

THE LYCEUM BANNER

No. 497. Vol. XLII.

JULY, 1932.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

A PRAYER.

Father, pour on us Thy blessing,
Ere our homeward path we tread;
Keep us all within Thy shelter,
Give us, Lord, our daily bread.
Let our sins be all forgiven,
Teach us how to come to Thee
Unafraid, like children coming
To an earthly parent's knee.
Give us also strength and courage
So to face the ills of life,
That we never fall discouraged,
Never falter in the strife.
But by ever pressing onward,
Helping others day by day;
We may come strengthened, perfected,
At Thy feet to kneel and pray.
So when life draws near its evening,
And death's shadows round us creep,
Softly in Thy love abiding,
Gently we may fall asleep.

M. Irene Whitehead.

Our Future.

The Lyceum Union has always prided itself upon the fact that it ranks amongst the progressive movements of modern times. During the past forty years, several attempts have been made to raise the dignity of the movement to the lofty standard it should attain; but never has there been such an opportunity as the one offered at our recent conference, that of joining forces with the Spiritualist National Union under the Britten Memorial Trust.

The Management Committee were empowered to take action, and if necessary, to enter into an agreement for centralising the Union's Headquarters. This has been done. A modern suite of offices has been obtained, wherein the activities of the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. will be housed. Again we are to realise that this further step in the line of "Progress" will incur a greater expenditure than what we are accustomed to. Yet, we must have a Centre worthy of the "Dignity of an Educational Movement." Mrs. Emma Hardinge Brittain played a very important part in the early struggles of the Lyceum Movement, and we owe much to her, who, along with Mr. Harry Kersey and Alfred Kitson, compiled our Lyceum Manual. The working of the spirit people is often very intricate, and we feel that they have been largely responsible in helping to shape the "Destiny of Our Future."

The steps of progress are essentially slow, but there often evolves a steady growth and a wider expansion of the Moral, Intellectual and Spiritual Ideals of every thought and phase of Life. Thus, we are emerging out of deeper depths on to higher heights of activity that will enable the Custodians of the Child's welfare to institute and provide those facilities essential to modern

methods of Education, and extend the business side of the Union on a much larger scale, and we hope, sounder basis. There is a period in the life of every organisation when it must undergo changes in its methods and practices, to bring itself in alignment with up-to-date and progressive systems; yet, keeping in view the unchanging principle governing our Institution,—that of training the Child-mind in Spiritual Truths. Each successive year brings some new venture and increases the work in the various departments. Every experience comes to us as a challenge, thus the B.S.L.U. is faced with a new experience which I believe will be the turning point in its history, and bring about the desired and long cherished hopes of those who have laboured faithfully and well.

"Nothing is impossible to a willing heart."

The future, to most of us, is a mystery, still we are filled with the spirit of anticipation, "That all will be well." If we act and live in the present, the past only exists as a guide for us, for the future we need only prepare. Day by day, year by year, we must live up to the most exact requirements of the Union's needs. If we set out now to do our tasks thoroughly and well, to meet and dispose of all situations fairly and with decision, then the future need have no fears. We are appealing to every Lyceumist to be ready to join in the steady march of Progress that will lead our movement into a safe harbour. Much has yet to be accomplished, and we know you are willing to serve, for "Progress comes through Service."

Our new offices are in keeping with modern times. If we are to maintain that Dignity, that has often formed the greater part of the discussions in our Conferences when viewing

"OUR FUTURE"

at least £150 will be required to make complete the furnishings and other costs that will be incurred. If every Lyceum contributed "Ten Shillings," it would meet the present demands. "Our Future" depends on "You!"

It will not be an exact knowledge of the future that we shall gain, we shall have the knowledge that we are able to a great extent to "Control the Future."

EDITH ELLIOTT.

The quickest way to get rid of fear and worry is to do some unaccustomed physical action. Do, and leaving thinking alone for a while, until the nervous tension is relaxed.

Anon.

Only the waters which in perfect stillness lie
Give back an undistorted image to the sky.

Before the eyes of men let duly shine thy light,
But ever let thy life's best part be out of sight.

Archbishop Trench.



FOR HOME AND OVERSEAS.

My Dear Boys and Girls,

I expect you have all noticed a little extension to the heading of my letter, "For Home and Overseas." Although this alteration was made last month, it was after my letter was written. Therefore I want to give a little explanation and introduce myself to my nephews and nieces overseas. Some time ago my friend, Uncle Sam (not an American by the way) started to write letters to the boys and girls overseas, but owing to business pressure was unable to continue the good work. Uncle Sam and I were great friends, and I was hoping to see him restart these letters, but as he has not been able to do so, I have arranged with the Editor to carry on this Section in conjunction with this page.

We all want the Lyceumists Overseas, young and old, to feel they have a link with us at home, and that we are all one big family. I am looking forward to some interesting letters from Timbuctoo, Walabaloo, Hookypoo, and other centres. After a few months of this new venture, should I occasionally break out into some unknown language my boys and girls at home must not be surprised.

Aeroplanes, Steamships and Railways have speeded up their running time to bring us nearer to each other by time, now let this effort add a yet closer link of fraternity between us.

I await results with great expectations. This month I want to take you with me on a hiking crusade. Pretending we have packed our haversacks with a good supply of provisions for the journey, we set off on our tour dressed in shorts and blazers, carrying walking sticks, just looking it. "A hiking we will go." We go from Dunnowhere to Somewhere else, because I want to take you through the woods at the top of the hill.

My main object is to talk to you about trees. Here we are just entering the woods, Oh dear, Oh dear O' Me, has anyone thought to bring a needle and cotton, there's been a little accident. One of our number evidently has mistaken hiking for climbing Mount Everest. He's up in the tree over there, but when he comes down, "what will mother say." Again my last month's proverb comes into play, "A stitch in time saves nine."

What a wonderful lot of trees I can see around me; have you ever thought about them as being amongst the most useful gifts nature has provided us with. There's a fine old oak; only a few years ago, before we got our steel ships, it was mainly from these trees that our ships were made, which linked us with our friends across the seas.

When you boys read of those great adventures of sea pirates, you must remember the oak tree played its part in carrying them from cave to cave. I see one of our girls has brought her lunch in a basket. I wonder if she knows that she must thank the willow tree for its twigs from which her basket was made.

Now who would like a nice apple before we start off again. There's an orchard just a little way back, trees loaded with apples and plums. Refreshment provided as we hike, chairs too provided for a rest by the way, let's just examine them and see of what wood they are made. Why its beech, the tree which grows about sixty feet high. Having refreshed ourselves we will continue on our journey. On the right is the mansion where Lord and Lady Thingamebob reside. The gardener is sweeping the lawn with a broom made from the twigs of the birch tree.

I think we will just walk along the avenue on the left for a little way, because it is a picture of bloom: the may, laburnum, and chestnut, what a sight. Ah, this is a dead end road, and we cannot get through the hedge because it is of holly trees, the finest barrier one could wish for.

We must now start to make tracks for home. We will take the same road that that lorry stacked up with packing cases is taking. Those cases by the way were made from the wood of the poplar tree.

Just a glance at our guide book to make certain we are on the right track; the pictures in this book are printed from wood blocks, the wood provided from the boxtree; the same wood as your school rulers or tool handles are usually made of.

Back again to our starting point. How wonderful Treeland is, and we have only seen but a few trees. God's great gift in nature which we use in one form or another at every turn of our daily lives.

I hope this simple way of illustrating their mission will help us appreciate the country in which we live more and more every day.

ANSWERS TO PUZZLE NO. 182.

1. Health is Wealth.
2. Deeds not Words.
3. Ladder of Light.
4. Be kind to others.
5. Stand for the right.

PUZZLE 183. Spring.

Congratulations to those who sent correct answers.

PUZZLE NO. 184. Overseas Lyceums Muddled.

RAGYLCA DDNNEUI
GIELNNWOT. NIGENIWP
SEURGJNNBAHO

PUZZLE NO. 185. Writers in the Manuals (First and last Letters).

K N, K Y, E . . . T,
D . . . S, T N, D . . . N

Send your letters and replies addressed to Uncle Bert, Ruberrondo, 126, Woodlands Road, Isleworth, Middlesex.

The Holidays will soon be here now, and those of you who take snaps will not forget I make a collection of photographs of Lyceums, Lyceumists. I have divided this collection into two sections, one London, one Midlands and the North. Now I want an Overseas section, I know you will help me.

With love,
UNCLE BERT.

What the best and wisest parent wants for his own child, that must the community want for all its children.

Our Guild.

MOTTO—"We live to learn and learn to live."

My dear Fellow-Lyceumists,—

Those of you who were present at Conference and those of you who have read the July BANNER will be fully aware of the fact that Conference decided to allow the Guild to be revived and appointed me Guild Leader.

So I am taking this opportunity of giving you some idea of the Guild—its aims and its objects, and what you have to do to become Guild Members.

For the sake of those who are new to Lyceum work, or who have never before been interested in the Education Scheme, I will just state the main facts which you others no doubt know so well. "Our Guild," as we know it, was inaugurated in February 1920, having grown out of the Bluebell Guild, which, to all appearances, had outlived its usefulness. Miss Nellie Kitson, B.A., organised it, hoping that it would be a *real* help to Lyceums by encouraging its members to study, and show the results of their studies by taking the yearly examinations held by the B.S.L.U.

A list of the Objects, Aims and Promises was printed in February and March (1920) BANNERS, and in May followed the first list of Guild members, six in number. From these small beginnings the Guild grew until, in January, 1929, the total number of Guild members was 2,164. Then in August of that year the Guild Leader was promoted to the Higher Life, since when the activities of the Guild have lapsed.

But NOW the Guild is to be revived. You, yourselves have said so, and you are going to do more than *talk* about it, you are going to show by your actions that you really meant what you said at Conference. True, I promised to be Leader, but remember I cannot lead unless I have someone to lead. So when the time arrives for you to enrol as members be ready to do it at once; having already given thought and consideration to the Aims and Promises which will appear in the BANNER later. I don't want anyone to become a Guild Member just for the sake of saying he or she is a member; but I want you all to feel that you can conscientiously promise the things you are asked, and having promised, always bear in mind that a 'promise is sacred,' and not to be lightly thrust aside. I would much prefer 'my family' to consist of 500 serious Guildites, prepared to go through anything in order to keep their promises, than 2,000 Guildites ready to forget their promises on the slightest pretext. So, please, *do* give the matter your *serious* consideration. Read the aims and promises next month, think about them, talk about them with other Lyceumists, and you who are Conductors and Leaders talk about them with the young folks. Then decide whether you can make the necessary promises (firmly intending to keep them). The next step will be to fill in an Application Form, of which you will hear more later.

You see, since Conference, we have discovered that there has to be an entirely new start. When Miss Kitson left us, all the things belonging to the Guild, e.g., the register, application forms, leaflets of rules, membership cards, etc., were sent to the Office at Rochdale. Now, they are not there, and as the General Secretary, who had charge of them, has also left us, nobody can say what has happened to the Guild

belongings. So that means a new start, and hence some delay. But it is surely better to go slowly at the beginning as in the story of the 'Tortoise and the Hare.' You will therefore have to be patient, and wait a while before you can be enrolled, knowing that I am as busy as can be preparing all things needed.

LYCEUMISTS ELIGIBLE.

Any Lyceumist of whatever age, colour, size or shape may become a member.

You boys and girls under 12 years of age will be Junior Members, and the Guild Imp will continue to write to you every month.

Will any Lyceumist, wanting something to do, or being so busy that another interest can be pushed in, offer to help by writing articles on the various hobbies? Don't be shy, but write to me and let me know what kind of thing you are interested in, and how you are willing to help. I shall truly be glad of your help, for a volunteer, remember, is worth ten pressed men. So, don't fail me.

APPEAL.

Now comes the usual appeal, the absence of which would cause you to wonder. *Money!!!* Seeing that we need a register, which will indeed be a ponderous volume if it is to hold names and particulars of all our family-to-be, and therefore expensive, and a host of other things of which I have already told you we need £ s. d. So send along any spare cash you have as a donation to the Guild. I wonder who will be the first in the field? I hope I am not kept in doubt long. I don't think I shall be, for I have great faith in you all, and I am sure your first desire will be for the Guild to be self-supporting. Therefore send along your donations to me, the more the merrier.

Those of you who have read so far *will you* think about these things until next month? Then look out for more detailed particulars in August BANNER.

With all good wishes from the Guild Leader,

GLADYS M. HALLIDAY,
28, Moorlands Place,
Free School Lane,
Halifax.

THANKS.

We are pleased to express our thanks to Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Coleman for donations to the Banner Fund; Stratford Church, Mr. Stevenson, 2s.; Mrs. May Lipscombe, 1s.

Mr. Coleman has for sale leaflets for gumming in the back of the Church Hymn Books, on which are printed two extra hymns. They are supplied at the price of 2s. per 100.

He also has printed two leaflets with two of our Golden Chain Recitations thereon. These are supplied at a cost of 1s. per 100. They are useful propaganda leaflets.

Send your orders to Mr. W. T. Coleman, 4, Leahurst Road, Lewisham, London, S.E.13.

The greatest thing in the world is the CHILD.
The greatest profession in the world is MOTHERHOOD.
The greatest institution in the world is the HOME.
The greatest force in the world is LOVE!

Our Education Department.

HINTS, NOTES AND NEWS ITEMS.

Conducted by the EDUCATION SECRETARY.

OUR EXAMINATION RESULTS.

For the past two or three weeks my "spare" time at home has been devoted to sorting returned (marked) Examination papers, replacing the name-slips on them, and getting ready for the Results Book—which cannot be started upon until all papers are returned and sorted.

Some of the Examiners express themselves as pleased with the general standard of the papers they have marked, but some others are the exact opposite and are not at all pleased. Space will not allow any full treatment of their reports, but I hope to be able to manage better in August and/or September. Some very helpful suggestions and criticisms have been offered, and I think these should be passed on to both tutors and students, to help them in next year's exams.

Here is a typical report—that "on the whole the papers are not so good as in previous years; the students are not so well prepared and do not know the matter in the Handbook." There is also the fault of careless reading of the questions, thus leading to incorrect answers.

As an example, one Grade V. question was on how an intelligent and sincere Orthodox Christian inquirer would be influenced by a careful study of Spiritualism—and several candidates "simply attacked Christianity, defended Spiritualism, and would not concede any change of opinions to a Christian." Now this is the very state of mind we deplore in our opponents; and a study of Dr. Powell's article in No. 3 Handbook would have produced a very different reply.

Another candidate offered flattery as a substitute for information, and in answering the question on how different religions may have been based on different deductions from similar natural phenomena, said—"As I have not the knowledge of the outs and ins of the hundred and one religions in existence, I cannot use this in my answer. No doubt the Examiner knows all about them, and will add quite a lot to this paper." Apart from the fact that it is the candidate, and not the Examiner, who is expected to do the writing on the answer paper, a good answer could have been given from a study of Essays I. and II. of *Essays on Reasoning* (to which the candidate was referred in the question).

OUR HANDBOOKS.

Another general criticism is that the students do not seem to have studied the set Handbook, and are forced to *guess* the answers to the Handbook section of questions. The handbooks supply very valuable information on Spiritualism and its teachings, and every student should possess, *and use*, his or her own copy. Hints on how to use them will be given next month, with other helpful matter.

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.—up to 16th July—after which it will be—Hollins Chambers, 64A, Bridge Street, Deansgate, Manchester.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE with regard to the College of 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.

The S.N.U. Fund of Benevolence.

Dear Sir,

I have pleasure in reporting the following income for March, April and May:

March. Southern Counties L.D.C., 7s. 6d.; Hull, Dairycoates, £2 2s.; Newcastle, Arcade, £2 2s.; London L.D.C. A.G.M., 7s.; Barrow Psycho, three-quarters' Members Tax, £1 17s. 9d.; Manchester & District, Good Friday Collection, £8; Brixton Brotherhood (for Mrs. Green), £1; Meols, 5s.; Mrs. Jessie Greenwood, 5s.; Mr. Whitmarsh, Fee, Henton Church, 10s. 6d.; Miss Islip, Home Collecting Box, £2 2s.; Mrs. Leadbetter, Southport, Home Circle, £1; Fred J. Maundell, Easter offering, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Whitmarsh, Cemetery Fee and expenses, 10s. Total: £20 11s. 3d.

April. Preston Central Church and Lyceum, £1; London D.C. Discussion Group, Collecting Box, £1 7s.; North Shields, Rippon Hall, Members' Subscriptions, £1 6s. 6d.; London District Council, £5 5s.; Southern D.C. A.G.M., Tea-table Collection, Bristol, £3 16s.; Bournemouth Charminster Road, Spiritualist Mission, donation and proceeds from collecting box, £3 14s.; Lewisham Church, £2 2s.; Manchester Good Friday Collection, 2nd donation, £2 2s.; Collected by Mr. Dowell Todd, Northern Area, Jan., Feb., Mar., £2 17s.; J. S., Sowerby Bridge, £1; Meols, 5s.; Mrs. L. M. Hare, 5s. Total: £24 19s. 6d.

May. Mrs. A. M. Menck, per E. W. O., £30; P. W. Oversley, 2s. 6d.; Meols, 5s.; Mrs. E. Walmuff (Bradford), £1 10s.; Mrs. Leadbetter, Home Circle (Southport), £1; Huddersfield, Ramsden St., for Mrs. E. Green, £1; Doncaster, Baker St. Church, £1; Doncaster, Catherine St., £1; B.S.L.U. Conference, Retiring Collection, 16s.; North Shields, Rippon Hall, Members' Subscriptions, £1 6s.; South West Lancashire and Cheshire Group, Good Friday, Retiring Collection, Warrington, 10s. Total: £38 9s. 6d.

