

THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 490. Vol. XLI.

DECEMBER, 1931.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

PEACE OR WAR.

The Rev. M. Beversluis, who was the initial mover of the idea which promoted the present International Spiritualist Federation, was present at the Hague Congress, and suffered, like most other speakers from the short time which could be devoted to speeches under the conditions which prevailed.

Our reverend friend had a prepared speech on Peace and Disarmament which he gave to the Congress in English and French: he was disappointed and grieved that he was not allowed to repeat the speech in German and Dutch. He had also composed a spiritual poem in the four languages, set the words to music, had them printed, and hoped the Congress would find time to use his compilation.

Mr. Beversluis suggested that all Spiritualists, in every land, prepare a manifesto and send it to the Disarmament Conference, shortly to be held at Geneva. His manifesto reads: "That we, the undersigned spiritualists and spiritists, convinced that all war is a crime ind murder on a great scale, and all armaments are a menace to peace, urge you to bring about total disarmament in the whole world."

That message has gone to 28 different Spiritualist journals. Unfortunately all Spiritualists are not pacifists. We pass on the message of our reverend friend and thus continue his, and our, efforts towards peace in the world.

An Open Letter to all A.N.S.C.'S.

Dear Friend and Fellow-student,

Please accept our hearty congratulations on your achievement in successfully passing your fifth written examination, and with such a high percentage of marks as to secure your Associate Degree of the National Spiritualist College.

This has entailed sustained effort year by year; and when it is realised that many of you have during those years been the mainstay of your Lyceum—teaching the young ones—enthusing the older ones—raising funds—and probably helping in church work at the same time, it is the more evident that you deserve no small praise and admiration for the splendid example you have set to all Lyceumists.

Having, so to speak, reached the fifth landing after a long stiff climb up the several flights, it is perhaps natural that you should heave a sigh of relief and prepare to rest on your laurels.

BUT I want to draw your attention still upward. There are yet three more flights to be climbed before you reap the full benefit of your labours. Stiff climbing? Yes.—But every upward step brings fresh vistas of beauty to your mental and spiritual eyesight.

During the past years you have worked hard to fit yourself to become a good leader, to understand your manual teaching; to be able to arrange and conduct a

session in such manner as to draw out the best in the youngest as well as the oldest of your members. You have learned something of the coming of modern spiritualism. You have taken a light survey of the various manifestations of psychic force and have had some tuition in the art of drawing correct inferences from such manifestations. You have studied the principles of spiritualism and have gained some idea as to the best way to meet its various opponents.

What then remains that will be worth your while? Listen. What do you think of a journey with men who have persuaded Dame Nature to part with some of her secrets? Back through the ages to the time when the world was young. Picking up and fitting together the pieces of the puzzle which reveal a part of the story of our becoming.

Then a visit to the workshops of evolution. A peep into the wonders of the mind, with observations of its earlier developments in the precursors of man as we know him to-day. An equally fascinating study of the makings and development of religions. An introduction to the philosophers and a chat about their searches after wisdom. And finally an examination of the spiritual awakening of man in the light which spiritualistic philosophy and revelation shed on "The purpose of Life."

These are some of the things you will *want* to know "Somewhen," "Somewhere," Today is yours. Use it with a forward aim.

Fraternally yours,

ELEANOR PALING,
S.N.U. Education Sec.

Entry forms for the Intermediate, Subsidiary and Final Grade examinations can be obtained from Mrs. E. Paling, "Lucknow", Muriel Road, Beeston, Notts.

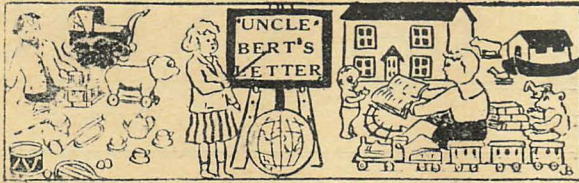
TRUST IN GOD.

The child leans on its parent's breast,
Leaves there its cares, and is at rest;
The bird sits singing by his nest
And tells aloud
His trust in God, and so is blest
"Neath every cloud.

He has no store, he sows no seed,
Yet sings aloud and doth not heed;
By flowing stream or grassy mead
He sings to shame
Men, who forget, in fear of need,
A Father's name.

The heart that trusts for ever sings,
And feels as light as it had wings;
A well of peace within it springs;
Come good or ill,
Whate'er to-day, to-morrow, brings,
It is his will.

—I. Williams.



My Dear Boys and Girls,

Pull your Christmas Crackers, put on your paper hats, and just let yourselves go.

For here we are again, happy as can be,
All good friends and jolly good company.

This being so I see no Reason why we should not switch on the Currant with a little Dough-de-o-dough, and mix up a basin full of Happiness.

Why it reminds me of the Four and Twenty blackbirds who when the pie was opened they began to sing.

Plum Pudding hot, Plum Pudding cold.

Plum Pudding in the pot, nine days old.

Having got the great idea, we will endeavour to spend a happy time together.

First of all Auntie Ruth, Cousin Doris and I wish all our readers a happy Xmas.

Of course you are all looking forward to Xmas Eve, the night when you hang up your stockings or pillow slips to receive those nice presents which Father Xmas has for you. Some children have been rather worried about this event, *they* have moved into new houses recently where they have only electric radiators, and the chimney pots are so small that they cannot see how the presents are going to be delivered.

Father Xmas has the matter well in hand, so do not worry. A Conference was held to discuss the matter. There were a lot of wise looking people present, including Sherlock Holmes, trying to solve the problem. After they had got so many splinters in their fingers by scratching their heads for brainwaves, they decided they would ask me to assist them, knowing I was a member of the Young Rascals Union. So on your behalf I attended and addressed the Conference thus: Friends, Romans and Countrymen lend me your ears, on behalf of the kiddies of the Lyceum Banner I have found a way into every home represented. After they had all come to, from fainting at the news, I told them there were fairies at the bottom of my garden who would be most delighted to help Father Xmas with his work.

Providing you go to bed on Xmas Eve like good children and do not worry Mama by calling for another drink of water or another biscuit, but just drop off to sleep, all will be well and I wish you luck, in the morning.

Talking to some of my young friends about Xmas parties and as to what part they were going to take, one little girlie told me she was going to sing "Ah kiss me not, Oh kiss me not" but I had to tell her she had got the wrong idea, it was "Oh leave me not." Another little girl said she was going to stand under the mistletoe and recite "England expects that every boy this day will do his duty." Oh the saucy young puss. What do you think of her?

After that I dare not attempt to tell you what the boys say they are going to do, "Be prepared."

Auntie Ruth, Cousin Doris and I are going to quite a lot of children's parties, so we shall see how they get on.

Now let me give you a few Xmas Riddles.

Q. Why did the B.B.C. announcer say there is a belt of high pressure on its way?

A. Because he had accepted an invitation to a Xmas dinner.

Q. What did the young people take in the conservatory after Xmas dinner.

A. A Spoon.

Q. What noted character wanted to play kiss in the ring?

A. Not me, not you, but Oliver Twist.

So well, so good, lest we forget.

The answer to last month's puzzle No. 175.

1. "When this old earth is righted."
2. "Knocking, Knocking."
3. "Parents and Children."
4. "Hold Fast."
5. "Do not wait."
6. "Sing all together."

Congratulations to those who found the correct answer.

The poor old Scotchman is always being made fun of in stories, but here is one adapted to his credit. Before the Xmas Pudding arrived on Xmas day he gave each of his six children a penny each, at the dining table. When the pudding was served he placed a B.S.L.U. collecting box on the table and said who'll have a pennyworth of Xmas Pudding.

After this I shall not be surprised to see a big mail from my Scotch friends next month, but please stamp your envelopes and enclose your donations.

PUZZLE No. 176.

Here are some more questions to which Manual titles will supply the answers!

1. We decorate our walls with Holly to—
2. When our number is called out in Postman's Knock we—
3. In playing Hunt the slipper we—
4. When the Xmas Pudding arrives you—
5. When the party is ended we say—

Thus we come to the end of another year's letters through this magazine, making eight years in all. In repeating the Xmas greetings to you we endeavour to think of all who have corresponded with us during these years.

What changes have taken place, when we consider that those who at the age of twelve replied to my first letter are now young men and women twenty years of age, it sets me wondering what you are all doing now.

It is pleasing to know that at least three have become Secretaries of Lyceums while in another case one has become a mother and one day her son will be writing to me as she used to do.

Many have gone out into the business world, but the memory of those happy childish letters still live with me.

Xmas is a time of reunion. I have not your addresses but you have mine, would it not be nice for us to make a special effort this month to meet again through the medium of correspondence. We shall be delighted to hear from you old and young.

Some who have passed on to the Summerland are still great pals. Greetings to them and their loved ones.

To co-workers of this magazine—past and present—

greetings. In conclusion a special greeting to those who may be laid aside by ill-health or in hospitals.

To my friends overseas. A Happy New Year.

With love and best wishes,

Your loving friend,

“Ruberrondo,”

UNCLE BERT.

126, Woodlands Rd.,
Isleworth, Middx.



Our Education Department.

HINTS, NOTES AND NEWS ITEMS.

Conducted by the EDUCATION SECRETARY.

SEASONAL GREETINGS.

The Education Committee extends to all students and other Lyceumists its best wishes for a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

THE STUDY OF OUR HANDBOOKS.

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

Three years are given for the study of No. 2 Handbook:—Just over 13 pages for Grade II.; the same 13 and a further 23 for Grade III. (and, of the 23, 16 are devoted to the History of the Lyceum Movement, which every Lyceumist, again, should WANT to know); and these, with a further 10, are again studied for Grade IV. The History is the only part that has to be (and rightly) memorised—not so much dates as events and how they arose from each other—and the rest of the articles are guides for study, and for studious thought, to the students.

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

OUR SPECIAL FUND.

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

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.

HOPE ON!

Hope on, hope on, the golden days
Are not as yet a-dawning;
The mists of night
Precede the light,
And usher in the morning.

Hope on, hope on, though black the clouds,
Black shadows intertwining;
Yet calm and still,
O'er heath and hill,
The stars will soon be shining.

Hope on, hope on, through frost and snow,
Through trouble, toil, and sorrow;
Through wind and rain,
And tears and pain,
The sun shall pierce to-morrow.

Hope on, hope on, though friends be few,
And dark the way before thee,
A God of love
From heaven above
Shall shed His radiance o'er thee.

—G. Thwing.



DEAR LITTLE IMPS,

A jolly Christmas, everybody! I hope you all have full stockings on Christmas morning, lots of good things to enjoy, and fun and happiness all the time. I know if *you* are happy, you will just have to make somebody else happy too, so that there will be Christmas treats all around.

