

THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 484. Vol. XLI.

JUNE, 1931.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

The B.S.L.U. Annual Conference.

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union held its 42nd. Annual Conference at Barrow-in-Furness, on May 23rd- and 24th.

The local friends did their very best to make all the delegates comfortable and happy during the week-end. Dalkeith Street Church and Lyceum placed their splendid building at the disposal of the Conference free of charge. All the minor charges of the Conference were borne by the local friends.

There was a Civic Welcome. Alderman T. Morton attended to welcome the Delegates. He was supported by Alderman Dan Griffiths.

The Elections resulted as follows:—President, Miss E. Elliott; Vice-President, Mrs. J. Reynolds; Treasurer Mr. W. Burrows; General Secretary, Mr. G. F. Knott; Auditor, Mr. G. A. Dixon; S.N.U. E.C. Representatives, Mr. G. F. Knott, Mr. Burrows; S.N.U. A.G.M. Delegates, Miss E. Elliott, Mr. A. T. Connor; I.S.F. Congress, Mr. A. T. Connor, Mr. G. F. Knott; Miss M. E. Lawton was elected Chairman of the B.S.L.U. Education Committee; Councillor Jessy Greenwood, J.P., and Mr. J. Shuttleworth were re-elected on the Board of Management of the Ainsworth Home of Rest Scheme.

On the Sunday morning the children gave a very pretty welcome. Nine children in appropriate dresses formed a tableau. Each one wore a sash appropriate to the word they represented. The eldest of the Lyceumists in the tableau stood at the back and represented the Lyceum. Other children, in line, represented, "Progress," "Beauty," "Purity," "Harmony," "Education." Three small children completed the tableau by standing in front and wearing sashes bearing the words "Angels love Children."

The following welcome was then recited,—

Greetings to all we bring you
From earth and the Spirit Spheres,
Asking for loved one's guidance
To lead you through the year.
Let Progression be your watchword,
Peace and Purity of thought,
Let these impress your minds
As the year brings need for work.
Harmony must reign supreme
If the angels work be done
To bring to the Children's Movement
Those with educational aims.
So here in the town of Barrow,
Where strength and beauty meet,
With the ancient hills around us
And the glorious incoming sea,
We bring to you a message
That with our hopes abound
That prosperity, health and concord,
Shall in Conference be found.
These tiny flow'rets we bring you
To offer you with our love,
That their purity and fragrance,
Shall give you sweet peace from above."

At the conclusion of the tableau the officials were presented with roses. All the delegates received a spray of lilies of the valley.

It was a very pleasing little ceremony.

A Propaganda Meeting was held on Sunday evening when the new President was inducted. Mr. Fullard spoke on behalf of the Dalkeith St. Church, and Mrs. Reynolds responded. Mrs. L. Nurse, who leaves the Management Committee after a long term of service spoke feelingly of her association with the Union.

Mr. Knott gave a brief address which was followed by a neat little speech from Mrs. Paling.

Mr. Slimin made an appeal for the S.N.U. Fund of Benevolence, and Mr. Burrows gave the benediction.

There was a good attendance with harmonious singing and spiritual feeling throughout the meeting.

We are assured that all the delegates assembled will appreciate a word of thanks on their behalf for the hospitality which everyone enjoyed.

There was an outing to Biggar Bank on Monday morning and another one to Furness Abbey during the afternoon, and thus ended a charming Whitsuntide association with the Barrow friends.

Ainsworth Home of Rest Scheme.

SILVER PAPER.

We regret that the small amount of money we have received for the silver paper (tin foil) has proved, owing to the fall in the price of tin, that it is not worth our while collecting the Silver Paper any more. We shall send the present collection in hand and then cease this effort.

GEO. F. KNOTT, Clerk,
Ainsworth Home of Rest Scheme.

£2,000 Effort Fund.

Dear Lyceumists,

Again I am able to report just a little improvement in the amount received this month. Although we have a little more there are fewer subscribers, as follows:—C. M. H., Rawtenstall, Lanes.; donated £1 1s.; London Lyceum District Council, per Mr. Fruin, donated £1 1s.; Miss Helen Jones, Attercliffe Lyceum, Sheffield collected in farthings 8½d; making a total of £2 2s. 8½d.; which I acknowledge with grateful thanks.

Again I earnestly appeal for your further support. Donations large or small will be welcome, and please do not forget the Musical Recital which is still on sale, Hymn Leaflets, 4/6 per 100, Recitation Leaflets 2d. per copy, suitable for special services, all the proceeds go to the £2,000 Fund.

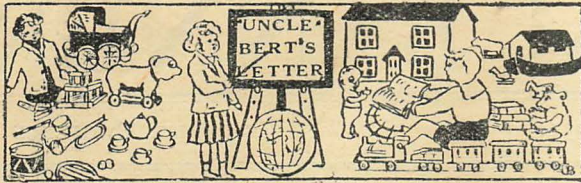
Do please help to make this fund grow more quickly.

With all Good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

118, Cremorne St.,
Nottingham.

VICTORIA G. REYNOLDS,
Hon. Sec.



MY DEAR BOYS AND GIRLS.

The B.S.L.U. examinations over you have all got those wet towels off your heads. Your brainbox has emptied itself on to those nice clean sheets of paper they gave you to write on. You have told the Education Committee all you know about the Lyceum and its teachings. Now you are just simply bubbling over with excitement to know how many marks you have gained.

I saw some of you boys and girls sitting for this examination. The thought which ran through my ming was "Peace at last." For nearly three hours not a word; that creates a Riddle for you.

Why is the B.S.L.U. Examination like a Motor Cycle? Because it has a silencer in it. How's that! not out, Sir. I am sure my friend Mr. Connor will agree. Auntie Ruth, Cousin Doris and I shall look forward to seeing the Result Book, because it brings us into touch with so many of you who write to me from time to time. Although I shall not be able to write and congratulate each one of you, I can assure you we shall be saying, "Well done," especially to those of you we know personally. June has arrived again. I think last year I referred to it as the month of Roses: the symbol of Love. This month I want to write to you upon a subject which has a very wide and far-reaching effect "Flowers of the Garden."

I am sure we all love singing No. 337 in our Manual.

Flowers of the Gardens, flowers of the grove
 Blessings sent down by the Father we love,
 Oft have your beauties sorrow beguiled
 For ye are fair in the eyes of a child.

I spend hours in our garden, until Auntie Ruth says I really worship it and she is not far wrong in her statement. It has been said "That we are nearer to God in a Garden than anywhere on earth." Yes we can make our garden a real living Temple to God. Whether it be small or large, or I would go so far as to say only a window box. For herein we see God's Love manifested in the Flower. Now if you came into our garden, I expect one of the first plants you would notice you would want to pull up. You would be very unlucky in meeting your wishes for Cousin Doris would have her eye on you. It is a Dandelion. Fancy growing such a plant. It is a flower of the Grove with healing powers but I will not deal further with such plants this month.

Rather, I want to speak of Flowers in general and their common value for the purpose of beautifying the world. What a far reaching effect they have upon the human race. I wonder if you have ever tried to work out a list showing the various uses they are put to; I have only space to deal with a few of these; I will leave you to add to them.

In your school you draw from them, making designs and borders, and in more advanced classes—Wall paper designs. In your needle work class you have your designs for making tray cloths and other articles of linen or lace.

In names, the girls score over the boys—Lily, Rose, Ivy, etc.

As I sit writing this letter I take a glance round the

room in which I am in to find I am just surrounded with floral designs. The curtains at the window, the carpet, the ornaments, the chair cushions and so on. All take my mind to the Flowers of the Garden. I look out of the window to find my neighbour has a blind with a floral design, while their gardens speak to me. I pick up a book from the table to find it has Floral borders and designs on it. In a wedding I find them also. What an all embracing subject this is: not belonging to one small country or section of people but to the whole world.

Although we can spend large sums of money on the purchase of special blooms there is always an abundance of free flowers for all in the hedgerows, fields and woodlands. These we are asked to care for and not injure them by pulling them up by their roots.

We have also had a suggestion, that as we go about the country we should take some seed with us to scatter in bare places.

What a beautiful lesson this gives us, thinking of others, by sowing seeds to beautify the earth. Each one of us is born into this world as a flower of divine love. Let us ever strive to copy the flowers of the garden and groves by creating joy and happiness for others.

ANSWER TO LAST MONTH PUZZLE:—

- No. 170. 1. Cricket. 2. Porcupine.
 3. Cymbal. 4. Turbot.
 5. Primrose. 6. Apple.

PUZZLE No. 171. Flowers of the Garden (Muddled)

1. KTSSCO. 2. SPOAYLHUNT.
 3. ASSEIPN. 4. SMUITRUTSAN.
 5. GMSDLOIRA. 6. OOLLHHYSKC.

No. 172. OTHER COUNTRIES.

1. F**N** 2. G**M**Y
 3. B**G**M 4. D**M**K
 5. I*D** 6. N**W*Y

Send your answers and replies to Uncle Bert, 2, Villiers Road, Spring Grove, Osterley, Middx.

In conclusion, I want to wish my Manchester friends all success in their efforts to form a Sports Section. I hope others will do likewise. The young people of the London Lyceum Athletic Section, of which I am President, hope to meet other runners in their sports in the future, so buck up and get down to it.

With Love,
 Uncle Bert.

REAL EDUCATION, DICTATED THROUGH AN AUTOMATIC WRITER.

A book on Education is about to be published which originated in a somewhat unusual way. The title is "Real Education: the Long View," and the author Zangwell, has communicated the Essays from Beyond the Veil by means of automatic writing. The Essays, or Talks, deal with the essentials of Education and the latent possibilities of the Child. As Zangwell passed over many years ago he claims in the course of time to have attained to clearer vision regarding matters of Education. The Medium describes him as being fond of children and desirous of having them taught according to the methods laid down by him, in order that their progress in the life beyond may be furthered. The book is to be published by Foyle's Occult Book Department Date of publication, May 12th, 1931.

The President's Address

read at the B.S.L.U. Conference held at Barrow-in-Furness, May 23rd and 24th, 1931.

By MRS. J. REYNOLDS, A.N.S.C.

Fellow Members and Colleagues all,

It is indeed with much pleasure that I welcome to Barrow all delegates and friends to this—the 42nd Annual Conference of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

Barrow, Dalkeith St. Lyceum, joined the Union the year the Union was founded, since when a continuous membership has been maintained, and we are happy indeed for the privilege of making this the venue of our deliberations. There have been many good workers. I would like to mention Mr. Proctor, who, though blind, was instrumental, through his spiritual vision, in bringing this beautiful Church into being.

It is with mixed feelings that I present to you my first Presidential Address. I am proud indeed of the honour conferred upon me, which enables me to stand before you in my present capacity as President of a Movement which has achieved so much in the attainment of our objects for which it was inaugurated in May 1890. We who have followed the history and progress of our Union, know that the work which it has so successfully promoted is world-wide in its effects.

On the other hand, I am filled with regret by the apparent apathy, which very prominently obtains to-day, throughout our ranks. The enthusiasm is only spasmodic, and real interest in all the branches of our activities is confined to only a few, whose efforts, through lack of support, too often become wearisome and a burden.

