

THE LYCEUM BANNER

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APRIL, 1935.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

A VISIT TO A BULL-FIGHT.

I have been requested by several Lyceumists, following my report of the International Congress of Spiritualists, to give a description of the Bull-fight which I and several other delegates attended during our visit to Spain.

Let it be understood that my reason for describing the affair is to show my disagreement with and disapproval of such types of sport.

Perhaps if I were to describe at once the main actors in the play it will assist you to follow better.

The chief actors are the Matadors, Toreadors, Picadors, Bulls and Horses. The Matadors come first as they are the actual killers of the Bulls. They work on foot. The Toreadors also work on foot, and chiefly enrage the Bulls prior to the Matadors taking charge.

The Picadors are mounted on horses and assist in enraging the Bulls. The Bulls are fine animals and are bred for this purpose. There are two types of horses, those in good condition and those worn out. These will be described as they appear in the story.

There are two arenas in Barcelona, built somewhat in the style of a Roman amphitheatre. We attended the larger one, the tier on tier of seats holding probably some fifty thousand people. The seats are arranged so that the more expensive ones do not face the sun, there being no roof to the arena. Six bulls constitute the show.

The centre ring is surrounded with a main barrier, about four and a half feet high. At intervals round the ring, there are several other smaller barriers, each about two yards long, and about eighteen inches in front of the main barrier. Directly behind these smaller barriers, the main barrier is broken. This allows a man to pass through from the inner ring, where the fight takes place, to the outer ring reserved for officials, pressmen, photographers, matadors, toreadors, picadors and the assistants. This open doorway is certainly necessary when the fight becomes a little too hot, the bull, of course, not being able to pass through the space between the inner and the outer barriers. Each of these smaller barriers is marked with a large star so that the fighter can pick one out quickly in case of danger. In addition, there is a footboard which runs round the ring to make it easy for a fighter to vault over the main barrier when necessary. At one portion of the arena, there are doors on the ground level through which the bulls and horses enter the ring.

The performance took place on Sunday at four-thirty prompt in the afternoon. I was informed that bull-fights are amongst the few events where punctual-

ity is always assured. The place buzzed with excitement, the atmosphere being very highly charged.

At a trumpet signal the arena doors are thrown open and all the gaily dressed actors enter the ring ceremoniously and impressively, the matadors, wearing short pigtailed, leading. All the chief actors are dressed in tightly fitting coloured suits, which show their splendid physique to advantage. The actors are followed by the assistants leading the decorated horses which remove the dead bull at the close of each fight. The procession moves round the ring, the ground carpet is removed, the soft earth raked over and all is ready for the fight proper to commence.

A further signal from the trumpeter causes the arena doors to be flung open again and in rushes a bull. From the distance one could not judge but that small darts to which coloured ribbons were attached had already been plunged into the back of the bull, causing a bleeding and possibly arousing the rage of the animal.

When the bull sees the crowd it usually pulls up short, then one of the toreadors advances with a cloth, bright red in colour on one side and the other side being yellow. The toreador sees the red side and immediately the bull charges down at the cloth, the man stepping to one side to allow the bull to pass. The bull now returns the visit, the toreador continuing to dodge the bull, the latter getting more enraged at each turn. When the man is tired, another toreador steps into the ring, entices the bull from number one toreador until the latter has rested. This continues for some minutes, each taking a turn while the other rests, the idea being both to enrage the bull and to tire him out.

At another signal of the trumpet, a horse ridden by a picador enters the ring. The horse is blindfolded, and padded on one side, being led by one of the many assistants who are constantly in attendance, and on the watch. The picador's legs are shielded in a box-like contraption, so that when the bull charges the horse, the picador's legs remain uninjured.

This portion of the sport is the most gruesome. These horses, from what we could see, were worn out, could hardly limp into the arena, and were only fit for a complete rest in a horse-home, or to be destroyed in a humane manner.

The horse is brought to a place where the bull can see it. The toreador then entices the bull toward this spot, slipping to one side while the bull charges with great speed and strength at the padded side of the unfortunate horse. The horse is unaware when the bull is charging it and has no chance to defend itself. As the bull charges, the picador uses a lance which

he pushes into the back of the bull, causing further bleeding. One gathers the opinion that this bleeding is to weaken the bull and that the head work that the bull gets, causes his head to drop more, which makes it better for the matador to push the sword into the back of the neck when the final lunge is made to kill.

The strength of the bull can be imagined when one knows that the horse and rider are partially lifted from the ground. This horse work is kept on for a few minutes, after which the toreadors again take a hand at enlivening the bull, while the horse is led painfully away, if it survives. One horse lay quite fifteen minutes on the ground, the assistants doing their best to raise it to its feet again by lifting, pushing and whipping. In the meanwhile, another horse was led in to take its place.

The toreadors now move to the side of the arena, the matadors taking two highly coloured paper darts each about two and a half feet long, one end of which is shaped like a fish-hook. The matador, without a cloth, now advances to the bull, a dart in each hand encouraging the bull to charge him. As the bull makes the rush, he deftly steps to one side, at the same time plunging the darts into the back of the bull, the fish-hook nature of the darts preventing them from falling out. The bull tries to shake them out, this causing further bleeding. The matador now takes a further two similar darts, the same procedure again being followed. This is once more repeated till the bull is charging about with six of the long darts sticking in its back.

The matador now takes a sword and a vermilion coloured cloth, the former being used, for the time being, as a stiffener for the cloth. The matador advances and entices the bull, then steps to one side to miss the charge. This is done time after time, the matador here showing his agility and courage to a very high degree, "passing the bull" a large number of times within a minute, the bull turning as quickly as the man, in about its own length—a pirouette. If the bull fight could be confined to this portion, one could perhaps find very little about which to complain, the foot work of the matador being exceedingly fine as also is the bull's. However, this is not so.

The matador now prepares to kill. He faces the bull, the animal waiting his opportunity to charge. The matador, after wiping the sword on the cloth, steadies it on one of his arms, gradually edges nearer and nearer, never stepping out more than a few inches at a time, yet keeping the sword pointed at the vital spot in the neck of the bull. When the bull thinks the matador is near enough, he charges, and the sword is plunged as deeply into the vital spot as it will go. Sometimes the sword will not enter, sometimes it breaks; the sword is then exchanged for another and the final episode is repeated. The crowd do not care for this, and show their dislike in no uncertain fashion.

There is one redeeming feature. When the bull falls and is no longer fit for the sport and yet is not dead, one of the attendants rushes into the arena and kills it quickly and mercifully. Would that they treated the worn horses in this same manner.

One incident at the show I attended is worthy of special note. The bull did not fall when the sword was plunged into its back. Instead, it ran about with the six darts and the sword in its back. The crowd

hooted the matador for missing the vital spot. He took another sword, advanced to the bull, and with very deft movements gradually loosened the sword from the back. He then drew his sword away, advanced to the bull, took the haft of the loosened sword in his hand, pulled the sword out of the bull's back and replunged it in the vital spot, killing the bull instantly. The applause and cheering was tremendous. Men pulled off their shirts, and threw them into the ring, while others threw their water-bottles (which are very much in evidence), into the ring for the matador to sip from, the latter in the meanwhile bowing and walking round the arena. One cannot describe the ovations which the matadors get when anything of this nature occurs.

The bull now being dead, is strapped to a number of good, beautifully plumed and decorated horses and dragged round the arena for all to see and then through the exit and away. The blood on the ground is now covered by means of rakes and at the given signal another bull enters ready for the next fight.

I saw five bulls killed at the one show. We did not wait to see the sixth. One of the five mentioned jumped the barrier. I thought, from what I had previously heard, that this was only part of a hyperbolic story; I know now that it is a fact. But what chance has the bull? Attendants are in abundance, and the outer ring is fitted with doors which can be operated to block off portions of the outer ring, at the same time causing openings in the barrier through which the bull passes back into the fighting ring again, ready for the toreadors to entice him into the centre of the arena.

Needless to say, all the officials in the near vicinity scatter very quickly.

During one of the events of this show, the bull succeeded in felling one of the horses and the picador had to jump clear. In doing so he fouled the bull and there was quite an exciting few moments. This occurred right against out seats and gave each of us quite a speedy heartbeat. However, the toreadors with their yellow-red cloths soon enticed the bull away, leaving the picador to be assisted by the other attendants.

Although my views on the question of cruel sport are very pronounced, I have tried and I hope I have fairly well succeeded in giving an unbiased description of the five fights which I saw in the one show I visited.

The visit has certainly given me an opportunity of seeing what I had previously had to take on hearsay. Although appreciating the bravery and agility of the actors, I was filled with disgust and nausea at the ghastly sight of the bleeding bulls being enraged to attack. As the men are attacked, they are able to defend themselves, but the blindfolded, partly padded, worn horses are not given this opportunity of self-defence.

One can only hope that by giving prominence to such happenings, more people will cry out in shame for all cruel sports to cease. Even in one of the leading newspapers last February, a correspondent referred to an account of a stag-hunt that a friend of his had attended, he meeting the poor stag, its tongue hanging out and blood running from the nostrils and mouth. Again, a picture is shown in the Children's Newspaper

(Concluded on page 60.)

A UNIVERSE OF VALUES.

The world of the highest order which is forecast in the call of our moral will, Kant, in a sudden flash of insight, called "the kingdom of ends." This kingdom of ends is a spiritual commonwealth, a beloved community of persons who recognise each other not as means but as ends, and whose common life is built up by mutual loyalty to the highest moral laws revealed within them all. It is the society of persons as it would be if we all stopped living by utilitarian and instrumental standards and went to living by love, mutual respect and the persistent purpose to promote to the fullest extent in our power the potential capacities of personality in everybody. It is obviously an ideal society, very slowly being built, like the Kingdom of God, but it is one whose foundation, structure, and laws are laid down in the essential nature of our rational being as free citizens of a spiritual world.