Christmas is such a good time for Imps, that I sometimes wonder what all the good things we enjoy, think about *us*. Wouldn't it be fun, if we could hear what our toys think of us? The thoughts of the things we *eat*, might not be so funny. Let us see.

A NIGHT IN A FRUITSHOP.

The fruit shop was all ready for Christmas. Every corner, and every shelf was crowded with good things for people to enjoy. Apples, rosy red, green, and russet brown, stood in shining heaps in the window, and filled the barrels. Near them were fat, juicy oranges, and boxes of the smaller tangerines. Some pears felt proud that they were in the show too. Grapes, green and black, hung near to bunches of bananas. Room was found for a smaller heap of lemons. Separating the heaps of fruits, were baskets and dishes full of nuts; brazils, walnuts, chesnuts, cobnuts, and monkey nuts. Boxes of dates, and figs, and candied fruits were arranged around the shop, and with them were bunches of herbs and lovely boxes of crackers. The shop was all ready for the Christmas sales, and the fruiterer looked around with pride, as he locked up the shop, 'or the night. He left the window lit up, so that passers-by could stop and admire his show.

For a time, there was silence in the shop. Then a jaffa orange started the talk. "So this is getting ready for Christmas, is it? I'd like to know what is to happen to all of us. When I was very young, and still growing on my tree, the birds used to come and chatter about Christmas. They seemed to think it was a splendid time" "So it is!" answered a rosy apple. I'm hoping to be put into some child's stocking. Yesterday I heard a father and mother saying that we would be just right for the children's stockings." "Going into stockings would be all right, if we weren't so crowded," said the mixed nuts. "We are told that we nuts are always put into the toes of the stockings, with new pennies. What can we want with pennies? They won't even be able to talk to us." "Oh, that is all right," said an apple. "Children's stockings are rather wonderful, I hear. Do you know, it doesn't

matter how many toys children get, they always want us in their stockings too. They might get the toy they want, and they might *not*—but—they are always sure of an apple, an orange, and some nuts. They can't do without us at Christmas time."

Then the green apples joined in the talk. "Christmas might seem good fun to you rosy apples, and you nuts and oranges, but what about us? Only to-day some of my friends were sold for mincemeat, and I heard the shopman say "These apples mince very well, madam!" Mince very well, indeed! It makes me shudder to think of being chopped up in that awful machine, until no one would think that I had ever been an apple. That isn't all either! Even when I'm minced, I have to be mixed up with all kinds of things—even suet—and then mothers talk as though mincemeat can be good stuff. If I'm not put into mincemeat, I'm forgotten in puddings, or made into sauce. There is not much fun about Christmas, I can tell you."

"Oh! don't grumble so much," said the lemons. "Think about us. People call us sour, and they squeeze us dry, and grate the skin off our backs. They are not very kind to us. Still, what pleases me, is that *we are needed*. Mincemeat and puddings, stuffing and jellies, they are all glad of we lemons." The bananas and the grapes agreed with the lemons. "Yes, you are needed even more than we are," they said. Unless people are ill, they rather neglect us at Christmas time, unless they hide us in trifles and jellies. Even then, we like lemon jellies to cover us.

The russet apples sighed. "We don't seem to be needed, at all. Children want rosy apples, and cooks need you green ones. What happens to us?" "I can tell you," said a large pear. "You will know how popular you are when you hear the grown-ups say, "Oh! russet apples! how good they are!" and then they eat you as though they enjoy every bite. Children don't now how good you are, just because you are not shiny and rosy!"

The boxes of dates, figs and candied fruits asked the shelled nuts if they would be needed too. The shelled nuts were not sure, but the herbs could tell them. "When we have been getting ready for the stuffing, we have heard people say "Put the boxes of fruits ready to be passed around during the games, and fill the bowls with nuts, for then, too." "That's good," said the fruits, "Then we join in the fun. I'm longing to see people play games and be jolly. Most of the folks who come into this shop are busy and in a hurry." The shelled nuts looked with pity at their cousins. "Our shells were taken off a long time ago. We haven't to go through that again, but people use crackers on you, don't they? Now how can they take off your shells with those pretty paper things in the boxes on the shelves? The nuts laughed. "Crackers to take off our shells? Why, of course, but not paper ones. *Our* crackers are hard, and last for years. They do hurt a bit when they crack our shells, but we don't mind that, so long as they don't break us. We do like to come out of the shell whole."

The shelled nuts looked puzzled. "If the hard things that break you are called crackers, why are those paper things called crackers too? They can't crack anything? Please do tell us, paper crackers, what you do?"

The crackers smiled for a moment, before they answered. "We start off the parties. Underneath

our pretty frocks we hold things to make fun. Paper caps, little jewels, tiny toys, and always a little message, live inside us. The sad thing is that we have to be spoilt, for people to reach the presents we hold. Still, we make people friendly. It takes two to pull a cracker. Then, when we are pulled, we shout out "Crack! Bang!" as our frocks are torn, and our presents fall out. After that, the fun begins, and people are ready to enjoy all of you. Still, we do wish somebody clever would think of a way of pulling crackers without spoiling us."

"Thank you for telling us, crackers," said the shelled nuts. "Now we know that there are two kinds of crackers, though it did seem strange at first."

The rosy apples spoke again. "Well, now we all know what to expect, at Christmas I wonder how many different people we shall make happy, and how many different houses we shall visit? Wouldn't it be fun if we could all meet again *after* Christmas—tell each other what really did happen? But that is impossible!"

"Hush," said the pears, "we have talked all night, and that sounds like the shopman unlocking the door. He mustn't find us talking. He doesn't think we *can* talk."

The shop door opened and the shopman walked in. He smiled as he look round the crowded shop. "I wonder if my shop will look like this to-night?" he thought. "Funny, I'd like to know where all my good things go?"

That shopman hadn't really very sharp ears or he would have heard the little surprised murmur that went round his shop, as the fruits and nuts whispered, "Why; he wonders just like we do! Isn't that strange?"

Well, Imps, the next time you see a fruit shop you will wonder that too. I shall, I know, but I hope that quite a lot of fruits and nuts will be coming to you.

All my good wishes for Christmas, Imps, and lots of love from
MEG.

To Church Secretaries.

Graduate Section of the Joint Education Scheme.

Mrs. E. Paling, the Hon. Secretary of the S.N.U. Education Scheme, makes an Appeal to all Church members.

TO THE CHURCH SECRETARY AND MEMBERS.

Dear Friends,

I have been instructed by the Education Committee of the S.N.U. to present the following appeal to all Churches in the Union, with the expressed hope that a special effort will be made to interest all inquirers and investigators, and to induce them to take up the Educational Courses as an essential part of their inquiry or investigation. Will you please read this appeal at your next Committee meeting and—if the Committee agrees—to the next Members' Meeting, and inform me of the result?

The first examination under the Scheme is the Entrance Examination—for Church Members who wish to qualify for the Advanced Course—and is held in May each year. Full particulars about the books needed, the work to be done, how to train the students,

etc., are provided for the information of Tutors, etc. Monthly Notes hints and news, will be given also in "*The National Spiritualist*."

A supply of official entry forms will be forwarded to any Church Secretary who writes stating the number likely to be required. The Forms with the Examination Fee of 2s., should reach the Education Secretary not later than February 1st. As soon as possible after that date, the necessary papers, and instructions to candidates, etc., will be sent out.

The hints and notes on the ENTRANCE EXAMINATION LEAFLET are designed to help anyone (even if without previous experience) to prepare students, or students to prepare themselves, for the exams., so we are hoping that the difficulty of not having official tutors will be overcome, and that every Church in the Union will do its utmost to provide all necessary facilities for any of its members who may express a desire to take up the Educational Courses, and to introduce the Education Scheme to inquirers and investigators, and frequently to members of the congregation.

The S.N.U. Scheme is now the GRADUATE SECTION of the National Joint Education Scheme, and ENTRANCE Candidates who pass with 70 or more marks will be eligible to continue with the Advanced Scheme, which begins with the Intermediate Grade and ends with the Final Grade and the Degree of Graduate of the College (G.N.S.C.).

Also a Church that has TEN or more ENTRANTS for the examination is eligible to become a LOCAL BRANCH of the National Spiritualist College—as fully explained in "*The College Booklet*," (1½d. per copy, post free).

Relying on your sympathetic consideration and co-operation and thanking you in anticipation.

Yours fraternally,

"Lucknow," Muriel Rd., ELEANOR PALING.
Beeston, Notts. Education Secretary.

CHANGE OF SECRETARIES, &c.

- Management Committee, Area F.: Mr. R. W. Marks, 13, Osterley Grove, Eccleshill, Bradford, Yorks.
Sowerby Bridge: Miss F. M. Lees, 7, Charles Street, Tuel Lane, Sowerby Bridge, Yorks.
Forest Hill: Miss A. Payne, 6, Mount Ash Road, Sydenham Hill Road, Sydenham, London, S.E. 26.
Woolwich and Plumstead: Miss M. James, 6, Trotyl Terrace, Plumstead, London, S.E. 18.
Hollinwood: Miss E. Snape, 12, Kimberley Street, Hollinwood, nr. Oldham.
New Manchester: Mr. Atkinson, 267, Stockport Road, Longsight, Manchester.
Barnsley, Grace St.: Mr. F. Lunn, 11, Grace Street, Barnsley.
Sheffield, Heeley, Gifford Road: Mr. H. Truelove, 48, St. Barnabas Road, Highfields, Sheffield.
Stainforth: Mrs. S. Handley, 3, Large Square, Stainforth.
Grimsby: Mr. P. Stanham, 176, Durban Road, Grimsby.
Longton, Stone Road, 2-0 p.m.: Counc. C. Barker, J.P., 67, Uttoxeter Road, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent.
Tees-side D.V.: Mr. J. H. Foster, 58, Northumberland Road, Horden, Co. Durham.

THE LYCEUM BANNER

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

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

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DECEMBER, 1931.

The Social Problem.

One wonders if in democracy, we imagine an illusory social life impossible of accomplishment. We need harmonisation.

Some form of social law must exist in civilised life, to make us amenable to conventional conduct; but does civilisation through modern codes produce the best form of Society?.

Many years ago, a Kaffir was asked which he preferred the British or the Boer? He was an old man of 90 years. He had seen the people of these two nations colonise around his kraals—a village of his own people. The answer given to me by this old man was that he preferred neither. "I prefer being a Kaffir." The British and the Boers are civilised, but they fight each other. They have come to South Africa and disagreed and are now at war, whilst I as a native, am driven from my home: all my relatives are scattered and we shall have to wait until the two white peoples cease to fight each other before my people can re-build our kraals."

