiest of weapons. He boldly advocated the separation of the united colonies from the mother country. He defied the monarchy in the name of the new republic. His first trumpet-note was in the publication of *Common Sense*, which produced a great effect both in America and England. What Paine advocated in *Common Sense* for freedom, he followed up vigorously, and the 4th July, 1776, with its grand Declaration of Independence was but the flame from the spark which Paine had fanned into fire. He cast in his lot with George Washington, to fight for freedom. Often hungry, footsore and at times heartsore, but never quite beaten. And so the revolution went on until the surrender of York town sealed the defeat of the English forces. Paine's services were acknowledged in formal fashion by resolution of the Pennsylvania Legislature in 1775; by a letter from George Washington in 1783, and by resolution of the Congress of the United States of America in 1785. From 1787 to 1802 Paine was in Europe where, in 1791, he published the first portion of his famous book *The Rights of Man*, written by way of an answer to Burke's *Reflections on the French Revolution*. This led to a government prosecution of Paine for seditious libel. But he fled to France, where he was elected a member of the Assembly of 1793. When his friends, the Giroudists, fell in the following autumn he was arrested and committed to prison, where he remained for ten months. Just before his imprisonment he had completed the first part of his book. *The Age of Reason* (53 pages), 1794. During his imprisonment he wrote the second part which was published in 1796. The book is an attack on the belief of the orthodox Christianity, but it is expressed in temperate language of great clearness and simplicity. On the first page he makes the following declarations:—

"I believe in one God, and no more, and I hope for happiness beyond this life.

"I believe in the equality of man, and I believe that religious duties consist in doing justice, loving mercy, and endeavouring to make our fellow creatures happy.

He returned to America in 1802, and was warmly welcomed by the friends of liberty.

The following press cutting bears testimony to the valuable labours of this sainted reformer.

Who is This Man?

The man that named our country.

The man first to advocate independence for our country.

The man who did more to achieve this independence than any other man, giving his pen,^t tongue, sword and pocketbook to the cause.

The man that in the darker hour of the Revolution wrote the "Crisis," commencing with the words, "These are the times that try men's souls."

Do you know that General Washington ordered this mighty work to be read to the army once a week."

The man who was joint author of the Declaration of Independence with Jefferson.

The man who borrowed ten million dollars from Louis XVI to feed and clothe the American army.

The man that established the Bank of North America in order to supply the army.

Napoleon said in toasting him at a banquet, "Every city in the world should erect a gold statue to you."

The author of the "Rights of Man," acknowledged to be the greatest work ever written on Political Freedom.

This masterpiece gave free speech and a free press to England and America.

The man that first said, "The world is my country, to do good is my religion."

The man known as "The Great Commoner of Mankind," the "Founder of the Republic of the World."

The man first to urge the making of our Constitution.

The man first to suggest the Federal Union of the States and to bring it about.

The man first to propose the Louisiana Purchase.

The man first to demand justice for women.

The man first to plead for the dumb animals.

The man first to advocate international arbitration.

The man first to propose old age pensions.

The man first to propose "The land for the people."

The man that invented and built the first iron bridge.

That man was Thomas Paine.—*Unitarian Calendar*.

ABSENTEES.

Lyceums are requested to appoint Absentee Visitors to visit the homes of Lyceumists who have not attended the respective Lyceums for some time. We can only retain our numerical strength by keeping as many old scholars as possible and increasing the interest to influence visitors to become members.

Church members are requested to send their children to the Lyceums wherever possible, and also attend themselves. There is scope for education which no other method provides.

STATISTICAL RETURNS.

The Forms for the Statistical Returns and payment of Annual Contributions to the B.S.L.U., have been sent to the Secretary of every affiliated Lyceum and District Council.

If any Secretary has not received the Form the General Secretary will supply another one on receipt of an application.

When a new Secretary is elected, a note, giving the name and address of the new official should be sent as soon as possible to the General Secretary.

A FAIRY WENT A-MARKETING.

A Fairy went a-marketing—

She bought a little fish;

She put it in a crystal bowl

Upon a golden dish.

An hour she sat in wonderment

And watched its silver gleam,

And then she gently took it up

And slipped it in a stream.

Rose Fyleman.

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.

LONDON, Lewisham.—Still progressing. Attendance and conduct good. On Tuesday, 16th Dec., we held our Christmas Party, when an enjoyable tea was provided, after which games were indulged in. This was also made the occasion of the Prize-giving for the year's work, Uncle Bert presenting the prizes, after which every Lyceumist received a present from the Christmas Tree. Dancing was then taken part in by the elder Lyceumists and visitors, to the music of the Clintonian Dance Band. Our thanks are due to all who combined to make the evening a success. We have two transitions to the higher life to record: Victor Brain, aged 10, and Douglas Haines, aged 16.—Wm. Hurrell, Sec.

