

THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 493. Vol. XLII.

MARCH, 1932.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

YOUNG AND OLD.

When all the world is young, lad,
And all the trees are green;
And every goose a swan, lad,
And every lass a queen;
Then hey for boot and horse, lad,
And round the world away;
Young blood must have its course, lad,
And every dog his day.

When all the world is old, lad,
And all the trees are brown;
And all the sport is stale, lad,
And all the wheels run down;
Creep home, and take your place there,
The spent and maimed among;
God grant you find one face there,
You loved when all was young.

C. Kingsley.

TO LYCEUM SECRETARIES.

In view of the General Secretary's continued illness, I would ask your indulgence and patience in the forwarding of receipts of monies sent until the normal position of the office routine is resumed.

EDITH ELLIOTT, President.

A HELPFUL CHOIR.

The South Shields, Fowler St. Lyceum Choir, are rendering valuable assistance to many National Spiritualist Churches on Tyneside, under the baton of Mr. N. E. Ainley, A.N.S.C. The engagements for 1932 are as follows,—Feb. 28th, Ellison St., Jarrow; March 6th, "Tyneside National", Wallsend; March 20th, Cambridge St.; April 17th, and 24th, Fowler St. Church; May 15th, Co-op. Hall, Wallsend; June 26th, Barnes Road, South Shields; Oct. 9th, Fowler St., South Shields; Nov. 20th, Fowler St., South Shields; Dec. 18th, Boldon Colliery. The Booking Plan for 1933 is open for Tyneside District. Apply Mr. R. Smith, 63, Hedley Street, South Shields. The officers of the choir are—Conductor Mr. N. E. Ainley; Treasurer-Sec., Mr. R. Smith; Organist, Mrs. Ainley; Librarian, Mr. R. Burrell; Assistant Conductor, Mrs. D. Brooks.

Births, Marriages, and Transitions.

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

IN MEMORIAM.

HOPE.—In loving Memory of my Dear Son "Albert" who passed to the Higher Life March 18th, 1930.
"Ever remembered by his Loving Mother."

THE ANNUAL B.S.L.U. CONFERENCE.

The Annual B.S.L.U. Conference will be held at Rochdale on May 14th and 15th.

The policy of the Union is determined by the Constitution and the decisions of the Conference.

The Constitution is open to revision this year and amendments must reach the Union's Office not later than March 23rd.

The Officers of the Union, excepting the General Secretary, are elected annually at the Annual Conference. When necessary the General Secretary is elected at the Conference without previous nomination.

The Members of the Management Committee, other than Officers, are elected as Representatives of Electoral Areas by a Ballot taken in the Lyceums during the Session on the Second Sunday in April.

All Lyceums which have paid the annual contributions to the Union before March 1st, will receive, during the first week in March, Nomination Forms for the purpose of nominating Officers, Area Representatives, and delegates to the Annual Conference. Nominations for Officers and Area Representatives must reach the General Secretary not later than March 23rd.

The delegates forms must be duly filled in with the names and addresses of delegates and signed by the Conductor and Secretary of the Lyceum. These forms must be sent to the General Secretary not later than five weeks before the Annual Conference.

The Secretaries of Lyceums are requested to note that the written consent of persons nominated as Officers or Area Representatives must be obtained and sent to the General Secretary along with the nomination forms.

The various printed forms should be placed before the Lyceum at the first opportunity after being received by the Lyceum Secretaries.

Any Lyceum which has not paid the Annual Fees before March 1st will receive a second copy of the Statistical Form. The various nomination forms will be sent to such Lyceums immediately after the Fees have been paid, providing time allows for the nominations to take place.

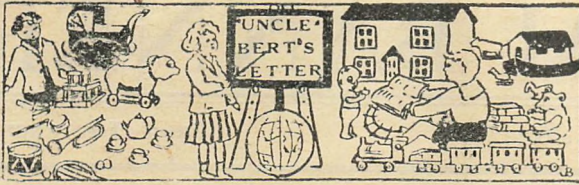
March 23rd. is the final day on which nomination of Officers, Area Representatives, and Notices of Motions for the Conference Agenda, and Amendments to the Constitution and Bye-Laws must be received at the Office of the Union.

G. F. KNOTT, General Secretary,
20, Toad Lane, Rochdale, Lancs.

EBONY ELEPHANT TALISMAN,

hand-made (Indian) for 6d. P.O., postage 2d., while stock lasts. Indian incense sample sent with each order.

R.P. Service, 26, Albert Rd., St. Annes-on-Sea.



My Dear Boys and Girls,

As I take up my pen to write the copy for the printers to set up this page, the first thought which comes into my mind is "Seed time and Harvest." Usually we hear more about this during the season when Churches hold their Harvest Festival Services. It seems to me that this is a more important time for us to consider it, because this is Seed-time and we cannot expect to reap if we do not sow.

In looking through a seed catalogue, the girls will take airs and graces upon themselves, because so many of their names are taken from the flowers. For instance we have Rose, Violet, Lily, Iris and so on, but it seems to me that although boys names are not found so numerous in the flower world they have the biggest shout.

Who could hope to have a better title than "Sweet William." There is no need for you Willies, Williams, or Bills, to blush over it, for here it is in black type not only your name mentioned but the prefix stating what you are.

Pancake day having gone, Easter draws very near and this has become known as the great seed-growing holiday.

Thousands of people spend the whole of this period in their gardens sowing seeds. The cold days of winter are leaving us. The Snowdrops, Crocus and Daffodils pop their heads up and tell us Spring is here.

But they also tell us they cannot stay very long with us, but remind us that there are heaps of other floral visitors who want us to get ready to receive them.

This we have to do by sowing seeds.

We get a number of beautiful lessons in the Bible about seed time. One which comes to my mind is the parable of the sower.

Here was a man with a basket slung over his shoulder going along the field first dipping his right hand and then his left into the basket and scattering seeds all along the way.

Some seeds fell by the way side, others fell on rocky ground, some fell among the thorns, but some fell into good ground and yielded a good harvest.

Here you also get a little sum in arithmetic, for we are told some yielded thirty fold, some sixty fold, and some as much as a hundred fold.

From this little picture you boys and girls can draw many lessons: a few of which I will suggest.

I want you all to suppose you have a garden of your own and that you are going to look after it yourself. What is the first thing to be considered: PREPARATION. Oh yes, you say, but that will make my back-ache. Having mastered that little drawback the next step is SELECTION, followed by ATTENTION, then HARVEST.

We will now try and compare these four points with the natural garden and the gardens of the Heart.

PREPARATION. "What do you want to be when you grow up?" some will say one thing and some another. Whether it be mechanical or office work, a

school teacher or a traveller, it does not matter. I know I am right when I say you all want to be HONEST, TRUTHFUL, BEAUTIFUL in Character.

Then we must take the first step—the digging in we will call it, turning the ground over to make it sweet, removing all those big stones which would hinder the growth of the tiny seed, it may not be easy work, but we shall soon see that it is worth while.

In the garden of the heart we have to remove unkind thoughts and actions, selfish ambition and pride. What are we going to put in their place, here comes SELECTION, in our early gardens we choose those seeds which bring forth what we consider the most beautiful flowers.

Should we not do so in our Heart's garden. Look through your Lyceum Manual and see what a wonderful array of seeds you can have, free of all charge. "Speak the best you can" "Scatter the germs of the beautiful" "Have Faith in one another"; these are only a few wonderful seeds. We will sow these: they are growing, but along comes a frost and sets them back, then it is that ATTENTION is needed. So in our daily lives we start off well full of good intentions, but someone says an unkind word to us. It is then that we need to give attention to the seeds we have sown, which by now have become young plants, it may be that they need a little stick to keep them up straight.

In the heart's garden the best support is the continuing to attend the Lyceum Session, where we can receive strength. We have now reached HARVEST. Which ever garden it is with these points considered the results will not be thirty fold or sixty fold but a hundred fold. We shall have armsful of beautiful flowers to give to others, scattering sunshine and happiness wherever we go. I said we should see it was all worth while, I am sure you will agree with me in this.

Everytime you see anyone working in their gardens during the next few weeks I want you to try and consider these four-points.

PREPARATION, SELECTION, ATTENTION, HARVEST.

ANSWER TO PUZZLE 178.

The following words should be found in your answers: Barking, Batten, Copyright, Cotton, Hammock, Peaceable, Steerage, Wardrobe, Nobleman, Menace, Necklace, Forget, Donation, Meekness.

Congratulations to all who worked them out.

PUZZLE No. 179. Muddled Christian names.

Can you find yours amongst this list.

EINLLE, AEILC, AMRGNI, REIOJRAM, CEAROH, NNAOMR, SSEEJI, DAILH, EJO, LALEST, RHAON, NECTLILIM, ANRFECS.

All answers reaching me by the 16th of March will be given in next month's BANNER with your name, but it must be your own effort.

Auntie Ruth and Cousin Doris join me in wishing you all a Happy Easter.

With love,

Ruberrondo, UNCLE BERT.
126, Woodlands Rd., Isleworth.

Castleford Lyceumists have been competing at the local Musical Festival and they gained a number of awards. The Spiritualists are considered equal to any other Nonconformist organisation. A position largely due to our people accepting civic responsibilities.

Our Education Department.

HINTS, NOTES AND NEWS ITEMS.

Conducted by the EDUCATION SECRETARY.

EXAMINATION DATES IN 1932.

S.N.U.—INTERMEDIATE, SUBSIDIARY and FINAL—18th to 21st MARCH.

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

B.S.L.U.—ALL GRADES.—Sunday, 8th MAY, or (by arrangement with the Supervisor) the Saturday or Monday of that week-end.

Entry Forms for the March examinations must be returned to Mrs. E. Paling not later than 8th March; and for the May ENTRANCE Examination not later than the 31st March.

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

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

LYCEUM ENTRIES FOR THE MAY EXAM.

Once more I want to appeal for entries to be sent in as early as can be managed. I am carrying on the exams. this year under our new system, and if entries are sent in now, it will allow me plenty of time to get Lyceum parcels ready a few at a time, and so have all ready for the date of sending out to Supervisors. If entries are held over till the last day of entering, it will make it very hard work for me to get so much work done correctly in such a short time. I mention this, as some may not think of it, and I don't want to be suspected of "driving."

THE EVOLUTION OF OUR EDUCATION SCHEME.

Some nights ago I was outlining to an interested inquirer the educational work of our Union, quite apart from the educational nature and value of the work done in the ordinary Sunday Sessions; and as I went on mentioning development after development, I became nearly as surprised as he was at the tremendous amount of constructive work that the Union has done and financed. Let us have a look at it:—

The Education Scheme is a fine example of progressive evolution. Established in 1915 as a one-Grade scheme, it had grown to three Grades when in 1920 it was amalgamated with the five-grade London Scheme. In 1922 the Oral Grade (with two sections, for children between 8 and 12 years old) was added, and in 1926 it was increased to its present (1932) scope by the addition of a Continuation (Advanced) Course consisting of the Intermediate, Subsidiary and Final Grades. The original Scheme (Oral Grade and Grades I to V) is called the Associate Section, and is administered by the Lyceum Union Education Committee; the Advanced Course is called the Graduate Section, and its annual examinations are conducted by the Spiritualists' National Union Education Committee. The Syllabus of the Graduate Section (which includes a study of Logic,

Psychology and Philosophy; Evolution and Anthropology and Comparative Religion; Psychical Research and Mediumship and courses of General Reading) was drawn up by a joint committee of the two Education Committees, and adopted by the National and Lyceum Union Conferences in 1926—and this Joint Education Committee governs the administration of the Joint Scheme, and functions as the Governing Board of the National Spiritualist College, which also was established by the 1926 Conferences. Yearly examinations are held by both sections, and all Lyceumists over 12 who wish to go through the Scheme must start at Grade I—but Church members are allowed to join the Scheme at Grade V, which is the Entrance Examination to the Graduate Section. The College Scheme (explained in *The College Booklet* and *The College Guide*) provides for the award of the Associate and Graduate Degrees to successful students in the Grade V and Final examinations. At the end of 1931 there were 11 Graduate and 116 Associate members of the College, and these numbers will increase with each annual examination. The Lyceum Union Education Committee has issued an *Oral Grade Primer* and six handbooks for use in the Grade studies, and also two pamphlets of hints to students and tutors. In the two Sections about 2,000 students are prepared annually for one or other of the ten Grades.