"No," said the Kaffir, "I am a native, but powerful people from overseas have come with their civilisation and taken our land. It is only by their permission that we are now able to have a location, and just now we have not even got that. We must be menials, following behind your fighters. I am with the British because I think they will have more men and money and can gain a victory over the Boers. Your civilisation gave us missionaries. We listened to the wonders of the world, but we are now hurt by your wars and destruction."

"But, surely," said I, "you do not think civilisation is the cause of war and conquest? There have always been wars between tribes and nations."

The old man suavely answered. "I am an old man and but speak for myself. I said I preferred being a Kaffir and I think all men should love the land of their birth. I stay in my own land. If I went to the land of a stranger I should think it a privilege to step upon his shores. It is a bad civilisation which takes the land from the people who were born upon it. But, through your power, the white people have sailed in ships and used force to compel people to pay money for what you call taxes. We never needed money before and that is

the way the fighting has come and I am here with you in this part of our land."

The reader may ask "what has all this got to do with the Lyceum?" Just this, dear reader, the Lyceum exists to shape human conduct so that we may all have an adequate chance of self-expression. And so that we may express ourselves aright we must examine the world we live in and the conditions which influence our lives.

We, in the Lyceum, are an unorthodox people. We are investigating life from a new angle. We know there is an unfolding spiritual consciousness within us. Our ideals as a progressive movement must ever be in advance of public opinion or we shall cease to be progressive. That implies an examination of the structure of society to take us out of the chaotic muddle of riches and poverty, wisdom and ignorance, spiritualism and materialism, and other opposites which produce human discontent.

We must study the form of social conduct which is being given to our children. Lyceum methods of tuition must be the example of judicious control in the larger institutions of civic life.

What then does democracy mean to us? That we shall proceed according to the common will, and/or, having appointed our leaders, trust them to lead us aright.

Shall we trust solely to the wisdom of he whom we have chosen to lead, or shall we discuss what the common will shall be and then appoint a leader who will keep within the confines of our decisions? Or, by another method, shall we find our best leaders, and give them power to control our affairs; or, again shall we ask our leaders to place ideas before us for our acceptance and having agreed, give back the ideas to be put into action.

We pay life service to many institutions, but rarely examine the full import of what our support implies. There is one yearly event which brings out the best side of our characters, at Christmas we think of our friends and try to forget those who do not think well of us. We want to be at peace and harmony with everybody. If we can keep that desire till the day of good resolutions comes on Jan 1st, and also keep it through the year we shall be a little nearer our aims.

Possibly we shall find the solution of good social conduct can be expressed in all the ways which have been mentioned. If the motive is good, though for a time we may be misunderstood, the final result will produce human happiness. And that, after all, should be the aim of social welfare.

THE POWER OF MUSIC.

How sweet the moonlight sleeps upon this bank!
Here will we sit, and let the sounds of music
Creep in our ears; soft stillness, and the night,
Become the touches of sweet harmony.
Sit, Jessica; look, how the floor of heaven
Is thick inlaid with patines of bright gold;
There's not the smallest orb which thou behold'st
But in his motion like an angel sings,
Still choiring to the young-eyed cherubims;
Such harmony is in immortal souls;
But, whilst this muddy vesture of decay
Doth grossly close it in, we cannot hear it.

—William Shakespeare.

TO LYCEUM SECRETARIES.

STATISTICAL RETURNS AND PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

For the guidance of Lyceum Secretaries there will be issued, before the end of the year, a circular letter. Please note the Fees due for 1932 are on a changed basis of payment.

For your help I would inform you that you must count ALL THE NAMES ENTERED on your Lyceum register during the year (including those which have lapsed and been crossed out) and enter the TOTAL in the space provided. When you have filled in ALL the particulars and the Form has been signed by yourself and the Lyceum Conductor it must be returned to me WITH YOUR SUBSCRIPTION.

The rate of subscription is 10s. for the first 50, or part of 50, names on the register, and a further 5s. for each additional 25, or part of 25, names. Subscriptions are due on 1st January each year. Lyceums whose subscriptions are not paid by 1st March cease to be entitled to all the benefits and privileges of membership until their subscription is paid. District Councils shall pay a subscription of 2s. per annum for each Lyceum in membership with them.

The Spiritualists' United Lyceum Districts' Council shall pay a subscription of 1s. for each District Council in membership.

There is also an opportunity, under the Patron-Members Scheme, for Lyceumists to become direct financial supporters of the Union, by subscribing 1d. per week to the funds. (See the LYCEUM BANNER for particulars).

Postal Orders should be made payable to me at Wardleworth Post Office. Cheques should be made payable to the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

G. F. KNOTT,
General Secretary.

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

Lyceum Banner Fund. Mr. W. T. Coleman, per Liverpool, Daulby Hall, 2s., Fulham Church 2s. 3d. Total 4s. 3d.

Patron Fund, per Mrs. Bates, Stratford, 2s. 3d.

Supplementary Fund. F.D. 4s., Minister, 7s. 4d., W. Burrows, adjudication expenses returned, 8s. 8d.

To HELP THE BANNER.

Mr. W. T. 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 5 x 4 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 all,

In last month's BANNER a request was made for those Lyceums who could afford, to give the collection from the Peace Sunday Session to the £2,000 Effort Fund. The response is as follows,—Bowes Park, London, per Miss Williams, 4s. 2d.; Spen Lane, York, per Mr. S. Whitwam, 3s.; Nottingham, Mechanics, per Miss L. Sharpe, 3s.; Nottingham, Sherwood St., per Mr. L. Shipley, 4s.; Beeston, Notts, per Mr. G. Paling, 2s. 6d.; Sheffield, Attercliffe, Bold St., per Mr. Le Noury, 11s. 6d.; Whitley Bay, per Miss M. Gardener, 2s. 6d.; and collected in farthings, per Miss H. Jones, 2½d. Total, £1 10s. 10½d.

I would have liked to see a bigger list, but to those who have contributed, I extend very sincere thanks, and appreciate the efforts made.

Will you please remember, Lyceumists all, that Founder's Day is not far ahead, and usually we get a special effort for our Fund. It would be good to see a record list on that occasion. Do let us try what we can do.

Again I draw your attention to the Musical Recital. Hymn Sheets 4s. 6d. per 100. Recitation Leaflets, 2d. per copy, samples of complete work, 3d. each.

In conclusion, I ask each and everyone to accept my fraternal greetings and good wishes for a Merry Christmas.

118, Cremorne Street,
Nottingham.

Yours sincerely,
V. G. REYNOLDS,
Hon. Sec.

PEACE SESSION AT ATTERCLIFFE.

Many Lyceumists attended a massed Session and came from Darnall, Winnington and Heeley, Gifford Road.

In a well filled hall, Mr. Armitage, the Conductor of Attercliffe Lyceum assisted by officers of the various Lyceums represented, conducted a massed open Peace Session in the Attercliffe Spiritual Church on Sunday, November 8th, this event marking the third birthday of the Peace Session held in the Sheffield District.

At the commencement of the Session two minutes silence was observed in order that "we might be in complete harmony with those who have passed to higher spheres of activity."

Peace and its attainments was the theme of the Session, and was borne out in the various readings taken.

A large number of adults and children took part in the marching and callisthenics, in which was displayed great enthusiasm and vigour in spite of the number taking part.

Mr. J. Le Noury, the inaugurator of the Peace Session, spoke for a short time on Peace and Disarmament. During the course of his remarks he highly commended the work done by the League of Nations. He said that either civilisation must do away with war or war would do away with civilisation. As a slogan for peace he suggested "If you desire peace aim for prosperity for posterity."

A very enlightening and enjoyable time was spent.

The collection taken was on behalf of the £2,000 Effort.

(Signed) HELEN JONES, Reporter.

MR. AND MRS. R. A. WEBB CONTEMPLATE A TOUR.

Mr. and Mrs. Webb are paying a visit to Great Britain next year. They were formerly Lyceum and Church workers at the Blackburn Temple for many years before going to Australia. Mr. Webb qualified as a D.N.U. and he has been resident speaker in Australia and New Zealand.

Mr. and Mrs. Webb have always been ardent Lyceumists and their two daughters have also been very active. They will come to our shores with eight and a half years experience of spiritualism, as speakers and psychics in W. Australia, and nine and a half years platform service at Wellington, New Zealand. At the latter place Mr. Webb was the resident speaker and Mrs. Webb was the president.

Their credentials have been endorsed by three members of the Wellington Church and also by the Secretary Mr. Geo Bodell, formerly of Belper.

Our visitors are paying a visit to Sydney and Perth for a six weeks mission in each town and then coming to England. They expect to arrive about the 17th June.

Mr. and Mrs. Webb are booking engagements with Churches and Lyceums—as speakers and psychics, separately or together—and have appointed an agent to book dates in advance. If any further information is desired please write to: Mr. E. Holding, 40, Bombay Street, Blackburn.

HOME.

By EVA C. DEAN.

When the word home is used what does it awaken in our memory, or what picture do we visualise? Is it a place where we can open our hearts and be sure of receiving sound advice? Does it mean happiness, joy and peace, a haven of rest from daily storms, or is it a reverse condition with discord and separation?

When visiting friends in their home our hostess uses the words, "make yourself at home." This brings a fleeting memory of the home of our youth and all that we held dear, until God called those we loved to a new home in the spirit world. We who are left must also seek new homes with other people, or in a secluded room or rooms. In our solitude we feel our loved ones draw very near to us. At times we long for home-life such as we had previously enjoyed; it is then that we feel grateful to the friends who invite us to partake of the joy of home. In these days of convenient travelling there is a tendency for the break-up of home parties. Thomas Paine has expressed the Universal home in the words "My Home is the world."

If we are to make it so, we must commence with right conditions in our own home.

Those who are building and planning future homes with the desire for children or those who already possess them, should consider it a duty to give the children such home conditions that will always bring pleasant recollections, and wherever they go they may take homelike conditions into any country, so that the world may become home.

When harmony prevails in the home it is also the best place to form a circle for communicating with the spirit world—a medium is to be found in most homes.

Given the right conditions; "be it ever so humble there's no place like home."

THE ADOPTED CHILD.

"Why would'st thou leave me, oh! gentle child?
Thy home on the mountain is bleak and wild,
A straw-roofed cabin with lowly wall—
Mine is a fair and pillared hall,
Where many an image of marble gleams,
And the sunshine of picture for ever streams."

"Oh! green is the turf where my brothers play,
Through the long bright hours of the summer-day,
They find the red cup-moss where they climb,
And they chase the bee o'er the scented thyme;
And the rocks where the heath-flower blooms they know—
Lady, kind lady! oh! let me go."

"Content thee, boy! in my bower to dwell,
Here are sweet sounds which thou lovest well;
Flutes on the air in the stilly noon,
Harps which the wandering breezes tune;
And the silvery wood-note of many a bird,
Whose voice was ne'er in thy mountains heard."