WELLINGTON, Kent Terrace.—The Wellington Spiritualist Church and Lyceum is situated on one of the city's best thoroughfares. There are beautiful grass plots and flower beds down the centre of the roadway. The trams pass the door. Though our Lyceum does not grow very large, we have much to be proud of. We are a happy and harmonious school. Our Conductor, hailing from the Blackburn Temple, conducts us on the well-known principles and methods of Northern Lyceumism. Our Session commences at 2-30 p.m. and usually continues to 3-45 p.m. Our callisthenics are varied by Wand Drill, as obtained in Blackburn. The Callisthenics Leader, Mrs. E. Webb, was for many years Callisthenics Conductor at the Blackburn Temple. Her assistant is Miss Lena Webb. The marching leaders, Miss G. Webb and Mr. S. Harris, are also from Lancashire, while the Musical Director, Mr. H. Barton, comes from Belper, as also does the Treasurer, Mr. G. Bodell. The Assistant Musician, Miss E. Harris, is from Lancashire. The other officers are real New Zealanders, and they have been attending the Lyceum a very long time. It is an old-established society. We all join in wishing Lyceumists the world over a Healthful and Prosperous New Year.—Recorder.

ACCRINGTON, Argyle Street.—On Dec. 14th we held our Annual Meeting and Election of Officers. Conductor, Mr. W. Taylor; Assistant, Mrs. Glover; Secretary, Miss F. Holgate; Treasurer, Miss N. Smith; Guardians, Miss H. West and Tom Phillipson.—F. Holgate, Sec.

CLECKHEATON.—Dec. 7th, Open Session, conducted by Mr. T. Brooke. This date was a Re-union of old Scholars, when we had about 60 present. Silver chain was well conducted by Miss E. Thornton, an old scholar. Musical reading by Doris Garside, Henry Taylor and Gladys Hutton. Several interesting questions were well answered on the G.C.R. Pearls by Henry Taylor (2), Eva Rowley, H. Hoarsley (2), Irene Wilson, Benny Walker (2), Ethel Scholes (2), Mrs. Watson, Gladys Hutton, Miss A. Wilkinson, Mr. T. Brooke, and Miss M. Wilkinson. Recitations by Irene Wilson, Ethel Scholes and Doris Garside. Solos were rendered by Irene Wilson, Benny Walker, Eva Rowley. Trio by Doris Garside, Dorothy Garside and Florence Donner. Quite an unusual thing occurred next, when six scholars, Ethel Scholes, Eva Rowley, Irene Wilson, Henry Taylor, Benny Walker and Ronnie Rowley, sung together. Mrs. Swallow spoke a few words, pointing out to the children that she always considered her schooldays as her happiest days. Mrs. Woodcock also gave a few words of encouragement and appreciation. Benediction by Mrs. Woodcock. An interesting Session was spent; thanks to everyone who made it a success.—M. B. Robinson (Miss).

EARBY, Onward.—We held our Open Session on Dec. 7th, when recitations and hymns were rendered by our Lyceumists and Liberty Group. A good time spent together. New Year Greetings to all Lyceums.—Mrs. Clark, Sec.

FLEETWOOD.—Open Session, Dec. 7th, conducted by Mr. Batley. Jessie Ainsworth, Ruth and Dorothy Harris, Kathleen and Mona Hague, and Marie Dews gave recitations; solos by Mrs. Firth and Ruth Harris; duets by Dorothy Harris and Kathleen Hague; Violet Forshaw and Nancy Woods; Irene Watkins and Edith Richardson. A most enjoyable Session.

Dec. 14th, Annual Election of Officers:—Conductor, Mr. Batley; Assistants, Phyllis Jordan and Mona Bettess; Secretary, Mrs. Vollans; Assistant, Elsie Johnson; Treasurer, Mr. Shurmer; Guardian, Mrs. Horan; Captain of Guards, Mrs. Wright; The Conductor to choose Guards each week; Musical

Directors, Mr. Batley, Nora Harris and Phyllis Jordan; Marching Leaders, Nora Harris, Katie Marron and Irene Watkins, Mr. John Cooke, George Cooke, George Williams and Tom Church; Sick Visitors, Mrs. Horan and Mrs. Hague; Auditors, Mrs. Marron and Mrs. Benson; Tellers, Mr. John Cooke and Mrs. Wright. A very hearty vote of thanks was tendered to all retiring officers.—L. Vollans, Sec.

