

THE LYCEUM BANNER

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JUNE, 1932.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

Our New President.



MR. JAMES SHUTTLEWORTH, of Darwen.

I first became acquainted with our President at the Hull Conference in 1917, but first got to know him at the meetings of the Constitution Committee held in that year. With him I can visualise a scene in Mr. Batten's sitting room—Keeling, Shuttleworth and Connor kneeling on the floor around a large railway map of England, marking out the new Areas with coloured pins, while Mr. Kitson sat by, giving expert information about the railway connections between the various Lyceum centres in each Area. During those meetings we discovered a oneness in many of our ideas and ideals; since then we have been close friends, and my experience of him has proved that a better or more loyal friend no man could have.

Young Jim Shuttleworth was educated at a Church of England School and, from an early age, was a member of the Church choir. He was a regular attendant at Sunday School until the age of 17, when a tendency to play pranks and (more particularly) to ask awkward questions led to his being requested to "mend his ways or cease attending." In other words the Church, as it has done so often before, drove out a potential good worker because he was also an independent inquirer. After that he tried Nonconformity, but found no satisfaction there, and like so many of our youth, ended in "going nowhere."

It was through meeting with the future Mrs. Shuttleworth that he came into Spiritualism. One Saturday

evening he called for her at the Church Hall in Church Bank Street. They were holding a Lyceum social as part of a Mission Week, and she invited him in, informing him that she was going to stay for it. He didn't like the idea; but as he puts it, it was either the social with her or home without her—so he went in to the social; and he attended the Lyceum Session the following morning. Sunday duty interrupted his attendances, but he went off and on for about two years. All this time he was inquiring into Spiritualism, with intent "to show Alice there was nothing in it;" but this time his inquiries brought him not only satisfaction but conviction and he became a Spiritualist. One of his experiences was a "reading" by a gypsy on Blackpool South Shore. She told him about some trouble at his work (he was in charge of a gang of men working underground) and that he would be the means of clearing it up. He couldn't see how this could happen, but it did, as did the other things she had foretold. Mediumship manifests under strange conditions!

He joined Darwen Spiritualist Church and was married there by the Lyceum Conductor. Work being in his blood, it was only a matter of time till he began working in both Church and Lyceum. He has held several posts in the Church, and is now Financial Secretary and Chairman of the Trustees. When in 1924 the local Weavers' Hall and offices were bought and altered to make a new home for the Church and Lyceum—they are *really* one in Darwen—he acted as Clerk of Works and completed the work after the architect had been dismissed as unsatisfactory. He also drew up the Trust Deed, which is a model for all Churches owning their own building. They incurred a debt of nearly £1,700, which, with the aid of the Women's Working Corps—which is second to none in the Movement—has been reduced despite the hard times, to under £900. Eight hundred pounds in eight years! He has also held District office, and represented Lancashire in the S.N.U. Council.

Eighteen months after his marriage he began to attend the Lyceum regularly, joining the Young Men's Guild, and eventually becoming Lyceum Conductor. Soon he was sent as delegate to North East Lancashire District Council, to urge amendment of the rules of adjudication; and thus began the district and national work which has led him to the Presidential chair. His apprenticeship under Mr. Reuben Latham and other N.E. Lancs stalwarts has stood him in good stead, and he has filled nearly every post in the Lyceum Union and its Districts. He has been a Trustee of the Union since 1921, and of the College since 1928, he was the first Secretary of the re-constituted United Districts Council, holding the office from 1918 to 1931, when he became a member of the Management Committee and thus ineligible. He was a member of the Committee which drew up the present B.S.L.U. Trust Deed, and as Secretary of that Committee I am hoping that the experience he gained there helped him when he drew up his

own Church's Trust Deed—which the solicitor accepted without altering a word. He still holds many posts in both Unions—in my private opinion too many. But we all know the wrench of parting with jobs we have "made our own" (I have experienced it), so we can understand and sympathise, even if we do not agree. He loves the work, and is happy in doing it.

He declares that he owes his position in the Movement to the backing he has received from Mrs. Shuttleworth, and says—"the sacrifices that have been made have not been made wholly by me; she has given the most." She brought him into the Movement, and she has helped him to make good.

He has searched far and wide for his ideal—in politics, in Fabianism, in I.L.P., in Socialism, but was disappointed though he remembers the closing words of an address by David Kirkwood—"I want you to realise, if you can, the spirit which moves us and which demands that Man shall be *the* deciding factor in his destiny." In Spiritualism, he wants to see our Movement housed in the best possible conditions, amply endowed to remove material care and want; to engender in our Lyceumists the desire to know the basic facts of the beginning and purpose of our Movement—that it is spiritual in its origin; that given an expression of Life from the Spirit standpoint, we should see a changed world: a world of men and women deeply conscious of their duty to live Life not to material but to spirit promptings. "My pet ideal," he says, "Is Olive Schreiner's *Dreams*—and from her dream of the Chaldean Seer to build one of our own. I love to dream, and to visualise what the world would be like if we put into practice the general ideal of the Movement, 'Let each, recognising the lofty standard of our commonwealth, fulfil his or her part in faithful devotion.'"

Not only is he an idealist, but he is also a practical man of affairs. "Jim" Shuttleworth should make a good President.

A. T. CONNOR.

THE BRITTEN MEMORIAL.

The Britten Memorial Balance Sheet, which shows a turnover of £335 17s. 7d. during 1931, is to hand.

The Trust up-to-date is £5,107 2s. 7d. Great credit reflects upon the genial Secretary, Mr. John Jackson, who, despite ill-health, has never faltered in his zeal to bring this worthy project to fruition.

We understand that a suite of rooms has been taken, and at an early date it is contemplated that the Britten Memorial Library will be officially opened to the public.

We wish the Memorial every success.

The Annual Meeting of the above Trust was held on Saturday, May 28th.

The suggested scheme for a suite of offices which would house the activities of the S.N.U., Ltd., and B.S.L.U., along with the Britten Memorial Library, was presented to the meeting.

The B.S.L.U. was represented by the President and Treasurer, who, on behalf of the M.C., accepted the proposals to become sub-tenants of the Britten Memorial at 64a, Bridge Street, Manchester.

Arrangements will be made for removal of the General Offices at an early date. We hope to give a fuller report in the July BANNER.

AN APPRECIATIVE LETTER OF MR. ALFRED KITSON'S BIBLE STUDIES.

24, Illawarra Street,
Kagarat, N.S.W.,
Australia.

Feb. 22nd, 1932.

Mr. Alfred Kitson,
Dear Sir and Brother,

With the profoundest respect and admiration I hold you as the Acme of Biblical Research revelations, justly to your marvellous work entitled "Bible Studies in Relation to Spirit Communion."

I am writing a book entitled "Mundane Consciousness awakening to Spiritual Realities with hints to higher reasoning and understanding of Natural Law, what we are, mistranslation of the Bible, Biblical references to Spirit manifestations, God that is, and Gods of the Ancients." This work is being undertaken for love of humanity, and I do it for two reasons. To help the Soul to understand and help the afflicted bodies of humanity, for, whilst the information will help the Souls, the profits are all to be given to the hospitals. Now, sir, undoubtedly you will see I am forced to refer to your great work for the many revelations of translations, and I write to-day, I trust you do not object, seeing for what causes your work is being referred to.

Spiritualism is getting a good hold here in Sydney, and I feel the time is ripe for this Bombshell to be let loose whilst Orthodoxy is in a state of least resistance, seeing the reasoning minds are now ready to receive such revelations.

If possible, seeing your work is not procurable in Australia, the trouble of exchange rate duty, etc., being hard as it is here, would it be asking too much in the name of God our Universal strength, for the cause of humanity this side of the world, that you give your kind consent for the reprint Edition of your aforesaid work? All profits to go to the hospitals. My copy I have in great demand by truth seekers. In fact, one gentleman, Mr. Lewis, Herbalist, Dora Street, Hurstville, N.S.W., Australia, is wanting to have a short-hand copy taken of it, but I would prefer I had your permission in this matter.

What a life of sacrifice you have lived. I know two families here who know you well. Mr. Hartley, an old gent, Mr. and Mrs. Kilner. Mrs. Hartley has passed over, and Mr. Hartley is one of the founders of the Church in Hurstville.

May God help us to help our fellow being to see the truth; and you stand in our eyes as our greatest revelator, for you have shook the foundations of all Creeds, built on the common understanding of the now present form of the Bible.

I am, friend, in the deepest earnestness to see Spiritualism spread, and all my efforts are being thrown into that work.

God speed to you, and sincere brotherly sympathy and respect.

Yours fraternally,
E. RIDER.

"BIBLE STUDIES" can be obtained from the Union's Office, Room 4, 20, Toad Lane, Rochdale, Lancs., and can be supplied in small or large quantities. The price is reduced. Single copies, 7d. post free, 4s. 9d. per dozen, post free. [Ed.]



FOR HOME AND OVERSEAS.

My Dear Boys and Girls,

Having just returned from the land of the clogs and shawls, namely Lancashire, one feels inclined to say "A stitch in time saves nine." For here we saw more cotton in a few hours than we have ever seen in our lives.

A thousand machines all working at high speed weaving it into material, while at another mill we saw hundreds of bales of tangled cotton from all parts of the world.

Thus going through one machine after another it finally reaches the stage when it becomes fine thread wound into cops or spools.

Here was an object lesson for life, no troubles however much tangled, are beyond straightening out if we but use the machinery of love and kindness. It was in one of these mills that the millhands wanted to know if Cousin Doris was my sister or young lady.

Surely such a compliment speaks well for the art of keeping that schoolboy's complexion, and shows what the Lyceum Movement does for one.

This reminds me of a little conversation I held with a lady who told me when her daughter made up she would be twenty.

I said I was not aware that lip stick and powder would make such a difference, but to my surprise, this only had a reference to her next birthday. Needless to tell you that we saw a little Lancashire rain during the week-end, this was just to keep its reputation up to standard. The next item of interest was seeing another weaving machine of a different kind. This was the machine of fraternal good will and fellowship. First Mrs. Dean and Officers of the Bury Lyceum arranged a Social evening in order that we might have a romp with the kiddies. We took full advantage of this, but I must confess they do not play fair in Lancashire.

What do you think they did, they got me to play Postman's knock with them, when it was my turn to call a number I said number nine, then nine girls rushed at me altogether.

Of course I gave them what they came for, but that is not the way to play the game, is it?

Then Sunday morning arrived, Mrs. Nurse of Rochdale introduced me to the Rochdale Lyceumists, of course being Sunday and only having a few minutes to spare I could not serve them the same as the Bury Lyceumists, but one day I will if I get the chance.

Another very pleasing feature was a surprise item by the Fleetwood Lyceumists. As they could not meet us they asked Mr. Batley to deliver a photograph to me. This photograph shows them all dressed up as the "Merry Midget Concert Party" they look fine. During the week-end I received a lot of greeting from you kiddies and I can assure you how pleased I was to know you were thinking of us.

All these events took place during the Conference week-end at Rochdale.

Here it was that Lyceumists came from all parts of England to try and make the Lyceum Movement one of the happiest organisations in the country and to elect officers to carry on the work.

The most important part of all this work to my mind is the part you boys and girls play. For if it were not for you there would be no need to have a Conference. It is you who make the Movement by attending your own Lyceum and doing all you can to make it interesting by your pearls and efforts each week.

