

THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 481. Vol. XLI.

MARCH, 1931.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

Our Mutual Aid Bureau.

HOW DO CLAIRVOYANTS SEE?

THE PROBLEM.

Miss E. F. Lawton, G.N.S.C., Secretary of Barrow, Dalkeith Street, Study Group, writes as follows:—

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

SOME OPINIONS OF HORACE LEAF.

It is much more difficult to understand how clairvoyants see supernormal images than is generally supposed. I have devoted many years to the practice and development of this faculty and have met some of the best clairvoyants in the world, yet even now I can do little more than speculate upon the subject.

Clairvoyant visions are very complex and involve a number of different forms, all of which appear to fall into the two categories of objective and subjective. The subjective predominates. Very few clairvoyants actually see their visions in the same way that we see with the normal eye. Even when they do it is questionable whether they are not creating the images themselves in response to some external stimuli. The basis of these stimuli is mainly telepathic.

The human mind is very creative and always inclines to turn mental impressions and cognitions into perceptions. Thus we almost invariably think in words or imagine we see the person or object that we are thinking about although they may not be present. Dreams are excellent examples of the ability of the mind to objectify thoughts and feelings, while the hallucinations of the insane show that it can do this when waking as well as when sleeping.

Doubtless the subconsciousness is responsible for these hallucinations—dream and otherwise; but it is also pretty certain that the subconsciousness is involved in the exercise of clairvoyance. The cause of most of the images operates beneath the threshold of consciousness. In one form of objective clairvoyance this may not be the case, as there is reason for believing that some of these visions arise from a semi-materialised spirit-form acting upon fibrils of the optic nerve which are not normally operative. On such an occasion I have closed my eyes and shut the vision out and opened them and seen it again, although nobody else present in the room saw it. But even this sort of clairvoyance may be accounted for subjectively without straining the theory too much. I prefer, however, to rely upon my own impression of the cause and accept the objective theory.

When the seer sees with closed eyes or from some unusual part of the body, such as the elbow or the shoulder, the subjective theory seems pretty correct. We have no reason for supposing that the average person can see without the optic nerve, etc. Yet there is a doubt even here, as cases on record show that occa-

sionally a person has actually seen ordinary objects without using the eye. These cases are known as “Transposition of senses.”

In most instances of mediumistic clairvoyance it appears as if the inspiring spirit or spirits transmit an impression to the mind of the medium who automatically attempts to visualise it, producing an effect very similar to a memory image. It is therefore not seen except by the “mind’s eye.” This visualising may result in the production of an image different from, although similar to, the object the spirit has endeavoured to transmit. The result is very like that produced in a large percentage of telepathic experiments. The agent thinks of a key; the subject receives the idea of a key, and when asked to draw what he “saw” he produces a different kind of key from the original.

Whether we have a “spirit body” eye I do not know. One is apt to think in terms of matter on this subject, but as there is good reason for supposing that spirits live in a world of more or less different dimensions from those of Earth it may be that they see in a different way. This may account for cases of transposition of vision. It certainly would be an advantage in a future life to be able to see more than lies in front of us, and as people with “second sight” can often see what is taking place in any direction I am inclined to think that in the next world our senses may be much more comprehensive than they are here. In that case we may not really have a fixed organ of vision in the spirit body; it may be homogeneous or all pervading.

There is no reason for supposing that clairvoyance is induced only by spirit aid. Even when that has been the case in the first instance, the seer can often induce the operation of the faculty himself. Most well-developed mediums do not always wait for their spirit-helpers to bring them supernormal visions, but often go and get them, as it were. Mediums are not as a rule good guides as to the nature and origin of their supernormal faculties and have contributed much less to the theoretical side of the subject than the non-mediumistic trained observer. This indicates that the origin of their psychic experiences is obscure. I met a man recently in El Paso, U.S.A., who was able to give wonderful evidence of a supernormal character, including all that falls under the popular heading of clairvoyance and he had never any reason for believing that spirits helped him. In Bombay some years ago I had a remarkable reading from a Hindu who was simply horrified at the thought of spirits helping him.

I have seen many demonstrations of reading sealed messages, which in one case were handed to me by the clairvoyant to open after he had read the contents and I found that he was right word for word in almost every instance. He informed me that he was indebted to the spirit of his deceased brother for his remarkable ability. But whether his brother told him the contents of the envelopes or he got the information in some other way I was never able to discover, although I questioned him closely on the matter. This is an excellent example of the obscurity of the nature and origin of clairvoyance.

I have attempted to do no more than touch some of the most salient factors of a subject which would require more than a brief article to deal with fully.

HORACE LEAF, F.R.G.S.

MR. VOUT PETERS' EXPERIENCE.

My experience as a clairvoyant has shown me that a person who sees clairvoyantly does not "see" in the usually accepted terms of sight either subjectively or objectively, for the usual organs of vision—the eyes—are not used at all; but I *seem* to use a faculty that is centred in the forehead between the eyes.

But really every clairvoyant is in what Andrew Jackson Davis terms a superior condition; that is to say, the full consciousness is not wholly functioning on this plane, but a higher state is invoked by the clairvoyant himself at will; or it is brought about by a strong emotion such as joy or sorrow, music, or drugs such as opium or alcohol.

I can see in the dark or light, facing the person or being with my back towards him.

ALFRED VOUT PETERS.

REFLECTIONS IN THE MIRROR OF TIME.

(25th January, 1931).

(Read in the National Spiritualist Church, Daulby Hall, Liverpool).

Sixty-eight years is a long, long time,
And yet, it is just a flicker;
I wonder if I can express in rhyme
What has made it so much quicker?
Is it the link we have with the past,
Or can thought make time stand still?
For although the years may seem so vast,
We can bridge them—if we've the will.

And so, I've willed myself back again
To a place called Dodsworth Hall;
The journey I've made is not in vain,
I imagine I see them all;
A Seer has told them of visions sublime,
Which mortals can emulate;
Surely that's without reason or rhyme,
Can *mortals* deserve such fate?

He says that mortals can do on earth
What angels do in heaven;
('Tis said that laughter increases girth,
Then mine is seven times seven)
But wait, they've started—they're singing songs,
Why! maybe it can be done,
What's that they're singing? "We're righting
wrongs,"
I cannot treat that as fun.

Look! they've formed in groups—each with a leader,
Their faces are happy and bright;
The brightest of all—a very young reader
Is saying "We're seeking the light."
The reading over, some questions they ask,
And the *Little one* replies—
"While seeking the light in the truth we must bask,
We cannot countenance lies."

Good gracious! What's that? they're starting to march,

Why, surely, that can't be right;
And yet, with their banners forming an arch
'Tis plainly a beautiful sight;
Besides, it teaches them rhythm and poise,
And wisely adds to their health,
And so methinks—I'll excuse the noise
That greatly increases such wealth.

I think I must leave them now and come back
Into nineteen thirty one;
But whilst on the journey my brain I do rack,
My doubts?—I find they have gone!
I enter this room—a Lyceum I find—
A page from out of the past,
A standing monument to Improvement of Mind
'Tis heaven on earth—at last.

For sixty-eight years this movement has grown,
It's flourishing well to-day,
But next time I'm there when the seed is sown,
I'll be careful what I say;
For when I was there *a long time ago*,
I said "Without reason or rhyme",
I'm proved to be wrong, for now you all know
It has stood the great test of time.

ALFRED M. CRETNEY.

Our Education Department.

HINTS, NOTES AND NEWS ITEMS.

Conducted by the EDUCATION SECRETARY.

EXAMINATION DATES IN 1931.

S.N.U.—INTERMEDIATE, SUBSIDIARY and FINAL—20th to 23rd MARCH.

ENTRANCE—Same dates and times as B.S.L.U. Grade V.

B.S.L.U.—ALL GRADES.—Sunday, 10th MAY, or (by arrangement with the Supervisor) the Saturday or Monday of that week-end.

Entry Forms for the March examinations must be returned to Mrs. E. Paling not later than 4th March; and for the May ENTRANCE Examination not later than the 31st March.

For all the B.S.L.U. examinations, Entry Forms have been sent out to Lyceum Secretaries, and all entries must be made on these Forms, and returned to Mr. Connor not later than the end of March. Full instructions were sent with the Forms.

A price-list of Educational Handbooks, issued by the B.S.L.U., will be found on the outside back cover of this issue of the BANNER.

LYCEUM ENTRIES FOR THE MAY EXAM.

Once more I want to appeal for entries to be sent in as early as can be managed. I am carrying on the exams. this year under our new system, and if entries are sent in now, it will allow me plenty of time to get Lyceum parcels ready a few at a time, and so have all ready for the date of sending out to Supervisors. If entries are held over till the last day of entering, it

will make it very hard work for me to get so much work done correctly in such a short time. I mention this, as some may not think of it, and I don't want to be suspected of "driving."

SPECIAL APPEAL RE RESULTS BOOKS.

The Education Committee would like all Lyceums to realise that the Results Book is NOT a luxury, but a NECESSARY PART of our Annual Examinations. Our results must be published and preserved, and it is impossible to produce 200 copies of the Examination Results otherwise than by printing them in a Booklet. The printing of this Booklet costs the Committee more per copy than the shilling asked for it; so every copy bought is really A LYCEUM CONTRIBUTION towards the cost of production. And that is why every Lyceum entering students is EXPECTED to order at least ONE copy of the RESULTS BOOK.

If our sale of RESULTS BOOKS could be doubled they would practically pay for themselves—and the Education Committee appeal to every Lyceum that can afford it to order TWO copies of the Results Book for the 1931 Examinations, and thus assist the Education Scheme to pay its way.

A SURPRISE FOR EXAMINERS.

Mr. Ronald A. Kelly, A.N.S.C., Conductor of Brighton (Mighell Street) Lyceum, pays the following deserved tribute to our Examiners—who, I am sure, will heartily agree with his last sentence. He says:—“While writing you I would like to express my appreciation of the severe but very helpful criticism of my paper by the Examiners, which will stand me in good stead for future examinations; and I have often thought than an Examiner's lot must be very difficult and at times rather unenviable.”

There *are* times when the Examiner's lot (like that of the Gilbertian Policeman) is not a happy one!

OUR SPECIAL FUND.

The Education Committee gratefully acknowledges a donation of two guineas from Darwen Lyceum—the result of an effort held on behalf of our Education Fund. Coming as it does in the midst of great economic stress, this generous donation proves the devoted zeal of the Darwen Lyceumists for the cause of education. The Education Secretary spent a very happy weekend in Darwen, and feels re-invigorated by the real comradeship and progressive enthusiasm there witnessed

OUR MUTUAL AID BUREAU.

Mr. A. Morris, of Weston, Cheshire, sends in a query on Development and Development Circles which he wishes to be dealt with in the Mutual Aid page. I don't think it would be wise to attempt to conduct two discussions, and I hope Mr Morris will wait (as the Barrow folks did last year) until the present one has been closed. The contributions in this and the two previous issues of the BANNER may be of assistance to him—and in addition I should advise him to get into touch with Mr. and Mrs. Mack, of Runcorn Lyceum.

This month we have a provocative article by Horace Leaf, the well-known Spiritualist Lecturer, Journalist and World Missionary, and a brief personal statement by Alfred Vout Peters, long recognised as a leading speaker and clairvoyant. For future issues I have

the promise of Mrs. Champion de Crespigny, Principal of the British College of Psychic Science, and there are some other leaders in spiritualistic thought and investigation whose names I must not mention until I have received their consent. It is hoped that our own students will also take part, either in supplying instances or submitting opinions.

May I suggest that “How do Clairvoyants See?” would make a very useful subject for Study and Liberty Groups. Each month there will be fresh data for discussion, and if our Groups do take advantage of this unique opportunity, our Editor will feel that it is indeed a Mutual Aid Bureau for which he has so generously allowed space.

SECRETARIES PLEASE NOTE.

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.

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

For all information about the S.N.U. Education Scheme, for Entry Forms, or for sets of Question papers, apply to

MRS. E. PALING, F.N.S.C., “Lucknow,” Muriel Road, Beeston, Notts.

For all B.S.L.U. Educational Handbooks, copies of Examinations Questions, etc., apply to

MR. G. F. KNOTT, F.N.S.C., 20, Toad Lane, Rochdale, Lancs.

All Correspondence with regard to the College or the B.S.L.U. Education Scheme should be sent to

MR. A. T. CONNOR, F.N.S.C., 13, Claremont Road, Forest Gate, London, E.7.

PROPAGANDA IN NOTTINGHAM.