Moral obligation, therefore, for Kant, is significant not so much for the specific deeds it leads to as for the fact that it reveals a deeper universe to which the moral man belongs. Through the forms of reason which are native capacities in us we co-operate in building up the world of science, the world casually ordered in space and time; but as moral beings obedient to commands of duty, we discover a world of a different order, an ideal world, a world of free wills, of holy purposes, and which rests for its stability and for its ultimate triumph on a permanent and unvarying Good Will grounded in the deepest nature of the universe itself. We can live either in world equally well—the world ruled by fixed mechanical causation or the world of ends under ideals, as unique and creative persons; in the world of space and time or in the world of the Spirit of life where personality comes into full play.

Only through persons of moral will and capacity does this deeper world reveal itself. Only in beings who act not because they are pushed, but because they resolve to create what ought to be, does the Spirit break through and give glimpses of the living Will at the heart of things. If this estimate of personality is the right one and we are, or can be, actually personal organs of a moral Will working at the centre of things, we see at once that our main business here in the world is not making things, nor as Emerson would say, "just wearing out our boots,"—it is to be creators of value. We are most like God when we help to make goodness triumph, whether it be in our own lives or in the lives of others.

But we cannot do this in any great and effective sense, unless we are possessed with the conviction that it is a moral and spiritual universe in which *values are conserved*. We grant conservation of matter and we assume conservation of energy, but we must go one step farther and build upon a deeper universe of Spirit which conserves values. It must not be a world in which each good man lives to make some other man a good person while in the end all the co-operative labourers and all the fruits of their work go to wreck on the shoals of death and are merely—

"Blown about the desert dust
Or sealed within the iron hills."

(Concluded on page 59, column 2).

MAKE FRIENDS WITH THE GREAT!

Why, when we speak of Longfellow, do we invariably think of him as belonging to the group of English poets? We have not, we think, to seek far for an explanation. In our early days probably among the first poems which we learnt are to be found "The Village Blacksmith," "Excelsior," and "The Wreck of the Hesperus." Where is the schoolboy who has not learnt these delightful poems? Poems which have a steady lilt, like these, are easy to learn and easy to understand. It is because of this that children and simple people have been ready to grasp their message. Longfellow himself spent a number of years in Europe, mainly on the continent, and was much enamoured with Western culture. The "fireside poet" has instilled a sense of beauty into our hearts and we long to adopt him as our own. The bond of kinship has outgrown nationality and the two worlds have been enriched because of it.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was born on February 27th, 1807, in the then busy town of Portland, Maine, U.S.A. His father was a prosperous lawyer, and Henry lived in the days when trim clipper-ships lay at the docks ready for their great adventure. Despite his father's plea that he, too, should become a lawyer, Henry made up his mind to become a writer. There were few successful writers at that time, though Irving, Cooper and Bryant had begun to write.

Henry was a lover of books, and while his school mates were playing their games he was to be found in his father's library delving into books which were generally read by grown ups. His favourite book was Irving's "Sketch Book." Sometimes he would write childish verses imitating his favourite authors. At fourteen years of age he was to be found in Bowdoin College, where in later years he was to become Professor in Modern Languages. At a very early age he came to Europe to study French, Spanish, Italian and German so that he might be the better able to teach those languages on his return to his native country. He imbibed the arts and literature of the Old World, and he wished to inculcate the New World with Old World culture. With this object in view, he wrote many text-books of several European languages, and many essays on the language and literature of the Old World.

Courteous, good-looking and charming, he was a distinctive figure among his older colleagues. Neat in appearance and dress, he was given to wearing brightly-coloured waistcoats. In 1831 he married a beautiful girl from Portland, and in 1834 he became a Professor at Harvard University. Later he went abroad to study more about the German and Scandinavian languages. On this journey he suffered the loss of his good wife. He felt for a time that life had become barren. However, he returned to America where he took up again his work at Harvard University.

For some time Longfellow had written little poetry, but at the age of thirty-two he published a collection of verse entitled "Voices of the Night." He then followed on with the two already mentioned poems. His works were widely read both in America and England, and were translated into many languages. He married again and settled down to a studious life at Cambridge, Massachusetts.

(Concluded on page 52, column 2).

OUR EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

HINTS, NOTES AND NEWS ITEMS.

Conducted by the EDUCATION SECRETARY.

Entries are coming along fairly steadily at the time of this report, and I am asking all Lyceums, when they read these notes, to make certain that the name of their Lyceum is among them. I have been asked whether it is not best to wait until after our Conference and see what changes are made or attempted before going any further. The answer of your Education Committee is No!!

What we are attempting is to make the schemes so that whoever enters for Grade I. will go through to the end. We are faced with these facts (and facts are very stubborn things). We have had some thousands of passes in the Oral Grades, but of these passes about 50% enter and sit for Grade I.

Now over a period of three years we get the following figures which are very illuminating: 1,347 entries in Grade I, from these we get 864 passes. Thus 864 Grade I. passes gives an entry of 511 for Grade II., and from these we get 376 passes. The 376 passes give an entry for Grade III. of 310 with 208 passes. To Grade IV. from the 208 we get 176 entries with 144 passes. In Grade V. from the 144 an entry of 137, with passes of 81.

Your Education Committee are asking every Lyceum and every individual Lyceumist to study these figures, and to infuse some enthusiasm in our Lyceums.

Our suggestions to avoid the decreases as shown by the foregoing lists will be given to you in the next issue of the LYCEUM BANNER in our report to Conference.

Examination dates for 1935 are S.N.U. Entrance, same dates and times as B.S.L.U. Grade V.

B.S.L.U.—ALL GRADES—Sunday, May 12th, or (by arrangement with the Supervisor) the Saturday or the Monday of that week-end.

IMPORTANT TO SECRETARIES.

The names of your Lyceumists who intend taking the examination next month should already have been sent to the Education Secretary. But if, for any reason, you have been unable to send them in during March you still have a chance, as the closing date for receiving entries has been extended to April 14th. Send in your entries AT ONCE, so that students will not be disappointed.

REMINDERS TO STUDENTS.

The examinations will be held next month on 12th May, or during that week-end. If your name has not been sent in, ask your Secretary to send it in NOW—it will be too late after 14th April, and you must take the examination.

KNOW the set chapters in your Handbook; KNOW the set pieces in the Manual; look them up in Summaries and Glossaries, and learn the meanings of the hard words and phrases; learn the Summaries; and practise working out answers to questions; then you cannot help doing well in May.

You have now six weeks remaining before the Examination week-end, and you should devote the time to revision work and in practising writing out answers to questions. Grade V. students could give one week to each article in the No. 3 Handbook and the corresponding Chapters in Essays on Reasoning. You are advised to obtain the questions set at the last examination and answer them, as the questions this year will be similar in nature.

In examination practice do not take more time than you will be allowed at the actual examination.

For all information regarding the S.N.U. Education Scheme, entry forms or sets of question papers apply to

Mrs. E. Paling, F.N.S.C., "Lucknow," Muriel Road, Beeston, Notts.

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

Mrs. Mills, A.N.S.C., B.S.L. Union, 64A, Bridge St., Deansgate, Manchester, 3.

For any information regarding the National Spiritualists' College:

Miss G. M. Halliday, 28, Moorlands Place, Free School Lane, Halifax, Yorks.

B.S.L.U. Oral Grades:

Mr. J. Slimin, A.N.S.C., 69, Newcastle Road, Sunderland.

B.S.L.U. Grade I. to V.:

Mr. J. Shuttleworth, 8, Shaftesbury Avenue, Darwen, Lancashire.

(Concluded from page 51).

Except for a volume of poems against slavery he took little notice of the outside world. He thought it best to bury himself, so to speak, in the European culture he had learnt to love. He did great service to America in those days in helping to bring her under the influence of the best European culture.

In 1854 Longfellow had sufficient resources to enable him to resign his professorship and to spend the rest of his life in writing—just as he had hoped to do. Unfortunately, he suffered the loss of his second wife through an accident. His mind remained clear and vigorous to the end of his days. Thousands of his admirers wrote to him. Many asked him for his autograph, which, being so benevolent, he freely gave.

When he passed to higher life, in 1882, people from all lands mourned him. We in England honour him by giving him a special niche in the Poet's Corner in Westminster Abbey.

Just how he was able to depict his scenes, and hold the imagination of the reader, is best summed up by the following lines:—

A hurry of hoofs in a village street,

A shape in the moonlight, a bulk in the dark, . . .

That was all! And yet, through the gloom and the light,

The fate of a nation was riding that night.

NUNC,



My Dear Boys and Girls.

Last month I told you I should have more to say about Spring in this letter.

In the interval which has taken place between then and now, it would appear as though someone must have pressed the wrong button for we have had quite a sharp wintry spell during the past month.

Now I think we can say "Spring is coming in" safely; therefore shall we continue from where we left off last month, for since I have learned that some of you take this page for a lesson in your groups, I want it to serve a useful purpose for you.

I have heard from Coventry and Bury to this effect, and I would like to hear from some of you youngsters from time to time, letting me know what you would like me to write to you about, or from Group Leaders, so that we might be able to link up a closer helpfulness in the future.

Last month we considered the great event of the coming of spring, and this month I want you all to come with me for a hike and see if we can find out how far its coming extends.