Between now and the end of the year we want to make the whole movement stronger than ever it has been. We want every man and woman every boy and girl to work for it as they have never worked before.

I heard a Pearl a few weeks ago "I could if I would, I will." I want you to take this as your motto. In your day school I expect you have houses named after various people of note.

You work five or six days a week to secure the highest marks so that your particular house comes out on top of your school notice board. How delighted you are when you yourself have been able to add a point to the record. I want you to look upon your Lyceum as a house gaining points in the same way. Win points by bringing along new members. By taking the examinations, singing and reciting. By forming Hiking Sections, Rambles, Games clubs, Swimming Galas and such like events.

You know you could if you would, then all that remains is to make up your minds that you will. Then next Whitsun when the Conference meets we shall be able to say to Mr. Shuttleworth the new President, "This is what the kiddies have done during the year for us." Aye by gum! won't he be delighted if you do this.

Let us make one great effort altogether until the country rings with the word Lyceums.

ANSWER TO PUZZLE No. 181.

Iris, William, Walter, Myra, Henry.

PUZZLE 182. Missing vowels in Manual Titles.

1. HxxLTHxSWxxTH.
2. DxxDSNxTWxRDS.
3. xLxDDxRxFLxGHT.
4. BxKxNDTxxTHxR.
5. STxNDFxRTHxRxGHT.

PUZZLE No. 183.

My first is in sky but not in cloud,
 My second in pomp and also proud,
 My third is in fire but not in heat,
 My fourth is in chair but not in seat,
 My fifth is in rainbow but not in arc,
 My sixth is in sign but not in mark,
 And this is the end of this ditty you see,
 So put down the answer and send it to me.

This month's puzzles have been arranged by Cousin Doris, so show her what you can do in solving them.

Our next trip is to Southend-on-Sea where we are looking forward to a record rally of Young People.

With love,

Ruberrondo, Your loving friend,
 126, Woodlands Rd., UNCLE BERT.
 Isleworth, Middx.

TRANSITION OF MR. J. DIXON.

We regret to report the transition of Mr. Joseph Dixon (suddenly) at his home, 31, Royds Street, C.-on-M., Manchester, on Tuesday, May 24th, 1932.

The National Spiritualist College.

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

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

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

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

ASSOCIATE (B.S.L.U.) SECTION EXAMINATIONS, 1932.

Our B.S.L.U. Examinations were held during the week-end of May 8th and entrants and sitters from the various Districts are as follows:

District.	Lyceums	Entered	Sat
Birmingham	4	71	57
Bolton	2	23	22
Bradford	—	Nil	—
Coventry	2	14	14
Halifax and Huddersfield ..	4	17	15
Leeds	5	37	33
Liverpool	6	64	60
London	19	242	197
Manchester	6	71	58
North East Cheshire ..	3	15	15
North East Lancashire ..	10	45	43
Nottingham	1	4	4
Scottish	—	Nil	—
Sheffield	5	82	57
Southern Counties	4	71	55
South East Lancashire ..	2	11	11
South Wales	4	84	60
Tees-side	5	44	40
Tyne-side	6	50	39
"Area" Lyceums	1	3	3
Overseas (Canada and New Zealand)	2	24	—
	91	972	783

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

STATISTICS.

It has been said that statistics prove nothing, but in spite of that I am going to attempt to show where the falling off of 27 Lyceums and 392 students has occurred, so that ardent educationists in the Districts concerned may be able to put in an extra effort for 1933, and bring their educational work up to, and past, its former standard, or, where this year shows an increase, improve even on this year's figures.

Taking the Districts, there is a falling-off in Bolton, Coventry, Leeds, London, Manchester, N.E. Lancs, Nottingham, Southern Counties, S.E. Lancs, Tyne-side, "Area" and Overseas: Tees-side stands as it did last year, and there have been increases in Birmingham, Halifax and Huddersfield, Liverpool, N.E. Cheshire and Sheffield. Bradford has joined Scotland in having no entries at all, and Nottingham has had a narrow escape.

In some Districts there is a good, local excuse for their

decreases; but it is hoped that by next year these difficulties will be overcome, and that we shall start climbing to equal, and then beat, the 1926 record of 1693 entries. Personally, I shall not be satisfied until the annual number of *sitters* exceeds at least 2,000. We owe such a total to the memory of Nellie Kitson and her devoted labours in the cause of a progressive and educated Spiritualism.

THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE, 1932-1933.

Miss M. E. Lawton, G.N.S.C. (Chairman) and Mr. A. T. Connor, F.N.S.C., (Secretary) were re-elected, and Miss Eva C. Connor, A.N.S.C. was again co-opted as Assistant Secretary. The new members are Mr. J. Shuttleworth (the new B.S.L.U. President) and the new General Secretary (when appointed). Miss E. Elliott, A.N.S.C., the retiring President, automatically drops out, and her colleagues will miss her wise counsel.

THE AGE LIMITS.

Several of the decisions of the Whitsuntide Conference at Rochdale will affect the Education Scheme indirectly, but we were directly interested in only one item—the proposal to alter the age limits so that it would be possible to start with the Oral Grade Junior at 12, and go on without a break until Grade V was reached, at the present age of 18. The reason stated for the proposal was that the present waits between Grades discouraged the Junior students. The reply to this is that there is at present no break between Grades I-II, and IV-V, so that only students affected are Grade II and Grade III students, of minimum age, and even they are exempt if they gain 90 per cent in their examinations. Of this year's sitters, only 35 are affected out of a total of 783, and a student who obtains less than 70 per cent might do worse than have a second try—even if not of the minimum age.

THE EXAMINATION PAPERS.

All the answer papers have been sorted and sent to the Examiners. As soon as they are returned they will be classified according to marks, and Lists, and summaries, etc., prepared for publication in the Results Book. Then a week-end will be spent signing up the Certificates for successful students, sundry circulars of enclosure will be cyclostyled, and the papers returned to the various Lyceums as soon as possible afterwards. This year there may be delay, owing to various circumstances, so I hope that our students, and their Secretaries, will be patient.

GRADUATE SECTION EXAMINATIONS.

The results of the examinations conducted by the S.N.U. in March are:—

Grade	Entered	Sat	Passed.
Intermediate.	25	23	15
Subsidiary.	7	7	7
Final	6	4	3

The Education Committee heartily congratulates Mr. R. Storey Paling on having won his Graduate (G.N.S.C.) Degree.

OUR LYCEUM GUILD.

I am very glad that the Guild is to be revived, and that Miss Gladys M. Halliday, A.N.S.C., has consented to act as Guild Leader. Conference adopted the revival unanimously, and I am hoping that the Guild will

serve, as it did formerly, as a recruiting agent for our Education Scheme. Nearly every Educational Movement has a Students' Union, and the Guild can act in that capacity in our own Movement. It will take a little time for our new Leader to get things organised and the Guild put into active operation; but we may feel sure that at the earliest possible moment, we shall be able to hail the re-appearance of a page that has been missing far too long from the BANNER. Anyhow, here's the best of luck to the Guild and its Leader, and may they both have the success they so richly deserve. If any students or old Guildites would like to write to Miss Halliday, offering their support, her address is:

28, Moorlands Place, Free School Lane, Halifax, Yorks.

SECRETARIES PLEASE NOTE.

ALL the text books needed for the B.S.L.U. Scheme are supplied from the General Offices, Mr. Connor does not stock or sell ANY Handbooks.

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

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

THE GENERAL SECRETARY, 20, Toad Lane, Rochdale, Lancs.

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

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

NATIONAL JOINT EDUCATION SCHEME.

GRADUATE SECTION.

Results of the Examinations held in March, 1932, by the S.N.U. Education Committee (in alphabetical order of Centres).

INTERMEDIATE GRADE.

Candidate & Centre	Rdg.	Phil.	Evol.	Total	Class
Walter Taylor, Accrington ..	77	80	72	229	Hons.
Albert Fruin, Battersea ..	53	68	71	192	First
Bertie Hardwick, Croydon ..	90	69	68	227	Hons.
Violet Mountford, Exeter ..	50	73	66	189	First
Agnes Smith, Glasgow ..	80	71	76	227	Hons.
James McLintock, Glasgow ..	80	84	84	248	Hons.
James Baxter, Lochgelly ..	50	73	68	191	First
Isa Bonney, Middlesbrough ..	86	92	94	272	Dist.
Dorothy Cartwright, Middlesbrough ..	74	71	86	231	Hons.
Mary Briggs, Portsmouth ..	71	65	64	200	First.
Lily Beecham, St. Annes-on-Sea ..	70	90	83	243	Hons.
Wilfred Corrie, Sparkhill ..	74	83	81	238	Hons.
Percy Langley, Stinchley ..	54	68	66	188	First.
Sidney Jones, Southend and Westcliff ..	83	81	86	250	Hons.
Edward Hammond, Sub-Member ..	90	92	96	278	Dist.

The above have PASSED and are now eligible to sit for the Subsidiary Grade.

Entered, 25; Sat, 23; Passed, 15.

SUBSIDIARY GRADE.

James Le Noury, Attercliffe ..	75	83	79	237	Hons.
Ella Sheridan, Carlisle ..	93	87	90	270	Dist.
Mary Liddelow, Chesterfield ..	64	58	61	183	First.
David Smith, Glasgow ..	82	79	80	241	Hons.
Gladys Halliday, Halifax ..	94	85	90	270	Dist.
Christina Hogg, Leadgate ..	74	84	79	237	Hons.
Emma Maddison, Sub-member ..	65	61	63	189	First.

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

Entered, 7; Sat, 7; Passed, 7.

FINAL GRADE.

Henry Barnes, Laisterdyke ..	61	60	73	194	First.
Noah Hiscock, Plaistow ..	62	80	70	212	First.
Storey Paling, Sub-member ..	79	94	94	267	Hons.

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

Entered, 6; Sat, 4; Passed, 3.

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

£2,000 Effort Fund.

Dear Lyceumists,

I am very sorry that my last report should be so small. I have only two items to acknowledge this month, viz—per Mr. Smith, Sheffield, profit on Badges, 2s., Mrs. Hargreaves, Burnley, sale of leaflets, 1s.

As the Secretaryship now passes from my hands, and I do not know who my successor will be, I hope you will all watch the BANNER for the name and address of the New Secretary, and thus save needless postage.

I sincerely trust that each and all will still continue to give support to the Fund. Thanking all for past efforts and co-operation.

With best wishes for success,

Yours sincerely,

V. G. REYNOLDS.

NOTE:—In last month's issue it should read Mrs. GUNN, 2s. 6d., not Mrs. LUNN.

In view of Mrs. Reynolds ceasing to be the £2,000 Effort Secretary, all donations should be sent direct to the General Secretary, Room 4, 20 Toad Lane, Rochdale, Lancs. This will operate until a new Secretary is appointed.—Ed.

The Ainsworth Home of Rest Scheme.

The Committee of Management of the Ainsworth Home of Rest Scheme is empowered to provide suitable accommodation in Convalescent Homes at sea-side places for Lyceumists, whether children or adults, who need rest or require treatment or sea-air, and whose circumstances render them unable to meet the cost themselves.

Lyceumists pay their own travelling expenses to and from the Home. The Committee of Management bear the cost of maintenance during 14 days' stay in the Home.