On Sunday, Feb. 1st, 1931, in the Victoria Baths, Nottingham, under the auspices of the Nottingham and District Council of Spiritualists' Lyceums and North Midland District Committee, in the afternoon a special Massed Lyceums Session was conducted by Mrs. J. Reynolds, President, B.S.L.U. No. 7 Hymn Sheet was used. Mrs. Reynolds extended a hearty welcome to all Lyceumists and visitors, who had come in good numbers and in many cases travelled a good distance to Nottingham.

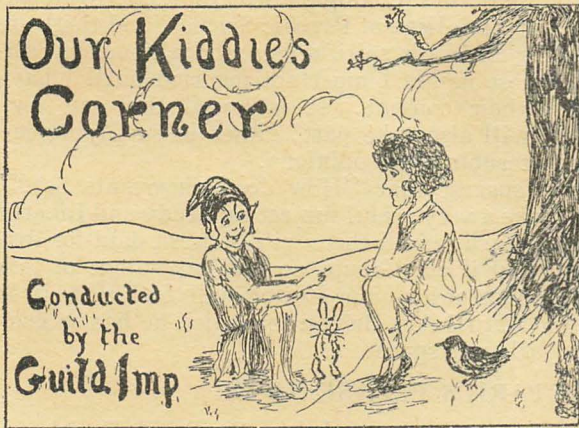
The President noted her name is now Mrs. J. Reynolds and not Mrs. V. G. Reynolds. Owing to the length of the programme there was not time to have comments on the various chain readings, the Conductor pointing out the usual manner of dealing with these in the Lyceums. A demonstration of marching and callisthenics was directed by Mr. Slater, President, N. & D. L.D.C. This was by far the best effort in this direction ever witnessed in this district. Individual efforts were rendered by Miss Whiteman (Sherwood Street), Clarice Spence (Derby), Miss Amy Heap (Derby), Kitty Davies (Sherwood Street), Violin solo, Joseph Hitchenor (Mechanics'). No. 1 on the hymn sheet (Watchman) was sung by members from various Lyceums; conductor, Mr. P. Farnath. This was sung very creditably.

In the evening, at 6-30 p.m., we had a record gathering. Quite 2,000 people attended. Lectures were given by Maurice Barbanell and Hannen Swaffer, both most capable exponents of our noble cause. Alderman Huntsman, Esq., Ex-Lord Mayor of Nottingham, presided.

It was a most elevating and helpful day, and we hope one that will mark a fresh step in the ladder of progress.

The Committee desire to take this opportunity of thanking all friends, stewards and members for helping to make the meeting such a huge success.

P. FARNATH, Sec.



Dear Little Imps,

March always is a month of surprises, and this time I have a very happy surprise for you. Do you remember how, a long, long time ago, I asked for other Imps to send their stories? I had almost decided that no other Imp ever had a story, when a very interesting parcel came to me from Southampton. What do you think that parcel held? Yes! you have guessed rightly! It was a story for me to read, and then share with everybody who reads "Our Kiddies' Corner." It is such a long story that we shall be enjoying it for a lot of months. But, that is not all of the surprise. When I told Mr. Editor about this new story, he decided that it could have a page all to itself in the Banner. So now, Imps, "Our Kiddies Corner" is to have *two* pages of our LYCEUM BANNER. I am quite proud about it, and very grateful both to Uncle Fred for his story.

Now, for our own *short* story.

THE MAGIC HOURS.

John and Doreen sat by the fire reading their books. John was eight, and Doreen was six, and they both loved stories and picture books. Suddenly, John looked up from his book and asked: "What is the matter with the room, Doreen? It is so quiet, as though something had gone out and left us feeling lonely." Doreen looked round for a moment and then, staring up at the clock on the mantelpiece, said, "Oh! The clock has stopped! Doesn't it seem funny?"

"Yes!" answered John, "I wish Daddy was here to wind it up for us. I don't like the clock to be stopped. It seems as tho' the hours are standing still."

"Oh, No! No!! No!!! We never stand still, it is only the clock that rests from telling our story," answered a chorus of tiny voices. The children looked up in amazement, and saw the clock door swing open and twelve wee figures step out and arrange themselves upon the mantelpiece. "Look!" whispered Doreen, "What can they be? I didn't know anybody like that lived in our clock."

The little figures must have heard her whispers, for they immediately answered: "We are the magic hours. Would you like to hear our story? If not we can go away again." "Please *do* stop," begged the children. "We just love stories, and yours will be a new one." "Very well," answered the hours. "We shall just have time before you are called out to tea."

John and Doreen looked from one little being to another. Each was dressed in gold, like the figures on

the clock face, and each bore the number that told its name. They stood in order, and the children saw that the hours grew up just like a family. Twelve O'clock was the biggest, and One O'clock was the baby of the group.

One O'clock spoke first. "I am the baby of the hours. I bring in the new things—new days, and sunshine. People like me, for they say "To-morrow will be a better day." Two O'clock smiled demurely, as she said, "I am a quiet hour. When I come people are resting, and when I return they are all at their tasks." "Yes," continued Three O'clock, "my work is almost the same, too, though I'm not quite so drowsy as Two O'clock in the early morning." Four O'clock laughed happily as she said, "I've one of the nicest tasks. I draw back the curtains of the night from the windows of the world. It is I who welcome the morning sun, and hear the earliest, sweetest songs of the birds. Then in the afternoon people think 'Four O'clock, almost time to stop work for the day.' Yes, I'm a happy hour!" Five O'clock called out, "I like the country best on my first visit. Then I waken both man and beast, and how I love to hear the cock crow. Townfolks scarcely know me then, but they love me later in the day when I bring them home to tea and the fireside." Said Six O'clock, "I am the stir of the world in the morning. At night I'm the cosy hour." Seven O'clock smiled sweetly as she said: "I am the little children's hour. I open their eyes in the morning and I close them at night after the bed-time story. The mothers like me." Eight O'clock laughed. "I'm the hurrying hour in the morning, when I bring the busy breakfast time. At night I bring pleasures to the big folks." Nine O'clock, Ten O'clock and Eleven O'clock each spoke in turn of their busy mornings and the restful evening hours. Then spoke Twelve O'clock. "I am the oldest, and I think I matter most. I end each busy day, and bring dreams to chase away the worries of the day, whilst at noon I'm the welcome break in the day's work."

As the hours paused in their story John eagerly cried, "I'd never thought about the hours like that. You work just as hard as people do I think." "Yes," agreed Doreen, "but how are you *magic hours*?" The hours answered together, "We are magic hours because we never grow tired, and we never grow old. People think they forget us, but they can never *really* forget the hours." "Oh! but Mother forgot about you yesterday," said Doreen. "She sat by the fire, dreaming, and then said, 'Oh! dear! I'd forgotten all about the time, and I've just wasted two hours, and made an empty afternoon.'"

The hours laughed. "Oh! these clever people! How little they know. Nobody ever has an empty hour. We see to that. We never let even a second go really empty. People are always making things." "How can they be?" asked John. "Mother said she had intended making more cakes, but she had done nothing." "That is just where our magic comes in," said Twelve O'clock. "Those hours were busy ones, for in them your Mother made lots of lovely thoughts and hopes." "Oh! now I understand," said Doreen. "That is why, when Daddy came in, he teased Mother about dreaming, and she laughed and said she had been busy making castles in the air." "That is just it!" answered little One O'clock. "People think they must be making things with their hands, and they forget that

the things that really matter are the thoughts with which they fill the magic hours."

"Well," said John, "I'd never thought about that before, but Doreen and I have had magic hours this afternoon. We'll never forget you." The hours smiled a good-bye and tramped back into the clock.

That night Daddy wound up the clock, but John and Doreen only smiled when he said, "That's right, little clock—tick away the magic hours."

Lots of love, Imps,
MEG.

The Magic Stones: or Peter in Fairyland.

BY UNCLE FRED.

CHAPTER I.

It had been a most miserable evening, thought Peter, as he curled himself up in a box in the shed. Never had a poor doggie felt so hurt and disappointed. At tea-time he had missed his usual dish of warm tea, and slice of bread and butter, because he arrived home too late. Then, to add to his misery, his master came home about ten o'clock, and locked the door of the shed, without taking him for a run, and letting him chase a few stones up the road, and he loved chasing stones. Peter prepared for his night's rest in a very unhappy mood. As he lay there, his mind wandered to a land where stones were for ever rolling, and he wished that he could find such a delightful place. "No more draughty old sheds!" said Peter.

Suddenly he was startled by hearing a tiny voice calling "Peter! Peter!" Up he sprang, and was astonished to see a pretty little fairy, all dressed in blue, seated on the old garden chair, which stood by Peter's box. "Your wish has been granted," said the fairy. "The Fairy Queen has sent me to lead you back to Fairyland, where such stones as you desire are to be found. But, first of all, I must prepare you for the journey, as Fairyland is a long way off, and we shall have many, many miles to fly."

"Fly!" said Peter in amazement. "Why! I cannot fly. I could not even jump over the garden fence into the park opposite, let alone fly miles."

"Come," said the fairy, whose name was Bluebell, "Jump out of your box quickly, and I will see what can be done." Peter jumped out of his box, and Bluebell touched his shoulders with her fairy wand, and lo! two wings began to grow there. When the wings had reached their full size, Bluebell said, "Now Peter, you must take some lessons in flying, so watch me carefully and try to do what I do."

Bluebell took a dainty leap off the chair, and flew across the shed, alighting on a large shelf. "Come, Peter, it is your turn," she said. Peter flapped his wings, and tried to follow the fairy's instructions, but he misjudged the distance and knocked his nose on the wall of the shed. "Never mind," said Bluebell, as Peter sat rubbing his nose with his paw, and grumbling to himself, "You will soon learn to fly without hurting yourself."

After several more attempts, Bluebell touched the shed door with her wand and it swung open, letting in the cool night air. "Now, Peter," said Bluebell, "are you quite ready?" "Yes" answered Peter. "Then let us be off, without further delay, on our long journey to Fairyland," said Bluebell. Spreading her

wings, she glided out of the shed doorway, and up into the air she flew. Peter followed her, and was delighted to find that he could fly so well. High over the housetops flew the pair, away over fields and forests, on and on. Peter looked down upon the earth now and again, and saw the lights of the towns twinkling like little stars. Presently, Bluebell called to Peter and pointed her tiny finger right ahead. There, in the distance, shone a beautiful golden light, which grew bigger and bigger as they rapidly approached it.

"There lies Fairyland, Peter," said Bluebell. "We shall soon be there now." Peter, who had become rather tired and was weary of flying, was cheered by the thought that they had nearly reached their destination. As they approached the golden light, Peter could see the beautiful, tiny buildings and streets of the town, and the lovely parks, laid out with flowers and trees of every kind.

"We shall alight in that large field, on the outskirts of the city, which, in Fairyland, is called 'Pixie City'," said Bluebell.

They both reached the ground safely, although Peter alighted on his nose instead of his feet, and so turned a complete somersault, much to the amusement of Bluebell.

"Come along, Peter, this way please!" said Bluebell, for Peter hardly knew what had happened, and his nose was very tender on account of his mishap. They had only gone a little distance across the field when, from a clump of trees and bushes, a number of tiny fairies, gnomes, and sprites came dancing to meet them. They clustered around Peter, poking their little fingers into his legs and body, pulling his tail, and trying to clamber upon his back, until Peter became really angry and barked at them. This gave the little fairies such a scare that they all scampered away amongst the trees and bushes. Peter was greatly tempted to give chase to the fairy folk, but Bluebell warned him to do nothing of the kind, but to follow her as quickly as possible. "We must not keep the Fairy Queen waiting," said she, "and besides, these little folk are only baby fairies, and love a lot of fun."

Peter and Bluebell sped quickly across the field and out on to the high road which led into Pixie City. They passed quite a lot of fairies, hurrying hither and thither on their various tasks, and they smiled and nodded to Peter and his fairy friend. At last they reached the palace of the Fairy Queen, which was situated in the centre of the city. To Peter, it looked such a beautiful place with its large garden of beautiful flowers. Twelve little fairy soldiers, dressed all in red, guarded the entrance, and, as the pair approached the doors, the Officer of the Guard asked the fairy what she wanted. Bluebell explained her mission and he at once escorted Peter and herself into a large waiting room, whilst he hurried to inform the Fairy Queen of their arrival. Whilst waiting to be presented to the Queen, Peter was given a large basin of warm tea and some fish and bread and butter, which he took with great relish, for his journey had made him very hungry. "Well," thought Peter, "This is a lovely place, and I do not want to go back to that draughty old shed again."

Presently the Officer of the Guard entered the Waiting Room, where Peter and Bluebell were sitting, and said, in a loud voice, "The Queen awaits you!"