GREAT HARWOOD.—Open Session held Dec. 14th. S.C., Mr. Haworth; M.R., Mrs. Owen and Greta Johnson; G.C., Eileen Shaw; recitations by Greta Johnson, Walter Haworth, May Pickvance, Alice Ellis, Mrs. W. Haworth, Florrie Pickvance, Rosa Bagshaw, Annie Aspden, Mrs. Owen; solo by Mr. Haworth; duet by Mrs. W. Doswell and Eileen Shaw. The new officers took control of the Lyceum at this Session and extend a hearty greeting to all Lyceums.—W. Doswell, Sec.

LANCASTER, Alliance.—Open Session, 7th Dec. Splendid attendance and everyone enjoyed the solos, recitations and duets, etc., rendered by Alice Jones, Miss Hodgson, James Hayhurst, Doris Kirk, Edith Crossley, Annie Towers, Frank Cole, Herbert Wade. Season's greetings to all.—A. F. Rushworth, Sec.

LONDON, Stratford.—Open Session, Dec. 7th, conducted by Mrs. West. An address by Mr. A. T. Connor was very much enjoyed. Efforts from the following made up a very bright Session:—Songs by Doris Fozzard, Barbara and June Bates, Betty and Maisie Haughton, and Lily Flynn, Kenneth and Audrey West, Mrs. West and Miss Golbourne, and Mr. and Mrs. Fozzard; recitations by Rose Thompson and Florence Pearson.

A very successful Concert by the Glee Party was held on Nov. 19th. Progress is being maintained.—R. H. Bates, Sec.

LONDON, Tottenham and Edmonton.—On Saturday, Dec. 6th, we held a Social Sale of Work which was a huge success. We achieved that for which we aimed. A prosperous New Year to all.—W. H. Markham, Sec.

OLDHAM, Elliott Street.—We held our Open Session on Nov. 30th. Mr. Norbury worked very arduously to bring a large number of friends to visit us. All conducted in some way to make the Session highly successful.—M. Harper, Sec.

SCUNTHORPE.—We are at the close of this year and we are still rolling the old chariot along and hope for more spiritual progress in the next year. Happy, bright and prosperous New Year to all.—Ivy Sprakes, Sec.

WINNIPEG, Polson Avenue.—On Nov. 30th we held our Lyceum Anniversary Services. The Lyceum was in charge of the day. The afternoon took the form of an Open Session. Marching and callisthenics were a great success. Mr. Brown and Mr. Chadwick, two of our late Lyceumists, gave short talks to the children which were very much enjoyed.

On Dec. 7th we held our Open Session, our new officers being in charge. We are praying for a good year, both in spirituality and numbers. Pearls by Olive Forrest, Miss M. Anderson, Irene Turner, Mrs. Forrest and Harry Forrest; readings by Miss Anderson and Mr. Forrest; solo by Mrs. Forrest. Our Lyceum sends greetings to all other Lyceums.

Officers for 1931:—Conductor, Mrs. J. Hargreaves; Assistant Conductor, Mr. H. Forrest; Guardian, Miss Maud Hargreaves; Capt. of Guards, Miss Irene Turner; Guards, Gordon Fairbairn, Hazel Dale; Secretary, Miss E. Hargreaves; Treasurer, Miss M. Anderson; Musical Directors, Miss E. Hargreaves, Olive Forrest, Harry Forrest; Auditors, Mr. J. Hargreaves, Mr. H. Forrest; Sick Committee, Miss M. Hargreaves, Miss M. Anderson.—E. Hargreaves, Sec.

FROM "FAIRIES AND CHIMNEYS."

Mother.

When mother comes at bed-time,
Her evening dress she wears;
She tells us each a story
When we have said our prayers.
And if there is a party
She looks so shiny bright;
It's like a lovely fairy
Dropped in to say good-night.

Rose Fyleman.

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.

HOPE.—In loving memory of Randolph, who passed to the Higher Life, January 6th, 1927.

“Home his feet has left, but not my heart.”
 “How cheering the thought that the Angels of God
 Do bow their bright forms to the world they once trod;
 Do leave the sweet joys of the mansions above
 To breathe o'er our bosoms some message of love.”

Nance.

HOPE.—In memory of Randolph, who passed to the Higher Life January 6th, 1927.

For our footsteps they are waiting,
 Waiting on the other side.
 Mother and Family; Doris and Will, Australia.