For many months now the trees and hedges have been looking very bare except of course for the ever-green trees. The grass on our lawns or in the fields has lacked its brightness, our gardens have not looked too inviting; altogether these things have appeared to be in a very sleepy state; in fact, in some cases it would appear to have been dead to all outward influences. Then we come to this season of awakening, and to fully appreciate it we will take a hike. First let us go through a forest, as I did this week-end. What shall we see? No great spectacle of change, and yet something so very tiny that we almost have to go close up to it to see it; it is just that little speck of green on the tip of the shoots of those giant trees.

What a wonderful thing, this great tree which has withstood the storms and frost of winter has now little specks of green on it, some not much larger than a pin's head, and to think that in a few weeks from now such minute specks as these, the whole forest will be covered so thickly with foliage that we shall not be able to see very far through them.

We will now leave the forest and get into the lane where we find the hedges doing exactly the same, but here I want you to notice that grassy slope, which covers their roots. Cannot you see the primroses, bluebells, the daisy and the buttercup getting ready to take their turn in nature's plan? Did you also notice many other plants which we so often miscall weeds, growing too. Look, there is an old gentleman pulling some of them up and putting them into a basket. What do you think he is doing this for? Is he trying to tidy the bank up, do you think? Well, suppose we ask him to let us look into his basket. I do not think he will consider us rude. Why, of course not!

He has young dandelion leaves. Ivy leaves too, and such a lot of other plants in his collection that even I could not tell you all their names. He does not call them weeds. He calls them herbs, because they are Nature's medicines.

We must now get towards home. What do we see as we pass the many houses with gardens. Men and women busy with spades, forks, rakes and hoes. All busy tidying up.

If we stop a minute and walk around one of these gardens we shall be surprised to see how many different plants are pushing their way through the ground; but before I leave you I want you to come with me through a very busy street, where there are no gardens at all, and through a court yard where very little sunshine is ever seen. Here on a window sill stands a tiny flower pot; it only measures three inches in height, but in it there is growing one crocus, "The message of spring."

I wonder how many of you can see the lesson I have been leading up to. I said we were going to try and find out how far spring extended, and in order to do this I started off by taking you into a forest, where we find miles and miles of trees of every kind. Then I have brought you right down to a tiny flower pot which would be unnoticed if it were placed amongst the trees, but standing where it does it is giving to the world exactly the same message as the greater things of nature, the message of God's love.

Will you now turn to M.R. 229 in your manuals, there you will find it says:

"When God reveals His march through Nature's night.

His steps are beauty, and His presence light."

PUZZLE 216.

I hope you are all getting your lists ready to send me, I have not yet received any, but this is early in the month yet.

PUZZLE 217. FOR MANUAL SEARCHES.

Where do we read:—

"But the seeds of Good we sow
Both in shade and shine will grow."

Please send your answer by April 16th.

THE HAPPY BAND.

In the first place I hope you have not forgotten to send your names and addresses together with the date of your birthday to Mrs. Coe, 31, Browning Road, Coventry, for she is most keen to send you all a birthday card, and so link the whole band together.

You will find this month's thought is taken from Lyceum Song No. 359.

When the rosy beams of morning
Dart across the eastern sky,
Scattr'ing wide the mists and shadows,
That o'er hill and valley lie;
Then the birds awake to song,
Glitt'ring dewdrops kiss the flow'r,
Loving herds together throng,
Through the bright and peaceful hours.

This, combined with my previous lesson I trust will prove helpful.

With love,

UNCLE BERT.

Ruberrondo,
126, Woodlands Road,
Isleworth, Middx.

OUR LYCEUM GUILD

AIMS. To be progressive, To develop ourselves.
MOTTO: "We Live to Learn and Learn to Live."

Dear Guildites,

This month I have seven new members to report. Here are their numbers, names and Lyceums:—

- J.462 K. E. Merreywether, Chaucer Street, Nottingham.
- J.463 M. Godfrey, West Melton.
- 464 R. F. Fear, Warrington.
- 465 A. French, Batley Carr.
- 466 L. Grant, Heeley Woodseats.
- 467 A. E. Redfearn, Heeley Woodseats.
- J.468 F. Lake, Heeley Woodseats.

A hearty welcome to each one of you! May each of you be better Lyceumists because you are Guildites!

Finances.

Last month the balance in hand was £11 13s. 7½d. To augment that I have received 4s. 9d. in fees, 5s. 3d. transfer fees, £1 7s. 0d. renewal fees, 3s. 8d. Bank Interest, and 6d. donation; so that the grand total is £13 14s. 9½d. Out of that I have spent 6s. 6d. in stamps, so that the balance now is £13 4s. 3½d.

A word of thanks to Master George Mack for the donation, which he sent out of his money box. About the time he became a Guildite it was his birthday, and after he had received his birthday card he did a little sum, and so discovered that his entrance fee of 3d. had already been expended on him. So he sent along 6d. out of his money box, along with a nice letter, which I was so pleased to receive.

Renewal Fees.

You will have seen from the finances that other Lyceums with Guildites have paid their renewal fees this month. Here is the complete list of Lyceums with Guildites that have paid their renewal fees for 1935:—Stratford, West Melton, Nottingham (Chaucer St.), Darwen, Moston, Wallsend-on-Tyne, Wakefield, Birkenhead, Derby, Blackburn, Beeston, Dewsbury, Bacup, Ramsden St., Huddersfield, Quarmby, Sheffield (Heeley Woodseats), Eccles, Barrow, Peckham, Alma St., Halifax, Sheffield (Attercliffe), Collyhurst, Harpurhey, Bury, Daulby, (Liverpool), Bristol, Blackpool, Calgary and York.—Total, 29 Lyceums. There are still 18 renewal fees to be paid. Could you make a special effort and let me have them before Easter? I hope you will, for I know in many cases it is just forgetfulness. I send the form, and it is put in a safe place, and only discovered again when spring cleaning comes along.

Transfer Fees.

Thanks very much indeed to all you Juniors who have sent along your 9d. transfer fees. There are 14 of you who have done that, and my thanks are given to you for seeing about it. But what about the remaining 15?

Sick Guildites.

First of all, my grateful thanks to each one of you who responded so nobly to my call for service. Your little deeds of kindness, though perhaps small to you, have helped the sufferers tremendously.

Mr. Higginbottom, of Ward I, Derby City Hospital, has written and asked me to thank all Guildites who have written to him. He is progressing steadily, but still in bed with no signs of getting up. He says, "It makes me feel glad to be alive and to belong to Our Guild when one receives such kind expressions of sympathy and courage from other members of our fraternity, the same as I have, and my one desire is to get back among my fellow Guildites."

Mrs. Marks, of 4, West Street, Wath-on-Deerne, Yorks., has also written for Gwendoline to say thank you for your thoughts expressed in your letters and on the cards. She says Gwen is getting up a little, and when the warm sunshiny weather comes along they are hoping to take her out in a bath-chair.

I think it was very nice indeed of Mr. Wilton, of Huddersfield, and Beryl Coe, of Coventry (who, by the way, are not yet Guildites), to write to my sick members. But I think it was even nicer still that the two sick folks wrote to each other.

Will all of you accept my grateful thanks for your help, and will others of you continue the treatment for next month? Thanks, if you will.

To Student Guildites.

Some of you, I hope, will have already taken your examinations when you read this. I hope the questions were just what you wanted, and that you really enjoyed the week-end. Now your job is to wait patiently for results while the examiners do their part; and, along with you, I hope the waiting will not be long, and that you will have done as well as you expect.

The rest of you, I hope, are still working steadily away at your preparations for Oral Grade, and Grades I to V. You have a good month left, and even in that time, short as it seems, you can work wonders. Study your readings and handbook, and when you have studied them study them again. You cannot do it too often, but—remember, I say "study," and there is a world of difference between studying and reading.

I hope all those who are eligible are taking their examinations, but I am quite aware of the fact that some of you have to wait another year, because of your age. Still I hope to see a large number of names of Guildites in the Results Book for 1935. Don't disappoint me, will you?

To all of you.

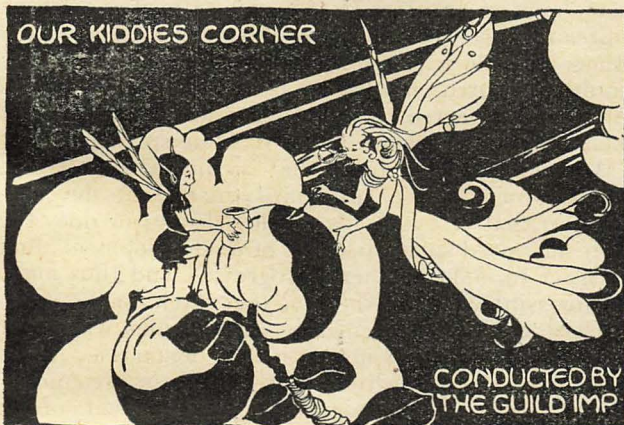
Please note that my house will be closed for the whole of Easter week, as I intend to stay with a friend and relations during that time. That means that letters will lie in the house waiting until my return, so don't be alarmed if you have to wait any length of time for a reply.

A happy Easter to each one of you! May you be able to get out and enjoy all the signs of summer to be found in the countryside, and return home filled with new life and vigour for the tasks awaiting you.

The Guild Leader,

28, Moorlands Place,
Free School Lane,
Halifax.

GLADYS M. HALLIDAY.



Dear Little Imps.