It is for us who are assembled at this Conference to try and find the cause of this apathy and suggest a remedy to remove such an unsatisfactory condition from our midst. The earnest workers of our movement have provided fine machinery for our control and management; but we have not yet sufficient driving power to manipulate the varied intricacies, and to produce the results intended. There is little doubt that the general social conditions caused by the industrial depression have, in a very large measure, affected our activities, and there is certainly much to be appreciated in the fact that, despite the pressure of the times, there has been sufficient interest in the welfare of the B.S.L.U. to enable us to tide over a critical period in regard to the financial aspect.

You will see by the Balance Sheet that in spite of the economy exercised, we have not quite cleared our working expenses; but the position is certainly improving. I would like to us watch that we do not harbour a false economy by our anxiety to cut down the working expenses by excluding any legitimate outlay which may culminate to the ultimate welfare of the movement. Unless we are very judicious we are going to cripple our activities to such an extent as to stunt our growth, and thus weaken the whole.

It is very regrettable to note that the hundreds of books so generously donated to the Union by Mr. Alfred Kitson have not had a good sale. I recommend a large purchase of this stock.

Then there is the £2,000 Effort which needs greater support. This Fund does not grow with the rapidity it deserves. The object is a worthy one, and District

Councils could wisely introduce a discussion on ways and means to its completion at their Quarterly Meetings, and co-operate directly with the Secretary of the Fund in assisting to carry out the ideas of raising the money from time to time. This would create a keener interest in the progress of the Fund, and prevent any workable idea from falling flat. This is a National Scheme and therefore should be directly the concern of each unit of the understanding age within our organisation; and in my opinion, there is a duty devolving upon the varied branches of our movement, as active working centres, to bring home this fact to each individual Lyceumist. I recommend that the Effort be spoken of, and a real attempt be made to create interest and enthusiasm, so that every member of every Lyceum will realise that their quota of help is needed and expected, and all will be determined to rise to the obligation of contributing their little bit towards the completion of the £2,000.

The Education Scheme has had a most successful year: for the first time since its inception there is a financial balance on the year's work, but the greatest pleasure is that the Scheme continues to attract the Lyceumists, and we are justifying our existence as an educational movement.

In commending what has been so ably achieved in this direction, we must not lose sight of the need for greater zeal on the part of those who have not yet taken advantage of the privileges offered by the facilities which are at the disposal of each and all. A large vista of possibilities opens out before our vision when we consider a Lyceum movement equipped with the requisite leadership for the carrying out of the ideals of this important and essential branch of our activities.

It is nice to record the increasing pleasure and improved health the Ainsworth Home of Rest Scheme is giving to Lyceumists who need convalescence. It is truly gratifying to have within our movement the means of assisting our fellow Lyceumists towards a complete restoration to health. This opens the door to dreams of another new branch of work for our movement: the devising of a Scheme which would operate from the various District Centres, to raise a nucleus for providing railway expenses for those receiving benefits from the Home of Rest Scheme.

I would like to draw your attention to another work of usefulness, made possible through the columns of the LYCEUM BANNER, proving of valuable assistance from a propaganda and educational standpoint. I refer to the Mutual Aid Bureau, which is drawing literary contributions from some of the editors and leading minds. This is good: as previously only a few influential Spiritualists have been interested in the B.S.L.U. Last June we received from Lady Conan Doyle a donation of £5 to the BANNER Fund. This brings us to the consideration of the financial aspect of the BANNER. I am of the opinion that something could be done to increase our sales and, if not make it a paying proposition, to at least cover the cost of production. Whilst we are content to run our concerns at a loss we cannot hope to do any other than remain in the ruts, and I say it is quite time we moved along. It seems so inconsistent with the objects and teachings for which we stand, to affirm that because a condition has prevailed for a given period of time, it must always continue, particularly when that condition is of such an unsatisfactory character.

I would recommend that consideration be given to some schemes to increase the sales of the LYCEUM BANNER and the B.S.L.U. literature.

I am sure it could be done through the medium of our District Councils in a very practical sense, providing we could stimulate that much lacking essential to the real progress of any Cause, namely—an unselfish love of the work for its own sake.

There is indeed plenty of scope for real, earnest, enthusiastic workers. The more work we can spread out, by allocating such duties as these to willing and competent people, the more interest shall we create in our general movement, and a greater solidity will be the result. Often we are guilty of piling the additional work on to those whose time is all too full, thus defeating our object. My idea is that each District Council should appoint a Literature Agent, whose specific work would be pushing the sales of the "LYCEUM BANNER" and B.S.L.U. Literature. It would, of course, need someone showing initiative for salesmanship, and good business ability.

Since last Conference we have lost the physical presence of one of our best friends, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. He always supported our work and financial appeals. We have also seen the promotion to spirit life of Mr. J. J. Ashworth, of Nottingham, who was a member of the first Lyceum in England, which was started in 1866. Another old veteran, born on the same day as the advent of Modern Spiritualism, Mr. Wm. Musgrove, has also been promoted. We can only repay the debt we owe to those pioneers by our faithful service.

Our Union is affiliated to the I.S.F., jointly with the S.N.U. As a Children's Organisation I suggest we send our written Greetings to the forthcoming Congress at the Hague. Children of Spiritualists in other lands need a message, and we could not do better than request that, in the unfolding of Spiritual truth, the children of all nations be given a chance of self-expression. We could also express pleasure in appreciating the tendency towards world peace.

I wish my voice and yours could be heard by the overseas Lyceumists. Let us send our best thoughts to them in their isolation, wherever they are. Their task is greater than ours. We appreciate the link some of them have welded with our Union, and particularly those who are keen enough to study and sit for the examinations. May they realise we are watching their work and progress with sympathetic interest, and wish them God-speed in their earnest endeavours.

Again I must strike a note of regret in reference to our Roll of Membership. An examination of the statistics in the May BANNER will show the increase or decrease of each Lyceum. The average of 50 members per Lyceum may be considered very fair, but an average decrease of three members in each Lyceum, and the net loss of three Lyceums, has resulted in the gross loss of 813 members. This downward trend in our membership is very disappointing, and there must be some vital reason for it, and it is time we faced the facts and the issue. That there is something wrong, something lacking, there can be little doubt, otherwise a greater stability would prevail. Our ideals, aims, and objects, and the principles for which we stand, are such as to be unsurpassed for beauty and truth, being second to none in their high order of worth and practicability. But the trouble is not with our system so much as with ourselves. It is those human imperfections within

our own natures which far too often gain the precedent over the better self. We fail to exercise the proper self-control and self-reverence, as so beautifully advocated by our teachings, expressed in the "*Lyceum Manual*." We gain the knowledge, but fail in its application too often. We descend to the paltrisms and meannesses of selfish self-aggrandisement, allowing the destructive forces of jealousy to enter. So long as leaders give way to these unworthy weaknesses shall we lose our prestige as sincere exponents of a pure and spiritual Cause. If we would gain, and keep, adherents we must first command respect, by respecting ourselves and one another, and give to one another a just due of appreciation and encouragement. So long as we fail in this particular, so long shall we fail to keep any adherents we may win. Whilst they may accept the truth and beauty of our teachings, they will keep clear of our practices—if our example is inadequate—in order to live it. Those who leave us to fulfil the obligations in other walks of life and take with them the benefits of their training, are a different proposition which we expect and look for; but this should give a greater inflow of membership, as a return, if we are achieving our object. Such is my present very serious conclusion as the only possible explanation for the slump and apathy and falling membership in an organisation of such splendid ideals.

Then again, we fail possibly to make that little effort to visit the absent Lyceumists, whereas a little interest in this direction might mean the increase of our figures each year. Yes, I know it means a tremendous sacrifice of time and leisure for leaders to carry on the work of the Lyceum movement in a correct manner, but if a thing is worth doing at all, it is worth doing well.

Then there is a necessity, too, for an increased interest in the very young people. We have not yet found the solution to meet their requirements. There is so much abstract matter in the "*Lyceum Manual*," which is quite unsuitable for the child mind, and we have not a large enough percentage of Leaders, with just that special ability of explaining things in a sufficiently simple and entertaining manner. If we want the child we must study for its needs and cater accordingly—ever keeping in mind the keynote of true education, namely to draw out the powers by allowing natural and free expression. Let us keep in mind the vision as revealed by Andrew Jackson Davis. We have not yet attained to the ideals of that wonderful revelation. Our earthly Lyceum has a long way to travel yet to reach those heights—though much has been done, we cannot deny.

From the Lyceums have sprung many fine men and women, who have nobly maintained the integrity of their training. It is our pleasure to note the increasing number of Lyceumists who are occupying public positions in civic life, and carrying the nobility of our cause into other movements. This is well, and should stimulate us to greater effort, to stand firmly and resolutely by those mighty principles of right, which shall spiritualise the world.

"There is a mighty work awaiting willing souls,
So much we each might do
To bring about emancipation true,
Which leads to higher goals."

In presiding over this, my first, Conference, may I ask your kindly indulgence in what is to me a new

experience. The Agenda is not a heavy one, and I ask that you will do your best to assist in the expediency of the business, that the best results may accrue for the benefit of the Union. When we close our week-end proceedings, I would like to feel that the atmosphere is sweet with vibrations of harmony, and that the result of our deliberations will be ultimately for the well-being of all. I warmly thank my Fellow-Officers and colleagues of the Management Committee for their sympathetic consideration and assistance during my term of office, and also extend my true appreciation to all loyal Lyceumists throughout our ranks, with a full measure of love and gratitude to those who have un-faillingly ministered from above.

In looking forward I would strike a note of warning and say, watch well, and have a care that the right of true liberty is not endangered by set creeds and dogmas.

Let us remember that the teachings of the Lyceum and true Spiritualism run parallel. There is, after all, but one Spiritualism, the foundation of which is based on natural laws. Let us keep it pure and free. Let it be the mission of the B.S.L.U. to get back to the Higher Spiritualism which stands for the true emancipation of the Human Race, and re-charge our movement with that real love and enthusiasm for the establishment of truth and a more natural and nobler standard of life.

We may continue to set up the machinery to administer various schemes, and give all the facilities for the development of physical and mental powers; but they will lead us wide of the mark unless coupled with those essential qualities which are as the life essence.

I say we are losing much of the essence, and the greatest need of the movement to-day is a re-charge of that sincerity, love and enthusiasm already referred to. Until we have it—that true vitalising power of Spirituality—we shall never emerge from the apathetic condition to which we have succumbed. Once we have it, combined with the splendid abilities and material at our disposal, there will be no staying us from surmounting all our difficulties, and realising the attainment of our highest ideals.

Let us then go forward with the determination to win through, and gain those laurels of victory by noble, loving, and loyal service in the Cause of Truth and Right.

The Education of the Child in the Lyceum.

By MR. R. W. MARKS, G.N.S.C.

One is impressed immediately upon considering this subject with the magnitude of the task and impossibility of covering the whole field of the subject in a short paper.