(To be continued).

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.

Send your Orders not later than the 23rd of each month.

Annual subscription, post free, 2s. 6d. To Canada and the United States, 72c. Foreign currency taken.

Money and postal orders should be made payable at Wardleworth post office.

Office, 20, Toad Lane, Rochdale, Lancs., England.

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

MARCH, 1931.

The Unfolding Spirit.

Bertrand Russell finishes his book "The A.B.C. of Relativity" with the following words:—"The final conclusion is that we know very little, and yet it is astonishing that we know so much, and still more astonishing that so little knowledge can give us so much power."

The quotation could have been written of Spiritualism with equal application. We know so little, even of life itself. We cannot analyse it and yet its demonstration as a principle is proof of its reality. The invisible influence of life in substance is the cause of existence, and yet existence is impossible without substance.

Life, in the human stage, is full of abstractions, and these abstractions form the fundamental promptings which produce motives.

The propulsion of the principle of life is continuous. We have ceased to be amazed when we find life persisting in its onward course beyond death.

That which was the life passes through a transition and reaches a stage when the physical body is no longer the vital vehicle for the expression of the spirit.

It is inferred that the second body was encased within and permeated the first (physical) body. All that we do is to discard the physical form, completely function through the spirit-body, and live according to the conditions which prevail in that easier form of life's expression.

It is within the power of a spirit to return to the former human condition and again inhabit, during varying periods, another human body. Our normal sight has discerned the changed appearances of human beings who have been possessed by a spirit in that manner.

What becomes of the spirit body of the human being during such possession has not been clearly demonstrated.

Sometimes the spirit has used the ectoplasm from the human being (medium) to give visibility during what we call the materialisation of the spirit.

We know these things take place, but find that such powers are not common to all people, or have certainly not been developed by the majority.

Some spirits trance their mediums, whilst other spirits only inspire the minds of their subjects.

The great lesson we learn is that human beings survive death and have continuous existence in a fuller sense than when living in a physical body.

Happy is the man who can lend his body and mind to the permeation and inspiration of the spirits. He feels he has been raised, with the spirits, to higher emotions.

Such inspirations lead to the exaltation of mankind.

When we realise that very young children, before they begin to leave their homes and learn the ordinary conventions of normal life—often see, hear and talk to spirit children; we know that we are facing facts. In this field of pure investigation the piety of children is a wonderful revelation of the existence of spirit people.

We learn the sweetness and joy of loving [associations. The possession of real friends is made dear to us and we become teachers and reformers in the physical world.

We, ourselves, become inspirational, and the touch of the spirit causes us to face and overcome evil wherever we meet its operations.

There enters a room a crowd of people from many homes. All have their separate thoughts, desires and ambitions. The spirit, using the medium, speaks to the people, and all thought is concentrated on the theme. There is an unfolding of spiritual mysteries. The crowd has become a unit, thrilled with the love of unfolding truth. The meeting is over and the audience depart. The memory of the meeting remains with every member of that audience. Some of the separateness has been diffused. Social and spiritual love has provided the seed from which shall spring the flowers of joy and the fruits of service.

Rain fell recently in a valley where no rain was supposed to have fallen for 5,000 years. It was known as the Valley of Death—no vegetation had grown there in the memory of man.

But after the unexpected rain had fallen, vegetation and flowers sprang up from the dormant seeds which had been there for centuries.

And so we may find an odd experience in Spiritualism may lay buried within the memory, to bloom, sooner or later, and carry the loving thoughts of a higher life to brighten the darkest hour with the true illumination of the enlightened spirit.

God gives an inner light to lead us on—to fight despair and guide us through the gloom. Sometimes it needs the light from another life to cause the light to shine within ourselves.

Though we may not be able to understand the source, we know that life is, and together we may learn to know it more abundantly. The unfolding of the spirit will yield us beauty and grace, with the charm of sweet associations.

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 SPIRITUALISTS' BILL.

Mr. W. T. Kelly, in an interview (Feb. 14th, 1931), states: "I am moving your Bill every day I am in the House. There have been objections which prevent discussion, but I am meeting each objector and telling the Member that I am not asking him to accept Spiritualism, but to allow believers in that faith the freedom to practice their religion without fear of prosecution."

An M.P. said, "Surely we have already too many laws; I don't want any more."

Mr. Kelly replied, "I am trying to make one law less, so far as these people are concerned."

"Then," said the M.P., "I'm with you."

A prominent member of the Conservative Party went to the Queen's Hall to a Spiritualist meeting for a knowledge of our methods. He was impressed with Hannan Swaffer's sincerity and will not oppose the Bill.

Spiritualists can help the progress of the Bill by requesting the M.P.'s who represent their constituencies, and are in favour of our religious freedom, to be present in the House as the Bill passes through the necessary stages.

CHANGE OF SECRETARIES, Etc.

- Walsall.—Mr. N. Hughes, 68, Frederick Street, Walsall, Staffs.
- Wolverhampton.—Mr. T. McQuoid Weedman, 41, Allen Road, Wolverhampton.
- Idle.—Mr. J. J. Holling, 60, Thackley Road, Thackley, Bradford.
- Saltaire.—Mr. H. H. Mayes, 4, Pallam Avenue, Saltaire, Shipley.
- Coventry, Broadgate.—Mrs. E. C. Coe, 82, Coronation Road, Coventry.
- Brighouse, Commercial Street.—Mr. H. Firth, 8, East Mount Place, Garden Road, Brighouse.
- Huddersfield, Ramsden Street.—Mr. L. Saxon, 10, Pollard Street, Fartown, Huddersfield.
- Southport.—Miss E. I. Prince, 109, Sussex Road, Southport.
- St. Helens, Charles Street.—Miss A. Fairclough, 91, Morley Street, St. Helens.
- Battersea.—Mr. W. Sumner, 5, Ouseley Road, Balham, London, S.W.12.
- Peckham.—Miss G. Bamber, 65, St. Asaph Road, Brockley, London, S.E.14.
- Manchester and Salford L.D.C.—Secretary, Mr. J. Taylor, 1, Willow Street, Oldham Road, Failsworth, Manchester.
- Pendleton.—Miss J. Walter, Highfield House, Fitzwarren Street, Pendleton, Manchester.
- South Manchester.—Miss M. Lamb, 2, Henderson Grove, Moss Side, Manchester.
- Sutton-in-Ashfield.—Mr. P. Lee, 1, Thornton Street, Hardwick Lane, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts.
- Mexborough.—Mr. C. Haywood, 42, Albert Road, Mexborough.
- Ryde.—Mr. E. Oak, "Hazeldene," Monkton Street, Ryde, I.O.W.
- Cardiff, First.—Miss G. Dunn, 42, Sophia Street, Docks, Cardiff.
- Darlington, Psycho.—Miss E. F. Chapman, 46, High Northgate (Back), Darlington.
- Middlesbrough, Grange Road.—Mrs. M. Harrison, 121, Kildare Street, Middlesbrough.
- Stockton-on-Tees, Cecil Street.—Mrs. Cumisky, 10, York Street, Thornaby-on-Tees, Co. Durham.
- Ashington.—Mrs. E. Baird, 36½, Maple Street, Ashington, N'land.
- Hetton-le-Hole.—Mr. Drennan, 18, High Downs Square, Hetton Downs, Hetton-le-Hole, Co. Durham.
- Jarrow-on-Tyne, Ellison Street.—Mrs. C. Smailes, 88, Albert Road, Jarrow-on-Tyne.
- Newcastle, Benwell.—Mr. H. Rawlinson, 13, Condercum Road, Benwell, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
- Newcastle, Heaton and Byker.—Mr. J. Ronaldson, 175, Warton Terrace, Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
- South Shields, High Shields.—Mr. J. M. Massey, 30, Dacre Street, South Shields.

- West Stanley.—Mr. T. Pringle, 16, West Terrace, New Kyo, Annfield Plain, Co. Durham.
- Tunstall.—Mr. W. Wiggins, 19, Wellington Street, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent.

£2,000 Effort Fund.

Dear Lyceumists,

My report this month is not nearly such a good one as I expected; only sixteen Lyceums have responded to the appeal for Founders Day up to the present date, and yet we have over 300 Lyceums.

To those who have contributed, I take this opportunity of extending my appreciation and hearty thanks, and especially to those who have made the effort under such difficult conditions. It only shows what may be achieved with a little enthusiasm and sacrifice. I also would like to thank friends for their kind letters of encouragement, which accompany the donations from time to time, it is good to know that some are watching this fund with such keen interest.

The following are my receipts for this month:

	£	s.	d.
Founders' day collections			
Hackney Progressive, Islington, N.1, per Mrs. Wenborn	0	5	0
Darnell, Sheffield, per Miss Ivy Jones	0	2	0
Whitley Bay, per Miss Maude Gardener	0	5	0
Nuneaton, Warwickshire, Mrs. E. Waters.....	0	5	3
Nottingham Mechanics, per Miss Sharpe.....	0	4	4
Barrow-in-Furness, Dalkeith St., per Mrs. A. Taft	0	6	0
Halifax, St. Paul's, Alma St., per Mr. P. Chapman	0	7	0
South Shield's United Lyceum Workers' Massed Session. Mr. R. Smith	0	5	6
Nottingham, St. James St., per Mr. Rose	0	1	5
Bolton, Bradford St., per Mr. A. Bromiley	0	3	6
Nelson, per Mr. Ewart Bury.....	0	7	8
Southend & Westcliff, per Miss M. Thornton	0	10	0
Nottingham, Sherwood St., per Mr. A. Shipley	0	4	0
Manchester, Moston, per Mr. H. Caseman	0	12	0
Handsworth, nr, Birmingham, Forward Lyceum, per Miss A. Brown	0	3	6
Leicester, Rupert St., per Mr. J. Wicks	0	5	0
Donations:—			
Mr. C. W. Fairfax, profit on York Conference photos	0	3	6
G.R. farthings.....	0	0	1½
Droylesden Lyceum Birthday Club	0	5	0
Total	£4	15	9½

You will see that Founders Day Collections amount to £4 7s. 2d. I hope that there are further donations to come (better late than never).

Once again I must draw your attention to the Musical Recital, "The Reality of God," Hymn Leaflets, 4s. 6d. per 100, Recitation Leaflets 2d. per copy, of these you require 18. Odd copies of the complete work 3d. each

Please send you orders to Mrs. J. Reynolds, 118, Cremorne St., Nottingham, and by so doing help to swell the fund of the £2,000 Effort.

Awaiting your support,
Best Wishes, Yours sincerely,
118, Cremorne St., Nottingham.

VICTORIA G. REYNOLDS.

Calendar of Saints (L.M. 145).

BY ALFRED KITSON.

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

PRIESTLEY, Joseph. No. 145. Born at Field Head, Birstall, near Leeds (Yorks), 1733; died 1804. He studied for the ministry, at Daventry Academy, and in 1755, became a dissenting minister, first at Needham Market, Suffolk, for three years, and then at Nantwich, Cheshire, for three years. While there he kept a day school, and also made chemical experiments. In 1761 he removed to Warrington Academy, where he stayed for six years, as a tutor in languages. In 1767 he published a *History of Electric Science*. In the same year he was appointed minister at Mill Hill Chapel, Leeds, during which he commenced his studies on the nature of gases, and discovered the principle of aerated waters. In the same year he communicated the extensive series of observations which his industry and ingenuity had accumulated in the course of four years, to the Royal Society, under the title of "Observations on Different Kinds of Air," which was regarded of so much merit that the Society at once conferred upon him the Copley Medal, the highest distinction in its power. It was whilst acting as literary companion to the Earl of Shelburne (afterwards Marquis of Lansdowne) that in 1774, on Aug. 1st, he made his epoch-making discovery of Oxygen. In the following October he showed his experiments to Lavoisier and other French scientists in Paris. The Academies of Paris and St. Petersburg conferred their membership upon him. The Edinburgh University had made him an honorary doctor of laws at an earlier period of his career.

These researches into the nature of gases did not interfere with his ministerial duties and studies. He made a careful study of all the writings *extant* of the first 500 years of the Christian era. As a result he wrote *A History of the Corruptions of Christianity* which met with bitter opposition from the priests and bishops.

In 1780, having settled in Birmingham at the request of his brother-in-law, he was soon invited to become the minister of a large congregation. This appointment he considered, at the time, to be "the happiest event of his life." It gave competence and leisure; and made him a member of the "Lunar Society" at whose meetings he could exchange ideas with such men as Watt, Wedgwood, Darwin, and Boulton.