"My mother sings, at the twilight's fall,
A song of the hills far more sweet than all;
She sings it under our own green tree,
To the babe half slumbering on her knee;
I dreamt last night of that music low—
Lady, kind lady! oh! let me go."

"Thy mother is gone from her cares to rest,
She hath taken the babe on her quiet breast;
Thou would'st't meet her footstep, my boy, no more,
Nor hear her song at the cabin door—
Come thou with me to the vineyards nigh,
And we'll pluck the grapes of the richest dye."

"Is my mother gone from her home away?
—But I know that my brothers are there at play.
I know they are gathering the foxgloves' bell,
Or the long fern-leaves by the sparkling well,
Or they launch their boats where the bright streams
flow—
Lady, kind lady! oh, let me go."

"Fair child! thy brothers are wanderers now,
They sport no more on the mountains brow,
They have left the fern by the spring's green side,
And the streams where the fairy barks were tried.—
Be thou at peace in thy brighter lot,
For thy cabin-home is a lonely spot."

"Are they gone, all gone from the sunny hill?—
But the bird and the blue-fly rove o'er it still,
And the red-deer bound in their gladness free,
And the turf is bent by the singing-bee,
And the waters leap and the fresh winds blow—
Lady, kind lady! oh! let me go."

Be observant and learn to think for yourself.

A little forethought will save much afterthought.

When confidence is once betrayed, the charm is broken.

Without ideals progress is impossible.

GOD CARES.

There's not a bird in lonely nest,
In pathless wood, or mountain crest,
Nor meaner thing, which does not share,
O God! in thy paternal care.

Each barren crag, each desert rude,
Holds thee within its solitude;
And thou dost bless the wanderer there
Who makes his solitary prayer.

In busy mart and crowded street,
No less than in the still retreat,
Thou, Lord, art near, our souls to bless
With all a parent's tenderness.

And every moment still doth bring
Thy blessings on its gracious wing;
Widely they spread through earth and sky,
And last to all eternity.

And we, where'er our lot is cast,
While life, and thought, and feeling last,
Through all our years, in every place,
Will bless thee for thy boundless grace.

—B. W. Noel.

ELEGY IN A COUNTRY CHURCHYARD.

The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,
The lowing herd winds slowly o'er the lea,
The ploughman homeward plods his weary way,
And leaves the world to darkness and to me.

Now fades the glimmering landscape on the sight,
And all the air a solemn stillness holds,
Save where the beetle wheels his droning flight,
And drowsy tinklings lull the distant folds.

Beneath those rugged elms, that yew tree's shade,
Where heaves the turf in many a mouldering heap,
Each in his narrow cell for ever laid,
The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep.

For them no more the blazing hearth shall burn,
Or busy housewife ply her evening care;
No children run to meet their sire's return,
Or climb his knees the envied kiss to share.

Perhaps in this neglected spot is laid
Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire;
Hands that the rod of empire might have swayed,
Or waked to ecstasy the living lyre.

Full many a gem of purest ray serene,
The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear,
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.

—Thomas Grey.

Be slow to promise, and quick to perform.

Method saves hours of wasted effort.

Contact with realities teaches wisdom.

A lie is too big a price to pay for anything.

The Children's Puzzle.



PUZZLE:—FIND FATHER CHRISTMAS.

A QUERY:—

G.C.R. 120. What is a "Love-feast?"

The reading is using the rituals of the Christian Church to give parallels in a philosophy of health.

It is poetic imagination to suppose there is a *Religion of Health*. This method is apparently used by the author to convey the importance of making our bodies pure and healthy.

In the Communion Service of the Christian Church there is a love-feast when the wine and cake are passed to the communicants. J. O. Barrett, the compiler of "The Religion of Health," gives the love-feast of health as a "clear conscience and sound sleep."

Elsewhere is printed an Appeal to Lyceumists, who have passed Grade V. with over 70 per cent. of the marks, to continue their studies.

We hope as many of our Lyceumists as can possibly do so will help the S.N.U. section of Spiritualistic work by qualifying as Graduates of the College. In such continuance of study we shall prove that we are really progressive and be useful assets to our respective Churches.

A PSYCHIC PHOTOGRAPH.

The Nelson Lyceumists have obtained a very clear photograph of Harry Hargreaves, who has appeared on a plate exposed in the presence of Wm. Hope, the medium.

Mr. Harry Hargreaves was President of the Nelson Church for many years. Needless to say the sitters were delighted.

Lyceum Manual Revision Committee.

The Lyceum Manual Revision Committee met in the Daulby Hall Church at Liverpool on Saturday and Sunday, 7th and 8th, November.

Mr. Keeling presided over a full attendance of members.

The meeting discussed the Conference resolution not to print a revised edition before 1942, and then proceeded to the consideration of the sectional work.

The members will report suitable readings to the Secretary. Some children's readings are under consideration.

Add to G.C.R. 146, Lyceum 3, after "Bruno" 'whom the Inquisition burnt to death for refusing to change his religious beliefs.'

Lyceum 4, After "Thomas Paine" 'ostracised for his unorthodox views and his fight for liberty of reason.'

A Hymn written by Thos. H. Wright, was read.

G.C.R. 146.

Finish G.C.R. 146 at the end of the Lyceum 8.

A G.C.R. on 'The use of Freedom' or some similar title is to follow G.C.R. 146.

G.C.R. 147. "Spiritual Litany."

The second paragraph is to be a Lyceum Reading.

Delete the third para. "Angels of Light, help and deliver us."

Conductor, 2nd. Reading.

Delete all the words after "error" and insert "how-ever acquired."

Conductor, 7th:

Amend to read.—"From all forms of persecution and religious intolerance."

G.C.R. 148.

Lyceum 13.

Delete "s" in "Dodsworth's,"

G.C.R. 149.

Lyceum 14.

Alter "illuminate" to "illumine."

M.R. 201.

Make the words complete in the verses, i.e.—"Jewelled" &c.

First Reading:

Delete "arrayed in white. . . by day and night."

Second Reading.

Delete "with weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth."

M.R. 202.

As printed repeat.

M.R. 203.

As printed repeat.

M.R. 204.

As printed repeat.

M.R. 205.

Reconsider.

M.R. 206.

As printed repeat.

M.R. 207.

Delete the last four lines of chorus.

M.R. 208.

Delete from last line but one—"upon."

Delete "Angels and" from last line.

M. R. 209.

Second Reading, third line. Spell "Spirit" with a small "s".

Third Reading, fifth line. Spell "Angels" with a small "a".

M. R. 210.

Replace the song part by using Song No. 304, verses 1, 3, 2, 5, (Summerland).

M. R. 211.

De ete the song section, and try to find a suitable song.

The dates of the future meetings of the Manual Revision Committee were fixed to take place on the first Saturday and Sunday in December of each year.

The meeting concluded with hearty thanks to Daulby Hall Church and Lyceum for the free hospitality and accommodation.

GEO. F. KNOTT, Secretary.

MR. R. W. MARKS GOES TO BRADFORD.

The Representative for Area F. has gone to live in Bradford. This change is due to a new business appointment. Mr. Marks was going to make some experiments in "Psychology Tests" and prepare a report of his findings. He will not now be able to operate his tests in the Manchester district, unless someone comes to his aid.

Mr. Marks' new address is 13, Osterley Grove, Eccleshill, Bradford, Yorks.

District Council Reports.

BRADFORD DISTRICT.

The Bradford L.D.C. held a meeting at Windhill Lyceum Room on Nov. 14th. Delegates were present from all Lyceums with the exception of Saltaire and Harker St. Lyceums. Mr. Wilford, our President, was in the Chair. Invocation by our Secretary.

The Minutes of last meeting were adopted. Correspondence was accepted. *Re* the Education Scheme, the Secretary was instructed to write for further information.

The financial statement of the Council was accepted. The Special Effort Fund Sub-Committee report was accepted. It was decided to ask our Dewsbury friends to help the Council and ask the Dewsbury Party to give the operetta, "A Slave in Araby."

A Sub-Committee of one delegate from each Lyceum and Council Executive has been formed for the revision of Constitution. The first meeting to be held in Shipley Rooms on Sunday, Nov. 22nd.

The Shield and Bell Competition report has been given by the Adjudicator, Mr. W. Burrows, showing the Saltaire Lyceum as the winners of the Shield and Keighley Lyceum as winners of the Bell. The Tea and Concert for Presentation of the Shield has been held, on Nov. 21st. The Bell Presentation has not yet been decided upon, but it will be given out at the next meeting. Mr. Burrows, our Adjudicator, was thanked for his services. The usual present was decided to be given to Mr. Burrows. Mr. Burrows has kindly handed his expenses of 8s. 8d. to the B.S.L.U. Supplementary Fund.

The next meeting will be held at Harker St. Lyceum Room on Saturday, Dec. 12th, at 3 p.m. A concert will be held at 7 p.m. Will all Lyceum delegates and Associate Members please attend the meeting and support the Council.

E. AKED, Sec.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting was held at Hebden Bridge on Nov. 1st, 1931.

Every Lyceum in the District was represented, this being the first time for many years. There were present, 3 Officers, 14 Delegates, and 1 visitor.—Total 20.

Statistical Returns had only been received from six Lyceums, and these showed an increase of 1 on numbers on roll, but a decrease of four in average attendance.

The income for the quarter was £1 10s. 4d. Balance in hand, 18s. 7d. Total £2 8s. 11d. Expenditure, £2 4s. 11d. Balance in hand, 4s. Bank Balance, £2 10s.

The D.V. reported that he had visited one Lyceum only, namely, Sowerby Bridge.

Adjudication Report. This was received from the Adjudicators, Mr. Barnes and Mr. Aked, and showed that Halifax, Alma Street, with ninety-one and seven-eighths marks, was winner of the shield and Huddersfield, Peter Street and Ramsden Street, were joint winners of the Bell with eighty-five and five-eighths.

The thanks of the D.V. were given to the Adjudicators for work done.

It was decided that Peter Street and Ramsden Street hold the bell three months each alternately, in alphabetical order, and that their names be jointly engraved on the shield.

Social for Presentation of Shield and Bell.

Alma Street, Dec. 5th, commencing at 6-30 p.m. Prices 6d. Adults, 3d. children.

Next year's adjudication. It was decided to hold an adjudication in 1932, and after much discussion the scheme was finally unaltered.

Constitution Committee. The Committee reported their suggestions for amendment of Constitutions and the Secretary was instructed to send a copy of report to all Lyceums so that they might discuss it before next meeting.

Open Session was held in the afternoon, conducted by the President, Miss G. Haigh. Many of the delegates took part in the reading and gave pearls. Mr. Haigh, of Brighouse, conducted Marching and Callisthenics.