There are, however, a number of points which have invoked the attention of the writer during his association with the children's movement. These items, it is believed, may be of some little use in aiding those on whose hands the education of children in the Lyceum now rests. It has been said that "a child is a repository of infinite possibilities" and in associating ourselves with children we should ever bear this in mind. The assimilation of knowledge by children and in fact, broadly speaking, by everyone depends on a number

of important factors some of which are quoted below:—

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Interest. | 6. Necessity of tact. |
| 2. Clear thinking and ex-
position. | 7. Cultivation of responsi-
bility. |
| 3. Repetition. | 8. Obedience. |
| 4. Suitability of lesson. | 9. Example. |
| 5. Study of the child | 10. Misunderstanding |

Interest: without this very few teachings or lessons leave an impression. A useful way of encouraging this is to continually vary the session order of programme or to give practical illustrations or analogies.

The necessity of clear thinking and exposition on the part of the teacher or leader—a clear exposition to an adult is not necessarily a clear exposition to a child. The teacher should endeavour to use simple phrases which can be readily understood.

The repetition of essential lessons is necessary if a very clear and accurate knowledge of the lesson is to be given to the child—bearing in mind that to keep up the interest of the child various methods of teaching the same lesson must be found.

The lesson chosen must be one suitable to the children's age and standard of secular education. Idle speculation or advanced theories are of no use to children and, as far as possible, only simple truths should be taught.

There are some children with certain marked adaptabilities. These, if of a beneficial nature, should be encouraged to bring out the child's individuality and encourage its enthusiasm.

Children are usually very sensitive and trusting and the utmost tact should be used in dealing with them. Each child should receive individual help and encouragement if the best results are to be obtained; thus will the teacher obtain and retain the love and trust of the child.

The feeling of responsibility in the child should be cultivated and as many as possible be given some responsible thing to do—bearing in mind the adaptability of the child and the avoidance of putting square pegs into round holes; this will promote the feeling of self reliance.

Obedience to orders in the Lyceum should be insisted upon in a tactful way, taking care not to wound the child by harshness or unreasonableness. They should be taught that the first lesson in leadership is to know how to obey.

The facts that children are unconscious mimics should be recognised by the teacher who should, therefore, keep a very strict watch over their words and actions and live as honourable a life as possible: so will their little charges profit by their example and so will the teacher be free from reproach.

One of the biggest problems met with is the problem of the backward or unruly child. This is, in many cases, due to misunderstanding the child. There is an old saying that "the Devil finds work for idle hands to do." Whilst not agreeing entirely with this, the principle involved is a very real one and an unruly child is usually quite obedient if given a congenial task to do. The backward child has, in many cases, latent possibilities and, under careful supervision and patient encouragement, achieves a considerable amount of knowledge and sometimes an even startling success, for the tortoise sometimes wins the race if the hare fails to stay the distance.



DEAR LITTLE IMPS,

Such a lot of birds live near to my home. They waken me in the mornings, they are chirping and twittering nearly all day long, and in the evenings the blackbirds and thrushes give us a concert. Have you ever noticed how the thrushes seem to choose the topmost twig of the highest branch, and sit and sing their sweetest, whilst we wonder when they will fall off? Have you ever wondered what the birds would do without the trees, or if the trees would be happy without the birds? I have, often, but I don't think that we need worry. Let my story tell you why.

A QUARREL IN BIRDLAND:

The trees and the birds had a quarrel. It really began with the rooks, for that year, they had been so very noisy. It was impossible for anyone else to make himself heard above their harsh "caw-cawing." Then some of the old rooks had quarrelled with their younger relations about nests, and in their fighting, bits of twigs, and new green leaves had been hurt. The magpies in the tall elm trees joined in the trouble. "The leaves were not thick enough to hide their nests," they complained. The trees grew sullen and would not even allow the wind to make music among their leaves.

Whispers of the trouble spread to the hazel bushes in the woodlands, and to the willows and hawthorns in the hedgerows. They, too, began to grumble at the birds. "We are tired of you birds" they cried. "You bend our twigs, and hurt some of our buds, and you never stop your singing! Then, you bring out rough boys who pull us to bits as they search for your eggs. We tell you we are tired of you." The birds answered angrily "We, too, are tired of living with you. It is hard work bringing up baby birds in trees and bushes. You let our babies fall out and get hurt and we grow weary of flying up and down with food to them."

The wise old owl in the gnarled oak tree, called a meeting of the birds. They met at sunset on the moor, where no trees grew, and talked of all their troubles. Each one had a grumble, and each one found fault with the trees. The moor rang with their twitterings and chattering. The sky glowed red with the setting sun, and still the birds had not solved their troubles. The owl, tho' very wise, was not really fond of the tiny birds and all the birds wanted to talk at once. It seemed as though the meeting would be of no use. Then a learned jackdaw, rose above the birds and spoke to them all. He said "Mr. Owl, and all my feathered friends,

I have a plan, if you will but listen to me." "Tell us your plan, good Mr. Jackdaw" cried the birds. "It is a very simple plan," he answered. "Let us leave the trees and bushes and live elsewhere. Surely there is a place somewhere for each one of us. We don't need the shelter of the trees. Let us go back to our nests now, and after this night's rest, we can spend to-morrow in search of new homes."

The Jackdaw sank to the ground proud of his great idea. After a little talk, Mr. Owl called out, "Tu-whit, Tu-whoo! As the jackdaw has told us, so shall we do. Now go, and as you rest, think of better nests. Tu-whit, Tu-whoo!"

The birds returned to their nests in bush and tree, but settled quietly and sullenly to rest. Next morning, all the woodland was noisy with bird calls, and the excited fluttering of many wings. By noon, the nests were all deserted, and woodland and hedgerow were silent. The leaves sang aloud in their glee. "Oh! how lovely without those noisy fussy birds. How peaceful it is now that they have gone. No more broken twigs, and spoilt buds, no more of our berries eaten! How happy we shall be!"

The birds flew over the land in search of new homes. Some found a nesting place in the crumbling walls of an old castle, but there were no twigs to use for nests. Moss and grass had to suffice. Others went into the towns, and tried to nest amongst chimneys and under eaves, but the towns were noisy and they grew frightened. Many birds went to the moor and cowered amongst the rough grasses, but the wind blew cold, and there seemed no shelter from the rain. As the days went by, the birds found out that they had left most of their food amongst the trees, and they forgot to sing.

For a few days, the trees were happy in their new quietness. By the end of the first week, some of the older trees began to feel strangely lonely, and the songs of the leaves changed to sighs. The trees began to murmur to each other. "It is rather quiet without the birds, isn't it? Of course, this is better than all their noise, but I wish things were not quite so hushed and still don't you?" One day, an oak tree was very worried. "What do you think?" he cried! "Nearly all my leaves have holes in them, and the baby acorns have been hurt by the grubs. What about your leaves and nuts and berries?" The trees and bushes grew afraid. "What can we do?" they sighed. The Silver Birch, the graceful lady of the woods, gave a quiet answer in her sweetest voice. "Of course, I know the birds were very rude to us, but perhaps, they would come back, if we asked them nicely. Shall we?"

There was a little pause, as the trees thought of their ruined leaves and fruits, and the lost songs of the birds. Then a great roar spread from tree to tree, as each tree called out to the passing wind. "Oh, friendly wind, bring back the birds. Tell them to come back home." The wind went smilingly on her way.

That evening every tree and bush quivered with excitement. The birds had returned. What a fluttering and scurrying back to home! What a tidying and mending of broken nests! The setting sun saw each bird settled in its old home, and every tree and bush listened happily to the songs of the birds, and even smiled at the chattering of the magpies and the harsh caw-cawing of the noisy rooks.

The wind stopped to listen and smiled because happiness lived amongst the twigs again. Even since then,

the birds and trees have been friends. You see, they know now how much they need each other.

Your loving Imp,

MEG.

The Magic Stones: or Peter in Fairyland.

By UNCLE FRED.

Peter carefully re-read these instructions, and then replaced the envelope in his haversack and continued on his journey. The country through which he was passing was very bleak and bare, except for large rocks which dotted the landscape for as far as the eye could see. After travelling for some miles, Peter began to feel hot and tired and hungry. The sun was shining fiercely down upon him, and there was no shelter along the pathway. At last, Peter threw himself down on the grass, and, taking the magic stick in his paw, he struck the ground three times and repeated the words "Oh, stick, do your duty!" Immediately food and drink appeared on the ground in front of him."

Peter satisfied his hunger and thirst and resumed his journey. After a while he left the bleak moorland and followed the pathway through a thickly wooded valley. He had not gone far into the woods, when a little imp, dressed in red, came skipping along the pathway to meet him. "Hello! Peter!" cried the Imp, "I have come to lead you through the wood, by a quicker way than this one." Peter was just about to answer the little fellow when he recollected the warning given in the letter of the Grand Chamberlain. Taking no notice of the Imp, Peter brushed passed him and continued on his road without a word. The red imp became very angry. He followed Peter, teasing and worrying him, and pelting him with acorns and fir cones. Other imps appeared and joined in the battle, until poor Peter felt that if it continued much longer he must retaliate, and chase his tormentors through the woods. However, Peter occasionally caught glimpses of a wolf in the forest, and he shuddered to think of what might happen if he should leave the pathway to chase the red imps.

Presently a sound of rushing waters could be heard in the distance. As Peter hurried on his way the noise of the torrent became deafening. He knew that he was approaching the Roaring Torrent and hastened on, still followed by the red imps, who called to him, and continued to pelt him with acorns.

At last, Peter left the forest and approached the torrent whilst the imps, with cries and shrieks of rage, left him, and vanished amongst the trees. Peter found himself gazing into a roaring waterfall. Through the spray he could see the pathway, continue on the opposite bank of the river. Peter remembered the magic stick, and striking the ground three times, he cried "O, stick! do your duty." To his amazement the stick jumped out of his paw, and laid itself upon the ground, growing longer and longer, until it reached across the foaming waters and rested safely on the opposite bank of the river.

CHAPTER IV.

As soon as Peter had crossed the Roaring Torrent the magic stick again resumed its normal size. He picked up the stick and continued on his journey. The pathway now led him to a rocky gap between two very high mountains. The silence made the journey seem more weird than had the forest. Gaunt, leafless trees studded the mountain side; their bare branches waved like long arms in the breeze. Dead Man's land lay just

over the mountains. Peter went bravely on, though at times he felt scared and nervous, and he kept his eyes wide open, lest he should be pounced on unawares.

After a long and tedious climb Peter left the rocky gap and found himself on a flat and dreary table-land. He scanned the horizon but could not see any sign of life moving before him. Before him lay the pathway which winded across the dreary land. As he looked, his gaze rested on an object far away in the distance. It was approaching him. Near Peter was a huge rock and he decided to hide behind it, that he might see what manner of creature was approaching him.

Swiftly the object drew nearer, and, to his great dread, he saw that it was one of the fierce dragons which lived in this dreary land. As the monster approached the rock which sheltered Peter, he noticed its large green eyes searching for him, whilst at intervals flames of fire darted from its enormous mouth. Peter's courage sank as he gazed upon this hideous creature, and he began to wish that he was back at home, safely curled up in his box.