The Committee are grateful for all the monies received during the last three months, helping them to carry on the work on behalf of the old folks, some of them very needy cases indeed.

With grateful thanks to all,

4, Ravenstone Gardens, Yours gratefully,
Sutton Mill, MARY L. STAIR,
nr. Keighley, Hon. Sec.
Yorks.

We are also informed that a Lyceum is to be opened on August 7th at Wrexham, North Wales. Lyceumists in the neighbourhood are heartily invited to attend on that date and give Wrexham Lyceum a good start. We hope that this Lyceum will progress in its efforts to teach the Spiritualists and students how our children are educated.

NEWSY NOTES.

LIVERPOOL LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL
EISTEDDFOD.

On Saturday, May 28th, the Liverpool Lyceum District Council held their fourth Annual Eisteddfod at Boaler St. Spiritualists' National Church, Liverpool.

Lyceumists from Wigan, Boaler St., and Daulby Hall, Liverpool, Runcorn, Southport, Birkenhead and Warrington Lyceums took part in the competitions for Recitations, Readings, Solos and Impromptu Speeches.

It was gratifying to notice the keenness of the Competitive spirit. The quality of the renderings is steadily improving year by year, and in many cases the marks awarded were very close making it difficult for the Adjudicators to decide upon the best effort.

The audience which numbered about 100 were as keenly interested as the competitors and judging by the applause thoroughly enjoyed the Eisteddfod.

Our thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Williams, of Liverpool, who kindly gave their services in acting as Adjudicators. I had the pleasure of distributing fourteen prizes which were awarded to the successful competitors, from Warrington, Boaler St., Daulby, Wigan, Runcorn and Southport Lyceums.

The President, Mrs. Clitheroe, welcomed the friends, and thanked Boaler St. Lyceum for the use of their Church and splendid tea provided, and also expressed our appreciation of the services of the Adjudicators.

The officers of the Council wish to thank all who have assisted in making the day a happy and successful one, and are looking forward to even greater efforts in the future.

BATLEY CARR LYCEUM.
JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY.

On Saturday, June 11th, we had a Meat Tea and Concert. We had a large audience for the Concert, which was given by our Lyceumists. Miss Marjorie Hirst, Miss A. French, Miss C. French, Mr. Hirst, Mr. A. Sykes, Mr. E. Stinton, Mr. G. Shadbolt, Mr. H. Lumb, Mr. F. Field, Mr. E. Whitelock, and Mr. A. Watkins took part. Mr. F. Nowell, our Musical Conductor, was pianist.

On the Sunday afternoon we had an Open Session. The Session was opened by the Conductor, Mrs. F. Nowell, who introduced our Founder, Mr. Alfred Kitson. Mr. Kitson continued the Session and gave us some interesting experiences and explained to us the conditions which prevailed when he was a Lyceumist over 50 years ago.

In the evening Mr. Kitson was again on the platform. He was accompanied by Mr. Wainwright, President of the L.L.D.C. Mr. Whitelock, Vice-President of the L.L.D.C., Mr. Jim Kitson, Mr. Tweedale, Area Representative, Mr. Smith, President, Batley Carr Spiritualist Church, Mr. Smith and Mr. Whitwam, friends from York Lyceum. Mr. Harding, Secretary of the L.L.D.C., unfortunately had to leave after the Lyceum Session. They all spoke to us for a few minutes, and, as they were telling us their different experiences, it was very interesting. We had an enjoyable week-end.

MRS. F. NOWELL, Sec.

Belper held their 46th Anniversary on June 26th, when Mrs. L. Nurse, Dipl. S.N.U., was the speaker. Special hymn sheets have been compiled. In the afternoon it took the form of a Flower Service.

Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Webb, of New Zealand, arrived in England on June 19th. The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union offers their greetings and good wishes for a successful tour during their period in England.

The official opening of Redcar Lyceum took place on Sunday, June 26th. Mr. J. Slimin, Area Representative, opened the Lyceum. We wish them every success in their efforts to introduce our Lyceum methods to the Spiritualists of Redcar.

NORTH LONDON.

North London celebrated its 21st Anniversary on June 12th. Space would not permit of anything like an adequate description of this wonderful day, when both services, as well as the Lyceum Session, were taken by the Lyceum. Our friend, Mr. E. J. Pulham, who is the Church President, again presented prizes to the winners, and the medal to Joyce Sinfield, who took the first place amongst the Lyceum Children this year. Miss Clarice Taylor, as Captain of the Loyalty League, gave the League medal to Irene Lane, who was considered the most efficient member of the Loyalty League for the past year.

During the afternoon the new Banner, made by Messrs. Tutill, was unveiled by Mr. Pulham and Mrs. Pomeroy, the latter being Vice-President of the N.L.S.A., and Miss Maddison, Assistant Conductor, handed Mr. W. W. Drinkwater a silver cigarette case, given by all the members in recognition of his conductorship since 1919. She in turn, as well as Miss Whorlow (who has been a constant Lyceumist since the day of its opening) was handed a small token of the fact that they are members of the longest standing.

Congratulations were heaped upon all concerned by many friends at the close of the day, and a number immediately signified their intention of becoming members. Truly, one felt the spirit of one of the anthems that was rendered throughout the whole of the day: "Glory to God in the Highest."

NELLIE C. WHORLOW, Sec.

CREATION.

Lord of the silent winter,—
Beneath whose skies of grey,
The frost-bound fields lie cheerless,
But wait a brighter day;
If human hearts are dreary,
By mists of sorrow chilled,
Give patience to the weary,
Till they with peace be filled!

Lord of the joyous spring-time—
When leaves and buds appear,
And lengthening days of beauty
Renew the softened year;
Breathe on our hearts in blessing,
Away our sadness roll;
And send, all pain redressing,
A springtime to the soul!

Lord of the glowing summer,—
When waves the corn on high,
And fruits in valley ripen
Beneath a cloudless sky;
Shine on our heart's endeavour
To give our strength to thee,
That in our spirits ever
A riche life may be!

Lord of the bounteous autumn—,
When vineyards yield their store,
And golden sheaves, new-gathered,
Pass to the garner door;
Grant now a full fruition
To every seed of truth,
Which fell, with blessed mission,
Upon our souls in youth!

Lord of the changing seasons,
Lord of our passing days,
Wake thou in us abundance
Of duty, love, and praise;
That hearts of wintry sadness,
May feel the breath of spring,
And summer's time of gladness
The autumn glories bring!

—Dendy Agate.

THE LYCEUM BANNER

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

IMPORTANT

LYCEUM SECRETARIES PLEASE NOTE:

The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union
Headquarters will be transferred from
Rochdale to Manchester.

On and after JULY 16th, all correspondence relating to the Union should be addressed to THE GENERAL SECRETARY, B.S.L. UNION, HOLLINS CHAMBERS, 64a, BRIDGE STREET, DEANSGATE, MANCHESTER.

Re-organisation.

Re-organisation is in the air. The various amendments to the B.S.L.U. Constitution put down for consideration at Rochdale Conference, had they been adopted, would have altered the organisation of our Union from top to bottom. But Conference felt that the suggestions and proposals were too vitally important to be settled on a Conference discussion, and appointed a Committee to inquire into all the activities of the Union and its present financial and economic position—and to draft proposals for submission to next year's Conference.

The task before the Committee is not only arduous but full of grave responsibility, for so many aspects of our Union's ideals and activities are concerned in the proposed amendments; and on its recommendations, if and when adopted, will depend the future success or failure of our Lyceum Movement. I believe that every member of the Committee is aware of this responsibility and is determined to meet Miss Elliott's appeal (in her Presidential address) that "constructive forces should be utilised in the building up of whatever ideals are expressed"—so that, whatever proposals are adopted, the Movement shall benefit.

The proposed amendments may be regarded as some indication of the direction in which the mind of the Movement is working; and, grouping them according to their relative bearing, we find suggestions for the re-organisation of the Union and its system of Management, and of the procedure at its Annual Conference; for the adoption of a new basis of paying and allocating membership fees; for compulsory membership of the Union's subsidiary bodies, and for the raising of the voting age in Lyceums—with other suggestions which seem to follow but which cannot be suggested in an article such as this. No attempt is here made to suggest what decisions the Committee will or should make—but it is only right that the Movement should under-

stand what a heavy task has been given to the Committee, and that it should make up its mind to face necessary changes as courageously as the National Union faced similar changes in 1920.

Considering these groups, by themselves and also by how they will affect each other, we must realise that the problems suggested by the amendments must be tackled as a whole as well as individually. Mere tinkering with the machinery of the constitution will not do. Ideas which are good of themselves, and which may have been applied successfully in other Movements, may not fit into the existing framework of the Lyceum Union. In such circumstances, the problem will be whether to reject the idea or to alter the framework so that the idea will fit in. Two such problems will arise from the proposal to appoint a Chairman who will be Managing Director of the Union's activities, with a President who will be a mere figure-head unless he is deputising as vice-chairman at sundry meetings—and from the new status proposed for the General Secretary.

In both cases we are in the Addisonian position that "much might be said on both sides." There are many good reasons why a qualified Chairman, with an assured long spell of office, might add to the prosperity of our Union, but there is the question whether equally good results could not be assured by deciding that future Presidents must possess the qualifications and guarantees which will presumably be demanded from the proposed Chairman. There are also many arguments in favour of decreeing that the General Secretary should not be a member of the Management Committee. But against this there is the risk of substituting—for an enthusiastic Lyceumist colleague—a mere official—who will in effect be the manager of our Publishing Department, the editor of our BANNER and managing clerk in the office—and whose only duty will be to carry out the instructions of the Management Committee, without any necessary special interest in his work other than being a faithful and efficient servant. But the possibility of having to make these changes will have to be faced.

Another vital problem is finance. It may be urged that the new fees may decrease the membership of the Union instead of increasing its income. But those who want a Union must be prepared to keep it on its financial feet, and the present fees are not doing that. The South East Lancs. proposal would decrease the Treasurer's present income (on the 1931 figures) and the Liverpool and North East Lancs. proposal would bring very little increase—while the Presidential Address financial proposals would see us to safety, if membership figures did not go down. Which will the Committee feel forced to recommend?

Compulsory membership of subsidiary bodies suggests many thorny problems, and the wisdom of making District Councils anything more than friendly associations of affiliated Lyceums, for common activities in their own districts, may be open to question. But again there are Lyceums, and District Councils, who take no part in any Union work outside their own locality—and, after all, the Union IS more than an association for obtaining cheap supplies of Lyceum necessities. But many a movement has been wrecked by insisting on a pet ideal instead of adopting the obviously workable plans of experienced workers—and it can safely be left to the Committee to take all these possibilities into full consideration when coming to a decision.

The voting age in Lyceums has also its own difficulties. One of the ideals of the Lyceum Movement, as I understand them, is to get the children and train them to be good Spiritualists and capable Church workers. If the voting age is raised too high, we may have lost our juniors before they are eligible to take an interest in our work. In the Salvation Army they have a Boys' and a Girls' Life Brigade to keep their children from straying. In the Lyceum Movement we have nothing but this voting right (perhaps the Committee may consider this aspect), and we should be slow in depriving the juniors of this attraction. I wonder if anyone has thought of a monthly Lyceum Membership fee, and only those of voting age who paid it to be eligible to vote. Even a few coppers a month would solve for the Lyceums the problem of raising the increased Union fees, and paying District Council fees as well.

These are all vital problems, and they will just have to be tackled and solved. Everyone is agreed that it is necessary that our Movement shall be efficiently managed and controlled, and it will be sheer cowardice to hesitate about making any changes needed to secure such a desirable end. As I have said, tinkering with the machinery of the constitution will not be enough; and if the present machinery is not efficient, then we must get new machinery and a framework into which it will fit. But we first must make certain that it is not really the machinery, but the method of using it, which is wrong. If new methods of working can be discovered or devised, it may be that the old machinery which, in pre-War days, brought the Union to prosperity will, in these post-war days, restore it to prosperity.

But I think it will be agreed that the Committee's task, in deciding on these problems and making recommendations, is not going to be an enviable one.

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

Progress is vital to life. We must be ready for each new step, otherwise we fall out of line. Improvement and advancement come just as quickly as they can be tackled when the present task is carried out to the best of ability.

Any discrimination based upon prejudice or intolerance would certainly violate the letter and spirit of any forward movement. A new association could not be built up on such a basis. It is not the brand, it is the principle, the spirit of a movement, which counts.

B.S.L.U. SUPPLEMENTARY FUNDS.

PATRON-MEMBER FUND. Middlesbrough, 7s. 6d.; Miss Lawton, 1s. 1d.; Moston Lyceumists, 12s. 6d.; Fulham Lyceumists, £1 5s. 0d.; Mr. Belshaw, 3s. 6d.; Mr. W. Roberts, 5s. 3d.; Bury Lyceumists, 5s. 0d.; Attercliffe Lyceumists, 13s. 9d.; Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Coleman, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Stroud, 1s. 8d.; Chesterfield Lyceumists, 8s. 8d.; Blackpool Lyceumists, 14s.; Moston Lyceumists, 8s. 2d.; Liverpool, Daulby Hall, Lyceumists, 18s. 10d. Total, £6 7s. 5d.

SUPPLEMENTARY FUND. Tottenham, High Road, 10s. 0d.

Patron-Members.

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

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

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

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

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

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

How it Works.

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

The monies can be sent quarterly with the BANNER payments.

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

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

What we need.

The B.S.L.U. needs a minimum income of £800 to meet the ordinary liabilities. The only guaranteed income is about £200 from the membership fees. The remaining £600 has to be raised by donations, conference payments and the balance arising from our Publishing Department.

If we can get sufficient Patrons to contribute to the weekly payment scheme, the financial position of the Union is assured and we shall be able to extend our work and organisation. If half the total number of Lyceumists contribute one penny a week we shall have an income of £1,000 per annum.

To every Lyceumist.

Finally we address a personal note to every Lyceumist who can afford to support this scheme to become a financial supporter of the Union's progress. This form of patronage will not give any added voting powers to any Lyceumist, but a national outlook will have been attained. The success of the scheme will make it unnecessary to be eternally begging for funds to carry on our work. Individual or collective donations may be sent at any time to the General Secretary, HOLLINS CHAMBERS, 64A, Bridge Street, Deansgate, Manchester.



Dear Little Imps,

This is a perfect summer morning. The sun is shining; the sky is just dappled with tiny clouds; the birds are having a musical festival, and there is just a little baby breeze wandering around to listen to their songs. My window overlooks the park, and so I can hear the murmur of children at play, and catch glimpses of them between the trees. To-day is an ideal play-time for big folks and little folks, feathered folks and fairy folks. What a pity we cannot all meet to play together!

THE FAIRY RING.

Eileen had wandered off through the fields all by herself. She lived on a farm, and there were no other children living near enough to play with her very often, so that she was used to being alone. Usually that did not matter, for Eileen could have plenty of playmates around the farm. She had her own pet lamb, she was friendly with all the farmyard birds and animals, and had her own pet names for all of the cows. But this time, Eileen did feel lonely, and had strolled along the field paths wishing for a playmate who could talk to her.

She reached the big meadow and sat down by the stile to rest. The grass was almost ready for mowing, but, just now, it was starred over with big field daisies, as though all the stars had suddenly decided to come to earth. Eileen smiled to herself as she thought of the starry flowers, and then wondered why this field should be full of them, whilst scarcely any grew in the next one. Looking across at the other field she had a little surprise. In the middle of it, was a big circle of smooth green grass, much shorter than the other grass of the field. "A fairy ring!" whispered Eileen. "I wonder if it really can be a fairy ring? I wish I could find out. I've never seen that one before."

Just then Eileen heard a new sound, the sound of a sweet, but tiny, voice singing, could be heard amongst the droning of bees, and the chirping of grasshoppers. She listened for the words, and heard

"Oh, who will come and play with me,
Upon this sunny day?

The birds are twittering in the trees,
And all the world is gay.

Eileen didn't wait to hear any more, but answered quickly "Oh I will come and play with you. Please do let me. I was just wishing for a playmate." She was answered with a silvery laugh, as a dainty fairy flew from the branches above to the ground at Eileen's feet. The fairy's hair was as golden as the eye of a daisy, and her dress was of pure white daisy petals. Eileen gasped with delight. "At last, a fairy for a

playmate! Oh how I've longed to meet a real fairy. Please do let me play with you."

"How funny!" laughed the fairy. "I have been wishing for a little girl to play with, too. You are the first one I've met who has been all alone; and, of course, I couldn't take a crowd of children to our fairy ring." "Then it is a fairy ring?" asked Eileen. "I hoped that it was, but I couldn't be sure. Could I play on it with you? I'd love to!" "Of course you may!" answered the fairy. "But, first I must make you as small as myself." The fairy picked a white clover flower, and searched for a wild rose petal in the grass. She poured the nectar from the clover into the rose petal and handed it to Eileen to drink. It was the sweetest drink the child had ever tasted, and she wasn't a bit surprised to find that, as she handed the empty petal back to the fairy, she herself had become as tiny as her new friend. The grass and the field daisies towered above her head, whilst the bushes in the hedgerow and the tree by the stile, seemed ever so high above her.

The fairy clapped her tiny hands twice, and two yellow butterflies fluttered towards them. The fairy sprang on to the back of one, bade Eileen climb on to the other, and then told the butterflies to carry them both to the fairy ring. Eileen had a pony of her own to ride, she had been in buses, and trains, and had sailed in the boat on the river, but never had she enjoyed a ride so much as this one. To fly on the wings of a butterfly! Were all her dreams to come true?

