

THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 489. Vol. XLI.

NOVEMBER, 1931.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

Peace Sunday.

Below we print a programme for a Lyceum Peace Session to be used in the Lyceums on 8th November; the Annual date chosen to celebrate and renew our vows in the propagation of Peace.

Lyceums, who can afford one, are requested to take a collection, as in previous years, for the £2000 Effort. Mrs. J. Reynolds, 118, Cremorne Street, Nottingham, will very cordially receive any collections arising from your efforts.

PROGRAMME.

The programme may be changed or adapted to suit the methods or inclination of any Conductor. Short prayers have been chosen from Manual selections.

The theme of the session is that in our search for truth, righteousness and goodness, we ask the help of the angels and, together, we look at the sorrows of life to see what might be done.

We find that life is what we make it and therefore read how to live by heavenly wisdom till peace dawneth. Then every day can be Peace Day and we can live in harmony with our fellow-men.

Opening Song	56
Prayer	365
Silver Chain Recitation	48
Musical Reading	70 and 25
(Read the first verse of No. 70 and then sing the first verse of No. 25, etc.)		
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Physical Exercises.		
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Closing Song	403
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"God grant us, and may we work for, Peace."		

Flux.

The whole world is changing. Destiny is very busy just now, and people were never as bewildered or uncertain in their thoughts. That is, at least, how we in Great Britain feel about all the spiritual and material changes which are responsible for so much uncertainty in our minds.

Other countries have had more serious upheavals, but our stolidity has suffered a rude shock.

We spiritualists have already felt the difference produced by spiritual changes and are not so nervous of any social or political advancement or retrogression.

In the reflex, who can discern the hand of fate, human will, or divine unfoldment in the series of crises which have changed the pursuits and outlook of nations and governments.

There is also a great change in the Spiritualism which was in practise 20 years ago and the Spiritualism of to-day.

One wonders what kind of force is being used as a flux to make our truths more adaptable to the common mind. We may be using a flux which is not suitable for clarifying our truths. We certainly know we are not satisfying the people who form a new section, or discipline us to an abusive degree.

We shall shortly be in a position to mould our methods to suit our aims. The first duty, in any constitutional change, is to ensure that the new condition is better than the old methods we cease to operate. There are some events which need control and others need expansion.

The best flux is the understanding spirit that is founded on a correct diagnosis. We eliminate the useless parts and introduce the flux of utility when we produce the best results in any constitution.

Where a movement depends for its propagation on voluntary effort, it is necessary to have the flux of interest and enthusiasm.

In business life it is capital which produces interest, but in a spiritual church it is interest which creates capital. But the capital of a spiritual mind is not gauged by the standard of money values. The flux is different and we must realise that such is the case.

Whilst our inspiration for modern Spiritualism came from the spirit world, we must realise that we live on a physical plane for our mundane life. The flux for a material life is represented by wealth. We need it now and always for our maintenance.

The flux for a spiritual life is the inspiration from those who live in the higher form of life's expression and have been raised beyond death to find active participation in a life that is, to us, as yet very vague.

The greatest difference in power seems to be in that of discernment.

Physically we see material objects: spiritually we see into the future and gain evidences of processes, the objectivity of which have not yet gained shape.

If we could only develop this empiric sense of intuitional prophesy, and gain the confidence of our fellow-men, we should then have gained the power to lead, not only in spirit but in the social, economic and political spheres, and thus serve one of the objects of the B.S.L.U.—to bring about better conditions in a work-a-day world.

In just the degree in which you realise your oneness with the Infinite Spirit, you will exchange disease for ease, in-harmony for harmony, suffering and pain for abounding health and strength. To recognise our own divinity, and our intimate relation to the Universal, is to attach the belts of our machinery to the power-house of the Universe. One need remain in hell no longer than one chooses to: we can rise to any heaven we ourselves choose; and when we choose to rise all the higher powers of the Universe combine to help us heavenwards.



DEAR LITTLE IMPs,

This month brings us to the end of our long story about Peter in Fairyland. I am sure every Imp will wish to join me in thanking Uncle Fred for his interesting tale of the happenings of a doggi. Poor Peter had such a bad time, that I was quite sorry for him, and so was glad to know that, after all, his adventures were just dreamland ones. Still, I am thankful that he had that magic stick. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we had something like that, which could find us a way out of all our troubles?

Now for our own short story!

THE LAND OF TO-MORROW.

There was once a Mother Hopeful who lived in the Land of To-morrow. She had charge of the nursery where all the little babies, who had yet to live, waited for their birthdays. Mother Hopeful's nursery was a wonderful place, and the babies all had a happy time, for their nurses were little fairies, who were full of clever ideas. Helping baby bodies to grow was easy work for fairies, but these nurse fairies did much more than that. They tucked pearly teeth inside rosy gums, and awakened the sleeping fairies in the wee fingers and toes. Long before its birthday came, each little baby had ten "I want to do" fairies in the fingers, and ten "I want to go" fairies living in the toes.

Even that was not all. Inside each little head, the fairies hid a magic box. These boxes were to hold all the babies' thoughts and ideas and all the things they would remember as they grew up in the land of To-day. The wonderful thing about these boxes was that, though they were really quite small, they could never, never be full. Another wonderful thing about the boxes was that nothing could ever come out of them, and so be lost. You will know how proud the fairies were at having even thought of such marvellous boxes, and they insisted that each baby must have one, tucked away inside its little head.

Mother Hopeful was fond of those boxes too, but sometimes she was just a wee bit troubled about them. You see, boxes can be filled with all sorts of things, and Mother Hopeful was afraid that that might happen with these boxes. She'd so want them to just hold lovely, useful things, so that there was no room for anything at all ugly in them. With fairies for nurses, one could never be quite sure. Fairies are such fanciful folk, that poor Mother Hopeful sometimes feared that they might play pranks with the babies' wonder boxes.

That was why Mother Hopeful made the nursery of the Land of To-morrow such a beautiful place. It had sunshine and moonshine for lamps, and no grey clouds were allowed near it. All the walls and furniture were of pretty rainbow colours, and the gardens were always full of lovely flowers and trees. The play-rooms were full of things to be done, and things to be made, so that the babies could make splendid castles in the air, and the most wonderful of machines. They knew all about flying like birds, and swimming like fishes, and all the things that would some day happen just by pressing a button.

The fairy nurses were ever so busy, giving the babies the memory of lovely colours, sweet smells, and the beautiful thoughts to put into their boxes. Mother Hopeful always insisted that the bottom of the boxes must be hidden by these good things before the babies went for their birthdays. "They must have a good start," she said. One day, the nurses were so very busy that they didn't see some visitors arriving in the Land of To-morrow. The visitors were the Mischiefs from Make-Believe Land, the tiniest, quickest and jolliest of all the Wee Folk.

Of course, the Mischiefs couldn't visit the nursery quietly like you and I would have done. As soon as they arrived they must be busy, and they quickly found out the wonder boxes. Mother Hopeful found the Mischiefs too, and drove them back to Make-Believe Land. She thought they hadn't had time to do any harm to her babies and so never guessed that now each baby's box held some seeds of mischief. Besides, even if she had known, nothing could have taken those seeds out of the boxes. There they must stay until, in the Land of To-day, they might grow.

One by one, those babies left the Land of To-morrow, to go along the bridge of starlight to a mother and father in the Land of To-day. They made lots of homes happy and busy, and lots of parents suddenly became very proud of themselves. The babies were all so bonny and healthy that everybody was quite sure that they must also be very good and well-behaved. Their teeth grew, and the "I want to do" fairies in the fingers became very wide awake. That roused the "I want to go" fairies in the toes, and soon all the babies were toddling. Then the fun began. Those babies were for ever in mischief. Their fingers simply couldn't help meddling with things, and their feet were always taking them into the wrong places. Mothers grew worried, fathers grew cross. Nothing was safe from those mischievous babies. The minute a little one was left alone, it would be up to some trick. I can't tell you how many puddings and cakes were spoiled by mischievous little helpers, or the strange hiding places they found for the things they shouldn't have touched. It was useless to punish the children. They only laughed at their pranks. Besides, even when they'd been naughtiest, lovely little thoughts and ways kept being shown. You remember the mischief seeds were hidden amongst a lot of lovely and good memories.

Mothers and fathers could only sigh, and hope that their children would outgrow their tricks. Everybody had to admit that the children were bonny, strong and very clever, and really, they had lots of lovely ways and ideas. If only they were not mischievous! But it was no use sighing. It took seven years for these mischief seeds to grow up, and grow tired. After that mothers and fathers did grow proud of their chil-

dren. Such wise, clever little folk had never been known before, and parents agreed that perhaps it was true that mischievous children made fine men and women.

Away in the Land of To-morrow, Mother Hopeful goes on with her work of caring for the babies yet to be. She tries very hard to keep those wonder boxes just for good and lovely things, but even now there are times when little seeds are left in them by those impish Mischiefs from the Make-Believe Land. At least, I'm sure there must be, for all the Imps I know have lots of little Mischiefs hidden away in them, and sometimes those Mischiefs will pop out and play.

My love to all Imps, even the Mischievous ones.

MEG.

The Magic Stones: or Peter in Fairyland.

BY UNCLE FRED.

When Peter had recovered from the surprise caused by his tumble, he groped about for the magic stick, which, fortunately, had fallen close to where he lay. By the gleam of light from the stick's head, Peter saw that, lying in a heap, in a corner of the cave, were the magic stones.

Peter gave a bark of joy, and, rushing towards the heap, commenced to fill his haversack with them. He counted thirty stones and then carefully fastened his haversack and slung them over his shoulder. Making quite sure that he had not left a single stone behind, he hastened towards the stone staircase down which he had tumbled a short time ago.

He had just placed his paw on the first step when the lid of the chest above him closed with a loud crash. The dog hurried up the steps and tried to push open the lid, but found, to his dismay, that it was securely fastened. Realising that he was a prisoner within the chest, Peter seized the magic stick and, striking the floor, cried, "Oh stick, do your duty!" Suddenly the lock clicked and the lid of the chest opened with such force that the great box overturned, throwing Peter out on to the floor of the cave.

The force of the fall snapped the straps of Peter's haversack and the magic stones were scattered in all directions on the floor of the cave. Then a strange thing happened. The stones seemed to suddenly come to life and they commenced rolling rapidly towards the small, funnel-shaped entrance of the cave. Peter seized the magic stick and dashed after them. Through the entrance rolled the stones, with Peter in hot pursuit, and then on through the smaller cave beyond and out into the open air.

Away sped the stones over the moorland, then down through the valley of dragons and up the pathway which led to the plateau beyond. On and on they rolled, with Peter racing madly in pursuit. Never a thought did he give to the dragons, wire wolves, witches or black dwarfs that had worried him before. All his attention was fixed on overtaking those lively stones, as they bounced before him. Away over the plateau they raced, through the roaring torrent and the gloomy forest. The stones turned neither right nor left, but followed the fairy pathway which led back to Pixie City.