The dragon lifted its head and gave a loud roar, which made poor Peter's hair stand on end. He crouched closer to the rock which hid him from the dragon's view. Peter wondered whether the magic stick could help him this time. Quickly striking the ground three times, he said the magic words "O, stick do your duty." No sooner had he said the words, than from the ground near him there appeared a dragon more hideous than the one approaching. Peter took one look at this second monster, then buried his head in a hole in the earth. The dragon challenged the other to battle with a loud roar.

The battle between the two dragons was a fierce and terrific struggle and the noise and din of the conflict made Peter shudder, and hug the rock more closely. Presently the dragon produced by the magic stick, managed to seize the other by the neck and the wounded monster groaned terribly. Then, with a gasp of pain the creature rolled over on to its side, dead. Immediately the victorious dragon saw that his opponent lay lifeless he uttered a roar of victory and vanished from Peter's sight.

Peter watched the dead dragon for a while before he ventured to leave the shelter of his hiding place. When he felt quite certain that the dragon was lifeless he stepped out from behind the rock and once more continued his journey.

Mile after mile tramped Peter across that desolate trail, without meeting any more monsters. He was feeling very tired and weary and longed for a nice snug place where he could rest and sleep, but he dared not stop for fear of dragons. As he trudged along he suddenly espied a tiny light shining away across the plain to the left of his pathway. The more he looked at this tiny light and the more he wished to leave the path and seek some shelter, for night was fast approaching and he was footsore.

At last he felt that he could go no further and his eyes wandered longingly towards the tiny light. He had visions of warm fires and cosy beds. Forgetting all about the fairies warning, Peter left the pathway and walked across the grass towards the light. As he approached he could see that the light was shining from a cottage window. He soon reached the door and knocked.

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.

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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.

JUNE, 1931.

PATRON-MEMBERS.

An easy way to provide for the maintenance of the B.S.L.U.

Is the B.S.L.U. worthy of a penny per week from you?

At the Annual B.S.L.U. Conference held in Barrow-in-Furness on May 23rd and 24th the General Secretary introduced a proposal which provides an opportunity for Lyceumists to become direct financial supporters of the B.S.L.U. through a "Penny Fund."

The membership fees are paid to the Union by the Lyceums in affiliation. Only a few Lyceumists have made any direct financial contribution to the Union's funds.

A scheme is being introduced whereby individual Lyceumists may contribute to the funds of the Union by becoming Patrons. It is possible, at the moment, that an adult Lyceumist could be a member of a Lyceum without contributing a single penny to the welfare of the Lyceum or the Union.

We are sure there are thousands of Lyceumists who will be grateful if they have the opportunity of contributing a penny a week—more or less—to the support of the Lyceum Cause.

The proposals of the Scheme are that Lyceum Secretaries, or some other appointed person, shall collect the donations from the Patron-members and forward the names and receipts to the General Secretary—25 per cent will be retained by the Collector. The 25 per cent will meet the cost of collection and remittance, and leave a balance for the Collector or the Lyceum.

The monies can be sent quarterly with the BANNER payments.

We hope all Lyceumists who can afford to become Patrons will assist the Union by supporting this scheme.

The help from the Special funds has almost completely ceased. We are very grateful for the support which has been so generously given.

The B.S.L.U. needs a minimum income of £800 to meet the ordinary liabilities. The only guaranteed income is about £200 from the membership fees. The remaining £600 has to be raised by donations, confer-

ence payments and the balance arising from our Publishing Department.

If we can get sufficient Patrons to contribute to the weekly payment scheme, the financial position of the Union is assured and we shall be able to extend our work and organisation. If half the total number of Lyceumists contribute one penny a week we shall have an income of £1000 per annum.

Finally we address a personal note to every Lyceumist who can afford to support this scheme to become a financial supporter of the Union's progress. This form of patronage will not give any added voting powers to any Lyceumist, but a national outlook will have been attained. The success of the scheme will make it unnecessary to be eternally begging for funds to carry on our work. Individual or collective donations may be sent at any time to the General Secretary, G. F. KNOTT, 20, Toad Lane, Rochdale, Lancs.

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?"

MR. BERRY'S VIEWS.

Some interesting and instructive contributions have been received on this very real problem. To be informed that Mr. Campbell Holmes has devoted 28 pages of a book setting forth the many forms in which clairvoyance manifests should help us to realise that no one solution will fit all cases.

In setting forth my point of view I am but adding one more possible solution to some classes of experience that have come my way. I begin by a recognition that the human soul has the power to think and act thereby setting in motion mental and psychic impulses that go out from him and touch other souls, and of receiving similar impacts from his neighbours. In his capacity as percipient many of these impacts will reach him via the channel of the normal five senses, while many others will reach him—apparently—via other than the five senses. I say apparently because I am strongly inclined to think that these latter impacts are still coming via the ordinary five senses, but are received on a different octave (to use a musical simile), or shall we say via the wireless, on a different wave-length.

I am also inclined to think that a particular sensation set up in the percipient, as sight, sound, feeling, or mere mental impression, is determined in some measure by the strength of the psychic impulse emitted, and the degree of conscious attention roused in the percipient, and that a variation in the strength of these factors may result in a difference of sense perception. An obvious illustration of this view is the case of clairvoyance coming at full strength, or as a faint image so fleeting as to be mistaken for a mental impression; or a clairaudient message may 'fade out' to be picked up

as thought transference or telepathy. I think such transformation of sense impressions goes far deeper than this.

Here are two experiences which seem to support this point. Once, while anxiously waiting a reply to an urgent request, I got a very vivid clairvoyant vision of my correspondent sitting at a table with, pen, ink and paper, and quite obviously undecided what answer to send. By direct questioning I discovered that the scene and the mood coincided with the day and the hour of my vision.

On another occasion, with no expectation of letters, for no apparent reason I drifted into a reminiscent mood and toyed pleasantly with memories of cycling trips with a friend of my early years, and whom I had lost sight of. On reaching home I found a letter from this friend announcing the fact that he was coming to live in the town where I was, and in anticipation of a renewal of the old days, he went on to recount the very identical trips and incidents which had occupied my thoughts earlier in the day. In the first case two minds intent on the same problem resulted in clairvoyance. In the second case, one mind only was eager, and the lesser propelling and receiving forces awakened only memories.

Take another type of Vision. During the war years and soon after the German army had shelled the Cathedral of Rheims, a spirit entity came through at a home circle. He declared himself a priest of Rheims Cathedral, and was greatly distressed by the vandalism of the Germans. He was not a war victim, he had passed on prior to its outbreak. Under his control I found myself psychically in this famous Cathedral. To my vision the building was intact. I walked leisurely through it and paused to look up and admire each of its many beautiful stained glass windows. Afterwards I was present at the celebration of Mass. I saw the priests and acolytes in procession down the aisles, saw the smoke of the incense rising like a pale blue cloud and noted the devout congregation. I was part and parcel of the scene.

As an example of objective clairvoyance it was wonderfully and vividly clear, yet the whole scene represented not something actually occurring at that moment, but the memory images of a long deceased priest. What then is objective clairvoyance? Was the grief stricken priest manifesting at the circle any more objectively present than the vivid portrayal of the Cathedral service? The vividness of the scene is not the test, the sense of motion is not the test. In my vision I was present in an undamaged building and took part in a celebration at a time when in truth the building was in ruins and the Services were suspended.

Subjective and objective seem to be terms wrongly opposed in dealing with clairvoyant vision. They mean no more than that one vision is faintly perceived, and another is sensed vividly and full of life and motion. It is wiser to restrict the term objective to such psychic phenomena as are perceived through the normal senses, as Materialisations, voice production, etc., and to remember that no matter how vivid the vision, or what sense perceptions seem called into play, if the clairvoyant alone has the vision then the experience is subjective. The proof of the real existence and identity of the communicating entity, and the determination of the place from whence he is communicating are other intricate problems.

GEO. F. BERRY, F.N.S.C., D.N.U.

A VOICE FROM OVERSEAS.

I am very interested in the articles on Clairvoyance appearing in the BANNER. I wonder if it would interest you to know how I see. I find that I see in many ways. According to Sepharial in *Second Sight*, I am the type that should have the passive phase (i.e., straight fine hair, fair skin, blue eyes, etc.); but I think I have mostly the opposite phase. My most usual is of the mental impressional type. Forms and vision seem to be strongly impressed, and given piece by piece or feature by feature until, when I have finished describing, I could paint or draw all I see—if I had that gift. Nearly all my clairvoyance is in symbolic form, and sometimes there is a difficulty in giving it just the right interpretation, but usually there is no trouble. Colours I see around a person—especially when looking at them as they stand on a platform—quite normally with my eyes open. I have never seen a complete aura like that; but gold, violet, green, blue and other shades, sometimes extending far from the persons.

Occasionally, as I am between the sleeping and waking state, faces come right close to me; and on these occasions they appear as if flesh and blood faces. I see the texture of the skin, the hair, the lips, which often part in a smile, and sometimes the lips only. Usually I start, and in trying to hold those I lose them.

Then again, sometimes if conditions are good, and I am talking to a person and looking directly at her or him, I feel a peculiar click in the eyes as if they have crossed, and from my right temple I am viewing things. If I turn in that direction I lose the picture, so I have to sit quite still and look fixedly in front—and describe what I am seeing from that angle.

When under control and my controls—four of whom give clairvoyance—are describing places and people, etc., I see all they are describing, and have naturally seen some beautiful sights, but usually it is the mental impressional condition. For instance, when I stand up to give spirit messages on Sunday evenings, I cannot actually say that I see anything; but I am drawn first to a certain person, and then the impression of a spirit form: its dress, its characteristic, etc., and the symbols also are given so that, as I said previously, I could paint or draw them if that gift was mine; and mostly these descriptions are perfectly recognised.

Of course, in the early days of my mediumship I thought it was imagination, but I have long since learned that it is not. It has been a great help to me, and also to others; but here we are not allowed to touch upon future things, although I often see them quite clearly, and in the past have foretold things very correctly. But I think the higher spiritual messages are the best and most comforting, for they enable one to face the future when doubt, trouble and difficulties come.

ROSE BURGESS,

National Conductor of Lyceums, New Zealand.

WARNING.

Mr. R. H. Bayliffe, of Hollinwood, has no connection whatever with Newton Heath (Allen Street) Lyceum and Church, and is not authorised to collect any money on their behalf.

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.

STEPHENSON, George. No. 145. He was born at Wylam, near Newcastle, in 1781 and died 1848. In 1812 he became engine-wright at Killingworth colliery and there in 1814 he invented and ran the first locomotive, which he afterwards greatly improved by the 'steam blast.' The invention of a colliery safety-lamp in 1815, brought him fame, and a public testimonial of £1,000. In 1821 he was appointed engineer for the construction of the Stockton and Darlington Railway. When the project of a railway between Liverpool and Manchester took form, he was appointed engineer and triumphed over great obstacles to the completion of the line in 1829, and in the battle of locomotives his engine "Rocket" was easy victor, developing a speed of thirty-two miles an hour.