They reached the fairy ring at last, and the butterflies flew to the grass, whilst Eileen and her fairy friend jumped on to the short smooth grass. Eileen knew now that that grass was trodden smooth with the dancing of tiny fairy feet. She looked around her happily, and saw that, growing all around the ring, were the little daisies, whilst on one side were just a few of the taller field daisies. Eileen found that she was just as high as the little ones.

At first she thought they were alone, but again she had a pleasant surprise. The fairy called out "Coo-ee, Coo-ee," and immediately Eileen heard answering voices call out "Coo-ee, Coo-ee," whilst very soon the fairy ring was swarming with wee folk. Most of these were dressed like her friend, for, as the fairy explained, "We daisy fairies have to come out in the day-time for our flowers go to sleep each night." Amongst the fairies were some green elves for dancing partners, whilst bees hurried about to serve refreshments upon petal plates and dishes.

How those fairies danced! They danced in twos, and threes, and fours, and then in a great big ring, but not one was ever left to dance all alone. They sang little songs of their own as they danced, and even the birds in the hedges stopped to listen to that fairy music. They had just finished a jolly ring game, when one of the elves pointed upwards and cried, "Here come our King and Queen!" The dancing stopped, and Eileen went with the others to stand round the edge of the ring. Looking upwards she saw two gorgeous red admiral butterflies coming towards their ring, carrying on their backs the royal fairies. They alighted at the field daisies, whilst the company bowed before them. Choosing two half-open daisies, two fairies quickly converted them into thrones, by bending downwards the petals at the front, so that each flower made a dainty armchair. As soon as the King

and Queen were seated, each of the fairies found a flower seat in the small daisies.

The King and Queen looked around the ring and saw Eileen, and the Queen beckoned her towards them. Led by her fairy friend she crossed the green grass and stood in front of the royal fairies. "If you please, Your Majesties," said the fairy, "this is Eileen, I found her all alone, and wishing for a playmate, so I brought her to dance at our fairy ring." The King and Queen smiled, and the King answered, "We know of Eileen, and we know that all the furred and feathered folk on her farm are her friends, therefore, Eileen may have our friendship too." "Yes!" added the Queen, "Eileen, you may come to our fairy ring whenever you feel lonely, on a sunny day, so long as there are daisies, big or small to be found. Daisy-time is our play-time, and you may be the playmate of all daisy fairies."

Eileen was almost too happy to thank the fairies, but the King banished her shyness by asking her to dance with him. A few more dances, some pollen cake, and nectar from the bees, and the day's frolic was over. Goodbyes were said. Eileen, accompanied by her fairy friend, was taken back to the meadow by the yellow butterfly. Then the fairy gave her a leaf of "bread and cheese" to eat, so that she might once more grow to her true size.

Eileen rubbed her eyes. She was still sitting by the stile, in the meadow full of field daisies, and, away in the next field was a green ring. Yes! It was a fairy ring. She knew that now. A happy Eileen went home to tea, and, now, whenever the sun shines in daisy time, Eileen may be seen on her way to that daisy meadow to join in the frolics of the fairies.

My love to all Imps,
MEG.

AN INVOCATION.

In the morning I will raise
To my God the voice of praise;
In the morning I will pray
For his blessing on the day.

Should it be with clouds o'er cast,
Clouds of sorrow gathering fast,
Thou, who givest light divine,
Shine within me, Lord, O shine!

Show me, if I tempted be,
Needed strength to find in thee,
And a perfect triumph win
Over each besetting sin.

Keep my feet from hidden snares,
Save me from o'erburdening cares,
Every step thy grace attend,
And my soul from ill defend.

Then when fall the shades of night,
All within shall still be light;
Thou wilt peace around diffuse,
Gently as the evening dews.

—W. H. Furness.

£2,000 Effort Calling.

Hello, Lyceumists!

I trust you can all hear my voice ringing with sincerity and purpose.

It is my privilege and honour to accept the position of Secretary to the B.S.L.U. £2,000 Effort Fund, and I quite appreciate the difficulty I have to face, in trying to arouse and maintain continued interest in this Fund.

It was much discussed at our last Conference and many different opinions were expressed. Nevertheless, the air was cleared as to the improbability of closing this Fund, and instead, we have decided to continue our efforts to raise £2000, and surely we shall be "loyal" to our movement in doing our utmost, despite hard times, to support our decision.

It is uphill work, but if one wishes to get wider vision, one must climb. Climbing is often hard work but, remember, it is "the top of the mountain" which gives the best vision and the broadest outlook.

The Summit of our Mountain is £2,000. Let us revive our energies and continue climbing!

**Where there's a will there's always a way,
The £2,000 Effort must grow every day.**

I have to thank W. Brooks, Fowler St. Lyceum, South Shields, for a further donation of 9s. 7d. I am looking forward with anticipation to receiving any amount, however small, from our Lyceumists, Lyceums and Councils, feeling sure that each one of us must appreciate the present difficult circumstances through which the Union is passing, and realise that as time goes on, money will be much more needed to hold our Union together.

Next month, I hope to give further details and possibly suggestions for your consideration.

Until then, the best of wishes. Good-bye to all,
85, Queen's Road, LILLIE GEORGE.
Everton, Liverpool.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear Editor,

In these days economy is the slogan for every fad, but I would stress the more important one of "efficiency." I intend, with the approval of my Lyceum, to bring before the Manchester and Salford L.D.C. the following scheme.

The D.C. to purchase for its Lyceums one page per month for one year, at the cost of £12 12s. 0d., providing 20 Lyceums pay 12s. 6d. per year. Each Lyceum would be allotted, say, half inch. of space per month. Each Lyceum would be able to advertise its Open Sessions, Anniversaries, Socials, etc., and be sure that its invitations would reach every Lyceumist. This is our Official Organ; let it not be a "dumb" one. The District Council could insert its Quarterly Meetings, Pooling Scheme Meetings, Sports Meetings, Mass Sessions, etc. Arrangements could be made between Lyceums to exchange space. For instance, if Moston wanted, say, extra space, they would borrow Collyhurst's space, and Moston would return space when it suited Collyhurst's needs. Briefly, the benefits are:— Each Lyceum Secretary would be saved from writing numerous postcards. Each Lyceum would eliminate postal charges, in many cases higher than the cost of advertisement. Thus, Economy plus Efficiency.

We would be creating an advertising asset for the BANNER. The BANNER would be useful and necessary all the month.

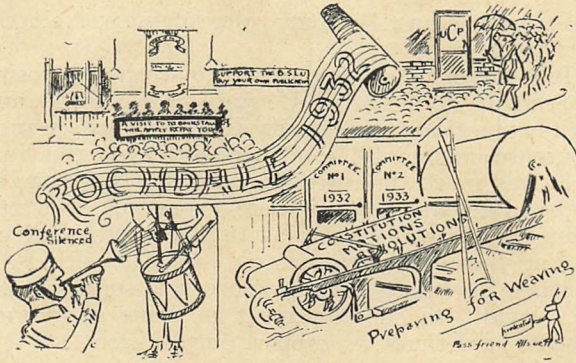
Secretaries are apt to forget correspondence by post, but everyone would have each others' Lyceum efforts before them grouped on one page. It would help the BANNER to pay for itself, if other D.Cs. cared to adopt the idea.

This is the only method by which I can approach Lyceum to consider the scheme.

Make the scheme the means of approach of your Lyceum to other Lyceums.
J. R. PARKER, Moston Lyceum.

British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.



The British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union held the Annual Conference in Regent Hall National Spiritualist Church, Regent Street, Rochdale, on Saturday and Sunday, May 14th and 15th, 1932.

Miss E. Elliott, A.N.S.C., of Moston, President of the Union was in the chair.

The Conference opened at 3-0 p.m. with the singing of "Wave the Banner."

Mr. J. Slimin, Sunderland, offered an invocation.

The President invited Mr. Ernest Vickers, a Past President, and Mrs. E. Paling and Mr. G. F. Berry, the S.N.U. Fraternal Delegates, to seats on the platform. She also remarked that Mr. M. Clegg, aged 78, was present at the Conference.

It was agreed: That the Conference adjourn at 5-45 p.m. resume at 7-0 p.m. until 9-15 p.m. and commence Sunday Morning at 10-0 a.m., adjourn at noon and resume at 1-15 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS,

Messenger: Mr. J. Calway, Eltham.

Tellers: Mr. A. S. Dickinson, U.D.C., Mr. L. Tweedale, Wakefield.

Scrutineers: Mrs. E. Clitheroe, Liverpool L.D.C., Miss D. Coghlan, Darwen., Mr. J. R. Parker, Moston, Mr. E. Wilson, Dewsbury.

STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.

Mr. Taylor moved, **Mr. J. E. Hart be the Conference member.**

Mr. Edwards moved, **Mr. A. E. Keeling.**

Mr. Hart was elected by 64 votes to 24 votes.

The President made reference to the passing of the General Secretary, Mr. G. F. Knott, and stated that opportunities for reference to him would be given later in the Conference.

MINUTES.

Mr. Burrows moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,

That the Minutes and Reports be taken as read.

Carried.

Mr. Hart asked if the Psychological Test Committee Report was being taken in conjunction with the Education Scheme.

Mr. Keeling asked a question on Minutes 12 and 13 relative to the new Badge.

President: We are informed that we could not in any way interfere with the Badge as at present used. We should have to go over entirely to a new Badge for that specific purpose.

Mr. Parker moved, Mr. Barnett seconded,

That the minutes be confirmed.

Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The President read letters from Mr. W. A. Mason, Mr. J. G. MacFarlane, Mr. A. Kitson, conveying greetings and good wishes for a successful Conference.

Mr. Keeling moved, and it was agreed

That the correspondence be accepted and suitable replies be sent.

Miss Elliott read her Presidential Address. Mrs. Reynolds, Vice-President, occupied the chair.

Mr. Slimin moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,

That the President's Address be accepted and that it be printed in the BANNER and offered for publication to the Spiritualist Press. *Carried.*

Messrs. Fruin, Parker, Dickinson, Barnett, Robson, Keeling, spoke to the Address.

Arising out of the President's Address. Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Slimin seconded,

That this Conference representing the children's side of the Spiritualist Movement and being deeply concerned with the social and Spiritual life and education of the younger generation, registers its emphatic protest against the action of His Majesty's Government in cutting the charges for social and educational services. *Carried.*

NOTICE OF MOTION FROM N.E. LANCASHIRE L.D.C. as per last Conference.

Mr. Wood moved, Mr. Connor seconded,

That before any revision of the Constitution takes place we move that a Committee of Inquiry be set up from the Floor of the conference, to inquire into the whole of the activities of the B.S.L.U., its needs and its scope.

Any information required by this committee shall be furnished them by the officers and the M.C.

The Committee shall prepare a report for presentation to the next conference, to guide and assist in the setting up of a constitution to meet the needs of the times, and the requirements of the B.S.L.U.

Mr. Keeling asked for the ruling from the chair re the alteration of the wording of the motion as it appeared in the minutes of the last Conference and as it now appears on the agenda.

Mr. Dickinson. The reason for the amendment of the resolution was that at the last Conference the wording was written down extremely hurriedly. We found out that the most vital part of the resolution was omitted, and that is why the resolution has been altered.

Mr. Connor: After hearing the Presidential Address, I think that re-organisation is necessary throughout our movement. If we want co-operation we want re-organisation to bring that about. That is one of the main principles in the North East Lancashire motion.

Mrs. George moved an amendment, Mrs. Clitheroe seconded,

That the words 'from the floor of the Conference' be deleted and the following substituted: 'composed of one representative from each district Council and the Members of the Standing Orders Committee elected by the M.C.'

That 'Presentation to the next Conference' be deleted and the following substituted: 'publication in the January BANNER.'

Mr. Hart moved an amendment to the amendment. Mr. Taylor seconded,

That the first line be deleted and the motion to read: That a committee of Inquiry be set up from the floor of the conference consisting of not more than seven members, to inquire into the whole of the activities of the B.S.L.U. its needs and its scope.

Any information required by this committee shall be furnished them by the Officers and the M.C.

The Committee shall prepare a report for presentation before the next revision conference, to guide and assist in the setting up of a constitution to meet the needs of the times, and the requirements of the B.S.L.U.

For 32. Against 83. The amendment was defeated.

Mrs. George: We are going to suggest that there are about 17 District Councils, and that the District Councils have a system of a pooling scheme, and suggest that they pay half expenses and the Union pay the other

half. We think it is almost impossible to get through the whole conference business to-day and to-morrow. We cannot revise again for another 5 years, and in having representatives from Councils we get a broader view. In that way we want to press this forward.

Mr. Shuttleworth: We do recognise fully that it is almost impossible for Conference to get down to work, and it would be a wonderful saving of time if each District Council would put their influence in a central committee. We should then get a Constitution that would be lasting and valuable to the movement. We do believe that it is fully necessary that every District should be represented on that Committee.

Mr. Connor: Would the question of education be considered? Don't you think it would be fair that someone representing the educational side should be on that Committee?

Mr. Taylor: I want to mention the cost that this will incur. We are totally against this year's revision being cut out.

Mr. Keeling: May I reply to the last speaker. If this job is well done and it costs us £20 or £30 the money is well spent. We have been five years in thinking of amendments for the Constitution, so that it is an absurd statement to think we should give ourselves another five years to think of these things. I would appeal to the movers of this resolution to accept the amendment. Let us widen the Committee and make it as wide as ever we possibly can. One full week-end in a central position should, with a committee of that kind, get through the whole of the Constitution.

Mr. Ellis: I think we should be well advised to proceed with the revision of the Constitution this year. The delegates have come prepared for it. There are only two that are supported by a Lyceum directly, and it would be a waste of time to postpone it.

Mr. Wood: We are quite prepared to accept the amendment as it is laid down.

Mr. Nurse: I wish to speak against the resolution and the amendments. In the amendments you are setting up a United District Council which is already in existence. This is the machinery through which this should work.

President: I take it that this year finds the Constitution in the melting pot and that the Present Constitution will be the guide in ruling all Conferences until the New Constitution is complete.

Mr. Slimin moved, Mr. Connor seconded,

That before any revision of the constitution is considered a committee of Inquiry be set up composed of the President of the Union (ex-officio) two M.C. Representatives, two Trustee Representatives, two U.D.C. Representatives and six chosen from the floor of conference, to inquire into the whole of the activities of the B.S.L.U., its needs and its scope.

Any information required shall be furnished by the officers and M.C.

The committee shall be hereby empowered to prepare a re-modelled constitution for presentation to next conference with a view to its being immediately adopted.

For 61. Against 56. *Carried.*

Mr. Slimin: I think that the M.C. are entitled to representation, and I don't think it should be a hard task for this Conference to choose six who would be a really representative Committee, to have the Constitution ready and bring it forward again next year.

Mr. Connor: Liverpool District Councils suggest a Chairman and President. Halifax and Huddersfield have another suggestion. There is no provision made whatever in the resolution to show that the Chairman should be elected on the same grounds as the President will be, and only the Committee can draw up such regulations as will guarantee the conference. The question of President is that he is only a figure head; he is going to be allowed to do nothing at all. The Secretary is going to be turned out of the Management Committee. He is one man who has to do the thing. My idea is that all these things look very pretty but we find they won't work outside. I suggest we have a U.D.C. Representative on this Committee.

Mr. Keeling: Mr. Slimin in his proposition concludes with the words 'immediately adopted.' It will be presented to next year's Conference.

Mr. Slimin: The report would be for presentation.

Mr. Dixon: We have heard a lot about this Committee, but the whole of the remarks seem to be confined to amending the Constitution. I would like to ask if it is the intention of the one who made the amendment, also the intention of those who made the motion, if they intend to include, or give this Committee power to review the £2,000 Effort Fund?

Mr. Slimin: The words are 'to inquire into the whole of the activities of the B.S.L.U., its needs, and its scope.'

Mr. Mack: Suppose this new Constitution comes along for presentation to the Conference for adoption. Suppose a Lyceum sends an amendment to the Constitution. How are you going to treat it? Are you going to let it be in order or not?

President: No.

Mr. Mack: Regarding District Councils, suppose that some District Council will not send any representative, will that throw the motion out of order?

Mr. Slimin: No matter what resolution you bring forward or what report that committee brings, there is always someone 'big' enough to move amendments.

Mrs. George: When any Committee is set up we may appoint the members, but we cannot force people to be present. If only eleven turn up we get on with the job. The General Secretary of the Union would be the person to call the Committee.

Mr. Ellis: It does not say how it would be financed. But if it is a Conference Committee the Conference is responsible for its finances.

Mr. Railton moved, Mrs. Railton seconded,

That the Committee of Inquiry be comprised of six members, two from the M.C., and four from the Floor of the Conference.

For, 2. Against overwhelming.

Mr. Mack moved, Mr. Ellis seconded,

That two members of the Management committee and two Members of Trustees be elected by the floor of Conference, and that the United District's Council Representatives be the President and Secretary.

Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,

That the M.C., Trustees, and U.D.C., elect their own representatives.

The amendment was *carried.*

NOMINATIONS.

Mr. Keeling	93	votes,	elected.
Mr. Hart	82	"	"
Miss Lawton	85	"	"
Mr. Connor	108	"	"
Mr. Fruin	90	"	"
Mr. Nurse	86	"	"
Mr. Robson	68	"	"
Mr. Ellis	63	"	"

Mr. Parker moved, Mr. Wright seconded,

That nominations close.

Mr. Slimin moved, and it was agreed

That the two last votes retire in favour of the six.