Mile after mile the chase continued until, coming

over the brow of a hill, Peter once again saw the fairy city, towards which the magic stones were swiftly rolling. Away in the distance Peter espied his little fairy friend, Bluebell, seated on the wall by the wicket gate. She was waving her hand to him, but Peter was too busily occupied to return her greeting just then.

At last the rolling stones reached the place where Bluebell was seated, and as each stone arrived at the wicket gate it was transformed into a beautiful little fairy, like Bluebell herself. When Peter arrived at the wicket gate he was quite out of breath. Bluebell jumped down from her seat on the wall and caressed him, saying, "Well done, Peter, you have rescued my little sisters from the power of the Green Dragon." She then told him how, many years ago, the Green Dragon captured thirty little fairies, whom he changed into stones and then locked them away in the depths of the gloomy caves.

The news of Peter's return was quickly heralded through Pixie City, and all the fairies came running to meet him and their little sisters. Peter was lifted shoulder high by the fairy soldiers, and they all set off to the palace of the Fairy Queen, singing, dancing and pelting each other with flowers.

The Fairy Queen awaited their coming on the steps of the palace. She greeted Peter with a smile, saying, "Well done, my brave hero! You have rightly earned your reward." So saying, she handed to Peter three stones, and informed him that they held magic powers, which enabled them to roll for ever.

Peter graciously thanked the Fairy Queen for the gift and stepped forward to receive the stones. Before he could seize them they had jumped out of the Queen's hand and started rolling along the pathway which led to the gates of the Palace.

Bidding a hasty good-bye to the fairies, Peter dashed after the rolling stones. They led him out of the palace grounds and along the high road which led to the land of mortals. Faster and faster followed Peter after them. Suddenly he felt a big bump, which made him open his eyes, and he found himself back in his box in the shed, with the morning sun shining brightly through the window.

THE END.

A WEDDING AT HUDDERSFIELD.

The marriage of Miss Edith Haigh and Mr. Jack Lewis, two life long Lyceumists and Church workers, took place on Saturday, Oct. 3rd. Mr. W. G. Gush, President of Ramsden St. Church, conducted the ceremony at Milton Church (kindly lent for the occasion). Mr. J. Fletcher Sykes, F.R.C.O., was the organist. The bride was attended by Miss G. Haigh (sister) and Misses Margaret and Mona Parkin, cousins of the bridegroom. Mr. Philip Lewis (brother) was the best man and Mr. J. Law (cousin of the bride) was the groomsman.

After the ceremony a reception was held at the Spiritualist Church, Ramsden Street; Mr. and Mrs. Lewis leaving later for Bournemouth for their honeymoon.

Members of the Church, Choir and Lyceum presented them with a Standard Lamp and Shade. The Bride is the Organist of the Church, and she is well known to many, being at one time assistant Secretary to the Spiritualist National Union; Mr. Jack Lewis is Treasurer of the Choir and an active member of the Lyceum.

Our Education Department

HINTS, NOTES AND NEWS ITEMS.

Conducted by the EDUCATION SECRETARY.

"THE DARK NIGHTS."

The winter is with us once again, and the first set of circulars to Lyceum Secretaries and Committees and Tutors has been sent out. If the study classes are formed at once, all students will be able to go thoroughly through the full course before Easter, and thus have plenty of time for revision before May 7th-9th. Classes *should* begin in September.

Will tutors and students please remember that a full knowledge of the Handbook set for each Grade is necessary for all who wish to score high marks. Questions are set on history or matters of fact and opinion, and every student is expected to know all the information that the set book or section contains. It is an amazing fact that some Lyceumists do not know the story of Hydesville or the life of Alfred Kitson.

OUR SPECIAL FUND.

The Education Committee acknowledge with thanks donations from Tottenham and Edmonton (£2), Collyhurst, Mr. Rainbow of Plumstead, Stratford, Heaton, and Byker and Barrow (Dalkeith Street) Lyceums, and will gladly acknowledge any donation, however small. EVERY LITTLE HELPS.

Since going to press, a very welcome donation of £2 has been received from Cardiff First Lyceum. The total to date is £10 9s. 4d.—but I want £30. WON'T SOME OF THE STRONGER LYCEUMS HELP?

"EDUCATION WEEK-END."

The Education Committee met on Friday evening 9th October, as a preliminary to meeting with the S.N.U. Committee on the 10th, and considered matters of common or general policy. The Wilkinson case has advanced no further, as none of the detailed information asked for has been supplied. The Committee discussed the Hague Congress arrangements, and regretted that the Cause of the Children had not received more generous consideration from the International Federation. Several matters of Examination routine were discussed and decided upon—and it was regretted that the introduction of Interim Examinations was at present impracticable. A discussion on the usefulness of the co-working with the S.N.U. Committee filled the remainder of the time available.

The Joint Education Committee met on the Saturday at Huddersfield, and the preliminary arrangements for the 1932 Exams. were adopted. The recent hostile attitude of the S.N.U. Council to educational matters was discussed, and various possible lines of action considered. The Council's attitude is making co-working anything but pleasant, and is retarding the progress of the Advanced Scheme. The list of Examiners was revised and the Graduate Course Exams. fixed for the week-end of 18th—21st March, 1932.

The meeting of the College Governing Board followed, Mr. Gush being re-elected Chairman, and Mr. Connor Secretary. The principal business was Mr. Connor's account of complaints about advertising in

the Glasgow area, and the S.N.U. Council's resultant action in refusing to allow College Degrees to be shown in the S.N.U. Diary or the *National Spiritualist*, or the fact that the College awards Degrees to be announced in the College advertisement in the Diary. The advertisements complained of were produced, and the Board considered that the grounds for cutting out the Degrees are very petty, and do not justify the hostile action of the Council. It is to be hoped that a better spirit will prevail soon, and the College be relieved from these strangling restrictions.

The Education Secretary completed a strenuous week-end at Barrow in Furness, with the Dalkeith Street friends, where he distributed the Education Certificates in the Lyceum, addressed the Sunday evening service and the Monday evening Study Group, visited Ocean Road Central School, and the Children's Corner in St. James's Church, and did umpteen Education jobs, getting back to London on Tuesday evening in time for a Committee meeting at Stratford. The Workers OUGHT to Win.

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.

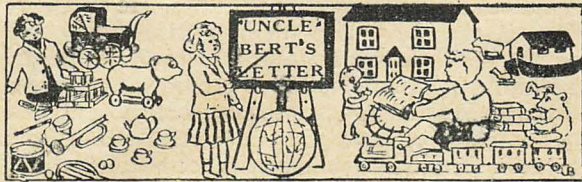
ALL CORRESPONDENCE with regard to the College or the B.S.L.U. Education Scheme should be sent (with 1½d. stamped addressed envelope for reply) to:

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

SILVER PAPER.

THE FINAL LIST.

We acknowledge with thanks receipt of silver paper from:—Eva, Dixie, Bessie, Jack, Joan, Willie and Peggy Brunton; Cornsay and District Lyceum; Mr. Kitson, Dewsbury; Beaconsfield St. Lyceum, Nottingham; Fleetwood Lyceum, per Mrs. Vollans; Heaton Norris Lyceum, per Miss Downs; Miss M. Hart, Manchester No. 1 Lyceum; Darlington, Psycho, per Miss E. F. Chapman; Alice and Ernest Hudson, Rochdale, Regent Hall; Miss E. Snape, Hollinwood; Violet, Theria, Rose and Jessie Hollinshead, Walsall; Mr. V. R. Phillips, Dewsbury; Miss H. Horton, Middleton (Old Hall St.); Mr. T. Kenney, Leicester, Liberty; Miss A. Myers, Florence Morris, Harold Kaye, and Mrs. Carr, Bury; Miss S. Butterfield, Horwich; Mrs. M. G. H. McKenzie, Rosyth; Mr. N. Cartwright, Hyde; Mr. W. Doswell; Mr. G. Paling, Beeston Lyceum; Southampton Lyceum, per Mr. Long; Stirchley, per Mrs. Shakespeare; Miss I. Graham, Gateshead; Leonard Hawkins, Walsall; Quarmby, per Mr. Baxter; Manchester, Maskell St. (sent in September) per Mr. Dixon; Miss Nellie Fish; Accrington, Pearl St., Lyceum; Mrs. Birtwell, Heywood; Miss A. Pennington, Clapham; J. R. Frost, Manchester, Maskell St. (2 packets); Gladys Stones and Mrs. Exley, Leeds, Easy Road; Mrs. Trumble, Manor Park; Mr. W. Rainbow, Woolwich and Plumstead; Mrs. George, Liverpool; Rochdale, Baron St. Lyceum; Miss Goldstraw, Salford; Mrs. F. Gershon, Cheetham Hill; Mrs. A. Leadbetter; Mrs. Wild and Miss Bamford, Dearnley; Mrs. H. Rush-ton, Macclesfield; Bacup Lyceum, per Mrs. Carter.



My dear Boys and Girls,

Before I settle down to write this letter to you I must find my hat, my coat, my gloves.

Oh! gone; "Lost, stolen or strayed"; where on earth have they been put, I wonder? I have a clue; yes, I think I know. A few more days and the 5th arrives. I can only hope my property will be found before then or someone, seeing my clothes all dressed up and pushed along the street in a barrow, might mistake them for me. I think a word of warning to parents who read this page would not be untimely. "Keep your eyes open for the next few days," or you may find the stock in your wardrobe depleted.

Of course, Kiddies, I hope by this word of warning I have not given you away, but there, when you dress yourself up and put a mask on your face everyone calls you what you are, don't they?

Then comes the annual fun of the bonfire and fireworks, ending in a great finale of the burning of the Guy. I think we will change the household calendar of domestic duties next year.

We will have October cleaning instead of spring cleaning; then you will have plenty of material to build up your bonfire, which might include a broken old chair to sit your Guy on.

Someone just whispers this would not be in keeping with the constitution, so you must do the best you can under the present conditions until customs of your times are altered to meet your needs.

Of course, when you are well armed with Cannon Crackers, Squibs, Jumping Jacks, and such like, you will just be alive with energy.

You will not be like those slow people, of whom it is often said "They need a firework behind them to make them move."

There is perhaps a useful lesson to be gained from this saying.

It is that we should always be on the alert to quickly do those duties which come our way, for yet another saying might apply: "He who hesitates is lost." Further, it is wise "Never to put off until to-morrow that which we should do to-day." For to-morrow never comes.

What a lot of wisdom there is to be found in these simple sayings, often quoted on the spur of the moment, without any great thought as to their value.

This is also sometimes true of the Pearls we say in our Lyceum Session, and on this point I would like you all to try and work out the meaning of them before you hand them on to others.

It is always nicer to give something away that is going to be useful to the one who receives it.

Therefore, just in the same way you would try to choose a useful present for a friend, try and do the same when giving away thoughts in the way of pearls.