SWEDENBORG, (swād-en-bor). No. 146. Emanuel Swedenborg was born at Stockholm, Sweden on the 29th of January, 1688, and died in London, March 29th, 1772. He was the son of Jasper Swedberg, Bishop of Skara. In his childhood he displayed a disposition so devote that his parents thought at times that "an angel spoke through his lips." He graduated as a Doctor of Philosophy at the University of Upsala at the age of 21. Attracted by his genius, Charles XII of Sweden appointed him assessor in the College of Mines. In 1719 after distinguished engineering services on behalf of his country in a naval war, he was raised to the nobility and the name of Swedenborg was first assumed by him. In 1724 he declined the chair of mathematics at Upsala University. From 1721 to 1744 were years of foreign travel, of study and research on such subjects as mining and smelting, mathematics, physics, astronomy and anatomy (to find the soul) during which period numerous publications emanated from his pen.

It was in 1744 that the great change came to him. It is referred to by himself as "the opening of my spiritual sight," "the manifestation of the Lord to me in person," and "my introduction into the spiritual world." From this time he gave up all worldly learning and laboured solely to expound spiritual things. He claimed to be in actual contact with the spirit world, and to associate with spirits of an advanced order, in fact, in his first published work after his illumination, entitled *Arcana Celestia*, he claims that truths therein set forth were revealed to him by an angel of the Lord.

The following incidents will show that he possessed clairvoyant powers. In the year 1759, towards the end of July, on Saturday, at 4 p.m. Swedenborg arrived at Gottenburg from England when Mr. William Castel invited him to his house, together with a party of fifteen

persons. At about 6 p.m. Swedenborg went out and returned to the company quite pale and alarmed. He said that a dangerous fire had broken out in Stockholm, in the Sodermalne (Gottenburg is about 300 miles from Stockholm), and that it was spreading very fast. He was restless and went out often. He said that the house of one of his friends (whom he named) was already in ashes, and that his own house was in danger. At 8 p.m. after he had been out again, he joyfully exclaimed, "Thank God, the fire is extinguished the third door from my house!" All the details he had given of the fire were afterwards confirmed.

A widow, whose husband had purchased a silver service from a goldsmith, the receipt for which she could not find, sought the help of the Seer, as the goldsmith was claiming payment. Three days after Madame Marteville's visit he called and informed her that he had conversed with her husband in the world of spirits and had learned that the debt had been paid several months before his decease, and the receipt was in a bureau in the room upstairs. The lady replied that the bureau referred to had been cleared out, and that the receipt could not be found. Swedenborg then explained that her husband had described to him, how, after pulling out the left hand drawer, a board would appear which when drawn out, would reveal a secret compartment, in which would be found his private Dutch correspondence—he having been the Dutch Ambassador in Stockholm—as well as the lost receipt. All were found as described.

He wrote John Wesley as follows:—"Sir, I have been informed in the world of spirits that you have a strong desire to converse with me. I shall be happy to see you if you will favour me with a visit, I am Sir, your humble servant, Emanuel Swedenborg."

On receiving the above letter Mr. Wesley frankly acknowledged to the company present, that he had been strongly impressed with a desire to see and converse with Swedenborg, but had not mentioned it to any one.

He wrote Swedenborg in reply that he was then busily engaged preparing a six months circuit, but would do himself the pleasure of waiting upon him soon after his return to London.

To this Swedenborg replied that the proposed visit would be too late, as he would go into the world of spirits on the 29th day of next month, never to return (to his physical body). This prophecy was fulfilled and John Wesley never met him.

These facts had such an effect on the Rev. Samuel Smith and others of his fellow ministers, that they later seceded from the Methodist ranks to become adherents of the New Church.

For the last thirty years of Swedenborg's life (and he died at 85) he was as it were, living in two worlds, transacting business and attending to social duties in this life, and with equal facility visiting the scenes of the spirit world. During these years he wrote many books, which are now usually associated with his name.

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Philosophy overthrows error by taking away its foundation.

It is less difficult to hide a thousand pounds, than a hole in one's coat.

Write your injuries in sand; your benefits in marble.

Ingratitude dries up the fountain of goodness.

Content is the elixir of life, the true philosopher's stone, which infuses a golden tincture into all inferior metals.

Sympathy is more durable than similarity.

Rich people have more desires than the substantial wants of the poor.

The National Spiritualist College.

Established in July, 1926, by the Spiritualists' National Union and the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

Awards its Associate (A.N.S.C.), Graduate (G.N.S.C.) and Diplomat (D.N.S.C.) Degrees to successful students in the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. Sections of the National Joint Education Scheme.

Examinations are held in March (S.N.U. Advanced) and May (All B.S.L.U. Grades and S.N.U. Entrance Examination).

For *The College Booklet*, *The College Guide*, and all information on the activities of the College, write (enclosing 1½d. stamp) to the College Secretary, Mr. A. T. Connor, F.N.S.C., 13, Claremont Road, Forest Gate, London, E. 7.

ASSOCIATE (B.S.L.U.) SECTION EXAMINATIONS, 1931.

Our B.S.L.U. Examinations were held during the week-end of May 10th, and entrants and sitters from the various Districts are as follows:

Districts.	Lyceums	Entered	Sat
Birmingham	4	64	49
Bolton	5	52	33
Bradford	2	8	6
Coventry	2	21	14
Halifax and Huddersfield ..	3	15	8
Leeds	6	78	64
Liverpool	6	44	37
London	22	328	234
Manchester	10	95	74
North East Cheshire	3	9	8
North East Lancashire	13	136	116
Nottingham	6	79	43
Scotland	Nil	—	—
Sheffield	6	74	55
Southern Counties	7	94	76
South East Lancashire	3	21	19
South Wales	3	68	50
Tees Side	4	44	34
Tyne Side	8	82	60
"Area" Lyceums	2	20	20
Oversea (Canada and New Zealand)	3	32	—
	118	1364	1000

The papers from Calgary, Dunedin and Wellington are not yet to hand.

Considering the conditions at present prevailing in the Districts, the Education Committee are satisfied that this is a very fair result, though it is a pity to see so many non-sitters. It is to be hoped that the Conference discussion on this regrettable feature of our education work will ensure an improvement next year. The papers are being sorted and will be sent to the Examiners at the earliest possible moment. It is hoped to get all results ready for issue early in July, though several Lyceums have held up the work of numbering and sorting by not sending in their papers at once. However, we are told that difficulties are sent to try us—and they are trying the Education Secretary all right. His average "day" is 18 to 20 hours—on two jobs, so anything that Secretaries or others can do to ease the strain will be appreciated.

GRADUATE SECTION EXAMINATIONS.

The results of the S.N.U. Examinations held in March are:—

Grade.	Entered	Sat	Passed
Intermediate	20	16	12
Subsidiary	7	7	6
Final	10	10	10

Of the ten who passed the Final Grade, seven have qualified for the Graduate (G.N.S.C.) Degree of the College. The Education Committee heartily congratulates Messrs. R. W. Marks, E. Nellist and H. C. Guy, all leading Lyceumists and College Associates, and also the four who have come in from the S.N.U. Entrance. May this be only a stepping stone in the educational progression of all seven.

For the Entrance Examination, which was held at the same time as the B.S.L.U., exams, there were 44 entrants and 38 sitters.

OUR MUTUAL AID BUREAU.

This month we publish contributions from Mr. George Berry, General Secretary of the S.N.U., and Miss Burgess, the untiring educationist of Dunedin, (New Zealand), who is National Leader of all New Zealand Lyceum activities. Miss Burgess also tells us that she gets clairaudience and automatic writing in the same impressional way. Mr. Tinker's article is in hand, and we are still expecting articles from Mrs. de Crespigny, Mr. McIndoe, Mr. Oaten, Mr Haigh and other investigators.

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 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 (with 1½d. stamped addressed envelope for reply) to:

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

NATIONAL JOINT EDUCATION SCHEME.
GRADUATE SECTION.

Results of Examinations held in March, 1931, by the S.N.U. Education Committee (in alphabetical order of Centres).

INTERMEDIATE GRADE.

Candidate & Centre.	Rdg.	Phil.	Evol.	Total	Class
Edith Johnson, Bolton ..	65	59	75	199	First
Wilfrid Johnson, Bolton ..	63	60	78	201	First
Edna Holt, Bolton ..	68	80	84	232	Hons.
Ella Sheridan, Carlisle ..	69	99	92	260	Hons.
Christina Hogg, Consett ..	64	88	92	244	Hons.
Mary Liddelow, Chesterfield	58	62	62	182	First
Ernest Farnsworth, Durham	59	60	78	197	First
David R. S. Smith, Glasgow	65	62	66	183	First
Nellie Huckin, Pontillan- fraith ..	67	73	76	216	First
Horace Huckin, ..	65	64	80	209	First
James LeNoury, Sheffield ..	70	78	94	242	Hons.
Emma Maddison, London	51	75	77	203	First

The above have Passed, and are not eligible for the Subsidiary Grade.

Entered, 20; Sat, 16; Passed, 12; Failed, 4.

SUBSIDIARY GRADE.

Henry Barnes, Bradford ..	71	82	56	209	First
John M. Stewart, Croxson	81	91	70	242	Hons.
Noah Hiscock, Plaistow ..	75	87	76	238	Hons.
R. Storey Paling, Nottingham	88	100	96	284	Dist.
Edwin E. Phillips, Stratford	88	78	84	250	Hons.
Francis Day, Winnington	64	75	74	213	First

The above have PASSED, and are now eligible for the Final Grade.

Entered, 7; Sat, 7; Passed, 6; Failed, 1.

FINAL GRADE.

Julia M. Shaw, Bradford	69	78	80	227	Hons.
Archd. Reynolds, Gateshead	77	88	77	242	Hons.
Benjamin Partington, Man- chester ..	83	64	79	226	Hons.
Raleigh W. Marks, ..	86	84	89	259	Hons.
William G. Giles, Plaistow..	66	77	84	227	Hons.
William E. Webb, ..	67	66	74	207	First
Edwin J. Raven, ..	59	62	70	191	First
Margaret M. Barber, ..	68	72	72	212	First
Edward Nellist, Redcar ..	82	90	80	252	Hons.
Henry C. Guy, Southampton	84	81	90	255	Hons.

The above Students have PASSED, and all who gained Honours or Distinction are eligible to apply for the Graduate (G.N.S.C.) Degree of the College.

Entered, 10; Sat, 10; Passed, 10; Failed, 0.

ELEANOR PALING, F.N.S.C.,
S.N.U. Education Secretary.

THE S.N.U. FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure to report the following income for March and April, viz.:—

March. Bristol 1st. National Church, Surrey St., £5 5s.; Hull, Gipsyville Church, 10s.; Halifax, Queens Road, £1.; Manchester Central, £4 1s. 7d.; Aldershot and District, 3s.; London District Council £5 5s.; Plymouth, Morley St., retiring collections, Area Representative Propaganda Meeting £1 13s.; Miss J. T. Manvell £1 1s.; Mr. A. Scott, 10s.; Total £19 8s. 7d.

April. Members, Rippon Hall, North Shields, £1 6s.; Per Mr. W. D. Todd, collected in Northern Area, £2 14s. 4d.; Southern D.C. A.G.M., Tea table collection, £3; Manchester and District Group, Good Friday Collections and Donations, £9 14s. 1d.; S.W. Lancs. and Cheshire Group, Good Friday Collection, £1; Midlands D.C. Meeting, 4s. 7d.; Cheltenham Church, £7 7s. 10d. Glasgow Association, £10 10s.; Two donations per Miss E. M. Bubb, 10s.; Mr. Whitmarsh, expenses Pembridge Place, 10s.; Miss J. T. Manvell, £1 1s.; Mrs. Butterworth, Blackpool, 5s.; H. T. & L.