CREDENTIAL REPORT.

Officers 3, Area Representatives 7, Trustees 4, Auditors 2, Education Committee 2, U.D.C. 1, Revision Committee 1, District Councils 14, represented by 24 delegates, Lyceums 66, represented by 83 delegates. Total eligible to vote 127.

There were also present, S.N.U. Fraternal Delegates 2, Assistant Secretary 1, Reporter 1, Press 1, Accepted Visitor 1. Total present, 133.

Mr. Taylor moved, and it was agreed,

That the Credential Report be accepted.

DECLARATION OF RESULTS OF THE AREA ELECTIONS.

The President declared the following people elected to the Management Committee.

Area A.	Vacant.
Area B.	Mr. J. Slimin.
Area C.	Mr. L. Tweedale.
Area D.	Mr. E. Aked.
Area E.	Mr. J. Shuttleworth.
Area F.	Mrs. L. K. George.
Area G.	Mr. H. C. Dobby.
Area H.	Mrs. A. Calway.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT.

Mr. Shuttleworth read the Management Committee Interim Report.

The total number of Lyceumists up to May 12th is 11,939. The number of Lyceums who have paid Fees up-to-date is 240. The total amount of cash received for Fees during this year is £164 15s. 0d.

The total expenses for the Ainsworth Home of Rest are £8 9s. 9d. Four cases have been dealt with this year. Two have already been away and have derived benefit from their stay. One child is now at Southport, and still another child is to go to a Holiday Home at South Shields on Tuesday week.

Out of the four applications dealt with this year three have been children. The costs have averaged about £2 per patient.

It is requested that all Postal Orders, Money Orders, and Cheques be made payable to the B.S.L.U. and crossed.

The M.C. have decided to be represented, through Mrs. Reynolds, at the Notts. Convalescent Home, at the opening of their new Home at Skegness on June 11th.

A letter from the British Memorial *re* centralising the activities of the Unions was read.

Mr. Wood: I would like to know if the M.C. have taken any action to bring into being a D.C. in Scotland?

President: The M.C. have not taken any action, but the Nomination Forms were sent out in the usual manner.

Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Connor seconded,

That we negotiate with the National Spiritualists' Union with a view to helping to form a Lyceum D.C. in Scotland. *Carried.*

Mr. Keeling: Referring to para. 15. I have, as a Trustee of the Britten Memorial, had a letter in very similar terms, in which Mr. Jackson says that the rooms they have in mind are very convenient. The rooms are in Bridge Street, and the terms are very reasonable. Mr. Jackson informs me that there is a possibility of other rooms for Spiritualist work. I think this Conference should take some action, and I move,

That the Management Committee be authorised to send Representatives to the Britten Memorial Annual Meeting, and if necessary, to join in any scheme with a view to centralisation of the work of the Unions.

Mr. Le Noury seconded. *Carried.*

Mrs. Greenwood: In view of the S.N.U. Conference last year regarding the office moving to London, what will be the position if these offices are taken?

Mr. Dixon: There is no mention of any cost of rent in connection with this matter.

Conference adjourned at 5-45 p.m.

Conference resumed at 7-10 p.m. with the singing of 'Hold fast.'

Mr. Dobby: I wish to ask a question of Mr. Keeling, as to whether he meant centralisation with the parent body, or whether he meant from a geographical point of view. I feel that similar thoughts are existing in the minds of Lyceums and other District Councils, as to whether at the present time they feel that the activities of the Union are far off. As Lyceums they are left out in the cold. Is this the concern of the body that has been set up under Motion 7? I am sure I cannot stress too much the need for us to get in the areas that have never been touched, and we shall certainly not add to our members unless we get further afield.

Mr. Dickinson: Is it the thought in Mr. Dobby's mind of the centre of England from a geographical view?

Mr. Dobby: If I made a practical suggestion it would be Derby.

Mr. Dickinson: This is the most impractical suggestion I have heard. If the area representatives desire to do any good work by their propaganda, of which we have heard so often, it is their duty to get among these areas. I feel that the Conference would be ill-advised with the suggestion of moving the Union's office to some place such as Derby.

Mr. Berry: Mrs. Greenwood raised the question whether or not the National Union was likely to go to London at some time in the future. The idea that was at the back of this motion was that two years ago a resolution was varied pledging the National Council to take any opportunity of going to London. Last year a similar resolution was on the agenda paper, but was altered by an amendment that it might be considered afterwards. It is true to say that opportunities came our way, but financial obligations made it too serious to consider at the present time.

Mr. Keeling: As to whether by centralisation I meant geographically, I had not geographic ideas in my mind. The thought I had in my mind was that the Movements should get together in central quarters and work as one unit.

Mr. Mack asked a question as to whether the New Oral Grade Primer and No. 1 Handbook would affect the finances of the Union.

Mr. Connor: The financial position of the Union has not been prejudiced by this, and in consultation with the Officers of the Union we did come to the point of getting our new edition out. I got their consent to order as many or as small an order as I could to sell at 6d. each. I don't know whether it meets Mr. Mack's point. If we get any printing done we have got to pay the bill. If we fall short the Union backs us up. These last two years we have paid, and had a little profit.

President: I do not think for a moment that the printing of the new Primer has jeopardised the position in any way.

Mr. Le Noury: Have the M.C. in any way considered a Rota Scheme of visiting the various districts.

President: A Rota Scheme has been in operation for some time.

Mr. Keeling: I would like to be the one to move that we place permanently on record our very deep and inexpressible appreciation of the work that has been done during the very regrettable illness of our Secretary, Mr. G. F. Knott. I feel to you, yourself, Lady President, as well as our clerk, we owe a debt that none of us can find words to express. I am glad the M.C. have afforded us the opportunity by referring to it in their report.

Mr. Keeling moved, Mrs. Greenwood seconded,

That we record our deep and lasting gratitude for the valuable services rendered by our President and our clerk, Mrs. Mills, during the crisis through which we have passed. *Carried unanimously.*

Messrs. Batley, Burrows, Shuttleworth, and Miss Lawton spoke to the motion.

Miss Elliott suitably replied to the appreciation.

Mr. Shuttleworth moved, Mr. Burrows seconded,

That we recommend that this Conference make a grant of five guineas to Mrs. Mills. *Agreed.*

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mr. Burrows read the Treasurer's Interim Report.

Treasurer's Interim Report.

	Receipts.		Expenses.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
General Fund	184	11 0	180	3 9
Banner Fund	81	11 4	1	17 6
Publishing Fund	200	0 8	13	16 3
	£466	3 0	£195	17 6
Supplementary Funds, to date			11	6 0
£2,000 Effort, to date ..			50	14 0

Assets.			Liabilities.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance in Bank ..	43	12 11	Wadsworth's 1931 a/c	353	18 7
„ in Secy's hands	28	3 1	„ 1932 a/c	171	17 10
	£71	16 0		£525	16 5

TRUST FUNDS.

	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
£2,000 Effort Fund ..	716	0 11			
Home Fund	200	12 9			
Ainsworth Home of Rest ..	99	11 11			

Mr. Hart raised questions regarding the Psychological Tests Committee, The Education Department, and the stock.

Mr. Burrows: The psychological Tests Committee was a Conference Committee, separate from the Education Committee.

Mr. Dixon: Regarding the Stock. In accordance with the Management Committee's resolution certain stock is taken in at cost price and other stock is taken in at stock prices less a depreciation.

Mr. Keeling: What steps, if any, have been taken to write off the amount of outstanding accounts shown in the assets side of the Balance Sheet?

Mr. Dixon: We made enquiries from the last Secretary in Sept. last year with regard to this matter. He informed us that up to the present the only amount that was forwarded was £10. The security for the outstanding amount is still held by the B.S.L.U.

Mr. Burrows: I have made further attempts to reduce these outstanding accounts.

Mr. Keeling: It may be necessary for some of these to be written off as bad debts. I want to know if this matter has been considered.

Mr. Burrows: It has been considered, but no decision yet made.

Mr. Edwards moved, Mr. Lishman seconded,

That the Treasurer's and the Auditors' reports be adopted. *Carried.*

Mr. Batley: I have nothing further to add to our report but what has been given at the end of the statement. We have seen all that is necessary, examined all the stock, and looked into the accounts of the B.S.L.U. No obstacle has been placed in our path whatever.

£2,000 EFFORT REPORT.

Mrs. Reynolds presented the report.

	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance	1	9 6	Postages	0	3 4½
Founder Day Coll. .	2	14 4	Balance in Secy's		
Profit on Badges ..	0	2 0	Hands	4	13 2½
Sale of leaflets ..	0	1 0			
	£4	16 7		£4	16 7

Mr. Johnson: In November last we were all electrified with the U.D.C. drawing our attention to the Union's affairs. It was driven home to us that the Union at that time was something like £700 on the wrong side. A letter was written to the U.D.C. that the £2,000 Effort should be closed down temporarily while a drive should be made to pay off the debt to Wadsworth.

Mr. Dickinson: The idea is not that the £2,000 Effort should be closed. We felt that as a United District Council that possibly we may be able to borrow a little money from this £2,000, and that we could settle our account with Mr. Wadsworth.

Mr. Taylor moved, Mr. Barnett seconded,

That in view of the fact that the £2,000 Effort has not received the anticipated support, and at the present rate of progress it will take 25 years to complete, this Conference instructs the Management Committee and Trustees to take immediate steps for the release of the fund for National Utility.

For the motion 61. Against 51.

Mr. Robson asked if this money could be used for any purpose we think fit?

Mr. Taylor: The fund will still go on.

Mr. Keeling: I respectfully submit that the words 'Capital Fund' definitely indicate that that money cannot be spent and if any action is taken it is a breach of trust. It is a Capital Fund and cannot be spent.

Mr. Robson: Why not transfer a sum out of that and pay Mr. Wadsworth and put the debt on ourselves?

The President then read the original resolution of 1920.

Mr. Burrows: I hold the same opinion as Mr. Keeling. This money, the capital, is definitely trust funds, and could not be used only in cases of emergency for liquidation of our debts. I took this matter up with Mr. Wadsworth in December last. I wanted to see how Mr. Wadsworth felt about this matter. There has been no one more jealous about Mr. Wadsworth's interests since I became Treasurer than I have. I have to a large extent pinched the Union in order that Mr. Wadsworth might be paid. I believe it is one of the first calls upon the finances of the Union. I wrote to Mr. Wadsworth as an individual asking him for his opinion. I quote his letter. I think it is only fair that you should be aware as to how Mr. Wadsworth feels with regard to this Union. I know too, that he trusts me, such that he will guarantee that we shall be able to carry on, and I hope you will shoulder your burdens and try to meet them and try to pay Mr. Wadsworth, and use the £2,000 Fund for the proper thing.

Mr. Slimin: I want it to be quite clear that I am speaking as an individual and not as an official. I feel very strongly that we are being handicapped. We are not being able to make progress as we should do as every ½d. is having to go into Mr. Wadsworth's account. Our Treasurer says the money lying dormant is making £30 per year. Mr. Wadsworth ought to have that. I think we ought to deal with the £2,000 Effort right now.

Mrs. Edwards: I think a stipulation was made that the whole of the £2,000 should be got before it was used for anything. We are not in a position to use any of the amount we have got so far. We ought to hold to the stipulation made when the £2,000 Scheme was inaugurated.

Mr. Edwards: I want to say that we are personally liable for the whole of this money. I am not going to allow this money to be taken out of our hands to be used solely upon the joint agreement between the Trustees and the Management Committee. You will have to agree and pass a resolution that this money should be utilised to pay off our liabilities. This Union would owe that amount of money to the £2,000 Effort. If you do not wish us to advance this fund to relieve some part of our liabilities, your Trustees could agree to take the amount annually as accumulating as interest and handing it over to meet the liabilities of the Union. I want to say if you, as Conference, agree that this should be utilised for this purpose you relieve your Trustees of this responsibility as they no longer hold the money.

Mr. Fruin: I would like to endorse what Mr. Slimin says with regard to the £30 interest. It is time we, as a Conference, gave the Trustees some definite statement to work on to get this amount paid off.

Mr. Le Noury moved, Mr. Lishman seconded,

That the yearly interest accruing from the £2,000 Effort be used to meet our Liabilities to Messrs. Wadsworth. *The resolution was defeated.*

Mr. Slimin: Is it not possible to take all the interest that has accrued from the beginning of the Fund?

Mr. Edwards: We have held in trust the amount subscribed plus interest, and whilst we have held that we have become liable for the amount. We can liquidate the amount for the relief of the financial position of the Union.

Mr. Nurse: Mr. Edwards says each Trustee is liable for £150. There also rises the point, who does the money belong to? The Trustees or the Conference? The Union, and those who have raised it. If people cry for their money it is for the Trustees to release it if we become liable under bankruptcy. Mr. Wadsworth is the man who is in the melting pot, and not us.

Mr. Dixon: The outstanding accounts this year owing to Mr. Wadsworth are rather more than they have been previously owing, due to a larger number of Manuals coming this year. We have £577 worth of stock. With regard to the amendment that has been put forward, I take it that if this interest is taken from the

£2,000 Effort it is going to be then another 40 years before we get it. If we move one way and get the interest then we are going to be so much longer in getting the £2,000. I don't see that this Conference is debarred from taking a step as suggested by the Manchester delegates, and in support of this I would like to refer the Trustees to No. 3 of the Trust Deed.

- Mr. Shuttleworth: I would like to make it very clear in answer to the question should we take the interest that has accrued, definitely, No. Will you take your mind back to the Ainsworth Trust? All interest that has accrued must be capital.
- Can anyone tell me what is the position of a Lyceum that has contributed the minimum of £10, if they send along to the Management Committee that they desire their quota shall be withdrawn?
- Mrs. George: If we are going to borrow from the £2,000 Effort Fund and promise to put it back from the Union, is it not going to make a farce of it? The idea, in the eyes of the Lyceums, will be that it will gradually be taken out as we get a little more. If we raised the £2,000 we have the Union on a good sound basis. We would have lost £100 a year income, as interest.

Mr. Ainsley moved, Mr. Robson seconded,

That we instruct the Management Committee to ask the Trustees for a loan to settle Mr. Wadsworth's Account.

Mr. Connor: Is the Lyceum Union Trustee Security under the Trust Act of 1926?

Mr. Watkins: If we decided that this money should be paid it only means £2 per Lyceum.

Mr. Burrows: I don't for one moment want to be saddled with paying interest of something like £40 per year on top of the expenses we have.

President: In view of the fact that the M.C. are not a Trust Security the amendment is out of order.

Mr. Keeling: Some of the delegates seem to be labouring under a very great misapprehension. The only position we are in is that Mr. Wadsworth is giving us a little extended credit. The system of business is changing. It is true we are accepting credit terms from Mr. Wadsworth. His debt will be exhausted when we cease to buy off him. I want to again submit that this Fund is a Trust Fund. Our position as far as Mr. Wadsworth is concerned is not changed at all. We are shirking the issue. We know the Fund is not progressing as well as we would like. The Capital Fund in trust is made and nothing that we do can alter the fact. If we want to make an effort, let us make an effort, but I contend again and again that this money is trust money that cannot be touched. It is a Capital Fund.

President: Every Member must now only speak once.

Mr. Edwards: The President has given a false ruling.

President: My decision is based on figures that I have used as President on previous occasions, on the Constitution of 1927, which I have now before me.

Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Hart seconded,

That the President's ruling be accepted by Conference. *Agreed.*

CREDENTIAL REPORT.

Officers 3, Area Representatives 7, Trustees 4, Auditors 2, Education Committee 2, U.D.C. 1, Revision Committee 1, District Councils 14, represented by 24 delegates, Lyceums 68, represented by 84 delegates. Total eligible to vote 128. There were also present: S.N.U. Fraternal Delegates 2, Assistant Secretary 1, Reporter 1, Press 1, Accepted Visitors 1. Total present 134.

Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Burrows seconded,

That the Credential Report be accepted. *Carried.*

Mr. Mack: Before we leave the £2,000 Effort we ought to at least pass some appreciation to Mrs. Reynolds. As you are probably aware she is not seeking re-election. We should show that we appreciate the very able way that she has handled the Fund. *Carried.*

Mr. Dobby and the President supported.

Mrs. Reynolds: I thank you for the appreciation shown to

me. My one regret is that I have not been able to realise the whole amount. I trust that the future will hold every success. My best wishes will always be with you.

TRUSTEES' REPORT.

Mrs. Greenwood: You are requested to agree to the re-investment. The work done for the Ainsworth Home of Rest by the Secretary has been remunerated by the Trustees. We mentioned our appreciation of the President and Mrs. Mills in the work done during the distressful illness of our late Secretary. You will notice in the last item you are asked to do something. The selection of the Secretary is to be left to the Management Committee and Trustees.

Miss Keeling moved,

That the last Recommendation of the Trustees Report be accepted.

Mr. Keeling: What procedure do they propose to adopt in this selection?

Mrs. Greenwood: It is a joint affair. It will rest with both the Management Committee and Trustees.

Mr. Keeling: How are applications to come?

Mr. Shuttleworth: We recommend for discussion a suggested advertisement to appear in our June BANNER, also in the *National Spiritualist*. The terms of the advertisement to read,—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' holidays 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 the first post June 11th, 1932.

Mr. Connor: Seeing the present salary of our present Secretary is £260, would it not be policy for the resolution to confirm a reduction in the salary to be discussed.

President: I see no reason why the last recommendation could not be adopted now.

Mr. Shuttleworth: There are two or three recommendations to come before you this week-end. Personally I believe the best thing would be that you take these home with you and sleep on it. We can make some agreement that by increased sale of the BANNER we might increase the salary.