Providing we are all lucky enough to get past the Fifth safely, we have another event following within four days—"Lord Mayor's Show"—when crowds of people rush to town to see what is usually an interesting

parade, depicting historical events of England in one form and another. I am still hoping the day will come when Lyceumists will take part in this great demonstration. Then we might hear on the wireless something like this: "My Lords and Ladies and Gentlemen, pray silence for the Lyceum Leader, Lord Mayor of London." In recent years many leading men and women have associated themselves with our Cause. Therefore, what is only a dream in my mind may be a living fact in the days to come, and it might even be you.

I know at such a suggestion you are at once tempted to say "I should say so," but consider such men as Sir Thomas Lipton, who recently passed on to the Higher Life, or Mr. Ramsay Macdonald. Here are two great characters out of hundreds, who were once poor little boys who would also have laughed at the idea of becoming great.

It was just grit and determination to win through that placed them in the ranks of the great. These two qualities are not something to be purchased with £ s. d.; they come from the making up of our daily life. We can all reach out to the highest and noblest things in life, that we, too, may become the leaders of men.

Having passed the Ninth, we arrive at the Eleventh—a day much different in its aspects to the other two—"Armistice Day." The first of which was a great day of rejoicing because war had ceased and peace was declared. It has now become a sad day to many, because it brings sad memories from the past. Apart from this, it is a great day, created by the two minutes' silence, and the great call to prayer for peace.

Of course, most of you boys and girls do not know much of the Great War, except what you have learned at school. This you do know by reading your Manual, "That all war is murder," and that we want to work for peace and for that day when all men shall love each other and not have the desire to fight each other.

How can you help the world in such a great object? By starting to-day to be lovers of peace in your own childish ways. Avoid the desire to fight your chums at school, either with your tongue or your fists.

Ever strive to become a peacemaker with those who are quarrelling; then, in a simple way, you will play your part towards the day when war shall be no more.

PUZZLE NO. 175.

Complete the following sentences by a title from the *Lyceum Manual*:

1. All Nations at the present time seem in trouble, but they will be alright when——
2. See who is at the door——
3. Who are those people looking in shop windows——
4. When June went on the swings at the Fair her Mother said——
5. If I do not arrive by 2-45——
6. The Lyceum Conductor opened the session by a hymn, saying——

Next month I hope to give you a jolly Xmas page, in which Auntie Ruth and Cousin Doris will assist me.

With love,

Your loving Friend,

"Ruberrondo,"

UNCLE BERT.

126, Woodland Road,

Isleworth, Middx.

THE LYCEUM BANNER

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

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

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NOVEMBER, 1931.

"Lyceum" Education.

AN ESSAY

Written at the request of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union for presentation to the Triennial Congress of the International Spiritualist Federation, held at the Hague, September 5th to 10th, 1931

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

Honorary Secretary of The National Spiritualist College, and of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union Education Committee.

(continued from page 165.)

The first quality to be encouraged is self-confidence. Many of us are handicapped in the race of life because we do not possess this calm confidence in our own capabilities. We doubt our ability or our staying power, and while we hesitate others, no better equipped than we except in this quality of self-confidence, pass us and beat us to the goal. In the child self-confidence is aroused and exercised by what are called Individual Efforts—songs, recitations or instrumental items, given by members of the Lyceum. The items contributed by some of the adults often reach a high standard of excellence, but children of tender years cannot be expected to attain such a standard. In the Lyceum Ideal the point of outstanding importance is not *what* has been done or *how* it has been done, but that the attempt has been made—so a child three or four years old, who has stood up before the Lyceum and muttered the simple rhyme of *Jack and Jill*, gets from the Lyceumists as hearty applause as is given to the recitation of a masterpiece. In such an atmosphere the latent ability of every child is encouraged to expand, and by degrees our boys and girls *get into the habit* of standing before audiences and feeling confident in their ability to do whatever they have undertaken.

A second quality to be encouraged is self-reliance. The worst thing that could happen to most of us would be to discover that we need not exert ourselves in our own affairs, because there are others willing and ready to do our duty for us or to take our place in facing all

our trials and difficulties. The children are taught very early that the only prize really worth having is the thing we have earned by our own efforts—and their first training in this direction is provided in the search for Lyceum Pearls. These are pearls of thought, taken from the works of great writers or constructed by the Lyceumist from his own experience; and the children are encouraged to learn these pearls and recite them at the appointed time in the Session, adding, when they can, what they think the Pearls mean. As an example—"Pray to God in the storm, but keep on rowing: *which means* that although we may ask others to help us we must not stop trying ourselves." This shows that the child has learned the lesson of the Pearl. Even this simple task of looking for pearls and their meanings sows the desired seed, and our boys and girls *get into the habit* of doing things for themselves—even when faced with harder tasks.

A third quality to be encouraged is self-expression. One of the chief weaknesses of modern mankind is the tendency in so many of us to become mere copyists of those we admire or envy. We allow ourselves to be tied down by conventions and social superstitions, and become idol-worshippers of such leaders as we choose (or as choose us) by our slavish imitation of their pet practices or methods—or shortcomings. The young Lyceumist is early taught that his first duty to God is *to be himself*—to express the individuality which is his inviolable birthright; and early practice in its development is provided by the Lyceum method of discussing the Chains and Readings already referred to. He has to read one or more sections of these readings, and then he may be—and generally is—called upon to express his opinion upon his section. Adult visitors to our Lyceums are surprised at the age of the children who undertake or are called upon to give these expressions of opinion; and one friend from whom I had hoped to win support refused to attend again after his first visit. He said it shamed him to have to sit and listen to little children discussing points and aspects of Spiritualism of which he had never heard or thought. This habit of expressing their own opinions and ideas *grows into the habit* of expressing their own personality and ideals—and the Lyceum-trained young man and young woman are well fitted to bear a worthy part in life, wherever they may go and whatever circumstances they may be called upon to face.

Rich in the possession of these three root qualities, Lyceumists of all ages are endowed with the power to build up the triangle that symbolises a useful and successful life: the triangle of achievement—with self-confidence as its base, and self-reliance and self-expression as its equal legs. It is claimed that the triangle is the strongest of all formations for resisting outside pressure; so we can claim that this triangle-strong character—with its three sides of developed mental powers supporting and supported by each other, and its fourth dimension of achievement raising it to the plane of the Ego in full manifestation—will enable its possessors to present towards all circumstances a serene attitude against which even the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune shall be hurled in vain. They will be in the habit of reasoning out problems and making plans for themselves; they have the self-confidence that encourages them to put their ideas and plans to the test of experiment or action; and they know that, in the last resort, they themselves are the only persons on whom

they can rely for absolute loyalty to their own ideals. So they never leave it to others to do what they should be doing themselves; the result being, in the words of a poet of action, "Something attempted, something done." True, what is done may fall far short of what was attempted, but Lyceum training again comes to the rescue. "There is no shame in failure, but only in ceasing to strive"—and our Lyceumist refuses to admit defeat, thus ensuring victory.

The further call to achievement provided by the College and the National Education Schemes must be left until later, while we consider the Adult Lyceumist and the part he plays in the Educational System. All the training required by the child is equally necessary for the adult. In fact, it might be claimed that the need of the adult is the greater; for whereas the average child comes to the Lyceum with a fairly free mind, the average adult comes with a mind full of pre-conceptions and pet ideas and opinions—all of which must be eradicated before any progress can be hoped for. And that, in my opinion, is why some Church workers are opposed to the Lyceum Idea. They are used to the security of the propaganda or church platform, where a judicious selection of platitudes is accepted without question by audiences whose main interest is centred in the clairvoyance which follows. So they resent the free mental atmosphere of the Lyceum, wherein platitudes are reduced to their real value and where platform popularity is not accepted as a substitute for knowledge as a basis of opinions. Their realisation of their shortcomings is unpleasant, and they rationalise it as resentment of "the insolence of the Lyceumists." and thereafter Lyceumism is opposed as being against the best interests of the "Parent Movement." But, thank goodness, these reactionaries form a small and insignificant minority, and the Spiritualist Movement is rich in broad-minded and public spirited adult workers who have generously helped and been helped by the Lyceums in their various districts.

It will be anticipated, then, that the Session and the methods found suitable for the child are equally suitable for the adult. Adults admit this, and manifest their inherent greatness by their interest in the Individual Efforts of the children—which they heartily applaud and encourage. But they are specially catered for in the Liberty Group, which meets during the Groups period in the Session—or, in some cases, holds an additional session apart from the Lyceum. The Liberty Group consists of the senior and adult Lyceumists, and some Lyceums book a special Liberty Group speaker to introduce a subject for discussion. In all other respects the adults fall in with the routine and methods of the Lyceum Session, and take full part in the reading and discussion of the *Lyceum Manual* Chains and Recitations.

About twenty years ago ardent Lyceumists came to the conclusion that one Session per week did not give sufficient opportunity for study and discussion of the subjects introduced in the *Manual*. It was thought that special classes should be held to study these subjects, and at last the idea of an Education Scheme suggested itself as providing a solution of the problem. Experiments were made in several directions, until in July, 1920, the Lyceum Union Education Committee adopted the present Scheme. The first examination under the new scheme was held in 1921, and since then upwards of 20,000 students, tutors, class leaders, etc.,

have taken part in the work. During the last five or six years economic conditions have imposed a serious and almost crippling financial handicap on our educational activities, but the Scheme is holding its own and even beginning to show signs of advance. I am not going to weary you with details of what we teach and how we teach it, but I feel sure that you would like to know the ideal to which we work.

The National Education Scheme is designed to continue the development of the student's powers of independent thought and opinion and of intelligent self-expression. It takes the Lyceumist through the Oral Grade (two sections) and Grade I to Grade V. He begins at the age of 8 with the Oral Grade Catechism; goes through the Grades (I to III) which secure intensive study of the *Lyceum Manual*; qualifies in Grade IV to be Group Leader or a Lyceum Conductor, and at the age of 18 passes the Grade V examination in General Spiritualism. This will be his seventh examination, and if he passes with not less than seventy per cent of the total marks he becomes eligible for the Degree of Associate of the National Spiritualist College (A.N.S.C.). He is encouraged to carry on his studies, and in the Advanced Grades—Intermediate, Subsidiary, and Final—he studies Logic, Psychology, and Philosophy; Evolution, Anthropology and the Spiritual Ascent of Man; Comparative Religion, De Brath's *Psychic Philosophy*, Grant Allen's *Evolution of the Idea of God*, and other text books of general reading on Mediumship and psychical research. If he passes his Final Examination with 75 per cent marks, he becomes eligible for the Degree of Graduate of the National Spiritualist College (G.N.S.C.). Non-Lyceumists are allowed to take up the Scheme at Grade V, which they have to pass as an Entrance Examination to the Advanced Scheme.