W., per E. W. Oaten, 6s.; Mrs. Griffiths, Home Circle (Barrow), 10s. 6d.; Mrs. Leadbetter, Southport, Home Circle, 4s. 6d.; Hull, Dairycoates, £2 2s. Total, £41 5s. 10d.

The Committee are truly thankful for the continued assistance and income received for the Fund and sincerely thank all who have contributed in any way during March and April.

Yours gratefully,

32b, North Street,
Keighley, Yorks.
MARY L. STAIR,
Hon. Secretary.

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.

DONCASTER, Catherine St.—BALL.—Treasured memories of our dear little Lily, who passed to the higher life May 20th, 1929, aged 5 years 10 months.

Our Father from above the loved ones did send
And took our darling child to joys that never end.

From her loving Mama, Dadda, and her Albert.

District Visitors' Report.

COVENTRY DISTRICT.

I visited Coventry, Broad Street, on April 26th. Present 17. S. Chain was explained well. Lyceumists answered questions on M.R. and Golden Chain Recitation. The marching and callisthenics were smartly done, showing the training the girls have in a Lyceum gymnasium. This Lyceum is improving.

I am sorry to report that Lockhurst Lane Lyceum has closed down.

MRS. E. COE, D.V.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.

On Feb. 22nd I visited Queens Road. The morning was snowy and it seemed to have kept the elder scholars away. The speaker for the day was present. The Session was fairly well conducted and the marching was good.

On March 22nd I visited Brighthouse Alliance. There was a prompt start with 27 present. The Conductor was one of the original beginners of this Lyceum, who had again been pressed into service. On the recitations there were very good questions by the children. Pearls were good and some explanations of the meanings of pearls were given. Marching was very well done and callisthenics were smart. There were two groups.

On April 26th, I visited St. Pauls, Alma Street, 35 present. A splendid morning was spent in discussing S.C. 66 "The Angel Guest," and I obtained a much wider view of this recitation than I had ever had before. The Golden Chain and Musical Reading were well chosen and supported the central theme. Marching and callisthenics were very well gone through.

WALTER BURROWS, D.V.

District Council Reports.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Council was held at Alma St., on May 3rd. There were present 13 Officers and Delegates. Arising out of minutes, Miss Haigh, of Ramsden St., explained why Mr. Ellis' nomination for Area Representative was not valid.

The financial statement showed a Balance of £4 3s. 10d.

Statistical Returns were received from seven Lyceums only. The D.V. was asked to visit Elland as early as possible.

LYCEUMS:—Please send invitations for meeting, August 23rd. or 30th. Instructions re voting were given to the Delegate to Conference.

Business concluded with a vote of thanks to Alma St., for the use of the Church.

G. HALLIDAY, Sec.

LEEDS DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Conference of the Leeds L.D.C., will be held at 3-30 p.m. on Saturday 20th June, 1931, at Ossett.

AGENDA:—Opening Exercises, Invocation, President's Address, Minutes, Correspondence, Reports from D.V., Treasurer, U.D.C., B.S.L.U., L.D.C., Field Day Secretary, etc., Silver Bell Progress Scheme, 1932 Field Day Invitations, No More War Committee, Associates, Open Council, Date and Place of next Conference, Vote of thanks to local friends.

All associates welcome. See your Lyceum is represented.

The fee for the Progress Scheme (1½d. for each name on Lyceum Register as sent to B.S.L.U.), and according to the motion accepted by our annual Conference held at Batley Carr. All Lyceums must take part in the Scheme and pay the fee.

The model Session, drafted by the Adviser to the Union, Mr. Alfred Kitson, is being sent to each Lyceum. Mr. Barnes of Bradford is the adjudicator. Tea at moderate charges.

M. WAINWRIGHT, President.

A. W. HARDING, Secretary.

LONDON DISTRICT.

The London Lyceum District Council held their 21st Birthday Rally on April 18th at Stratford Church. Several of the early day workers were present, including, Mr. Myers Clegg, Mr. S. Williams, Mr. Self, Mr. Forsyth and Mr. Rainbow, who are still active workers amongst us.

The programme for the evening was devoted to short addresses by various workers, who compared the past and present position of the Council.

There was also a musical programme, solos being rendered by Mrs. Bell. Duet by Miss Eva Goodall and Mr. King. Recitation by Miss Doris Fruin, Miss Mary Randall and Miss Rayner.

Mrs. Calway gave the greetings from the B.S.L.U. wishing the Council every success in the future.

Mr. Fruin, the President expressed the Council's appreciation to the Officers of the Stratford Church and Lyceum for the loan of their Church for the evening and responded to the many kind expressions of goodwill for the future work of the Council.

P.M.

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD L.D.C.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above was held in the Long-sight Lyceum, Shepley St. on May 2nd, when 17 Lyceums were represented by 25 Delegates; 5 E.C. members; 1 Hon. Associate member; and 2 Visitors from the new Gorton Lyceum; total 33. The Invocation was given by Mr. Grayson. Mr. R. W. Marks, A.N.S.C. President occupied the chair. The minutes and correspondence were accepted and confirmed.

REPORTS.—D.V.'s E.C., Pooling Scheme.

A schedule for Sports has been drawn up by the E.C., and approved by the Lyceums and the 1st Annual Sports will be held in Platt Fields on Saturday July 4th, 1931, and it is hoped that full support will be given by all Lyceums.

Small Silver Shields have been presented to Newton Heath (3); Moston (3); Manchester Progressive (2); Droylsden (1); Long-sight (1); Lyceums for efficiency in past years. An application for membership to the B.S.L.U. from Gorton Lyceum has been endorsed, and we trust that this Lyceum will become affiliated to the D.C. during the course of the year.

The Pooling Scheme shows a very satisfactory financial account. Income £40 12s. 4½d. Expenditure £31 17s. 9½d. Balance £8 14s. 7d. Each Lyceum in the Pool has received £1 8s. 0d., which will cover the expenses of travelling, billets, and meals, of one delegate to the B.S.L.U. Conference. The Pooling Scheme was originally established for the purpose of securing adequate representation at the Annual Conferences, and has certainly fulfilled this purpose since its inception in 1927, and we recommend the scheme with confidence to other Districts. Reports adopted.

B.S.L.U. CONFERENCE. The Agenda and reports were discussed and the delegate instructed on the various motions, etc. Arising from the discussion it was decided to place the following notice of motion for the 1932 Conference "That Sub-Section A (pages 9 to 13) of the B.S.L.U. Constitution be deleted."

It was also agreed that a letter be sent out to each Lyceum in the District, urging them to give serious consideration to the revision of the Constitution and report any findings to the D.C.

RULES.—A draft of new rules was then discussed and after being slightly amended, the rules were adopted.

OPEN COUNCIL.—The question of Lyceumists being members of more than one Lyceum was brought forward, and after a discussion it was agreed that a letter be sent to all Lyceums, recom-

mending them to consider the inadvisability of allowing their members to have their names on more than one register for the following reasons. (1) Correct return of statistics; (2) nominations of B.S.L.U. Officers; (3) Voting for Area representative; (4) Annual Fees.

A motion "That the question re the payment of moneys to the B.S.L.U. be raised at the Conference, as to why cheques and postal orders cannot be made payable to the B.S.L. Union and crossed through the bank instead of as at the present to Mr. Knott at the Post Office," was carried.

A hearty vote of thanks was given for the local hospitality after which Mr. Hart, a past President, spoke a few words of appreciation to the past work of Mr. J. J. Ashworth and of Mr. Musgrove who have recently passed into Spirit-life.

The meeting stood in silent respect after which the President pronounced the Benediction.

J. TAYLOR, A.N.S.C., Sec.

NORTH EAST CHESHIRE LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Quarterly meeting was held on 2nd May at Hyde, and a large agenda had to be dealt with. President addressed meeting and expressed regret at the illness of Mrs. Ennion and Mrs. Rushton, wishing speedy recovery, and hoped we would be able to complete our business.

It was noted with regret that Denton are not in a position to re-open the Lyceum, but we are still to keep in contact with them.

U.D.C. report taken from BANNER owing to delegate, Mrs. Ennion, being bedfast. It was decided to invite the U.D.C. to hold their next meeting in our area, and the venue will be Macclesfield. Certain items from the report were left to next meeting when we hope to have more details from Delegate. Annual outing sub-committee appointed and prizes have been offered for the sports. Annual Conference agenda was dealt with, and delegate instructed accordingly. Special Effort Fund reports were given by delegates, and it is hoped that through this source we shall be able to muster funds to carry out some organising work for the Union, as well as help those Lyceums at present in the Council. Mrs. Moulton of Stockport made offer to assist any Lyceum by lending her "Service of Song" and will be pleased to help in this direction, and conduct same if desired.

Vote of thanks was given to hosts, Hyde, and we had a very successful meeting. Also the Secretary was instructed to write to all the M.P.'s covered by this Council re the Bill in Parliament, and we trust other Councils, and all Lyceumists will not fail to *make this duty our delight* for the cause of truth, love, and justice, and our Lyceums.

R. A. L. MARKHAM, Hon. Sec.

NORTH EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

The above Council held a meeting on May 16th in the Moor Lane Church, Preston.

Mr. C. T. Batley, President, was in the chair, and offered the invocation.

Miss Lawton was appointed Credential Officer.

On the minutes of the last meeting the secretary drew attention to appointment of the U.D.C. delegate. It was decided to delete a name from the voting for U.D.C. representative.

No reply had been received from the M.C. re Earby (Onward) application for B.S.L.U. membership.

It was agreed to send a letter of condolence to Mr. T. Wood (Treasurer) whose father has passed to the higher life.

Miss Lawton reported a visit to Lancaster (Alliance) Lyceum. Treasurer's Report: Income £6 0s. 10d., Expenses £3 19s. 0½d. Balance £2 1s. 9½d. Due to Cottage Fund £11 15s. 6d. Interim report: Gift to Conference, Delegates expenses, £1 2s.

It was agreed to thank Blackburn (St. Peter St.) and Burnley (North St.) friends.

Mr. Dickinson supplemented the U.D.C. Report in the April BANNER.

The President gave a short address on pooling, Education Scheme, centralisation of meetings and relation of each unit to the whole Union.

It was noted a Summer School will be held if enough names are sent in for the purpose.

The B.S.L.U. Conference delegates were given instructions re voting at the Conference.

The delegates were instructed to move, at the Conference, "that a sub-committee be set up from the floor, to enquire into the administration and finances of the Union. Such data as this may need shall be afforded them by the Officers and M.C.: and prepare a report to next Conference, with a view to supplying the Conference with data re organisation."

A motion was passed in favour of rescinding the three years limit for the election of President and Vice-President of the Union.

It was decided to refer, during the M.C. report, to the Earby (Onward) affiliation.

Credential Report: E. C. 3, Delegates 16, Associates 1, Visitors 8, Total 28. Lyceum Representatives 9, Not represented 16. Pool, per Lyceum 6s.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Preston friends for accommodation.