Application Forms can be obtained from the Clerk to the Ainsworth Home of Rest Scheme, Room 4, 20, Toad Lane, Rochdale, Lancs.

FLEETWOOD LYCEUM ANNUAL TRIP, July 2nd, to LYTHAM. The field is the Lytham Football Club Ground and is opposite the Railway Station. Visiting Lyceumists will be welcome.

The S.N.U. A.G.M. will take place at Glasgow on July 2nd and 3rd.

Mr. McIndoe, President, will preside.

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.

JUNE, 1932.

The President's Address.

Read at the B.S.L.U. Conference held at Rochdale, May 14th and 15th, 1932.

BY MISS EDITH ELLIOTT, A.N.S.C.

Fellow Lyceumists,

In extending a fraternal welcome to all Delegates assembled the pleasure is doubly great because of the fact that we are meeting in the town which is the birth-place of Co-operation. Within the shadows of the place where the men who inaugurated this wonderful system of "Each for All and All for Each" stands the Union's office. We pray that the spirit of co-operation will prevail throughout the whole of the Conference and reveal its influence through all the discussions that will ensue.

Once more you have met to deliberate upon questions of vital importance that will affect the administration of the Union's affairs, either for weal or woe. It requires careful and serious consideration before any attempt is made to pass haphazardly anything that in its nature is likely to undermine the present status of the Union. We continue to pass through difficult periods and the future welfare should enter very largely into the discussions of the business during the week-end.

How are we, as a Movement, dealing with the problems that are constantly confronting us, brought about through the continued economic depression? Not only Great Britain, but the whole world is suffering from stagnation, through the evil that exists through the present political issues. Consequently, the Lyceum Union, in effect, is bound to suffer, as its membership is largely constituted from the working classes of the country. Yet, on taking a retrospect of the year's activities, I am proud to find there has been maintained that wonderful spirit of loyalty and co-operation to the Union, through the District Councils and the Lyceums in general, who we rely upon for the continuance of a successful working business house such as the B.S.L.U. that is serving the needs of a children's educational movement.

Re-organisation is once again in the air. Men are

dreamers and schemers, but unless each one is prepared to man the ship, re-organisation will be of no avail. If the whole of the principles which govern this huge organisation are again to go into the melting pot, and you are desirous that out of it there shall arise another organisation, we pray that in your re-construction you will leave naught undone that is essential for a lasting edifice wherein can be found all the requirements that will meet the needs of the rising generation.

Finance is one of the important problems with which we are at present concerned, and despite the many schemes that have been launched in the past, naught has been yet evolved that has solved this question of "how best to stabilise the Union's finances?" The greatest source of revenue is derived from our publications, yet my opinion is that our General Fund is the one that should be the means of sustaining the overhead charges of the Union's activities, and this can only be done by levying Lyceums according to the number of Lyceumists on their Roll. Overhead charges last year were £481 12s. A levy of 3d. each on the number of Lyceumists in 1931 would realise £165 15s. If the Affiliation Fee to the Union was 6d. per Lyceumist, and a further levy of 3d. per Lyceumist was made, our overhead charges would be adequately served. Each department would subsequently re-adjust its working hypothesis in accordance with the governing principles of the whole.

Although there is a decrease in membership, much of this can be attributed to the desire for greater outdoor activities than is provided for within the ranks of the Lyceum Movement. It is essential that we turn our attention to youth and its needs, socially as well as spiritually.

Often the question is asked "Why cannot we have a Movement such as the Scouts, Lads' Brigade, Girl Guides, &c., with which we are familiar in other denominations?" Whilst agreeing that these Movements serve a useful purpose to those who feel the need for them, we must consider our claim to be definitely pacifists, and that it would appear to be unwise for us to institute, or become affiliated with, any of the Movements enumerated, as there is a tendency towards the spirit of militarism involved. The pastime of to-day is "hiking" and during the summer months we find that advantage is taken of the opportunities that are afforded our youths, and adults, too, in gaining a wider experience in life through direct contact with nature. I am convinced that we are sufficiently strong in our principles for truth to keep our contact with those who have joined the ranks of outdoor life, and so retain our Union's present membership by providing facilities to meet this exigency. This is where the District Councils, as part of the machinery of the Union's administration, can play their part in co-operation.

Our Education Scheme continues to provide facilities for those who are intent upon improving their educational abilities. The number of students who continue to pass through yearly is sufficient evidence in itself to warrant this particular phase of our Movement. Great credit reflects upon those who are responsible for the welfare of the Education Department, which is worthy of all the support we can give towards its continued success.

It is much to be deplored that in the Social Services the Government has deemed it wise to make a definite cut in Education, and I feel that the British Spirit-

ualists' Lyceum Union, which is responsible for the spiritual education of children, should express its disapproval to the authorities concerned in this respect.

What of the future? Having reflected upon the work accomplished and the issues involved, there still remains the need to consider the future welfare of the Union. Definite changes are suggested on the Agenda that will mean, if acceded to, a complete change-over from the present system of internal machinery to one that appears to be less intricate, and yet, with non-the-less amount of responsibility to be borne. Constructive forces should be utilised in the building up of whatever ideals are expressed, if we are going to gain the full fruition of all that is desired.

Wide fields of activity lie before us and much is yet to be accomplished by Propaganda. It would seem as though we were suffering from the want of a Publicity Department, which could express to greater advantage the ideals and principles for which we stand.

In the social amenities of life, perhaps the time is now ripe when we, as a Movement, should be able to make our influence felt in matters concerning municipalities, in the national affairs of life, and those international. Our policy should be such as is influenced by the principles enumerated in our Lyceum training. If so, I believe it would be largely responsible for maintaining a world peace, of which every Lyceumist and Spiritualist, I am confident is desirous.

What part are we playing in helping to bring into operation many of the ideals which those members of the Disarmament Conference, now sitting, are endeavouring to operate for a greater unity between nations. Its effectiveness would be one step towards the abolition of war.

Thus we are moving forward, and contemplate the part we shall one day play in the government of those issues which affect the needs and conditions of mankind, materially and spiritually. Combining our activities in these directions will surely be to serve that purpose for which our Movement was born.

My thanks are due to all those who have helped in the work of the Union during my term of office. I appreciate the respect which has been meted out to me wherever I have gone on the business of the Union. To the Members of my Committee I am deeply grateful for their loyal and continued support towards me, and whoever my successor may be, I trust that the same kind consideration will be extended towards them.

One who has been more a friend than servant, our General Secretary, G. F. Knott, has been called to the higher life. I cannot appreciate too much his kindly advice, his ever present help, whenever and wherever he could, in matters concerning the welfare of the Lyceum Union. I feel sure that everyone here to-day must feel with me that his passing has created a great void, one that will be difficult to fill. Yet our confidence is strong that in spirit life he will continue to serve us to the best of his ability for the sake of the children's movement.

During the very trying period through which the Union has passed this last 5½ months, I pay the highest tribute to Mrs. Mills, Assistant Secretary, who has valiantly laboured, along with me, in maintaining the control of national affairs.

Lastly, our thanks too, are due to those of the higher household whose vision has helped to sail the ship safely through.

AN S.O.S.

AN OPEN LETTER TO LYCEUMISTS EVERYWHERE.

Fellow Lyceumists,

The decisions of our Annual Conference held May 14th and 15th mean much to the future of the Lyceum Movement. Many far-reaching and vital decisions were made which affect, and will reflect, upon the status of the Movement in the immediate future. Two Committees were called into being which will have to make decisions that will be of definite importance in the re-moulding of the Lyceum Union. In effect, to strengthen the financial position in an unwarrantable way.

One Committee, consisting of 20 members and a further one composed of 12, cannot meet without incurring heavy expenditure, which at the present time will be a considerable drain on the Union's exchequer.

At the 1931 Conference, held at Barrow, MR. G. F. KNOTT made a strong appeal for the inauguration of the **Patron Fund**, and we are again, **through him** appealing to you to support this worthy project that the ideals may be fully realised and so help to lessen the burden that continuously appears to be growing.

Can we then appeal to you to help in this direction so that the Funds of the Lyceum Union and the work that we **MUST DO** shall not be hampered or restricted by lack of finance.

REMEMBER, the Movement is **YOURS**, and **BE-LONGS TO YOU**. What its future will be depends on what you desire it to be.

Remember, "Every man is a stranger to his greatest strength, his mightiest power, until the test of great responsibility, a critical emergency, or supreme crisis in his life, call it out." There are great potentialities and power possibilities within which we may never know until a crisis calls them out. **THAT CRISIS IS HERE NOW! RESPONSIBILITY DEVELOPS POWER! DO YOU, WILL YOU, ACCEPT THAT RESPONSIBILITY?**

JAMES SHUTTLEWORTH, President.

EDITH ELLIOTT, Acting Secretary.

All subscriptions will be thankfully received by the Union's Secretary, Room 4, 20, Toad Lane, Rochdale, Lancs.

WANTED—A GENERAL SECRETARY FOR THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

Must be an active Lyceumist or Spiritualist, and must possess the following qualifications: a good education combined with a knowledge of book-keeping and office routine, and have a knowledge of good English and some literary ability.

Salary £208 per annum, with fourteen days holiday and all Bank Holidays, &c. This appointment is subject to the terms of the agreement as defined by the Conference, Management Committee, and Trustees.

All Applications, along with testimonials, must be forwarded to The Acting Secretary, B.S.L. Union, Miss E. ELLIOTT, Room 4, 20, Toad Lane, Rochdale, Lancs., not later than first post, June 11th, 1932.



Dear Little Imps,

I have been listening to the rain, and now, some birds have helped to swell the music by singing in the rain. They must like the rain-music too. Do you? I like all the water-music, especially the tinkling, gurgling and chattering of streams, and, even better still, the roar of a waterfall. What a lot of tales a river must have to tell, as it journeys from its starting place on the hills to the great wide sea! Let us hear the story of one river, which you won't find on any map.

THE RUNALONG RIVER.

Little Runalong set out on its journey feeling just a little bit lonesome. You see, he was such a weeny baby of a stream, and he had no idea which way to go. He started out from a mossy bank, and was just about to crawl along through some friendly moss, when up came the water sprite. Runalong didn't know anything at all about sprites, and he didn't quite know what to say to the strange little fellow who seemed to have suddenly come up out of the everywhere. For the water-sprite *was* a strange little fellow. He was very tiny, about as big as my thumb, and he looked rather old, and very, very wise, but not at all sad. His face was all wrinkled with smile creases, and Runalong saw that his clothes were very strange for they were partly green, partly blue, and partly no colour at all, whilst his belt and cap seemed to be made of water foam.

Runalong almost stopped still when the water-sprite stood on the moss, took off his cap, and bowed. The stream could only gurgle but the sprite didn't mind that. He wasn't at all shy, and called out. "Good-day, Runalong! I am Splash, the water-sprite, and I have come to keep you company. A little bird told me that you had just started out, and so I have found you out. Please let me go with you."

"Thank you very much Mr. Splash," answered Runalong. "I don't know where I am going, but I should like you to come too. Do you know the way?" "Oh, dear, no!" cried Splash. "We don't have to know the way. It is better like that. We shall just run-along until we find the sea. It will be great fun, I can tell you, but you must stop hiding in that moss. Come along we'll go together."