It is considered that a student who has studied and expressed opinions on these subjects to the satisfaction of Examiners is in a position to form a just and reliable and useful judgment of Spiritualist philosophy and phenomena, and decide for himself upon its religious and other implications. But apart altogether from the personal benefit to the student is the direct or indirect benefit to the whole Spiritualist Movement. Many of our adult Lyceumists are Church workers and officers, or Platform Workers, and with their new knowledge and their new way of looking at things they are raising the standard of Church work and of the Church platform. About two hundred have qualified for the Intermediate Diploma of the Spiritualists' National Union Exponents Committee, and nearly five hundred have passed the "Group Leaders and Conductors" examination. In addition many are acting as officers in District and National Councils, or as tutors and leaders in the mid-week education classes and guilds. So I think we may fairly claim that the Education Scheme has been and will continue to be of real benefit to our Churches as well as our Lyceums—and we want it to be remembered that this Scheme is only an extension or intensification of our Lyceum System.

Also I think it will be allowed that the Lyceum Movement is becoming an educated as well as an educational movement, and that it is training and producing workers and leaders capable of doing whatever may lie before them in the various fields of Spiritualist activity. We are told that the children of to-day are the Spiritualist workers and leaders of the future—and we are training the children—and their parents—so that they

will be ready for their duty when it calls them. And Britain and the United States are not the only nations which have children and inquirers looking for, and entitled to, the mental training which will fit them to study Spiritualism and find in it a philosophy of life that will make them happier men and women, better citizens and more advanced spiritual beings. In every country men and women are being attracted by the phenomena, and it is the duty of those who introduce the phenomena to see that phenomena is not the only thing to which they are or will be introduced. In every country boys and girls are being taught the very things that have led to wars, to plague, pestilence and famine, to murder and slavery, and the unholy exploitation of the bodies and souls of women and men. Is it not our duty to give them the instruction and the mental training that will enable them to throw off the shackles of tradition and self-interest; to get a new and illuminating ideal of the brotherhood of human beings and their duty to live together in mutual understanding, mutual service, mutual striving for peace, and mutual manifestation of practical love. We claim that it is, and that any National organisation which does not include Lyceum work in its normal activities is not doing its duty by the Spiritualist children of the present or the Spiritualism of the future. We urge the National representatives assembled at this Congress to realise their duty and to determine that their own National organisation shall be brought to realise it. We urge each representative to become an advocate of the establishment of this system of education modelled on the Summerland system and inspired and blessed by all that is exalted and progressive in the Spirit Spheres. We claim that it will create in the minds of our youths and maidens that zeal for knowledge, and for helping others to obtain knowledge, which only Lyceumism can instil.

There is no earthly glory in Lyceum work; nothing but hard and at times seemingly profitless endeavour. The work is ever so much harder than giving propaganda addresses, and nobody ever hears of the worker or the work he has done. But the Angels who love little children are with us, and all the glory we need is the realisation that we have done our best to discharge a sacred responsibility, and to set the feet of the children on that path of eternal progression which is open to all who wish to tread it towards the goal of Eternal Good.

To HELP THE BANNER.

Mr. T. W. Coleman Offers

To help the BANNER by selling two propaganda sheets containing G.C.R. 136 "The Teachings of Spiritualism," and G.C.R. 142 "The Aim of Spiritualism." Either or both sheets can be obtained at 1/- per 100 post free.

Mr. Coleman also offers a Hymn, "Open my eyes that I may see," and a Benediction, "Grant us thy peace, O God of peace and love," printed on one sheet, gummed paper to paste in the 5x4 hymn books. Price 2/- per 100.

Send your order to Mr. W. T. Coleman, 4, Leahurst Road, Lewisham, London, S.E.13, and watch for your name in the BANNER.

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 contributions to the Union's funds.

A scheme is now 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.

How it Works.

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.

What we Need.

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, conference 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 £1,000 per annum.

To Every Lyceumist.

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 power 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.

£2,000 Effort Fund.

Dear Lyceumists everywhere,

The contributions this month are as follows:—by farthings from Mr. Anderson, Per Miss Elliott, 3d. From another friend ½d. and a donation of 7s. 6d. from Sheffield, Attercliffe, Bold Street, per Mr. Le Noury, making a total of 7s. 9½d., which I very gratefully acknowledge.

It is very encouraging to note that a special effort is being made by our Sheffield and District friends for Peace Sunday, to help the £2,000 Fund. I wish them every success and trust other districts will follow their example. Please remember the Musical Recital, still on sale, Hymn sheets 4s. 6d. per 100. Recitation leaflets 2d. per copy, samples of complete work 3d. each. All proceeds for £2,000 Fund. Once again I appeal for your continued co-operation and support.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

118, Cremorne Street, VICTORIA G. REYNOLDS.

Nottingham.

Hon. Sec.

Gone Home! John Venables, J.P.

(We regret that the report which appeared in our October issue contained two errors. We now print a report which has been approved, with acknowledgments to the "Two Worlds" for the privilege of insertion.—ED.)

We have to record the transition of Mr. John Venables, who crossed the bar on Tuesday, the 25th August last, at his residence, "Hydesville," Foden Road, Walsall, age 78, after a long and tedious illness, which was borne with becoming patience.

Mr. Venables was fully entitled to be called a pioneer of the Spiritualist Movement. Over fifty years ago he was one of the founders of the Walsall Spiritualist Church, and had been its President during the major portion of its existence. He was one of the founders of the "Spiritualists' National Union," and was on its panel of Trustees. He was President of the "Spiritualists' National Federation" during the trying period when it was becoming incorporated as the "Spiritualists National Union," and occupied the chair in 1901 at the Annual Meeting at Sheffield, which finally decided on its incorporation. Coming into the Movement fifty-two years ago, he was for many years one of the front rank of the fighting brigade.

The Lyceum Movement amongst the young, as well as the adult Movement of Spiritualism, was very dear to his heart, and his services rendered to the "British Lyceum Union" will evoke the gratitude of everyone who knows the history of that body. He was associated with Mr. Kitson during the early days of the Lyceum Movement, and by voice and purse rendered valuable assistance.

He was in business in Walsall as a spring hook manufacturer, and had been a member of the Town Council for a long period of years, and occupied the Mayoral Chair for two successive years, 1911-12. In politics he was a prominent Liberal, and was at one time President of the Walsall Liberal Club. He had a deep interest in the welfare of the sick, and associated

himself closely with the Walsall General Hospital, to which he presented an X-ray apparatus.

For over sixteen years he had been a Borough Magistrate, and his home was the public enquiry office for all his townsmen who were in difficulty and distress.

It was largely through Mr. John Venables that the Spiritualist Society at Walsall built the Central Halls, now used as a Labour Exchange, and from their opening it was his hand which guided the destinies of the church.

In addition to the Presidency of the S.N.U., Mr. Venables had also been President of the B.S.L.U. He was one of the Trustees who are administering the Ainsworth Trust.

At the funeral on Friday August 28th, which was conducted by Mrs. Jessy Greenwood and Mr. V. H. Lawton, all the civic heads were present, with deputations from all the local authorities. The Trustees of the Baptist Chapel in Stafford Street spontaneously offered their church and organ for a short service before going to the Ryceroft Cemetery, where the final obsequies took place.

Mrs. Esther Venables preceded her husband into the Summerland some few years ago, and one of the comforts ever present to Mr. Venables' mind was that the time would come when he would rejoin his partner of nearly fifty years' companionship.

THE SERVICE OF FLOWERS.

Inspired verses composed for a Flower Service held on Sunday, June 7th, 1931.

Flowers of the garden, Flowers of the field,
How splendid your beautiful perfume ye yield,
You tell of our wonderful Father above,
You give hope to the hopeless, with your message of love

You show us your beauty as we travel through life,
You bid us be cheerful, and banish vain strife,
Your language is golden, as ye lay in our view,
Ye worship the sunshine, and drink of the dew.

Oh, may we, to-day, learn the lesson you teach,
And make every effort, these visions to reach,
Which shew us our duty, and open the way,
That leads ever upward, to God's endless day.

Some flowers of life who have passed from our view
Flowers of our homestead, who, like the dew,
Have risen from the earth, to homes more bright,
But yet like the lillies, fill our homes with light.

Our memories are drawn to these spheres of love,
We cherish these visions of our loved ones above,
These flowers and their memories they shew us the way
And beckon us onward, to love's endless day.

Friends here assembled, with heart and with hand,
We earnestly ask you to come join our band
Worshipping God in the language of flowers,
Bringing sunshine and joy into earth's weary hours.

May God add his richest blessing to these few lines
May they be the means of helping someone to a higher
and nobler life.

E. Pickles.

IMAGINATION AND MENTAL PICTURES.

BY EVA C. DEAN.

We live in a world Visible and Invisible. Invisible in the sense that we do not always see it through the physical eye, yet we are conscious of its presence and inhabitants with whom we contact through inspiration and guidance.

Imagination plays a very great part in the mind of the child. It builds a world of its own, with children and grown ups. It pictures what they are like, it plans what shall be done in such a way that the child has a great hope that these mental pictures may become a reality in the world it sees, through the physical eye. The child's imagination is stimulated with stories and fairy tales. These also act as an object lesson to give some idea of right and wrong.

The fairy tales shew that although there are nice things there are also nasty things. There are people who are good and people who are not always good and the good ones help to destroy the bad works of those who do not know or will not listen to the good people. The fairy stories tell us of Fairy Godmothers and Godfathers; these are the good people. Then we find there are Ogres, the people who are not always good, and we are relieved when we find that the fairies come to the aid of those who are oppressed by the Ogre, or that the Ogre is overcome by some Knight or even some brave boy or girl, such as "Jack the Giant Killer."

As we grow older we lose our childish imagination but we still build "Castles in the air," in which we imagine ourselves in a different environment, perhaps doing different work or with people whom distance divides and we wonder if our "Castles" will ever materialise. Sometimes it seems impossible because the world seems so solid and some of the people so stolid that we again turn inwards and rebuild our "Castles" until they become our greatest desires, with the thought that if they do not materialise here they have already materialised in spirit and if they are worthy of a future existence our "castles in the air" will become our spirit environment.

These mental pictures seem to be a natural instinct. We are told that children in the Spirit World are taught by mental pictures and symbols. In developing circles we also find that spirit operators hypnotise the sitter and imprint in the mind a mental picture and impress the interpretation or symbol.

This power of imagination has led man to form some image of God. We are all familiar with the old ideas of God and realise the great change of mind regarding the understanding of our relationship to God. To-day we think of God as Infinite Spirit, not a Being apart from ourselves, but we are a part of this Infinite Spirit in "whom we live and move and have our being." Having lost the idea of a personal God we find it difficult to image that which is without individuality or personality. We know that there are cosmic laws because we see them in effect. We know that we are part of the Infinite Spirit, we do not see the spirit within but we feel its urge in striving to overcome the physical weaknesses. The spirit within comes from one source and yet manifests in many ways, in some it may seem undeveloped in others developing in different grades: this gives us individuality and outstanding personality. Being individuals we have an individual conception of

God and we cannot image a God as a Being without individuality. We know that God has never left himself without a witness and revelation has come from teachers and leaders such as Buddha, Mahommed, Confucius and others. In the Western world we are most familiar with the teachings of Jesus as an exemplar for us to follow. We image the form of Jesus because we believe he lived as a man. The life of Jesus was not written until some time after his passing so man imaged Jesus in the different pictures which we have as, Jesus, The light of the world, Jesus the Good Shepherd, Jesus the Crucified and Jesus the Arisen.