September Meeting, Pearl Street, Accrington.

November Meeting, Blackburn.

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.

On Sunday May 17th, at the Mechanics Hall, Nottingham, we had a real red letter day; having presentation of the Silver Shield, a present of a clock was made to Mr. L. Shipley, 21 years President to the Council: subscribed for among the Lyceums in the district.

In his opening remarks Mr. Slater, who is now President, welcomed all who were present, and said we have in our Lyceum Manual a series of teachings arranged to improve and develop our minds to enable us to get the right perspective of our lives. No. 7. Hymn Sheet was used and the various readings brought forth good responses and useful lessons.

In presenting the clock to Mr. L. Shipley, Mr. Marsters (who has also served the council since its inception) said, "I thank you for giving me the opportunity of making this presentation on your behalf. During the 21 years of service Mr. Shipley has been your esteemed president, I do not remember ever hearing him say a word or do an act that any decent man need be ashamed of." Mr. Marsters concluded by saying "this is not a payment for services rendered, because we can never do that, but a slight token of our esteem, and we hope it will remind you of the 21 years of happy times together." Mr. Shipley thanked all who had made the present possible and was pleased to have been of service in the Cause of the Children.

Mr. Waterfall, Shield secretary, reported the awards as follows:—Beeston 81 marks, Eastwood 80½, Nottingham Mechanics Hall 78, Nottingham Sherwood Street 77½, Derby 75½, Hucknall 73, Lincoln 72, Nottingham Progressive 48½, and concluded his report by quoting, "Envy not the merits of another but improve thy own talents."

Councillor Seeley Whitby, J.P., who had kindly responded to an invitation from Mr. Marsters to present the Shield, said how much he was impressed by the copy of the Manual Mr. Marsters had shown him in preparation of his visit. He read a portion of the Silver Chain No. 82: "I was so struck with that message, that I sent it to the local paper as I considered it worth broadcasting." "I have never gone into the subject of Spiritualism very much, but I realise the rights you have to your opinions, and am willing to give an attentive mind to them. I have read extensively, but have never in my life read a book to equal this compilation, the Lyceum Manual. I do not know the brain that put this together, but some of it is absolutely magnificent." The speaker then addressed the children, as far the most important section of his audience, in a most instructive and entertaining manner. He congratulated all who had entered for the competition and hoped all Lyceums would take part next year and all do their utmost to win the Shield.

A vote of thanks was given to Mr. Whitby, and also a Lyceum Manual which he much appreciated.

Mr. Johnson, D.V., made a stirring appeal for support to the proposed open-air demonstration to be held on July 5th in the Council Square, Nottingham.

P. FARNATH, Sec.

SOUTH EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Council was held at Rochdale, Regent Hall, on Saturday, May 9th.

Mr. Hudson, President, was in the Chair. There was a good attendance of Delegates. The D.V. was ill and could not attend: a letter from him contained a report of his work. The Council expressed its sympathy with our D.V., and hoped for a speedy recovery.

The usual routine business, much of which was Conference work, was gone through smoothly. After the close of Council business the Delegates took part in propaganda work. A social evening had been arranged with this object in view.

This was a new effort. The proceeds were divided between the Council and the inviting Lyceum. The effort raised 9s. 6d. each.

The usual vote of thanks followed. A pleasant evening was spent.

J. NURSE, Sec.

TEESIDE DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Conference of this Council was held at the Brunswick Street Lyceum, Stockton-on-Tees, on Sunday 10th May 1931. In addition to the usual routine business the following business was transacted.

Darlington "Ever-welcome" Lyceum was accepted and their application endorsed to the B.S.L.U.

Mr. Miller and Mr. Jones were appointed to meet the Tyne-side D.C. to fix District Boundaries.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS:—The Council is to hold a "Massed Session" on Sunday June 21st, at 2-30 p.m. and a Rally at 6-30 p.m. at the Temperance Hall, Darlington. Miss E. Elliott has been engaged for that day. Invitations have been sent to the Northern District Council, Tyneside L.D.C., Area "B" Representative, 32 Churches and 16 Lyceums. Tea arrangements are left in the hands of the two Darlington Lyceums. The Secretary was instructed to approach the following in the order named, as chairman:—The Mayor of Darlington, Sir Chas. Starmer, Mr. Roeder, The Chief Constable of Darlington, Mr. Shepherd, M.P. for Darlington.

The undermentioned resolutions were carried:

That Delegates to other bodies (viz. B.S.L.U., U.D.C. etc.) be elected from the Executive Committee.

That the Executive Committee Minutes be not read at Conference as at present; such business as is subject to confirmation by the Conference to be circulated to Lyceums and treated on Agenda under "E. C. Recommendations."

That the Lyceum Representatives to the Executive Committee be elected to hold office for one year and their names and addresses submitted to the Council Secretary prior to the A.G.M. in February.

That Motions having been defeated shall not be again introduced until after the lapse of one year.

This Conference marks the Twenty-first Anniversary of the formation of this Council, and in the ordinary way should have been held at the Grangetown Lyceum. As "Brunswick St." was the birthplace of the Council, Grangetown kindly waived their right to the Conference so that it could be held at its birthplace. The Afternoon Session was conducted by Mrs. Williams (Conductor), various members of the Council taking part. Mr. J. Miller gave a splendid paper on "Spiritual Training in Daily Life," the various points of which were keenly contested.

At the evening services Mr. Westbrooke (Church President) handed the proceedings over to Mrs. Ainsworth (Council President). Among the speakers were Mr. Roeder (Middlesbrough) the "Father" of the Council, Mr. Conaty (Grangetown), Mr. J. Riley past-president, Mrs. Graham (Shildon). The Demonstrators were Mrs. Lofthouse (District Visitor), Mr. Massey (Middlesbrough), Mr. Conaty (Grangetown), Mr. Jones (Vice-president). It is to be regretted that the Brunswick St. Lyceum, once prosperous, have fallen upon bad times, it is hoped as a result of the Council's visit that interest in the Lyceum will be re-awakened.

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

Special Reports.

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

BATLEY CARR.—On Sunday April 26th we had an Open Session during which Mrs. Oates of Manchester named the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Hirst. The name given to the baby was Rowena and the spirit name was "Sweet Lily of Rhoderry."

GREAT HARWOOD.—Open Session May 3rd. S.C. by Mrs. P. Doswell. M.R. by Mr. P. Doswell, Greta Johnson, Rosa Bagshaw and Annie Aspden. G.C.R. by Mrs. Owen. Recitations by May Pickvance, Greta Johnson, Joan Bullen, Mrs. Owen, Solos by Mrs. W. Doswell, Mrs. P. Doswell.—W. Doswell, Sec.

SMETHWICK.—May 3rd, our Anniversary, the first one held in the new Church, surpassed all expectations.

At 11 a.m. Mr. Wright, Secretary, presided and tactfully introduced our honoured speaker, Miss E. Elliott, Vice-President B.S.L.U., whose eloquent and forceful address on "Lyceum Work" appealed to us all.

During the afternoon a large number assembled to witness a complete Lyceum Session. Recitations were given by Bridie Powell and Allan Wade. Solo by Beatrice Green. Special Comment—Alfred Powell, for his original thoughts on Musical Reading No. 220.

Mr. B. Ierston, a local artist, presented to the Lyceum a picture which he had specially painted, showing the path to Spiritual progression. We are indeed grateful to him for this act of love.

The whole evening service was on a very high level. Our beloved Conductor, Mrs. Upton presided. After the singing of "Heart Flowers" a bouquet was presented to Miss Elliott who gave us a comprehensive address on "The Founders of Religion."

These happy services were continued on Monday. We thank all who helped to make this Anniversary such a decided success.

VICTOR W. MANN, Assist. Sec.

CARDIFF, Park Grove.—Open Session, May 17th. Two grandchildren of our oldest Lyceumist, Mr. Selby, were named. Their spirit names were "Excelsior" and "Violet." The Lyceumists gave pearls, recitations and solos. The Session was enjoyed by all.—G. Dunn, 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 May 27th.

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 June 24th to ensure insertion in the July issue.

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

ACCRINGTON, Pearl St.—We held our Open Session on Sunday May 3rd, ably conducted by Mr. Fazackerley. Recitations and solos were well rendered by many Lyceumists and were all enjoyed.—H. Swift, Sec.

BACUP.—Open Session May 3rd. Pearls by A. Wright, Mrs. Wright, Mr. Lord, Mrs. Carter, M. Halsall, D. Halsall, A. Halsall, Mr. Shaw, M. Patchett. Recitations by A. Wright, D. Halsall, M. Halsall, I. Patchett, G. Ormerod, P. F. Soloas, J. Patchett. Solo by M. H. Shaw, M. Patchett. Song by a group of Lyceumists.—A. Halsall, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—May 3rd. Open Session, Conductor Mr. Taylor. Solos by Eileen Edwards, Mrs. Harding, Mrs. Harper, Mr. Groves, Mr. Taylor. Duet Annie and Florrie Watson. Recitations by Edith Perry, Lily Harding, Jean Collaghan, Vera Hamilton, Reg. Robb, Mr. Breakall, Frances Harper, Ernest Kneale, Leslie Hamilton, Stanley Lander, Muriel, Gertie and Gwennie Watson. Piano Solo, Mr. Whiteley. 9 pearls.—E. Thompson, Acting Sec.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter St.—April 26th Open Session. The following gave recitations, B. Hinchcliffe, J. and I. Entwistle, F. Holding. Solos by C. Railton and E. Holding. Mr. F. Hepworth of Bury was our speaker. We had a very good Session enjoyed by all.—Mr. Tom Wood, Sec.

BLACKPOOL.—On May 10th Mrs. Rothwell conducted a bright and harmonious Open Session. Marching and callisthenics were excellently done. Pearls by L. Baker, G. Ascroft, F. Long, A. Chattington, Mr. Leadbetter, Mr. Baylis. Recitations by Irene Long and a Southport Lyceumist. Greetings from Southport ended an interesting Session.

At 6-30 the Lyceum gave a Service of Song entitled "The Reality of God." Solos and duets were rendered splendidly.

Mr. Lamb was the reader. Everybody taking part gave their best and all present received spiritual help and instruction.—Jenny Bamber, Sec.

CHESTERFIELD.—April 26th, Anniversary Services. We had as our speaker, Mr. Rawlinson, of Wath. Mr. Rawlinson presented the prizes. The following Lyceumists obliged with items:—Eveline, Norman and Kathleen Clements, Ivy and Elsie Hall, Peter Wagstaffe, Harold and Irene Hobster, Vera and Jimmy Rippon, Shirley Widdowson, Glyn and Irene Cowell, Elsie Smith, Leslie Driver, Ethel Gore and Betsy Slater.

May 10th Open Session. The above Lyceumists, along with Dennis Lee, Sidney Hobster, Jessie Orwin, W. Campbell, Mr. Cowell, contributed a pleasant programme.—Frances Hobster.

CLECKHEATON.—Open Session May 3rd. Conductor, Miss M. Wilkinson. There were no pearls, recitations or solos as we were practising our Whitsuntide hymns.