Easter is late this year, and I am one of the people who feel glad about it. Are you? Being late is usually a dreadful affair, but, somehow, a late Easter is different from other late things or people. By the time she does arrive in holiday mood, a sunshiny world should have almost dried up April's tears. Birds will be singing, twigs hiding, flowers peeping, and all sorts of gay young things will be frisking about in the merry sunlight.

All those things make the outside world glad of a late Easter, whilst indoors, bustling mothers are saying, "I'll just get the spring cleaning done for Easter this year." And, Imps, from whispers I have heard, I believe they are saying the very same thing in Fairyland just now. Had you ever thought about that? Let our story tell you about it.

WANTED—A SWEEP.

There was such a turmoil in Fairyland. Everywhere things seemed to be topsy-turvy, and most of the houses seemed to be turned inside out. At least, nearly all the things that should have been inside the houses could be seen on the grass outside. Everybody was in a dreadful hurry, and thistledown was in great demand. It made such splendid mops and dusters. Witches' brooms, carefully packed with good spells, stood outside every doorway, whilst the grass was thick with dew drops guaranteed to polish any fairy window-pane. Yes! it was spring-cleaning time, and the only talk in Fairyland was about polishing and shining and the race for spick and span houses.

Now, really, all this spring-cleaning wasn't a bit necessary in Fairyland. There is scarcely any dust there, and no fairy could have muddy feet, so that the houses were as clean as could be. Truth to tell, the fairies were copying the earth people. They had seen all the hustle and bustle in houses on earth and had decided to try the same thing in Fairyland. It was such a change for fairies to behave like earth people, especially since so few earth people can ever remember to behave like fairies.

To most of the fairies this great spring-clean was fun. It was so easy to polish and dust in houses that hadn't any dust in them. Besides, there was all the fun of jumbling the things together on the grass, and choosing new flower petals for curtains. Behaving like earth-people was a grand new game, especially if one didn't behave too much like them.

That was where Fairy Firelight made her mistake. Once, when she was very young, she had visited an

earth home, and had fallen in love with the firelight. In Fairyland there was sunlight, and moonlight, and starlight, but no firelight, and this little fairy thought firelight the prettiest and jolliest light of them all. Whenever she had the chance, she strayed to earth, at dusk, and sat in the firelight, until, in time, people forgot her real name, and always called her Fairy Firelight.

When Fairy Firelight grew old enough to have a house of her own, she wasn't satisfied until she had a real fireside of her own too, so that the firelight became her evening companion. Other fairies didn't trouble about firesides. If ever they were cold, a kindly glow-worm warmed them up, but Fairy Firelight cuddled herself over her fire. Yes, she had a real fire. She had watched the people with their sticks and coals, and, although nobody knew how she managed it, her fire was a real coal fire. Any fairy felt honoured if she were invited to sit by Fairy Firelight's coal fire.

All went well for months, until the great Spring clean started. Then Fairy Firelight found herself in difficulties. Her house really was dusty, and she couldn't find out where the dust came from. Thistle-down dusters and dew-drop polishes didn't seem much use in removing that dust, and the house-proud fairy grew worried. The firelight was still lovely, but every morning saw the fairy's house all speckled with black dust. There came even the sad day when no smoke went up the chimney, for it all came down into the room. Poor Fairy Firelight coughed and sneezed, and tried in vain to stop her eyes from smarting. What could she do with this awful smoke?

In despair the Fairy went to earth and looked around, until she found a house all smoky like her own. There she heard people say "We must get the sweep to-morrow to clean our chimney." The fairy listened and wondered however anyone would clean a chimney, and whatever a sweep might be. All next day she looked out for the sweep, but all she saw was a very ordinary man go into the house, and a very funny thing come poking out of the chimney. That must be the sweep at work.

Fairy Firelight returned home, gathered her friends around her, and explained about the sweep cleaning the chimney. That must be what her chimney needed too, but where could they find a sweep in Fairyland? Not one of the fairies had ever heard of a sweep before, and certainly nobody living in Fairyland was one. They talked and talked. One suggested asking a hedgehog to crawl up the chimney, but he politely refused. The witch's broom was too small and thistledown was too soft. The fairy was almost in despair when two imps came to the rescue. They would sweep the chimney with burdock burrs. Fairy Firelight consented, though she felt quite sure that the earth sweep didn't use burrs.

Then the fun commenced. Those imps made a long chain of burrs. One climbed on to the roof and the other went to the fireside. The one on the roof dropped the burr chain down the chimney and held tight to one end. When his friend caught the other end of the burr chain, they started to play at see-saw with it. Oh, they removed the soot all right. The soot left the chimney in a hurry, and flew in all directions. It caught the clouds in the

(Concluded on page 60).

THE LYCEUM BANNER

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

Editor: ERNEST A. KEELING.

ALL MATTER SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION MUST BE ADDRESSED TO THE EDITOR, "Lyceum Banner," 8, Knowlaid Road, Tue Brook, Liverpool, 13.

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ALL ORDERS AND REMITTANCES must be sent to the Gen. Secretary, B.S.L.U. Hollins Chambers, 64a, Bridge Street, Manchester, 3. (Office Hours, 9 to 12-30 and 1-45 to 5-30. Saturdays 9 to 12-30).

The *Lyceum Banner* is supplied at 1/9 per dozen copies (13/12) up to ten dozen. Additional half dozens may be ordered. All orders for four dozen copies and upwards are supplied at 1s. 8d. per dozen. All parcels sent post free. Single copies, 2 1/2d., post free. Accounts due quarterly. Orders not later than the 23rd of each month. Annual subscription, post free, 2s. 6d. To Canada and the United States, 72c. Foreign currency taken.

Postal orders and cheques should be crossed and made payable to the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union. The Gen. Sec. will not be responsible for Treasury notes sent through the post unless same are registered. Bankers: Martins Bank, Ltd.

APRIL, 1935.

WHAT DO WE KNOW OF THE AFTER LIFE?

We were recently asked to express an opinion as to the position in the after death state of two people who in this earth life had been very affectionately attached to each other, but whose spiritual development was quite different. In giving consideration to the matter we found ourselves confronted with quite a number of problems and were forced to admit that, in spite of a long association with the Spiritualist movement, and many conversations with Spirit friends, it was difficult to be quite sure what was the correct answer to give to our questioner.

We think that it would be of great advantage to the Spiritualist movement if a systematic investigation was made for the purpose of ascertaining and collating the views of reliable and experienced Spirit people concerning the conditions, and, if possible some of the laws which govern the after life. For too long have we been content with generalisations, and Lyceumists who are also students could render a great service by setting out to obtain more definite information.

The first and most obvious difficulty is the translation into terms of this life facts of a non-spacial and timeless other life. For instance, when we use the word progress we usually mean a moving forward, but it is more than probable that spiritual progress does not involve any "movement" at all. We have been assured by our Spirit friends that it is quite possible for two spirits of different degrees of development to be in the same "place" at the same "time" and for neither to be aware of the presence of the other.

We frequently hear it said that the Spirit world is a natural world—more natural than this. What do we mean or understand by "natural"? Surely the Spirit world is so different from this that its "nature" cannot be such as will enable us to make a reasonable comparison.

Let us face the position arising from our opening question.

We are repeatedly told that our "place" or "state" in the next life will be determined by our conduct in earth life, and as we are more or less spiritual, so will we be more or less "advanced." We are also told

that love or affection is the power or force which unites people together. Now if two people love each other, it would seem to follow that in the next life they would be united, but if the spiritual development is different in degree then they cannot be together if their "place" is determined by their spirituality.

A second problem arises that is equally interesting. Can the spirit of lesser spirituality increase its development so that it overtakes the loved one; or does the more advanced spirit, because of its development, find it easier to make further "progress," and thus make it impossible for the other one to "catch up."

These questions are merely illustrations which are intended to show how unsafe it is to dogmatise. There are many others for which positive answers are equally difficult to discover, and we hope that students of the seance room will consider it worth while to give the whole matter their earnest attention and report the result of their enquiry to us.

EN PASSANT.

We regret that through an inadvertence Prof. Zollner was referred to as Prof. Sollner in the recent article by John S. Barnett.

Lyceumists are still sending items intended for publication to the General Secretary at Manchester, instead of to the Editor at Liverpool. Please do not do it.

We hope that Lyceum workers in every district are busy preparing their minds for the Annual Conference. Important decisions must be made. Let us see they are wise ones.

We wonder how many Lyceumists are also members of their Church. You cannot expect the Church to get on with you if you don't try to do so with the Church. Do as you would be done by.

Items of Interest.

Stratford Guildites have been having a Guild class all winter. They have spent time doing gym., country dancing and games, and are now being initiated into the joys of Table Tennis. Last Winter they each paid 1d. per week, and the money they collected in this way has been supplemented by the Lyceum this winter to enable them to buy netball posts. Now they are looking for teams to play them. (I hope to hear further news of your activities in this direction next year.)

Attercliffe (Sheffield) Lyceum is planning to commence a Guild Class. All good luck to you in your efforts!

THERE IS NO SPEED LIMIT
TO THE
10,000 SHILLING FUND

LIFE AND DEATH.

The sun rose up in all its might,
As life set out one day,
And Death, the ever present one
Followed, along the way.

Spring flowers grew about Life's feet,
All nature round was green;
While Death still followed after
His form afar, unseen.

The Summer time was rising,
And roses bloomed in heat.
Young Life aglow, was riding high,
While Death had aching feet.

The Autumn leaves were falling,
Life's step grew rather slow,
But Death crept up still nearer,
And darkened Autumn glow.

The sun in Heaven was sinking,
Dark Winter snow had come,
And Life grew cold, and halting,
Longing for safer home.