Many people assert that they have seen the form of Jesus. A friend of the Rochester Square, Society, London, relates the following experience. She had been suffering great pain from a growth and was feeling rather tired of being told so many different remedies. In desperation she decided to try and command healing from God himself. In the morning she concentrated on the thought that she would not rise from her bed until she received this healing balm. After an hour's concentration she saw the vision of Jesus which renewed her faith and brought relief.

In the evening her medium friend went into trance and a coloured control said to the sufferer, "how did you like the picture we brought you this morning." At the moment she had forgotten the vision and asked the Control which picture he was referring to? The Control replied, "the picture of Jesus." From this we gather that our spirit friends bring these mental pictures in order to stimulate our faith, that we may have fresh courage and conviction and believe in the healing balm which we can draw unto ourselves and that we, being spirits may partake of those spiritual gifts which are ours by inheritance and are waiting to be claimed.

With spiritual conditions as they are it is difficult to see form with a highly evolved spirit—only a very bright light dazzling to the eye. We do not have mental pictures of God. The eye would not be able to gaze upon it and the finite mind cannot image God who is Infinite Spirit.

Having seen these lower forms of mental pictures and visions we wonder what beauty awaits us when we are able to attune ourselves to them.

Births, Marriages, and Transitions.

Ordinary Intimations will be inserted as follows:—Not exceeding twenty-four words free. 6d. will be charged for every additional nine words. Poetry 6d. per line. Payment must accompany all intimations of more than 24 words, or they cannot be inserted. In Memoriam for any previous year will be charged 1/- for 24 words, and 6d. for additional 9 words. Poetry 6d. per line.

BIRTH.

MILLS.—On September 27th, 1931, at 77, King Street, Bury, to Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Mills (née Dean) a son.

TRANSITION.

BEGG—At 8, Shelford Street, Scunthorpe on October 14th, Arthur, the beloved husband of Emily Begg, passed to higher life after a long and painful illness, patiently born.

"Their loss is his eternal gain."

THE S.N.U. FUND OF BENEVOLENCE.

I have pleasure to report the following income for August and September.

August.—Therton Church Collecting Box, 16s. 10d.; Lest we Forget, 5s.; Plymouth, Morley Street, Church collecting box £1 10s.; Philip W. Oversley 10s.; Mrs. M. J. Harrison 7s.; Mr. A. Scott, 5s.; Mrs. Ruth Hey, 10s.; Mrs. Leadbetter, Southport Home Circle, £2; Weston-Super-Mare Church, £1 1s.; Bournemouth, Charminster Road, £3 3s.; Southern Lyceum District Council, 6s. 8d. Total, £10 14s. 6d.

September.—Wolverhampton Church Ladies' Guild, profit on S.M.D.C. delegates' Tea, 10s. 6d.; Sowerby Bridge, Married Ladies' effort at Mrs. Butterworth's house, 'Greystones,' 10s.; Halifax, Queen's Road, Church, Mrs. Christie's fee, 10s. 6d.; Transfiguration Seance by Mrs. Sullock, per Mrs. Wilby, £1 4s.; Worthing Church, Harvest Festival collection, £5; Barrow Psycho Members quarterly Tax' £1 3s. 3d.; A Friend, 5s.; A. Topping, 10s.; Mrs. Lonsdale, 5s.; P. W. Oversley, 5s.; I. Green, £1; Mr. J. A. Hill and Miss Hill, £1; Mr. D. Gabell and (Mrs. Gabell in Spirit) 10s.; E. F. A. Leresche, 10s.; Mrs. Dean, Bury, 2s. 6d.; Miss E. Smith, 5s.; Mr. and Mrs. Waterhouse, 10s.; Mrs. M. J. Holden, 5s.; W. Tuck, 5s.; J. F. Bowerman £2 2s.; Mrs. Butterworth, Blackpool, £1; F. D., Birkenhead, 10s.; A. W. Gladman, 5s.; Mr. A. Scott, 5s.; Fred J. Maundrell, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. A. Garlick, 6s. Total £19 1s. 3d.

The Committee are grateful for the continual help received and would draw your attention to the Editor's, appeal in the October issue. The story is a true one, so please interest your Lyceum Officers and friends to contribute something towards the F.O.B. More than a dozen regular subscribers have been called to higher service—who will fill their gap? With grateful thanks for all contributions received.

Yours gratefully,

4, Ravenstone Gardens, MARY L. STAIR,
Sutton Mill, Hon. Sec.
Nr. Keighley, Yorks.
P.S.—Please note new address.

FROM MORN TO NIGHT.

Morn is shining in the sun—
See how the lilies greet it;
See the birds with wings out-stretched,
Hovering, basking in it.

Noontide's torrid heat succeeds—
Watch the cattle seek the shade;
Watch the airy butterfly
On her nectar-sipping raid.

Evening comes with welcome calm—
See how the worker greets it;
See the daisy's petals close,
And hear the mavis hymn it.

Night-time comes with twinkling stars—
Watch the fox's scurried pace;
Watch the night-owl search for prey,
And the clouds in moonlit race.

REUBEN A. WEBB, Dipl. S.N.U.

MY LIFE IN TWO WORLDS, by Gladys Osborne Leonard.
Cassell & Co., Ltd., La Belle Sauvage, London,
E.C.4. 7s. 6d. net.

Unquestionably the best known medium in this country, Mrs. Leonard sketches her life and psychic experiences from childhood, and tells how, as a young actress, she first came in contact with table-tilting, recoiling at first from the phenomenon. Relating the development of her own psychic powers, direct voice and materialization mediumship, and how she learned to know "Feda" her control, Mrs. Leonard's book will be of the greatest interest not only to Spiritualists, but also to the public in general.

ON THE SHORES OF THE INFINITE. By Mrs. G. Stuart,
Messrs Simpkin Marshall, Ltd., Published shortly.
Crown 8vo. Cloth Gilt 5/- net.

In the great eternal space, the Spirit World, are many life-centres, each with a life peculiar to its parts, each with its own prescribed orbit, each surrounded by a great body force called "Spirit Life."

Mrs. Stuart in "On the Shores of the Infinite" describes the wanderings of a spirit who is sent into the distant realms—to the "shadow-land" of Arcanus, to Venus, Jupiter, Vesta, and the other planets—in each of which a life-force taught immortal truths, the elimination of the material for the spiritual, and the progress towards perfection.

Essentially of Theosophical interest, the well known contributor to "Starlore" and many other Journals, offers a work worthy of study for students of the cult with which she deals, and opens up an area for discussion on the subject of Spiritual Life; a discussion which should be eagerly sought by a multitude of lovers of this fascinating science.

PEARLS.

He that lives according to reason will never be poor.

He that governs his life by caprice will never be rich.

Sad sighs write the woes of the heart, and kind speeches comfort the oppressed soul.

Those who govern best, whether in a family or a kingdom, sometimes wisely drop their prerogative.

Encourage sincerity; it is the basis of every virtue.

Mystery renders the most innocent acts suspected.

Words are the shadows of works, and eloquence the ornament of both.

Good actions are their own interpreters.

To forgive provocation is the gift of a good mind.

The usual and the beautiful are never far apart.

He who is what he appears, will do what he promises.

Fiction pleases most when it resembles truth.

Live well, and die never; die well and live ever.

CHEAP BOOKS.

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

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

THE LYCEUM MANUAL.

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

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

AINSWORTH HOME OF REST.

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

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

THE B.S.L.U. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

The M.C. of the B.S.L.U. met at Manchester in the Princess Hall on Sat., 10th Oct. The Meeting was called for business purposes only and the members were able, in most cases, to return home on the Saturday evening.

A fuller report of the meeting will be given in the December issue.

Thanks were accorded to Princess Hall for the hospitality. The next meeting will be held at Bolton (Bradford St.) Church.

THE B.S.L.U. SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDS.

LYCEUM BANNER FUND:—Mr. W. T. Coleman, per Southall 2s.; Mr. Bell, Bedford 6d.; Total 2s. 6d.

PATRON FUND: Mrs. Gershon, 2s.; Mrs. Calway, 5s. 4d.; Moston, 8s. Total 15s. 4d.

Patron-Members, Penny-a-week Scheme. Further contributions have been received or promised from: Miss E. Elliott, Mr. Walton, Mrs. Hunt, Mr. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Jones, Mr. Tyreman, Mr. Caseman, Mr. Brady, Mr. Roy, Mrs. Calway, Mr. R. H. Bates, Mrs. B. Dennis, Miss R. Dennis, Miss A. Fulcher, Mrs. V. West, Miss E. Filiner, Miss L. Gobourne, Mrs. L. Bates.

Out in the British Channel, a fishing boat was trying to make for the port of Swansea. But, though the crew did all that good seamanship could do, they quite failed to make headway, for both wind and tide were dead against them. Perceiving at last, that the fight was hopeless, they made up their minds to "bout ship" and run for Cardiff; where, with wind and tide sending them on at a great rate, they speedily arrived. In a similar way a man, or a nation, that thinks to arrive at the harbour of true happiness and prosperity by beating up against the wind and tide of morality is in a hopeless case; it is only a complete change of course that can save either from utter failure.

Keep virtue's simple path before your eyes,
Nor think from evil good can rise.

THOMSON.

District Council Reports.**UNITED LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

The U.D.C. Annual General Meeting and Election of Officers was held at Macclesfield in the Cumberland St., Free Church.

Mr. C. T. Batley, president, was in the chair. The districts represented at the meeting were: Bolton, Mr. R. Johnson; North East Lancashire, Mr. A. Dickinson; North East Cheshire, Mrs. Ennion; Leeds, Mr. Wainwright; South East Lancashire, Mr. J. Nurse; Sheffield, Mr. Armitage; B.S.L.U. M.C., Mr. J. Shuttleworth, who was also the U.D.C. Sec.

The meeting started with silent meditation and a prayer offered by the president.

The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted.

The Secretary explained he was the Management Committee's representative and it was decided that he sign the roll in that capacity.

The reference for a new Lyceum Badge was discussed. The M.C. representative informed the meeting that the British copyright of the Sunflower Badge is held by the Two Worlds Publishing Co., who prefer that, if the B.S.L.U. change the official badge, some other design shall be chosen.

Many suggestions were made, among which were "triangle and circle," "double triangle." The subject was referred to District Councils for discussion: suitable designs and symbols to be requested for submission to the next U.D.C. meeting.

The meeting agreed to send a message to Mr. W. T. Kelly, wishing him success in his parliamentary campaign.

There was no further copy to hand for the Children's Manual Section. The Teeside L.D.C. expressed regret on the position. It was agreed that the Secretary submit the children's section to Mr. Armitage, and if he deems suitable, he print same for Council without let or hindrance.