Not a bad record for seventeen years' work, is it? Can you wonder at the inquirer being surprised at it—and especially when I told him that it was all done in "spare time" by honorary workers? And won't you persuade your fellow-Lyceumists to join in and give me a lot more to brag about to other inquirers—and give a lead by taking up the Scheme yourself, if you are not already a student? You know, example carries more weight than advice, and we want 2,000 entries this year. Thank you. I knew you would if the case was put properly to you.

OUR LYCEUM GUILD.

From time to time I have received inquiries and suggestions *re* the revival of Our Lyceum Guild—and even requests for supplies of Guild badges. It must be explained that the Guild was, perforce, suspended at the time of Miss Kitson's transition; for although she was Guild Leader as well as Education Secretary, and carried out her Guild work in intimate connection with the Education work, yet the Guild was not an official part of our Education Scheme. Miss Kitson conducted it as a department of the BANNER, and Our Editor's permission would be necessary for its revival—and before this could be asked it would be necessary to find a successor willing to assume the work and responsibility of Guild Leader.

As far as I personally am concerned, I know how much the Guild is missed by the Education Scheme. One of the conditions of membership was an undertaking to go through the Grades, and the number of entrants for the examinations had a sharp fall when the discussion at the 1926 Conference deprived the Guild of its national status and much of its vitality. I would gladly welcome its revival with a strong working policy—and see it recognised by Conference as an integral part of B.S.L.U. national activities. Also I feel certain that many others of the old Guild workers would be glad to see its revival, and to give enthusiastic practical sup-

port to anyone who would accept the Leadership. It would be a great pity to allow such an important phase of Lyceum work to die out (quite apart from its beneficial effect on the Education Scheme), if a new Guild Leader can be found. We seem to be the only important educational organisation without a Students' League, and Our Lyceum Guild, established on its old educational lines, would supply just such a necessary and helpful band of enthusiasts. I would be glad to receive the opinions of former Guildites.

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 stamped addressed envelope large enough to hold what is asked for.

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

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

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

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

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

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

£2,000 Effort Fund.

To Lyceumists Everywhere,

I once again present my report and make my appeal. There are probably many who will just glance through it casually and then pass on to the next item in the BANNER, and will just leave it at that. It may be too, that some will not read it at all; then again there are others who have closely watched the progress of this Fund since its inception. Quite the bigger portion of the latter have been practical helpers, others are so still, but even the most enthusiastic would like it to reach the final issue. They grow weary with waiting so long for the fulfilment.

In view of this, and the many immediate and growing needs of the Union, definite steps are being taken to try and bring this Fund to a close. Your view on the matter will be expressed at the next Conference, by your delegates, when the decision will be made.

Before presenting the list of donations for this month I want to ask all those who read this report, to make an effort to get it placed before other Lyceumists, by discussing it, or having it read in the open Lyceum, so that the matter will get a fairly good airing. And I want especially, and above all, to draw your attention to the important fact that if we could raise the remaining portion of that £2,000 the question would settle itself, and with what honour to our movement!

Think, how much more creditable it would be; how much more worthy of us, with our boasted claims as a live progressive movement, to succeed in attaining our objective, instead of giving up, scarcely half completed, and after so many years.

I am firmly of the opinion that it should be drawn to a close. But, Lyceumists, why not with the full requirement raised? It could be done. District Councils, will you please help? One District Council Secretary has written to me stating that, as a result of my suggestion at our last B.S.L.U. Conference, re District Councils making an effort to help the £2,000 Effort Fund, their Council, although not in a very wealthy district, has given some Lyceums 2s. as a capital from which they are requested to make as much money as possible, in any way they can for the £2,000 Effort Fund.

One Lyceum has made several small draws for a box of chocolates, and up to the time of the Secretary writing me, a week ago, 14s. profit had been made. This scheme is being run for a given time, when the District Council will collect all monies and forward the amount to me for the £2,000 Effort Fund. May I suggest that other Councils will take encouragement and follow the example by putting a similar scheme into operation. If you do, I am confident we shall see really good results, and Victory will be ours.

The following contributions are to hand this month: Beacon Lyceum, Wimbledon Park, London, per Mrs. L. E. Singleton, 5s., donation. Then came the Founder's Day collections: Lincoln, Midland, per Mr. Dobby, 3s. 6d.; Nottingham, Mechanics, per Miss Sharp, 3s. 10d.; Forward Lyceum, Aston, Birmingham per Miss A. Brown, 2s. 9d.; Halifax St., per Mr. P. Chapman, 6s. 10d.; Darnall, Sheffield, per Miss M. Thorpe, 2s. 6d.; Leicester, Rupert St., per Mr. J. Wicks, 5s.; Peckham, London, per Miss G. Bamber, 2s. 10d.; Peckham also contributed 5s. 8d. collected by farthings. Lastly, Macclesfield Lyceum, per Mrs. Hannah Rushton, contributed as a thankoffering for Jubilee, 7s. 6d.; making a total of £2 4s. 8d. To each and all concerned I extend very sincere thanks and fully appreciate the continued support.

In conclusion I again draw your attention to the Musical Recital on sale, 150 Hymn Leaflets, and six Recitation Leaflets, for 5s. 6d. post free. Proceeds for the £2,000 Effort Fund.

Again thanking you,

With best wishes,

118, Cremorne St.
Nottingham.

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

THE INNER VISION.

Most sweet it is with uplifted eyes

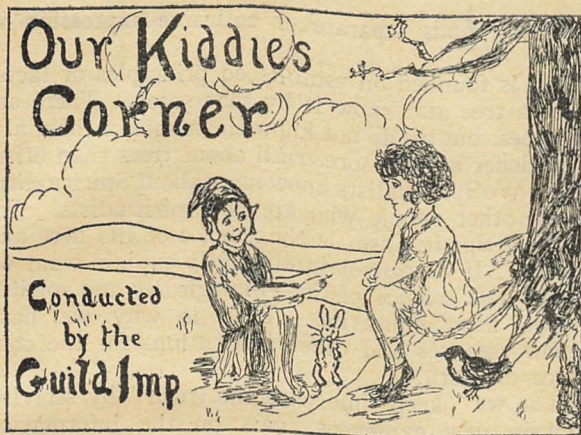
To pace the ground, if path be there or none,
While a fair region round the traveller lies
Which he forbears again to look upon;

Pleased rather with some soft ideal scene
The work of Fancy, or some happy tone
Of meditation, slipping in between
The beauty coming and the beauty gone.

If Thought and Love desert us, from that day
Let us break all commerce with the Muse:
With Thought and Love companions of our way—

Whate'er the senses take or may refuse—
The Mind's internal heaven shall shed her dews
Of inspiration on the humblest lay.

W. Wordsworth.



DEAR LITTLE IMPS,

With waiting for Leap-Year Day to pass, and then having to give us Easter as well, March is ever such a busy month this year. We can quite expect that the March winds will bring it in with a hurry and a flurry. We must start the month well, by remembering to say "White Rabbits" when we open our eyes on the first day of March. Then we shall be sure to enjoy our first open-air month, and the Easter holidays most of all. Our story is about rabbits, this month, but not white ones. These are just the ordinary jolly rabbits that live amongst the green fields and hedges.

THE TALE OF COTTONTAIL.

Mr. and Mrs. Bobtail lived in a fine deep burrow on the edge of Farmer Grayson's big meadow. There were two ways into the burrow, so that if danger threatened one doorway, the rabbits could escape by the other. Mr. and Mrs. Bobtail were very proud of their burrow. It was large, and deep and cosy, and the rabbits very happily prepared a soft nest for the furry babies that Spring would bring to them.

Spring did bring the baby rabbits, three of them, like soft fluffy balls that soon were as lively as young rabbits can be. Mr. and Mrs. Bobtail were kept busy in teaching Fluffy, Browncoat and Cottontail all that good rabbits should know. There were plenty of playmates for the young rabbits, but Mr. and Mrs. Bobtail were terribly afraid that they might eat the wrong green leaves, or go wandering into traps.

Fluffy and Browncoat were quite good, and soon learnt what not to eat, and where not to go, but Cottontail was a great trouble. That was all because of his tail. He really had a very fine tail, but he was far too proud of it. The underside of every wild rabbit's tail is white, but all the rabbits in that district vowed that Cottontail's tail was whiter and larger than any other tail. Now, when a rabbit is frightened, it runs with its white tail up, so that other rabbits may see the signal and run too. Fluffy and Browncoat learnt that when they were very young, but Cottontail thought he knew better.

One sunny day, when all of the rabbits were frisking in the meadow, some children came walking over the grass. Said one, "Let us make the rabbits run. Just watch!" and he clapped his hands and laughed as little white tails showed rabbits racing into safety. In a moment not a rabbit could be seen, except Cottontail, who sat in the hedgerow thinking what poor tails the other rabbits had. He had such a fright when the children gave a shout as they saw him, and started to

run towards him. He was quite out of breath when he reached Bobtail Burrow, but he was happy too, for had not one of the children said, "What a fine tail that rabbit has?"

In the next burrow there lived a very mischievous young rabbit, but, although Fleetone was mischievous, he could run quicker than any other rabbit. Fleetone and Cottontail became friends, and poor Mrs. Bobtail sighed in dismay. What would happen when those two were off together? She dreaded to think, and could only beg of Cottontail not to stray from the meadow.

For a time the two rabbits did keep within the meadow, but they soon tired of that. Then, Fleetone said, "Cottontail, Farmer Grayson has some lovely young plants growing in his garden. Let us steal away, when the other rabbits are resting. We shall have a fine feed." Cottontail, feeling very daring, agreed. They waited until all was quiet in the meadow, and then, very carefully, they climbed through a gap in the hedge, crossed the cabbage field, and crept under the gate into the garden.

Rows of tender young plants seemed just waiting to be eaten, and how those rabbits ate. They fed until they felt quite sleepy and then crept into the hedge, and sheltered beneath the rhubarb leaves whilst they rested. All would have been well, but for Cottontail's fine tail! He was so proud of it, that he would never quite hide it when he lay down to sleep.

The rabbits were just nicely settled in the rhubarb bed, when Mrs. Grayson decided to gather rhubarb for a tart. Crossing the garden, she saw the spoilt plants, and called to the farmer to see what damage had been done by those awful rabbits. Both Mrs. and Mrs. Grayson were sure that it would be too late to catch the culprits. Then Mr. Grayson caught sight of that fine tail. With a shout to his wife he picked up a spade and ran to the rhubarb bed. Fleetone was awake and off in an instant, but Cottontail wasn't so quick. He dashed wildly amongst the plants, but wherever he went, that white tail showed, and the farmer and his wife were after him. He raced into the greenhouse, knocked over some plants, and then cowered behind the large watering can, whilst Mr. Grayson hurried to pick up the plants. As soon as the man's back was turned, Cottontail darted out of the greenhouse, and across the garden to the gate. It had been left open, but, just as Cottontail was hurrying through, the wind shut the gate with a crash, and shut in with it, was the tip of his tail. Cottontail dare not stop, but he howled with pain, as he wrenched away, and ran across the cabbage field to his own hedge.

Mr. and Mrs. Bobtail were anxiously scanning the meadow for Cottontail and welcomed him home, too relieved to notice that Cottontail looked so miserable. He wouldn't go out into the meadow that day, but lay huddled up in the burrow. Cottontail was left with only half a tail and it was a long, long time, before he would again romp and hop about in the meadow with the other rabbits. It was Mrs. Bobtail who comforted him most, when she showed him, that even with half a tail, his tail was almost as big as that of any other rabbit. So now, Imps, if you should meet a rabbit with a rather short, fat tail, be quite sure that it is Cottontail.

A jolly Easter, Imps,

And love from
MEG.

THE LYCEUM BANNER

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

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

Terms to Lyceums and Societies:

The *Lyceum Banner* is supplied at 1/9 per dozen copies (13/12 up to four dozen. Additional half dozens may be ordered. All orders for four dozen copies and upwards are supplied at 1s. 8d. per dozen. All parcels sent post free. Accounts due quarterly: March, June, September and December. Single copies, 2½d. post free.