In the evening the Lyceumists gave a Service of Song entitled "Harry Lee, or the Little Match Seller." We had quite a good attendance and the evening was well enjoyed by all.—Miss M. B. Robinson, Sec.

CONGLETON.—On April 19th we held our third Open Session. Speaker, Mrs. Yates of Chorley. The following Lyceumists took part.—Alice Young, Agnes Oakes, Gladys Machin, Hilda Harding, Marjorie Barr, Millicent Harding, Nancy Sandall, Molly Barr, Edith Duckworth, Irene and Rose Davies, Mary Bann, Dorothy Barr, Bernard Sandall, Jonah Machin, Albert Davies. All were a success. Mr. E. Jones was pianist.—J. Davies, Sec.

COVENTRY, Broadgate.—We held our 10th Anniversary on May 3rd. Pearls and recitations by Agnes and Anne Dalton, Dorothy Waring, Dorothy Thompsell, Eric Sharp, Jim Coe, and Mrs. Hutchinson. Also two musical solos. Uncle Bert presented the prizes and kept the Lyceumists busy with his game "The Workers Win." Greetings to all Lyceums everywhere.

DEWSBURY.—Open Session April 26th. Conductor, Mr. W. Hey. Pearls by Cyril Hey, Kathie Stott, Messrs Sam Warren and H. Gregory. Recitation by Cyril Hey, R. Stott, and Mr. T. Taylor. Solos by Clarissa Phillips, Gerald Hey, Sam Warren, Mr. W. Hey, Florrie Phillips, Muriel Johnson, Mrs. W. Phillips, Miss A. Bentley. 9 Officers, 78 Lyceumists and 14 friends were present. We were glad to see Miss W. Hartley back in the Lyceum. We had a good time.—V. R. Phillips.

DONCASTER, Catherine St.—Open Session May 3rd. conducted by Master Crossland, assistant Conductor. Invocation by Mrs. Holloway. The following Lyceumists took part.—M. Soan, V. Bates, F. Soan, M. Chalmers, Mrs. Holloway, V. Soan, M. Holloway, L. Middleton and A. Ball. A very enjoyable Session.—Mrs. Webb, Sec.

EARBY, Greenend Avenue.—Open Session May 3rd. Recitations by L. Sprout, O. Wilkins, F. Clarke, J. Hancock, R. Hancock, and Mrs. Rimmington. Songs by F. Clarke, W. Hancock, J. Sprout, T. Hancock, K. Hodgkinson, L. Sprout, N. Hodgkinson, E. Fox, O. Wilkins, E. Taylor, E. Woodhead, L. Dawson, Mrs. Millican. No. 379 was sung by the Liberty Group.—Mrs. D. Dawson, Sec.

EARBY, Onward.—Open Session, May 3rd. Recitations by all the children and items by each group. Each one did their best to make it a pleasant hour well spent.—Mrs. J. W. Clark, Sec.

GRIMSBY.—Pleasant Sunday, May 3rd. A nice time was spent and recitations were rendered by Edna Swift, Albert Letch, Billy Baxby and Mabel Trash. Also a solo by Mr. Rycroft. Best wishes to all Lyceumists at home and abroad.—P.S., Sec.

HALIFAX, Queen's Road.—May 3rd. Open Session. Marching and callisthenics were well rendered. Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Dawson, our conductors, presided. Mr. Ridgway, of Southport, our speaker for the day, addressed the company. Pianoforte solos by Miss B. Anderton and Miss C. Midgley. Recitations by Miss M. Daintry, E. Daintry, E. Sykes, Jean Ross, J. Dransfield, M. Ross, Master M. Anderton, and J. Ross.—George Anderton, Sec.

HEMSWORTH.—On April 26th our Open Session was a fine one. Mr. Wright, of Wakefield, spoke to our Lyceumists. A duet, solo and recitations by the children brought a happy time over too quickly for all of us.—Mrs. W. Bates, Sec.

LANCASTER, Alliance.—Open Session, May 3rd. Solos, duets and recitations were offered by Doris Kirk, Alice Parkinson, Thos. Cole, Harold Dennison, Lily Atkinson, Miss Hodgson and Ada Griffin. We all enjoyed the Session to its fullest and hope for many more mornings together. Greetings to all.—A. F. Rushworth, Sec.

LANCASTER, Gt. John St.—Open Session May 3rd. Recitations by E. Law, and D. Bleasdale. Pearls by W. Partridge. We closed with the Golden Chain recitation.—M. Sarratt, Sec.

LEICESTER, Rupert St.—On May 3rd, we had our Anniversary Services. The speaker, Mr. George of Eastwood, gave good addresses at all services. Singing and recitations, &c., were ably rendered by the Lyceumists and the services were well attended.—Mr. J. Wicks, Sec.

LONDON, Hounslow, Whitton Rd.—Progressing rapidly, including the addition of a piano, a Birthday Club, Badges, Open Session speakers, and bells for the callisthenics. Now to improve our numbers.

LONDON, Stratford.—May 3rd Open Session, conducted by Mrs. West. Owing to bad weather the attendance was below the average. A good Session resulted, with excellent readings and explanations. Marching and callisthenics showed improvement. Individual efforts were enjoyed from Barbara and June Bates and Florence Stoffer. A real treat was provided by a visitor Miss M. Summers, who gave a fine address and excellent rendering of two hymns.

Membership is maintained but Lyceumists are asked to rally to the Wednesday Guild which is lacking support. Much hard work lies ahead with Concert practice and the Church Bazaar. Greetings are extended to all.—R. H. Bates, Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH, Grange Road.—Happiness was the keynote of our Open Session on May 3rd. We had with us Counc. Jessy Greenwood, J.P. Her brief address was much appreciated by all. Other contributors towards our happiness were—Norah Hicks, Elaine Chatton, Freda Wilson, Mary Taylor, Joan Naylor, Nance Pierson, Tim Naylor, Clive, Victor and Frank Hudson, and Miss D. Hudson.—M. Harrison, Sec.

MIDDLETON, Old Hall St.—Our Open Session on April 19th was a great success. Seven other Lyceums were represented. Solos and recitations were ably rendered.

May 12th Potato Pie Social.—S. Moorcroft, Sec.

PRESTON, Moor Lane.—On May 3rd our Open Session was conducted by Mr. R. Tallon. Recitations by Olive and Mary Stocks, Connie Tallon, Annie Nicholaus, Ronald Kilner, and Mrs. Blackburn. A large number of pearls were given and a Lyceum song by Miss H. Kilner. The marching and second and third series of callisthenics were performed.—Helen Kilner, Sec.

RYDE, Belvedere St.—On April 26th Mrs. Taylor, A.N.S.C. D.V., and Mrs. Hoskins, of Bristol, paid us a visit. Both gave words of encouragement to our Lyceumists. Welcome to Lyceumists when visiting the Island.—E. Oak, Sec.

SCUNTHORPE.—May 2nd, 3rd and 4th was our Lyceum week-end. Our speakers were Mr. Rimmington and Mr. Chatyn of Hull. At the Sunday afternoon Open Session a nice time was spent. We had a spiritual but not a financial success. Still we have to be content to be able to keep afloat and press forward.—Ivy Sprakes, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—On May 3rd the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. Palmer was named Audrey Palmer, by Mr. G. Armitage, Conductor. The spirit name of Patience was given. On behalf of the Lyceum our Treasurer, Mrs. Stamford, presented the Lyceum Badge. The B.S.L.U. Examination Tutors deserve our hearty congratulations for work done.—James Le Noury, A.N.S.C., Sec.

SHIPLEY.—We regret to record the passing of Frank Rhodes, on May 25th, through an accident whilst motor-cycling with a friend. In attempting to avoid a collision the cycle skidded and crashed into a tram standard. Our Lyceumist suffered a fracture of the skull and passed away three hours later in Bingley Hospital.

Mr. Aked conducted the interment on May 27th. A memorial service was held on May 31st in the Shipley Church.

We accorded our deepest sympathy with the family in this very tragic bereavement.

SOUTHEND AND WESTCLIFF.—On April 22nd we held an Operetta entitled "Cinderella," in aid of Church and Lyceum funds, under the organisation of Bobby Bell and her band of workers. A most enjoyable evening was spent by the 150

people present. Refreshments were served at the interval. A very nice bouquet of flowers was presented to Mrs. Bell, and all the actors received some very pretty flowers.—Norman Parkinson, Sec.

WELLINGTON, Kent Terrace, N.Z.—On March 1st we held a very delightful Open Session, at which there were several visitors, in addition to an extremely good attendance of our Lyceumists. Recitations by Ethel Parkins, Ken Mander, Olive Gray, and Shirley Turtle. Mr. S. Harris rendered a violin solo accompanied on the piano by Miss E. Harris. Mr. Naylor, a visitor, entertained us for a short while with some of his suggestions and impressions.—S. Harris, Sec.

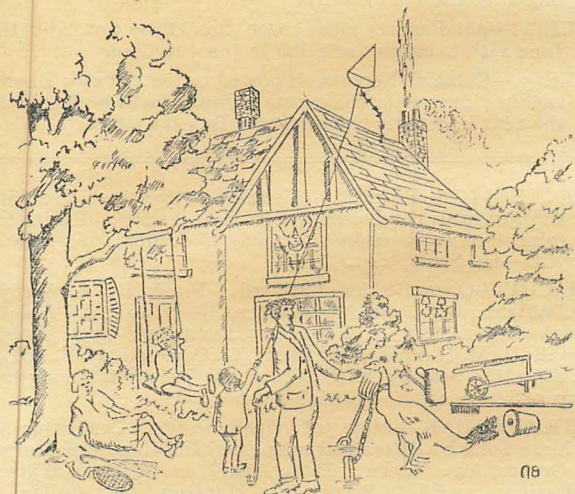
WINNIPEG, Canada, Princess St.—April 18th. The 9th anniversary of the Church was celebrated by a banquet and concert, the latter being put on by the Lyceumists. The Rev. Mrs. Cannock of England was in attendance. A very delightful time was had by all.

Open Session was held on May 3rd. The following gave pearls:—Evelyn, Chrissie, Alex and James Lindsay, Mrs. Wood, Esther and Allan Wood. A reading was given by Mrs. Barton. Duets were sung by Evelyn Lindsay and Margaret Mudie, Chrissie Lindsay, Dorothy Jeffrey and Esther Wood, James and Alex Lindsay. Election of new Officers, Asst. Conductor Evelyn Lindsay; Secretary Allan J. Wood. The meeting closed with marching and callisthenics.—A. J. Wood, Sec.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Miss A. Lamb conducted the May Open Session, her subject being "Making the best of things." Solos, recitations, etc, were given by J. James, P. Weaver, F. Weedman, Mrs. Simmons and Miss E. Anslow.—T. McQuoid Weedman, Sec.

The Children's Puzzle.

Just look, children, what nearly slipped out of the BANNER.



O, what a funny dream I had,
So many things I saw;
Now get a little writing pad,
And then write down each flaw.

There is our Uncle Bert, who looks
To see what you can do,
And pastes your letters in his books
As they reach him from you.

There's many things are wrong you'll see,
That you must put quite right;
If it should rain, you'll happy be,
And spend a pleasant night.