He was as advanced in his political views as he was in his religious views as a Unitarian minister. Party wrath and bigotry culminated in a riot in 1781, when Priestley and his friends were held up to public scorn, as fomenters of sedition. A "Church and King" cry was raised against the Liberal Dissenters; and, in Birmingham, it was intensified and specially directed towards Priestley by a local controversy, in which he had engaged with his usual vigour. "The pious rioters, unchecked by those who were responsible for order, had the town at their mercy for three days, dur-

ing which the chapels and houses of the leading Dissenters were wrecked, and Priestley and his family had to fly for their lives, leaving library, apparatus, papers, and all their possessions, a prey to the flames."

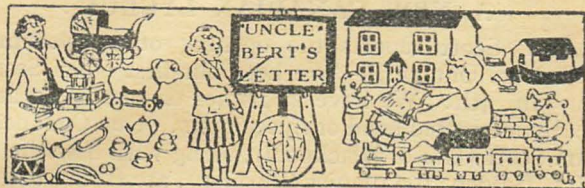
Priestley went to London. His scientific colleagues gave him a cold greeting, and though he was elected minister of a congregation at Hackney, he felt his position to be insecure, and finally he determined to emigrate to the United States. He landed in America in 1794, lived quietly with his sons at Northumberland, in Pennsylvania, and died on the 6th of February, 1804.

His later researches in chemistry were on nitric oxide, hydrogen chloride, silican fluoride, sulphur dioxide, ammonia, air, and carbon monoxide, and were of the highest value. He also examined the effect of the different gases on the respiration of animals and plants.

Later generations, not blinded by religious and political bigotry, have erected statues to Dr. Priestley's memory, both at Leeds and Birmingham, and in 1912 a bronze statue was erected in his native town of Birstall.

RAPHAEL, Sanzio, (raf-a-el). No. 145. Was born at Urbino, 1483, died 1520. He is credited with being the greatest Italian painter of the Roman School. Tenisted Viti was his first master. He went to Florence in 1504, and came under the influence of Leonardo da Vinci and Michael Angelo. His talents developed rapidly. With a rare power of assimilation he put one master after another under contribution for some special power of drawing, grace of design, and use of colour. He carried the efforts of his predecessors to perfection rather than inaugurated anything new. His distinguishing qualities were mastery of workmanship, perfection of design and of form, harmonious beauty, serenity of expression, balanced by refinement of taste, purity of colour. In 1508 he was summoned to Rome by Pope Julius II to decorate the state apartments in the Vatican. The proximity of Michael Angelo working in the Sistine Chapel, the world of classical antiquity around him, gave a noble direction to his mind, and ripened his powers to full perfection. Works by older masters were destroyed to give him wall space; he collected a school of artists to help him. So beloved was he that all classes mourned his death. His body lay in state with his unfinished *Transfiguration* suspended above him. He was buried in the Pantheon at Rome.

SAPPHO (sa-fo). No. 145. She was a distinguished poetess of ancient Greece, was a native of Mitylene in Lesbos, and lived about 600 B.C. She was a contemporary and friend of the poet Alcaeus, and the statesman Pittacus, by whom she was, however, banished from Lesbos. It was then probably that her visit to Sicily took place. The scandals about her and her friends are probably based on the fact that she was the head of a literary school. With the rejection of the story of her love for Phaon vanishes all the legends which says that to cure her hopeless love she cast herself from the Leucadian rock. Of her poetry only two odes (practically entire), and rather over a hundred odd lines remain. In these she describes the passion of love with a directness of thought, a force of imagery, a vividness of language and a power of metre that cannot be surpassed. Even in her shortest fragments there are a delicacy and certainty of expression, and a music that haunts the ear. (*To be continued*).



My dear Boys and Girls,

The date on which I am writing this letter being Shrove-tide, Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Day, I have just been amusing myself by demonstrating to Auntie Ruth and Cousin Doris the gentle art of tossing them into the air.

I found this quite an interesting pastime, but not nearly so clever as the second trick with the same object I showed them.

This was the disappearing trick, although you may have to wait until next Shrove Tuesday. It is a very simple one, and even the youngest of you will be able to do it if you follow my instructions out carefully.

You take the pancake from the frying pan gently lowering it on to a plate. I have gone a bit too far. I forgot to tell you you will need a chair also, to carry out the trick successfully.

Having got as far as this, you get a knife, fork, spoon or shovel, that is, according to the size of your mouth, and in a few moments the trick is done. I have just tried it two or three times to-night and find it works every time.

By all accounts, Shrove Tuesday used to be a day when people went footballing, bull fighting and attending other events of such order, but now it is much the same as any other day in the year. So when Shrove Tuesday comes on a Wednesday I will tell you more about it.

When I reached home from the city the other evening, I was greeted, when I opened the door, by Auntie Ruth warbling to the top of her voice "Send out sunshine, send out sunshine; make your face a broadcast station."

"I listened with joy as I did when a boy" and thought the idea was not at all a bad one.

I am very fond of painting sunshine pictures, and as some of you like to send me drawings each month, I thought we might try and find a lesson or two from this point.

Now, I want you to get a piece of paper, pencil, paint box, brush and water. Divide your paper in half by a line. On the first half I want you to draw a tree, the trunk to be half an inch wide, an inch and a half high, on the top of which you will have the foliage. This would be about an inch and a half high, by two and a half inches wide.

Having done this, you now colour it as follows: The trunk a dark brown, the foliage a dark green. You can also have a little green round the root of the tree, to show it is growing in a field. We have only used two colours. That side of the paper is finished with.

On the other side draw the same tree, as near as you can. In colouring it I want you to add one colour, "Yellow." This I want you to use on the right hand side of the tree only; just paint a little strip on the trunk from the foliage to the root, while you can just make a few strokes round the foliage here and there, but only on the right hand side, the other side of your picture will be the same colours as the first.

I hope you will all try and do this, and send your papers up to me so that I can correct them if they are not quite right.

If you do this you will have two pictures of the same tree, but what a difference there will be.

Why? Because one is all in shade and the other the sun is shining on.

So from these two pictures, or from the one on the right-hand side, we are going to take our lesson this month.

We go out in the morning. It is raining and the clouds are dark and gloomy. As we meet our friends they greet us with "What a miserable morning." The following day all the wet has dried up and the sun is shining brightly. What is the result? Here comes a man whistling, another singing away, and each person we greet says "What a glorious morning; it's a treat to be alive." We seem to be living in a new world.

It is the sunshine which has brightened the whole earth. Life is made up as this picture—sunshine and shadows—and if this picture idea is successful, I shall show you some other time, by another picture, the value of shadows.

Just at the present time, in many of the homes where you boys and girls live, there is such a lot of shadow, owing to unemployment. For those of you who are more successful and do not have these shadows, I am going to try and draw you one or two pictures. This time they are what we call pen pictures; stories with the pen.

In the first picture we see a kitchen. Just a few sticks burning in the grate; no coals. On the table there is very little food. Nobody seems very happy. Knocking at the door is a boy with a Lyceum badge on. He has come round with an invitation for the children of this home to come to tea with him and play games during the evening.

Oh, no; Mother and Father have not been forgotten. There is a parcel for them.

Can you picture in your mind's eye this kitchen? Can you see that small window on the right-hand side? A moment ago it was all shadows; now the sun is shining into it.

Yes, the sunshine of kindness. Then, it is not only the sun in the skies which makes the earth bright. Oh, no; there is human sunshine too.

Another picture. This time I see a little girl in bed, and evidently she has been ill, but is now getting stronger. Below her window I can see a crowd of boys and girls laughing and playing. Here is another Lyceumist coming along. A voice from the crowd calls out, "Come on, Annie, and have a game." But she replies, "Not to-night, I am going to read to Mary." What a change in that sick room. Mary had listened to the laughter of the other children, and it had caused a shadow in her room, because she could not join them.

Annie had now arrived. Mary's face changed. Her shadows had turned into sunshine. A little thoughtfulness had made all the difference in the world.

Then, we each have the power to be rays of sunshine.

If you compare these two stories with your picture you should see the full meaning of this lesson.

Those of you who are in the higher forms or classes at school and have art lessons will have learned the value of reflected light in pictures; to you this lesson should be very helpful. You know if you put an object

on a polished table how light is reflected. Is this not so with us? If we have learned the lessons of our *Manual* should we not have a light which can be reflected on others?

Do try and draw the picture. If you have not got paints use chalks or crayons, because I want you to see the value of sunshine.

LAST MONTH'S PICTURE PUZZLES.

1. Open the door for the children.
2. Let it pass.
3. Open wide the gate.
4. Over and over again.
5. Keep your balance.
6. The old and the new.

The Essay Competition brought quite a lot of efforts which are exceptionally good.

I have not had time to judge them all yet, but the prizes will be forwarded to the winner by the end of February and names published next month.

THIS MONTH'S PUZZLE. No. 168. Riddle-me-dee.
(By Cousin Doris.)

My first is in Summer, and also in Spring.
My second is in square, but not in ring.
My third is in coat, but not in hat.
My fourth is in dog, but not in cat.
My fifth is in rug, and also in train.
My sixth is in ache, but not in pain.
My whole, when turned right round about,
Gives something which we love to see out.

With love,

UNCLE BERT.

2, Villiers Road,
Osterley,
Middx.

District Visitors' Report.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.

Jan. 13th, Sowerby Bridge Lyceum. Very good attendance. One or two comments were made on the M.R. 50 people marched and went nicely through the callisthenics. Plenty of recitations by the children. About 40 prizes were presented to the scholars during the Session. It was a very nice Session.

WALTER BUTTLE, D.V.

SOUTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

On Feb. 15th I paid a visit to "Onward" Lyceum, Hooper Street, Oldham, 10-30 session. This Lyceum is of good conduct and marching and callisthenics are performed in an able manner. They have a capable Musical Conductor, and Mr. Stansfield, Lyceum Conductor, has a system of great tact which meets with an abundance of responses from the youngest to the oldest. Singing is good, readings are well delivered. I wish this Lyceum continued success and hope to see them represented at our next Council meeting.

On Feb. 15th I visited Oldham Central Lyceum at the 2-30 Session. There were 50 present. The Conductor, Mr. J. Wood, who has held this office for about 18 years, is worthy of praise for the manner in which he officiates. It was a wonderfully encouraging Session, with the real Lyceum spirit. Singing was excellent, marching and callisthenics were good. Miss Bessie Wood, 12 years old, and Master Willie Wood, aged 14 years, are capable Callisthenics Conductors, who led the three series of B.S.L.U. Callisthenics; they are worthy of all the praise given to them. Old Mr. Buxton is a competent Musical Conductor. Pearls, recitations and responses were too numerous to mention. This Lyceum is good, sound and strong. I feel sure I shall meet their representatives at our next Council meeting.

HERBERT SHAW, D.V.

A NEW CANADIAN LYCEUM.

Mrs. Scott reports the opening of a Lyceum at Windsor, Ontario,—“We held our first Open Session on Jan. 4th. We have 22 names on our books and a really interested band of Lyceumists. Our Conductor, Mr. Scott (late of Blackpool), along with his wife and Mrs. Holden, the pianist (Burnley), are trying to get a Lyceum worthy of the name. We have about 20 Manuals and intend to apply for affiliation as early as possible. The children gave a very good display of callisthenics, songs, etc. Mrs. Robinson (late of Darwen) gave a short address on the Seven Principles. Loving greetings to all at home.—Mrs. Scott, Sec.”

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.

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.

B.S.L.U. SPECIAL FUNDS.

GUARANTEE FUND:—H.G., £1.

PATRON FUND:—Mrs. L. Nurse, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. H. Rushton, 2s. 6d. Total, 5s.

SUPPLEMENTARY FUND:—Tottenham and Edmonton, 10s.; Brighton, 5s.; Preston (Moor Lane), 10s.; Rosyth, 2s. 6d.; Moston Study Circle, 5s.; Belper, per Mr. Hawkins, 10s.; Milton Lyceum, Eccles, 5s.; Halifax, Alma Street, 5s. Total, £2 12s. 6d.

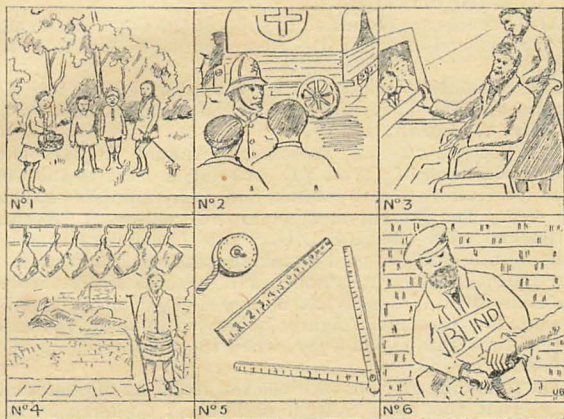
LYCEUM BANNER:—Mr. W. T. Coleman, by sale of leaflets, 12s.