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

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

Money and postal orders should be made payable at Wardleworth post office. Cheques should be made payable to the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union. Bankers: Martins Bank, Ltd.

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

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

MARCH, 1932.

Stepping Forward.

There is a song in the "Lyceum Manual," No. 56, which always has an inspiring effect to every progressive mind. Each line of the song is a link in the chain of growth from personal courage and character to the ultimate social life which shall produce peace and harmony among mankind.

Truth, right and goodness is the three-fold object expressed in the tuition.

The very name of the author, "Butts," is an expression of progress. A butts was formerly a place set apart for the tests of bows and arrows in the old days, when those weapons were used for warfare. Now, the author "Butts" outlives his name and writes about "errands of peace, till slavery, warfare and hatred shall cease."

If any of us want a motto to place on the shield of our knightly desire, the first line of the song will give it—

KEEP TIME WITH THE TRUTH.

One of our pioneers was fond of saying: "Any intelligent person could learn to give an address. If you take a subject—keep time with the truth—and adopt the method of giving the *explanation, application and result*, an intelligent speech will result from your endeavours."

The subject is "Keep time with the truth." An explanation of time and truth must be given. "Keeping" time will next be explained. Then keeping time in relation to truth.

The *application* depends on the illustrations which can be given to mentally portray how keeping time with the truth operates.

The *result* is the effects of the *application* and subject to the full understanding given in the *explanation*.

Time is a very interesting subject, and truth is only limited by our ignorance, so we need to step forward to gain more knowledge.

I would describe time, not only as the measurement of duration, but as the evidence of eternity. As the duration between movements registers time, I feel the idea that a Spiritualist vibrates in thought to the duration, whereas the Materialist vibrates to the movements. Thus that which is spiritual and that which

is material finds separate or collusive expression in time.

Truth is founded on established principles or facts. We see a tree and know it by that name. There are many trees, but we do not know the names of them all. The gardener knows more truth about trees than other people. We Spiritualists know more about Spiritualism than do other people who are not Spiritualists. We claim that Spiritualism is the science of life here and hereafter. If we cannot intelligently explain what we mean by the science of life—biologically and spiritually—we need education. That is why we have Lyceums, seances and other institutions for the conveyance of truth.

And so we "keep time with the truth" by striving to obtain new evidences, pass on the information through our leaders and speakers, and provide opportunities for the exhibition of evidences which provide proofs of physical and spiritual phenomena. By and by these events cease to be phenomena to us. They are daily events in our lives but remain phenomena to new adherents who come as students to our concepts of truth.

By teaching our truth we find that the teacher always learns more than those who are taught. We are always finding more in life than we can adequately explain; therefore we are progressive when we seek the source of each new phenomena.

We have only discussed the first line of the song, "Steps of Progress." We must be "Manly as men in the ardour of youth," and persevere until we feel we have gained sufficient truth to enter social study and use our influence with mankind in our little circle to produce the realisation that "the true, and the right and the good will succeed."

One line of the song has called forth the foregoing comments. How far "custom, ambition or pride" hold us back is a personal question—each one must decide for himself. In that decision our Lyceum training will help us to support each other. Truth awaits our embrace. "The fruits of our labours the future will tell."

A BIRD MAKES MUSIC.

A boy and a bird and a tree
Once met in a leafy lane
The tree stood still, the boy did too
The bird like a weather vane
Turned right and left and round about
And did it all over again.

If a tree can think, it must be glad
To give to the bird a rest.
A song was sung, the bird mate heard
As the warble came to the nest
And thrilled all the woodland through
Till the sun sank in the West

But what of the boy who listened;
Well, he just sat around,
He could not fly to the branches
And so stayed on the ground.
He slept and dreamed of the music
While the fairies played around.

FOR THE BLIND.

£100—In Prizes for Word-making.

We are requested to announce a Competition to help The School for the Blind and herewith accede to the desire for publicity for the raising of funds.

A SIMPLE COMPETITION OF ABSORBING INTEREST TO ALL.

1st Prize £60. WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO. Here
2nd Prize £25. is a fascinating and profitable
3rd Prize £15. way to spend a fireside evening.

Make as many English words as you can from the eleven letters contained in the words "FOR THE BLIND." The First Prize will be paid to the sender of the list containing the greatest number of words, the Second Prize to the sender of the next best list, and so on.

Only the eleven letters contained in the words "For the Blind" may be used, and only words found in recognised English Dictionaries will be accepted. In the event of doubt as to the eligibility of a word the promoters' decision will be the final authority. No letter may be used more than once in any word. Thus **HID** is eligible but **DID** is not. Proper names are not eligible. Each entry must be accompanied by a Postal Order of not less than 1s., as a donation to the School for the Blind. Competitor's name, address and total number of words compiled must accompany each entry. Postal Orders must be crossed and made payable to "The School for the Blind." Closing date March 31st., 1932. Results will be sent to the Press for publication on 15th April, 1932, or direct to all enclosing a stamped addressed envelope. In the unlikely event of a tie the prize or prizes will be divided. All the prize money will be awarded. It is a condition of entry that the promoters' decisions shall be accepted as final and legal binding. Address entries to "Word Competition," The School for the Blind, 30, Winchester Road, Swiss Cottage, London, N.W.3.

In 1918 the School for the Blind cared for 100 blind men, women and children. To-day it has over 600 in its charge. It gives work instead of doles, teaches the handicapped workers trades that in a great measure enables him to be self-supporting. That is why a donation is an investment. It saves three times its amount in public money and it maintains the blind man or woman's self-respect.

A Few Thoughts on Survival.

Out of the seven principles of Spiritualism, I think the third is the most important, because it points out that all things are essentially eternal, though their appearances alter. That soul and life imply for us, conscious exercise of mental faculties the consciousness that I am I that was and will be.

Sir Oliver Lodge in his book "Phantom Walls." quotes what Sir Arthur Keith said a few years ago, when he was president of the British Association—He likened the mind or soul to the flame of a candle, which being lit displayed itself by certain visible behaviour and then went out and ceased to be. So—he would suggest—does the soul expire into nothingness at death? Sir Oliver says he (Sir Arthur Keith) limited himself to the natural particles of the candle

and to the perceptible flame. He did not bethink himself what was happening in space. The candle was not lighted without an object, it was to illuminate something, to emit light, and what is light? Not something in the candle, but something which emanates from the candle and goes into space, something different from matter though associated with it. Well, that radiation is the real "Soul" of the candle, its whole object and meaning.

When the Beacon fires were lighted over England in the reign of Elizabeth to give notice of the approach of the Armada the fires in time went out and left nothing but dust and ashes. They were lit to send a message across space, the fuel itself or the residue was no consequence.

The whole object for which they were lit was the important thing and that illumination is going on still. An astronomer could reckon how far those beams have travelled. They have not been obliterated, they are coursing through space still. Just as we see the light of a distant star or a nebulous cloud which has been travelling for 800,000 years before it reaches our eyes, we see it just as it was 800,000 years ago. So an observer with a sufficiently sensitive instrument could detect the light of the Armada beacon still.

An analogy proves nothing, of course, but the candle illustration of Sir Arthur representing death as a complete extinguisher has punished many good people quite unnecessarily.

The mind of man is not something outside of nature but a part of the whole and harmonious with all the rest. The physical vehicle of mind may not as yet be fully apprehended by us, but experience tends to show that there is a physical in every case; or in other words, the psychical and the physical are interlocked so that each is a portion of the all embracing whole.

Everything which enters the ether goes out of our ken, but in the new vehicle it continues whether its subsequent history can be traced or not.

The commonsense of mankind has decided that the future is hopelessly inaccessible, but the common sense of mankind has decided many things which have turned out wrong.

Individuals who have died have demonstrated their continued existence by trustworthy evidence, and have given to mankind the evidence of a continued life beyond so-called death, through the instrumentality of our sensitives. The man in the street will say yes, this is all very well, but what is a sensitive? All humans are more or less sensitive and according to their make up do they respond to vibrations. A man or woman who has a highly sensitive nature responds more readily to conditions around them, than the one who is complacent in nature. A trained or developed sensitive is one who responds through their psychic faculty to finer vibrations beyond their five sense perception and can receive messages from the spiritual planes beyond the world of matter. The more acute the sensitiveness of the sensitive the more able is he or she to tune in to the rate of vibrations of the message bearer. A link is then connected between two planes of activity, just as your telephone operator connects you through to the intelligence at the other end of the line. Thus your telephone is the sensitive instrument through which the message is received.

Our third principle clearly points out—as we are all parts of an Infinite God it is impossible that any

individual should cease to exist. Death is only the change from life with a physical body to life without a physical body.

In spirit-life we have a spirit body—an exact copy of our physical body. We are the same individuals in every way, and just as we are recognised here by our different characteristics, so are we known in the spirit world, and we change in character only by progression as a result of our efforts.

There is no death in God's Wide World,

But only one eternal scene of change.

The flag of life is never furled.

It only taketh wider range.

CHARLES W. DIXON, A.N.S.C.,

Daulby Hall, Lyceum Liverpool.

NOTE.—A good deal of this paper is quoted from Sir Oliver Lodge's book entitled *Phantom Walls*.

—C.W.D.

METHODS OF RELIGIOUS BURIAL.

In the daily press (Jan. 17th, 1932) there is a report of a nonconformist minister reading the Church of England burial service at the interment of the body of a suicide to whom the service did not apply.

The minister was not told till afterwards, by the undertaker, that he had adopted that method to save the family from the ordeal of having their relative buried like a dog.

The rubric at the beginning of the Church of England burial service states—"Here it is to be noted that the office ensuing is not to be used for any that die unbaptised or excommunicate or have laid violent hands upon themselves."

It is sometimes claimed that Spiritualism is not a religion, but there are many thousands of Spiritualists who attend religious services every week in Great Britain. The services are conducted with hymns and prayer. Whenever any of the members die—pass to the higher life—there is always some Spiritualist ready to act as a minister and conduct a religious burial service.

We, having read about the difficulties of Christian burial under certain circumstances, are drawn to compare the attitude of Christians and Spiritualists towards sinners whose bodies require interment.

Our spiritualistic knowledge of spirit-life helps to provide a brighter and more hopeful service than can possibly be conducted by a minister who has no evidence of such a real and active life in the new sphere to which the arisen spirit has gone.

The vagaries of doctrinal divisions do not prevent decent burial being given to any person whose body is interred by a Spiritualist minister. There is scope in the printed burial services for special reference to the deceased.

Our burial services have been so much appreciated, even by Christians, that, though they were not Spiritualists, they desired to have such an interment service.

We realise all men are spirits who will naturally pass into another phase of existence. It is our duty to ease the passing and give sympathetic oral expression to the bereaved. By such service we encourage the spark of divinity to merge through the darkness of sin towards penitence and salvation.

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.

A Fearless Thinker and Her Book.

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

South Africa in common with other colonies, has produced outstanding and independent thinkers and writers. One of the most penetrating and fearless of these was Olive Schreiner; a woman of culture, intuition, and literary ability. Her books, at the time that they appeared often excited very critical comment from the representatives of orthodox and conservative religions and social views, and institutions. The book "The Story of an African Farm," was one that raised a storm of mingled criticism and abuse from some, and much eulogy from others. It, however, had a great vogue for some time. There are some thoughts in this "Story of an African Farm," that should have understanding and peculiar appeal to Spiritualists and Lyceumists. Out of the poignant sensitiveness of her meditative nature, and born of the troubles of her childhood days, she was able to understandingly express an intense sympathy with young people and the problems confronting them. The following selected thought from Olive Schreiner should be of particular interest to Lyceum conductors, tutors and group leaders:—

"There are some of us, who, in after years say to fate, 'Now deal us your hardest blow, give us what you will; but let us never again suffer as we suffered when we were children.' The barb in the arrow of childhood's suffering is this: its intense loneliness, its intense ignorance." However: "The troubles of the young are soon over; they leave no external mark. If you wound the tree in its youth the bark will quickly cover the gash; but when the tree is very old, peeling the bark off, and looking carefully, you will see the scar there still. All that is buried is not dead."

Her thoughts in regard to religion and morals are very penetrative and searching. It was her outspoken unorthodoxy in this respect that caused her to be, for a time, the storm centre of theological controversy. They are the meditative penetrations and sincere doubts of a thoughtful agnosticism. Just such an agnosticism as experienced by many rational, critical spiritualists.