Off the pair set. Neither of them knew the way, and neither of them cared. One thing they did know, and this they never forgot. Runalong must not stop, and both Splash and Runalong were quite determined that there would be no stopping. They hadn't time to stand still. They left the friendly moss, and chased each

other down the side of the hill. They jumped over stones, eddied round rushes, and were very proud when they crept under a gate and so were able to leave the stone walls of the moors behind them.

At first Splash said "We can go anywhere we like. Nothing can stop us," but soon they found that that wasn't quite true. Once a very big stone had refused to move for them. "You can run round me, if you like, but I won't stir for a mere trickle of a stream like you," and Splash and Runalong had to push their way round the stone—even though Runalong grew quite cross about it.

They left the hill-side and were almost out of breath, so that they were glad to go more slowly across a field. At the end of that field they had a big surprise, for Runalong suddenly missed Splash, and found himself in a pond, and the *pond was standing still*. Poor little Runalong was afraid, and called out to Splash to help him to leave that pond. It had strange things in it—tadpoles were swimming about, and grasses grew out of the water. Runalong hadn't seen these things before, but Splash soon helped him. "We found the way in and so there must be a way out," he cried and together they searched and at last were repaid. A bird came tugging at some grass, and that opened a new way for the stream. Runalong and Splash hurried on, and the stream felt very proud—he had grown bigger and the sprite could tell him why. The pond water had decided to go with Runalong too. Finding a way was easy work now.

Runalong and Splash danced along. They cut a new way along the hedgerow and laughed as they pushed stones out of the way, and chattered, as they ran, to the birds and flowers that they passed. Coming to a wide, flat, field, they found a new game—seeing how often they could twist and twine about across that field. They spent a long time there.

Many rainy days had strengthened Runalong and he carried much water now. Cows and sheep came to drink from him. Birds would bathe in him and they all told Runalong and Splash of strange things that they yet might meet. Fishes might come live in the water and fishes brought men who wanted to catch them. Listening to the men they would hear of wonderful things. "Could there be other streams?" asked Runalong. A horse answered that question. "If you go across that meadow, and run down that slope, you will meet another stream" the horse told them. Was that possible? Runalong and Splash longed to know and so across the meadow they cut their way. Running down the slope was quick work, and with a gasp they found themselves caught up in a wide stream. With Runalong the stream overflowed its banks, and Runalong felt very proud as he heard people say. "What a fine *river* we have now!"

As Runalong and Splash hurried along with the stream friend, they heard a new sound—a strange roar. The stream friend laughed when they asked about it. "You'll soon know what that is," he cried. "It is, here! Jump!" and the Runalong River hurled itself over a huge rock, and proudly flung itself into the noisy pool below. People had come out to watch that jump and Splash heard them say. "What a fine waterfall! What wonderful water power there!" Splash thought about that "wonderful water power!" What could they mean? Runalong and Splash soon found out for, one day there came men who cut down the trees from the river banks and then builders who put up a great

factory, and used the water power for the electricity that drove their machines.

A new world opened to Runalong and Splash. Gone were the hills, and the fields, the friendly birds and animals. Instead, the river saw houses, factories and many people, and heard strange noises. Sometimes Runalong would invite a new, shy little stream to join it. The streams could always tell little tales of their green homes. Runalong and Splash enjoyed those.

Runalong's proudest moment came when its first ship came sailing on it. How wonderful to carry that moving wooden house—a house full of precious things as well as precious people. Splash grew friendly with the ships and he and Runalong talked to each other of the tales the ships brought—tales of the sea. To join the sea! Could they do that too? The seagulls came to tell them they were nearing the sea. The river's banks widened—the works on the banks grew fewer—and then the river met the tide—and Runalong was lost in the mighty sea. Splash wouldn't join the sea. Being a sprite, he could do what the river couldn't do. He could go back, and back he went, back to where Runalong started as a stream. Runalong is lost in the sea, but with the tide he returns to the river mouth and there twice each day Runalong and Splash can be heard murmuring as they tell each other the news that only running water can tell.

Didn't I tell you that May was a month of surprises? It brought me a very pleasant one. A friendly letter from Thomas Harrison of Middlesbrough Lyceum was such a pleasant surprise that I gave Thomas one too, and sent him a letter by post. It is nice to know that the postman really does know the address of an Imp.

Lots of love, MEG.

NEWSY NOTES.

The "Belper News" for May 6th contains an appreciation of the public service rendered to Belper by Councillor J. H. Hawkins, who has been a member of the Belper Spiritualist Society and Lyceum since 1884, and has been Lyceum Secretary since 1900, and Church Secretary since 1910. He is also one of the Trustees. Is this a record?

Special mention is made of Councillor Hawkins' interest in education and he does not regret any criticism levelled at higher education, and states he is pleased to be associated with the work, his only regret being that the youth of the town has not taken advantage of the classes held under ideal conditions and with the best of teachers.

The housing problem was one of his main points at the 1931 election. He has been mainly responsible, along with the Clerk to the Council, and the Architect, after a visit to the Ministry of Health, for the building of 54 houses, under the 1924 Housing Act, to let at a rental of 5s. per week. Ten of these are already occupied, and the others are expected to be completed by the end of June. An example that could be well followed by other municipalities.

Mr. Hawkins has pleasant recollections of working with the local pioneers of our Movement, and was closely associated with the late Mr. Tom Smedley.

The "Belper News" on May 6th also contains reference to Mr. Henry Wigley, who is now the only

surviving pioneer of Spiritualism in Belper and holds a number of offices at the Church. Mr. Wigley has been conductor of the Spiritualist Church since it was first formed 46 years ago, and has also been the Conductor of the Lyceum for many years.

Several times he has been elected President of the Church, and last year was made a Life President in recognition of his work for the Cause.

Apart from his work in the Movement of Spiritualism, he has been noted as a violinist, and for the past 70 years has played at Belper Sunday School Anniversaries. Although Mr. Wigley has attained the age of 82 years he still enjoys good health, retains his faculties, and continues to exercise his ability as a violinist. This perhaps is attributed to the fact that he is a non-smoker, and a total abstainer, and above all things, a Good Lyceumist.

LONDON, ROCHESTER SQUARE, ANNIVERSARY.

On April 17th, we celebrated our third Anniversary by conducting all three services for that day. The afternoon and evening services were well attended, there being over 150 at the Session in the afternoon and a similar number at the evening service. Representatives from many Lyceums were present. Bowes Park Lyceum brought all their members.

Everyone present was presented with a buttonhole of primroses and violets, and bouquets were presented to Mrs. Fruin (Auntie Ruth), Mrs. Beehag (Church President), and Mrs. Ellis (one of the Church pioneers).

Mr. Fruin (President, L.L.D.C.) conducted the afternoon Session in the usual manner, until Prize Distribution, which was conducted by Mrs. Beehag, who was afterwards presented with a cheque for £8, as a gift from the Lyceum to the Church. Efforts were rendered by many present, including a united effort from Bowes Park, "Watchman, what of the Night" as a part song. This was much appreciated.

Tea was supplied to all who stayed for the evening service, which was conducted by our ex-Conductor, Mr. Townell, and four members of our Lyceum. Mr. Fruin spoke a few words on the London Lyceum District Council.

On May 16th, the L.L.D.C. held their Annual Sports Rally at Finsbury Park, and although the weather was very bad, it did not dampen their spirits and every item was carried through successfully. After the sports, the whole assembly was invited to Rochester Square for tea, a short entertainment, and distribution of prizes, medals, and certificates. Here again was a gathering of nearly 300. A really jolly gathering. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed every moment of the day.

Rochester Square Church was sincerely thanked for lending the Temple to the Athletic Club, and Rochester Square Lyceum was much appreciated for entertaining and catering for the Club and its friends. Mr. S. Calway, Club Secretary, expressed appreciation. The activities were brought to a close with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

Our Lyceum wishes to thank everyone who assisted in any way during the day.

D. JORDAN, Sec.

The Value of Experience.

Life is composed of one continuous train of experiments and whether man will or no, his strength as an individual is always being tested by it. If man is able to discriminate between the "greater" and "lesser" experiments he can find out their proportionate values.

"The experiments of life" is another term for experience and experience is man's privilege. The purpose of it appears to be that he may learn to understand himself; test himself and eventually gain the art of discrimination—between that which is beneficial and that which is a hindrance to his development. It is only when a person can do this, that the true judgment of the value of experience is attained.

During this soul-searching lesson, he finds that all human beings are fundamentally alike. All have their joys and their sorrows, and when one has actually lived through similar experiences to others, one begins to understand the feelings and emotions of the rest of humanity.

This understanding develops our sympathy with mankind and ultimately culminates in the expression of love one toward another.

Life itself is experience. Every moment of our conscious existence affords an opportunity for observation, and the wise man will train his mind to become alert, so that he may be well equipped and ready for action, prepared for any unexpected happening which may present itself. To the thinking mind it is obvious, that man cannot be well equipped mentally or spiritually without incessant effort, and it is the frequent application of our faculties and virtues brought about by the varied experiences of life, which mould our habits and build our character.

The value of experience lies in the continued practical acquaintance with "the happenings of life" which enable one to give fair judgment and form true conclusions. All real knowledge is gained by a method of testing, and it is only when man has had repeated experiences of a similar nature, that he can rightly assume that he "knows." Experience is a constant trial by experiment and all the progress of the world depends upon man being able to say "I know" instead of "I think." Much knowledge may be gained second-handed, as it were from others, but in every case it must have been tested by some one before the term "knowledge" could be rightly applied.

We may receive advice from others and this may be good, but human nature is such, that it has an instinctive desire to test any advice, and probably this is the reason why actual personal experience is so valuable. When the advice has been proved correct a transfer is made from "belief" to "knowledge."

It would hardly be reasonable to suggest that all knowledge of any value, must be experienced personally, yet at the same time as far as the individual is concerned, and in matters that directly touch him, the most valuable knowledge he can possess is that gained by personal experience.

A number of individuals may have a similar experience and yet with different effects. Although all human beings are fundamentally alike there are many factors which go to modify the result in each case.

The growth of man's development plays an important part in determining this result, and the more equally

the faculties are developed the more command will he have over his circumstances and environment. With such a development he will be better able to understand the train of experiments which make up life and eventually to handle them with a masterly care. They will be recognised as stepping-stones and lessons toward further development, instead as they sometimes are, of being wrongly judged as hindrances and obstacles.

LILLIE K. GEORGE, A.N.S.C

TO THE MEMORY OF MR. G. F. KNOTT.

By the Children of Warrington Lyceum.

We shall miss you so!—Big Brother!

With your cheery, tender smile,

And the happy hours together

When you made life seem worth while,

And a thing of brave endeavour,

Not a task of toil and strife,

But with love for one another

Smoothed the rough, hard Road of Life.

You have trod that Road before us

And have come to Journey's End:

But your footprints still shall guide us,

When the Road winds t'wards the bend.

They have called you Home, Big Brother,

To the land of golden skies,

Where sorrow ne'er can enter,

And the Love-Light never dies;

Through paths of golden glory,

By Angels' feet e'er trod,

We shall meet again, dear Brother,

In the household of our God.

THE FLOWERETTE.