SOUTHAMPTON SPIRITUALIST CHURCH LYCEUM.

On 23rd Nov. we held our 19th Anniversary Services, when we had the pleasure of having our Education Secretary, Mr. Connor, with us. The services throughout the day were harmonious and thoroughly enjoyed by all, including representatives from Portsmouth, Gosport, Cowes, and Eastleigh Lyceums. Our young Lyceumists rose to the occasion and did their part well. The day opened on a very harmonious note. Our Church President opened the day's services and, after extending a hearty welcome to Mr. Connor, handed the Church and services over to the Lyceum for the day. Morning and evening services were conducted as Lyceum Sessions, with addresses by Mr. A. T. Connor, who took the opportunity to further the Education Scheme. Each of his addresses were interesting and thoroughly enjoyed by young and old. In the afternoon over 100 Lyceumists and friends had an enjoyable Open Session. A hearty welcome was extended to Bro. Connor in well-chosen words, by a junior Lyceumist, Ena Clover, who expressed the sentiments of all present, and at the same time presented him with a Bookmark as a memento of his visit.

Young Lyceumists from Eastleigh, Gosport, and Portsmouth, in addition to our own Lyceumists, gave individual efforts.

The evening service was made notable by a recitation spelling the title “Lyceum Day.” Nine Lyceumists each recited a verse denoting a letter composing it. Before closing, our Conductor, Mr. Guy, expressed our thanks to Mr. Connor and to all Lyceumists who had worked so wholeheartedly to make the day such a success.

The Southampton Lyceum wish all Lyceumists, both far and near, a brighter and prosperous New Year.

E. W. Long, Sec.

TRAVELS BY THE FIRESIDE.

The ceaseless rain is falling fast,
 And yonder gilded vane,
 Immovable for three days past,
 Points to the misty main.

It drives me in upon myself,
 And to the fireside gleams;
 To pleasant books that crowd my shelf,
 And still more pleasant dreams.

Let others traverse sea and land,
 And toil through various climes;
 I turn the world round in my hand,
 Reading these poets' rhymes.

From them I learn whatever lies
 Beneath each changing zone,
 And see, when looking with their eyes,
 Better than with mine own.

Longfellow.

MARRIAGE OF MR. GEORGE A. DIXON AND MISS PHOEBE SWINDELLS.

On Saturday Miss Phoebe Swindells, the only daughter of Mr. and the late Mrs. James Swindells, of Manchester (who resided with her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Caldecott, at 6a, Heape Street, Castleton), was married to Mr. George A. Dixon, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Dixon, of 31, Royds Street, Chorlton-on-Medlock, Manchester, in St. Martin's Church, by the Rev. H. Whewell (the Vicar). Mr. Osmond Jones, the organist, played suitable music.

Given away by her father, the bride was dressed in ivory satin with an over-dress of silk net applied with satin. She also wore a wreath and veil of white net trimmed with orange blossom and carried a sheaf of lilies and white heather. The bridesmaids were Miss Edna M. Dixon (sister of the bridegroom), Miss Eunice Elson (cousin of the bride), Miss Annie Hacking (friend of the bride), and Miss Marjorie Smith (cousin of the bride). The first-named three were attired in dresses of rose pink crepe de chine with coatees of embossed georgette to tone and black picture hats, and carried bouquets of pink chrysanthemums. Miss Smith wore a pink satin dress and poke bonnet, and carried a Victorian posy. Mr. Mark Pearce acted as best man; the groomsmen were Messrs. Fred Elson and Harry Vernon.

The bridegroom's gifts were a pearl necklace to the bride, pendants to the Misses Dixon, Elson and Hacking, and a bracelet to Miss Smith.

After the ceremony a reception was held in the Caxton Hall, Salford, where about 60 persons sat down to tea. Later the number was greatly increased.

Among the numerous presents received were a reading lamp and fruit bowl from the bride's friends in the winding room at the Dunlop Mill, Castleton, and a case of cutlery and a display cabinet from the office staff at Messrs. W. Stuart Millar, Ltd., of Manchester, by which firm the bridegroom is employed.

The Lyceum and Society presented an over-mirror framed in oxidised silver, and hall-set with barometer.

Mr. Dixon is one of the Elective Auditors to the B.S.L.U., a Trustee of Maskell Street Spiritualist Church, and Secretary of the Manchester and Salford Lyceum District Council.

Miss Swindells spends much of her interest with the children in the Lyceum.

We wish both these Lyceumists a long and happy life together.

District Visitors' Reports.

LEEDS DISTRICT.