Mr. Keeling: Might I ask that the Trustees read out these things so that we may be more ready to come to a decision in the morning.

Mr. Shuttleworth: You shall allow the agreement of the late Secretary to run to the end of June. The advertisement which I have read out; and thirdly, there is a suggestion for the decrease of the Secretary's salary. Some discussion should be initiated upon the terms of engagement and on the remuneration.

Conference adjourned at 9-15 p.m.

SUNDAY MORNING.

Conference resumed at 10-0 a.m. with "How to Live."

Mrs. Nurse extended a welcome which was followed by a pretty little welcome by the children.

Mrs. Nurse: It is with the greatest pleasure that I extend to all here a real hearty welcome to Regent Hall. There are many happy memories of the founders and organisers of this Church, who we know this morning will look upon us with eyes of gladness, that this has always been deemed impossible, has been made possible. We have had a Conference Committee that has worked together and each member of the Committee has played their part.

President: However brief the welcome, it was significant in itself, and I feel each of us this morning deeply appre-

ciate the words expressed and the sentiment behind it all, and not forgetting those who have laboured with us, the greeting that has been extended to them in the interest of the children.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Mr. R. W. Marks and Mr. W. Burrows withdrew their candidature for President.

President: Mr. J. Shuttleworth, Darwen. 65 votes elected
Mr. J. Slimin, Sunderland. 63 "

Vice-President:

Mrs. A. Calway, Eltham. 14 votes.
Miss E. Elliott, Moston. 70 ,, elected.
Mr. G. A. Mack, Runcorn. 23 ,,
Mr. R. W. Marks, Newton Heath 13 ,,
Mr. J. F. Smith, Attercliffe. 8 ,,

Treasurer: Mr. W. Burrows, Halifax.

Auditor: Mr. C. T. Batley, Fleetwood. 84 votes elected
Mr. J. R. T. Calway, Eltham. 41 "

S.N.U. A.G.M. Representatives:

Mr. J. Shuttleworth.
Mr. A. T. Connor.

S.N.U. E.C. Representatives:

Mr. W. Burrows. 67 votes elected
Mr. J. Slimin. 50 "

President: Immediately after I had given a certain ruling a two-thirds majority of the Manchester resolution, I realised I had made a mistake, but I am human like most of you, and I was not feeling equal to make a statement that I had made a mistake. I have always tried to be honourable and fair. I incorrectly looked up a wrong line and actually it should have been 68 not 61, and therefore I was seven out.

Mr. Taylor: In view of the fact of your statement and how specifically in the Parliamentary Rules of Order, Item 21 states that members are not compelled to vote, but abstention is a given consent, and as only 102 votes were used, we claim we should have, at least, a re-vote.

Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Taylor seconded,

That a Roll Call vote be taken. *Carried.*

A Roll Call Vote was taken.

For the Motion 81. Against 47.

The Manchester motion *re* the £2,000 Effort Fund was defeated.

TRUSTEES REPORT (contd.)

Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Mack seconded,

That the Conference go into Committee.

The motion was not put.

Mr. Slimin moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,

That Standing Orders for one person and one speech be suspended. *Carried.*

Mr. Calway: Last night before we adjourned I moved that the recommendation contained in the last paragraph of the Trustees Report be adopted. Mr. Keeling seconded.

Mr. Keeling: There is a lot to be said. First of all I beg leave to express some reflections that have accrued overnight. It is impossible in law to extend the General Secretary's agreement further. His demise ends that contract. Do not let us talk about carrying on an agreement that has automatically ended. The question of remuneration for the clerk is one that requires very close consideration. We have other points that must be brought into consideration. The position we find ourselves in is without precedent in the history of the movement. This Conference has a right to say who shall be appointed Secretary, but we are not competent at the moment to decide. A suggestion has been made to me that the Conference itself should take part in the selection and appointing of the Secretary. The Conference should appoint say 3, 5, or 6 members to co-operate with the M.C. and Trustees.

Apart from the salary we are to pay, I am in agreement with the Trustees recommendation. Then again, should we do what has been done before, and make the office follow the appointment, or the appointment follow the

office. It would be absurd to move our office about the country.

The right Secretary can make this movement ring throughout Britain. The wrong Secretary can do the opposite. I think considerations should be business considerations, enterprise, etc., and sentiment should take the last place. I appeal to the Conference to make it a definite instruction that this should be done on business lines. While we would all hope with our heart and soul that the Secretary should be a Lyceumist, if the best man should happen not to be a Lyceumist, then we should not debar him by insisting that the Secretary should be a Lyceumist. Let us all hope that the movement has the right person in it, but do not let us doom the movement by saying we must have a Lyceumist.

Mr. Burrows: The condition was made that wherever the office was the Secretary must go.

Mr. Connor: I want to say first of all I am in agreement with Mr. Keeling, but for that little sting in the latter part of his remarks. We must not forget that our General Secretary is also the Editor of the LYCEUM BANNER and if he is not a Lyceumist there are a lot of things that he may take out. I think that no one but a Lyceumist should be the Secretary.

Mr. Shuttleworth: I believe I shall be in general agreement with my colleagues, if it is your desire we shall alter the name of Lyceumist to Spiritualist. To be a Lyceumist means a certain definition, but I think we can agree upon the broad definition of Spiritualist.

Mr. Fruin: Don't I understand that the General Secretary of the Movement does a great deal of propaganda as well? If the General Secretary is not a Lyceumist how is he going to do that work?

Mr. Johnson: As a District Officer of the Nottingham District Council I frequently come up against many problems. I received wonderful help and sympathy from the late Secretary. Had he not been a Lyceumist he could not have done that for me.

Mr. Slimin: We are being rather unfair to Mr. Keeling. He did not say that we should appoint someone who was not a Lyceumist.

Mr. Dixon: Reverting to the remarks made last night with regard to the salary. I heard it mentioned that it was proposed that some little encouragement might be given to the Secretary to increase the sales of the Publishing Fund. This amounts to a wage and a commission basis. The commission side means that the man must be some kind of traveller or organiser, as has been suggested by the late Secretary. To debar the Secretary from undertaking propaganda work would stop him from getting personal touch with the Lyceums that would enable him to increase the sales of the BANNER and the Publishing Dept. I favour the idea of a fixed salary plus some commission which may be made by the Management Committee as may be appointed by the Conference.

Mr. Hart: Whilst I am in agreement with Mr. Keeling do you not think we are underrating ourselves? I think that the person elected would naturally be a Lyceumist. It is necessary for the propaganda work and I am convinced that in our Movement we have the man for the job.

Mr. Ely: Mr. Shuttleworth in his suggestions yesterday mentioned a question of £4 plus commission, but he classified that by demanding a B.A. Someone that understood English, someone with literary experience; must have editorial experience. £4 is no good to offer to a man for a job like that. If we want the best we have to pay for it.

Mr. Shuttleworth: What was offered to this Conference last night was only offered as a basis of discussion. Conference is a final arbiter in this matter. You have got to find the money. The Management Committee, the Trustees and the special Committee you may set up to deal with this matter will have to take fully into account all that has been said upon this question. We shall have a copy of that and be guided by the discussion.

Mr. Dixon: The Management Committee said the Secretary had not to undertake much of this propaganda work, consequently he was unable to get into some of the districts which certainly need organising.

- President: There was a time when the M.C. had a need to restrict the long distance visits of the Secretary. He was allowed to do as he wished. Mr. Knott always approached me with regard to his long distance visits, which were four per year.
- Mr. Robson: There is one thing that we might think about whilst engaging a Secretary to do the Secretarial work, and that is a part time Secretary as Editor of the BANNER. His whole work would be to look after the BANNER and make it more than a financial organ. £4 a week, and if he lives in London or Crewe he has got to move to Manchester. Let us be sensible. If we want a live man who will prove to be a live wire in the Lyceum Movement, I think we ought not to think about £4.
- Mr. Wood: I quite agree with Mr. Keeling in his proposals with the exception of the latter portion. If we as a Lyceum movement have not got a person capable of becoming General Secretary I consider this Movement has not served its purpose.
- Mr. Keeling: Everyone of us hope that the Movement can produce the Secretary we want. I hope we can find a Lyceumist for it.
- Mr. Dickinson: I am in entire favour with the remarks made by Mr. Keeling. Mr. Robson has raised the point of splitting the office into a Secretary and the Publicity Editor. Possibly Mr. Robson is unaware that that would require a salary about £20 a month. For editing the BANNER this would not be out of the question. I feel there is an opportunity here whereby we may be able to enter into more close contact with the Lyceum movements and the Churches. We have to consider also the possibility of the whole of the work the Secretary will have to do. We are all capable of criticising the BANNER. Are we capable of sending some article worthy of printing in the BANNER. Let us have an efficient Secretary, somewhere about £7 a week. Where is the money coming from?
- Mr. Grayson: We are forgetting what was embodied in Mr. Keeling's remarks, that we select from the floor of Conference a few members to work with the M.C. and Trustees. We could rest assured that the person elected would be a Lyceumist.
- Mr. Edwards: I agree with Mr. Keeling's remarks. We have to admit that we cannot carry on for another year in the manner we have carried on since the demise of Mr. Knott. I am quite willing to agree that the Conference should have some say by representatives upon that joint Committee, so as to bring, if possible, the most efficient and capable Lyceumist or Spiritualist to be elected to fill the position of General Secretary. It has been suggested that there should be set a definite sum, and that there should be possible means of increasing that by a rate of commission, shall we say upon the sales, through his personal salesmanship. Shall it be out of the profits accumulated from the several departments that shall produce that profit, or shall it be for absolute ability to fill the position adequately and in such a manner that the dignity of the movement shall be strengthened? The position in my mind, would be to elect a definite number of delegates assembled in the Conference to co-operate with the joint members in trying to devise ways and means to secure success in the election to fill the vacancy. We want one who is prepared to put his shoulder into the work. We want someone to fill the position as early as possible. I am not prepared to stick at £208 and not £260 a year if we can get the right man or woman who could make it attractive and successful, and gain the confidence of the whole of the Lyceums, who could increase our sales.
- Mr. Calway: The suggestion of a part time Editor of the BANNER I feel confident that within the Movement there are people, I know of a number, who would be willing to act as honorary Editor of the BANNER, provided the Secretary of the Union acted in the capacity of assistant Editor, under the direction of that person. We would have no extra expense. We would then have the services of an Editor, of a capable person, his English would be as near perfect as we require, and who would, no doubt, fulfil the requirements of an Editor. I think, if our Trustees and Management Committee would also give consideration to that suggestion we may be able to get over the

difficulty of finding, in our own organisation, a Secretary who could fulfil these duties. £208 a year will never find you the right person. I know for a fact, from experience of the type of work our Secretary has got to do, £7 a week would not be too little. We very often look to the Leaders of a Movement to see what impression they make on the man in the street. I don't think you can get anyone in this country to fill the qualifications that are necessary.

- Mr. Shuttleworth: There have been many suggestions made, but I believe the most important is the salary question. Then you have the type of individual you are likely to get. The point raised by the first speaker has been followed by everyone else. He only asked a question that this Conference can settle. Has the appointment to follow the office, or vice-versa? Those of us who have had some little experience of this movement are quite aware there are many individuals who offered to edit this paper of ours. Will this Conference give approval that this experiment be tried? We have a resolution that we appoint a certain number from off the floor to act with the Trustees and the Management Committee, but more than that, we shall have available the whole of your remarks this morning. Will you give us your backing? We have only just got what you have stated, and have to take what you have generally inferred. I ask you, as Spiritualists and Lyceumists, to make your word your bond.
- Mr. Calway moved, Mr. Dickinson seconded,

That the Recommendation contained in the last paragraph of the Trustees' Report be adopted, and a Committee of five be elected to co-operate with the M.C. and Trustees in the selection and appointment of a General Secretary.

- Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Connor seconded,
That the appointment follow the office.

Carried.

Mr. Edwards and Mr. Burrows supported the motion.

ELECTION OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

Mr. Keeling.	85 votes.	Elected.
Mr. G. A. Dixon.	80	„ „
Mr. G. A. Mack.	78	„ „
Mr. J. E. Hart.	62	„ „
Mr. A. S. Dickinson	52	„ „
Miss G. M. Halliday	49	„ „
Mr. J. P. T. Calway	46	„ „
Mr. W. W. Ely	41	„ „
Mr. J. Nurse.	37	„ „
Mr. J. F. Smith.	24	„ „
Mr. G. P. Robson.	21	„ „
Mr. J. R. Charnley.	15	„ „
Mr. T. Liles.	9	„ „

- Mr. Watkins moved, Mr. Burrows seconded,
That Nominations close.

Mr. J. Taylor moved, Mr. Burrows seconded,

That the five persons who receive the highest number of votes shall be placed in the position. *Agreed.*

ARISEN WORKERS.

The President read the list of Arisen Workers.

Mrs. Greenwood: To those who have moved on just a little ahead of us, we think of you at this moment. We welcome you amongst us. We feel that through your emancipation we are being blessed. We have your co-operation. We have on this assembly your blessing. You have but moved away from us, from our mortal sight, beyond that we feel you are still with us, still living. May your encouragement be in our hearts, in this assembly, and may we at all times feel we have your help and advice. We thank you.

CREDENTIAL REPORT.

Officers 3, Area Representatives 7, Trustees 4, Auditors 2, Education Committee 2, U.D.C. 1, Revision Committee 2, District Council 14, represented by 24 delegates, Lyceums 69, represented by 86 delegates. Eligible to vote, 130. Also present, S.N.U. Fraternal delegates 2, Assistant Secretary 1, Reporter 1, Press 1, Accepted Visitor 1. Total 136.

Mr. Taylor moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,

That the Credential Report be accepted.

Carried.

Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Burrows seconded,

That the Management Committee be authorised to pay equivalent of the half salary up to June 30th, 1932. *Agreed.*

Conference adjourned until 1-15 p.m.

Conference resumed at 1-15 p.m., with the singing of "Hold Fast."

Mrs. Nurse made a presentation of flowers to Mrs. Reynolds.

BANNER REPORT.

Mr. Parker: This Banner Report is very short. One regrettable feature is there are so many Lyceums who do not take the BANNER. If you look at your present copy of the May issue; the Agenda is printed in detail, and yet every delegate gets a special copy of the Agenda. It is the only organ I have come across that has not a special edition. During the year I think we ought to have a special edition.

Mr. Connor: I think Conference should express thanks to the contributors. We are doing this in addition to other jobs.

Mr. Connor moved, Mr. Tweedale seconded,

That the Banner Report be accepted with thanks to those who very ably fill in their spare time in publishing the "Banner." *Carried.*

MANUAL REVISION COMMITTEE REPORT.

Mr. Taylor moved, Mr. Parker seconded,

That the Report be accepted. *Carried.*

U.D.C. REPORT.

Mr. Hart: How many District Councils are in financial standing with the United District Council?

President: There are 17 District Councils in the B.S.L.U. The Secretary thought ten had paid Fees to the U.D.C.

Mr. Taylor: I would like to repeat the question. What is the actual standing in financial membership?

Mr. Dickinson: I regret at the moment I cannot give you the exact figures. I do not carry the whole of the U.D.C. documents with me.

Mr. Batley: Speaking on the question of the U.D.C., as President. To my mind there are 10 District Councils who have paid their Fees for this year.

Mr. Taylor moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,

That the U.D.C. Report be adopted.

Mr. Slimin moved, Mr. Hart seconded,
That we resume Full Standing Orders. *Carried.*

EDUCATION REPORT.

Mr. Connor: As you know, the examinations were held last Sunday. The early part of this week I spent in rushing home wondering how many envelopes were waiting for me. It seems a pity that the Supervisor does not post the envelopes to me until Wednesday. I want to bring a full report to Conference. I would like Lyceums to see that I get the envelopes back by Tuesday. I hope the delegates will press this. I am very sorry to say that this year we have dropped by 400. We have lost 27 Lyceums and just on 400 students on last year's figures. The drop has been general. A year or two ago London, Manchester, Liverpool, Tyneside, N.E. Lancs., Nottingham, would have been knocking at each other's heels. South Wales, where practically everybody is out of work, have increased from 68 to 84. Anyone who says times are hard should see what South Wales have done. Caerau, Ogmere Vale, Llanelly, Cardiff, are the four Lyceums that are keeping the flag flying. We have 972 students. 342 Oral Grade, 355 Grade I., 144 Grade II., 66 Grade III., 42 Grade IV., and 23 Grade V. 257 sat for Oral Grade, 292 Grade I., 112 Grade II., 57 Grade III., 40 Grade IV., 22 Grade V. 780 sat.

Our students seem to get nervous as soon as they come up against something stiff. 23 only thought they had the knowledge to take Grade V.

This is the least entry we have had. The first year we had more entries than we have this year.

Last year I asked for a show of hands for those who were working in the Education work. Four-fifths put up their hands. They were all working, and I know you

are all working. I do ask you to throw your enthusiasm a little bit further and try and make others get interested. I can assure you this is a hard, troublesome job that has got to be done. The entries did not come in a bit well. I sent out an S.O.S. about the middle of April, saying if they sent in their papers I would enter them, although it was after the time. The 31st of March gives me a chance to get ready easily.

Mrs. Paling will satisfy two or three students by giving you the results of the Advanced Examinations.

I have had correspondence from various districts and it appears there are some stories going about that the College Degrees are no good. This is a deliberate, mischievous lie. We have held examinations this year. The S.N.U., in its wisdom, had decided that the degree letters must not appear in their publications. This is the S.N.U., not the College. The degree is an indication that the student has done five or eight years' study.