'Tis only a flowerette, blushing and gay,
That spreads in the sunshine it's joyous air,
Birds billing and cooing, Joys echo all round,
My thoughts flee from sadness, amid such sweet sound,
O, beauteous flowerette smiling all day,
Bees hover like lovers around thee at play,
My heart flows with gladness as on thee I gaze,
My lips breathe to heaven a hymn in thy praise
Thou'rt only a blossom sweet simple and gay,
All brimming in glory beneath the Sun's ray.

Alas! dainty flowerette tho' blooming today,
Thy charms and thy glories will wither, decay,
The stem which thy graces so brightly adorn,
Why leave it, thou treasure, forsaken, forlorn,
I ponder in silence as I linger by,
I think of past summers, alas, with a sigh,
O sweet little blossom so pure and so true,
May God mould our spirits a symbol of you,
Ah! too little flowerette we'll wither, decay,
'Tis' only in heaven we'll blossom for aye,
Blossom for aye.

Mrs. J. NELSON.

CONFERENCE ELECTIONS.

President: Mr. J. SHUTTLEWORTH.

Vice-President: Miss E. ELLIOTT.

Treasurer: Mr. W. BURROWS.

Auditor: Mr. C. T. BATLEY.

S.N.U. E.C. Representative: Mr. W. BURROWS.

S.N.U. A.G.M. Delegates: Mr. J. SHUTTLEWORTH
and Mr. A. T. CONNOR.

REMEMBER!

Once more the veil of memory
 Arises o'er the earth,
 The Last Post rings out mournfully
 Across the scene of death,
 Where friend and foe
 In anguish moan,
 Remember, O, Remember.

The blood that sodden'd Flander's fields
 Was not for gory passion,
 'Twas shed in sacrifice that yields
 A hope for world compassion.
 Both friend and foe!
 Where'er you go
 Remember, O, Remember.

Now death His bloody prize has claimed
 From fields of human flowers,
 'Tis left for you this curse to end,
 To wield pacific powers.
 With all as friends,
 These wars shall end,
 Remember, O, Remember!
 TOM NAYLOR, New Zealand.

MEDITATION.

In my tow'r of mental meditation
 I dwelt, wand'ring in a hapless mood,
 Seeking for that source of inner motion
 That should raise my soul from life so crude.
 And, with contemplation gently stirring
 Inner aspirations forth, I longed
 For the sweetness of a soul reposing
 In the calmness of a love profound.
 O'er my head the canopy of ev'ning,
 Lit by orbs of scintillating fire,
 Led me to the action of achieving
 That sweet object of my heart's desire.

On my quest with airy wings I drifted,
 Soaring to that strange and lofty height,
 Where the dizzy pinnacles of freedom
 Test the nature of the heart contrite.
 O'er that vast abyss I poised my reason,
 With the breath of heaven all around,
 Ne'er so sweet a fragrance ever drifted
 To a heart submerged or mortal bound.
 Still my soul for ever urged me onward
 To the void where all is filled with peace,
 And the soul is purged by such sweet concord,
 Only mighty souls remain to feast.

With a silent mind and heart a-quiv'ring,
 Back unto my gloomy tow'r I sped,
 Trying truth to seize with understanding,
 Thus to fight the sordidness I'd fled.
 With me, heav'nly peace and joy descended,
 Making earth to heaven more akin;
 On the musty walls of mind, ascended
 Dancing lights which feed the heart from sin;
 All the world was lit by Inspiration,
 Doubt and fear, as Sons of Evil fled,
 And I, cleansed by inward contemplation,
 Rose, this light of Truth to shed.

TOM NAYLOR, New Zealand.

THE B.S.L.U. CONFERENCE PROPAGANDA MEETING.

A good Propaganda Meeting closed the activities of the successful Conference held in Rochdale, Regent Hall, National Spiritualist Church, during the week-end of May 14th and 15th.

Miss Elliott, retiring President, opened the meeting, and Mrs. Paling, S.N.U. Fraternal Delegate, offered an invocation.

Miss Elliott expressed the thanks of the Union to those members of the Committee who were retiring, and extended a cordial welcome to the new members of the Management Committee.

In inducting the new President, Mr. J. Shuttleworth, she said she had worked with him for over 20 years, and had always found him ready to shoulder whatever responsibilities faced him for the furtherance of the interests of our Movement.

Miss Elliot handed over the control of the service to the new President, who said he had wondered why he should be elected to the major office at such a critical period in the history of the Lyceum Union. He said that he had at one time emphatically stated that he would never sit on the Management Committee, but higher powers had told him he had a greater work to do, and greater responsibilities to bear. He believed it was through their work that he had attained the office of President.

Mrs. Reynolds, ceasing office, said she felt that this spiritual work, for which we, as Lyceumists, stand, is wholly essential for the sake of humanity and for the happiness of the human race. She expressed her good wishes for the continued success of the Lyceum Union.

Mr. G. F. Berry, General Secretary of the S.N.U., gave a brief outline of his early connections with the Lyceum Movement. Although not a Lyceumist, he has always been in touch with youth organisations, and his full sympathies are with the British Spiritualists Lyceum Union.

Mrs. George, a new Member of the Management Committee, took an entirely different aspect, and spoke of "Values." She gave several pleasing illustrations of her speech. She appealed for our children to have full opportunities to enable them to appreciate the "values" in life. "Religion," she said, "must have reason." Let us develop in our children the "reasoning mind."

Mr. Dobby made reference to the transition of Mr. Knott. He appealed to parents to give their children the benefits derived from the Lyceums. If Spiritualism is satisfying the parents' mind, surely the Lyceum would satisfy the child mind.

Mr. Slimin expressed the sincere thanks of the Officers and Members of the Management Committee for the hospitality so cordially extended during the week-end. He appealed for a generous support of the S.N.U. Fund of Benevolence, and a retiring collection was taken.

Mrs. Nurse, Local Church President, gracefully responded to the thanks on behalf of the local people.

Mrs. Calway pronounced the benediction.

Births, Marriages, and Transitions.

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

IN MEMORIAM.

DONCASTER, Catherine Street.—BALL.—Sweetest memories of our dear little LILY, who passed to the Summerland, May 20th, 1927, aged 5 years, 10 months.

"Just five years ago she left us;

How we miss her smiling face.

But she left us to remember

No one on earth can take her place."

From her loving Mother and Father, and little Brother Albert.

District Visitors' Reports.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.

On March 20th I visited St. Peter Street, Huddersfield. There were 23 present. On the S.C.R. there were good questions and comments from the younger Lyceumists. Other readings well conducted. Marching and callisthenics were very good.

On April 3rd I visited Brighouse. Punctual start. Singing good. Good discussion on S.C.R. No. 2, "Nature's Revelation." Marching was well conducted.

I visited Huddersfield, Ramsden Street, on April 24th. Singing very good. Good comments on readings. Marching and callisthenics very fair.

E. SMITH, D.V.

SOUTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

March 21st. Halliwell Street, Rochdale. Open Session at 2-30, 47 present. An old Lyceum re-opened after many years. This Lyceum is in the hands of capable officers and, when settled down to its task, there is no doubt that we shall add another Lyceum to our noble band. May their efforts be fully rewarded.

March 21st. Baillie Street, Rochdale. Open Session, 6 p.m., 85 present. The whole session was very encouraging. A great revival. Visitors from Bacup, Bury, Dearnley and local Lyceums greatly assisted to complete a great success.

April 10th. Waterhead, Oldham. Morning Session, 10-30, 20 present. Singing and readings were good. Marching and callisthenics smart and good. Under the Conductorship of Mr. Wright, the conduct is perfect. The officers of this Lyceum are keeping the flag flying. True is its pearl,—"Always telling stories, never telling lies."

April 10th. Oldham, Central. Afternoon Session, 2-30 p.m., 59 present. Pioneer "Old Buxton" with heart and soul of harmony is a very valuable musical conductor. Marching is brisk. Three series of callisthenics were ably performed. Through the action of the Conductor, Mr. Wood, and his officers, the B.S.L.U. will benefit by their membership to the Union. The Council will be proud to welcome them once again. A Lyceum that is a real live wire.

April 17th. Onward, Hooper Street, Oldham. 19 present. 10-45 a.m. session. Conductor, Miss Finch. Musical Conductor, Joe Allison. Mr. Stansfield is a most encouraging leader to the young. Miss Thorpe also plays an active part. This Lyceum is now considering the question of membership with the B.S.L.U. May the time come when we can claim closer union and firmer ground.

April 17th. Lyon Street, Shaw. Afternoon Session, 2 p.m., 23 present. Conductor, Mr. R. Ellidge. Musical Conductor, Mr. J. McCone. A good Session. Singing, reading, marching and callisthenics are a very pleasing feature indeed. The conduct is good. The Church is in membership with the S.N.U. and I once again appealed to Shaw Lyceum and its officers to come into union and membership with the B.S.L.U., and in so doing enjoy the fuller facilities which none that the Union can give. "Unity is strength." Solidarity is general responsibilities.

H. SHAW, D.V.

The mind in its own place and in itself can make a heaven of hell, a hell of heaven.—MILTON.

Let man know his worth, and keep things under his feet.

District Council Reports.

COVENTRY AND DISTRICT.

The Annual General Meeting was held at Broadgate Lyceum Church, Rugby, Nuneaton, Stoke, Cox Street, Bull Street, and Broad Street Lyceums were represented.

The officers elected were:—President, Mr. Coe; Secretary, Mr. Burrows; Treasurer, Miss Bull; Auditors, Mr. Brierley and Mr. Watler; D.V., Mr. Lurman.

H. B. BURROWS, Sec.

NOTTINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

On April 17th, in the Mechanics' Hall, Nottingham, the presentation of the Annie Gregg Memorial Silver Shield took place. Mr. R. Slater, President, was the Conductor. 14 Lyceums in the district had taken part in the Competition and all were well represented. Mr. Slater extended a hearty welcome to all members and friends. No. 4 B.S.L.U. hymn sheet was used. After the opening hymn and the invocation, given by Mrs. Sheldon, of Ripley Lyceum, the Conductor referred in reverent terms to the passing of our dear friend and co-worker, Mr. Knott. All present paid their respects to the memory of him and expressed their deep sympathy with Mrs. Knott for the physical loss of her dear husband.

The S.C.R. was taken by the Conductor of Derby Lyceum. Suitable comments were made by him. Mr. L. Shipley, Conductor, Sherwood Street Lyceum, conducted the M.R. Helpful comments were made. Recitation by a Sutton Lyceumist, "What I Live For."

The principal event for which the meeting had been called took place at this point. The Secretary reported a record entry and complimented all those taking part for the splendid spirit which they had shown during the competition. The result declared was:—Sutton, 82½ marks; Lincoln, Midland, 80; Notts, Mechanics' Hall, 77½; Eastwood, 77½; East Kirkby, 77; Ripley, 75½; Hucknall, 75; Beaconsfield Street, 73; Derby, 70½; Nottingham Prog., 68½; Sherwood Street, 65½; Stapleford, 65½; Beeston, 63½; Mansfield, 62.