A shadow fell before him,
And Life grew sore afraid,
He did not wish to stumble,
To fall, in Death's cold shade.

But ah! he was so weary,
Life turned about, and smiled,
For Death, the awful shadow,
Had eyes, so soft, and mild.

All fear began to vanish,
As darkness turned to light,
The face of Death grew glorious,
Aflame, and beaming bright.

A welcome song was on his lips,
As though to banish strife.
He saw not now the shade of Death,
But greater, nobler, Life.

No more, the struggling heated way,
His heart grew light in Praise,
As life, and Death together,
Went forth their glorious ways.

MARGARET ELSIE THOMPSON, A.N.S.C.

TRANSITION.

Horwich Spiritualist Church and Lyceum has lost a valued worker by the passing of Mr. Edward Walsh, on Saturday, March 2nd, 1935. Mr. Walsh, who was 62 years of age, had been a member of the Church and Lyceum for the past 25 years, and had held various official positions. Prior to the funeral at Rigemont Cemetery a service conducted by a Lyceumist, Mr. Heath, was held at the Church. Mr. Heath also officiated at the graveside. Members of the Church and Lyceum attended the funeral. Floral tributes were received from Church and Lyceum, Westthoughton Lyceum, also Bolton L.D. Council, of which Mr. Walsh had been a great worker, and fulfilled a great many offices. Mr. Walsh leaves a son and a daughter.

E. A. VERNON.

ABOUT MEDIUMSHIP.

JAMES LE NOURY, G.N.S.C.

Sixty years ago the claim that Spiritualist teaching now makes, viz., that our fellows who have experienced an event called death can and do make themselves manifest to us, was problematical. To-day that is no longer the case. Spiritualism is either right or wrong. With the accumulated evidence that is at our disposal we can trace the gradual evolution, in civilised communities at any rate, of this knowledge with a startling clearness. The investigations of the Society for Psychical Research; the publications of Spiritualist Unions, such as the Spiritualists' National Union; the conclusions of men and women in private life, who have been bold enough to write of their experiences in this realm of psychic matters, all go to help the task of the novice investigator. With this huge library at his disposal the investigator may discover for himself the possibilities of the subject.

In my personal experience I find most people very ignorant of what Spiritualism means, does, and proves. The story of the old lady, very fond of going to 'Spirit' meetings, seems to illustrate the point very well. One evening she returned very shortly after going out to a Spiritualist meeting, because, as she said, "The comedian hadn't turned up!"

The first lesson that an examiner of psychic matters has to learn is to admit his ignorance of the topic. When an investigator commences his survey by the assumption that the phenomena is false not only does he prejudice the case from the beginning, but he does himself a disservice by showing his incompetence to be impartial. It is perfectly true that he may believe the vast body of people who call themselves Spiritualists hold erroneous convictions, but, as an investigator, he has no possible right to declare the falsity of something that he knows very little or nothing about. If, then, he agrees that he occupies a low rung on the ladder of psychic knowledge, he has no business to demand that certain conditions of his must be met before he has had any opportunity to examine the evidence. Rather it is his duty to rigidly observe what phenomena are produced, the sort of conditions that seem necessary to make the evidence acceptable, and be capable of an easy understanding.

Unfortunately Spiritualist mediums have been too easily persuaded that ropes, seals, tapes, locked cabinets, examination of the clothing, etc., are imperative to a successful seance. Many times the evidence produced has been called trivial and of no consequence simply because some people, ignorant of the conditions necessary for the successful seance, have demanded and obtained their own particular conditions. The case of Cecil Husk, the noted singer and psychic, is a lesson to those who would attempt to interfere with the phenomena. Mr. Cecil Husk was, of course, the well known materialisation medium, and during one of his seances an ignoramus in psychic matters grabbed at a materialised spirit form. The tragic result was that the ectoplasm, of which substance materialised spirit forms are built, rushed back to the body of the medium, the consequence being that Cecil Husk was crippled for life. I believe that it is a fact that he never left his bed from that day until his release from physical bondage.

(To be continued next month).

B.S.L. U. RESTORATION FUND.

To all Lyceumists.

Flower Day returns are coming in steadily but slowly. There are still 95 Lyceums who have not yet sent forward their donation. May I suggest that these Lyceums "speed up" and let me have their donation, in time to report in the May BANNER, and also to enable me to give a complete report to Conference. Please try and send not later than April 15th.

So far the total amount for "Flower Day" is well under last year, but I am hoping that the retention of the Buttercups by the remaining Lyceums is indicative of the desire and determination to sell out and thus realise an appreciable amount to swell the fund.

Flower Day Donations.

I have very much pleasure in acknowledging the following donations:—

Forest Hill, per Miss A. E. Payne, 5s.; Southampton, per Mr. E. W. Long, 18s. 6½d.; Longton, per Mrs. E. Horrobin, 6s. 3d.; Heeley, Gifford Road, per Mr. C. Hodgson, 8s.; Armley, per Mr. W. Wainwright, 10s.; Daulby Hall, per Mr. S. Cretney, £1 1s. 10d.; Darlington Psycho, per Mr. J. W. Sell, 1s. 9d.; Horden, per Mrs. L. Fox, 4s.; Blackpool, Albert Road, per Mrs. E. H. Rothwell, 15s.; Pendleton, per Miss Williams, 4s.; Lancaster, Bulk Road, per A. Stephens, 9d.; Edinburgh, per Mis. A. Houston, 13s.; Whitley Bay, per Mr. W. Hall, 18s.; Southend and Westeliff, per Mr. Warren, 2s. 8d.; Fulham, per Miss C. Brinton, 7s. 10d.; Droylsden, per Miss Kirkham, 3s. 4d.; Sunderland, per Mrs. Mackey, 4s. 4d.; Rochdale, per Mr. T. Dixon, 8s.; Rock Ferry, per Mrs. H. N. Gleave, 3s. 5d.; Leeds Psycho, per Mrs. E. L. Heald, 6s.; Bankfoot, per Mrs. A. Lightowler, 1s.; Durham, per Mrs. F. G. Walters, 5s.; Porsmouth Temple, per Mr. J. G. McFarlane, £1 12s. 0s.; Walthamstow, per Mr. E. A. Whiter, 4s.; Brighton, Mighell St., per Miss E. L. Scoggins, 13s.; Yeadon, per Mr. H. Slater, 4s.; Barnsley, New St., per Mrs. Evans, 5s.; Earby, Greenend Ave., per Mr. A. G. Morby, 3s.; Preston, Moor Lane, per Miss Nielaus, 5s.; Glasgow Northern Prog., per E. W. Macnish, 6s. 3d.; Leicester, Rupert Street, per Miss E. Wicks, 5s.; Barrow, Dalkeith Street, per Mis. A. Taft, 10s.; Runcorn, per Mr. H. Cohen, 12s. 6d.; Jarrow, Ellison Street, per Mr. S. J. Holland, 3s. 8d.; New Malden, per Mr. E. Port, 2s. 4d.; Stapleford, per Mr. Wing, 5s. 6d.; Hollinwood, per Mr. J. Fairbotham, 7s. 6d.; Hirst, per Mr. J. Stafford, 5s. 6d.; North Shields Rippon Hall, per Mrs. Robson, 14s.; Moston Prog., per Mr. E. Graham, 7s.; Moss Side, per Miss L. E. Moulson, 6s. 4d.; Castleford, per Mr. E. Bradburn, 4s. 4d.; Heeley Woodseats, per Miss V. Spooner, 9s.; Belper, per Mr. J. H. Hawkins, 12s. 6d.; Gateshead, Rectory Hall, per Mrs. Mather, 3s. 6d.; Clapham, per Mr. W. J. Smith, 5s.; Ryde Prog., per Mrs. E. Oak, 7s. 6d.; Saltaire, per Mr. Hopwood, 3s.; Windhill, per Mr. W. K. Pickard, 2s.; Rugby, per Miss Brierley, 3s. 9d.; Wallsend-on-Tyne, per Mrs. Macdonald, 8s.; Nottingham, Mechanics' Hall, per Miss L. M. Sharpe, 2s. 8d.; Smethwick, per Miss A. L. Lane, 7s.; Allercliffe, per Mr. J. Le Noury, 7s. 8d.; Cowes Nat. Spiritualists' Church, per Mrs. Harding, 7s.; Longsight, per Mr. H. Beeston,

12s.; York, Spen Lane, per Mr. Whitwam, 5s.; Mexborough, West Street, per G. Haywood, 3s.; Parkgate, per Mr. J. H. Gothard, 10s.; Shaw, Lyon Street, per Mr. J. Crowther, 3s.; Stratford, per Mrs. M. E. Capper, 17s. 6d.; Newton Heath, per Mrs. Taylor, 3s. 6d.; Horwich, per Mr. E. A. Vernon, 10s.; Oldham Central, per Mr. J. Woods, 8s. 6d.; Birkenhead, per Mr. R. Robb, 2s. 6d.; Chesterfield, per Mr. J. J. Hobster, 11s. 3d.; Barrow, Harley Street, per Mrs. E. Donkin, 5s.; South Shields, per Mr. W. Brooks, 6s. 5d. Total, £25 8s. 4½d.

Donations.

Bedlington National Church, per Mr. T. W. Straker, 3s. 6d.; Whitley Bay, per Mr. W. Hall, 12s.; Fulham, per Mr. J. E. Pearson, 10s.; Mrs. Sutton, 6d. Total, £1 6s. 0d.

Collections.

Nottingham Mechanics' Hall, per Miss L. M. Sharpe, 1s. 7d.; Chesterfield, per Mr. J. J. Hobster, 3s. 9d.; South Shields, per Mr. W. Brooks, 2s. 9d.; Total, 8s. 1d.