HONOURS TO MISS M. E. KITSON, B.A.

A Permanent Memorial has been placed in the Batley Grammar School by Miss Kitson's old school mates. As our late Honorary Education Secretary was extremely fond of good pictures, the tribute to her memory is a very appropriate one.

The *Dewsbury Reporter* states:—A print of a Dutch Interior has been purchased by Batley Grammar School Old Girls' Association and will hang in the School in memory of the late Miss Mary Kitson, of Dewsbury. Miss Kitson was both a pupil and member of the staff at the Girls' Grammar School for many years, and it is very fitting that some reminder of her quiet but invaluable work for her old School should be placed for all past and present members to see.

The Children's Puzzle.



In the above pictures can be found titles of six Lyceum Manual Titles. See how many you can find and send your answers to Uncle Bert.

Births, Marriages, and Transitions.

Ordinary Intimations will be inserted as follows:—Not exceeding twenty-four words 1s. 6d. will be charged. A further 6d. will be charged for every additional nine words. Poetry 6d. per line. Payment must accompany all intimations or they cannot be inserted.

IN MEMORIAM.

WEST MELTON.—In loving memory of John Martin, aged 16 months, who passed to the Higher Life Jan. 18th, 1931.
 "There is no death, the stars go down
 To rise upon some fairer clime."

POYNER.—Passed to the Higher Life on 15th February, Nora Poyner, aged 17, a member of Heaton and Byker Lyceum.

PYBUS.—in loving memory of Lilian, who passed to the Higher Life 5th March, 1930.
 "Bravely she bore the pangs of physical pain,
 Our material loss and her eternal gain."
 Bob and Olga.

District Council Reports.

UNITED DISTRICTS COUNCIL.

NOTICE OF MEETING.

The above Council will hold the Half-yearly Meeting on Saturday and Sunday, March 14th and 15th, 1931, in the Church and Lyceum at Vernon Street, Nelson.

Tea will be provided for delegates on arrival on the Saturday. Delegates to this meeting please write to Miss E. Boothman, 49, Napier Street, Nelson, stating their requirements *re* billets, and length of stay.

Open Session, Sunday afternoon, and Service in the evening, conducted by the delegates attending.

Instructions *re* travelling will be posted to all Secretaries along with Agendas.—J.S., Sec.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

The Birmingham and District L.D.C. held their A.G.M. at Smethwick on Saturday, Feb. 14th, 1931, and it was very well attended. The meeting itself was one of the best we have had, full of love and harmony. The following officers were elected:—President, Mr. Frost; Vice-President, Mr. Wright; Secretary, Mr. E. C. Heaton; Assistant Secretary, Miss A. Brown; District Visitor, Mr. P. Warrilow; Associate Representative, Miss N. Harris; Auditors, Mr. R. Smith, Mr. J. H. Palmer.

A vote of thanks was given to all who had held office during 1930. This Council wishes all other Councils and Lyceums the best of luck.—Ernest C. Heaton, Sec.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.

The Annual Meeting was held at Westgate, Elland, on Feb. 8th, when there were present 17 Officers and Delegates; three Lyceums only *not* being represented.

The Treasurer's Report showed a balance in hand of £3 18s. 5d. The President's address was given by Mr. F. Smith, who gave a brief resumé of the D.C.'s work during the past year.

Election of Officers:—President, Miss G. Haigh; Vice-President, Mr. T. Ellis; Secretary, Miss G. Halliday; Treasurer, Mr. A. Saxon; D.V., Mr. W. Burrows; Auditor, Miss G. Haigh; Delegate, Secretary.

The Statistical Returns for quarter showed a decrease of five on books, but an increase of 10 in average attendance.

Letters were read from Mr. Barnes and Mr. Aked, of Bradford, consenting to act as Adjudicators for 1931.

It was decided to recommend Mr. T. Ellis to Lyceums for nomination as Area Representative.

The D.C. also decided to nominate for B.S.L.U. Officers.

An Open Session was held in the afternoon, conducted by Miss Haigh, who also gave the invocation. S.C.R. was taken by Secretary. M.R. by Mr. Baxter, Miss Ramsden and Mr. Manning. G.C.R. by Mr. Ellis. Marching and callisthenics were conducted by Mr. E. Smith. Pearls, recitations and solos were given.

The Evening Service was taken by the Officers and Delegates, presided over by the President. The Secretary gave the invocations and thanked Elland friends for their hospitality. Mr. F. Smith gave a reading; Mr. Burrows and Mr. Ellis gave addresses, and Mr. E. Smith gave clairvoyant descriptions. Thus a very happy day came to an end.

LYCEUMS, PLEASE.—Invitations wanted for 4th or 5th Sundays in August this year.

Thanks for response to the last appeal; only *one* Lyceum remains silent.

G. HALLIDAY, Sec.

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD DISTRICT.

The A.G.M. was held on Feb. 7th at Brunswick Street, Ardwick. Mr. R. W. Marks was in the Chair. 17 Lyceums were represented by 27 Delegates, E.C. 5, Associates 3, Visitors 2. Total 37.

The Minutes and Correspondence were adopted. Arising from the correspondence it was decided that the B.S.L.U. Secretary be written suggesting that the "indication marks" *re* affiliated Lyceums in the LYCEUM BANNER be inserted to represent the previous year's payment.

The President's address, dealing with the work of the D.C. during the past year, was adopted.

Reports by D.V's., Secretary, Treasurer, Auditors, Pooling Scheme Secretary, were given and adopted. Mr. Hart gave the Adjudication Report, showing that Newton Heath Lyceum had won the Shield; Stretford and Eccles Lyceums tied for the Silver Bell. It was decided to appoint two Adjudicators, that each Lyceum be visited twice, and that we revert to the old adjudication schedule. The report was adopted with best thanks to Mr. Hart.

Election of Officers:—President, Mr. R. W. Marks; Vice-President, Mr. J. Green; Treasurer, Mr. C. A. Lloyd; Secretary, Mr. J. Taylor; D.Vs., Miss Ashton, Mrs. Jones, Miss Ellis; Auditors, Messrs. Jones and Bradley; Trustees, Messrs. Lloyd and Grayson; Adjudicators, Messrs. Dixon and Lloyd; Conference Delegate, Mr. J. Taylor.

B.S.L.U. Nominations:—President, Miss Elliott; Vice-President, Miss Elliott or Mr. Mack; Treasurer, Mr. Burrows; Auditor, Mr. Dixon. It was agreed to recommend to all Lyceums that support be given to Mr. Marks for Area Representative.

SPORTS. The suggested sports syllabus was adopted and the E.C. appointed to arrange same in the summer.

COLLEGE VISITORS. It was agreed that we comply with the request for College Visitors, and these were appointed.

RULES. As some Lyceums had not yet discussed the rules as drafted, these were referred to the next meeting.

THANKS. The retiring Officers were thanked for past services, with special mention to Mr. G. A. Dixon, who was retiring after seven years' service as Secretary.

The New Manchester Lyceumists were also thanked for their hospitality.

The next meeting will be held on May 2nd, 1931, at Longsight Lyceum.

J. TAYLOR, Sec.

NORTH EAST CHESHIRE DISTRICT.

The Annual Meeting and Election of Officers took place on Saturday, 7th Feb. A good attendance at Heaton Norris was addressed by the President, Mrs. Edwards, who expressed good wishes for the New Year and thanked the Lyceums and Members of the Council for the valuable assistance throughout the past year. Reference was made to the work done generally, and especially the great success of Mass Sessions, and the Annual Outing in the summer. Though concise, it was a splendid survey of work done, and words of help for the future. Mr. Green, the Vice-President of the Manchester and Salford Council, was our Adjudicator for the Silver Bell Competition, and he gave his report. We are all pleased to congratulate Hyde for gaining 90 marks, thus holding the Merit Bell for the next twelve months. It is the first time they have managed this, but we hope it will not be the last. Mr. Green said there had been a very great improvement in all the Lyceums, and this made the task greater. When one sees that only six marks stand between the first and last, there is very little to choose, so we are all going out this year to see if we cannot win it. A vote of thanks was passed to the Adjudicator.

Election of Officers was very keenly contested by ballot and resulted as follows:—President, Mr. W. Dransfield; Vice-President, Mrs. Edwards; Treasurer, Mr. Springate; Corresponding Secretary, Mr. R. A. L. Markham; Minute Secretary, Miss F. Hobson; District Visitor, Mr. H. Ennion; Auditors, Messrs. H. Belcher and J. Cookson; Delegates to B.S.L.U., Mrs. Springate and Mrs. Ennion; Delegate to U.D.C., Mrs. Ennion.

It is regretted that Mr. Lloyd had been compelled to resign owing to his removal from the district. Further regret was expressed that our Balance Sheet was going the wrong way, and also the loss of Denton Lyceum, but we have both these matters well in hand, and our motto is "The Workers Win." We have a good programme of work already planned for 1931, and we hope that by 1932 our Council will be larger, and to the benefit of the Union and our noble cause. Votes of thanks were passed to all the past officers and to our hosts for the arrangements of our successful meeting.

R. A. L. MARKHAM, Sec.

MASS SESSION.

On Sunday, Dec. 21st, we held a Massed Session at Heaton Norris Lyceum, under the auspices of the N.E.C. L.D.C. Mrs. Edwards, the President, conducted the Session. We had visitors from Stockport Central, Ashton, Hyde, Macclesfield Lyceums. A fair response was given to recitations and pearls, and readings were very nicely explained. Marching and callisthenics were very nicely done. The Session on the whole was very interesting. We give our best thanks to all who made our Session a success. Also to the Orchestra for giving us the music.

The 6-30 p.m. service was conducted by members of the E.C. A day well spent in the cause of truth. Our kind thoughts were sent out to our Secretary, who was unable to be in our midst.

M. DOWNS, Assist. Sec.

LONDON LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The Third Annual Children's New Year Party was held on January 31st. About 300 Lyceumists were present, representing most of the London Lyceums. This event beat all past records and the spirit of fraternity on all sides added to its success. Tea was served by willing workers, after which the usual party frolics were enjoyed. Musical items were rendered by Lyceumists and friends, including Saw-Solos, Songs and Dancing. Mrs. Brown, of the Brixton Lyceum, assisting at the piano. The star turn of the evening was "Our Lyceum Clara," who still remains a guessing proposition to some of those present. The distribution of Fancy Hats, Fruit and Sweets added to the enjoyment of the evening. Our next United Effort will be the Holborn Hall Dance on March 21st, followed by a Rally of Lyceumists in April.

P.M.

TEES-SIDE DISTRICT.

The Annual General Meeting of T.L.D. Council took place at Gurney Valley Lyceum on Sunday, 8th February, Mr. Riley presiding. In addition to the usual routine business the following items of interest were dealt with:—

Election of Officers: President—Mrs. E. M. Ainsworth (Grange-town); Secretary—Mr. Ed. Nellist, A.N.S.C. (Middlesbrough); Treasurer—Mr. E. Platt (West Hartlepool); D. Visitor—Mrs. C. Lofthouse (Middlesbrough), Vice-President—Mr. T. Jones (Shildon).

Election of Delegates, etc.: B.S.L.U.—Mr. Ed. Nellist, A.N.S.C., U.D.C.—Mr. Ed. Nellist, A.N.S.C., N.D.C.—Mr. J. Miller (Stockton).

All Lyceums are requested to support the Council's Candidate for the position of Area "B" Representative—Mr. Ed. Nellist, A.N.S.C.

The Credential Secretaries for the ensuing year are Mr. J. Chester and Mr. J. H. Foster, and the Auditors, Mr. F. Scorer and Mr. W. Smith.

The Secretary's and Treasurer's Annual Reports show a balance in hand of £1 5s. 7d. Affiliation Fees to the Council were received from 12 Lyceums, and 79 Lyceumists paid associate fees. The present membership roll shows 11 Lyceums in affiliation with the B.S.L.U. Two Lyceums (Horden and Witton) are not "in good financial standing," and there are 3 new Lyceums which it is hoped will be successfully enrolled in the near future. There has been a decline in the number of Lyceumists, the official figures being 582 in 1930, 733 in 1929, 924 in 1928 and 975 in 1927, when the numbers were at their highest.

The following motions received the attention of Conference:—

"That the Rota System of holding Conferences be dispensed with and a place centralised for all Conferences'." (This motion was lost).