Mr. T. W. Marsters, who had been invited by the E.C. to make the presentation, recalled the fact that the Council had been in active service for 22 years. He was pleased that some of the old brigade were still carrying on. When the Council first commenced there were five Lyceums affiliated; now we have 17 Lyceums in active membership. He advised the juniors to keep an eye on the fellow just in front and to have a definite ideal in life. He warned the youths and maidens that they were in need of the Lyceum and its training more than they could possibly realise until later on. The seniors he advised to so conduct themselves that the younger members might follow in their footsteps. Their conduct was watched more than they realised. He suitably complimented the winners. Mr. Caldecott, the Assistant Conductor of Sutton Lyceum, replied.

The Silver Bell was awarded to Lincoln Midland Lyceum. A certificate was presented to the holders of the Shield for the past year.

Mr. Slater invited Mrs. J. Reynolds to the platform to join the various Lyceum Conductors. Mrs. Reynolds accepted the invitation and the welcome that was accorded to her by the Lyceumists. She conducted the G.C.R. and gave some helpful remarks.

Joyce Rundall, of East Kirkby, recited "Bubbles." A recitation, entitled "Castles," was rendered by a Lincoln Lyceumist.

Mr. Slater, in his closing remarks, said that we had got the truth, in spite of what others say. He appealed for all to never tire of working for our truth.

The application of Long Eaton Lyceum for membership to the B.S.L.U. was endorsed. A hearty invitation to become active members of the Council is extended to them.

We extend our thanks to the adjudicators, Mrs. Paling and Mr. Orrell, for their valuable services in connection with the competition.

P. FARNATH, Sec.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting was held at West Vale on May 1st, 1932. Present: 12 delegates, 4 officers, 2 associates, and 1 visitor.

Reference was made to the transition of the General Secretary and the Council showed their sympathy by standing silently for two minutes.

The Financial Statement showed a balance in hand of £1 5s. 10d.

The Statistical Returns from various Lyceums showed a decrease in numbers on roll, but an increased average attendance.

Instructions *re* voting were given to the Delegate to the Annual Conference.

The Council endorsed the application form of Marsden Lyceum for membership of the B.S.L.U., and gave their Conductor a cordial welcome to join the D.C.

Open Session was held in the afternoon, conducted by the President, Miss Haigh. Mrs. Mitchell (West Vale) gave the invocation. Mr. W. Burrows took S.C.R. 27, and Mr. Haigh, Mr. Baxter and Mrs. Clay took M.R. 235, while Mr. Ellis took G.C.R. 122.

After the readings the Secretary named the infant child of a former West Vale Lyceumist.

Mr. Baxter conducted marching and callisthenics.

After individual items by two girls, the Session was brought to a close by singing No. 401.

Evening Service was presided over by the President, who also gave the invocation.

Mr. Burrows and Mr. Ellis gave addresses, and Mr. E. Smith then gave clairvoyant descriptions.

The Secretary appealed for the Education Scheme, and gave hearty thanks to West Vale friends for a very happy day.

G. HALLIDAY, Sec.

LEEDS DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Conference will be held on Saturday, June 18th, at Hanover Street, off Commercial Street, Batley, at 3-30 p.m.

Agenda:—Opening Exercises; Invocation; Welcome; President's Address; Roll Call; Minutes; Correspondence; Reports: D.V., L.D.C., U.D.C., B.S.L.U., Field Day Secretary, Treasurer, Silver Bell Progress Scheme; Recommendations for Field Day and Demonstration; Associates; Open Council; Date and Place of next Meeting; Votes of Thanks to local friends.

This Conference is of vital importance to Lyceums. See that your Lyceum is fully represented.

All Associates cordially invited. Tea provided at a reasonable cost.

A. W. HARDING, Sec.

The Annual Field Day and Demonstration will be held at Dewsbury on July 9th, 1932. We cordially invite Lyceumists and Lyceums from other District Councils to join us and make this Demonstration a Red Letter Day.

Tea for children 7d.; for adults 10d. if ordered not later than Monday, July 4th. After this date, adults 1s. A special tea can be ordered at 1s. 6d. per head. Souvenirs, 2d. each. All communications in connection with our Demonstration must be made to Mrs. Greenwood, 4, Trinity Buildings, Ashworth Road, Dewsbury.

MR. WAINWRIGHT, President.

MRS. GREENWOOD, Field Day Secretary.

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Meeting of the M. & S. L.D.C. was held on Saturday, May 7th, in the Longsight Lyceum, Shepley Street, commencing at 3-5 p.m.

Mr. J. E. Hart was in the Chair.

Roll: E.C. 5, Delegates 23, Lyceums 16, Associates 2, Visitors 1. Total 31.

Minutes were passed and adopted.

Correspondence was accepted. Arising: It was agreed that the appointment of a Judge for the Annual Sports be left to the Sports Committee.

The Manchester and District Group invited the Council to appoint a Fraternal Delegate to its meetings. Mr. J. E. Hart was duly appointed.

REPORTS. D.V. and A.D.V. were given by Mrs. Taylor, Miss Ellis and Mrs. Jones. They showed steady progress in the 10 Lyceums visited during the quarter. Report accepted.

POOLING SCHEME. Secretary reported that a very satisfactory season had been completed. The scheme has fulfilled the established purpose by covering the cost of "Full Free Representation to the Annual Conference." The Scheme is still financially sound, showing an income of £31 3s. 2d., and Expenditure, including the disbursement for Conference expenses, £21 1s. 2½d., leaving the substantial balance of £10 1s. 11½d. to carry forward into the following season's account.

The B.S.L.U. Constitution and Bye-Laws have been dis-

cussed and recommendations for its amendment offered and accepted by the Council.

The Secretary appealed to the few Lyceums not in the Pool to seriously consider the advisability of joining in order to make the scheme a 100% effort. Report accepted.

E.C. The E.C. reported the activities of the quarter, dealing mainly with the organisation of the 2nd Annual Sports; Open Sessions Rota Scheme, to avoid clashing of Sessions; Liberty Group Speakers' List. The following Lyceumists are now available for conducting Liberty Groups: Messrs. Marks, Hart, Grayson, Barnett, Parker, Ely, Taylor, Bentley. (Others who are willing please forward name and address to Secretary.) All reports were adopted.

B.S.L.U. CONFERENCE. Delegates were given full instructions on all matters on the Agenda and Reports.

A vote of thanks was given for the local hospitality and carried with acclamation.

OPEN COUNCIL. Stretford Lyceum offered their Lyceum for the E.C. to conduct a Mass Session on the most convenient date.

The next meeting will be held on Sept. 3rd in the Cheetham Hill Lyceum.

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

NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.

The N.E.L. L.D.C. held their Quarterly Meeting at Accrington, Argyle Street, on May 7th, at 3-40 p.m.

Mr. C. T. Batley presided, and was supported by Miss M. E. Lawton, Mr. R. Latham, Mr. Wood and Mr. J. Shuttleworth. The Minutes were accepted and adopted.

Out of the 40 letters dealt with in correspondence, the Secretary reported the M.C. ruling regarding the question of Christian Spiritualist Lyceums, after which the Morecambe application was endorsed.

It was agreed that the D.Cs. who had contributed to the £2,000 ask Lyceums to empower Conference representatives to move the withdrawal of separate accounts standing in their names, failing the successful passing of the motion to close this Fund.

We express our appreciation of the services rendered to the Union by Miss Elliott and Mrs. Mills, during the General Secretary's illness.

The District Visitor's report was accepted and it was agreed that the same be printed in the LYCEUM BANNER.

Conference matters were dealt with and Parliamentary Rules of Order were quoted.

It was suggested that the N.E.L.D.C. meet the Bolton L.D.C. in the event of Mr. Shuttleworth being elected to office in the Union, and discuss the matter of Area Representative frankly.

The next meeting of the Council is to be arranged at Preston, Moor Lane, on August 27th, 1932.

Greetings were given from Mr. W. Mason, who stated that the N.E. Lancashire L.D.C. was inaugurated in Accrington.

J.S., Sec.

TEES-SIDE DISTRICT.

The Quarterly Conference of this Council took place at the Billingham Lyceum on Sunday, 8th May, 1932. In addition to the usual routine business the following items were dealt with:—

The Resignation of the Stockton (Cecil Street) Lyceum from the Council was accepted.

Mr. E. Platt has resigned his position of Treasurer, on his removal to Chesterfield. The Council thanks Mr. Platts for his excellent services. Nominations are required for the vacant position.

A standing tribute was paid to arisen workers: Mr. G. F. Knott, General Secretary, B.S.L.U., and Mr. Geo. Nellist late E.C. member for Middlesbrough (Grange Road).

It was agreed that E.C. Meetings be centralised at Stockton or Darlington, arrangements to be left to the E.C.

Future expenses of E.C. Representatives are to be pooled.

The Delegate to the B.S.L.U. Annual Conference was instructed to vote against any increase in Affiliation Fees, other business being left to the Delegates' discretion.

In the afternoon a Lyceum Session was conducted by the Council Secretary, assisted by various members of the Council. Greetings were received from Darlington (Ever Welcome); Shildon; West Hartlepool (Star of Progress), and (Pioneer's Progressive); Redcar; South Bank; Middlesbrough (Grange Road) and (Wilson Street); Grangetown; Stockton (Brunswick Street) and Billingham. Greetings were also received from Chester, per Mr. Colbourne. After the Session an open discus-

sion was participated in by a good gathering. Time was all too short for everyone to air their views, nevertheless the time taken was very profitable. The evening services were conducted by members of the Council, under the chairmanship of the Council President, Mrs. E. M. Ainsworth. Undoubtedly the visit of the Tees-side D.C., on its first occasion to Billingham, was very successful and of mutual benefit.

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.

CARDIFF, Park Grove.—On the evening of Sunday, April 17th, we held an interesting and enjoyable session, at which the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Tucker was given the earthly name of Raymond, and the spirit name of "Victor." We are pleased to note that the entire family are Lyceumists. In addition to our ordinary session programme we had individual items. Pearls were greatly appreciated by the congregation.—G. Dunn, Sec.

LONDON, North.—"The Desert Flower" was presented by North London Lyceum at the N.L.S.A. Church, 425, Hornsey Road, N.19, on Saturday, April 30th, to a well-filled Hall.

It is naturally difficult to refer to one's own Lyceum when mentioning its achievements, but it can be freely said that every artiste excelled. The whole evening's performance was punctuated with applause from beginning to end, and the audience was quick to show its appreciation of every point, manifesting great enthusiasm at the finish, when the Church Secretary, Mr. Losack, warmly complimented all concerned: the author, the artistes, Miss Whorlow (who designed most of the costumes), Mrs. W. W. Drinkwater (who was the recipient of a lovely bouquet from the cast, in recognition of her invaluable assistance of many months), those who assisted in dressing the children, and Messrs. Brooke and Cover, for the admirable lighting effects.

An immediate request was made for a repeat performance, which it is hoped will be accomplished in the autumn. Meanwhile, will any Lyceum who would care for assistance by a performance of the play, communicate with Mr. W. W. Drinkwater, 21, Thane Villas, who will make all arrangements?—W.W.D.

NEWCASTLE, Rye Hill.—On April 24th we held a naming service on the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Finley. Earthly name "Audrey," spirit name "Peace." The ceremony was performed with Lilies of the Valley by our Conductor, Mrs. Price.—A. Richardson, Sec.

LYCEUM REPORTS.

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

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

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

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

RULE 4.—All Reports must reach this Office not later than June 22nd to ensure insertion in the July issue.