GRAND TOTAL, £27 2s. 5½d.

Please don't forget the 10,000 Shilling Fund which is now open to everybody interested in our Union. Send your shilling direct to

MRS. L. GEORGE,

85, Queen's Road,
Everton,

Hon. Secretary.

Liverpool, 6.

A CREED.

(Although based on orthodox Christianity, the beauty of the following is justification for its publication.—EDITOR.)

I BELIEVE in one God present in nature as law, in science as truth, in art as beauty, in history as justice, in society as sympathy, in conscience as duty, and supremely in Christ as our highest ideal.

I believe in the Bible as the expression of God's will through man; in prayer as the devotion of man's will to God; and in the Church as the fellowship of those who try to do God's will in the world.

I believe in worship as the highest inspiration to work; in sacrifice as the price we must pay to make right what is wrong; in salvation as the growth out of selfishness into service; in eternal life as the survival of what loves and is lovable in each individual; and in judgment as the obvious fact that the condition of the gentle, the generous, the modest, the pure and the true, is always and everywhere preferable to that of the cruel, the sensual, the mean, the proud and the false.

From "The College Man and the College Woman."

WILLIAM DEWITT HYDE.

IN MEMORIAM.

BRIXTON—FOLL.—In ever loving memory of my dear boy, Douglas, who passed away April 11th, 1919.—Your loving mother.

Thank God and thank you dear for all your love and held to me.

SCOUTS AND GUIDES.

By ALBERT E. FRUIN.

Every Officer, Conductor, Secretary or Group Leader must feel alarmed at the report of a further loss of membership in our ranks.

It is useless sitting down and trusting we have reached the lowest ebb, and that the incoming tide will bring greater results; neither will increasing or reducing our annual subscription solve the problem.

We must face facts broadly and open every avenue of enquiry in order to ascertain the reasons whereby we may find each district has its own particular causes.

Although my own district are fortunate to show a good increase in membership for the past year, I have had two reports where children have been attracted to join other organisations because they have Boy Scout and Girl Guide Companies. While I am told a Lyceum at Coventry has had to close for the same reason.

Having had no connection with either of these bodies I do not speak with any personal knowledge of their work, but I wrote to the Headquarters of both organisations, pointing out very clearly our beliefs and asking in what position our members stood for associating ourselves with them.

In both cases I have received most courteous replies saying there are no objections to our forming companies under our own organisation, subject to our being able to find qualified leaders in accordance with their rules. Further they have provided me with full details contained in booklets covering two hundred and forty pages. I, personally, can see no reason why we should not associate ourselves with what I consider the finest international organisation for youth the world has ever known, if we find our youth is seeking such associations.

While I cannot give full details, I give herewith the main points which all sections might do well to consider.

The Scouts promise:—

On my honour I promise that I will do my best—
To do my duty to God and King.
To help other people at all times.
To obey the Scout law.

The Scout Law is:—

1. A Scout's honour is to be trusted.
2. A Scout is loyal to the King, his country, his Officers, his parents, his employers, and those under him.
3. A Scout's duty is to be useful and to help others.
4. A Scout is a friend to all, and a brother to every other Scout, no matter to what Social class the other belongs.
5. A Scout is courteous.
6. A Scout obeys orders of his parents, patrol leader or Scout Master, without question.
8. A Scout smiles and whistles under all circumstances.
9. A Scout is thrifty.
10. A Scout is clean in word and deed.

Religious Policy:—

It is expected that every Scout shall belong to some religious denomination and attend its services. Where it is not permissible under the rule of the religion of any scout to attend religious

observances other than those of his own church, the Scoutmasters of the group must see that such rules are strictly observed while the scout is under their control.

Politics:—

The Boy Scouts association is not connected with any political body. Members of the association when in uniform or acting as representatives of the Movement, must not take part in political meetings or activities.

The Girl Guides:

While quite a separate organisation, their promise, laws and policy are practically governed by the same standard.

In giving these details I have in mind the question: Is it not wiser to associate ourselves with a popular world-wide movement rather than start some smaller movement which might not have the same appeal to youth. Would it not add prestige to our movement to be linked with such a national organisation?

To those who are in doubt about the military question, let me say that I fail to find anything to disturb the peace lover's mind. Saluting the Union Jack and being loyal to our King is surely the duty of every British citizen.

I think the mental, moral and physical training of boys and girls under Scout and Guide laws are paise-worthy. London has already what I believe is the first company of Spiritualist Girl Guides, and from reports received they are very proud of their organisation.

CHANGES OF LYCEUM SECRETARIES, ETC.

Bradford L.D.C. District Visitor: Mrs. Edwards, 'Lyndene,' Larkfield Crescent, Rawden, nr. Leeds.
Halifax and Hudderseld L.D.C. District Visitor: Miss B. Lee, 3, Hebble Street, Bradford Road, Huddersfield.
Hebden Bridge, Hope St.: J. Holt, Hawksclough, Hebden Bridge.
Hull, Dairycoates: C. Barker, 4, Paisley Street, off Walton St., Hull.
York, Spen Lane. Time of Session 10-30 a.m.
London L.D.C. District Visitor: Miss A. Pennington, 230, Kingston Road, Teddington, Middlesex.
Eltham, Co-op. Hall: Miss D. Whalley, 134, High Road, Mottingham, London, S.E.9.
Hampton Wick and Teddington, Time of Session, 11-0 a.m.
Barnsley, Grace Street: Mr. J. E. Corbett, 1, Keresforth Hall Road, Kingston, Barnsley.
Parkgate, Ashwood Road: Mr. J. Gothard, 23, South Street, Greasborough, Rotherham.
Tees-side L.D.C. Secretary: Mr. E. Nellist, 7, Studley Road, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough.
Grangetown: Mr. W. Harrison, 128, Bessimer Street, Grange-town-on-Tees, Yorks.
Ashington: Mr. W. Barton, 4, Hawthorn Road, Ashington, Northumberland.
Hetton and District: Mr. Wm. Wilson, jr., 2, Longfellow Street, Houghton-le-Spring, Co. Durham.
Whitley Bay, 10, South Parade.
Grimsby, Kent St.: G. Smith, 123, Weelsby Street, Grimsby.

(Concluded from page 51—col. 1).

No! the Eternal Nature of things must be *moral*, must be intelligent and purposeful, and must *back* our costly dedication to ends that are good.

From "Fundamental Ends of Life"
by

Rufus M. Jones, Litt.D., LL.D.

Contributed by the Book-worm.

A VISIT TO A BULL-FIGHT—*Concluded.*

(23rd Feb., 1935) of a hunted fox fleeing for its life from a pack of hounds; the look of desperate fear is very pronounced.

I am of the opinion that there are many ways in which one could indulge in riding and bravery other than fox-hunting, stag-hunting and bull-fighting. Foxes and stags could be kept within a reasonable numerical limit by more humane methods.

Finally, I can but repeat that the only pleasure I derived from the visit to the bull-fight was the satisfaction of being able to point out to those with whom I come in contact, the brutality and cruelty of such sport, with the hope that they will assist in opposing all merciless amusements.

I am pleased to say that although bull-fighting is still the national sport in Spain, football is becoming popular amongst the younger generation.

GEO. A. MACK.

PEARLS.

Great engines move on little pins.

Sympathy is the key which unlocks the door to every heart.

Justice is what most people want for themselves but seldom give to others.

Contentment cometh to him who findeth God in his own soul.

AROUND OUR LYCEUMS—*Concluded.*

to promote a greater interest and activity in Lyceum work. We shall work hard to retain it; if we fail we will look back with pleasure on our Jubilee year when we were the proud and first holders of the Silver Bell.—Mrs. Cryer, Sec.

SHEFFIELD, Heeley.—We are very pleased to announce that we have won the Lyceum Banner which is the 1st Prize in the S.L.L.D.C. Banner and Bell Competition. On March 3rd at our Open Session the Banner was unveiled by Mr. Russell, an old worker in our cause and one who helped to establish a Lyceum at Heeley Woodseats nearly 4 years ago. A hearty vote of thanks was given to those who had worked to win the Banner. There was a large number of visitors present and we concluded a very pleasant afternoon session with individual items from nearly all the Lyceumists present. Conductor Mr. L. Grant.—V. Spooner, Sec.

WINNIPEG, First Spiritualist Church Lyceum.—We held a very enjoyable open Session on Sunday February 3rd. Pearls, songs and recitations were rendered by: Fred, Eileen and Joan Nichols, Brian Orchard, Raymond Parkinson, Betty Winters, Florence Greenwood, Marguerite Kinghorse, Harry Forrest, Mr. Orchard, Mr. Simmons, Mr. Forrest, Mr. Sanderson, Miss M. Anderson, Mrs. Barber.

We held a very enjoyable Open Session on Sunday March 3rd. Pearls, recitations and solos were rendered by: Brian Orchard, Mr. Orchard, Mr. Sanderson, Mr. Forrest, Mrs. Parkinson, Miss M. Anderson, Hazel Dale, Daisy Knox, Joan and Edith Nichols, Florence Greenwood, Betty Wintern and Olive Forrest.—O. Forrest, Sec.

UNITED DISTRICTS COUNCIL.

REPORT OF HALF-YEARLY MEETING HELD MARCH 9TH, 1935, IN THE LIBRARY OF THE BRITTEN MEMORIAL, MANCHESTER.