There was no action taken on a letter from the Survival League. It was decided that the Secretary return the memorial stamps.

The compilation of figures, taken from previous balance sheets by the General Secretary, showed the cost to run the Union has been £680 per annum or £13 a week.

The U.D.C. Secretary appealed for a payment of the Union's outstanding accounts and a start with a clean sheet. He said the cost of running the office is about £8. 15s. od. a week.

The president expressed the condolence of the U.D.C. to the Sec.-Treasurer, Mr. J. Shuttleworth upon the passing of his father to spirit life. The meeting accorded the vote in silence.

Messrs. Dickinson and Johnson were appointed auditors.

Mrs. Ennion gave an invocation.

The discussion on the finances of the Union was resumed. It was felt the financial information had been kept back too long. Each delegate was prepared to give the financial position of the Union prominence in the district meetings.

It was decided to ask for copies of the financial analysis (1924-1930) to submit to the District Councils for serious consideration.

The U.D.C. financial position showed an income of £3. 14s. 1d. Expenses £4. 16s. 9d. Debit balance £1. 2s. 8d. The total amount due to Sec. £3. 3s. 2½d.

The Secretary stated he was ceasing his official connection with the U.D.C. after 14 years service. He was of the opinion that the work of the U.D.C. is only just becoming of real value to the movement and its work is far from being finished.

The auditors and all other reports were adopted.

A number of items were discussed without any definite action being taken. The Annual B.S.L.U. Conference items were on Psychology Tests, Supervisors, Constitution, Fraternal delegates.

The President said, in a short address, that the U.D.C. could be very useful and give a consensus of opinion on matters of general interest. It is easier to destroy than build up anything better than we have got. He pleaded for interest to retain young adults—bringing all Lyceumists to an active share in the consecutive routine of the sessions.

The delegates favoured some forms of voluntary methods and interchanges by allowing the members and visitors to take charge of the sessions.

It was noted that about 60 persons had enrolled under the Patron-member id. a week scheme.

Mr. C. T. Batley was re-elected president and Mr. A. S. Dickinson was elected Secretary-Treasurer for 1931-32. The new secretary's address is Mr. A. S. Dickinson, A.N.S.C., 56, Berkerly Street, Nelson, Lancs.

The attitude of the S.N.U. to the B.S.L.U. was a theme which Mr. Shuttleworth stated was to be the basis of a proposed joint meeting between representatives of the two national Committees.

The delegates discussed many further items which delegates can explain. (In the absence of unified proposals, delegates could send a plan of re-organisation to the BANNER.—Ed.)

It was recommended that the D.V. act as a visitor for the Education Scheme, along with other duties.

The thanks of the meeting were heartily accorded to the Macclesfield friends for the cordial hospitality.

LEEDS DISTRICT.

The quarterly Conference was held at Wakefield on Saturday Sept 19th.

The President, Mr. Wainwright was in the Chair. Invocation by Mr. Tweedale. The welcome given by Mr. Tweedale was accepted by the President, who addressed the Delegates.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted and confirmed. Correspondence re the Representative to B.D.C. Rally; it was agreed the action of President and Secretary be endorsed. An invitation to hold Annual meeting in February in York was accepted. All other correspondence was accepted and filed.

D. V. Reports. Attention drawn to the Wing Movement by the D.V. Most Lyceums visited showed improvement.

The Treasurer reported Income 14s. 11d. Expenses £1. 3s. 4d. Deficit 8s. 5d.

Silver Bell Progress Scheme will be allocated to the General Fund a/c.

Field Day* Secretary Financial statement:—Income £5. 11s. 6½ Expenditure £4. 19s. 8½d. Balance £1. 11s. 10d. This was considered very satisfactory seeing how we are suffering industrially. The Council's very best thanks was accorded to the Psycho Friends.

The Auditors report was accepted. Agreed we send a donation of 10/- to the St. John Ambulance association at Leeds.

Progress Scheme, (Silver Bell) Secretary reported several had not sent their Quota and also had not replied to correspondence. The scheme was inaugurated with the idea that all Lyceums would fall into line and join to make it the success it desires.

Notice of Motion (Dewsbury) "That Field Day be re-organised" was accepted by 15 votes to against 2. Lyceums are asked to send ideas to be discussed at next Conference.

Notice of Motion (Batley Carr). Previous Minute relative to invitation, "that inviting Lyceum pay for cost of one Band be rescinded and that all Lyceums affiliated to the S.S.D.C. pay an equal amount to be fixed by the Council." Carried by 15 votes against 3.

Notice of Motion (Dewsbury). "That the General Secretary's salary be reduced £50 per year." Defeated by 17 votes against 2. No associates.

Council.—Posting of bills, Leeds Tramways Co. Agreed the Secretary write the B.S.L.U. General Secretary and ask for a letter to be sent to the Leeds Council protesting against the action of the General Manager of Leeds Tramways Co.

Treasurer reported that the Wakefield friends had handed over to him proceeds of Tea which amounted to £1. 13s. 2½d. Total (with collection) £2.

The vote of thanks to local friends was moved by treasurer and seconded by president.

The date and place of next Conference will be arranged by Secretary, if possible at Liversedge.

Roll Call:—Officers 4; Delegates 18, representing 13 Lyceums, Associates 5, Credential Officers 2. Total entitled to vote, 29.

NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING.

The quarterly Conference will be held on Saturday Nov. 28th at Eddercliffe Road, Bradford Road, Liversedge at 3-30 p.m.

Agenda:—Opening Exercise, Invocation, Minutes, Correspondence, Roll Call, Reports, D.V.'s, Treasurer's U.D.C., L.D.C., Silver Bell Progress Scheme, (Regalia) Field Day Demonstration (Invitation 1932) Re-organising Demonstration (suggestions), Associates L.L.D.C., Open Council, Closing date Nominations (Officers) L.L.D.C., Officers B.S.L.U. Annual Meeting.

A. W. HARDING, Sec.

LONDON DISTRICT.

The London Lyceum District Council have had a record run of Council Propaganda Meetings. September 6th, Battersea; 13th, Plaistow; 20th, Clapham; October 4th, Eltham; 11th, Forest Hill; 18th, Tottenham, 25th, Peckham; November 1st, Woolwich.

On September 27th The Annual Demonstration was held at Embassy Hall, Catford, when over 500 Lyceumists gave a demonstration of our methods.

The session was conducted by the President, Mr. Albert Fruin supported by Mrs. Fruin (Treas.) Mrs. Calway (Sec. and Area Rep.) Mr. A. T. Connor, Mr. and Mrs. Forsyth and members of the Council.

Readings, Responses and Individual efforts were ably rendered by Lyceumists.

Marching and Callisthenics were well conducted by Mr. Dix. The Musical Programme was in the hands of Mr. Pearson.

Mrs. Bates presented a large number of Silver Medals to the winners of the Singing and Elocution Competitions. Croydon Lyceum won the Silver Bell, which was presented by the President.

The afternoon session was followed by a Propaganda meeting in the evening addressed by Mrs. Calway and Mr. Connor, Mrs. Connor gave Clairvoyance.

All these meetings were well attended, but owing to the National Crisis we regret the small attendance at the Athletic Section dance at Brixton on September 10th.

P.M.

NORTH-EAST CHESHIRE DISTRICT.

We had a visit of the U.D.C. on the 17th and 18th October, and held Mass Sessions at Macclesfield. Mr. Dransfield, President taking the Chair. Invocation by the Vice-President, Mrs. Edwards. Mr. Dransfield welcomed the U.D.C. Officers and Delegates. He was assisted by six little girls; one from each Lyceum in the Council, who each rendered one verse and sang the chorus. This had been prepared by Mrs. Mault, one of our members. Two tiny tots from Macclesfield presented button-holes to the members of the U.D.C. At this juncture Mr. Dransfield handed over the session to Mr. Batley, president of the U.D.C., who responded to the welcome on behalf of the delegates. He explained very briefly the work of the U.D.C., along with that of the District Councils whose efforts are always for the progress of man, and he hoped we would be united in our efforts.

S.C. 34. "What I live for," was conducted by Mr. Dickinson. During the M.R. "Steps of Progress," the conducted parts were taken by Mr. Johnson of Bolton, Mrs. Ennion of North East Cheshire, and Mr. Wainwright of Leeds.

The G.C.R. was conducted by Mr. Shuttleworth.

Questions concerning "How glorious man's destiny" and "What does the title express?" were ably answered to the satisfaction of all.

Marching and Callisthenics were well enjoyed.

Greetings were plentiful: Mr. Nurse from South East Lancs. D.C.; Mr. Armitage for Sheffield, D.C.; Mr. Wainwright for Leeds and Armley; Mr. Johnson for Bolton and Bradford Street; Mr. Dickinson for North East Lancs. and Nelson, also for Miss Cooke late of Preston, who has just arrived in South Africa; Mrs. Ennion for North East Cheshire; Mr. Shuttleworth for M.C. and Miss Elliott also for Darwen; Mrs. Batley for Fleetwood. Then Ashton, Heaton Norris, Hyde, Congleton, Macclesfield, Stockport, Central, and Mr. Markham for Ryde, the only Lyceum on the Isle of Wight. Mrs. Rushden for Mr. Knott, B.S.L.U.

Mr. Batley returned thanks, especially to Macclesfield, for their hospitality.

There was no time for individual efforts. About 200 were present.

Evening Propaganda service. Invocation Mrs. Ennion. Welcome by Councillor Potts, of Macclesfield, who hoped we would be united in our efforts for progress. Mr. Batley responded with thanks and introduced Mr. Dickinson, who addressed the meeting. His subject was "Quit you like men, be strong."

Mr. Wainwright said he appealed to adults to assist children for the future welfare of Spiritualism.

Mr. Shuttleworth spoke on "Are they not all ministering Spirits, and sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of Salvation."

Special music by Lyceum Choir—Violin Solo, Mr. Holland, "Life let us cherish." Duet "Angels guard thee" by Mrs. Henshaw and Miss Hully. All were excellently rendered.

The collections for the day were in aid of the 'Fund of Benevolence' at Macclesfield, and we trust it reaped a good harvest.

There was not a dull minute.

The motto "Workers Win" will surely bring forth that fruit of "What I live for" with "Steps of Progress" towards the "Unity and Eternity of Labour" for the "Brotherhood of Man," being nearer in our time. "Rouse Ye Comrades" Do not stop with Education but Onward—inspired with Faith in your Cause for Truth, Right, Justice and Peace.

R. A. L. MARKHAM.

SOUTHERN COUNTIES DISTRICT.

The District Council Meeting was held in Foresters Hall, Reading, on Saturday, Sept. 26th, with delegates and associates from Portsmouth, Eastleigh, Southampton and Reading.

An Invocation was offered by the President, Mr. A. Laurence. The Minutes were adopted, questions arising centred around the formation and recent cessation of Lyceum activities in Winchester. The Secretary explained that he had matters in hand.

Arising from correspondence it was agreed that a letter of sympathy be forwarded to Mrs. Taylor, the recent accident to her daughter causing her absence from the meeting.