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

ACCRINGTON, Argyle Street.—Through the passing of our Lyceumist, Tom Bradshaw, aged 17 years, a Memorial Service was held in place of our Session. It was conducted by Mr. Taylor, A.N.S.C.—J. Chatburn, Sec.

ACCRINGTON, Pearl Street.—On April 3rd we held our Lyceum Anniversary Day. The Open Session was conducted by Mr. Fazackerley. Recitations by Miss Phyllis Edwards, Jean Farnworth, Billie Edwards, Thomas Laycock, Mr. Pollard. Solos by Mrs. Houliker, Mr. A. Taylor, William Crabtree. Duets by W. E. Swift and Billie Edwards; Mr. A. Taylor and W. Crabtree; Phyllis Edwards and Frances Laycock. Quartette by Hilda Neild, Gladys Jenkinson, May Challoner, Margaret

George. Mr. Hopper, of Blackburn, was our speaker for the day. Several greetings were given by Lyceumists. A day well spent with all Lyceumists and friends.—Mrs. Crabtree, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—Open Session, April 3rd. Recitations by Stanley Landreth, Vera Hamilton, Gertie and Florrie Watson, Lilian and Mona Saunders, Edith Winters, Lily Harding, Olwyn Daly, William Barry, Thomas Nicholls; Ernest Kneale, Mr. Taylor. Solos by Gwennie and Muriel Watson, Mrs. and Donald Mars, Eileen Edwards, Miss Thompson, Mr. Groves, Mrs. Harper, Mrs. Harding, Peggy Williams, accompanied on the piano by Mrs. Williams. Pianoforte solo by Mr. Whiteley. Violin solo by Leslie Hamilton. Violin and piano duet by Albert and Miss Thompson. Pearls by Ernest Kneale, Mr. Taylor, Mrs. Mars, Miss Thompson, Edith Winters, Donald Mars.—W. Kneale, Sec.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter Street.—On March 27th we held our 48th Lyceum Anniversary Services. We held an Open Session in the afternoon. The following gave recitations:—Iris Entwistle, C. Raiton, E. Thompson, E. Fish, Joyce Entwistle, E. Holding, E. Livesey, Jean Entwistle. A musical trio by Miss E. A. Riding, Mr. J. Sharples, Master C. Walley. Miss Jenkinson and Mrs. Grime, of Darwen, were our speakers for the day. There were about 100 present. We had an enjoyable time.

On April 16th the Choir and Lyceumists held a Tea Party, followed by an operetta, "Pearl the Fishermidwife." About 220 sat down to tea. The tea and operetta were greatly enjoyed by all.

We regret to report the transition of Miss M. Lee, on March 29th. She was a good Lyceumist.—Mr. T. Wood, Sec.

BURY, King Street.—April 10th, Open Sessions. The E.C. of the Bolton L.D.C. visited our morning Session. We all appreciate the efforts on our behalf. Mr. Charney, President of the D.C., conducted all the sessions. Individual efforts were plentiful and enjoyed by all. Greetings were exchanged with visiting Lyceums.—N. Dean, Sec.

CLECKHEATON.—Open Session, April 3rd, conducted by Mr. Horsley. Several interesting questions were discussed on the Golden Chain Recitation. Connective readings were taken by Jack Wilson, Joyce Sharp, Mrs. Fearnley and Mr. Horsley. Pearls by Eric Walker, Herbert Horsley, Jack Wilson (2), Lily Wilson, Mrs. Hartley, Mrs. Horsley, Gladys Hutton, Mr. Horsley, Mrs. Williams. Recitations by Jack Wilson and Herbert Horsley. Solos by Herbert Horsley, Mr. T. Brooks. No. 379 was sung altogether by request. An enjoyable session was spent.—M. B. Robinson, Sec.

DARLINGTON, Ever Welcome.—The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. Peacock, born on March 24th, has been named in our Lyceum. Another flower for God's garden.—M. Hardy, Sec.

DARWEN.—April 2nd, Lyceum Annual Party and Prize Distribution. Tea was served, followed by the presentation of prizes, and an operetta, "Princess Chrysanthemum," by Lyceumists.

April 3rd, Open Session was well attended.

April 16th, the Junior Liberty Group held an effort for Church Funds.—J. Sutton, Ban. Sec.

DONCASTER, Catherine Street.—We held our Open Session, April 3rd. Conductor, Miss Johnson. Invocation was given by Mrs. Maltby. Callisthenics and marching were smartly done. Pearls and recitations were given by Mary Chalmers, Jean Mottran, Stanley Middleton, Leonard Middleton. We had a very enjoyable Session.—Mrs. Webb, Sec.

EARBY, Greenend Avenue.—Open Session, April 3rd. Songs and recitations by E. Greenhalgh, E. Hancock, O. Wilkins, G. Blackburn, J. Hancock, R. Hancock, H. Etherington, A. Blackburn, D. Clough, L. Etherington, Mr. Millican, T. Hancock, G. Morby, E. Fox, W. Hancock. An enjoyable Session was spent.—A. G. Morby, Sec.

EARBY, Onward.—Open Session, April 2nd. Recitations were well rendered by Ronnie Clough, Dennis Seddon, Donald Seddon, Nancy and Kathleen Hodkinson, Elsie and Irene Cryer, Vera Fellows, Edna Wellock and Elsie Clark. Songs by Dennis Seddon, Elsie Clark, Marion Nicol and Marjorie Pilkington. We had a very good session.—Mrs. J. W. Clark, Sec.

EDINBURGH, Gayfield Square.—At our Open Sessions on April 3rd recitations were given by Bessie Houston, Minnie Andrews, Jim Houston, Alex. Andrews, Jack and Ronald Forbes, Miss Doris Stephenson and Mrs. Rutherford. At the

naming ceremony at which Mrs. Glenn officiated in an impressive manner the granddaughter of two of our oldest members was christened "Margaret Lawrence," her spirit name being "Sylvia."—J. Andrews, Sec.

FLEETWOOD.—On March 27th we had a very pleasant and interesting ceremony, in the form of a double christening, conducted by Mr. Batley, when the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Peacock was given the name of Doreen May, spirit name "Hope," and the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Spencer was given the name of Kathleen Agnes, spirit name "Peace."

Open Session, April 3rd. Recitations by Doris Parkinson, Margaret Gibson, Mona Hague, Dorothy and Ruth Harris, and Tom Wright. Duets by Laura Mather and Marie Dews, Ruth Harris and Kathleen Hague, Doris Parkinson and Minnie Wright, Kertha Mirton and Brenda Mayhew, Dorothy Harris and Kathleen Hague. Trio by Willie Gibson, John Reeve and Eric Horan.

We regret to report the passing to the Higher Life, on April 3rd, of one of our oldest Lyceumists, Mr. William Hulland, aged 80 years.—L. Vollans, Sec.

HOLLINWOOD, Byrom Street.—On Good Friday and Easter Saturday we had rambles to Wessendale Valley and Boggart Hole Clough. A large number joined in, and, being favoured with fine weather, everyone had a real good time.—E. Snape, Sec.

HYDE, George Street.—March 24th was our Lyceum Anniversary and Prize Distribution. The afternoon session was well conducted and enjoyed by all.

The evening session had to be curtailed owing to so many prizes being distributed. His Worship the Mayor, Alderman A. Winterbottom, presented 51 prizes. This is the first time we have been honoured by so distinguished a person. A vote of thanks was cordially extended to the Mayor, who responded very nicely.—N. Cartwright, Sec.

LANCASTER, Alliance.—April 3rd, Lyceum Sunday. Songs and recitations were given by Dorothy Pickup, Mary Liver, Barbara Walling, Harold Dennison, Rene Aldren, Doris Capstick, Ronald Fox, Eva Whitfield, Iris Crossley, James Eyres, Roy Kay, Edith Crossley, Lily Atkinson, Eric Crossley, Raymond Dennison, Ada Aldren, Mrs. Hanson, Mrs. Dennison, and a solo by Mrs. Wilson, one of the oldest Lyceumists, who is over 60 years of age. The Session was enjoyed by all, both morning and afternoon.—M. Blackwell, Sec.

LANCASTER, Bulk Road.—On April 3rd we held our Open Session. The following made it enjoyable:—G. Partridge, M. Bleasdale, E. Low, D. Kirk, W. Partridge, Mr. Kirk.—M. Bowskill, Sec.

LONDON, Stratford, Idmiston Road.—Surprise Session, April 3rd. Our Conductor, Mrs. West, provided a feast of surprises which were thoroughly enjoyed by a large company. The most enjoyable item, and one which will ever be remembered, was an address, through Miss Golbourn, a trance medium, by a Liberty Group member of a Summerland Lyceum—North Point. A welcome visitor, Miss Pennington, District Visitor, also contributed. The usual exercises were carried through. More leaders are urgently required if progress is to be maintained.—R. H. Bates, Sec.

LONDON, Tottenham and Edmonton.—On March 27th we held our Anniversary. Two of the Council members visited us and a very happy time was spent together.—Ivy Holloway, Sess. Sec.

MACCLESFIELD.—Quite a number of interesting events have taken place during the last month. First we had Mr. Dransfield, on March 20th, presenting the Silver Bell, and also Mr. Ennion, the District Visitor, accompanied by his wife and mother. A very interesting session. On Good Friday a number of the elder Lyceumists joined Councillor Potts in a ramble and afterwards had tea in Church.

On Easter Sunday the Lyceumists gave the Secretary (Mrs. Rushton) a surprise in presenting to her a lovely cut crystal vase, with flowers, to celebrate her 50 years' connection. Mr. Wiltshire, the oldest Lyceumist, made the presentation.

On Easter Wednesday a Social and Dance, arranged by the elder Lyceumists, was both enjoyable and very successful. The refreshments, which they had begged, were served by the ladies of the Church Committee. At all the Sessions we have sent our thoughts to our Union Secretary.—Hannah Rushton, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Droylsden.—A Naming Ceremony was conducted on April 3rd by Mrs. Lomas, of Stalybridge. The

child is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ellison. Mrs. Ellison's mother is an old Lyceumist. The child was given the earthly name of Audrey and spirit name "Sunbeam." A beautiful and impressive service.—Alfred Baker, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Maskell Street.—As our Lyceum is called "Progressive," we feel conscientiously that we are doing our best to maintain our good name. With co-operation and individual efforts we shall accomplish our desires. It is pleasing to note that our male members are growing in numbers. Why not the ladies?

In memory of our late General Secretary, Mr. G. F. Knott, we held a Memorial Session on April 17th. It was also our Group Sunday, conducted by Mr. R. W. Marks, B.S.L.U. His subject was "Personal Responsibility," and it made all present think hard. We are endeavouring to make our Group Sundays a stimulant to our progression and cordially invite all friends to attend.—S. Sharp, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Moss Side.—Open Session, April 3rd. Conductor, Miss Moulson. We were pleased to have with us the President, Secretary, and D.V. of the Manchester and Salford L.D.C.; also Mr. and Mrs. Marks and Miss Ashton. We had 12 Lyceums represented and we had a large number present. The efforts of the children were splendid. We had a very happy session.

We regret to report the passing of one of our Lyceumists, Mr. George Walker, a former President of our Church. Another good worker passed to Higher Service.—L. Moulson.

MANCHESTER, Newton Heath.—Our Tuesday evening socials are proving a success with our adult Lyceumists and Church members.