Leeds, Easy Road. Sept. 14th. Present, 17. Interesting comments on readings. Marching and callisthenics were well done. The younger Lyceumists were of good behaviour.

Leeds, Armley. Sept. 21st. Present, 25. Pearls, 8. A few good explanations. Marching smartly done. This was followed by Groups. Good Leaders.

Hull, Gypsyville. Sept. 28th. Present, 34. The children asked several word questions and one adult gave a good explanation. Marching and callisthenics fairly good.

Liversedge. Oct. 5th. Present, 40. The Conductor is only young, so it would be advisable for the adult members to encourage the younger Lyceumists to ask and answer questions.

Cleckheaton. Oct. 12th. Present, 28. The Session was well carried through considering the trying circumstances this Lyceum is passing through.

Normanton, Queen Street. Nov. 2nd. Morning Session. A very good all-round Session; very interesting and educative. Present, 18. An intelligent Lyceum.

Wakefield. Nov. 2nd. Present, 34. Readings produced good explanations. Marching and callisthenics very good. 10 pearls brought forth some good lessons. A good all-round Session with special mention of the music.

Batley, Hanover Street. Nov. 23rd. Present, 26. This Lyceum gives good promise. There was a Service of Song practice.

Please note change of address:—Mr. A. Daisley, Jr., 45, Middleton Park Square, Middleton, Leeds.

The best way to keep one's friends is never to “give them away.”

£2,000 Effort Fund.

Dear Lyceumists and Friends everywhere,

My Report this month is not so good, but I know that Lyceums generally will have been busy with their own local efforts for the festive season. I trust each and all will have had the satisfaction of success, and that the New Year will dawn with the hope of a greater fulfilment for the furtherance of unity and concord in the Lyceum Movement throughout the World.

I gratefully acknowledge the following: Peace Sunday collections from Ramsden St., Huddersfield, per Mrs. Ethel Seal, 1/6. Spen Lane, York, per Mr. Whitwam, 2/6. Shipley Progressive, per Mr. E. H. Coles, 2/7½. Silver St., Leicester, per Miss Edith Darton, sample copy of Reality of God, 3d. Total 6s. 10½d.

Although it is but a small total, every little helps, and I have no doubt that many will be reserving Founder's Day to do their quota for the £2000 Effort. I shall watch for every post after this Special Effort. I have every confidence that I shall not be disappointed. Once again I urge that you will please do your best.

And again I ask you to remember that I still await further orders for the Musical Recital, The Reality of God. Hymn Leaflets 4/6 per 100 post free, Recitation Leaflets, 2d. per copy, and of these you should have 18. Odd copies of the complete work are 3d. Orders for Hymn sheets of less than 100 are 1d. each.

All orders and donations to be forwarded to Mrs. J. Reynolds, 118, Cremorne St., Nottingham.

Thanking you once again,

Yours sincerely,

VICTORIA G. REYNOLDS.

118, Cremorne St., Nottingham.

District Council Reports.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

The Birmingham and District Lyceum District Council held their "Reunion Christmas Tea Party" in the New Church Rooms at Smethwick, on Saturday, Dec. 13th, 1930. There was quite a nice number sat down to an enjoyable tea, and the games, which nearly everybody took part in, were enjoyed. There were five Lyceums represented and the items rendered by the Lyceumists from the different Lyceums were much appreciated. On behalf of the B. and D. L.D.C. I wish to thank all who helped to make this affair a success. Wishing all Lyceums the compliments of the season and success in the year 1931.

Will all Lyceums and Associate members in the B. and D. L.D.C. please note that the next Council Meeting will be held in the Drummond Street Church, Wolverhampton, on Saturday, Jan. 10th, 1931, at 3 p.m. prompt.—E. C. Heaton, Sec.

LEEDS DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Conference was held at Grove Road, Hemsworth, on Saturday, Dec. 6th, 1930.

A welcome, given by Mrs. Martin, Hemsworth, was accepted by the President on behalf of the Conference.

The President, in his address, welcomed Officers, Delegates, Associates and friends. He said the state of affairs must play an important part in the spiritual welfare of the masses. Those who build their material possessions at the expense of others' spirituality must have an enormous debt to pay. I ask all Lyceums to strive to make the Silver Bell Competition a huge success.

The Minutes of last Conference and Special Meeting were accepted and confirmed.

It was agreed to ask Dad Kitson to prepare a Model Lyceum Session. Sub-Committee: Mr. Hirst, Mr. Wainwright, Mr. Crann, Mr. Daisley and the Secretary.

Mr. Daisley was asked to make enquiries about the "No More War Committee" for the next meeting.