Evening Service. The Vice-President, Mr. Ellis, was in the Chair. Mr. E. Smith gave the invocation and afterwards clairvoyant descriptions. Mr. Burrows appealed for the Lyceum, and the Secretary sought support for the Education Scheme. Mrs. Sutcliffe, of Hebden Bridge, gave the reading, and Mrs. Mitchell, of West Vale, pronounced the Benediction.

The Secretary voiced the thanks of the D.C. to Hebden Bridge friends for their hospitality, and so a very happy and successful day was brought to a close.

Next Meeting, Ramsden St., Feb. 14th, 1932, at 10-30 a.m.
G. HALLIDAY, Sec.

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT.

The quarterly meeting was held on Saturday, Nov. 14th, at the Spiritualists' National Church, Academy St., Warrington.

Mr. Watkins, the President, presided over delegates from Southport, Runcorn, Daulby Hall, Wigan, Boaler St., Liverpool, Warrington and Chester; S. West Lancs. Group; Officers and Associate. Total, 16.

The minutes were read, accepted and confirmed.

The Correspondence was read and accepted.

Arising out of same it was decided that the question of Grade V. students taking up the advanced courses be taken back by the Delegates and pressed in their Lyceums. The thanks of the Council was given to Boaler St., Runcorn, Warrington, Wigan and St. Helens Lyceums for their donations to the Council; other promised donations are not yet to hand. It was decided that a further 100 "Lyceum Education" pamphlets be purchased.

Reports. Secretary. This report dealt mainly with the Massed Session held on Sunday, Sept. 27th, at Boaler St. Church. Mrs. E. Clitheroe conducted the session with an attendance of 120 Lyceumists. Lyceums represented were:—Chester, Boaler St., Wigan, Daulby, Birkenhead, Warrington, and Runcorn. The evening service was taken by Mr. A. Foster, Mr. G. A. Mack, and Mrs. L. K. George who gave short addresses, interspersed with items from Lyceumists.

District Visitor. Mrs. Clitheroe reported her visits to St. Helens and Warrington Lyceums.

S. West Lancs. Group. Mr. O. Jones touched upon the visit to the district of Mrs. M. Donahoe; the Wake-up Lancs. Scheme; and the financial position of the Group. The cash in hand is £9 3s. 3d.

Treasurer's Report. This showed a balance in hand of £2 6s. 3½d. All the reports were accepted en bloc.

Definite Policy for Sept. Quarter. Under the heading of "The Improvement of the Lyceum Session," the following was

suggested:—That the sexes be mixed; that the groups be set out instead of the Lyceumists being seated around the room; individual prayer; leaders take the lessons set out in A. J. Davis' Manual; that the subject chosen for the session be announced on the previous Sunday; that Lyceumists be invited to forward new ideas to improve the session; that impromptu speeches be introduced during the Session. It was suggested that one of the important factors towards an ideal Lyceum was the co-operation of the officers with the conductor. It was decided that the Secretary try to procure a copy of the International Education Scheme which used to be discussed regularly at U.D.C. meetings. Other points were the advisability of acting upon the last two readings of Manual 108; and the introduction of the B.S.L.U. Education Scheme.

Subject for concentration—November quarter:—"The consideration of the Revision of the B.S.L.U. Constitution," and it was decided that a special meeting of the E.C. and delegates be called in January for this purpose.

Session Competition. This is to be held from Feb. 1st to May 31st, 1932, excluding Easter and Whit Sundays. The adjudicator to notify the Secretary of the Lyceum he intends to visit, in time for announcement on the previous Sunday. It was decided that if possible, an adjudicator outside the District be appointed and that the following be approached in the order of voting:—Outside the district, Mr. G. A. Dixon, Mr. R. W. Marks, Mr. J. Taylor, Inside the district, Mr. S. Watson, Mr. G. A. Mack, Mr. Watkins.

Revision of the Allocation of Marks. A few alterations were made but the 1000 marks allocated remain the same.

Estadofod. It was decided to hold this on Saturday, May 28th, 1932, at Boaler St. Church, Liverpool, and that a per capita tax on candidates be adopted.

Council's Effort for the £2,000 Effort Fund. It was decided (a) that the Council give each Lyceum a capital of 2s. to raise as much as possible and report with cash at each Council meeting; (b) that each Lyceum be asked to raise not less than 2s. 6d. per year.

The Suggested Pooling Scheme re B.S.L.U. Delegates to Conference. It was decided that a scheme be adopted, but owing to lack of time the discussion concerning the rules had to be abruptly closed, and referred to next meeting.

A hearty vote of thanks was given during the tea interval to Warrington friends for their hospitality and splendid tea provided.

The annual meeting will take place on Saturday, Feb. 13th, 1932, at Daulby Spiritualists' National Church, Liverpool. Will delegates please make an effort to be punctual.

L. K. GEORGE, Hon. Sec.

NORTH EAST CHESHIRE DISTRICT.

The quarterly meeting of the North East Cheshire L.D.C. was held at Ashton on 7th November. Invocation by Mrs. Edwards. The President's Address was one of welcome, and he hoped that our deliberations would benefit the cause of the children.

The Minutes of the meeting held 1st Aug., and a record of thanks to Macclesfield for help in entertaining the U.D.C. was passed. It was decided we purchase 100 copies of "Lyceum Education."

The D.V. reported a visit to Macclesfield.

U.D.C. Report. We here express regret that Mrs. Ennion, owing to ill health, was unable to give the report, but it was read by her son. A report of the financial position of the Union was received and delegates were requested to bring this matter before Lyceums. The Badge was referred to Lyceums, and after suggestions, will be on next Agenda.

Conference resolutions, etc., were dealt with. We suggest raising voting age from 12 to 14 years. Re-organisation of Areas. Education Scheme; we suggest first written examination at 14 years of age. All items to be dealt with by Lyceums and mandate for next meeting. Various other items were referred to the E.C.

Credential report,—Officers 6, Lyceums 5, Associates 6. Total present, 19.

Next meeting is 6th Feb., 1932, at Stockport Central. Nominations for Officers will be accepted up to date of E.C. Meeting, Jan. 9th.

Now let us wind up 1931 with a special effort towards raising our numbers, and thus encourage our M.C. Remember that Action is the answer to Words and the "Seeds of Promise" will never flourish unless we have the will to Work and Win.

MASSED SESSIONS.

Mass Sessions were held at Stockport Central on Nov. 22nd,

conducted by Mr. W. Dransfield, the President. Invocation by Mrs. Edwards followed by "The March of Life" and "How to Live." Questions and answers were good. M.R. "Voyage of Life." Readings by Mr. Ennion (Stockport), Mrs. Moulton and Miss Downs (Heaton Norris), each expressing thoughts on care of the body—beware of dangers—stick to truth, despite the scorn.

Pearls, recitations, etc., were numerous.

Greetings from Heaton Norris, Ashton and Leeds (Psycho) were responded to by the President and Mrs. Edwards, for Stockport.

Evening,—Invocation by Mrs. Edwards, our Vice-President. Questions and answers on the G.C.R. were good. The M.R. was read by Mr. Markham, Mrs. Edwards, and Mr. E. Lloyd. Each expressed their thoughts. Mrs. Edwards emphasised the Moral Hero, and Mr. Lloyd summarised the reading very well.

Marching and callisthenics were enjoyed; word-building was a pleasing feature.

We trust the lessons were learned and that it will be the means of raising our numbers. Sorry all our Lyceums could not manage to be present, but take heart and on with the work; though the voyage may be rough at times we will surely reach the calm.

R. A. L. MARKHAM, Sec.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT.

The Sheffield District Lyceums Council will meet on Sunday, Dec. 27th, in the Heeley, Gifford Road, Spiritualist Church. Business, as Agenda, will commence at 10.30 a.m. Usual catering arrangements. The Council will conduct afternoon Session and evening Service.

H. HEATH, Sec.

TEES-SIDE DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Conference of the above Council was held at the "Star of Progress" Lyceum, Musgrave Street, West Hartlepool, on Sunday, 15th November, 1931. In addition to the usual routine business the following important items were dealt with.

The Associate Fees are increased to ONE SHILLING per year, each Associate is to receive a copy of Minutes and Agenda of future Conferences.

Conductors, Assistant Conductors, Secretaries and Treasurers of Lyceums are asked to become Associates of the Council.

Officers, Members of the D.C. Executive Committee and Delegates must also be Associate Members.

Lyceum Affiliation Fees are increased to 3s. per year.

A Bookstall is to be a permanent feature of D.C. work.

Rules governing the appointment of Speakers and Demonstrators have been adopted. (Secretaries will receive copies in due course).

The 'Education Scheme' is to be established upon a 'College' basis in the D.C. The President (Mrs. Ainsworth), Secretary (Mr. E. Nellist, G.N.S.C.), Treasurer (Mr. E. Platts), District Visitor (Mr. J. H. Foster) and Mr. J. Riley, were appointed to be the Education Sub-Committee with power to organise classes with a view to the Council becoming 'The Tees-side District Centre' of the National Spiritualist College.

The Analysis of B.S.L.U. Finance submitted by the U.D.C. is referred to the E.C. for consideration and report.

Mrs. Lofthouse having resigned her position as D.V. owing to ill-health, Mr. H. Foster was appointed to that position. Mr. J. Miller has been acting D.V. for a short while. The Council regrets Mrs. Lofthouse's illness, and thanks her for past services.

New Lyceums opening must be visited for four weeks after their commencement.

Fraternal Delegates were present from South Bank, Howden le Wear and West Hartlepool (Charles St.), new Lyceums.

The President (Mrs. Ainsworth) conducted a Lyceum Session in the Afternoon, when an enjoyable time was spent. A paper by Mr. J. Conaty of Grangetown on "Spiritualism—Is it a Philosophy?" was greatly appreciated. The Church was packed to overflowing for the Evening Services which were sustained by various members of the Council under the Chairmanship of the Council President. A most successful Conference.

Will Lyceum Secretaries please note the above changes, and assist the Secretary by giving immediate attention to circulars, etc., which will be forwarded in the course of the next few weeks.

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

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor, LYCEUM BANNER.
Dear Sir,

In your November issue there appears more than once statements of the "hostile" attitude of the Spiritualists' National Union to the work of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union. I cannot let these serious statements pass without contradicting them. Such a situation can only exist in the personal imagination of an odd individual or individuals. Although, naturally, divergence of views may exist I am sure that I can vouch that the whole of my colleagues on the Council of the Union desire to assist the B.S.L.U. in its work, especially among the children.

This is written without my having consulted either of them.

I am, yours faithfully,

A. G. NEWTON,
Vice-Pres. of the S.N.U.

Births, Marriages, and Transitions.

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

MARRIAGE.

CHEADLE—RIDGWAY, at Southport Spiritualist Church, on 24th October, 1931, May Ridgway, Conductor of the Lyceum, to Frederick Cheadle.