Agreed that due to adverse reports that had been published *re* allocation of speakers of S.N.U., A.G.M., of Portsmouth, that it be made known that the list of names forwarded by the General Secretary of S.N.U. did not include either Miss Elliott or Messrs Knott or Connor, and had they been included their services would have been greatly acceptable in the area, had they themselves been available for service.

The Treasurer's Report showed a balance in hand of £6 5s. 8d.

The Secretary mentioned he had not yet received invitation from the West.

Competitive Scheme. 1. Arising from this it was proposed by Mr. MacFarlane that "having been agreed in Principle, such a competitive scheme is desirable, the Council is empowered to draw up a set of rules and conditions for its early introduction, providing it receives (not later than 31st Dec. next) a written statement from at least six of its area Lyceums guaranteeing their support, with the consequent financial obligations, if thought to be necessary by the Sub. Committee."

2. That these rules to be circulated in full to all Lyceums for their consideration, three weeks before the meeting called for endorsement, which should for preference be fixed to correspond with the next A.G.M.

It was agreed to place upon record the success of our secretary Mr. Guy in having completed his Final Grade with Honours as first Candidate, in the South to achieve success as a Graduate of the National Spiritualist College.

It was agreed that successful candidates of Entrance Examination in advanced Scheme should be congratulated and placed on record: Mrs. Lee, Miss M. Briggs, and Mr. Simpson all from Portsmouth Temple Lyceum.

It was agreed that Bristol be approached stating we regret non-attendance of meeting, and it would be a great satisfaction to us as a council to arrange our next meeting at Bristol.

An invitation from Portsmouth Temple for the business meeting upon the Saturday was provisionally offered.

A vote of thanks was tendered by Mrs. Baker and replied to by Mrs. Lawrence, Conductor of Reading Lyceum.

Mr. Harwood of Eastleigh offered the Benediction.

TEES-SIDE DISTRICT

The Quarterly Conference of the above Council will be held at the "Star of Progress Lyceum" Musgrave Street, West Hartlepool on Sunday 15th November 1931 at 10-30 a.m. when a good attendance is requested, please. In addition to the usual routine business, the Agenda includes:—

(i) That the Associate Fees be increased to one shilling per year.

(ii) That the Conductor, assistant Conductor, Secretary, Treasurer and Delegates of Affiliated Lyceums must also be Associate Members of the Council.

(iii) That the Officers and Members of the District Council E.C. must also be Associate Members.

(iv) That subject to the Associate Fees being one shilling, a copy of Minutes and Agenda be sent to each Associate not later than a fortnight prior to Conference.

(v) That Lyceum Affiliation Fees be increased to 3/- per year.

(vi) That a Bookstall be opened as a permanent feature of D.C. work.

(vii) That this Council shall adopt "The Tyneside L.D.C. Objects and Rules Governing the Appointment of Speakers and Demonstrators" with the exception that Rule 3 shall read six months in each instance. (Copies of proposed Rules have been circulated.)

(viii) That the "Education Scheme" be established on a "College" basis in the D.C.

The Executive Committee has authorised the opening of a "Subscription Fund," Lyceums and Lyceumists are asked to support this fund by subscribing as generously as their means permit. "Scent Cards" will be available for sale and distribution at Conference. All E.C. members are asked to hold themselves responsible for sales in their own Lyceums.

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

CHANGE OF SECRETARIES, Etc.

Little Ilford.—Mr. Titmus, 94, Leigh Road, East Ham, E.6.

New Manchester, Brunswick Chambers.—Mr. Atkinson, 267, Stockport Road, Longsight, Manchester.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, Rye Hill.—Mr. A. Richardson, 4, East Parade, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Devonport, Ferry Hall.—Miss D. Cross, 11, Third Avenue, Camel's Head, Devonport, Plymouth.

Llandudno, Garage Street, Mr. N. J. Edwards, Tyn-y-Coed Road, Great Orme's Head, Llandudno.

Bacup, Mr. G. Hassell, 9, Hannah St.

United Districts Lyceum Council: Mr. A. Dickinson, A.N.S.C., 56, Berkerley St., Nelson, Lancs

Special Reports.

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

CARDIFF, Park Grove.—On the evening of October 11th we held our Open Session. Pearls, recitations and vocal solos were excellently rendered. Mr. Harris presented the certificates to the Lyceumists who passed the B.S.L.U. Examinations.

This year's results were very encouraging to the tutors and pupils, as everyone who sat passed. There were entries for every grade and the majority passed with Distinction or Honours.

It was a most successful service and the Lyceumists were highly commended on their efforts. The proceeds of this service were given to the B.S.L.U. funds.

G. DUNN, Sec.

DONCASTER, Catherine Street.—Harvest Festival, Oct. 11th and 12th. Sunday 2-30 open session conducted by Miss Johnson, Altar service basket taken by Mrs. Gosling. Pearls and recitations, marching and Callisthenics by Lyceumists.

In the evening Song service rendered by Lyceumists. Mr. Holloway at the piano.

7-30 p.m. meeting taken by Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Holloway, Miss Goose and Mrs. Maltby.

Monday, afternoon and evening, services taken by Mrs. Webb and Mrs. Maltby. Miss Johnson presiding at all services. Mr. Holloway sold fruit, vegetables, etc., which Lyceumists and friends had kindly brought.

The services were well attended and financially good. A most uplifting and spiritual week-end.—Mrs. Webb, Sec.

EARBY, Onward.—On October 3rd, we held our first annual Members' Tea and Concert, 50 sitting down to tea. The children gave recitations and songs and the Liberty Group gave the sketch entitled "Henpecked," which was enjoyed by all.—Mrs. J. T. Clark, Sec.

MANCHESTER, South Manchester—Princess Hall.—On October 11th, our Education Scheme Certificates were presented by Miss Elliott, President of the B.S.L.U. She gave a stirring speech and spoke directly to each of our successful candidates with encouragement and praise to spur them on to higher ideals in the future.—M. Lamb, Sec.

NELSON, Vernon Street.—Open Session Sept. 27th, being our Lyceum day. Songs by Winnie Lloyd, Pearl Smith and M. Hopkinson. Fred Bannister at the piano. Recitations by Evelyn Jackson, Margery Atherton, Gladys Dugdale, Richard Gallagher and Mary E. Jackson. A happy time was spent together.

Open Session Oct. 3rd. Margaret Hopkinson, Richard Gallagher, Marjorie Atherton, M. E. Jackson, Gladys Dugdale. This month we have had three children named under our Lyceum. We hope joy has been given to all who took part. All our Lyceumists are now busy with winter efforts.—Mrs. R. Richardson, Assist. Sec.

WHITLEY BAY.—On Oct. 4th during the session, the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. I. Baldwinson was named "Joan" by her Grandfather, Mr. Hammill Baldwinson, General Secretary for the N.D.C. A very impressive ceremony on behalf of the Lyceum. Our conductor, Mrs. Hall, presented the Lyceum Badge.—Miss Gardener, Sec.

The Children's Puzzle.



GUNPOWDER PLOT.

Puzzle, find the boy who put the match to the bon-fire: his father and mother; and also the policeman who came to see what all the noise was about.

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 Oct. 21st.

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 November 25th to ensure insertion in the December issue.

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

ACCRINGTON, Argyle Street.—Open Session, Oct. 11th. Recitations and solos were well rendered by the Lyceumists. On Sunday afternoons, from 1-30 to 2-30, we are holding our Liberty Group, and we extend a hearty invitation to anyone wishing to come.—F. Holgate, Sec.

ACCRINGTON, Pearl Street.—Open Session, Oct. 5th. In the morning and afternoon we held massed Session, at which Harwood, Padiham, Argyle and Pearl Street were well represented. Recitations, solos and duets were well rendered by Mrs. Houlker, Mr. Swift, Mr. Fazackerley, Mr. Entwistle, Miss Hilda Swift, Mr. Sanus, Phyllis Edward, Nellie Laycock, Francis Laycock, Billie Edwards and Walter E. Swift. Our friend, Mr. Entwistle, from Bolton, spoke a few words and said how well the Massed Sessions were conducted.—Miss Hilda Swift, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—Open Session, Oct. 4th, conducted by Mr. Taylor. Pearls by Elsie Thompson, Mrs. Harper, Albert Thompson, Mr. Mathison, Mr. Taylor. Recitations by Wm. Barry, Leslie and Vera Hamilton, Charles Landreth, Francis Harper, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Taylor. Solo by Lilian Harding. Pianoforte solo by Eileen Edwards. Violin solo by Albert

Thompson, accompanied by Elsie Thompson. A cordial welcome was given to Mr. Mathison, our oldest Lyceumist, on his visit and a request that he took with him our love and sympathy to Mrs. Mathison that her health may improve.—Mrs. Kneale.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter Street.—Sept. 27th, Open Session. Mr. Spencer, of Blackpool, our speaker for the day, named two babies, Kathleen Holden, spirit name "Star of Hope"; Frank McGarry, spirit name "Courage." Recitations by Jean and Jim Entwistle, B. Hinchcliffe, D. Parke and E. Holding.

Oct. 11th. Lyceum A.G.M. The following officers' names have been elected for 1932:—Conductor, Mr. J. N. Railton; Assistant Conductor, Mrs. E. Railton; Treasurer, Miss Walley; Financial Secretary, Mrs. A. Sutton; Secretary and Guardian, Mr. T. Wood; Musical Conductor, Miss E. A. Riding; Callisthenics Conductor, Mr. F. Robinson.

Oct. 4th. Mr. C. N. S. Moorey, our Church President, dedicated the new retiring-room, that has just been erected in the Church, to the memory of the late Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hopper.

Oct. 18th. Harvest Services. Afternoon, Open Session. Recitations by Joyce, Jean and Jim Entwistle, E. Wood, O. Parker, A. Fish, B. Hinchcliffe, Mrs. Johnson, of Bolton, our speaker presented each child with a flower in return for their harvest offerings.—Mr. T. Wood, Sec.

BURY, King Street.—At the Lyceum Session on Oct. 18th, Mr. Knott named a baby, giving the earthly name of Edward Holme Mills, and the spirit name of "Faithful." There was a good muster of Lyceumists and friends, who were delighted with the ceremony.—N. Dean, Sec.

CLECKHEATON.—Open Session on Sunday, Oct. 4th, conducted by Miss E. Thornton. Invocation by Mrs. Beaumont, of Huddersfield. Many good questions and answers were raised on the Golden Chain recitation. Pearls by Irene Wilson, Jack Wilson (3), Herbert Horsley (2), Mary Ellison, Eva Rowley and Mr. Robinson. Recitation by H. Horley and T. Brooks. Mrs. Beaumont, who was our speaker, spoke to the Lyceum, asking each one to join in sisterhood and brotherhood and fight for the Banner of Spiritualism. A very happy and interesting session.—Miss M. B. Robinson, Sec.

DARWEN.—On Saturday, Oct. 3rd, we held our first Social of the season, which was very well attended and over £3 profit was made.