I think I owe Conference an apology for not going to The Hague last year. There was no time allowed to read the paper. There was not time to discuss it. The reason given was that, when this paper was read, the man who wrote the paper should be there to answer any questions. Unfortunately, we could not get a special Session. They agreed that it would be an absolute waste of a cost of £20 to go over there. Mr. Knott did all that I could have done, better than I could have done, as he managed to keep friendly with all the delegates.

As a result of Mr. Wilkinson's statement at last Conference, his Church and Lyceum had a combined meeting and said that every care should be taken at examinations.

Those of you who are interested in children's work will notice we have got the Oral Grade Primer on sale. It was started July, 1930, and we don't say it is free from mistakes, but we do say there is a tremendous amount of love and hard work put into it. I have shown the book to various people who take an interest in children and an interest in education, and they think the book is too good to be kept in one movement.

With reference to the Guild, I think that if we can only revive the Lyceum Guild we can work up the education work. Since the Guild was closed I have had application for Guild Badges. I have been told that students have lost interest because they cannot get Badges. The Guild increased in strength and the activities of the Education Scheme increased. The Guild had its own report in the LYCEUM BANNER. After the discussion at the Conference in 1925 it was decided that the Guild should not have its own report, but that the Editor should report.

Since 1926 our Education Scheme has fallen by a couple of 100 or so. In 1930 I tried a slogan, 'The Nellie Kitson Memorial,' to let Nellie see that we were for her going. Last year I got another slogan, 'The Emancipation Bill.' This year we have dropped to our lowest level. I would like to propose that we have a Guild Leader appointed at the Conference to revise the Guild once again.

Mr. Barnett: I would like to congratulate the Education Committee on the production of the Primer. I compared it with the original and, in my opinion, it is an infinitely superior production. I had great pleasure on seeing in the March BANNER references to the Guild. I believe that, if this Guild is established and a Guild Leader appointed by Conference, it will be beneficial to the Education Scheme, and also to the Lyceum movement in general.

Mr. Barnett moved, Miss Entwistle seconded,

That in order to give stimulus to the Education Scheme in particular and the Lyceum Movement in general this Conference deems it necessary to take steps to immediately revive our Lyceum Guild as an officially recognised auxiliary of the Education Scheme, and that Miss Halliday be invited to become Guild Leader. *Carried.*

Miss Keeling: If Mr. Connor would explain the use of the Guild and its purpose I should be very much obliged.

Mr. Connor: The Guild previously was the Students' Union of the Lyceum Movement. Everyone who joined the Guild undertook to join in with the social

and other work of other members of the Guild. The whole idea was that everyone who joined the Guild gave an undertaking that they would take the Education Scheme through.

Miss Lawton: I would like to support the motion that Miss Halliday be the Guild Leader. I know that from 1924 Miss Halliday was one whom Miss Kitson had in mind to carry on. We must have a Guild Leader who must have a wide knowledge of children's hobbies.

Mr. Robson: Is the space in the BANNER given at the discretion of the Editor to the Education Scheme, or are you not entitled to space in the BANNER.

Mr. Connor: Fred Knott was a Lyceumist, and anything we liked we could have in the BANNER. We could have as much space as we required, but we played the game with him, and we used only the extra space when we needed it. We have an Editor and are very grateful to the Editor.

Miss Halliday: I have been approached in the matter perhaps six or eight months ago, and I said, if Conference should desire, I was willing to take the work on. I have plenty to do, but you can always put in an extra job. I offer to do the work, and will do it to the best of my ability.

Mr. Berry: There seems to be a little pessimism in the whole of Mr. Connor's report. I am rather sorry that that pessimism has expressed itself in the form which it did. It seems to suggest that the effect of the Lyceum association with the I.S.F. is not having the effect that you might hope it would have, and I do feel that, to the memory of Mr. Knott, you should not think so little of his work on the I.S.F. Council as to imagine the pessimistic results Mr. Connor suggests. It is quite true you could not get a whole evening for this report on education. I do want to assure you that the discussion on that paper was by no means negligible. You did not have a whole Session, but we had the good opportunity of discussing Lyceum work. Whereas there have been four International Congresses, there have been 12 Committee meetings of the International Committee. Mr. Knott and I have been at the whole of them, and when Mr. Knott has been at an International Committee Meeting he has worked faithfully for the Lyceum Movement and its Education Scheme. Both in Belgium and in Holland they are doing something very good indeed to establish Sunday Schools on similar lines to your Lyceum work.

Mr. Parker: During the discussion on education it is quite obvious to most people that, as far as the Education Scheme we have, it is not pulling as it ought to. It is not attracting the younger element. As far as the children are concerned, there ought in the near future to be a considerable change in the scheme. A lot of people are of opinion that the whole of the scheme is to make platform workers. The majority of the examinations are taken in writing, and, whilst I know that many people have difficulty in expression, it is more difficult for certain types of people to write, and when it comes to putting pencil to paper they start hesitating. If something could be done on an oral subject; whatever the Education Committee has done, it certainly has not taught students the effect of words from a spoken standpoint.

Mrs. George moved,

That the N.E. Cheshire District Council Motion be taken under the Education Report.

Mrs. Moulton moved, Mrs. Edwards seconded,

Education Scheme. Suggested alterations of Examination Ages.

Junior Oral Grade	..	..	12 years and over.
Senior Oral Grade	..	..	13 " " "
Grade I...	..	..	14 " " "
Grade II.	..	..	15 " " "
Grade III.	..	..	16 " " "
Grade IV.	..	..	17 " " "
Grade V.	..	..	18 " " "

Mrs. Moulton: Our Council, in putting this Motion forward, think it would give the children an uninterrupted time of study. We find that waiting is so discouraging. The child of to-day is far better than we were. Most of us were working at 10 or 13, and the general educa-

tion method has so advanced that we feel we must alter our method. We maintain that 12 years of age is quite early enough for the Junior Oral Grade. Children going to school do not wake up to realities. The main point is that there shall be no waiting periods between the Grades. We are sure a good number of students have been lost by it.

Mrs. Edwards: I think we shall have an increase in the students entering for the Education Scheme. I think it is the waiting part that causes the students to lose heart.

Mrs. Clitheroe seconded an amendment,

That we start an Oral Grade from 10, 11 and 12, instead of two Oral Grades we have three Oral Grades.

Mr. George: We are quite in favour of continuity of ages. Ten seems rather old to start the Oral, and at the same time, if they think it is an easy examination, it will give them stimulus to go on. Instead of having it very easy and then hard, you will have a gradual change. There is something to do every year.

Mr. Connor: It is a pity that these people do not let the Education Committee know of their amendments. The Oral Grade Primer will be quite wrong if this motion goes forward. If we had been aware that N.E. Cheshire and Liverpool were bringing this forward we could have kept that in mind. Another thing is that this scheme has been altered and re-altered and re-considered since 1920, and we're trying to find something to fit. All this talk about the children being discouraged is not true, as 80% to 88% are over 20 years of age. The children who sit for the course very seldom fit in the ages. We generally get them about 14 or 15. It is an attempt to get the children young. Some children about 14 or 15 think they are grown up and too old to go to Sunday School. It is a matter of business; anyone who alters the Education Scheme ought to go to the Education Committee and give them a chance before Conference. It rests with Conference if you decide that the ages have got to be altered.

Mr. Keeling: The Education Committee suggests that when we have an alteration we should write to them and leave it to them. The movers want the opinion of this Conference, and not the Education Committee.

Mr. Connor: Last year at the Conference it was announced that there was a new No. 1 Handbook and a New Primer coming. In No. 1 Handbook the ages are given. There was going to be a new Syllabus of Work, and a new 'How to Prepare,' and age limits are given. We did not do it on the quiet, we only replaced them, and not one of them sent in any suggestions, but bring it here to Conference.

Miss Lawton: There is another aspect in changing these ages for examination. In the first place it is suggested that the Oral Grade be raised to 12. We get a lot of entries from children who are six and seven years old, and know their work, and get good marks for it, and these children are very keen. If we are going to leave it to 12 years of age, several children have now, at 11 years of age, a chance of passing a scholarship, and these children cannot enter the exams. because of their homework. I shall be very sorry indeed to see the age altered.

Mr. Slimin asked if the delegate would read what she moved for Conference.

Mrs. Moulton read the resolution.

Mr. Keeling asked the Standing Orders Committee if this was the resolution as submitted to them.

The President gave her ruling that the motion as read would be an instruction to the Education Committee, whereas the motion on the agenda was merely a suggestion. If this motion is carried as on the agenda then the Education Committee would merely consider the advisability of adopting it.

Mrs. Edwards: We are definitely instructed that this was a Notice of Motion to the Education Committee.

The President: It is obvious there has been an error, and if carried it will be an instruction to the Education Committee.

Mrs. George withdrew the amendment.

The Notice of Motion was defeated.

PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS COMMITTEE.

Mr. Hart: You will notice at the bottom of the report it was finally agreed that the Committee, through Mr. Marks, should bring the matter before the Manchester and Salford L.D.C. Personally, I was very glad to be associated with this test. We formed a Committee and went thoroughly into the matter, and we conducted tests on children we knew and children we did not know. We concluded that the Psychological Tests are not workable.

Mr. Keeling moved, and it was *agreed*,

That the Psychological Tests Report be accepted and that we express our thanks to Manchester District Council and that no further action be taken.

Mr. Marks: I think, unfortunately, that I am 20 years too soon. Perhaps then it will be well recognised. I did think, and still think, that it is necessary for this Union to be aware of any experiments that are going on.

S.N.U. E.C. REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Taylor moved, Mr. Burrows be S.N.U. E.C. Representative.

Mr. Ainley moved, Mr. Slimin.

Mr. Dixon moved, The prospective Secretary.

Mr. Connor stated that he did not think the Secretary before elected was entitled to be nominated, and moved that nominations close after Mr. Burrows.

Mr. Dixon withdrew the nomination of Prospective Secretary.

Mr. Shuttleworth: I think the position wants making very clear. We are not allowed to substitute, only by a fraternal delegate.

President: In view of Mr. Knott's very serious illness, I immediately wrote to the Secretary of the S.N.U. asking for a member of our E.C. to attend the meeting of the S.N.U. on our behalf, and he replied that it was quite in order. Mr. Slimin was the delegate. We are informed, through the report Mr. Slimin brought back this week-end, that he was only allowed as a fraternal delegate to watch the proceedings on behalf of the B.S.L.U. It was not to be accepted as a precedent for future meetings.

Mr. Keeling: I was absent and wish to dissociate myself entirely from the attitude of the Council.

The President then quoted the S.N.U. Council Minutes: "That Mr. Slimin be accepted as an emergency matter and it be not taken as establishing a precedent."

Mr. Slimin: I was there to observe and report to the B.S.L.U.

Mr. Shuttleworth moved, Mr. Mack seconded,

That this Conference strongly deprecates the attitude of the S.N.U. Council in refusing to allow our Representative the full status of an accredited Councillor.

Mr. Slimin: I think it may seem that I am letting the M.C. down. I unfortunately am the one who was concerned in an incident that has occurred. I have reported that to my Executive Committee. The incident was that the S.N.U. Council Meeting considered the advisability of allowing a substitute at their meeting. I don't know what occurred at that meeting. I was asked to leave the Council. When brought back into the meeting, they welcomed me to report to my Management Committee, but in no way was I regarded as a substitute for a Council member.

Mr. Wood: It is evident that the S.N.U. Executive Council refused to give Mr. Slimin full credentials.

Mrs. Paling: I would say it is not true. I feel it was not the intention of the S.N.U. to refuse voting powers to Mr. Slimin. No National Councillor is allowed to send a substitute.

Mr. Keeling: We accept Mr. Slimin's statement as to what happened. As to what took place, surely the right action is to ask the S.N.U. for an explanation, to find out what else there is about it, and then deal with the matter on the merits of the case when you know both sides.

Mr. Shuttleworth: I am surprised at Mr. Slimin's attitude. He told us he was welcomed and told he was there to observe and report. One must agree with the outline

as given by Mrs. Paling. I withdraw the resolution on behalf of the M.C.

Mr. Mack moved, Mr. Hart seconded,

That the motion of the M.C. be withdrawn.

Against 11. *Carried.*

Mr. Connor: Do I understand in the first place you had a reply from Mr. Berry that we could send a substitute? Mrs. Paling says that legally we could not send, and the S.N.U. Council could not accept, a substitute on the S.N.U.

The President: Yes. That was Mr. Berry's opinion, but in the Council meeting you have your Chairman's opinion.

Mr. Slimin moved, Mr. Edwards seconded,

Previous Question. For 95; against 6. *Carried.*

Mr. Shuttleworth moved, Mr. Mack seconded,

That we ask for an explanation from the S.N.U. Council re their attitude towards our Substituted Delegate at the last S.N.U. E.C. Meeting.

For 94. Against 6. *Carried.*

COLLEGE REPORT.

Mr. Connor moved,

That the College Report be adopted.

Mrs. Paling: There are many people who wish to know the results of the examinations. We have had a record number of entries, 92 for the whole examination, as against 83 last year. We had 25 entries for Intermediate: 23 sitters, and 15 have succeeded. Amongst these are Mr. Fruin, Mr. W. Taylor, Mr. Hardwick, and Mr. Jones, of Egypt, who has attained honours. Subsidiary: 7 entries, 7 sitters, and 7 have been successful. Miss Halliday gained distinction, Mr. Le Noury honours.

Final: 5 entries, 4 sitters, 3 successful. Mr. Barnes, of Bradford, has been successful.

I only wish more students would take up the Advanced Courses, because every Spiritualist and Lyceumist should know as much as possible about himself and all around him.

Mr. Bruce moved, Mr. Marks seconded,

A vote of appreciation to Mrs. E. Paling. *Carried.*

ELECTION OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Mr. Shuttleworth moved, Mr. Taylor seconded,

That Mr. A. T. Connor and Miss M. E. Lawton act as Secretary and Chairman of the Education Committee. *Carried.*

OVERSEAS REPORT.

The President apologised for having made reference to Mr. and Mrs. Webb probably being at Conference. She is now informed that they would not arrive in England until 19th June.

AINSWORTH HOME OF REST REPORT.

It was agreed

That the Report be adopted.

INTERNATIONAL REPORT.

Mr. Shuttleworth moved, Mr. Burrows seconded,

That we recommend to the B.S.L.U. Conference that we withdraw our affiliation with the I.S.F. through the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. Joint Method of Affiliation. For 93. Against 24. *Carried.*

Mr. Shuttleworth: In January of this year we met the S.N.U. As a result of this meeting we agreed to a joint report. We have printed this joint report in our LYCEUM BANNER.

We find, as a result of that meeting, that as far as I.S.F. representation goes we are nowhere. If there is a Lyceum future in International Spiritualism, then we ought to be directly connected with the I.S.F. Among matters we discussed, we were told that whatever came to this country should have come jointly, and we have had to rely upon various officials from the S.N.U. as to information we got from the I.S.F.

Mr. Burrows: Some of us have felt for some considerable time that while we were represented through the S.N.U. we are not getting all that is due to us. It makes you think sometimes that the B.S.L.U. is a

child's movement. We are agreed that the Lyceum is a child's movement, but surely, out of all the education we try for, we have people capable of administering.

Mr. Mack: Is this the time when we are to discuss this private report or will it be discussed as a B.S.L.U. Report?

Mr. Keeling: As an individual I have no objection whatever to the Lyceum Union being affiliated to the I.S.F. separately, but until we can get direct affiliation that is obtained by the S.N.U. I don't think that Conference would like to think that we are going to sever our affiliation with the I.S.F. altogether. The Lyceum Union is a national factor in the International Congresses. The Lyceum influence is a strong feature there. It is a tribute to the Lyceum movement that we have our workers going forward.

President: One Union in one nation can only affiliate directly with the I.S.F., and that nation is allowed two representatives. In the early days the B.S.L.U. members urged that we ought to have direct affiliation. The S.N.U. are the people who are directly affiliated, and by joint affiliation we are entitled to one seat each on the Grand Committee. As Associate members we should have representation at the Congress only.

Mr. Berry: I want, as first President of the International Federation, who also had a great deal to do with the drawing up of the Statutes, to explain the position. We are faced with the fact that there are a number of associations who wish to come into the I.S.F., and we were called upon to deal with the Constitution at that time. It applied to America and to Spain and other countries, but did not apply to Great Britain. We came to a decision that when a seat was sought on the International Committee we would give a place to one National Association only. If in that country there were other associations, those two or three National Associations might get together and mutually agree how they would fill the two seats. Our joint work and filling of these two seats has prevented others from coming in.

Mr. Mack: Under what rule, Bye-law, Article or Minute were the three members of the Joint Conference of the S.N.U. and B.S.L.U. appointed?

President: There is no particular rule. The Bye-law states that anything not provided for within the Constitution, the M.C. have power to deal with it.

Mr. Mack: The 1930 Conference voted against the motion appointing three members. Why has this been done?

President: This was done through the report of the A.G.M.

Mr. Mack: I want my individual protest launching against this attitude. The Conference of 1930 decided definitely that three members should not be elected, and this is a breach of confidence.

President: This particular matter which has been dealt with in the M.C. had nothing to do with the Conference of 1930.

Mr. Keeling: There were matters upon which the Lyceum Union M.C. wished to consult the S.N.U. Executive. The M.C. wrote the S.N.U. to appoint three of their members to meet the M.C. The S.N.U. appointed three to meet our three. Surely the M.C. have not done wrong in meeting members of another body.

Mr. Mack: I would like your permission to refer to this particular motion. I trust that at future meetings the amendment as passed at the 1930 will be taken into account.