The flowers for April have been given by Mr. Edwards, Mrs. Ashton, Mr. J. Taylor, Misses Shaw and Watson, to whom our best thanks are given.

Our Lyceumists are indeed sorry to hear of Mr. Knott's passing into spirit, and trust he may soon be able to carry on the splendid work on behalf of the children.—Fannie Shaw, Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH, Grange Road.—April 3rd we held our Open Session. Pearls and recitations good. No solos or duets. The junior members of the Lyceum responded well, but no adult members took part in the Session.

We welcomed into our Lyceum the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Watson, who received the names John Joseph, spirit name "Messenger." Mrs. Puckrin officiated.—M. Harrison, A.N.S.C., Sec.

MIDDLETON, Old Hall Street.—Open Session was held April 17th. It was very much enjoyed by all. Recitations, solos and a duet were suitably rendered. Three Lyceums were represented.—Mrs. S. Moorcroft, Con.

OLDHAM, Central.—On March 27th we held our Church Anniversary. Speakers were Mrs. Tovey, Mr. Gale and Mr. Woods. A duet was sung by Mrs. J. Woods and Mr. H. Clegg, the two oldest members of the Church.—Mrs. H. Clegg, Sec.

RYDE, Belvedere Hall.—Special Session April 10th, to welcome Mrs. Hoskins, of Bristol. Conductor, Mr. O. Perkis. Subject, "Children in Spirit Life," was given by Mrs. Hole, illustrated by Mrs. Hoskins and Mrs. Perkis, who related personal experiences proving the truth of the subject. G.C.R. 148 was explained by Pearl Hopkins. Principles by Joan Hole. Lyceumists' Pledge by Dorothy Jackson. A very happy afternoon. We look forward to our May Anniversary Service and the day following, when we hold a tea and social. Southern Lyceumists are cordially invited to either or both.—Annie Hole, Sec.

SOUTHAMPTON.—On April 3rd we had our monthly Open Session. It was very pleasing to see the juniors so eager to give their efforts. Recitations were given by Marion McKenzie, Marie Jones, Barbara Buck, Harry Thomas, Marjorie and Thelma Johnson, Audrey Weaver, Beryl Le Ray, Fay Jones, Billy Johnson, Gordon Long, Eileen Saunders, Billy Stubbles and Christina Pitters; Ena Clover and Marie Jones sang a duet. Frank Long rendered a violin solo and Joan a pianoforte solo. A very harmonious Session.—E. W. Long, Sec.

SOUTHEND AND WESTCLIFF.—On March 13th we held our Anniversary, under the conductorship of Miss E. Habgood. Mr. Bell was Chairman. The morning service commenced with the Opening Salutation by Queenie Banham and the Invocation by Catherine Earl. Our soloist for the day was Mrs. Bell. Uncle Bert gave an interesting and instructive address.

At the afternoon session the official welcome was arranged by the Lyceum Guild. The verses were written by Mr. Shackell

and Mr. Stroud. The Guild presented a stand of flowering hyacinths to the Lyceum. Many pearls were explained. Individual efforts included songs and recitations. The three series of callisthenics were done.

In the evening the opening salutation was by Yvonne Osbourne and the invocation by Peggy Shackell. Harold Osbourne recited the Principles of Spiritualism and the Lyceum sang "Open my Eyes." Short addresses by two Lyceumists, Ronald Bradstock and Mr. Shackell. Uncle Bert addressed the assembly. Six Lyceumists rendered "Bless this House" beautifully. Our thanks are due to the Church Committee, who allowed the Lyceum to conduct both services, and to all friends who helped to make it a success.—Norman Parkinson, Sec.

SOWERBY BRIDGE.—Open Session, April 3rd, conducted by Mr. F. Sutcliffe. We were pleased to have a visit from the Conductor of Queen's Road Lyceum, who gave us the Lyceum greetings. Recitations were given by Herbert Sutcliffe and Mary Holt.—Miss F. M. Lees, Sec.

STOCKPORT, Central.—April 3rd we held our Open Session, conducted by Mr. Ennion. Readings, marching and callisthenics were very good. Greetings were given from Heaton Norris Lyceum, and our Conductor suitably replied. The evening service was taken by several Lyceumists, and was in the form of a Session, excluding marching and callisthenics. The S.C.R., M.R., and G.C.R. were very well explained by various Lyceumists. Mrs. H. Ennion rendered a solo. Miss Reese gave a few clairvoyant delineations. An enjoyable day was spent by all.—E. Brown, Sec.

WALSALL, Goodall Street.—March 27th. Conductor, Mrs. A. Hughes. An interesting event was that Mrs. Greenwood, of Hebden Bridge, the speaker for the day, named the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Hollinshead, earthly name John, spirit name "Valiant." Good Session.

April 3rd, Open Session. Conductor, Mr. Moylan. Recitations and pearls were excellent.—W. Hollinshead, Banner Sec.

WEST MELTON.—March 12th, Prize Distribution. 60 Lyceumists received prizes and a free tea. Fairy plays were given, entitled "Butterfly Queen" and "The Duchess and the Dragon." Mr. S. Webb, of Doncaster, distributed the prizes. Everybody enjoyed themselves.—Mrs. Hirst, Sec.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—April 3rd, Open Session was conducted by Vera Smith, aged 14. All efforts were thoroughly enjoyed. Our Lyceum extends fraternal greetings to everyone.—Paul Warrilow, Sec.

The above Reports were crowded out of last issue.—(ED.)

EDINBURGH, Gayfield Square.—On May 1st we held our Open Session. Recitations by Alison Munro, Minnie Andrews, Bertie Mackie, Harry Lawrence, Alex Lawrence, Alex Andrews, Jim Houston, Jack and Ronald Forbes, and Mrs. Rutherford. Songs by Bessie Houston, Mrs. Mackie and Miss Rutherford. A happy afternoon.—Jean Andrews, Sec.

FLEETWOOD.—We held our Open Session on May 1st. Recitations by Marie Dews and Mona Hague. Duets by Jessie Wood and Irene Roscow; Kathleen Hague and Dorothy Harris; Bertha Morton and Marie Dews; solo by Mona Hague. Trio by Doris Parkinson, Minnie Wright and Ruth Harris; Mary Gibson, Charlotte Robbin and Irene Watkins; John Reeve, Eric Horan and Dan Wright. Willie Gibson and Fred Williams sang "Seeds of Promise." There was a good number of pearls.—L. Vollans, Sec.

HEMSWORTH.—On Saturday, April 23rd, Mr. Colman conducted the funeral of our Librarian, Wilfred Walsh, aged 17 years.

On April 24th we held our Open Session, conducted by Mrs. Bates. Special hymns were sung. Pearls and recitations were said. Duet by I. Walker and E. Lunn. Mr., Mrs. and Miss Froud sang "Ring the Bell Softly."

A service was held in the evening to the memory of Wilfred Walsh, Baby Harper, the Mother of two Lyceumists, and our dear old friend, Mr. Richards. Our sympathy goes to all our friends in the loss of their loved ones. Our loss, their gain.—Mrs. Bates, Sec.

LANCASTER, Bulk Road.—On April 27th Mrs. Townley named the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hutton. Earthly name "Patricia," spirit name "Sunbeam." A very pleasing Session.—M. Bowskill, Sec.

LEICESTER, Rupert Street.—May 1st we had our Anniversary Services, when Mrs. Paling, of Beeston, gave two good addresses. Special singing by the scholars. Everyone did their best to make it a success.—Mr. J. Wicks, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Harpurhey, Sharston Street.—April 24th. Open Session, conducted by Mr. Dennison. Recitations by the children were very good. Good attendance by members and friends. Eight Lyceums were represented. Social every Wednesday evening, 8 p.m.—J. Nuttall, Lit. Sec.

MANCHESTER, Newton Heath.—On Friday, May 20th, about 80 Lyceumists and friends had their Annual Trip to New Brighton. In spite of the showers, we spent a real good time. We arrived home tired, but happy.—Fanny Shaw, Sec.

MORECAMBE.—A pleasing ceremony took place at the Church on Sunday, May 15th, when Mr. Young, of Leeds, unveiled a beautiful white Satin Banner, hand painted and suitably inscribed. The Banner was presented to the Lyceum by Mrs. Bradshaw, of Birmingham, late of Morecambe. Mr. Moores, Conductor, thanked Mrs. Bradshaw on behalf of the Lyceum.

RYDE (sponsored by Portsmouth Temple Lyceum).—April 3rd, Prize Distribution. A special invitation had been given to Mrs. Hayward (Conductor, Portsmouth Lyceum) to present our prizes, which were awarded to Joan Bell, Joan Heapey, Dorothy Perkis, Eileen Perkis, Tony Perkis, Alan Gregory. After singing "Heart Flowers," a young Lyceumist presented a bouquet of spring flowers to Mrs. Hayward, expressing the love of all the members. Several visitors were present and a happy Session was spent.

May 6th, Social at Southlands Hall. Over 60 were present and joined in games and dancing. Our effort proved a great success. Thanks to all workers.—E. Oak, Sec.

SCUNTHORPE.—May 7th and 8th, Lyceum week-end. Saturday, May 7th, we had an Incense Seance, the speaker being Mr. Totty, of Dodworth, who also conducted the Sunday services.

On Monday we had a gramophone record by Mrs. Meurig Morris. Discussion took place. This ended a spiritual and financial week-end.—Ivy Sprakes, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—Our Annual Whitsuntide Treat was held on Whit-Monday at Little Matlock. We had a special car for conveyance, and, on arrival, coffee and buns were served. Games followed, and then tea. Unfortunately, Jupiter Pluvius rather marred the latter portion of the day, and consequently the sports could not be held.—J. Le Noury, A.N.S.C., Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Heeley, Gifford Road.—Open Session, April 3rd. A good attendance and session. Individual items by Hilda Atkin, Teresa, Jessie and Alfred Beetson, Edna and Eric Barber, Lydia Field, Enid, Olive, Wm. and Albert Nutt, Vincent Porter, Thelma, Jean and Madge Turton, Mary Fox.—H. Truelove, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Heeley, Woodseats.—Open Session, May 1st, conducted by Mr. Round. Recitations by Audrey and Joyce Fox, Freda Lake, Joan Morgan, Mary Oldham, Ivy Cartledge, Mabel Rhodes, Ronald Yellops, George Skelly, Mr. Romanes. Pianoforte solos by Joan Eaton, Robert Yellops and Billie Wilkinson.—Miss E. Jefferson, Sec.

WAKEFIELD.—On Sunday, May 8th, we held our Lyceum Session, during which an interesting ceremony took place. Mr. Tweedale named the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gibson. Earthly name Edna, spirit name "Iris."—D. Harding, Sec.

WESTHOUGHTON.—April 24th, Open Session. Conductor, Mrs. Pomfret. The attendance was good. Solos were given by Miss N. Farrimond, Miss Lintot, Mr. Gorse. At the evening session the Lyceum sang No. 90 in the "Manual," in memory of Mr. Knott. A good time was spent together.—L. Woodward, Sec.

WOLVERHAMPTON, Drummond Street.—Open Session, May 1st. J. Hendley, aged 10, conducted in a very able manner. Pearls, recitations and solos made the session a success.—Paul Warrilow, Sec.

We regret that many reports are crowded out and will appear in the next issue.—(ED.)