Mr. Daisley gave a most interesting D.V. Report of visits paid to Easy Road, Armley, Gipsyville, Liversedge, Cleckheaton, Normanton (Queen Street), Wakefield, Batley, Morley (Cross Church Street), Horsforth had no Session on the day visited.

The Treasurer reported: Income 18s. 6½d; expenditure £2 6s. 4d. Total balance £4 11s. 2d.

U.D.C. Mr. Tweedale gave a most interesting report of the meeting held at Rotherham.

All reports were accepted.

Notice of Motion from Castleford *re* Field Day Demonstrations was not carried.

Notice of Motion from Birstall *re* Increase of Secretary's Honorarium was carried unanimously.

Invitations for 1931 were deferred until next meeting.

Nominations, 1931. Consent of nominee must be obtained and sent in writing. The closing date is Jan. 31st, 1931.

Date and place of Annual Meeting. It was agreed to accept Batley Carr's invitation for Feb. 21st.

A vote of thanks was accorded to local friends.

Roll Call. Officers 4, Delegates 14, representing 11 Lyceums, Associates 3, Credential Officer 1. Total 22.

Lyceums present:—Armley, Batley Carr, Birstall, Castleford, Cleckheaton, Dewsbury, Hemsworth, Liversedge, Normanton (Queen Street), Wakefield, York.—A. W. Harding, Sec.

SOUTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

The Council held its Quarterly Meeting at Baron Street, Rochdale, on Nov. 29th, 1930. Mr. Hudson, President, was in the Chair. The Minutes and Correspondence were dealt with and passed. Out of the correspondence arose the position of William Street Lyceum, Heywood, having closed down. The officers of the Council were instructed to make investigation with a view to re-organising the Lyceum.

The President gave an address to arouse the enthusiasm of the delegates to speed up the work of the Council through their own Lyceums.

Reports were dealt with in order, and much business was done.

Mrs. L. Nurse gave notice of motion for the next meeting:—"That in future, following the Council Meeting, the inviting Lyceum arrange a Propaganda Meeting to be conducted by the Council, on a fifty-fifty basis."

A hearty vote of thanks was given to the Baron Street Lyceum for entertaining the Council at the present meeting.

Annual Meeting, Old Hall Street, Middleton, Feb. 14th, 1931.—J. Nurse, 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 Dec. 20th.

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 January 21st, to ensure insertion in the February issue.

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

ACCRINGTON, Pearl Street.—Dec. 14th, Open Session, when all new officers worked together for a new year. Recitations by Mr. Laycock, Nellie and Thomas Laycock, Phyllis Edwards; solos and duets by Miss H. Swift, Nellie Laycock, Mr. Cook, Gladys Jenkinson, Madge Shuttleworth, Mrs. Houlker and H. Neild. We had an enjoyable time.

BIRKENHEAD.—Dec. 7th, our first Open Session in our New Church. Recitations by Gwennie, Florrie, Muriel and Gertrude Watson, Leslie Hamilton, Albert Thompson, Lilian Harding, Ernest Kneale and Mrs. Harper; a duet by a visitor, Miss Florence Rushton, and Miss Doris Dunn; also solos by

Mrs. Harding and Mr. Taylor. An enjoyable Session.—D. Dunn, Sec.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter Street.—On Nov. 30th we held our usual Open Session. Recitations by J. Entwistle, J. Riley, B. Hinchcliff, M. Turner, I. Entwistle and Mr. H. Heap; solo by C. Railton. Mr. Chamberlain, of Manchester, was our speaker for the day. We had a good session, enjoyed by all.—Mr. T. Wood, Sec.

BOLTON, Bradford Street.—Dec. 7th, Election of Officers: Conductor, Miss Ada Cliff; Assistant, Mr. Tom Liles; Secretary, Mr. A. Bromiley; Assistant Secretary, Mr. J. Walker; Marching and Callisthenics Conductor, Mr. W. Johnson; Assistant, Mr. Cliff; Treasurer, Mr. Ridings; Guardian, Mr. Birchall; Musical Director, Mr. Tom Liles; Captain of Guards, Mr. Birchall; Guards, Frank Walker, George Shackles, Ivy Jackson, Mabel Shackles; Auditors, Mr. Brown and Mr. Lintott; Representatives to Society, Mr. Liles, Miss A. Cliff; Representatives to B.L.D.C., Mr. R. Johnson, Mr. Liles; Children's Leader, Miss L. Speight; Girls' Leader, Mr. W. Johnson; Boys' Leader, Mr. J. Walker; Group Leader, Mr. Cliff; Librarian, Mr. W. Johnson; Assistant, Miss Elsie Speight; Entertainments Committee, Mr. Liles, Mr. Brown, Mr. J. Walker, Miss J. Thwaites, Mr. Cliff, Mrs. Shackles, Miss L. Speight; Sick Visitors, Miss Emily Edwards, Mr. W. Edwards.