Sunday, Oct. 4th, Open Session, enjoyed by everyone. Mrs. Johnson, from Bolton, addressed the Lyceum. Songs, etc., were rendered by the Lyceumists. Greetings to all.—Miss G. N. Walker, Sec.

DEWSBURY.—Open Session, Sept. 27th. Conductor, Mr. G. Hey. Pearls by Louie Gregory, Mrs. Greenwood. Recitations by Cyril Hey, Margaret Greenwood. Solos by Miss A. Bentley, Clarissa Phillips, Margaret Greenwood. Duet by Louie Gregory and Mr. C. Phillips.—V. R. Phillips.

EARBY, Greenend Avenue.—Open Session, Oct. 4th. Songs and recitations were given by E. Greenhalgh, O. Hodgson, E. Hancock, G. Blackburn, R. and J. Hancock, D. Seddon, F. Clarke, G. Morley, O. Wilkins, T. Hancock, L. Etherington, W. Hancock, K. Hodgkinson, E. Taylor, E. Woodhead and Dennis Seddon.—Mrs. D. Dawson, Sec.

FLEETWOOD.—Open Session, Oct. 4th. We had a very good attendance of Lyceumists and friends. Recitations by Jessie and Gladys Ainsworth, Doris Parkinson, Minnie Weight, Marie Dews, Ruth Harris, Tom Wright, Mrs. Firth and Edith Robbins. Solos by Mrs. Parkinson. Duets by Mrs. Church and Mrs. Firth, Ruth Harris and Kathleen Hague. Double trio by Sisters Boys, John Reeves, Herbert Wilson, Willie Gibson, Eric Horan, Dan Wright and Frank Harris. Trio by Ruth Harris, Kathleen Hague, Marion Mayhew, Dorothy Harris, Lily and Irene Hutt. A good number of Pearls brought our happy Session to a close. It was also our Harvest Festival. Our Church and Lyceum had a beautiful array of fruit, flowers and vegetables. Mr. Batley was our speaker.—L. Vollans, Sec.

GREAT HARWOOD.—Open Session, Oct. 4th. S.C. by May Pickvance; M.R. by Miss Pickvance and Eileen Shaw; G.C.R. by Mr. P. Doswell, Edna Parkinson, Florence Owen and Sheila Parkinson. Recitations by Edna Parkinson, Greta Johnson, May Pickvance, Mrs. Howarth and Joan Bullen. Trio by Mrs. W. Doswell, Florence Pickvance, Eileen Shaw. Quintette by Joan Bullen, Rosa Bagshaw, Greta Johnson, May Pickvance and Edna Parkinson. The Session was enjoyed by everyone.—William Doswell, Sec.

HYDE, George Street.—Open Sessions, Oct. 3rd. In the afternoon Session a violin duet was rendered by Misses Kathleen Armitage and Irene Lever, entitled "Benediction." Mr. S. Armitage was at the piano. Master Ernest Cartwright gave a pianoforte solo, "Holly Bush Gallop." Mr. Maurice Fieldhouse played "Remembrance." Many recitations and pearls were very well given. A large number of parents and friends attended both Sessions, which were very well conducted by Mr. Ralph Lee.—N. Cartwright, Sec.

LEICESTER, Liberty Progressive.—Open Session, Oct. 4th. A good number of Lyceumists and friends were present. Recitations by Jacky Whitbread, Alice Gamble, Joan Whitbread, Elsie Garratt, Elsie Clements, Mrs. Hurst. Solos by Mr. A. Gamble, Ethel Gamble, Irene Ashby, Lily Jays, Sylva Garratt, Freda Gamble. Duets by Doris Jays and Lavinia Garratt.—Thomas Kenney, Sec.

LINCOLN, Coultham Street.—On Sept. 27th our Harvest Festival was held. Speakers, Mrs. Raspin and Miss James. Special singing by Lyceumists. Solos by Misses Moody, Tomlinson and James. Pianist, Mr. H. Moody. The Church was tastefully decorated with a good display of flowers, fruit, vegetables and corn, which was sold on Monday towards Church expenses.—N. Willey, Sec.

LINCOLN, Midland.—Many of our old friends visited us during our Open Session and a very happy time was spent.

Sept. 27th. Mr. B. Carter conducted our Harvest Services. "The Comrades Song of Hope" was very ably rendered by the elder Lyceumists.

LONDON, North London.—The Loyalty League. Fine days have been rare this year, but the Loyalty League selected one for their Annual Outing, 23 taking part in the river trip to Chertsey, on Saturday, Aug. 29th. The sun shone all day, and the trip was simply glorious, tea being served on board. From Richmond to Highbury, the children formed an impromptu choir, under the direction of Mr. Brooke, much to the amusement of the other passengers in the coach. Loud cheering at Highbury Station closed a truly happy day.—W.W.D.

LONDON, Rochester Square.—On Oct. 4th we held a Special Session for the distribution of Education Certificates. Mrs. Beehag, the President, presented them to the successful students. Three prizes were also won by junior members for an essay competition in which they competed. The essay had to be written in the form of a letter to Mr. X., or Uncle X., describing our outing to the Zoo on July 25th.

Oct. 12th. Harvest Festival. A very good display of fruit, vegetables and flowers were in evidence during the Session. After the Lyceum members had been requested to take some of the offerings to anyone they knew who was ill or in need, the remainder was presented to the Church to be sold for Church funds. We are hoping to start study groups for the B.S.L.U. Education Scheme in the very near future. We are anticipating a few social activities this coming winter.—D.M.J., Sec.

LONDON, Stratford, Idmiston Road.—Oct. 4th, Lyceum Sunday. Mr. R. H. Bates spoke on "Lyceum Teaching" at the morning service. There was a large attendance at the afternoon Session, at which the Education Certificates were presented by the President.

The new Kindergarten Room was opened by Mrs. D. Connor. It was a very enjoyable and enthusiastic Session, and a good number of individual efforts were contributed.

The Lyceum Officers conducted a very successful evening service.—R. H. Bates, Sec.

LONDON, Tottenham, High Road.—Great events. Christening on our Anniversary; a great day; and Uncle Bert and several of the Council were present. Result: three new Lyceumists.—B. Rayment, Session Sec.

MANCHESTER, Moston.—Open Sessions, Oct. 18th. The Evening Session was very successful and enjoyed by a very good muster of members and visitors. Mr. Brady, who conducted, arranged an excellent programme of individual efforts. Our Liberty Group in the afternoon consisted of a very interesting lecture by Mr. James Norbury, on "Spiritualism—the Gospel of Life."—H. Caseman, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Newton Heath.—On Sept. 27th we held our Open Sessions. We had 10 Lyceums representatives and we were also pleased to have Mr. and Mrs. Barnes, of Bradford, who gave us the greetings from Leeds D.C. also greeting from M. & S. District Council. Altogether we spent a very happy day—Fannie Shaw.

MIDDLETON, Old Hall St.—A Cob Web social was held on Oct. 3rd. It was a great success and everyone enjoyed it.

Open Session, Oct. 18th. Three Lyceums were represented. Solos and recitations ably rendered during a good session.—S. Moorcroft, Sec.

OLDHAM, Elliott St.—Harvest Festival, Oct. 4th. It was a great success in every way.

I regret to announce the passing to the Higher Life of Mrs. Benson, an old Spiritualist of long standing.—M. Harper, Sec.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Oct. 18th at the Lyceum Session which was well attended a double naming ceremony took place. The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lamsley was named Peter Julian James, spirit name "Lionheart;" also the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bell, Julia Ann, spirit name "Love." Miss Estille Stead officiated. The younger Lyceumists gave pearls. Recitations by Vera Chambers, Stella Mitchell, June Peters, Eric Hutchins, Bernard and Joyce Moule, Roy Wiggins. Miss Stead spoke to the children and told them a short story. Greetings were exchanged and a very pleasant session was spent.—C. Stuart-Jones.

RYDE, Belvedere Street.—On September 20th Harvest Festival. A Service of Song. "In Autumn's Golden Days" was rendered by the Lyceum. All members took part in the recitations and readings. Solos by Miss Dorothy Perkis and Mr. Frank Reeves A.N.S.C. Enjoyed by all present. All members met on Monday to take their Harvest Gifts to the Hospital.

On Sept. 25th our Lyceumists went by Chara-banc to Brighton where tea was served and races and games were held. On our return journey our driver gave us a Cinematograph entertainment in the Chara-banc which greatly added to the pleasure of all.—E. Oak, Sec.

SCUNTHORPE.—We regret to report the passing to higher life of brother Begg. The service in the home being taken by an old friend, Mr. Cole of Grimsby. The grave-side service was conducted by Mr. Harding of Leeds.

On Sunday the memorial service was taken by Mr. Cole and it was very impressive and inspiring.

On Monday Mrs. Begg gave an inspiring address on how Spiritualism had comforted and consoled her and her family in their time of trouble. The floral tributes were many and beautiful and showed the high esteem in which Mr. Begg was held.—Ivy Spakes, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—We held our Anniversary Services on Oct. 4th and 5th. Mrs. J. Reynolds was the speaker, and her very homely talks were deeply appreciated. We are indebted to Mr. R. H. Hales who specially composed all the music for this occasion.

The services were repeated for the benefit of the Church on October 11th.—James Le Noury A.N.S.C., Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Gifford Road.—On October 4th and 5th we held our Anniversary Services, the Liberty Group conducted the evening meetings. The Prize Distribution took place on Monday night.—Muriel Clive Sec.

SMETHWICK.—On Sunday Oct. 11th, our speaker the Rev. G. Cole visited the Lyceum. His few words on "Angelic Sunshine" will be remembered by all Lyceumists.

In the evening the Lyceum assisted in the Church Anniversary Service. Miss B. Green and A. Powell gave a splendid definition on M.R. No. 223. Miss E. Smith also rendered a recitation. Progress is steadily maintained.—F. S. Taylor, Assist. Sec.

SOUTHAMPTON.—On Sept. 5th our Open Session was a very happy one. We had an enthusiastic Lyceumist, Leslie Oldham, with us, after a lengthy period at sea. He was delighted to be able to give several efforts once again and also to show his regard to all present, by giving each Lyceumist (young and old) a small package of "Dainties."

On Oct. 4th the baby daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Triggs was named "Florence May," spirit name "Marie," by our Conductor, Mr. Guy. Several visitors were very much impressed.—W. E. Long.

STOCKPORT, Central.—On Sunday we held our open session, Conductor Mrs. Edwards. Marching and calisthenics were well done. Pearls and recitations well responded to.

At 6-30 Mrs. Edwards presided, the speakers were Mr. Ennion, Mr. J. H. Marston, Mr. G. Brown, Mrs. A. Brown, and Marion Joules, all students of the Education Scheme, Mrs. Edwards gave invocation and benediction, Mr. and Mrs. Ennion and Eva Ward rendered solos, Mrs. Royle conducted the after circle. Our best thanks are due to all.—Mrs. Springate, Sec.