District Visitors' Reports.

BOLTON DISTRICT.

On Nov. 1st I paid an official visit to Bradford St. Lyceum. Prompt start. Attendance rather above average. The Session was well conducted. The Readings, questions and explanations displayed a growing intelligence. Pearls, recitations and solos were nicely rendered. Our Council Secretary and his wife brought their infant son to be named. Miss Cliff officiated at a very impressive ceremony.

Nov. 15th I went to Deane Road Lyceum. The attendance was rather low, but I was of the opinion that the quality was very good. Readings were well given with a marked desire to teach and to learn. Marching and callisthenics were very good indeed. This Lyceum is only in need of more enthusiasm to make it the leading Lyceum in the Council.

WM. CLIFF, A.N.S.C., D.V.

COVENTRY DISTRICT.

Coventry, Bull St. Lyceum. Present 14. Singing was good. S.C.R. nicely explained. Readings of M.R. and G.C.R. were good. Marching and callisthenics (second series) were done smartly. There was an interesting discussion in the Liberty Group.

Stoke. Sept. 27th. Present 25. This Lyceum is improving very nicely. The S.C.R. was explained by the Conductor. The physical exercises were done well, with a junior leader. This Lyceum has done well in the Competition.

MR. E. COE, D.V.

LEEDS DISTRICT.

June 28th. Leeds Psycho. 15 present. Questions and comments during lessons were fairly good. Marching and callisthenics good. 11 pearls and two solos. Not many children in this Lyceum.

July 19th. Birstall. 8 present. Very fair discussion of the lessons. This Lyceum needs more encouragement and all Lyceumists able to are asked to visit them.

Aug. 2nd. Morley, Queen St. 12 present. Marching was very good. Callisthenics were fairly good. Five pearls.

Aug. 23rd. Hull, Dairycoates. 54 present. Very fair discussion. Nine pearls. This Lyceum has the largest number of children in our district. A few more adults would be helpful.

A. DAISLEY, D.V.

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.

Since my last report I have visited Long Eaton, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottingham Progressive, Mansfield, Stapleford, and Hucknall. All are very much alive and the Shield Competition is humming.

LEN JOHNSON, D.V.

SOUTH EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

I visited Gilmour St. Lyceum, Middleton, morning session, Nov. 7th, 1931. A bright Session was conducted by Mr. Cullun. Readings and singing were to a state of perfection. Marching was brisk and ably performed. Callisthenics, 1st series, under the leadership of Master Hadshead in a very able manner. Responses were numerous. The two old Lyceum pioneers still keep the flag flying,—Mr. Liddle, who has only been absent four times in twenty-three years,—and Mr. Bowker, the Musical Conductor. I am glad to report progress.

Afternoon Session, Old Hall Street, Middleton, under the Conductorship of Mr. Bowker, jr.

This Lyceum has increased in numbers since my previous visit. The Lyceumists who took up the Education Scheme are passing through with flying colours. The decorum of the Lyceum is satisfactory. Readings, singing, marching and callisthenics are good. The 11 year old Callisthenic Conductor, Master Neville Moorcroft, performs his duty in a most excellent manner. I hope Old Hall Street Lyceum will meet with even greater success.

HERBERT SHAW, D.V.

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.

CALGARY, CANADA.—Since opening again in September we have held two special meetings in our Lyceum. The first, with Rev. Ada M. Garrad acting as conductor, when Mr. Wingfield presented the diplomas to the successful students in the educational examination. This being the first time our Lyceum has taken part in the Educational Scheme we were particularly pleased with the results, as all taking part passed with good marks. During this session the children responded with readings, solos and musical items, as well as recitations. All helped to make this day a success.

The other special meeting was held on Thanksgiving Sunday with Mrs. A. Rushton acting Conductor. The Church combined with the Lyceum in decorating the rostrum with fruit and flowers, as well as groceries, all of which were later given to the needy families which we were in touch with. At this session also there was a special programme suitable for the day with pearls, readings, musical numbers, etc., being given by those present.

If the young lady who wrote to our Lyceum from the Batley Carr Lyceum would kindly write again, it would be appreciated, as unfortunately her letter was lost and therefore we could not reply to her personally.

H.E.T.

DUNEDIN, New Zealand.—On Sept. 13th a special Open Session was held. Mr. Stables, church vice-president, presented Certificates to the successful students in the recent B.S.L.U. examinations. Mr. Stables gave a short talk on the value of the Education Scheme. We were disappointed as, apart from parents who are Lyceumists, there was only one parent attended. Pearls were given by all present. Recitations by Jean McConnell, Dulcie Prattley, Eric Downes, Frances Anthony, Nancy Rainbow, Roland and Kathleen Paul. Piano solos by Mr. Hargreaves and his daughter Joan.

The Conductor thanked Mr. Stables for the interest he always displayed in the children's work. He has acted as Supervisor on three occasions. On behalf of the Lyceumists he was presented with a gold Spiritualist Badge by the Conductor.

One of our Lyceumists was married on Aug. 14th. This is the first Spiritualist marriage in Dunedin for many years; and the first Lyceumist to be married by a Spiritualist pastor, Mr. R. N. Rudd, who was conducting his first ceremony.

Greetings to all Lyceumists, and best wishes to the Editor of the BANNER.

MISS R. BURGESS, Con. Sec.

SIR OLIVER LODGE.

His views on Psychic Phenomena.

Sir Oliver Lodge has just published his autobiography and notes his investigations in psychic phenomena and personal survival after death. He investigated thought transference and, to his surprise, found it to be a fact. He made the daring speculation which extended the idea of telepathy from living media to dead. He was astonished with his experiences of trance mediumship and convinced of its genuineness. Of his dead son, Raymond, he says "he has taken the trouble to guide me in many ways."

Sir Oliver admits he is not surprised at the contempt of scientific men concerning the evidences of commonplace psychic phenomena, "But are they true?"

"Whatever the hostility now, I feel that in due time science will take them under its wing, will recognise their truth, and will bring them into more serious consideration. They open a new department and new province of knowledge, one that will immensely enlarge our scope and give us a clear apprehension of the majesty of a universe of which as yet we know so little."

Sir Oliver has always steered clear of Spiritualism as an organised form of religion, but his outspoken and courageous scientific statements have been a great asset in drawing students to the study of psychic phenomena and, in some cases, to Spiritualism.

LYCEUM REPORTS.

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

RULE 2.—Record only the events occurring after Nov. 25th.

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

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

RULE 4.—All Reports must reach this Office not later than December 19th to ensure insertion in the January issue.

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

ACCRINGTON, Argyle Street.—Open Session, Nov. 8th. Conductor, Mr. W. Taylor. Musical Director, Miss Tabiner. Recitations and solos by E. Moreton, C. and N. Goddon, E. and B. Bartlett, K. Slinn, I. Bradshaw. The Session was thoroughly enjoyed by all.—Miss F. Holgate, Sec.

ACCRINGTON, Pearl Street.—Open Session, Nov. 1st. Recitations by Nellie Laycock, Frances Laycock. Solos and duets by Hilda and Walter Swift, Alec Taylor, Hilda Neild, Frances Thomas, Stanley and Nellie Laycock, Willie Crabtree and Mrs. Houlker. Mrs. Houlker was impressed by one of our old workers and spirit friend, Mrs. Walmsley, to sing "Summerland," 304 in the Manual. Our Open Session was a great success and enjoyed by all.—Miss Hilda Swift, Sec.

BACUP.—Oct. 4th, Open Session. Pearls and solos were beautifully rendered by J. Pochett, E. Malone, Mrs. Lord, M. Pachett, L. Lord, A. Ashworth, Miss Carter, N. Taylor, M. McKenna, Miss Halsall, Mr. A. Harris, Mr. Wright, M. Pachett, M. Halsall. The marching and callisthenics were well done with great vigour and everything was greatly enjoyed.—A. Halsall, Sec.

BACUP.—Open Session, Nov. 1st. Pearls by A. Ashworth, E. Moloan, Mrs. L. Lord, D. Halsall, Mrs. Carter, Mr. Lord, Mrs. Halsall, Mr. H. Shaw. Recitations by Mollie Halsall,

Alice Wright. Piano solo by Dorothy Halsall. Songs by Mr. A. Harris and a group of Lyceumists. Duets by Harry Salt and James Clements; Mrs. H. Shaw and Mrs. Wright. Callisthenics and marching were creditably carried out. A very pleasant morning was spent. Conductor, Mrs. Carter.—A. Halsall, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—Open Session, Nov. 1st. Conductor, Mr. Thompson. Recitations by Annie, Gertie, Gwennie, Florrie and Muriel Watson, William Barry, Mr. Taylor, Mrs. Harper, Mrs. Mars, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Whiteley. Solos by Lillian Harding, Mr. Groves, Mrs. Harding. Violin and piano duet by Albert and Elsie Thompson.

The Lyceum took the Church services on Nov. 8th. The Session was lively, with an interesting discussion. A surprise poem, "The Lyceum," was rendered by Ernest Kneale and well received.

In the evening a service of song by Miss E. Thompson was well rendered before a good congregation.—Wm. Kneale, Sec.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter Street.—Oct. 25th was our Lyceum Day. We held an Open Session in the afternoon. Miss E. Elliott, President of the B.S.L.U., was our speaker for the day. She named a baby, Margaret Elizabeth Moulden, spirit name "Astria." Recitations by Jean and Iris Entwistle, B. Hinchcliffe, A. Railton, E. Livesey, A. Fish. We had a good Session, enjoyed by all. About 180 present.—Mr. T. Wood, Sec.

BLACKPOOL.—On Oct 25th we witnessed the most impressive naming ceremony of the year. The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Lamb was named by Mr. Squire Spencer (Blackpool). Six children helped by placing a white chrysanthemum upon the child. Mr. Spencer used red roses, giving the earthly name William Lamb, spiritual name "Brightness." Many Lyceums were represented and all agreed it was a wonderful ceremony with the children taking part.

Our Lyceum Conductor, Mrs. E. H. Rothwell, again gave the babe a Lyceum Manual. She is giving them every opportunity of becoming Lyceumists. Mr. Spencer presented the baby with a Lyceum Badge, and we all wish the babe a happy and prosperous lifetime, spiritually and materially. Greetings were given and everyone was glad they had attended.

Nov. 8th, Anniversary Session. Miss P. Goodwin was our speaker for the day. Pearls by G. Ashcroft, I. Long, L. Baker, Mrs. Hobbs, Mrs. Singleton, Mrs. Leadbetter, Mrs. Shore, Mrs. Swan, Miss Hampson, Mrs. Wood, J. Matthews, Mr. Balyss, and others. Miss Goodwin rendered us a touching recitation, also Mr. Rothwell. Songs were given by the young men, young ladies, and together. Everyone was happy, marching was good, and those who took part felt better for having helped in the Session. One of our happiest days.