In the afternoon we held our Open Session. Although the weather was antagonistic, the gathering was excellent and everything passed off well. Fraternal greetings were gratefully received from King Street, Bury; Railway Street, Radcliffe, Horwich. Miss Ada Cliff, by means of a letter received by her, gave the fraternal greetings of East Hamilton Lyceum, Canada, to all Lyceums in the British Isles and Empire.

In the evening we held a Musical Service with members of the Bolton P.S.A. Band, and soloists in attendance. This service, "I'll tell the world," was the alpha and omega of enjoyment. Altogether it was a Red Letter Day.—A. Bromiley, Sec.

BOLTON, Henry Street.—Nov. 30th, Election of Officers:—Conductor, Mr. Entwistle; Assistant, Mr. Broadbent; Financial Secretary, Miss P. Monk; Treasurer, Mr. R. Kirkman; Musical Conductor, Miss E. Monk; Assistant, Miss A. Brown; Marching Conductor, H. Broadbent; Assistant, W. Kirkman; Marching Leaders, B. Monk, R. Kirkman; Callisthenics Leader, Miss P. Monk; Assistant, L. Council; Guardian, Miss E. Monk; Captain of Guards, R. Kirkman; Delegates to L.D.C., Mrs. Kirkman, Mr. W. Monk; Representative to Lyceum Committee, Mrs. Kirkman; Auditors, Mrs. Kirkman and Mr. W. Monk; Sick Visitors, Miss F. Taylor and Mrs. Bates.—P. Monk, Sec.

CHESTERFIELD.—Dec. 7th, Open Session. Mr. Bown conducted the Session and the response to the readings was very good. Marching and callisthenics were conducted by Mr. E. Hobster. The following Lyceumists rendered items:—Ivy Hall, Norman Clements, Glyn Cowell, Evelyn Clements, Irene Hobster, Jimmy Rippon, Leslie Driver, Lily Driver, Marion Orwin, Avis Bown, Miss Lenthall, Mrs. Driver.—M. Wheatley, Session Minute Sec.

DEWSBURY.—Open Session, Nov. 29th. Conductor, Mr. J. H. Collier. Pearls by Dorothy Dunn, William Newby, Chrissie Greenwood, Dorothy Joyce; recitations by Dorothy Dunn, Chrissie Greenwood; solos by Clarissa Phillips, Miss F. Senior, Miss A. Bentley, Mr. E. Whitworth; duet by Mr. E. Wilson and Miss M. Hirst. A Naming Ceremony was performed by Mr. J. H. Collier. The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Hey was named Desmond Hey; spiritual name, "Power." A spirit message was given by Mrs. Ledgard. The spiritual name was given by Mr. J. Whittles. We were very sorry to hear Mrs. Greenwood had been taken seriously ill again.—Mr. V. R. Phillips, Sec.

DONCASTER, Catherine Street.—We held our Open Session Dec. 7th, conducted by Miss Johnson. Invocation by Mrs. Bell. The following Lyceumists took part:—V. Heaton, L. and S. Middleton, J. Chalmers, D. Mumford, Mrs. Crossland, Miss Batty. Mrs. Barker, of Hull, gave a few encouraging remarks and also fraternal greetings from Dairycoates Lyceum. A very enjoyable Session was spent.—Mrs. Webb, Sec.

DUNEDIN, N.Z.—Oct. 12th, Annual Meeting and Election of Officers:—Conductor, Secretary, Treasurer, Miss Burgess, also Leader of Liberty Group and Callisthenics Conductor; Assistant Conductor, Jean Robinson; Librarian, Mrs. Asher; Musical Conductor, Mr. Hargreaves; Assistant, Joan Hargreaves; Guardian of Groups, Hazel Prattley; Leaders of

Marching, Jean Robinson, Hazel Prattley; Assistant Leaders, Edith Asher, Jean McConnell; Group Leaders, 1st Class, Mrs. Asher; 2nd Class, Mrs. McConnell; 3rd Class, Jean Robinson; 4th Class, Jim Robinson; Infants, Hazel Prattley; Captain of Guards, Margaret Robinson; Five Guards were elected this year to take months in turn, Edith Robinson, Dulcie Prattley, Jean McConnell, Mavis Dobbin, Kitty Dobbin; Committee, Mr. Gore, Mr. Hargreaves, Mrs. Asher, Mrs. McConnell, Mrs. Paul.