"We have proved the religion our mothers fed us on to be a delusion; in our bewilderment we see no rule by which to guide our steps day by day; and yet every day we must step somewhere."

"We have never once been taught by word or act to distinguish between religion and the moral laws on which it has artfully fastened itself, and from which it has sucked its vitality. When we have dragged down the weeds and creepers that covered the solid wall and have found them to be rotten wood, we imagine the wall itself to be rotten wood too. We find it is solid and standing only when we fall headlong against it. We have been taught that all right and wrong originate in the will of an irresponsible being. It is sometime before we see how the inexorable 'Thou shalt and shalt not,' are carved into the nature of things."

Spiritualists and Lyceumists have all experienced the difficulties of cooled friendships if not downright bitternesses, that come through their acceptance and espousal of Spiritualism. And Olive Schreiner, out of the pain and loneliness of such experiences of opposition and estrangement travails the thought:

"We do not yet know that in the Soul's search for

truth the bitterness lies here, the striving cannot always hide itself among the thoughts; sooner or later it will clothe itself in outward action; then it steps in and divides between the soul and what it loves. All things on earth have their price; and for truth we pay the dearest. We barter it for love and sympathy. The road to honour is paved with thorns; but on the path to truth at every step you set your foot down on your heart."

There are some searching biblical criticisms in her writings. They are of the type that any independent, thoughtful Lyceumists would be likely to discover in reading the Bible. She asks pertinently:

"Why did the women in Mark see only one angel and the women in Luke two? Could a story be told in opposite ways and both ways be true? Could it? Could it?" Then again she further asks: "Is their nothing always right, and nothing always wrong? Could Jail, the wife of Heber the Kenite, put her hand to the nail, and her right hand to the workman's hammer and could the Spirit of the Lord chant paeans over her, loud paeans, high paeans, set in the book of the Lord, and no voice cry out it was a mean and dastardly sin to lie, and kill the trusting in their sleep? Was there nothing always right or always wrong?"

Man's cruelty to man, and especially to subject races, is poignantly expressed in sentences that sink deep into the soul. On reading them we were at once reminded of, and fervently expressed the Lyceum verse:—

Hushed be the battle's deafening roar,
The Warriors rushing call:
Why should the earth be drenched with gore?
Let men be brothers all.

As Olive Schreiner, in "The Story of a South African Farm," truly says:

"The black man is shot like a dog and it goes well with the shooter. The innocent are accused and the accuser triumphs. If you will take the trouble to scratch the surface anywhere, you will see under the skin a sentient being writhing in impotent anguish."

"She (experience) will teach us that whoso sheddeth man's blood, though by man his blood be not shed, though no man avenge and no hell await, yet every drop shall blister on his soul and eat in the name of the dead. She will teach that whoso takes a love not lawfully his own, gathers a flower with a poison on its petals; that whoso revenges, strikes with a sword that has two edges—one for his adversary, one for himself; that he who lives to himself is dead, though the ground is not yet on him; that he who wrongs another clouds his own sun; and that he who sins in secret stands accused."

A LIVELY COUNCIL.

The London Lyceum District Council have sent a printed statement of accounts which shows a lively distribution of general work, social section, Children's Party, Athletic Section, and a Pooling Fund.

There is a turnover of £71. There are 25 Associates, and 24 Lyceums have sent subscriptions and donations.

Monthly propaganda meetings are conducted by the Executive Committee.

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

Patron-Member Fund:—Moston Lyceumists, per Miss E. Elliott, 10s. 4d. (this item was omitted from the Jan. list); Mrs. H. Rushton, 2s. 8d.; Stratford Lyceumists, 2s. 8d.; Fulham Lyceumists, £1. 7s. 6d. (five new Patron-Members: Mr. Singleton, Mr. Pidcock, Mrs. Preston, Miss Tyler, Miss Cook); Liverpool Lyceumists: Mr. H. Bellamy, Mrs. K. Aneas, Mrs. M. Cretney, Mr. C. W. Dixon, Miss D. Devonport, Mrs. George, Mr. Howells, Mrs. S. Hughes, Mr. E. A. Keeling, Mr. H. G. Owen, Mr. G. Owen, Mrs. M. Owen, Miss G. Owen, Mrs. G. Pimentel, Mrs. S. Raymond, Mrs. D. Watson, Mr. S. Watson, Mrs. F. Wright, £1. 0s. 0d.

Supplementary Fund:—Wigan, 5s. 1d.; Halifax and Huddersfield L.D.C., £1. 0s. 0d.; Huddersfield, Ramsden Street, 10s.; Belper, 10s.; Liverpool L.D.C., 18s.

Lyceum Banner Fund:—Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Coleman, from Mr. M. C. Ford, National Spiritualist Church, Calgary, Canada, 2s. 3d.

CHANGE OF LYCEUM SECRETARIES, &c.

Leeds, Armley.—Miss H. Sykes, 3, Salisbury Terrace, Lodge Road, Armley, Leeds.
 Halifax and Huddersfield.—D.V., Mr. E. Smith, 22, Saddleworth Road, Elland, Yorks.
 Brighouse, Commercial Street.—Mr. Haigh, Clifton Road, Brighouse.
 Portsmouth.—Mrs. Moule, 2, Netley Place, Netley Road, Southsea, Portsmouth.
 Lancaster, Alliance.—Miss M. Blackwell, 21, King Street, Lancaster.
 Tottenham, High Road.—Mr. A. Peck, Warmington House, 744, High Road, Tottenham, London, N.17.
 Northwich.—Mrs. N. Breeze, 6, Manchester Road, Lostock Gralam, Northwich, Cheshire.
 West Vale.—Mr. F. Smith, 22, John Street, Greetland, Halifax.
 Rock Ferry.—Mrs. F. M. Sutherberry, 37, Highfield Grove, Rock Ferry.
 Hampton Wick and Teddington.—Miss G. Irving, 258, Kingston Road, Hampton, London.
 Ryde, Belvedere Hall.—Mrs. A. Hole, 61, Union Street, Ryde, I.O.W.
 Mansfield.—Mr. J. W. Wright, 74, Peel Crescent, Bull Farm, Mansfield, Notts.
 Beeston.—Mr. G. Wayman, 7, Nether Street, Beeston, Notts.
 New Delaval and Newsham.—Mrs. Johnson, 50, Middle Row, New Delaval, Newsham, Northumberland.
 St. Helens.—Mr. W. Brisco, 54, Park Road, St. Helens.
 Bristol.—Miss M. Thompson, 9, Hereford Road, St. Werberghs, Bristol.
 Oldham, Waterhead.—Mr. H. Wright, 9, Godwin Street, Oldham.
 Wigan.—Mrs. E. Clitheroe, 69, Lime Street, Wigan, Lancs.
 Chester.—Mr. C. Hesketh, 3, Goss Street, Chester.
 Hackney.—Mr. G. Cooté, 78, Mount Pleasant Lane, Upper Clapton, London, E.5.
 Birmingham, Corporation Street.—Miss O. Gyde, 217, Bevington Road, Aston Manor, Birmingham.
 Milton, Eccles.—Mr. H. Hellewell, 26, Dettingen Street, Bank Lane, Pendleton, Manchester.
 Hetton and District.—Mrs. Larmar, 28, Bernard Street, Houghton-le-Spring, Co. Durham.
 Heeley, Woodseats, Sheffield.—Miss E. Jefferson, 54, Monmouth Street, Sheffield.
 Ogmores Vale.—Mrs. H. Sharp, 14, Cardiff Street, Ogmores Vale, S. Wales.
 Parkgate.—Miss E. Dowell, 64, Netherfield Lane, Parkgate, Yorks.
 Liversedge.—Master F. Duffield, 23, Westfield Terrace, Heckmondwike, Yorks.
 Southport.—Miss V. Denton, 23, Hoghton Street, Southport.

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS AT MACCLESFIELD.

On Feb. 7th and following days our Lyceum started to celebrate 50 years work: a memory which will not vanish from those who took part in it. The Open Session in the morning was a glorious time. We had with us Miss E. Elliott, President, B.S.L.U. Mrs. Pimblott and Mr. Charles Challinor, original members.

Mrs. Pimblott presented a bell to the Lyceum and Miss Elliott was presented with Macclesfield silk handkerchiefs in honour of our Jubilee. Recital by Miss Phyllis Swindells and solo by Mrs. Henshaw. Greetings from North East Cheshire District Council and a letter from Mr. Hayes in Canada helped to make a happy time. We were pleased to welcome some of the former workers. Mrs. Challinor was the Conductor.

At the afternoon service Mrs. Pimblott was in the chair and Mrs. Rushton read a message from our Pioneer, Mr. Kitson, which delighted all. Mrs. Essex (the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Rogers) sent a message of appreciation of early days; Mr. G. P. Gunn did the same, and Mrs. Pimblott and Mrs. Rushton referred to them. The children sang very sweetly, and the elder Lyceumists did very well. Miss Elliott, with a few encouraging words, made a lovely service.

Evening service, Mrs. Pimblott again presided. Miss Elliott gave an eloquent address. Solos by Mrs. Edmonson, and Mrs. Henshaw; Elocutionary item by Mrs. Wellings (our former Secretary). A lovely anthem "God is a Spirit" was rendered by the choir. All helped to make a service to be remembered. Mr. W. Southwell was Organist.

On Monday a Reception Social was given by four original scholars to 170 members of congregation and elder Lyceumists. Mrs. Challinor presided. Songs were given by Mrs. Edmonson and Mrs. Henshaw. Recitals by Miss Elsie Cottrill. Monologue by Mr. Wellings. Solo dance by Miss Hulley. Dancing and drill by Lyceumists, and an Egyptian Dance by five Lyceumists.

Refreshments were handed round by the elder Lyceumists and the Lady Members of Church Committee helped with the serving of them. Councillor J. Potts thanked all who had helped to make such a happy time.

On Tuesday the younger Lyceumists had their turn; those under 14 had a tea and games afterwards. If noise means happiness then they were happy. A bag, containing sweets and an orange was given to each one by two members of the Church who prefer to be nameless. We have gained the Silver Bell in North East Cheshire Competition and that added to our joy.

HANNAH RUSHTON.

District Visitors' Report.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.

On Nov., 8th morning I visited Ramsden St., Huddersfield. The S.C.R., M.R., and G.C.R., were well discussed with a few questions. Marching was conducted by Mr. A. Saxon. Step good, corners good. Cross March not so good.

Nov. 8th. Afternoon. Quarmby. Open Session. 26 Lyceumists present. Singing fairly good. S.C.R. 1., Divine Order, again roused good questioning. M.R. 210 evoked a good

discussion on real matters. Pearls were very well rendered. One part song and two songs by little boys were very good indeed. Marching and callisthenics were well conducted by Mr. Baxter.

Dec. 5th. Morning. I attended Slaithwaite Lyceum along with Mr. Ellis. There were 32 scholars present. I conducted the Session and Mr. Ellis gave the invocation. We had a happy time together. One of the Slaithwaite Lyceums conducted marching and callisthenics which were very well gone through. I gave them an invitation to rejoin the Council and also the B.S.L.U. but up to the present have heard nothing.

Dec. 5th. Afternoon. Mr. Ellis and I travelled forward to Marsden. We found the room full to overcrowding. They had 30 Lyceumists on the register. I again conducted, whether badly or well, I leave the Marsden friends to judge. We had a very good discussion on No. 1. Marching was conducted by one of the Marsden Lyceumists but was rather marred by there being too many people marching. I also gave then an invitation to rejoin the Council and the B.S.L.U.

W. BURROWS, D.V.

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD DISTRICT.

During the past year I have visited all Lyceums in the district once and the majority twice. During the last quarter I have visited eight Lyceums.

Salford Central. Nov. 1st. Prompt start. 40 present. Pleased to report improvement. Children attentive. Good responses. Session good.

Stretford. Dec. 6th. Present 32. There was not the full Session owing to practising for a Service of Song. Everyone seemed to put their heart and soul into the singing, especially the children. It was an enjoyable time for all.

Harpurhey, Sharston St., Dec. 13th. Present 50. I feel very enthusiastic about this Lyceum. From the commencement to the finish it seemed a "Beehive of activity." A very good Session.