Wednesday, Nov. 11th, we held our Anniversary Tea and Concert. The Merry Midgets Concert Party came and gave us a real treat. Fleetwood should be proud of them. Some of our Lyceumists gave turns which were enjoyed very much. The concert was a success.

Greetings to all Lyceums and best wishes for Xmas and the Coming Year.—Jenny Bamber, Sec.

BOLTON, Bradford St.—Nov. 1st, was Pearl Sunday. Pearls, recitations, and solos were given by various Lyceumists and friends. On that day Mr. and Mrs. Liles, of Bradford St. had their infant son named. Our Conductor, Miss A. Cliff, performed the ceremony, giving the baby the earthly name of "Keith," the spirit name of "Light," a ceremony which should not be forgotten in the annals of Bradford St. Harmony, Love and Peace reigned throughout the Session. We also had the D.V., Mr. Cliff with us, who highly praised our efforts for a good Lyceum.

Miss E. Walker, one of our old Lyceumists, paid us a visit. She was presented with a flower in recognition of her birthday. Best wishes to all Lyceums.—J. Walker, Sec.

CALGARY, Canada.—On Oct. 4th we held our Harvest Festival. The Church and Lyceum were beautifully decorated with sheaves of grain, fruit, flowers, and vegetables. It made a wonderful display. Items were rendered by Misses Jean Poyser, Ashcroft and Lois Lilligren. Readings by Jack Lilligren, Mr. Kingston, Mrs. Parkyn, Raymond Parkyn. Pearls were said by nearly all. The physical exercises were enjoyed by all. We expressed greetings to all Lyceums.

CARDIFF, Park Grove.—On the afternoon of Oct. 15th. we held our Open Session, at which Mr. Harris named the infant

son of Mr. and Mrs. Bendell. The baby received the earthly name of Peter David, and the spirit name of "Greatheart."

Vocal and instrumental solos were given by Lyceumists; also pearls and recitations which were very appropriate. A very harmonious session, which was enjoyed by Lyceumists and friends.—G. Dunn, Sec.

CHESTERFIELD.—On Nov. 1st. we had an enjoyable Open Session. The following Lyceumists obliged with Items Glyn Cowell; Jimmy Rippon; Kathleen Clements, Harold and Irene Hobster, Ivy Hall; Shirley Widdowson; Jessie Orwin; Mrs. Briggs; Mrs. Bramwell; Mr. Campbell; Mrs. Siddall; Miss May Wheatley.—Miss G. Hobster, Minute Secretary.

CLECKHEATON.—Open Session Nov. 1st. Conducted by Miss E. Thornton. Invocation by Mr. Moore, of Morley. Golden Chain 144 on which several interesting questions were discussed. Pearls by Herbert Horsley (4) Mary Ellison (2), Mr. Moore, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Horsley (2) Mrs. Ellison. Recitations by Herbert Horsley and Joyce Sharp. Solos by Herbert Horsley and Mr. Robinson. Hymn No. 334 was sung altogether by request. Duet by Irene Wilson and Eva Rowley. Interesting and encouraging remarks were given by Mr. Moore who was our speaker for the day. A thoroughly interesting session was enjoyed by all.—(Miss) M. B. Robinson, Sec.

DARLINGTON, "Ever Welcome."—A Naming Ceremony was performed by Mrs. Batwell, Conductor, on Nov. 1st. The son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Clarkson of Shildon was named John William. Spirit name "Love."—Mrs. M. Hardy, Sec.

DERBY, Charnwood St.—Anniversary Celebrations, Oct. 25th. In the afternoon a Model Session was held and was conducted by Mr. Slater, president of the Notts. and Dist. L.D.C. He had offered his services as Speaker for the day. A good number of visitors were present. Time only allowed for a few social items rendered by Beattie Spence, Vera Garrett, Ruth and Clarice Spence and Doris Garrett.

There were crowded congregations at the evening meetings. Items by the following made the services very successful:—Misses Amy and Florence Heapy, Doris, Olive and Vera Garrett, Beatty, Annie, Clarice and Ruth Spence, Lola Fearn, George Spence. Mr. Slater made a fine appeal to everyone to support the Lyceum more as it is from the Lyceum that the future speakers for Spiritualism will be drawn. The day made us all feel proud of the Lyceumists. A.C.M.

DEWSBURY.—Open Session, Oct. 25th. Conductor Mr. N. Greenwood, Invocation by Mr. A. Kitson. Pearls by Mr. A. Collier, Margaret Greenwood, Sam Warren, Mr. J. H. Collier, Mr. H. Gregory, Mrs. Hartley, Lily Whightman, Laura Shaw, Mrs. J. Whittle, Miss F. Senior, Mr. T. Taylor, Mrs. Gregory, Miss A. Bentley, and a visitor. Recitations by Dorothy Dunn, Ettie Day, Cissie Greenwood, Cyril Oakes, Cyril Hey, Willie Johnson, Lillian Thomas, Solo by Mr. J. H. Collier. Duets by Mr. H. and Louie Gregory. Miss Amy Bentley and Mrs. Whittles. We had a Naming Ceremony performed by Mrs. G. Peel, who gave the name of Jean Stott. Lyceumists present 94, visitors, 41.

On Sat. Oct. 31st. Tues., Wed., and Sat., Nov. 3rd, 4th, and 7th. the Lyceumists gave a highly amusing operetta, "A Slave in Araby." The characters were: Haroun-Al-Raschid, Mr. E. Wilson; Abdul, Mr. E. Whitworth; Omar, Mr. B. Stocks; Zyad, Mr. J. Senior; Ali, Mr. H. Gregory; Mustapha, Mr. L. Bland; Mahmoud, Mr. W. Hey; Captain Khalid, Mr. N. Greenwood; Layla, Miss E. Stott; Fatima, Miss F. Senior; Badoura, Mrs. J. Whittles; Morgiana, Miss A. Shaw; Ayesha, Miss A. Bentley; Scheherazade, Miss E. Barton; Nedza, Mr. S. Senior. Chorus: Miss F. Phillips, Miss V. Hey Miss L. Gregory, Mrs. Hartley, Mrs. Barton, Mrs. V. R. Phillips, Mrs. H. Gregory, Mrs. G. Oakes, Mrs. Dunn, Mrs. E. Whitworth, Mr. A. Oakes, Miss N. Whitworth, Miss P. Key. Stage Manager, Mr. J. H. Collier. Doorman, Mr. V. Hartley. Refreshment Stall Mrs. Pratt, Mrs. Greenwood, Mrs. L. Bland, Mrs. Whitworth, Miss F. Oakes, Mrs. Ledgard, Mrs. Mountain, Mrs. Doile, Mrs. Aveyard, Mrs. Scholfield, Mrs. Wilson Mrs. Fisher, Miss L. and Miss V. Thomas, Miss E. Roebuck, Miss A. Longley. Ticket Collector, Mr. G. Oakes, Harry Oakes, Walter Oakes. Pianist and Leader of Orchestra, Mr. W. Firth. Secretary, Mr. N. Greenwood. Treasurer, Mr. G. Peel. Coach and Musical Director, Mr. J. Whittles. Orchestra, Mr. J. Crowther, Mr. J. Cruden, Mr. E. Wigglesworth, Mr. R. Smith, Mr. C. Watson, Electrician, Mr. C. Phillips.

We were very sorry to hear of one of our old Lyceumists, Mr. L. Bland, being taken to hospital, and also that Miss W. Hartley has been ill.—V. R. Phillips, Sec.

EARBY, Greenend Avenue.—Oct. 31st. and Nov. 1st. Lyceum week-end. On the Saturday we held a concert and pie supper. A presentation of full roan gilt edition's of the Officers Manual and Spiritual Songster was made to our pianist, for his willing services rendered to the Lyceum.

On the Sunday we had an Open Session and a Service of Song "Rest at Last," read by Mr. Clifford of Nelson.—Mrs. D. Dawson, Sec.

EARBY, Onward.—Nov. 1st. Open Session. Recitations by Ronnie Clough, Pearl and Gordon Blackburn, Edna Well-ock, Vera Fellows, Irene Cryer, Elsie Clark, and Mrs. Hancock. Songs by R. Clough, and P. Blackburn. The Leaders sang 336, L.M. A very good Session.—Mrs. J. W. Clark, Sec.

FLEETWOOD.—Our Open Session on Nov. 1st was well attended. Recitations by Margaret Gibson, Edith Robbins, Bertha Benjamins, Mrs. Firth, Mona Hague, Dorothy Harris and Tom Wright. Duets by Ruth Harris and Kathleen Hague, Mary Gibson and Irene Watkins. Quartette by Eric Horan, John Reeves, Herbert Wilson and Willie Gibson. Pianoforte solo by Doris Parkinson. A number of good pearls. At the close of our Session our Conductor named the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Yeo, "Dorothy," spirit name "Grace."—L. Rollans.

GREAT HARWOOD.—Open Session, Nov. 8th. S.C. by Mr. P. Doswell, M.R. by Mrs. Owen, Mrs. Haworth, Walter Haworth, and Miss May Pickvance. G.C.R. by Florence Pickvance. Recitations from Joan Bullen, Greta Johnson, May Pickvance, Mrs. Haworth and Edna Parkinson. Solos by Mr. P. Doswell, Mrs. Hudson, Mr. Johnson. Duet by Mrs. W. Doswell, and Florence Pickvance. Quartette by Sheila Parkinson, Edna Parkinson, May Pickvance and Rosa Bagshaw.—W. Doswell, Sec.

HOLLINWOOD, Byron St.—Open Session, Oct. 25th. Good attendance and quite a few Lyceums were represented. Individual efforts were numerous. We had two very enjoyable Sessions. We are very glad to report progress both in attendance and the quality of the Sessions.—M. Haworth, Sec.

HORWICH, Chorley New Road.—On Sat. Nov. 7th, we held a Social Evening. There was a fair attendance. Musical items, games, and other festivities were indulged in, and a very joyous evening ensued.

Nov. 15th. Open Session. Mr. E. Walsh and Mr. W. Cliff, of the Bolton L.D.C. were present. We had visitors from various Lyceums. Marching and Callisthenics were good. Pearls, recitations and solos were ably rendered. A happy and interesting Session. Greetings to all.—Mr. J. Sherrington, Sec.

HYDE, George St.—On Nov. 8th. Mr. Roy Morgan conducted the Naming Ceremony of the infant son of Thomas and Rose Mather, giving him the earthly name of Harry, spiritual name, "Courage."

On Saturday, Nov. 14th, a Grand Social was held with great success. Dancing, singing, and recitations helped to make a very enjoyable evening.