The meeting commenced at 3-10 p.m., in the presence of Mrs. George, B.S.L.U.; Mrs. Sutton, North East Lancs. D.C.; Mr. Dewhurst, South East Lancs. D.C.; Mr. Colbourne, Tees-side D.C.; Mr. Shuttleworth, Education Committee; Mr. Nellist, President, and Mr. Dickinson, Secretary.

The President asked the assistance of the Spirit Friends on our deliberations, after which the Secretary explained the reason for the presence of Mr. Shuttleworth and requested that his action in inviting him should be endorsed. This was agreed. The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and accepted as a correct record. After much discussion they were adopted. In correspondence, letters were read from B.S.L.U. *re* Declining Membership, General Secretary *re* meeting, Mr. Markham and others. These were accepted and certain letters relegated to appropriate places on the agenda. The Secretary explained his position *re* Mr. Markham, which was accepted, after which correspondence was accepted.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS. The President spoke of the uncertainty that existed *re* the Constitution, and the possible vital change in reference to the payment of fees. The inclusion of the age 21 qualification in reference to financial resolutions will possibly have important repercussions and may necessitate vigorous recruiting of majors in order to meet the situation. The decline in membership was serious and the Propagandist Corps as advocated by the Editor of the "Banner" could perform a useful work in this direction. On the question of fusion the U.D.C. would be well advised to consider the problem from all angles. The discussion on the Address shewed that the members thought that D.V.s should be empowered to investigate Lyceum registers and report thereon to the local Council Secretary, who in turn could notify the General Secretary. It was thought all Lyceumists of a suitable age should become Church members, whilst propaganda should be instituted to get Church members interested in the Lyceum. The address was adopted. A long discussion took place over the suggestions of the Education Committee and we felt we had in our joint efforts done much to assist in the advancement of the scheme. The delegate from Leeds D.C. had arrived during the progress of the meeting. The pool was 7/- per delegate.

A. S. DICKINSON, Secretary.

(*Concluded from page 55.*)

air, it covered everything in the room, until Fairy Firelight began to wonder if she lived in Sootland instead of Fairyland; and Spring-cleaning time had to be changed to bath time for such a lot of folks. Well, the chimney was swept, the cleaning was done, and the last I heard was that a certain little fairy wanted to change her name. Now I hear she is Sunlight and leaves Firelight to us.

Lots of love, Umps,
MEG.

OUR READERS' VIEWS.

To The Editor,

Dear Sir,

In reply to your question as to why some Lyceums and Churches do not get on harmoniously together, you have solved the problem in your own words, "No personalities, please."

EVA C. DEAN.

To The Editor,

Dear Sir,

"Why Churches and Lyceums do not work harmoniously together."

As a Lyceumist, a Church Secretary, and a District Committee Secretary, in my investigation of this subject, I find some Church officials with very little knowledge of Spiritualism, and with rigid ideas of a Constitution to co-opt a Lyceum representative on the Church Committee. One very important thing is, some churches have rules for Church government only. Another important thing is, some Lyceums have not any Inter-relations scheme for Lyceum and Church government to guide them. I have in mind a Church where they insist that the Bible is read from the rostrum on Sundays, and Lyceum Manual on weekdays. This kind of representation is not good for the Lyceum.

Here is my own Church and Lyceum agreement. Lyceum Conductor, Secretary and Treasurer are members of the Church. Conductor and Secretary are chosen by the Lyceum, to sit on the Church E.C. The Lyceum have a representative to attend all Church members' meetings and to report back to the Lyceum. The Church have a representative to attend all Lyceum Committee Meetings (all Lyceum adults) every month, and report back to the Church. The Church E.C. attend the Lyceum Sunday morning session every three months. The Lyceum adults are given six Sundays per year to take the Sunday services; all finance to Church. All other functions, such as Harvest Festival, the Lyceum have a table of their own for the collection of fruit, flowers, etc. All work together for decorations; finance goes to Church funds. Socials, Xmas Singing and other events 50/50 Lyceum and Church. The Church and Lyceum work harmoniously together under this constitution. I hope from the above you will get a little knowledge of my experience of the heading of this article.

With all best wishes to you,

Yours faithfully,

J. RICHES.

To the Editor,

Dear Sir,

I feel that some of the questions under the heading of "En Passant" cannot be allowed to go by without some attempt to answer them.

It would be very interesting to know how many platform workers have come from the College, I think the answer would be very few. The reason is that the

people controlling the platforms do not want our A.N.S.C.'s and G.N.S.C.'s.

It is a notable fact that nearly all our Graduates are *not* mediums and do not give Clairvoyance, and therefore cannot obtain any,—or only very few—"dates," despite the fact that they are in many cases willing to serve Churches for expenses only.

I know from personal experience in Sheffield District many Lyceumists pass the Examinations and equip themselves with a good knowledge of Spiritualism, only to find that even the church of which they are a member deny them the opportunity of developing platform ability.

Only one Society out of almost 30 in the Sheffield District Committee runs a "Discussion" or "Liberty" Group!

The movement makes no attempt to train its speakers in a systematic way. Those who show any clairvoyant ability are pushed on to the platform and encouraged with praise and hero-worship, without any thought being given to their ability as speakers, whereas those who have been trained in the Lyceum and Education Scheme are treated with indifference and discouraged almost to the extent of driving them out of the Movement.

Why are our A.N.S.C. and G.N.S.C. so inarticulate? I feel rather guilty on this point, having only submitted one effort.

We must realise that many of our A.N.S.C.'s and G.N.S.C.'s are often active officers both in their own Lyceums and their D.C., and find little time for the quiet study required in preparing papers.

And again! eight years of study in the College examinations, perhaps leaves one glad of a season or two's "breather!"

It would be interesting to know how many Churches and Lyceums do get on very well together, I am afraid very few do. The reasons are many and varied. The general reason is the old clash between the ideas of youth and old age.

Many church members know nothing of the Lyceum, its aims and ideals. They do not like to attend Lyceums because they feel very much out of place mentally. Many Church workers are recruited from the Christian Church and cannot understand the mental outlook of the Lyceum trained youth or adult. They seem to feel their inferiority and build up an attitude of indifference—sometimes even hostility—towards Lyceumists.

Few Churches have come to realise clearly that the Lyceums are the training ground for future Spiritualists.

The Management Committee page is an excellent idea, but may I suggest that for one month it should be used to give a clear outline of the organisation of the Movement. I have been appalled at the ignorance of many of our Lyceums on this point; too frequently we hear the remark, "What is the B.S.I.U. and what good is it to us?"

Yours fraternally,

ARTHUR BRUCE, G.N.S.C.

LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORTS.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD L.D.C.

The next meeting will be held at Ramsden St., Huddersfield, on Sunday April 28th, to commence at 10-30 a.m. It is their Lyceum Anniversary so come along in crowds and help to make it a success.

G. HALLIDAY, Sec.

LEEDS LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A.G.M. held Saturday Feb. 23rd at Theatre Lane, Armley, Leeds. 3-30 p.m.

Opening Exercise, Invocation by Mr. Apedale, York. Local welcome by Miss Massey, accepted by President.

President's Address: A pleasure to see so many here to-day. I hope we have assembled for one united purpose to strengthen the Council and the Union. We desire your Lyceums to join the Inter-change of Conductors scheme. We must discard the old ideas, although it is sometimes difficult to commence new ones. Our movement carefully followed will lead us to a successful issue. Let us not forget the Restoration Fund.

To those Lyceums who have not paid their B.S.L.U. affiliation, see to it at once.

Minutes. Last A.G.M. also Quarterly Conference accepted and confirmed.

Correspondence. Accepted and filed.

Reports. D. V. Treasurer: Balance General Account £3 10s. 5½d., Field Day Fund Balance, £11 9s. 3d.; Auditors, L.D.C. (3 visits), Inter-change Conductor 4. Reports only received, accepted. Action of E.C. to be confirmed.

Election of Officers. President: Mr. Wainwright (Leeds), Vice-president: Mr. Whiteoak (Batley Carr), Treasurer: Mr. Hirst (Batley Carr), Secretary: Mr. Harding (Wakefield); D.V.: Mr. A. Daisley (Leeds Psycho).

Delegates. B.S.L.U.: Mr. Harding, U.D.C.: Mr. Wainwright; L.D.C.: Mr. Rothery; Area Representative recommended, Mr. Wainwright (Armley).

B.S.L.U. Nominations. President, Mr. Slimin; Vice-president: Mrs. George; Treasurer: Mr. Burrows; Auditor: Mr. Entwistle.

Silver Bell Progress Scheme. After lengthy discussion agreed this be placed on agenda for next meeting.

Inter-change Conductor. Agreed time of Session be placed on plan cards for the convenience of visiting Conductors.

Royston invitation for Demonstration be accepted. Field Day Meeting to be held Wakefield March 23rd, 3-30 p.m.

Date of Demonstration, Saturday July 13th Lyceums Note: Mr. Silcock, 77, Midland Road, Royston, Nr. Barnsley, F.D. Sec.

Agreed the Council Secretary invite the various Lyceums in Sheffield D.C. to join us collectively or individually.

Associates. Mrs. Riches.

Next Conference. June, Castleford invitation accepted, date to be arranged by Secretary.

Vote of Thanks to local friends given by President.

Roll Call: Officers 4, Fraternal Del., 1; L.D.C. Del., 1; Delegates 16 (representing 10 Lyceums); Auditors, 2; Honorary Associate, 1; Associates, 3. Total 26.

Lyceums Represented: Armley, Batley Carr, Batley, Castleford, Dewsbury, Kippax, Royston, Psycho, Wakefield, York. Please support your BANNER.

A. W. HARDING, Sec.

LONDON LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

February 16th, the Annual General Meeting of the Athletic Section and the Council were held at Clapham, by the kind invitation of the members of Church and Lyceum.