Great Western St., Dec. 20th. Present 30. This Lyceum has some very enthusiastic young workers. The readings were taken by the children. Explanations were very complimentary. Several items were given. Marching and callisthenics were good.

Princess Road, Dec. 27th. Present 40. Group Sunday. Mr. Hart took the Liberty Group. He gave an interesting subject, "Stars." Questions were asked and very ably answered by the speaker. Vote of thanks was recorded to the speaker.

Pendleton, Jan. 3rd. Early start. Present 35. There is a marked improvement in this Lyceum. All readers gave very good explanations on their readings. A few items were rendered. Callisthenics and marching were good. A good Session.

Brunswick St., Jan. 10th. Present 25. This Lyceum is composed mostly of young children. After a little coaxing they responded very well to the various items. Great praise is due to the child who played so well for the items. Marching and callisthenics and the Session were good.

Lower Openshaw, Jan. 24th. Present 18. The keynote of this session was harmony. I was pleased the Session was taken from "Founder's Day Programme." Many thoughts were expressed which no doubt would be a lesson to all. Good Session throughout.

G. ASHTON, D.V.

District Council Reports.

LYCEUM UNITED DISTRICTS COUNCIL.

The above Council will hold the half-yearly meeting in the Church and Lyceum at King Street, Bury during the week-end, March 12th and 13th.

Tea will be provided from 4-0 p.m. by local friends. The meeting will commence at 6-30 p.m.

Please inform Miss N. Dean, 77, King Street, Bury of time of arrival, entertainment required, etc.

A good attendance of delegates is requested as business is very important.

Fees are now due and all Councils are urgently requested to remit same at an early date.

A.S.D.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

We held our Annual General Meeting at Stirchley Church on February 14th. We had a very enjoyable and harmonious meeting with a good representation of Delegates and Associates.

The chief business of the meeting was the election of Officers for 1932 in which there was very little change, with the exception of the District Visitor when Mr. E. V. Babb, of the "Forward" Lyceum was elected, Mr. Moylan, of Walsall, was elected as Associate Representative.

An interesting item took place, i.e., awarding of the Silver Bell, presented by the Council, the adjudication for which took place during November and December last year. This is the first occasion of a Silver Bell Competition taking place in Birmingham and District, the object being to give an incentive and impetus to all Lyceums to polish themselves up as it were. The official presentation of the Bell will take place on February 28th at the Handsworth Church. I should like to put on record that the difference between the highest and lowest marks gained by all Lyceums was only eleven, so that means we shall all have to work hard next year. Mr. Warrilow of Wolverhampton was the Adjudicator for last year and was complimented by the Council on the efficient way he had carried out his duties.

Stirchley Lyceum were thanked for the nice tea and use of Church. After the Chairman's remarks, he complimented Handsworth on winning the Bell. The next meeting will be held at 3-0 p.m. on March 12th at Handsworth Church, 58, Villa Road, Handsworth.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.

The Annual Meeting of the above D.C. was held at Ramsden St., on Sunday Feb. 14th, 1932. There were present 12 delegates, five officers, one associate member and one visitor.

The President, Miss G. Haigh, presided, and in her address remarked that the D.C. meetings were better attended; this fact showing evidence of a greater interest in D.C. work.

Copies of the Balance Sheet were handed round and showed that the total balance was £6 16s. 3½d.

The following were elected to office for the ensuing year: President, Miss G. Haigh; Vice-Pres, Mr. T. Ellis; Sec.-Treasurer, Miss G. Halliday; D.V., Mr. E. Smith; Delegate, Secretary; Auditor, Mr. E. Smith.

The Quarterly Meeting followed the Annual one. Correspondence showed that Mr. Aked, of Bradford and Mr. Wilson of Dewsbury had promised to act as Adjudicators for 1932. (Secretaries please send in details as quickly as possible).

Arising from circular from U.D.C. Secretary it was decided to donate £1 to General Fund of the Union; after appeals by Mr. W. Burrows and Mr. T. Ellis.

The Returns from the Lyceums showed a decrease of 17 on Lyceum registers, and a decrease of 4 in average attendance for the quarter.

A considerable amount of time was spent on Amendments to Constitution, and the various recommendations will be forwarded to the General Secretary.

It was decided to nominate Mr. T. Ellis as Area Representative.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Ramsden St. friends. In the afternoon and evening Open Sessions were held conducted by the President. Various delegates took part by taking readings, giving pearls, recitations etc. Altogether a very enjoyable day was spent, and one which, we hope will also be remembered for the work done.

G. HALLIDAY, Sec.

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD DISTRICT.

The Annual General Meeting of the Manchester and Salford L.D.C. was held at Pendleton, Ford Lane on Feb. 6th. Invocation by Miss E. Elliott, A.N.S.C. Attendance: E.C.5; Delegates 26 (representing 16 Lyceums); Associates 3; Visitors, 2; Total 36.

Chairman: Mr. R. W. Marks, G.N.S.C., President. Minutes and Correspondence were adopted after Mr. Ely had offered to make a donation to cover his promise to supply one dozen small shields.

President's Address: Mr. Marks gave a resumé of the work of the Council during the past year; and after various comments had been given his address was adopted with thanks.

B.S.L.U. Constitution Revision: Mr. Dixon moved "That we cease to proceed with the notice of motion to delete sub sec. A." There was no seconder to the motion which was then dropped.

It was then agreed to submit the following amendments to the B.S.L.U. Constitution for the next Conference.

1. Article 10 Sec. C. delete the words "during the three years previous to the Annual Conference" in the last clause.
2. Article 4 delete the words "representatives from electoral areas" and substitute the words "six persons."

Bye Law 10. Sec. 1, Delete—Sec. 2. Delete the last sentence commencing at the words "The General Secretary."

Sec. 3-4-5. delete—Sec. 6., after the word "officers" add the words "Executive Council."

Alternative. Bye Law 10. Sec. 2. Insert after the word "Council" on the 4th line, the words "such nominee shall be a Lyceumist whose name is on the register of a Lyceum within that area."

3. Bye Law 5. Sec. 1 and 2, include the words "only those members who have made NOT LESS than 10 attendances during the year shall be counted in the names returned."

4. Sub. Sec. C. Article 5. Delete the number "12" and insert "19" on the 9th line. Add at the end the words "On all matters of finance only members over 21 years of age shall be allowed to vote."

Reports: D.V. and A.D.V. reports showed that all Lyceums have been visited at least once during the year, most Lyceums are making progress and a greater enthusiasm is being displayed.

Psychological Intelligence Tests Committee: report showed that the tests are not applicable to the movement, and was very disfavoured to the application of these tests in Lyceums.

Pooling Scheme report showed Income £23 12s. 2s., Expenditure £10 1s. 11½d. Balance £13 10s. 2½d. Continued interest is being shown. There are 13 Lyceums and the D.C. now in membership. Recommendations for the revision of the B.S.L.U. Constitution had been submitted.

Treasurer's Report. Income £14 14s. 5d. Expenditure £14 7s. 5d., Balance £0 7s. 0d.

Auditors' reported all books, vouchers, and accounts correct. Adjudicator's Report. Harpurhey Lyceum have gained the first place and win the Shield Pendleton Lyceum take over the Silver Bell for second place; marks 118 and 116 respectively. All reports were adopted.

Election of Officers: President, Mr. J. E. Hart; Vice-Pres. Mr. J. Green; Treasurer, Mr. C. A. Lloyd; Secretary, Mr. J. Taylor, A.N.S.C.; D.V., Mrs. Taylor; Asst. D.V.'s Miss Ellis and Mrs. Jones; Auditors, Messrs. Jones and Grayson; Trustees, Messrs. Lloyd and Grayson; Adjudicator, Mr. Lloyd; Conference Delegates, Messrs. Taylor and Hart.

Various motions were made re the election of adjudicators (a) That two adjudicators be appointed (b) That the adjudicator be appointed from outside the district and each Lyceum pay the expenses of same. These were defeated.

Nominations for B.S.L.U. Officers.

President: Miss Elliott or Mr. Mack.
Vice-Pres: Mr. Marks.
Treasurer: Mr. Burrows.
Secretary: Mr. Knott.
Auditor: Mr. Calway.

Motions (1) "That in future D.C. meetings be held on Sundays." Defeated.

2. "That Lyceums endeavour to secure the whole evening and refrain from booking the room on D.C. meeting dates." Defeated.

Meetings: May 7th Longsight; Sept. 3rd, Cheetham Hill; Dec. 3rd. Droylsden; Feb. 4th, 1933, A.G.M., South Manchester. Accepted with thanks.

Open Council: Thanks were expressed to Mr. Ely for his donation of 10s.

Pendleton Lyceum offered March 13th for a massed Session conducted by the D.C.

It was agreed that we pay B.S.L.U. fees to the amount of £2 instead of on the actual 16 Lyceums who had paid fees. A hearty vote of thanks was moved and supported by all for the local hospitality.

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

NORTH-EAST CHESHIRE DISTRICT.

Yearly meeting held at Lord Street, Stockport, on Feb. 6th, and was well attended; there was the usual large agenda. President addressed meeting and welcomed all present, but expressed regret at those unable to attend. We took the Adjudication for the Silver Bell first, in order to allow Mr. Green, of the M. & S.L.D.C., to attend his own Council meeting. There were some great changes; Macclesfield have been successful this year, with Ashton the runner up. Vote of thanks to the adjudicator was passed.

Expression of sympathy and wish of early recovery to health of our General Secretary, Mr. G. F. Knott, was passed.

D.V. Report to Hyde and Ashton was accepted with thanks.

Annual outing for July; the vote was in favour of Middlewood. Mass Session for 1932 was fully arranged and confirmed. Question of new badge; we are not in favour of any change.

Education Scheme. It was moved we forward the following resolution to the Conference:—"That the age for the First Oral Grade be twelve years and not ten, and that the Second Oral Grade be thirteen with the Grade I commencing at fourteen," thus making a full run instead of a possible break as at present.

Finance report was given by Secretary. A pleasing feature was the slight increase in balance carried forward.

Election of Officers:—President, Mr. W. Dransfield; Vice-President, Mrs. Edwards; Treasurer, Mr. Springgate; Secretary, (Gen.), Mr. R. A. L. Markham; Secretary (Minute), Mrs. F. Markham; District Visitor, Mr. H. Ennion; Delegates, B.S.L.U., Mr. H. Ennion, Mrs. Moulton; Delegates, U.D.C., Mrs. Moulton; Auditors, Mr. Belcher, Mr. Downs.

Adjudicator for Silver Bell, Miss G. Ashton, of M. & S. L.D.C. Three new members were confirmed and three Applications accepted. All Lyceums were represented, all officers present and eleven Associates. Congratulations to Macclesfield on their Jubilee celebrations was sent and it is very fitting that they should win the Silver Bell this year. Now we are off for another twelve months, so let us all pull with a will and make our welkin ring. We should be setting our seed for the flowers of summer, so trust all Lyceums are hard at work to see that our garden is going to be full of those lovely blooms, and trust they will be everlasting ones, and not fade away with the autumn. Best of wishes to all our brother and sister Lyceums and Councils, and may we work for our officers and give them encouragement they must need at times.

MASS SESSIONS.

Mass Sessions held at Ashton, 7th Feb. They were celebrating the 12th Anniversary of the re-opening of the Lyceum. The President of the Council, who is also Conductor of the Lyceum, extended a welcome to friends. Invocation by Mrs. Edwards. Connective readings by Mrs. Moulton, Mr. J. W. Jackson and Mr. Markham, who each gave good expressions of thought on their reading. Greetings from Stockport, Heaton Norris, Hyde, Congleton, Macclesfield, and Droylsden. Pearls and recitations were numerous, and six young Lyceumists sang "If any little word of mine may make a life the sweeter."

Marching and callisthenics were good and well enjoyed. Quite a number present for the first time to a Lyceum Session, and they expressed pleasure and will come again. They are now reasoning within their minds, and we trust the result will be of benefit to the Lyceum.

In the evening a Propaganda Meeting was held. Address by the President on "Spiritualism and Critics." This was on the articles appearing in *The Daily Herald*. It was most interesting. Mr. Markham spoke on "Deeds versus Creeds" for propaganda purposes. Mrs. Edwards expressed thoughts on the Lyceum and its work for the young. All were thoroughly enjoyed, as was the children's rendering of "There is a Happy Land," Jude's tune, and a solo by Mrs. H. Ennion. Time was too short for our D.V., Mr. H. Ennion, to give his effort. Mrs. F. Markham gave the benediction.