We are pleased to mention that one of our young Lyceumists, Marian Oldham, aged 10, gained 3rd. prize in the Schoolgirls Swimming Championship of Hyde.—N. Cartwright, Sec.

LEEDS, Psycho.—Nov. 22nd Lyceum Sunday. An interesting and instructive afternoon session. In the evening the following took part: Mr. Hynes, Conductor and Chairman; Misses V. and M. Towers, Mr. and Mrs. Crabtree, Mr. Jenkins, Barbara Charnley, Mrs. Moran, Mrs. Land, Mr. Daisley, Jr. They contributed an interesting and varied programme. The fog prevented a full attendance. Seasons greetings to all Lyceums at Home and abroad.—Miss V. Towers, Sec.

LEICESTER, Liberty Progressive.—Open Session, Nov. 1st. A good company of friends and Lyceumists. Recitations by Silvia Garratt, Jacky Whitbread, Mrs. Noon, Freda Gamble, Elsie Garratt. Solos by Elsie Clement, T. Kenney. Duets by Irene Ashby and Olive Holyoake, Ethel Gamble and Doris Garratt.—T. Kenney, Sec.

LEICESTER, Rupert St.—Nov. 1st. Open Session. Organ solo by Mr. W. Coysh. Solos by Miss Mary Coysh and Mrs. I. Wicks. Recitations by Miss Betty Hancock. Miss E. Wicks was the Conductor.—Mr. J. Wicks, Sec.

LONDON, Stratford, Idmiston Road.—Nov. 8th. a full Peace Session with Opening Song, 432, S.C. 48, M.R. 218, was held. Pearls were original, and Marching and callisthenics splendidly carried out. Individual efforts, which are improv-

ing, from Iva Phillips, Joyce Capper, Barbara Bates, Doris Fozzard and Edie Pettit. Mr. Connor in his talk stressed the cultivation of the "Peace Outlook" in the younger generation, which would be a sure bulwark against war. Attendances are improving and Education Classes have been formed.—R. H. Bates, Sec.

LONDON TOTTENHAM AND EDMONTON.—On Sat. Oct. 17th we held our Lyceum Anniversary Social, which was a great success. The Hall was crowded out, and everyone had a jolly and happy time.—Gertrude Evans, Session Sec.

LONDON, TOTTENHAM AND EDMONTON.—To all Lyceumists—accept good wishes for Christmas, and may you all have health, happiness, and prosperity throughout the coming year.—Florrie Williers, Session Sec.

MANCHESTER, Harpurhey.—Open Session, Oct. 31st. Miss Todd, was Conductor. Good attendance, though we would like to see some of our old friends. In the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Hunter were presented by Miss Todd with a handsome wedding present from the Lyceum, consisting of oxidised statuettes and silver cake basket.—H. Hunter, Lit. Sec.

MANCHESTER, Longsight.—Nov. 1st. Open Session. Mr. J. E. Hart M.I.P.S., conducted the Session. The responses were very good and the individual efforts were also worthy of comment. The Session was well attended and altogether we had a most enjoyable time. The Lyceum was complimented on its leadership in the marching.—E. N. Wolstencroft, Sec.

NEWTON HEATH.—On Nov. 1st. we had the naming ceremony of the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Taylor by Miss Watson. Mr. Taylor is our Conductor. The earthly names of Kathleen Annie, spirit name "Lily" were given. By request of the baby's Grandma Taylor, who has been in the spirit world some years, red roses, which are her favourite flowers, were used. Miss Watson excelled herself on this occasion.

On Tuesday, Nov. 3rd. our Lyceum suffered a severe loss by the sudden passing away of our Treasurer, Miss Wilson, after four days illness. She passed to the Higher Life in Monsall Hospital. The interment took place at Bradford Road Cemetery on Saturday, Nov. 7th when Miss Watson gave a splendid service in the home, assuring the mother and sisters of the wonderful knowledge we have, that our dear ones are always with us. At the graveside Miss Watson gave a stirring address which compelled strangers to marvel at the assurance that our loved ones share our sorrows and our joys. A good number of Lyceumists were at the graveside from our own Lyceum, and also from Moston, Collyhurst, Maskell St., Middleton, Openshaw, Southport. The floral tributes which number 30, were beautiful.

On Oct. 25th our Liberty Group was taken by Mr. J. Taylor, who gave us something to think about and some criticism of our Lyceum System, which caused much discussion.—Fannie Shaw, Sec.

OLDHAM, Central.—Harvest Thanksgiving, speaker, Mr. R. Roberts.

Sept. 28th Fruit banquet and social.

Oct. 4th Open Session all day, well attended by Lyceumists and visitors.

Our winter socials have commenced and a welcome is extended to all to see our Cabaret girls, and Dusky minstrels entertainments.

On Oct. 25th we held our Ladies' Day. Speakers, Mrs. Hoyle, Mrs. Clark, and Mrs. Dronfield. Soloist, Mrs. J. Woods.—Mrs. H. Clegg, Sec.

PETERBOROUGH.—Oct. 25th Namings of James Alfred Green and Marian Edna Green by Mr. J. Brown, our President, and of Annie Ellender, by Mrs. Stevenson of London. They were given the spirit names of Victor, Lily and Mercy.—A. E. Reynolds, Sec.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Nov. 1st. we held our Open Session which was conducted by a Lyceumist, Mary Hayward. Pearls were given by those present. Recitations by Stella Mitchell, June Peters, Sylvia Durman, Eric Hutchins, Joyce Moule, and Jean Sandford. Pianoforte solo by Vera Chambers. An enjoyable Session was spent.—C. Stuart-Jones, Sec.

READING.—Open Session Nov. 1st. After the usual exercises we had individual items from the following children and adults. Ruby and Iris Pickersgill, Margaret Latter, Peggy Radford, Lily Cousens, Violet Haslem, Peter Woodward, William Cousens, Mrs. Lawrence and Mrs. Duke.—H. Giles, Sec.

SCUNTHORPE.—Nov. 7th to 9th, was our Lyceum weekend, taken by our Lyceumists. Sunday, nice Open Session, Evening, Mrs. Begg gave an address, subject "Self." Second meeting three Lyceumists gave clairvoyance. Wednesday we

had a nice time both spiritually and financially, it being Armistice Day. Xmas greeting to all.—Ivy Sprakes, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Gifford Road.—Nov. 1st. Open Session. Mr. C. Truelove conducted. The children responded well. About 22 gave individual items.

On Nov. 3rd. and 4th, the Church members and several Lyceumists gave two performances of an enjoyable Concert.—H. Truelove, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Heeley, Woodseats.—Open Session Nov. 1st. Recitations by Joyce, Audrey and Mavis Fox, Helen Prescott, Joan and Margaret Burgin, Mary Oldham, Joan Morgan, Billy Wilkinson and Ronald Yellops. All were greatly appreciated.

SMETHWICK.—On Nov. 8th the Lyceum competed for the Silver Bell, which is to be given for the best conducted Lyceum in the Birmingham District. Mr. Warrilow attended the Lyceum. The Session was conducted according to the rules in the Lyceum Manual, including marching and callisthenics. We all hope to win the Bell.—F. S. Taylor, Assist. Sec.

SOUTHAMPTON.—On Oct. 22nd our Lyceum gave a Service of Song in the Church which was greatly enjoyed by the Church members. Appreciative thanks were expressed to our Conductor Mr. Guy who compiled the Reading and to the Lyceumists who rendered the Song parts of the Service.

On Sunday 25th Oct. we held our 19th Anniversary Service. Mr. Shuttleworth of Darwen was the speaker for the day. We hope he enjoyed his visit to Southampton as much as we appreciated his presence. As usual the Church services of the day were taken over by the Lyceum.

At the open Lyceum session in the afternoon, the opportunity was taken to show our appreciation in tangible form, to Mr. Shuttleworth. The Session was very much enjoyed by all, including visitors from kindred Lyceums, Portsmouth, Ryde, Eastleigh, Cowes and Darwen. Fraternal greetings and good wishes were received from Brighton, Bristol, the Southern District Council, United Lyceums Council and from the Lancashire Lyceums Council and expressed by the visiting Lyceums. We feel sure the "Links that Bind" have been strengthened.—E. W. Long, Hon. Sec.

SOWERBY BRIDGE.—Open Session, Oct. 4th conducted by Mr. F. Deane, Master L. Deane gave a nice recitation followed by pearls from Miss H. Brierley and Mr. T. Wright.

On Nov. 1st a short but most enjoyable Open Session was held. Mr. F. Deane was the Conductor. Recitation by Miss Sylvia Rushworth, Lewis Deane and Gordon Ackroyd. The physical exercises were conducted by Mr. J. L. Whitely, and were well done.—Miss F. M. Lees, Sec.

WINNIPEG, Princess Street, Canada.—Open Session Nov. 1st, conducted by Mrs. Burley, President of the Church. Solos by Nancy Phillips, Crissie Lindsay, Esther and Peggy Wood. Pearls by Crissie, James and Alex Lindsay, Nancy Phillips, Esther and Peggy Wood, Mrs. Burley, Mr. and Mrs. Wood, Reading by Mrs. Burley. Duet by Mrs. Burley and Mrs. Wood. The Session closed with callisthenics.—R. J. Wood, Sec.

WINNIPEG, First, Polson Avenue.—We held our Open Session on Oct. 4th when a very enjoyable time was spent. Pearls, songs and recitations were rendered by Gordon Fairbairn, Fred Nichols, Miss M. Anderson, Mr and Mrs. J. Hargreaves and Mr. and Mrs. H. Forrest. We were also favoured with a little talk by Mr. Orchard.

We held our open Session on Nov. 1st; a very enjoyable time was spent by all. Pearls were given by all present. Duets by Mrs. H. Forrest and Mrs. J. Hargreaves, Maude Hargreaves and Irene Turner, solo by Mr. H. Forrest; Pianoforte solo by Daisy Knox, Organ solo by Harry Forrest. Recitations by Hazel Dale, Mrs. J. Knox, Miss M. Anderson. Short talks by Mr. J. Hargreaves, Mr. H. T. Brown and Mr. J. Knox.

Mr. V. S. Orchard, formerly of London, England, now of Toronto conducted the session.—Olive Forrest, Sec.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—Master Teddy Davies was our Conductor for the November Open Session. M.R. explanations, recitations, etc. were given by J. James, V. Perry, F. Weedman, J. Collins, J. Hipwell, J. Markland, and D. Simmons.—T. McQuoid Weedman, Sec.

YORK.—On Nov. 17th we held a Concert and Dance as the Fifth Anniversary of the Re-opening of the Lyceum. Lyceumists and non-Lyceumists had an excellent evening until midnight, with good profits.—S. Whitwam, Sec.