"That the time of commencing Conferences be altered from 10-30 to 11-30 a.m., so that all local means of transit can be taken advantage of." (This motion was lost).

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

"The Secretary is to circularise all Lyceums asking for subscriptions of one penny per Lyceumist to the "Birthday Celebrations Guarantee Fund."

The "Recommendations from the Executive Committee were left over to the next Conference.

The Afternoon Session was conducted by the members of the Council and was largely attended. Mr. Alf. Ainsworth (Grange-town) gave a most instructive paper entitled "Spiritualism and Mediumship," which caused much discussion.

The Evening Services were ably conducted by various members of the Council and concluded a day well spent.

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

THE WEST OF SCOTLAND LYCEUM WORKERS' GUILD.

On Sunday, 21st Dec., 1930, the West of Scotland Lyceum Workers' Guild held an Open Session in conjunction with the Scottish Mediums' Union, in 100, West Regent Street. This service took the form of a Toy Service and the gifts were taken afterwards to the East Park Home for Infirm Children. There would be sixty Lyceumists and about thirty visitors present.

The singing was heartily sung and the chains were well read, and there were many pearls and items given. The marching and callisthenics were first class. There were five Lyceums present: Southern, Northern, Glasgow Association, Dalmair and Greenock. It is encouraging for the people in the movement to see that the Lyceums are beginning to take up once more.

The West of Scotland send greetings to all Lyceumists.

L. GRAY, Sec.

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.

BIRMINGHAM, Stirchley.—On Jan. 11th we held our Annual General Meeting. Business as usual, then the Officers were elected:—Conductor, Mr. R. H. Smith; Secretary, Mrs. C. Shakespeare; Treasurer, Mrs. M. L. Reader; Literature Secretary, Miss N. Harris; Guardian, Miss V. Burley; Callisthenics Leader, Mr. H. Fletcher; Saving Fund Secretary, Mr. G. Shakespeare; Organist, Mr. V. Chatwin; Sick Visitor, Miss A. Clews.—Mrs. C. Shakespeare, Sec.

BRISTOL, Providence Hall.—Dec. 21st Lyceum Sunday. Services all day taken by Mr. Leslie O'Connor, our late Secretary.

Jan. 1st, Christmas Tree and Party.

Jan. 4th, Prizegiving. 21 prizes were distributed. Two special merit prizes were presented to Laurie Harding, who had attended, said a pearl, and had good conduct marks for every Sunday in the year, thus obtaining the maximum possible

marks; and to Gwennie Rosenthal, who had 148½ out of a possible 150.

DUNEDIN, New Zealand.—A most successful Service of Song was given on Sunday evening, Dec. 7th. The Church officials kindly stood aside and the entire service was conducted by Lyceumists. Masses of beautiful flowers adorned hall and platform, which was occupied by Miss Burgess (Conductor), Jean Robinson (Assistant Conductor), and Hazel Prattley (Guardian of Groups), both of whom carried out the parts allotted to them in a most efficient manner, betokening high promise for the future if they remain in the Lyceum.

Quite a good congregation, and service commenced promptly. Invocation, "The Angels," by Margaret Robinson. A few minutes' silence for healing thoughts for Mr. Bigwood, an old Spiritualist, who has been ill for some time, closed with a few lines, "For you we are praying;" then part of the 10th chapter of St. Mark was read in a clear and pleasing voice by Hazel Prattley.

After a few explanatory remarks by the Conductor regarding the nature of the service, the Greeting Hymn was sung. Our principal soloist was Jean McConnell. Others taking active part were: Edith Asher, Jean Robinson, Dulcie Prattley, Edith Robinson and Irene Bachop. A prose recitation by Joan Hargreaves was clearly heard by all. The connective readings were from the Officers' Edition of the *Lyceum Manual* and read by the Conductor and her assistant. The collection—in aid of Church expenses—was taken by six girls, in decorated baskets. After final chorus and closing hymn, the Members' Parting Song (309) was given by Dulcie Prattley.

Many congratulations were received by the Conductor, but it is the Musical Conductor, Mr. Hargreaves, who deserves the greater praise. He had put much time in the practising.

As it was our Lyceum Hospital Sunday, all flowers and toys, etc., were taken to hospital by the children.

Greetings to all Lyceums and best wishes for a happy New Year to all and the Editor of THE BANNER.—Miss R. Burgess, Cor. Sec.

LONDON, Stratford, Idmiston Road.—Jan. 3rd, Christmas Tea and Party. About 130 Lyceumists and friends were present to tea, and then followed an enjoyable evening. A well conducted Fancy Dress Competition, Santa Claus, with his usual "bag," and a Conjuror and Ventriloquist, were bright features. A vote of thanks to all helpers by Mr. A. T. Connor, and the presentation of a beautiful bouquet to our Conductor, Mrs. West, brought the evening to a close.

Sunday, Jan. 18th, Anniversary Day. Uncle Bert presented medals and prizes at a finely attended and enjoyable afternoon Session. The L.L.D.C. took part in the evening service, at which much fine propaganda work for the Movement was done. Our grateful thanks are due to all our generous helpers.—R. H. Bates, Sec.

MACCLESFIELD.—On Dec. 7th we had a Mass Session, when Mr. Knott was with us. The weather was against us, but all present spent a happy time. Miss Hulley gave a solo very sweetly. Good remarks on the readings.

At our Session on the 21st we had a number of carols, which made a pleasing change.

Special Lyceum Party, Dec. 27th, when we had a Tea and Christmas Tree. A very sweet song and dance by five Lyceumists, including the "Christmas Fairy," little Margaret Edge, was very much enjoyed and, of course, encored. Everyone received a present, including the Lyceum Leaders, from the Christmas Fairy, who did her part as though she did it each day. Mrs. Edmondson gave a song, for which she received a well-deserved encore. Mr. Hardy accompanied and played for dancing. Games, etc., made a very happy evening. All the presents and the tea had been given by Lyceum Leaders and members of the congregation. We are very fortunate in having such kind friends.—H. Rushton, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Newton Heath.—Dec. 27th, an enjoyable day was spent both by children and adults at the Children's Christmas Party. After tea Father Christmas distributed presents. Everybody went home tired, but in the best of spirits.

Jan. 4th. Election of Officers:—Conductor, Guild Leader, and Delegate, Mr. J. Taylor; Secretary, Assistant Marching Conductor and Delegate, Mr. R. H. Bayliffe; Treasurer and Sick and Absentee Visitor, Miss Wilson; Assistant Conductor and Sick and Absentee Visitor, Miss Froggart; Guardian and Auditor, Mr. F. Robinson; Musical Director, Miss Ball; Callisthenics Leader, Miss Bayliffe; Librarian, Mr. W. Taylor; Trustees, Mr. Whitehead and Mr. Marks; Guards, Cyril Qua and Stella Tyrer; 1st Leaders, Dorothy Melling and Stanley

Streeton; 2nd Leaders, Connie Taylor and Willie Robinson; Auditor, Mr. R. W. Marks.

Jan. 11th. The baby son of Mr. and Mrs. Robinson was named during the Session by Miss Watson. His earthly name being Fred, the spiritual name is "Hope." Roses were used for the ceremony. The children sang "Joy Bells."—R. H. Bayliffe, Sec.

NEWCASTLE, Rye Hill.—On Boxing Day we held our Annual Tea and Social, the Lyceum being tastefully decorated to suit this occasion. After tea games and dancing were the order of the evening, during which a short play, entitled "The First Noel," was performed by several Lyceumists. Prizes for good attendance were then presented to the children by our Conductor, while all Lyceumists received a small gift from the Christmas Tree.

Dec. 28th. Brightness was the keynote of the Service of Song and Story which was rendered by our Lyceum in the Church on this Sunday evening. The children's efforts of recitations, dialogues, etc., were well received by an appreciative congregation. Our Conductor, Mrs. Price, presided.—A. Richardson, Sec.

WAKEFIELD.—We held our Election of Officers on Dec. 21st. The following were elected:—Conductors, Mr. Tweedale, Mrs. Harding, Miss Wallis, M. Wright; Secretary, Miss D. Harding; Treasurer, Mrs. Denison; Girl Leaders, Alma Teal, Mary Spurr; Boy Leaders, Jim Hargate, Ronnie Hargate; Librarians, Jennie Hopwood, Norman Eccles; Guardians, William Whitaker, Susie Spurr; Delegates, Mrs. Harding, Mrs. Tweedale; Marching Conductor, Mr. Spurr; Callisthenics Conductors, Alan Heptinstall, Jim Hargate; Lyceum Representative on Church Committee, Mr. Harding; Musical Conductor, Miss D. Harding; Assistant Musical Conductor, Miss M. Johnson; Auditors, Mr. Tweedale, Mr. Spurr; Sick Visitors, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Hopwood; Committee, Mrs. Spurr, Mr. Eccles, Mrs. Wright.—Dorothea Harding, Sec.

WHITLEY BAY.—Dec. 26th, Christmas Party. Good gathering of Lyceumists and friends. After tea we held games, singing, recitations, etc. The Vice-President of the Church, Mr. Kynnersley, was Santa Claus. He got a hearty cheer when he arrived with his sack on his back and each Lyceumist received a present. Young Lyceumists were dismissed at 8-30 p.m., after singing "Joy Bells" and closing prayer. Afterwards the adults had supper, all spending a happy afternoon and evening. Our Conductor, Mr. Hall, took a retiring collection for the F.O.B.—Miss M. Gardener, Sec.

CALGARY, Canada.—Jan. 4th, Election of Officers:—Conductor, Mr. E. D. Adam; Guardian, Mrs. A. Rushton; Secretary, Mrs. H. E. Thomson; Musical Director, Mrs. Parkyn; Treasurer, Mrs. Poyser; Librarian, Mr. Robinson; Physical Director, Mr. Adam. Mrs. Yoxall was also added as a representative of the Lyceum on the Executive. Capt. of Guards, Mr. Robinson.

During 1930 we have had a very successful year. 12 new members are regular attenders. We have now 33 on our roll with an average attendance of 20. At the beginning of the year we had 25 on the roll. The attendance during the year has been very satisfactory.

Some of the outstanding things accomplished by the Lyceum during the year are:—Two very successful Concerts, which were put on by the Lyceum children, under the leadership of the Musical Director, Mrs. Parkyn. Mrs. Parkyn also put this Concert on in the other Church, which all helps to let people see the work of our Lyceum children. Several times during the year the children have helped with the Sunday night services in the Church. The Sunbeam Club has again been started, under Mrs. Parkyn's supervision. The Lyceum, for the first time, has started the Educational Scheme under the B.S.L.U., and we are hoping that a good percentage of our scholars will pass their exams. and receive their certificates for this work.

The Anniversary Service in July was very well attended, with most of the scholars receiving first class honours for attendance.

The Officers have all put their heart and soul into their work with the children, the result being that our Lyceum has had one of the best years since its organisation.

H. E. THOMSON, Sec.

CASTLEFORD.—Under the auspices of the Castleford Infirmary Committee, a competition was organised for all Sunday Schools in Castleford and District. Our Lyceum was honoured with third class. The Trophy was a Banner, to be competed for yearly. There was also a Solo Competition for girls and boys. The first prize, to be competed for yearly, came to one of our Lyceumists, Edna Collins (a rose bowl),

The other soloists were Betty Kidd, Dorothy Burnley. Lawrence Ward won a Certificate. The children were trained by our Organist, Mr. Cooper, of Castleford. Our Lyceumists feel proud of the honours.

MRS. WRIGHT, Sec.

DUNEDIN, N.Z.—On Dec. 14th the Lyceum closed for the annual holiday. A fair number of visitors were present. Pearls from nearly all and recitations by Jean McConnell, Margaret and Edith Robinson, Frances Anthony, Joan Hargreaves, Roland and Hilda Paul, Garnet Asher, Irene Bachop, Lorraine Hoyne, and Audrey Robinson and Dulcie Prattley. Mr. Stables, Church Vice-President, spoke to them on the Three Rules. Mr. Hargreaves gave a pianoforte solo.

A small boy, Colin Bachop, was dressed as Santa Claus, and presented each member of the Lyceum with a small gift, made by the Conductor of the Lyceum; also a bag of fruit and sweets which were kindly given. The Conductor was the recipient of several gifts. Mr. Gore, our oldest member, 78 years, welcomed the visitors and hoped everyone would have a Happy Xmas. Mr. Ridd, Church President, replied and also gave the benediction. The happiest feeling prevailed and good wishes were expressed on all sides.

Greetings to all Lyceumists from Dunedin Lyceum, and to the Editor of BANNER.