Thus we closed another happy day and one to be remembered. We hope by the next Anniversary Ashton will be able to reflect and say they have really made good progress.

R. A. L. MARKHAM, Sec.

NORTH EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

The North East Lancashire L.D.C. held the A.G.M. and Election of Officers on Sat. Feb. 20th, in the Victoria Street Church and Lyceum, Darwen.

Mr. C. T. Batley presided, supported by Miss M. E. Lawton, and Messrs T. Wood and R. Latham.

The President gave an invocation. He appointed Miss Lawton and Mr. T. Wood as Credential Officers.

The Secretary read the Minutes and election of Officers for 1931 and they were adopted.

It was decided to pay 6s. arrears and £1 on account for the B.S.L.U. Fees.

On the application of a Lyceum for membership of the B.S.L.U. the question of Christian Spiritualist Churches being in membership with the S.N.U. was raised. It was decided to seek further information on the subject.

The Secretary's report stated 13 Lyceums had paid fees, 12 Lyceums had not paid fees. The Lyceum List in BANNER was stated to be incorrect. The Secretary would see it is corrected and also the meeting cards filled in.

The Treasurer's Interim Report showed Income £4 6s. 0½d, Expenses 19s. 6d. Balance £3 6s. 6½d. Cottage Fund, at Dec. 31st, 1931, £9 os. 7d.—£11 15s. 6d.

The Auditors reported all correct and that we ought to thank the donors of the funds mentioned. Mrs. Dickinson and Mrs. Casson £1 10s.; Mrs. Dickinson 10s., Blackburn, St. Peter St., £1; A. S. Dickinson 4s. 6d.

It was decided to send letters to each individual for their interest and support during the past year.

The D.V.'s reported the visits to Lyceums. It was suggested we consider the use of rod-drill in the Lyceums.

The Secretary's National report was accepted. Credential Report—E.C. 5. Cred. Officers 2, Delegates 20 (representing 10 Lyceums, not 13), Associates 2, Visitors 1, Total 30. Pooling expenses, 9s. 2d. per Lyceum.

A précis of the affairs of the National movement was given.

The Secretary gave a report of the Liverpool Conference and the results.

It was decided that the revision go forward from N.E.L. L.D.C. as Notice of Motions re Amendments to the B.S.L.U. Constitution.

The Adjudication Report was given. One Silver Bell with Medallion or Shield border is being purchased for the runners-up.

Miss Coghlan was thanked for her offer to type copies of the results sheet. A copy will be sent to all Lyceumists.

The discussion on the Earby position was deferred until the next meeting.

The President's Address asked for the acceptance of adjudication report; the necessity of paying fees in good time; the need for financial retrenchment; Education and the facilities for study, with qualified supervisors.

The address was accepted.

Election of Officers: President, Mr. C. T. Batley; Treasurer, Mr. T. Wood; D.V. (North), Miss M. E. Lawton; D.V. (South), Mr. R. Latham; Secretary, Mr. J. Shuttleworth; Auditor, E. Raw; U.D.C. Delegate, Mr. T. Wood; Recommendation for Area representative, Mr. J. Shuttleworth; B.S.L.U. Conference delegates, Messrs T. Wood, and E. Holden; Adjudicator, Miss D. Coghlan.

It was decided that the Competition be definitely closed and announced at the last meeting of the Council.

Nomination for B.S.L.U. Officers: President and Vice-President, Mr. J. Shuttleworth; Treasurer, Mr. W. Burrows.

Date and Place of next meeting. It was decided to proceed with the centralising of meeting and to hold the next meeting on May 7th at Argyll St. Church, Acorington.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Darwen Church and Lyceum for hospitality.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT.

NOTICE OF MEETING.

The Annual Re-Union and Annual General Meeting of the Council will be held on Saturday and Sunday March 12th and 13th, in the Darnall Spiritualist Church. Re-Union Meeting on Saturday, March 12th. Tea at 5-0 p.m. Social at 7-0 p.m. All Lyceumists are cordially invited to attend.

The A.G.M. of the Council will be held on Sunday, March 13th. Business as Agenda, including election of Officers, etc., will commence at 10-30 a.m. Usual catering arrangements. The Council will conduct the afternoon session during which the Banner and Silver Bell will be presented to the winner of the Banner and Bell Competition for 1931. The Council will conduct the evening Session.

H. HEATH, Sec.

SOUTHERN COUNTIES DISTRICT.

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Railway Institute, Eastleigh on Sat. Feb. 6th. It was opened with a welcome on behalf of the Eastleigh Lyceum by Mrs. Eley, to which the President suitably responded. The opening invocation was given by Mr. Lawrence, the President, who then announced the forced absence of the Secretary and interpreted the universal feeling of regret at his inability to be with the meeting. Mr. Macfarlane was asked to act as Minute Secretary for the meeting.

The Minutes of last Annual General Meeting were read and adopted and Minutes of last quarterly meeting were read for information.

Arising from correspondence—Agreed that

(1) That acceptance of May 22nd for D.C. meeting as offered by Southampton.

(2) Agreed that the Secretary be instructed to remit fees for those Lyceums that had fulfilled their financial obligations to the Council by the closing date or same. The Secretary's report in letter form, asked that it be placed on record the help the Council had received during the past year by the aid furnished by Mr. Macfarlane in preparation of rules for competitive scheme and also for typing.

Expression of regret was recorded at enforced absence of Secretary.

The D.V. Mrs. Taylor, A.N.S.C., gave brief mention of her visits to Bristol, Ryde, Eastleigh, Portsmouth and Southampton, and she noted that a little more attention was given to the educational side.

Treasurer's Report. Mrs. Hart deplored the low financial state of the Council.

Auditor's Report: Mr. Macfarlane testified to simplified and accurate book-keeping of the Treasurer and Secretary.

Balance Sheet and Auditor's report were adopted.

Officers for 1932. The President explained his position which rendered his re-nomination impossible, at the same time pointing out his sustained interest and his willingness to serve whenever able to do so.

Ratification of Officers was agreed as follows: President, Mrs. E. Taylor, A.N.S.C.; Secretary, Mr. H. C. Guy, G.N.S.C., Treasurer, Mrs. D. Hart, A.N.S.C.; D.V., Mr. R. Harwood; Representative to S.D.C. of Churches, Mr. A. Lawrence; It was agreed that in view of this position Mr. Lawrence be added to the officers of the Council.

Agreed that Mrs. Hoskins be co-opted on the Council, conditional to her being recognised as the delegate from Bristol Lyceum, in order that her expenses in attending Council meetings shall be equally shared by the Lyceum and the Council.

Messrs. Long and Macfarlane were elected Auditors.

It was agreed to affiliate with the U.D.C. providing financial obligation did not exceed 5s. per annum. Agreed that Council secure invitations for a year ahead, in order that the Council can arrange Sunday meetings and augment funds by the resulting collections.

The Competitive Scheme is to be raised again at the next A.G.M.

Votes of thanks to Eastleigh for their hospitality.

The Retiring President handed over his jewel of office and was thanked for his labours.

H. C. GUY, G.N.S.C., Sec.

SOUTH SHIELDS UNITED LYCEUM WORKERS.

Under the auspices of the South Shields United Lyceum Workers a Massed Lyceum Session was held in the Cambridge St. National Spiritualist Church on Jan. 31st. Over 200 Lyceumists were present. Mr. E. Nellist, G.N.S.C., Sec. Tees-side L.D.C., conducted the Session. The Founder's Day Programme, as published in the January BANNER was adhered to, followed by a short talk on the life-work of Mr. Alfred Kitson. Individual efforts were rendered by the three Lyceums. Pearls were plentiful. Mr. Nellist was given a real Tyneside welcome on his first visit to South Shields and was complimented on the way he conducted a very successful and highly instructive Session. Mr. T. J. Robertson, District Visitor, Tyne-side L.D.C., was also present. Mr. N. E. Ainley, A.N.S.C., presided.

The following Lyceumists were elected as the U.L.W. Committee for 1932. President, Mr. Ainley; Vice-President, Mr. A. Raeburn and Mrs. Parker; Treasurer, Mr. J. Massey; Secretary, Mr. R. Smith; Auditor, Mr. Curry. United Lyceum Session dates for 1932 are as follows: March 20th, Cambridge St. Lyceum; June 26th, Barnes Rd. Lyceum; Oct. 8th and 9th, B.S.L.U. Management Committee visits South Shields.

R. SMITH, Sec.

TEES-SIDE DISTRICT.

The Annual Conference of this Council was held at the Grange-town Lyceum on Sunday, 14th February at which there was a good attendance each Lyceum being represented. In addition to the usual routine business the following items were dealt with:

Two new Lyceums (South Bank and West Hartlepool "Pioneers' Progressive") were accepted into affiliation and their applications to B.S.L.U. endorsed.

The Rota List of holding Conferences was amended to read; 1933 Darlington (Ever-Welcome); Horden; Gurney Valley; Shildon; 1934 Stockton (Brunswick St.); Middlesbrough (Wilson St.); Grangetown; West Hartlepool (Musgrave St.); 1935 Billingham; Middlesbrough (Grange Rd.); Darlington (Psycho);

West Hartlepool (Charles Street); 1936 Stockton (Cecil St.); Southbank.

Stockton (Cecil St.) have tendered their resignation and Messrs. Miller, Roeder, Platts and Nellist are appointed as a deputation to interview the Lyceum on the matter.

The Annual Reports show that in all directions some progress has been made. Increased membership, a better cash balance £2 11s. 6½d.; more entries into the Education Scheme; the appointment of Speakers and Demonstrators; Birthday Celebrations and Book-stall activities—all point to a better and brighter future.

Election of Officers Delegates etc.: President, Mrs. E. M. Ainsworth (Grangetown); Vice-President, Mr. J. Miller (Stockton); Secretary, Mr. E. Nellist, G.N.S.C. (Redcar); Treasurer, Mr. E. Platts (Hartlepool); District Visitor, Mrs. M. Graham (Shildon); Auditors, Mr. Scorer (Gurney Valley); Mr. Lee (Shildon); Credential Secretaries, Mr. Foster (Horden); Mr. Colbourne (Middlesbrough); Delegate to B.S.L.U. and U.D.C., Mr. Nellist; Representative N.D.C., Mr. Miller; Candidate Area "B", Mr. Nellist.

The Afternoon Session was conducted by the Council Secretary, during the course of which the twelve Lyceums present conveyed their greetings. Mr. E. Nellist, G.N.S.C., gave a paper following the Session, and outlined the case for education. Many questions were put to which the necessary answers were forthcoming, whilst the ensuing discussion was of a very lively nature, of great interest, and also very instructive. The opponents of education are still amongst us. The Evening Services were well attended, the congregation paying great attention to the members of the Council who participated. This ended one of the most pleasant Conferences held on Tees-side.

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

Special Reports.

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

DUNEDIN, New Zealand—The Lyceum closed on Sun. Dec. 13th, for the Annual holiday. Special Open Session and floral service was held. Several visitors were present, each being presented with flowers during the singing of "Heart Flowers." Pearls by all and recitations by Roland and Kathleen Paul; Eric Downes, Garnet Asher, Joan Hargreaves, Frances Anthony, Irene and Colin Bachop, Nancy Rainbow. Song by Hilda Paul. Pianoforte solo by Mr. Hargreaves. Recitations by Mr. Stables. Short talk by Mr. Ridd, Church President. Mr. Gore, our eldest member, welcomed the visitors after which presents of bags of sweets were distributed from the Conductor and teachers. The Conductor was the recipient of several nice gifts. After the closing hymn the benediction was given by Mr. Stables. It was a happy afternoon.

Several children attended the evening service and helped to carry all the flowers to the hospital where they were much appreciated. Greetings to all Lyceums and best wishes to the Editor of the BANNER.—Miss R. Burgess, Con-Sec.

HOLLINWOOD.—On Sat. Feb. 6th. we held our Annual Lyceum Tea Party, a hundred sat down to tea. Afterwards a concert was given by the Lyceumists; also the distribution of Prizes by our Late Conductor.