Mr. Slimin: The 1930 Conference vote has nothing at all to do with the matter.

Mr. Shuttleworth: You have definitely stated that your M.C. and Trustees have to meet the S.N.U. You suggest that we can't meet, and yet you have told us to meet them *re* centralisation of offices.

Mr. Parker moved, Miss Keeling seconded,

That all reports be adopted.

Agreed.

DATE AND PLACE OF NEXT CONFERENCE.

Mr. Burrows moved, Mrs. George seconded.

Saturday and Sunday, June 3rd and 4th, 1933.

Carried.

Mr. Keeling moved, Mr. Mack seconded,

That the matter be left to the discretion of the Management Committee to make provisions for next Conference.

Carried.

GENERAL MOTIONS.

Mr. Mack moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,

That an inventory be taken of all properties, articles, documents, books, and the like, which have been (or may be) given or bequeathed to the B.S.L.U. to be kept in the archives of that Union, and that it be an instruction to the auditors of that Union to compare the aforesaid goods with the inventory each year and report thereon to the Annual Conference following such stocktaking.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. Dixon: In view of this resolution and in view of the fact that we have just lost our General Secretary, I think you are putting a great deal of onus upon the Auditors, and I would like some assistance from the Management Committee or the Trustees to produce the things for us.

Mr. Keeling: In view of the fact that the office may be moved I think it is a good opportunity.

President: I take it the responsibility of these goods can only be accepted from the present date.

NOTICE OF MOTION FOR NEXT CONFERENCE.

Mr. Hart moved, Mr. Taylor seconded, on behalf of Manchester and Salford L.D.C.,

That a professional Auditor, or firm of Chartered Accountants, be in future engaged to conduct the auditing of the B.S.L.U. accounts.

VOTE OF THANKS.

Mr. Marks moved, Mr. Keeling seconded,

That our thanks be extended to the local people for their hospitality.

Carried unanimously.

Mrs. Nurse suitably replied.

CREDENTIAL REPORT.

Officers 3, Area Representatives 7, Trustees 4, Auditors 2, Education Committee 2, U.D.C. 1, Revision Committee 1, District Councils 14, represented by 24 delegates, Lyceums 69, represented by 86 delegates. Total eligible to vote 130. Also present: S.N.U. Fraternal Delegates 2, Assistant Secretary 1, Reporter 1, Accepted Visitor 1. Total present 135.

Mr. Taylor moved and it was agreed

That the Report be accepted.

Mr. Mack moved, Mr. Slimin seconded,

That our appreciation be recorded for the work that Mr. Knott has done in the past.

Carried.

Mr. Mack: Probably I have criticised Mr. Knott as much as anyone. Therefore this is the reason why I move the motion, because although I did not agree with everything that he did, the least we can do is to appreciate the work he has done.

Mr. Connor: I want to add to the tribute of the Education Committee for Mr. Knott. We have got on the platform to-day one of Mr. Knott's oldest colleagues. I want to impress Lyceumists that the Education Scheme has lost a very staunch supporter in Mr. Knott, as Editor of the "Banner" and the children have lost a friend who loved them as a father. No matter what we asked of him, we never asked in vain. We have lost his physical body, but he and Nellie Kitson are together on the Spiritual Side, and we send out our very hearty congratulations to Mr. Knott.

Mr. Le Noury: I had occasions many times to write as District Visitor. At times I have had to seek assistance of Mr. Knott, who was our General Secretary. I am a young man, and we young people feel that his efforts were not in vain. I trust that his ideals will live with us, and he shall not have laboured in vain.

Mr. Keeling: It is difficult to add anything to what has been said about Fred, but I think Mrs. Greenwood and I are two who have been the longest with the Lyceum Union. Therefore I have been associated with Mr. Knott and worked with him. If you had a difference with him he would chew it out, and the longer I knew him the more I appreciated him, and I only feel I can say this, his work is not lost; he has left good-fellowship behind him. His work for the Lyceum Union has re-commenced.

Mrs. Greenwood: It is difficult to say just what you want to say. You can think a lot and not be able to express it. My mind goes back to the day when we took Fred away, just a few days ago, and at that particular gathering the place was full. The body gradually moved and went behind those curtains, and that was the last we saw, and I thought, that is just like Fred. He did a great deal in trying to get the best ideas to the fore. That was always his line, and to do something that was for the benefit of others. I want to think of him in his capacity of Clerk to the Trustees. We had a pretty rough passage for a time, and I think we all agree that it was Fred's hand that steered these matters, and now I am speaking of William Pimblott. Fred and he were on excellent terms, and he received a great amount of help from Mr. Pimblott. Mr. Knott was most assiduous in following up these matters. Mr. Knott was the one who helped us to gain our local standing. We ought to be very grateful to him for all the things he has done for us. I must say this, that as Chairman of the Trustees, he never failed to find a way out of any difficulty that came before us. He seemed he would lift everything out of the way, and this interest cannot die. I would like to think of a continuance of his interest with us in all our affairs, in collaboration with all that have gone before us.

Mr. Vickers: I am delighted to be here this week-end. Such memories, such fights, such struggles and efforts, and many of these things we shared with Fred. He had a wonderful nature; sympathetic to a degree, always on the lookout to impress anything that would improve the system, or establish in our movement anything that would benefit it. I don't remember in all my experience with him that he ever lost his temper. The last time I had the pleasure of meeting him was at Paris at the International Congress there along with Mr. Mack. He worked all the time to spread the truth to all delegates of all countries, and you have only to have experience of meeting International delegates to see what that means, and there is no doubt about the hard work he put in. The idea of the Lyceum is spreading throughout the world. I felt I wanted to be in the atmosphere of the Conference this time, to encourage you all a bit. I know this change will make a difference. I know it will be his wish that you make your choice a wise one, in a man or woman who will fill his place, and I trust that the Committee that has been formed will appreciate the fact by seeing that the most efficient, wise and tactful individual is placed in his stead.

Mr. Fruin stated that London wished to be associated with the vote.

Mr. Berry: I feel I would not like to go away from this Conference, under the circumstance of Fred Knott's passing, and the memory we have of his work, without adding my tribute. As General Secretary working alongside another General Secretary, we had many things to sympathise with each other about, and out of our sympathy we did feel that our work was bound to bring the Unions together. We have worked together for that end. We have worked together on the International Grand Committee right from its inception.

President: As President of this Union I feel that it is essential on behalf of the Management Committee that I pay tribute to Mr. Knott's memory, and everyone feels that his going has left a void in this Union, but with the knowledge of continuity beyond the grave we can be influenced towards the realisation of all these things for which he stood.

The Conference passed a standing vote of condolence.

Conference closed at 5-10 p.m.

The centipede was happy quite, until one day in fun,
A toad asked, "Pray, which leg goes after which?"
It sent her mind to such a pitch,
She lay distracted in a ditch,
Considering how to run.

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.

TRANSITION.

FLEETWOOD.—We regret to report the passing to the Higher Life on June 9th, 1932, of Mr. A. T. Breakwell, aged 41 years.
"One by One."

IN MEMORIAM.

SOUTH MANCHESTER.—In Loving memory of Florence Lowde, aged 12, adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Leigh, passed to the Summerland, June 17th, 1928.

Special Reports.

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

DUNEDIN.—On May 8th, a Special Open Session was held to commemorate "Mothers' Day." Several visitors were present, and each was given a white flower. Pearls by all. Recitations by Colin and Irene Bachop, Roland, Hilda and Kathleen Paul, Nancy Rainbow, Frances Anthony, Herbert McCulvray and Mrs. McCulvray. Readings by Mrs. Asher, Mrs. Paul and Miss Burgess. Song by Mr. Gore. Pianoforte solos by Mr. Hargreaves and his daughter, Joan. Short talk by Mr. Stables. A letter was read from Mrs. McConnell, one of our oldest members, who is still on the sick list, expressing regret at her inability to be present, and wishing us a happy day. She enclosed a poem on "Mother," which was read.

The hall was decorated with some lovely flowers, some of which were taken to the hospital at the close of the evening service.

Mr. Ridd, Church President, pronounced the benediction. Some of the scholars presented white flowers to all who attended the evening service.

Greetings to all Lyceums.—Miss R. Burgess, Con. Sec.

HEELEY, Woodseats.—On May 28th the Lyceumists gave their first Concert. It was well attended and a huge success.

May 29th was our first Anniversary. The children rendered individual items in the afternoon and evening. Mr. Hopkins, the Conductor of Gifford Road, gave us an interesting address, after which members of the Liberty Group officiated.

Monday night, Mr. Russell, the President of our Church, presented 28 prizes to our Lyceumists.

June 5th Open Session. Conductor, Mr. E. Round. Individual items were given by the Lyceumists. An enjoyable time spent by all.—Miss E. Jefferson, Sec.

LONDON, Hackney.—One cannot express in words the power, love and harmony which prevailed throughout our Session on May 29th. Our Conductor, Mrs. Chiplin, performed the ceremony of naming our Lyceum baby, Robert Cecil Coote, spirit name "Power." Mrs. Chiplin held a bunch of lilies while naming him, and the Lyceum children made a procession round the Lyceum, each placing a white flower on the baby as they passed. A spirit child accompanied each child in the procession. I am sure this very uplifting Session will remain in our memories for a long time to come.—May Moring, Sess. Sec.

WAKEFIELD.—On June 19th we held a Hospital Sunday, taking the form of an Open Session. Eggs, fruit and collection were forwarded to the local Hospital. An enjoyable Session was spent, pearls, solos and recitations were numerous. Mrs. Adamson, the speaker for the day, was present.—D. Harding, Sec.

District Council Reports.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD L.D.C.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Alma St., Halifax, on August 21st, commencing at 10-30 a.m.

G. HALLIDAY, Sec.

LEEDS DISTRICT.

Quarterly Conference held Saturday, June 18th, at Hanover

Street, Batley, 3-30 p.m. Mr. Wainwright, President, presided. Tribute was paid to our late esteemed General Secretary, Mr. G. F. Knott, all delegates rising. Invocation by Mrs. Spencer, Birstall. Welcome given to Conference by Mr. Whitaker, Batley. The President accepted, on behalf of the Conference. The President gave his address. Minutes and correspondence were accepted.

Reports:—D.V. Mr. Spencer had visited Batley, Dairycoates, Gipsyville, Hull. Most Lyceums are not doing wing movement according to diagram in Lyceum Manual. Treasurer reported a deficit of £1 os. 11d. on General Fund. Discussion followed. Something must be done. Notice of Motion to be placed before next Conference: £7 be withdrawn from Field Day Account.

U.D.C. report by Mr. Wainwright was very interesting. B.S.L.U. Conference report given by Secretary. Field Day Report by Mrs. Greenwood. Tender for tea, minerals and sweets of £1 7s. od. accepted. Agreed to advertise in local press. Agreed Treasurer assist F.D. Secretary on day of Demonstration. All secretaries to pay for teas ordered, also souvenirs on July 9th. All reports accepted.

Mr. Barnes was called upon to declare result of finding in Silver Bell progress scheme. Mr. Barnes thanked all. This included his wife. Thanks also for kindness shown by all Lyceums he had visited. They would have happy memories; met old friends and made new ones. Results:—1st, Dewsbury, 87½; 2nd, Castleford, 83; 3rd, Wakefield, 79¾; 4th, York, 78¾; Batley Carr, 77¾; Armley 75¾; Cleckheaton 73; Normanton 72½; Leeds Psycho 68½; Leeds, Easy Road, 68; Hemsworth and Gipsyville 64½ each; Liversedge 63; Batley 54½; Holborn Hall 40½.

He gave back his expenses to the Council, and he wished one half to be given to the General Fund and the other half to be sent to the B.S.L.U. Agreed that the wish of Mr. Barnes be fulfilled. Agreed to ask Mr. Barnes to act once again as our adjudicator, which he agreed to do, but not to commence before 1933.

Agreed we ask our old friend Dad Kitson to present the Silver Bell to Dewsbury, also to invite Mr. and Mrs. Barnes.

Committee's recommendations for future Demonstrations was accepted with certain deletions and additions. Associates Mr. Tweedale (Wakefield) and Mr. Nowell (Batley Carr) accepted.

Open Council. D.V. was instructed to visit the newly formed Lyceum at Kippax.

Date and place of our next Conference agreed it be left with Secretary. Mr. Wainwright expressed our very best thanks to our Batley friends for catering to our wants and making us all so comfortable.

Roll Call: Officers 5, 1 Area Representative, 1 Fraternal Delegate, L.D.C., 1 Lyceum Delegate to the L.D.C., 1 Credential Officer, 1 Field Day Secretary, 16 Delegates representing 14 Lyceums, 1 Associate, Lyceums represented: Armley, Batley Carr, Batley, Birstal, Castleford, Cleckheaton, Dewsbury, Hemsworth, Heckmondwike, Normanton, Queen Street, Morley, Queen Street, Wakefield, York, Leeds Psycho.

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT.

The above Council meeting was held on Saturday, May 7th, at the Spiritualists' National Church, Commonhall St., Chester. The meeting was presided over by the President, Mrs. Clitheroe. The invocation was given by Mr. Keeling.

Delegates were present from Wigan, Boaler St., Runcorn, Warrington, Chester, Daulby and Birkenhead Lyceums, Officers and Associate, total 18.

The minutes were read and confirmed.

Correspondence accepted, and arising out of same it was resolved that letters of sympathy by sent to Mrs. Knott, Mrs. O'Keef and Mr. Stirrup during their bereavements.

Eisteddfod. It was decided that Church Members entering the Competitions must each pay their own expenses. It was also decided that all competitions be based upon maximum age.

Button Badges. This question was discussed and it was decided to refer it back to Lyceums for consideration, delegates to report at next Council Meeting.

Reports. The Secretary dealt principally with the Eisteddfod, requesting that delegates press for more competitors.

District Visitor. Mrs. Watson reported on having visited Birkenhead and Rock Ferry Lyceums on March 6th. Both progressing favourably, but Rock Ferry needs more adults.

Treasurer's Report. This showed a balance in hand of £4 4s. 7d.

£2,000 Effort Fund. This is progressing slowly. Daulby,

Boaler St., Birkenhead and Wigan are working towards it. Other Lyceums in the district are invited to support it by efforts which can be easily worked in their Lyceums.

Definite Policy. Subject for this quarter is "The Internal Education Scheme."

Pooling Scheme for Delegates to the B.S.L.U. Conference. As some delegates do not appear to be quite clear *re* this Scheme, and Lyceums cannot decide upon entering it, the question was again referred back to Lyceums for definite consideration.

Result of Session Competition. Runcorn Lyceum have been successful in winning the Shield by 878 marks out of a possible 1,000. The President congratulated them on their success.

B.S.L.U. Agenda. It was decided to support the following: Officers; President, Mr. J. Shuttleworth; Vice-President, Miss E. Elliott; Treasurer, Mr. W. Burrows; Auditor, Mr. C. T. Batley. The remainder of the Agenda was dealt with in the usual way.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Chester friends for their hospitality was moved, and passed with applause.

LILLIE GEORGE, *Hon. Sec.*

NORTH EAST CHESHIRE DISTRICT.

Macclesfield held their *Jubilee Anniversary* (50 years) with Mass Sessions, conducted by Mr. W. Dransfield, President of the Council, and we opened with "Hail Festal Morn." Mrs. E. Edwards Vice-President, gave the invocation, and welcomed delegates and friends. Mrs. E. Edwards conducted the S.C., and questions and answers were good.

Mr. Moore, Congleton, Mr. Markham, Ashton, and Miss Pickering, Heaton Norris, conducted the Musical Reading.

Mrs. Ennion conducted the G.C.R. She is acting D.V. for her son, who unfortunately met with an accident. Mrs. Ennion commented on the G.C.R. Marching, callisthenics and Pearls were all good. The Children rendered "Hail the Day of Jubilee."

Greetings from Stockport, Congleton, Ashton and Heaton Norris were accepted with thanks by the Council and Macclesfield. A very pleasant feature of the sessions was that Mrs. Pimblott, its first Musical Conductor, came from Llandudno to take her place and help with her delightful touch on the piano.

Mrs. Challinor is still in harness as Conductor, and is an able leader, ever willing to help with the children. Mrs. Rushton has been Secretary for so many years, and yet is a most able organiser. They are three of the first Lyceumists—pioneers of progress—who must have seen many changes of fortune, yet throughout the 50 years have rendered invaluable service, which we cannot truly estimate; not only to their own little home Lyceum, but to the greater cause of the B.S.L.U. May we still have their help for many years to come.

Evening: Councillor Potts welcomed the Officers and friends and handed over the meeting to the Council. Mr. W. Dransfield replied with thanks. Vocal solos by Mrs. Edward, of Macclesfield. Violin Solos by Mr. Holland, accompanied by his brother. Recital by Mrs. Welling, a member of our Lyceum.

Short address by Mr. Markham on Progress: the aim of Lyceums with reference to Jubilee and progress made sure. Mr. E. Edward, Vice-President, followed with "Pioneers"; and how each and every child can be, and is, a pioneer. The Lyceumists rendered song and chorus.

It is a day that will live long in the memory of the large number who attended, and we did truly "Hail the Day of Jubilee." Best wishes to our new President and all the officers of the B.S.L.U.

N. A. L. MARKHAM, *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 June 22nd.

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 July 27th to ensure insertion in the August issue.