MISS R. BURGESS, Con. Sec.

HOLLINWOOD.—Anniversary Tea Party, Feb. 7th. Everyone enjoyed a good tea. In the evening we had dancing and several musical items and games. Mr. E. Luke distributed the prizes.

Feb. 8th, Open Sessions. The congregation at all the services was good, and we had some good discussions on the readings, which left little time for the individual efforts. The Lyceums represented gave the fraternal greetings, which were reciprocated by our own Conductor, who led the After-Circle.

C. MYCOCK, Sec.

LINCOLN, Midland.—Open Session, Sunday, Jan. 4th. Mrs. C. Copp named the infant child of Mr. and Mrs. C. Crane (Keith Richard, spirit name "Leon"), and presented attendance prizes to the Lyceumists. A most enjoyable Session. A good number of friends sat down to the "Naming Tea" afterwards.—H. C. Dobby, Sec.

LONDON, Clapham.—It is with great pleasure that we report the success of our combined Church and Lyceum Party, on Saturday, Jan. 17th, the first attempt of this kind in the new Church. 35 children and 20 adults sat down to a splendid tea and subsequently the attendance mounted to well over 70. This has no relation to the fact that free refreshments were served during the evening. The entertainment consisted of games, dancing and a concert. Great thanks are due to the numerous workers for their untiring efforts and the many gifts of food and money to which we largely owe success.

Another precedent was set on the 18th, when, during the Church Anniversary Services, five Lyceumists gave efforts. The President, in thanking the first singer for her very beautiful rendering of Lyddell's "Abide with Me," said that, although it was not customary to clap in Church, the appreciation of the congregation could be felt. It was the tiny tots who overcame the barriers of convention—we couldn't help clapping.—H.R.B.

WHITLEY BAY.—Election of Officers, Jan 22nd. Conductor, Mrs. Hall; Assistant, Mrs. Robertson; Secretary, Miss Gardener; Treasurer, Mrs. S. Stratford; Guardian, Mrs. C. Stratford; Class Leaders, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. S. Stratford, Mrs. C. Stratford, Mr. Robertson, Miss Smith; Pianist, Miss Gardener. We are very glad Mrs. Hall is able to carry on after her severe illness and wish her better health for the coming year.

Feb. 1st, our Annual Prize-giving Day. Mrs. McLeod kindly presented the prizes, which were numerous. We had a very happy Session, some pleasing speeches, good singing and excellent pearls. We are looking forward to another harmonious year.—M. Gardener, 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 Feb. 18th.

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 March 25th, to ensure insertion in the April issue.

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

ACCRINGTON, Argyle Street.—Open Session, Feb. 8th, conducted by Mrs. Glover. S.C. was read by Miss Tabiaer, Mr. R. and Miss West; G.C. by Mrs. Taylor; recitations by B. Bartlett, P. Glover, C. Goddon, J. Tipping, W. C. Livsey; solos by Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Bartlett, Nora Goddon. We had an enjoyable time.—F. Holgate, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—Feb. 1st, Open Session. Recitations by Florrie and Annie Watson, Lilian Harding, Richard Robinson, Noel Jones, Ernest Kneale, Jean Colligan, Frances Harper, Stanley Landreth, Leslie Hamilton and Stella Callaghan; solos by Gwennie Watson, Jimmy Woodley, Eileen Edwards and Mrs. Harding; a duet by Edna and Clifford Jones.

We held our Annual Party and Prize Distribution on Saturday, Jan. 31st; enjoyed by all present.—D. Dunn, Sec.

BARROW, Preston Street.—On Feb. 8th we held our Election of Officers:—Conductor, Mr. Roy Brown; Assistant, Mr. J. Howbrook and Master Sam Robinson; Secretary, Mrs. L. Brown; Treasurer, Mr. S. Deelay; Guardian, Mrs. H. Butterworth; Musical Conductors, Miss E. Fenton and Miss L. Fenton; Marching Leaders, Miss M. Howbrook and D. C. Brown; Callisthenics Conductors, Miss H. Deelay, Miss M. Howbrook and D. C. Brown.—L. Brown, Sec.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter Street.—Jan. 25th was our Lyceum Day. We held an Open Session in the afternoon, ably conducted by Mr. J. N. Railton, our Conductor. The following gave recitations, I. and J. Entwistle, O. Parker, E. and A. Fish, C. Railton and B. Hinchcliffe; solo by Miss E. Hopper; violin solo by Master C. Walley. Mr. B. Carter, of Halifax, was our speaker for the day, which was enjoyed by all present.—Mr. T. Wood, Sec.

BLACKPOOL.—Open Session, Feb. 8th. Mr. J. Matthews Conductor. Invocation given by our speaker, Mr. Ben Carter, of Halifax. Mr. Carter performed the naming ceremony of a baby, giving the earthly name of Amy Margaret; spirit name "Sunbeam." The flowers were beautiful. He also presented Amy with an Officers' Manual, given by our Conductor, Mrs. E. H. Rothwell. We hope she will treasure it. After the complete rendering of 341 we carried on with marching and callisthenics. Recitations by Dorothy Wood, Irene Long and Mr. B. Carter; pearls by J. Matthews, Mrs. Hobbs, F. Long, R. Richards, J. Leach, O. Davies, Mrs. Rothwell and G. Ashcroft; solo by Mr. Carter; duet by Miss Davies and Mrs. Rothwell. A very happy Session was enjoyed by all.

At the evening service Mr. Pearson rendered two solos, completing a happy spiritual day.

On Feb. 11th we held our Annual Tea, Concert and Prize Distribution. Over 30 prizes were presented by Mr. R. W. Singleton. An enjoyable day for all, especially the children.—Jenny Bamber, Sec.

BRADFORD, Laisterdyke.—On Feb. 1st we held our Open Sessions before a good attendance of Lyceumists. Conductor, Mr. Barnes. Solos, duets, recitations, were well rendered. Several interesting questions on the Silver Chain and Musical Reading. The singing was harmonious. Marching and callisthenics were well done. The Sessions were well carried through.—J. Babbis, Sec.

CLECKHEATON.—Open Session, Feb. 1st, conducted by Mr. T. Brooke. The S.C.R. was conducted by Lily Wilson; connective readings for the M.R. were taken by Miss A. Wilkinson and Miss A. Wilson; pearls by B. Walker (2), H. Hoarsley (4), H. Taylor, Mr. Taylor, J. Wilson, Gladys Hutton (2), Irene Wilson (2), and Ethel Scholes; recitation by J. Wilson. No. 364 was sung altogether. Solos were rendered by H. Taylor, H. Hoarsley, B. Walker, Miss A. Wilson; duet by E. Scholes and Irene Wilson. Mr. Hampson, the speaker for the day, spoke about the Lyceum and its teaching, and asked the children several questions with reference to the Lyceum. He also gave words of encouragement and asked them to try and help one another in every possible way. Benediction by Mr. Hampson. An enjoyable Session was spent,

On Feb. 2nd we held a Pea and Pie Supper and Social, in aid of the Prize Distribution. We had quite a good attendance and we spent an enjoyable evening. I wish to thank everyone who helped to make it such a success.—M. B. Robinson, Sec.

COVENTRY, Broadgate.—We held our Party on Jan. 10th. The Lyceumists gave two sketches, "Dreamland" and "The Scout Barbers." They were well appreciated. Best wishes and greetings to all Lyceums.—E. Coe, Sec.

DARWEN.—On Foundation Day we held an evening Open Session which was very well attended. Mr. Shuttleworth was the speaker for the day. The collections were handed to the local Infirmary. During the week-end, Feb. 7th and 8th, we had Mr. A. T. Connor, the Education Secretary, with us. A Social for the Education Fund raised £2 2s. Greetings to all.—G. N. Walker, Sec.

DEWSBURY.—Open Session, Jan. 25th. Conductor, Mr. J. H. Collier. Pearls by Harry Oakes, H. Gregory, Dorothy Joyce, Chrissie Greenwood, Phyllis Dunn, Brook Druart, N. Hartley, E. Wilson, M. Hirst, E. Stott, J. H. Collier; recitations by Dorothy Dunn, Cyril Hey, Willie Johnson, Margaret Greenwood, Dorothy Joyce, A. Taylor; solo by Clarissa Phillips, Mona Hey, E. Wilson, H. Gregory; duet by W. and G. Hey, Violey Hey, Phyllis Dunn, Miss M. Hirst, Miss F. Senior; Drill Instructor, Victor Hartley. There were 89 Lyceumists and 45 friends present at this enjoyable Session.

On Saturday, Jan. 17th, the young men held their Annual Tea and Concert. There was a good attendance. We had a high-class Concert Party; also the distribution of prizes to our scholars by the two retiring Conductors, Miss M. Hirst and Mr. C. Phillips. We thank all young men who helped.—V. R. Phillips, Sec.

EARBY, Greenend Avenue.—Open Session, Feb. 1st. The following Lyceumists took part:—L. Sprout, O. Wilkins, N. and K. Hodgkinson, G. Blackburn, R., J., T. and W. Hancock, N. and D. Seddon, F. Clark, L. Hetherington, A. Wilkinson, W. Wintersgill, J. Sprout and Mr. Millican. A good time was spent together.—Mrs. D. Dawson, Sec.

EARBY, Onward.—On Feb. 1st we held our Open Session. Various items were rendered by Lyceumists and greatly enjoyed by all.—Mrs. J. Aldred, Sec.

FLEETWOOD.—Jan. 24th, Prize Distribution and Social. 43 prizes were presented to our Lyceumists by the Conductor, Mr. Batley.

On Jan. 25th Founder's Day, we held three Sessions. In the afternoon recitations were given by Dorothy Harris, Jessie and Gladys Ainsworth, and Tom Wright; duet by Ruth Harris and Mona Hague; pianoforte solos by Doris Parkinson and Nora Harris.

Feb. 1st, Open Session. Recitations by Mona Hague, Dorothy Harris, Jessie Woods and Margaret Gibson; duets by Nancy Woods and Violet Forshaw, Kathleen Hague and Ruth Harris.—L. Vollans, Sec.

GREAT HARWOOD.—Open Session on Founder's Day, Jan. 25th. S.C. by Eileen Shaw, May Pickvance, Greta Johnson; M.R. by Mr. Haworth, Miss May Pickvance, Mrs. Hudson; G.C. by Mr. P. Doswell; recitations by Walter Haworth, May Pickvance, Jack Doswell, Greta Johnson, Mrs. W. Haworth Rosa Bagshaw; duet by Mr. and Mrs. W. Doswell.

HEMSWORTH.—A pleasing event took place on Saturday, Feb. 7th, when Mr. Colman and Mrs. Martin presented 10 First, 20 Second, 15 Third Prizes to our Lyceumists. The smiling faces makes us rejoice to be with the children. Refreshments and games were much enjoyed. We hope to have more children as the year goes on.—Mrs. W. Bates.

HORWICH, Chorley New Road.—On Saturday, Jan. 24th, we held our Lyceum Tea Party and Prize Distribution. 45 Lyceumists sat down to tea. In the evening our Conductor, Miss L. Beck, presented the prizes to the young Lyceumists. The children gave a sketch, entitled "Nursery Rhymes." The rest of the evening was spent in musical items, games, recitations, etc.

Jan. 25th, Open Session. Marching and callisthenics were good. Pearls, solos and recitations were ably rendered. A good Session was enjoyed by all.—J. Sherrington, Sec.

HYDE, George Street.—On Saturday, Feb. 7th, a Social was held. The proceeds were for prizes. Over 100 were present and had a good evening's enjoyment.

On Feb. 8th the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Sefton was named in our Lyceum. Her earthly name is Norma; spiritual name "Snowdrop."

On Feb. 15th the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. C. Oldham was named. He was given the earthly name of Walter; spiritual name "Tulip." Mr. Wright named both children excellently.—N. Cartwright, Sec.

LANCASTER, Alliance.—Feb. 1st, Open Session. Songs and recitations by Nellie Curwen, Iris Jones, Alice Haygarth, Doris Kirk, James Eyres, Lilian Atkinson, James Towers. A pleasant Session was enjoyed by all.—A. F. Rushworth, Sec.

LEICESTER, Rupert Street.—On Feb. 8th we had with us Alderman E. Grimsley, who gave a short address and afterwards distributed the prizes. Mr. Franey, President, also gave three special prizes for the best essays on "The Lyceum."—Mr. J. Wicks, Sec.

LONDON, Brixton.—On Feb. 8th we held our A.G.M. The new Conductress is Mrs. Brown. The attendance since Christmas has been good, and we have been rehearsing for a concert which is to take place shortly.—F. B. Cross, Sec.