On Sunday Feb. 7th, Lyceum Open Session. Eight Lyceums were represented and greetings were exchanged.

In the evening a Service of Song entitled "The Warning Voice" was given. Previous to the service of song a Memorial Service was held for an old Lyceumist, Mrs. Pontefract (Née Nellie Parr) which, along with the Service of Song, was efficiently rendered by our Lyceum Conductor, Miss Jenny Fairbotham. Altogether we spent an enjoyable week-end. Individual efforts were very good.

ERNEST LUKE, Asst. Sec.

LONDON, Hackney—On Jan. 22nd we held our Children's Party. About 30 Lyceumists had tea. Friends and parents came in the evening and joined in the fun. Everyone received a useful present.

G. COOTE, Sec.

LONDON, Manor Park.—Jan. 23rd. Lyceum Tea Party and Distribution of Prizes, presented by Mrs. Mead after an enjoyable evening spent in games.

We were very pleased to welcome our Conductor, Mrs. Trinder, amongst us again. She is recovering from an illness.

Mrs. A. E. TRUMBLE, Sec.

RYDE, Belvedere Hall.—On Thursday Feb. 18th some of our Lyceumists took our evening service. A very interesting programme was arranged by the Lyceum Conductor, Mr. O. Perkis. The subject was "Life's Seasons," taken from an article which appeared in "The Two Worlds" Dec. 18th issue written by Winifred Francis. Both children and adults took part.

An original and interesting nature story, with a good moral was given by Miss Pearl Hopkins, and a Poem "Life's Seasons" by Miss Joan Hole. A solo by Miss Sleeman. Short addresses by Mrs. D. Perkis on "Spring," Mrs. I. Wright on "Summer," Mrs. Hole on "Autumn" and Mrs. Winter on "Winter." The children were the stewards for the evening taking up the collection, etc. After this, successful clairvoyance was given by Mrs. D. Perkis. The whole service was much enjoyed, being bright, uplifting, and instructive. Mr. Hunt was at the organ. Lyceum hymns were very heartily sung.

O. PERKIS, Lyc. Con.

LYCEUM REPORTS.

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

RULE 2.—Record only the events occurring after Feb. 24th.

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

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

RULE 4.—All Reports must reach this Office not later than March 23th to ensure insertion in the April issue.

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

ACCRINGTON, Argyle St.—Open Session, Feb. 14th. The following contributed to a successful session, K. Flynn, D. Bartlett, P. Metcalfe, J. Woodhead, N. Woodhead, P. Glover, Mrs. Glover, C. Godden, W. C. Livesey, F. Bartlett, Mrs. Leah, Misses White and Holgate.—J. Chatburn, Sec.

ACCRINGTON, Pearl St.—Feb. 7th. Open Session conducted by Miss Janie Kenniford. Recitations by Phyllis Edwards, Nellie Laycock, Frances Laycock, and Billie Edwards. Solos by Miss Nellie Laycock, Mrs. Jones, Miss J. Kenniford, Mr. W. Crabtree, Mr. Alex Taylor. Duets by Mr. W. E. Swift and Billie Edwards, Miss Hilda Neild and May Challoner. Marjorie Dobson and Nellie Laycock. Trio by Frances Laycock, Madge Shuttleworth and Phyllis Edwards. Mr. W. Edwards gave the closing prayer. An excellent Session was held and quite a good number were present.—Mrs. Crabtree, Sec.

BACUP.—Open Session Feb. 7th. Marching and callisthenics were gone through, also S.C. M.R. and G.C.R. Pearls by Joan Patchett, Gladys Holmes, Clifford Taylor, Mrs. Wright, Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Greaves, Mrs. Halsall. Recitations by Alice Wright, Dorothy Halsall, Molly Halsall. Pianoforte solo by Molly Halsall. Solos by Mr. Harris, Molly Patchett, Mrs. Carter, Mary McKenna, Mr. Shaw, Mrs. Wright. Duets by Dorothy Halsall and Alice Wright, Gladys Holmes and Mr. Harris. Greetings were exchanged between Burnley, North St. and Bacup. 48 scholars and 6 visitors present.—S. Carter, A.N.S.C., Sec.

BARROW, Dalton Road.—On Feb. 14th the Election of Officers took place. Conductor, Mr. Roy Brown; Assistant, Miss Hilda Deelay; Secretary, Mrs. Brown; Treasurer, Mr. Deelay; Guardian, Mrs. Butterworth; Musical Conductors, Misses Lily Fenton and Elsie Fenton.; Marching and Callisthenics Leaders, Hilda Deelay and David Brown; Sick Visitors, Walter Jones, David Brown, Hilda Deelay, Lily Fenton.—Mrs. Brown Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—Open Session Feb. 7th. Recitations by Donald, Vera and Leslie Hamilton, Muriel, Gwennie, Gertrude, Annie Watson, Stanley Landreth, Mr. Taylor, Olwyn and Harold Daly, Lily Harding, Elizabeth, Lily and Erna Saunders and Mrs. Mars. Solos by Mrs. Harper, Florrie Watson, Mr. Groves, Miss Elsie Thompson. Solo in Welsh by Miss Norah Brown. Pianoforte solos by Eileen Edwards and Edith Winters Violin and Piano, Albert and Elsie Thompson, Irene Crombleholme and Miss Thompson. Mr. McFarlane and his daughter paid us a visit and received a great welcome.

Jan. 31st, was our Tea Party, with a special invitation to Mrs. Taylor's circle friends, who contributed so largely by efforts. Enjoyed by all.—Wm. Kneale, Sec.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter St.—Jan 31st was our Lyceum Day. We held our Open Session in the afternoon. There were about 180 Lyceumists and friends present. Marching and callisthenics were good. Mrs. E. Johnson, of Bolton, our speaker, named the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Youd, earthly name, Janice, spirit name, Rosemary. The following gave recitations, C. Railton, E. Livesey, Iris Entwistle, E. and F. Holding, R. Livesey, D. Parker, Jean Entwistle. Musical Trio, Miss E. A. Riding, Mr. J. Sharples, Master E. Walley. The Session was ably conducted by our Conductor, Mr. J. N. Railton.—Mr. Tom Wood, Sec.

BLACKPOOL.—Open Session, Feb. 14th. Afternoon and evening. Conductor, Mr. R. Singleton. There was a good attendance of Lyceumists and friends. A good response of pearls and recitations. Mr. J. Chatterton conducted marching and callisthenics. The afternoon session was thoroughly enjoyed. Evening Session, our esteemed friend, Mr. Maxfield, gave an address. Subject, "Child, Man and Angel." His elucidation was food for thought to all who attended.

Feb. 17th. Lyceum Tea and Concert, also Prize Distribution. Tea was well served and we were well entertained by the Ricardo Concert Party who rendered songs, solos and a sketch, which were greatly appreciated by the audience. A sketch was given by the following Lyceumists—Mr. and Mrs. Rotllwell, Miss Baker, Mrs. Long, Mrs. Seddon, Miss Hampson, Miss Riley, Miss Bamber, Eileen Long, Dorothy Wood, Jane Nutter, Lily Kenyon, Gladys Ashcroft, Reggis Hodges, entitled "Jack o' Toms and Eliza Ann's Golden Wedding at Choro Bent." It was a great success for there were roars of laughter from the audience. Our late Conductor ably distributed the Prizes at the Interval.—C. Bayliss, Sec.

BRISTOL, United.—Feb. 7th Open Session. 22 Prizes were presented to Lyceumists. Dora Baylis was awarded 1st Prize, having attained 156 marks, the highest total possible. Teddy Harrison, 1st for Boys. Marks attained 154. Pearls were excellent, followed by Musical Reading "We come, we come," which was beautifully rendered by the Lyceumists. A splendid Open Session. A presentation was made to Mrs. Harding, the retiring Lyceum Leader.—Mildred Thompson, Sec.

CASTLEFORD.—At the Musical Festival for Castleford and District Sunday Schools our Lyceum gained the Second Class Banner. Solos were sung by Miss Bickham, second Prize (15 to 18 years), Edna Collins, First Prize, (Rose Bowl); Bernice Richards, Hilda Wright, Joan Cooper, Second Class Certificates (11 to 15 years). Boys—Willie Wheeler, second Class certificate (11 to 15 years), Willie Head, Second prize (8 to 11 years). The children were trained by Mr. Cooper, assisted by Mr. Downes.—Mrs. Wright, Sec.

CLECKHEATON.—Open Session held February 7th conducted by Mr. T. Brooke. Invocation Mr. Hartley. Silver Chain conducted by Gladys Hutton. Connective Readings for Musical Reading being taken by Mrs. Ellison, Mrs. Bradley and Jack Wilson. Pearls by Herbert Horsley (3), Irene Wilson (3) Ben Walker (2) Jack Wilson (3) Mrs. Hutton. Mary Ellison (2) Gladys Hutton. Miss E. Thornton, Eva Rowley, Mrs. Broadbent, Miss E. Tate, Miss M. Wilson, Mrs. Drewitt, Mr. B. Drewitt. Recitation Herbert Horsley. Duet Eva Rowley and Irene Wilson. No. 303 was sung altogether by request. We had a very pleasant and interesting ceremony in the form of a double christening conducted by Mr. Hartley of the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Somes. The names of Audrey, spirit name Intellect, and Joyce Violet, spirit name Forward, were given. Four of our young Lyceumists assisted in the ceremony. The session was thoroughly enjoyed by all: there being about 50 present.—Miss M. B. Robinson, Sec.

DARWEN.—We are by now getting into working order with our new officials for 1932 and are progressing fine.

Founder's Day Celebration were carried out in a way suitable to the occasion and the Open Session was a success.

Following the N.E.L.L.D.C., A.G.M. we held a social in aid of Council funds.—J. Sutton, Ban. Sec.

DEARNLEY.—Open Session, Feb. 7th., conducted by Mr. Bamford. Pearls, solos, duets, recitations were given by Lyceumists. Visiting Lyceumists came from Bacup, Regent Hall, Todmorden (Roomfield). It was very pleasing to see such a good attendance of Lyceumists and friends.—J. Whitham, Sec.

DEWSBURY.—Jan 24th. Founder's Day. Conductor, Mr. C. Phillips. Pearls by Cyril Hey, Joan Scott, Fred Johnson, Lilla Whightman, Violet Thomas, Willie Johnson, Phyllis Dunn, William Newby, Vera Croft, Annie Hollings, Laura Shaw, Elizabeth Dudley, Mona Hey, Mr. H. Gregory, Clarissa Phillips, Louie Gregory, Mr. T. Taylor, Mrs. Barton. A special essay on A. J. Davies by Violet Hey. Duets by Clarissa Phillips and Vera Croft, Laura Shaw and Annie Hollings; Mrs. C. P. Phillips and Enid Phillips. Song by Violet Thomas. The speaker for the day, Mr. Bell, of Manchester, spoke to the Lyceumists and friends and he was very interesting. An enjoyable Session was spent.

Open Session, Jan. 31st, Conductor, Mr. H. Gregory. Invocations by J. H. Collier. Pianist, George Badley. Pearls by William Johnson, Cyril Hey, Joan Stott, J. H. Collier, Clarissa Phillips, Dorothy Dunn, Miss E. Stott, Mrs. Hartley, Mrs. Barton, Mrs. Ledgard, Louie Gregory, Recitation by Eric Whitworth. Solos by Mr. C. Collier, Clarissa Phillips, Mr. A. Collier. Duets by Louie Gregory and Violet Thomas. Mrs. Hartley and Mrs. V. Phillips. Solos by Cyril Hey, Fred Johnson, J. H. Collier. We were very pleased to see Mr. and Mrs. L. Bland after their serious illnesses. We have had two good Sessions enjoyed by all.—V. R. Phillips, Sec.

DONCASTER, Catherine St.—Open Session Feb. 7th., conducted by Miss Johnson. Mrs. Bell gave the invocation. The following Lyceumists took part, M. Chalmers, A. Brundish, L. Middleton, M. Holloway, I. Norman, G. Saxby, V. Soan. We spent a very pleasant time.

On Feb. 17th, the Lyceumists gave a Concert in aid of Church funds. We realised £3.—Mrs. Webb, Sec.