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

ACCRINGTON, Pearl St.—Open Session June 5th, conducted by Mr. Fazackerley. Recitations were well rendered by Miss Phyllis Edwards, Bessie Hilton, Jean Farmworth, Jean Hilton, Nellie Laycock. Solos by Billie Edwards, Walter E. Swift, Miss Nellie Laycock, Mrs. Jones, Jean Farmworth. Duets by Misses Frances Laycock, Phyllis Edwards; Walter E. Swift, Billie Edwards. An enjoyable Session was spent.—Mrs. Crabtree, Sec.

BARROW, Dalkeith Street.—On May 8th we held our Lyceum Anniversary. Miss M. E. Lawton presided at the afternoon Open Session. Mr. Shuttleworth, of Darwen, our speaker for the day, presented the prizes to the children, who rendered recitations and songs.

The evening service was held in the Church, an address being given by Mr. Shuttleworth. The flowers were given to sick members and friends.—A. Taft, Sec.

BACUP.—On June 5th we held three Open Sessions. Morning: 14 pearls, 3 recitations, 6 solos, 4 duets, 2 quartets, 1 pianoforte solo. Afternoon: 25 pearls, 5 recitations, 2 solos, 1 duet. Evening: 32 pearls, 6 recitations, 4 solos, 4 duets. There were Lyceumists present from Rochdale, Regent St., Baron St., Bailey St., Dearnley, Burnley. Naming of three children in the afternoon by Mr. A. Harris. Total attendance at three Sessions 480. Session conducted by Mrs. Carter.—S. Carter, A.N.S.C., Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—Open Session June 5th. Conductor, Mr. Thompson. Recitations by Mona, Lilian, and Elizabeth Saunders, Vera Hamilton, Florrie and Gertie Watson, Mr. Taylor. Solos by Mrs. Mars, Mrs. Harper, Miss Elsie Thompson, Mrs. Harding, Lilian Harding. Pianoforte solos by Mr. Whiteley, Eileen Edwards, Olwyn Daly. Violin solo by Albert Thompson.—Wm. Kneale, Sec.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter St.—May 29th, usual Open Session. The following gave recitations, Iris Entwistle, E. Thompson, Jean Entwistle, E. Livesey, Joyce Entwistle, C. Railton. Miss Jenkinson and Mrs. Grime, of Darwen, were our speakers. We had a good Session, about 100 present.

June 5th was our Church Anniversary. Services morning and evening were well attended. In the afternoon we held an Open Session. The Church E.C. conducted the readings. Jean Entwistle, O. Parker, Iris Entwistle, E. Livesey, Joyce Entwistle, E. Thompson, F. Holding, gave recitations. Musical item by Miss A. and Mr. F. Lancaster. There were about 180 present. Mrs. Ellen Green, Manchester, was our speaker, and we had a very good time. The collections for the day were £25. This speaks well for our Church and Lyceums during the hard times we are passing through. T. Wood, Sec.

BLACKWOOD.—We held our first Anniversary on June 5th. The choir gave an excellent rendering of songs selected from the Manual. Special mention should be made of Mrs. Hart and Mrs. Price, who sang a duet, "Over the river of light," and of Mr. H. Huckin who gave two violin solos. All the children recited well.—N. M. Huckin, Sec.

CLECKHEATON.—Open Session held June 5th, conducted by Miss M. B. Robinson. Invocation by Mr. Horsley. Connective readings by Elsie Bray and Jack Broadbent. There were several interesting discussions on the readings. Pearls were given by Herbert Horsley (2), Jack Wilson (4), Mr. Horsley, Mr. B. Drewitt, Mrs. Ellison (2), Miss A. Wilkinson, Mary Ellison, Miss M. Wilkinson, Mr. T. Brooke, and Miss M. Wilson. Solos by Herbert Horsley, Ben Walker, duet by Mr. Horsley and Mr. T. Brooke. A thoroughly enjoyable session was spent.

In the evening the Lyceumists gave a Service of Song entitled "From Workhouse to Mansion." This was appreciated and enjoyed by a good congregation, the church being full. The proceeds were for the benefit of the Church.—Miss M. B. Robinson, Sec.

COVENTRY, Broadgate.—We held our Anniversary Services on May 1st. Mr. Connor, of London, presented the prizes and conducted the naming of two children, Ethel Green, spirit name "Faith," and Beryl Coe, spirit name "Sunshine." Items by D. Waring, A. Dalton, D. Dalton, E. Sharpe and Teddy Dalton. Lyceumists were present from Bull Street and Stoke. An interesting Lyceum Service in the evening was enjoyed by all.—E. Coe.

DARWEN.—May 28th. We held a social for the presentation of the Silver Shield to our Lyceum, for efficiency during 1931. It was a very successful social. Present were the E.C. of the N.E.L.L.D.C., the Bolton D.C., along with the President of the B.S.L.U. The President of the Council, Mr. Batley, made the presentation.—John Sutton, Ban. Sec.

DEWSBURY.—May 29th, Open Session. There was a good attendance. Lyceumists 92, Visitors and friends 70. Conductor, Mrs. N. Greenwood. Pearls by Jim Stott, Elsie Lockwood, Cyril Hey, Mr. W. Hey, Lilian Whightman, Ettie Day, Margaret Greenwood, Chrissie Greenwood, Elsie Badley, Annie Hollings, Miss A. Shaw, Nellie Nixon, Dorothy Dunn, Mrs. Gregory, Miss A. Bentley, Phyllis Dunn, Mr. E. Wilson, Mr. H. Gregory, Mr. G. Peel, Mr. A. Oakes, Miss F. Senior, Mr. J. H. Collier, Victor Hartley, Mr. A. Collier, Mona Hey, Fred Johnson, Mr. C. Phillips, Mrs. Whitworth, Cyril Oakes, Mrs. Greenwood, Miss E. Stott, Arthur Greenwood. Recitations by Ettie Day, Margaret Greenwood, Cyril Hey, Kathleen Stott. At the Session there was a Naming Ceremony conducted by Mr. J. Whittles. The baby was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. Bland. She was given the earthly name of 'Margaret,' spirit name was 'Evening Star.' Eight of the smallest Lyceumists were given a white flower each, and they placed them on the baby as she was named. A day well spent with Lyceumists and friends.—V. R. Phillips, Sec.

EARBY, Greenend Avenue.—Open Session 5th June. Songs and recitations were well given by E. Hancock, G. Blackburn, M. Lea, O. Eaton, R. Hancock, and J. Hancock, T. Hancock, W. Hancock, G. Morby, F. Clark, L. Etherington, D. Eaton, H. Holden, M. Millican, and a duet by Mrs. Millican and Miss J. Smith. An enjoyable Session was well spent.—A. G. Morby, Sec.

EASTLEIGH.—The Lyceum Players held a "variety entertainment," May 26th, with success. Open Session and Prize Giving June 5th. Pearls and recitations by Lyceumists. Good attendance.—R. L. Harwood, Sec.

FLEETWOOD.—We held our Open Session on June 5th. Recitations were given by Mona Hague and Tom Wright. Trio by Jessie Woods, Brenda Mayhew and Irene Roscow. Pianoforte solo by Kathleen Hague and pianoforte duet by Ruth and Dorothy Harris. A number of pearls.—L. Vollans.

HOLLINWOOD, Byrom St.—On Whit-Saturday we had our Annual Trip to Blackpool. In spite of the showers we spent a real good time.

On May 29th we had our Whitsuntide procession. We were led by the Oldham Postal Band, and a large number of Lyceumists from the Oldham district joined in with us.—E. Snape, Sec.

HORWICH.—On May 31st we held our 34th Lyceum and Church Anniversary. The Open Session was conducted by Miss Lily Beck. Recitations, pearls, and solos were given by Lyceumists. Mr. T. Connor, of Bolton, was our speaker for the day. Several greetings were given by Lyceumists. A day well spent with Lyceumists and friends.—Miss R. Giles, Sec.

LANCASTER, Alliance.—June 12th. Open Session held in our new Church. Trios, solos, and recitations were well rendered by the following: M. Liver, R. Aldren, A. Aldren, A. Griffin, A. Fox, I. Crossly, E. Whitfield, I. and L. Atkinson, D. Pickup, J. Eyres, A. Aldren, Miss Kirk, also a recitation by two, R. Dennison and F. Dennison. The session was much enjoyed by all.—M. Blackwell, Hon. Sec.

LANCASTER, Bulk Road.—On June 18th we had our Summer Outing to Fleetwood, taking a party of about 120. The day was lovely and all had a happy time.—M. Bowskill, Sec.

LEEDS, Armley.—On June 19th Mrs. Schofield, of Leeds, named the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Wainwright. Earthly name "Alfred," spirit name "Ever Welcome." A very beautiful service.—H. Sykes, Sec.

LONDON, Stratford, Idmiston Rd.—Open Session June 5th. Our Musical Conductor, Mr. Stevenson, contributed a talk on "Music and its application to Lyceum Teachings," an item very much enjoyed. The children are doing splendidly and maintain a high standard in the Sessions. July 3rd is Lyceum "Hospital Sunday," a special effort for the Children's Ward, Queen Mary's Hospital. Morning Session at 11. Mass Session at 3 o'clock and Lyceum Service at 6-30. Please rally and help for the sick.—R. H. Bates, Sec.

MACCLESFIELD.—We held our 50th Anniversary Services on June 5th. Morning, Open Session: A very nice time. Recital by Miss P. Swindells. The infants sang very sweetly. Miss Hulley, Musical Conductor. Mrs. Challinor, Conductor. Afternoon: Mass Session, N.E. Cheshire Lyceums: Mr. Dransfield conducting. Mrs. Pimblott accompanist. Greetings from Ashton, Congleton, Heaton Norris and Stockport Central. We sent our thoughts and sympathy to our District Visitor, Mr. H. Ennion. The infants again sang very sweetly.

Marching, etc., nicely done. Evening: short addresses from Mr. Dransfield, Mrs. Edwards, and Mr. Markham. Recital, Mrs. Wellrings. Solos, Miss F. Edwards. Duets, piano and violin, Messrs. Holland. Another very successful anniversary for which we thank all our friends who helped.—Hannah Rushton.

MANCHESTER, Collyhurst.—On June 19th we held our Open Session. We received greetings from nine Lyceums, also from our Treasurer, who is in hospital, having met with a serious accident. Recitations were given by Mrs. Shaw and Jessie Peers. Solos by Miss Gething, Miss Clarke and Jessie Peers.—R. Temple, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Maskell St.—At our Open Session on May 29th, Miss H. Watson, of Newton Heath, officiated at the naming of the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Barton, Amelia Barton, her spirit name being "Rose." Our evening Session opened with L.S. 377, followed by a one minute Silence and Concentration in memoriam of our Brother and Co-worker, Mr. J. Dixon, whose Transition took place May 24th. Recitations, etc., were very good, followed by Fraternal Greetings from 10 Lyceums, bringing an interesting Session to a close. Our Liberty Group on Sunday, June 19th, was conducted by Mr. J. E. Hart, President, M. & S.L.D.C., subject: "Psychology of the Lyceum Sessions." Best wishes to all Liberty Groups and Lyceums.—S. Sharp, Sec.

MORECAMBE.—We held our first Picnic on June 18th, when two charas conveyed the party to Arnside. A field was engaged and after games and races, tea was served, and the day was thoroughly enjoyed in glorious sunshine.—W. H. Moores, Sec.

OLDHAM, Elliott St.—We held our Lyceum Open Sessions on Sunday, June 5th. We had a number of visitors from other Lyceums, who, by virtue of their questions and remarks, helped to make the Sessions very instructive.—M. Harper, Sec.

PORTSMOUTH.—June 12th, Anniversary Services splendidly conducted by Mrs. Eleanor Paling, assisted by local members, thus creating a distinctly harmonious relationship between Church and Lyceum. During the afternoon all the District Council officers, with members from Eastleigh, Cowes, Southampton, and Ryde contributed items. Vera Chambers presented a bouquet to Mrs. Paling, with appropriate verses for the occasion.

June 19th. Naming Ceremony conducted by Mrs. Hayward.—Florence Moule, Sec.

PRESTON, Moor Lane.—We held our Open Session on June 5th. The children responded brightly with recitations and pearls. The following contributed: Mavis Holt, Connie and Agnes Tallon, Barbara Nicholaus, Ronald Holt, Ronald and Harold Kilner and Thomas Stanley. Mrs. Rudd and Mr. R. Tallon. The marching and callisthenics were well performed.—Helen Kilner, Sec.

REDCAR, Milbank Terrace.—On June 5th we had our Open Session and a good response of Pearls and Solos was given by Adults and Children. Recitations were given by Vera and Brenda Jones, Betty Jackson, Winnie Smith, Gordon Smith, George Wells, Bernard Baird.—A. E. Wells, Sec.

RYDE, Belvedere Hall.—On May 29th, the Lyceum celebrated its 3rd Anniversary. The services all day were taken entirely by Lyceumists. Visitors from Guildford, Portsmouth, Eastleigh and Cowes, were given a hearty welcome and about 30 remained to tea. The afternoon session was taken mostly by junior Lyceumists. The prizes were presented by Mrs. Taylor, President of the Southern Lyceum District Council, the special event being a presentation to the Ryde Lyceum Conductor, Mr. W. O. Perkis, from all Lyceumists as a token of their love and appreciation for his work.

The evening service was very interesting: 12 Lyceumists taking part, and was followed by Clairvoyance by two adult Lyceumists.

The Celebrations were continued on Monday by a Tea and social evening, at which there was a large gathering, a large iced Birthday Cake being the central attraction of the tea table.

The evening programme arranged by the Juniors was successfully carried out, consisting of many musical items, games, etc. and at the close all unanimously agreed that a very happy birthday had been spent.

The Lyceum meet at Belvedere Hall, Belvedere Street, every Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. A hearty welcome is extended to all.—Mrs. O. Perkis, Hon. Sec.

RYDE, Progressive, Newport St.—June 5th Open Session. Our lesson was "Ministering Angels" Pearls by all present. Recitations, Joan Bell, and Joan Heapey; Reading, Allan Gregory, song by six Lyceumists. Our Conductor Miss Reeves presented a prize to Dorothy Perkis for efficiency in Manual Test Competition. We are pleased to report the interest shown by our members in these competition. Welcome to all Lyceumists when visiting Ryde.—E. Oak, Sec.

SCUNTHORPE.—Still jogging along and hoping for better times coming. One of our Lyceumists, Kitty Winter, passed to higher life. We sent a spray of flowers and wish her God speed in her new life.—Ivy Sprakes, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Attercliffe.—A feature of recent sessions has been interesting chats on bird life. These have given us practical knowledge, teaching us to use our eyes and ears more, and, at the same time have increased our respect for our feathered friends.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Armitage our Conductor, for this innovation.—James Le Noury, A.N.S.C., Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Gifford Rd. Heeley.—Open Session May 1st, fair attendance at session. Numerous individual items by the children.

On Whit Monday May 16th the usual Outing was abandoned owing to weather, and Tea was provided in the Hall, and a social held during the evening.

On Tuesday, May 16th, a party of about 20 Lyceumists and Friends had an enjoyable ramble during the afternoon and evening to Sandygate and Lodge Moor.—H. Truelove, Sec.

SHILDON.—The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald was named at our church on June 11th, by Mrs. Graham. Earthly name Catherine Graham, Spirit name Purity.—F. W. Lee, Sec. Pro Tem.

SHIPLEY.—June 5th Open Session. Recitation by Nellie Hutchinson. Pianoforte solo by Betty Barnard. Duet by Mr. and Mrs. Aked and solo by Mrs. Coles. Reading and Singing, Marching and Callisthenics were ably done by all. Conductor for the day being Miss Winterbottom. Altogether a very enjoyable Session.—E. H. Coles, Sec.

SOUTHAMPTON.—On 1st May we had a special open session on the occasion of our annual Prize giving. Our Church President, Mr. Carwithen, came to support Mrs. James of Merthyr, who presented the prizes. Time did not permit for all who desired, to give efforts. It was a splendid session. Both Mrs. James and Mr. Carwithen expressed their delight at being present and said a few pleasing words of help and advice to the children. E. W. Long, Sec.

SOWERBY BRIDGE.—On June 5th we held our Lyceum Anniversary, Open Session conducted by Mr. F. Sutcliffe. Miss Kathleen Rushworth gave a cordial welcome to our speaker for the day, Mr. J. Woodland of Cardiff, who gave an interesting address to the Children, also reciting "The Minister's Daughter." Recitations were given by S. Rushworth, H. Sutcliffe, M. Holt, J. Garforth, a Pianoforte solo by D. Rushton and a Duet by L. Burrows and B. Holt. Miss L. Smith gave a Pearl. We had many friends from other Lyceums.—Miss F. M. Lees, Sec.

YORK.—Lyceum Anniversary Services June 19th at 10-30, 2-30 and 6-30. Conductors Mrs. Fowler and Mr. Smith. Solos, Recitation and Readings from Lyceum Manual were rendered by Lyceumists. Action song display by six of the youngest Lyceumists. One of York's oldest scholars, Mr. Frank, explained in every detail G.C.R. 114 to all Lyceumists and Congregation.—S. Whitwam, Sec.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT.

The Sheffield District Council Ramble and Rally will be held on August 1st, venue "Burbage Valley." All meet at the front of the Town Hall, Sheffield, 10 a.m. to 10-15 a.m. Bring your own food. Cost from Sheffield, 10½d. return; walking distance, approx. 5½ miles. For those unable to walk the full distance, fare 1s. 6d. return.—A. Bruce, Leader.

One has only to look at the faces of small children when they are called to make a decision that requires thought; they will pucker up their faces into anxious frowns, and look what they feel, bothered and worried. Young children do not want to be asked what they would like to do, or what they would like to eat; it is indeed very often difficult to get them to give a definite answer.