LONDON, Manor Park.—At our Annual Tea and Prize-giving, held 24th Jan., Mr. Hotton presented the prizes. Christmas Tree gifts were presented to the children, who had a very enjoyable evening.

We regret to report the passing to the Summerland of our youngest Lyceumist, Peter Hotton, aged one.—A. E. Trumble, Sec.

LONDON, Stratford.—Feb. 1st an Instructive Open Session was ably conducted by Mrs. West. The National Education Secretary, Mr. A. T. Connor, who gave a bright address, wound up with an appeal for entrants for the May examinations, the response to which was very gratifying. The following gave special efforts:—Joyce Capper, Barbara and June Bates, Lily Flynn, Irene Dennis, Betty Houghton, Molly Stoffer, Lily Copelin, Edna Fozzard. Wednesday Guild is going strong and Lyceum membership is getting towards the 100 mark.—R. H. Bates, Sec.

LONDON, Tottenham and Edmonton.—On Saturday, Jan. 17th, we held our Annual Tea and Prize-giving, which was a huge success. Everyone had a glorious time. Great credit is due to our workers.—W. H. Markham.

MACCLESFIELD.—On Feb. 1st we had our Annual Meeting and Election of Officers. Conductor, Mrs. Challinor; Asst. Conductor, Mrs. Holland; Secretary, Mrs. Rushton; Musical Conductor, Miss Hulley; Assist. Musical Conductor, Miss Sylvia Bamford; Guardians, Phyllis Swindells and Stanley Royle; Leader of Callisthenics, Winnie Carter; Guards, Betty Kenyon, Mabel Cotterill, Sam Royle and George Whitehurst; Librarian, Mr. Carter; Leaders, Mrs. Rushton, Mrs. Holland, Miss Hulley, Mrs. Henshaw, Miss W. Carter, Miss E. Cotterill, Mrs. Carter; Delegate for North-East Cheshire L.D.C., Miss Swindells. Every Lyceumist won a prize during 1930.—Hannah Rushton, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Newton Heath.—Feb. 8th we had a pleasant Session on this date. The M. and S. L.D. Council conducted our Session and also presented to our Conductor, on behalf of the Lyceum, three Silver Shields which they had won in previous years. Everything was successful.

Feb. 14th. The Pooling Scheme Social was well attended and enjoyed by all. The Valdanians' Dance Band played excellently, and the time passed all too quickly.—R. H. Bayliffe, Sec.

MANCHESTER, South Manchester.—Jan. 14th, Election of Officers. Conductor, Mr. J. Woodcock; Guardian, Miss Whalley; Assistant Conductor, Mrs. Ryder; Treasurer, Mrs. Lamb; Secretary, Miss M. Lamb; Trustee, Miss Eastwood; Musical Director, Mrs. Lamb; Capt. of Guards, Miss A. Hope; two Guards to be elected by the Committee; Marching Conductor, Mr. Kenneth Hamer; Group Leaders, Miss Sellars, Mrs. Ryder, Mr. Hamer and Mrs. Long; Delegate, Miss Sellars; Caterer, Miss Eastwood; Guild Leader, Miss Whalley; Auditors, Mr. Hamer and Mr. S. Heald.

NELSON, Vernon Street.—February's Open Session had a good response. Recitations by Marjorie Atherton, Beatrice Terry, Richard Gallager, Joyce Parkington and Mary E. Jackson; song, "Catch the Sunshine," by Frances Hartley, Violet Forrest and Joyce Parkington, with Miss K. Smoothy at the piano.

The children of the Lyceum gave a Concert, entitled "The Doll's Wedding," at the Prize Distribution which was held on Jan. 31st. It was a delightful event to all present.

Jan. 25th was put aside for the Founder's Day Effort. We trust, though small, the effort will bring to you our good wishes.—Miss B. Robinson, Assist. Sec.

READING.—Feb. 1st, Open Session, A.G.M. and Election of Officers. Mr. A. Lawrence presided. After the usual Session we had a few individual items by John Andrew Jackson, Dora Arlott, Cissie and Gordon Seward, Irene Tuggy and Mrs. Lawrence. Mrs. Croxford, the well-known worker for Spiritualism, gave us a few cheery words of encouragement and also greetings from other Lyceums.

Election of Officers for 1931:—Conductor, Mrs. Lawrence; Assistant Conductor, Mrs. Duke; Treasurer, Mr. Seward; Secretary, Mr. Giles; Guardian, Margaret Latter; Leaders, Cissie Seward, Dora Arlott, Irene Tuggy.

RYDE, I.O.W.—Dec. 21st we held our first Naming Ceremony. Barbara Mary King. "Hope."

Dec. 30th, the Lyceum joined with the Church for the Xmas Party.

Jan. 1st. The Church service was conducted by Lyceumists—L. Wright, Sec.

SCUNTHORPE.—On Founder's Day the Lyceumists gave a Service of Song, entitled "The Ghost and what it revealed." We had good audiences. It gave us encouragement to give another week-end, and we are practicing for it now. The whole proceeds are being given to help the finances of the Church.—Ivy Sprakes, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—Jan. 25th, Founder's Day. A really fine Session. Individual efforts were especially good. Great interest was taken by the children.

On Feb. 7th 60 guests were entertained to a splendid tea and social by Mr. Pownall (Church Treasurer), as a thanksgiving for recovered health after a serious illness.

The morning Sessions are being attended better.—James Le Noury, A.N.S.C.

SHEFFIELD, Heeley, Gifford Road.—Feb. 1st, our Open Sessions, in which E. Marples, E. Barber, N. Nutt, E. Wragg, G. Bailey, W. Nutt, H. Cook, Ed. Marples, V. Porter, M. Fox, A. and O. Nutt, and E. Oxley took part. As it was Lyceum Day the Darnall Lyceumists took the evening services. A very nice day was well spent.—Muriel Clive, Sec.

WEST PELTON.—Open Session, Feb. 1st. The Lyceumists responding were J. Sunders, D. Douglas, E. Hopson, L. Bell, N. Robinson, L. Abbott, D. Hornsby, J. Douglas, L. Wishart, G. Sunders, Mrs. Cooper and Mrs. Abbott. The Conductor was Miss Cahill.—M. Abbott, Sec.

WELLINGTON, Kent Terrace, New Zealand.—On Nov. 30th we held a Special Open Session which was very well attended by both members and friends. All the items were greatly appreciated. The following Lyceumists contributed towards the success with recitations:—Eileen Swede, Ethel Parkins and Shirley Turtle, while we also had a violin and piano number by Miss E. and Mr. S. Harris.

On Saturday, 13th Dec., we held our Annual Prizegiving and Xmas Tree Social. Again this year we had a very pleasing attendance. After the presentation of prizes, games, dancing and other festivities were indulged in, and a very joyous evening ensued.—S. Harris, Sec.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Joan James conducted the February Open Session on "The Two Worlds." Recitations, solos, musical reading explanations were given by F. Weedman, D. Simmons, Miss G. Knights, T. Davies, Mrs. Simmons, P. Weaver, Miss E. Anslow, Mrs. Weaver and Mr. P. Warillow.—T. McQuoid Weedman, Sec.

BACUP.—Feb. 1st, Open Session, conducted by Mrs. Carter. Pearls by R. Salt, Mr. Lord, Mrs. Carter, Mr. L. Lord, M. Patchett, D. Clayburn, D. Halsall; recitations by M. Halsall, G. Ormerod, N. Taylor, D. Halsall, J. Patchett, J. Sayage; solos by Mrs. Carter and M. Patchett; duets, Mr. and Mrs. Lord; pianoforte solos by D. Halsall and D. Clayburn.—A. Halsall, Sec.

DONCASTER, Catherine Street.—Jan. 27th we held a Party and Concert, Lyceumists having their tea free, given by Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Holloway. After tea we had Miss Bray's dancing troupe, who gave us a nice performance. We had a Christmas Tree with Father Xmas. Every Lyceumist received a lovely present, for which we have to thank Mrs. Holloway and Mrs. Clark. We realised £4 os. 6d.

On Feb. 8th we had our Prize Distribution, Miss Johnson, our Conductor, presenting them. Mr. Bates gave two special prizes which were awarded to Muriel Holloway and Walter Riley.—Mrs. Webb, Sec.

GRIMSBY.—On Jan. 11th the following main Officers were elected:—Conductor, Mrs. Barron; Vice-Conductors, Mr. Hockley and E. Robinson; Treasurer, Mr. Greenhalgh; Secre-

tary, P. Stanham. Other officers were duly elected and we anticipate a happy and progressive year.

Feb. 1st, Open Session. Recitations by Zita Giles, Edna Swift, George and Willie Chapman, Muriel Sandvit, Albert Letch, Billie Ball; song in unison, Vera and Rose Chapman, Nellie Roach, Gladys Greenwood and Ethel Gilliat; solos by Ethel Robinson and P. Stanham, after which we had pearls.—P.S., Sec.

LANCASTER, Great John Street.—Feb. 1st, Open Session in the afternoon; Prize Distribution at night. 36 Lyceumists received prizes for attendance.—M. Sarratt, Sec.

LEICESTER, Liberty Progressive.—Open Session, Feb. 8th, before a good number of friends. The following items were rendered by Elsie Garratt, Elsie Clements, Alice Gamble, Jacky and Joan Whitbread, recitations; solos by Miss Frost, Ethel Gamble, Mr. A. Gamble; duets by Doris Jayes and Lavinia Garratt, Doris and Elsie Garrett.—Thomas Kenney, Sec.

LINCOLN, Coultham Street.—On Wednesday, Feb. 18th, a number of our members gave a Musical Operetta, entitled "The Waxwork Carnival," in two parts. All the principals were in old-world costumes. A large stage had been erected, with wings and lighting effects, giving a very pleasing display. The Producer was Mrs. Ingham, a member of the Church. The dresses by Miss G. Key. Very good tableaux were given by young members. We had songs, etc. There was a large attendance of visitors. We repeated the performance on Feb. 19th.—N. Willey, Sec.

LONDON, Hackney.—On Feb. 15th we held a Naming Service, performed by our Lady Conductor, Mrs. Chiplin. The tiny daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jones was given the name of Jean Netta, and the spirit name "Bluebell." It was a very beautiful and impressive service; the atmosphere seemed full of love. Several members of the Church were present. Mr. Banfield, who has been a Lyceumist for eight years, was presented with an Officers' *Manual*, as this was his last afternoon with us.—M. Moring, Session Sec.

LONDON, Rochester Square.—Jan. 10th, Annual New Year Party. 50 children and adults sat down to a very nice tea. Games, entertainments, competitions, etc., were thoroughly enjoyed by all. Thanks are due in no small measure to one of our members, Mrs. Petz, who organised most of the games and added to the success of the evening. Each child received a present which was distributed in a somewhat novel way; sweets, oranges and apples were given to each child. All expressed their pleasure at having attended the party by giving three hearty cheers.

Jan. 31st will ever be a red-letter day to most Lyceumists, when the L.L.D.C. held their Annual Party, to which a great number of our members were taken. This function was held at Clapham. Here again we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, and this was proved by the singing and general hilarity as we went home by bus.

We are still making headway, thanks to the united efforts of the Lyceum Committee and the Angel World. We are striving to excel in the B.S.L.U. educational examinations.—D. M. Jordan, Sec.

SMETHWICK.—Our Guild of Thrift, since its formation in November, under the able leadership of Miss Lewis, has rendered valuable service. On Feb. 7th a Tea and Entertainment was provided for 50 poor children of the district. Each child received a garment. The hard work was well rewarded by the expression of thanks on the faces of the children.—Victor W. Mann, Assist. Sec.

SOUTHAMPTON.—On Feb. 1st we had an enjoyable Open Session, under Mrs. Hart's conductorship. There was an unbroken chain of pearls and individual items by the following Lyceumists:—Violet Johnson, Harry Thomas, Barbara Buck, Winnie Johnson, Poppy Lewis, Gordon Long, Marion McKenzie, Charlie Yeates and Gracie Robertson, who all gave recitations. A violin solo by young Frank Long, accompanied on the piano by Joan. As pleasing an item as any was the unusual united effort by the Boys' Group, who sang together Lyceum song 383. Bravo, boys; keep it up.—E. W. Long, Sec.

WOMBWELL, Melville Street.—Open Session, Feb. 8th. Full attendance of scholars. Many visitors and friends. Many pearls "shone." Good marching and callisthenics. A live and enjoyable Session. Evening Memorial Service for Carrie Thorpe. Two Lyceumists sang "In Memoriam."—J. Markham, Sec.