EARBY, Greenend Avenue.—Feb. 7th, Open Session. The following Lyceumists took part, E. Greenhalgh, O. Hodgson, E. Hancock, N. Hodgkinson, K. Hodgkinson, O. Wilkins, R. Hancock, J. Hancock, D. Clough, R. Hancock, Wilfred Hancock, F. Clark, E. Fox and G. Blackburn. A very pleasant time was spent together.—Mrs. D. Dawson, Sec.

EARBY, Onward.—On Feb. 20th, we held our Annual Tea Party, Concert and Dance. The Liberty Group gave a Comedietta entitled "The Jumble Sale."

On Feb. 21st, we held our Lyceum Anniversary and Prize Distribution, with visitors from Barnoldswick and other Lyceums. We had a very enjoyable Session. Mr. Tattersall, of Burnley, presented the prizes.—Mrs. J. W. Clark, Sec.

FLEETWOOD.—Jan 23rd. Prize Distribution and Social. 41 Prizes were presented to our Lyceumists by our Conductor, Mr. Batley.

On Jan. 24th, Founder's Day we held three Sessions. In the afternoon recitations were given by Laura Mather, Marie Dews, Kertha Morton, Jessie Woods, and Mona Hague. Quartette, Eric Horan, Dan Wright, John Reeve and Kenneth Harris. Solo by Laura Moore. Pianoforte solos by Doris Parkinson and Kertha Morton.

Our Conductor Mr. Batley named another little one into the Lyceum on Feb. 7th. The infant son of two old Lyceumists, Mr. and Mrs. Yeo, earthly name, Edwin James, spirit name Excelsior.

Feb. 14th, Open Session Recitations by Edith Robbins, Irene Edwards and Ruth Wills. Duets by Jessie Woods and Brenda Mayhew, Marie Dews and Laura Mather. Solo by Mrs. Parkinson. Quartette by Fred Williams, Willie Gibson, John Reeve, and Eric Horan. Pianoforte solo by Doris Parkinson.—L. Vollans, Sec.

GREAT HARWOOD.—Open Session. Conductor, Mr. P. Doswell. Silver Chain by Mr. P. Doswell. Musical Readings by Mrs. P. Doswell, Edna Parkinson, Florrie Pickvance. Golden Chain by Mrs. Whittle. Recitations by May Pickvance, Edna Parkinson, Mrs. P. Doswell. Solos by Miss May Pickvance, Florrie Pickvance, Mrs. Hudson. Duet by Annie Aspenden and Greta Johnson. Trio by Rosa Bagshaw, Edna Parkinson, May Pickvance. A good Session which was enjoyed by all.—Mrs. J. Hudson, Sec.

HORWICH, Chorley New Road.—Saturday Jan. 23rd, Lyceum Tea Party and Prize Distribution. 50 Lyceumists sat down to tea. In the evening our Conductor, Miss L. Beck, presented prizes to the Lyceumists, and also presented all the young Lyceumists with a handkerchief and chocolate.

Jan. 31st, Open Session. There was a good attendance. Marching and callisthenics were good. Pearls, recitations and solos were ably rendered. It was a splendid session enjoyed by all.—Miss R. Giles, Sec.

LANCASTER, Alliance.—Feb. 7th. Open Session. Songs and recitations etc., were given by Miss Kirk, Marjorie Hooper, Dorothy Pickup, James Eyres, Irene Wilkinson, Annie Towers, Edith Crossley, Ronald Fox, Rennie Aldren, Lily Atkinson, Ada Aldren, Ada Griffin, Eva Whitfield, Frank Dennison, Mary Liver.—M. Blackwell, Sec.

LANCASTER, Bulk Road.—On Feb. 7th, we held our Open Session in the afternoon at which forty prizes were presented to the children. The session was enjoyed by all present.—M. Bowskill, Sec.

LEICESTER, Liberty Progressive.—Open Session Feb. 7th. Recitations by Horace Jayes, Yvonne Dehoue, Elsie Clements, Joan Whitbread. Solos by Jacky Whitbread, Lily Jayes, Miss C. Jones. Duets by Doris Garratt and Elsie Garratt. Trios by Mrs. Hurst, Mr. Jays and Mrs. Whitbread. Yvonne Dehoue, Elsie Clements and Ethel Gamble.

We held our Annual New Year Tea, Dance and Concert on Jan. 23rd, 1932, at the Friends Adult School, Church Gate. The Concert was rendered by the Lyceum and great credit was due to our Conductor and officers for the splendid way the children were trained. 150 sat down to tea.—T. Kenney, Sec.

LEICESTER, Rupert St.—On Feb. 7th Ald. E. Grimsley gave a short address and distributed the prizes to the scholars. We had with us also, Mr. Francy and Nurse Welbourne, President and Vice-President of the Church.—Mr. J. Wicks, Sec.

LONDON, Stratford, Idmiston Rd.—Feb. 7th, full Open Session, well attended and ably conducted by Mrs. West. M.R. 212 readings were read and explained by Molly Stoffer, Violet Walters, Miss Fulcher and Mr. Bates. S.C. was taken by Miss Golbourn. Individual efforts were given by June Bates, Kenneth West, Joyce Capper and Iva Phillips. The whole Session achieved a high standard, and Mrs. Potter gave a beautiful address on "Kindness." We regret to report the early transition to the Summerland of Jacky Taylor.—R. H. Bates, Sec.

LONDON, Tottenham High Road.—Our Annual Party was a great success on Jan. 31st. Uncle Bert presented prizes. Auntie Ruth and Cousin Doris were also present. Everbody was happy.—Harold MacDowell, Sess. Sec.

LONDON, Tottenham and Edmonton.—On Thursday, February 18th, we held a dance at Edmonton Town Hall in aid of the Outing Fund. It was a great success and enjoyed by all.—Queenie Patten, Sess. Sec.

MANCHESTER, Maskell Street.—To carry forward the good work left by our former Officers can only be accomplished by our individual efforts to carry out S.C.R. No. 3. At present there is a marked improvement in our Lyceum. We hope to continue this upward grade.

On Feb. 7th we had a visit from Mr. Marks.

Feb. 21st was our Group Sunday. The Group was led by our Mr. Pinson. The subject was taken from G.C.R. 146 and was very interesting and elevating.—S. Sharp, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Newton Heath.—On Jan. 31st the Liberty Group was taken by Mr. Hart, who gave us something to think about. His subject was "Does our Lyceum training fit us for Social, Business and Political Life?" We enjoyed it very much. Our Children's Groups were taken by Mrs. J. Taylor and Mr. W. Catterall, to the delight of the children.

On Feb. 3rd the interment took place at Bradford Road Cemetery of Mr. Walter Sharples, one of our Lyceumists, who was accidentally drowned in the fog during the last week in January. Some of our Lyceumists were able to be present, and Mr. J. Taylor, our Lyceum Conductor, gave very encouraging words of comfort at the graveside to his mother and family in their sorrow at the physical loss of their loved one.

On Feb. 7th a Memorial Service was held in the Lyceum, very ably conducted by Mr. J. Taylor.

The flowers for the table for February have been given by Miss Shaw, Mrs. Mellor, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Spence, and friends, to whom we tender our very best thanks.—Fannie Shaw, Sec.

MANCHESTER, South.—On Jan. 27th we held our Election of Officers. Conductor, Miss M. Lamb; Assistant, Mr. K. Hamer; Guardian, Mrs. Long; Treasurer, Mrs. Lamb; Secretary, Mr. W. Ely; Trustee, Miss Eastwood; Musical Conductor, Mrs. Ely; Marching Conductor, Mr. K. Hamer; Delegates, Miss Lamb and Mr. Ely; Captain of Guards, Miss Hope; Guards, D. Syrett and J. Ely; Guild Leader, Mr. Ely; Auditors, Mr. Hamer and Mrs. A. Hope.—M. Lamb, Con.

MIDDLESBROUGH, Grange Road.—Officers for 1932: Conductor, Mr. Nellist, G.N.S.C.; Assistant, Mr. Shipman; Guardian, Miss Cartwright, A.N.S.C.; Assistant, Miss Pearson; Captain of Guards, Mr. G. Nellist; Assistant, Mr. Peacock; Treasurer, Mr. Gills; Financial Secretary, Miss Bonney; Librarian, Mr. W. Nellist; Registrar, Miss D. Hudson; Guards, Messrs. Cartwright, Harrison, Hudson and Mealing; Leaders, Misses Hudson, Bonney, Pierson, Mrs. Ingham, Messrs. Roeder, Nellist, Shipman, Gills, Colbourne, and Peacock.—M. Harrison, A.N.S.C., Sec.

MIDDLETON, Old Hall St.—Our Cobweb Social on Feb. 20th was a success. During the evening a present of an eider-down was made to Mr. and Mrs. F. Jones (née Miss H. Horton), who were married recently. Both are Lyceumists and Church workers. S. Moorcroft, Sec.

OLDHAM, Elliott St.—We held our Open Session on Jan. 31st, and we had a very interesting time together. Other Lyceums were represented in good numbers.—M. Harper, Sec.

SCUNTHORPE.—On Founder's Day each child was presented with a prize for attendance, and the evening service was taken by Lyceumists. On these occasions it gives one an opportunity to express one's ideas to show what a Lyceum training can bring forth.—Ivy Sprakes, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—We are now formed into groups for the Education Scheme. Our Liberty Group is having the pleasure of a series of discussions entitled "Life and its Uses," which are proving very helpful and instructive. We are grateful to our able conductor, Mr. G. Armitage, for studying and presenting these discussions.—James Le Noury, A.N.S.C., Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Heeley, Woodseats.—Open Session, Feb. 7th, conducted by Miss V. Spooner, assistant Conductor. Recitations by Joan Eaton, Helen Prescott, Freda Lake, Joan Morgan, Mary Oldham, Audrey and Joyce Fox, Ronald Yellops, George Skelly, Ernest Nettleton, Pianoforte solos by Billy Wilkinson and Robert Yellops. Five adults also took part. An enjoyable time was spent.—Miss E. Jefferson, Sec.

SHIPLEY, Feb. 7th, Open Session. The Conductor for the day was Miss Hudson. The singing, readings, marching and callisthenics were very efficient. Recitations were given by Miss Nellie Hutchinson, Mrs. Sutcliffe and Miss Hudson. Pianoforte solo by Miss Betty Barnard. A solo by Mrs. Cole. A very pleasant Session.—E. H. Coles, Sec.

SOUTH SHIELDS, Fowler St.—Election of Officers for 1932 Conductor, Mr. N. E. Ainley, A.N.S.C.; Assistant Conductors, Mr. A. Raeburn and Mr. J. Gilbert; Secretary, Mr. R. Smith; Assistant, Mr. H. Dennison; Organist, Mrs. D. Brooks; Assistant Organists, Mrs. E. Ainley and Miss W. Stanger; Lyceum Medium, Mrs. Berry; Guardian, Miss M. Robertson; Captain of Guards, Mr. Sam Tylar and Mr. John Harrison; Librarian, Miss Joan Tate; Savings Bank Treasurer, Mrs. Brimer; Benevolent Fund Treasurer, Miss A. Robertson; £2,000 Effort Secretary, Mr. W. Brooks; Auditors, Mr. J. Gillart and Mr. T. Robertson; Marching and Callisthenics Conductor, Mr. R. Smith; Choirmaster, Mr. N. E. Ainley; Sick Visitors, Mrs. L. Yorke, Mrs. Burrell, Miss L. Burrell, Esther Allison, Jennie Black, Mr. Burrell, Mr. Gillart and Mr. Smith. The Election of the Executive Committee was left over till the adjourned Annual Meeting. Lyceum Service dates are Feb. 5th and 12th, Aug. 20th and Nov. 26th. Greetings to our Lyceumists in Freemantle, Australia, and best wishes to all Lyceumists everywhere.—R. Smith, Sec.

SOWERBY BRIDGE.—Open Session was held on Feb. 7th, conducted by Mr. F. Sutcliffe. Recitations by Lewis Deane, Cyril Wilcock, Brian Hebblethwaite and Joe Mitchell.—Miss F. M. Lees, Sec.

WOLVERHAMPTON, Drummond St.—Open Session, Feb. 7th, conducted by Mr. Fred Weedman, aged 13. Pearls and recitations and a trio were rendered by the Lyceumists.—P. Warrilow, Sec.