The balance sheet again came out on the right side of the ledger and it was good to see the keen interest taken by the junior members in the voting.

Oct. 19th, Open Session. Pearls by all and recitations by the following:—Lorraine Hoyne, Joan Hargreaves, Hilda Paul, Kathleen Paul, Frances Anthony, Jim, Edith and Jean Robinson, Garnet Asher, Roland Paul, Jean McConnell, followed by practice for a Service of Song we are holding on Dec. 7th, our Lyceum Sunday. Greetings to all Lyceums.—Miss R. Burgess, Con.-Sec.

EARBY, Greenend Avenue.—Dec. 7th, Open Session. The following Lyceumists took part:—O. Wilkins, N. Taylor, Dennis Seddon, F. Clarke, J. Hancock, D. Seddon, N. Seddon, R. Hancock, A. Wilkinson, T. Hancock, W. Hancock, E. Woodhead, E. Taylor, Q. Dawson, L. Dawson and W. Wintersgill. We spent a good time together.—Mrs. D. Dawson, Sec.

HANLEY.—To further the interests of the Sunday School side of the Spiritualist movement in the Potteries, a United Demonstration was held in the Queen's Hall, Burslem. There was a large attendance and a feature of the gathering was the fine singing of an augmented junior and adult choir of 200 voices, under the able conductorship of Mr. H. Hassall. In hymns and anthems the choristers gave an exceedingly good performance. The solos in the anthem were effectively rendered by Miss Florrie Mayer and Miss Gladys Hill. Mr. C. Barker, J.P., of Longton, presided and was supported on the platform by the Presidents and Conductors of the Spiritualist Churches and Lyceums of the district. An address, which dealt mainly with the prospects of Parliamentary freedom for Spiritualists, was given by Mr. Berry, Secretary of the S.N.U.

HEMSWORTH.—Nov. 30th, Open Session. Invocation by Mrs. Haigh. Pearls and recitations by the Lyceumists. A message of progress and welcome from the Huddersfield friends and a return of thanks was given. A happy time was spent.—Mrs. W. Bates, Sec.

LEICESTER, Liberty Progressive.—Dec. 7th, before a good attendance of Lyceumists and friends, we held our Open Session. Recitations by Lily Jayes, Elsie Garrett, Elsie Clements, Alice Gamble, Horace Jayes; solos by Jacky Whitbread, Freda Gamble, Doris Garrett, Miss Frost, Sylvia Garrett, Mr. Jayes; duets by Lavinia Garrett and Doris Jayes; quartette by Mr. F. Gamble, Mr. H. Meadows, Mr. A. Gamble, Mr. Kenney.—T. Kenney, Sec.

LEICESTER, Rupert Street.—Dec. 7th, Open Session. Recitations by Misses B. Hancock, L. Jayes, M. Fisher, M. Coysh, Mrs. Dehoue and Master H. Jayes; solo by Miss E. Wicks; duet by Misses D. Jayes and M. Coysh.—Mr. J. Wicks, Sec.

LONDON, Walthamstow, High Street.—Children's Christmas Party, Jan. 10th, 6 p.m. to 11-30 p.m., at Workmen's Hall, High Street, Walthamstow. Social, concert and carnival dance, 1s. Visitors welcome.—D. E. Thomas.

NEWCASTLE, Heaton and Byker.—Dec. 7th, Open Session, Sunday evening. We had a very successful night, the Lyceumists taking the whole evening meeting. Some strangers said they had enjoyed the session. The adults have seen how the children are taught in the Lyceum.—S. J. Hunter, Sec.

PRESTON, 68, Lancaster Road.—We held Open Session on Nov. 30th, at the 6-30 p.m. service. Lyceumists and friends contributed to a very pleasant session which was enjoyed by all.—Evelyn Curtis, Sec.

PRESTON, Moor Lane.—Dec. 7th we held a very interesting Open Session. Recitations were rendered by Ronald Holt, Connie Tallon, Nellie Martin, Mary and Olive Stocks; duet by Miss Singleton and Mr. Eastham; quartet by four Lyceumists. Several pearls were given and explained. The marching and callisthenics were well performed.—Helen Kilner, Sec.

RUGBY Lyceumists wish their fellow Lyceumists a Happy and Successful New Year. Let our resolutions be "To go forward hand in hand with the Angels."—E. Weller, Sec.