57 Associates and delegates were present, representing the majority of London Lyceums.

Reports from the various sections showed steady progress and an increase of membership for the year.

The United dances in conjunction with the L.D.C. of the S.N.U. marked the good relationship between the two Councils: Preparations for Sports Day to be held at Battersea Park running track, Whit-Monday, were explained. "Discussion on the question of fusion resulted in a resolution being passed that the opinions of conference be ascertained.

Election of Officers: President: Mr. Fruin; Secretary: Miss Ashley; Treasurer: Mrs. Fruin; Dis. Visitor: Miss Pennington; Vice-President: Mr. Rainbow; Asst. Sec.: Miss Moore; Group representatives: Mrs. Seffert, Miss Markham, Miss Gavens, Mrs. Petz; Social Secretary: Mrs. Petz; Athletic Chairman: Mr. F. Petz; Athletic Secretary: Miss Doris Fruin. A committee of two members from each group, competition Secretary: Miss Ashley; Marching Instructor: Mr. Dix.

The financial report showed a balance in hand of £23. Owing to the long agenda several items had to be left as unfinished, business to be concluded at the next quarterly meeting.

NORTH EAST LANCASHIRE L.D.C.

The above Council held the A.G.M. and Election of Officers at 3-30 p.m. on Sat. Feb. 16th, 1935, in the Church and Lyceum at Blackburn, St. Peter Street.

Invocation by the President, Mr. J. Railton.

Messrs. Row and Pollard, auditors, were present and acted as Credential officers.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted.

Correspondence was dealt with. Letters from the late Sec. of Accrington, Argyle St. Lyceum being referred to the E.C. and the group for joint action. Concern was shown at the decrease in numbers as per the returns sent from the general office. Replies as sent by Secretary were approved. Credential report given and accepted showing a voting strength of 36. Pool 3/3 per Lyceum. Secretary's report dealt with matters *re* Brierfield, Clithero, and Lawson St., Preston, Lyceums. Agreed we keep in touch with these centres. Study facilities for advanced grades and group centres for B.S.L.U. schemes, report accepted.

Treasurer's report and balance sheet were given showing a deficit of £1 15s., on the years work. Only 10 Lyceums had paid fees for 1934. Agreed we keep in touch with all Lyceums as in the past. Auditors report accepted.

Question of amending pooling scheme was gone into and definite recommendations were made.

D.V. reports given and accepted. All Lyceums in the Council had been visited once during the year. Group report was given by Mrs. Railton and accepted, Mr. and Mrs. Railton being elected as Group representatives for 1935. A resolution was accepted that we arrange for representation of the N.W. Lyceums with N.W. Group.

President's address dealt with declining membership, Loyalty and Service. Ideals of the pioneers. Badges, Finance and associates. Address accepted. Resolved that we submit again the Badge design.

Election of Officers: Mr. J. M. Railton, President; Mrs. M. E. Greive, D.V. North; Mr. W. Duckworth, D.V. South; Mr. T. Wood, Treasurer; J. Shuttleworth, Secretary; Mrs. D. Sutton, U.D.C. delegate; Mr. A. Pollard, Auditor; Mr. A. Dickinson recommended for Area Representative.

Education matters were discussed and reported upon. Mr. E. Raw was elected adjudicator and a new scheme is to be tried.

Not less than 2 months before he decides to visit any Lyceum, he will send on a selection of S.C.R.'s M.R.'s and G.C.R.'s, From the numbers sent on he will select his programme for adjudication. Every Lyceum will have at least one month to review the readings, etc., before he makes his visit. E.C. and Adjudicator to confer upon this matter.

Agreed Lyceum send in to Secretary any business for Conference not later than March 19th, that E.C. may discuss at their meeting on March 20th and make recommendations thereon.

Fraternal relations are to be continued with other D.C. All Lyceums to be circularised with dates and places of all meetings up to A.G.M. 1936.

Votes of thanks to local friends brought the meeting to a close at 9 p.m.

J. SHUTTLEWORTH, Sec.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT LYCEUM COUNCIL.

The A.G.M. of the Council was held on February 24th in the Mexbro' N.S.C.: A successful Tea and Social at the Annual Re-Union was held on the previous day.

Mr. A. Bruce, G.N.S.C., of Rotherham, presided and gave one of the finest of Presidential Addresses, this will be fully discussed at the next Council Meeting.

All the Officers were re-elected with the exception of Mr. K. Heath, who, after 10 years as Secretary, decided not to seek re-election. A suitable commemoration will be made for this long and loyal service.

Pleasing ceremonies were enacted when Mrs. S. Mitchell, District Visitor, presented Mr. and Mrs. A. Bruce, and later, at Attercliffe, Mr. and Mrs. G. Armitage with wedding presents as a token of the esteem in which they are held by the district Lyceums.

Approval was given to the Rota Scheme for M.C. visits.

Thurcroft Lyceum applied for affiliation, and we are pleased to welcome them as Council members. It was also gratifying to have an enquiry regarding membership with the B.S.L.U. from Goldthorpe.

Parkgate N.S.C. is willing to accommodate the 1936 Conference if the 1935 Conference accept the Sheffield invitation.

The question of a general salute for all Lyceums was referred back to Lyceums for consideration.

A notice of motion for Conference was adopted "That this Union seeks affiliation with the National Peace Council."

The next meeting will be held on May 26th, at the Parkgate N.S.C. Will all associates and delegates attempt to be present.

JAMES LE NOURY, G.N.S.C., Secretary.

TEES-SIDE LYCEUMS' DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The Annual General Meeting of the above Council was held at the Crook Church on Sunday, 10th February, 1935. The President (Mrs. E. M. Ainsworth) occupied the chair. In addition to the usual routine business the following items of interest were dealt with.

The Report of the Standing Orders Committee was duly considered and adopted, these will be circulated in due course.

The Rota List for holding Conference was adopted as follows: 1936, Feb., Vacant; May, Easington Colliery; August, Durham; Nov., Middlesbrough (N.O. Mission); 1937, Feb., West Hartlepool (Musgrave St.); May, Shildon (N.A.); Aug., Grange-town; Nov., Horden; 1938, Feb., South Bank; May, Crook; Aug., Middlesbrough (Grange Rd.); Nov., Darlington; 1939, Feb., West Hartlepool (Charles St.); May, Middlesbrough (United).

The Credential Report showed that 4 Officers, 9 E.C., 16 Delegates, 9 Associates, 1 Fraternal Delegate, and 14 visitors, were present.

The election of Officers resulted thus: President, Mrs. E. M. Ainsworth (Grange-town); Vice-president, Mrs. E. J. Morduart (West Hartlepool); Secretary, Mr. E. Nellist, D.N.S.C. ((Middlesbrough); Treasurer, Mr. A. H. Colbourne (Middlesbrough); District Visitor, Mr. H. Foster (Horden); Auditors, Mr. Lineton, and Mr. Farnsworth.; Credential Secretaries, Miss Cartwright and Mrs. Wilkinson; Candidate for Area "B," Mr. E. Nellist.

Shield Competitions Results were announced, Easington Collier won the Shield with 97 marks, Middlesbrough (Grange Rd.) were awarded the "Runner's Up Cup" with 96 marks, other results—Grange-town 94, West Hartlepool (Musgrave St.) 92.5, West Hartlepool (Charles St.) 92, Durham 91, South Bank 89, Darlington 88.5, Horden 82.25, Crook 78.75. Two Lyceums were not adjudicated. It was agreed to divide the District into two areas, two Adjudicators to be elected one from each area to judge the Lyceums in the area opposite to that of their own Lyceums, the Lyceums with the highest awards in each area to be re-judged by an independent adjudicator. Mrs. M. I. Bonney (Middlesbrough) was appointed to adjudicate Lyceums at Durham, Crook, Easington Colliery, Horden and West Hartlepool; Mr. E. Farnsworth to judge Grange-town, South Bank, Middlesbrough, Darlington and Shildon.

Various members of the Council conducted the Lyceum Session and Evening Services which were well attended. This is the first occasion upon which a Lyceum D.C. Conference has been held at Crook, and it is felt that good work has been done.

E. NELLIST, D.N.S.C., Secretary.

AROUND OUR LYCEUMS

Copy for these columns must be received by the Editor by first post on the 20th of each month, recording events after the 20th of the preceding month. Lyceums taking 12 copies, 25 words; 24 copies, 50 words; 36 copies, 75 words. Additional copy 6d. per nine words.

ACCRINGTON, Pearl St.—On Sunday March 3rd at our Open Session the following recited: J. Shuttleworth, Jean Hilton and Will Fish. Miss F. Laycock and Phyllis Edwards rendered solos. Jean Wright and Jean Hilton, Madge and Jim Shuttleworth, H. Shuttleworth and Billie Edwards sang duets. Everyone contributing to a very pleasant session. — W. Taylor, Sec.

ARMLEY.—Our heartiest congratulations go to one of our oldest Lyceumists. Mrs. Hendry (née Lydia Lonsdale late of Heckmondwike), who has been an active worker in the Lyceum movement for 45 years. Good luck and best wishes from Armley.—A. Massey, Sec.

BACUP.—Open Session, March 3rd, Pearls: Mr. Turner, Gladys Holmes, Kenneth Halstead, Molly Halsall, Joyce Savage, J. W. Taylor, Mr. Halsall, Mr. Ashcroft, Mrs. Carter, Edna Taylor and Joan Patchett. Recitations: Molly Halsall. Solos: Molly Patchett and Mrs. Carter. Readings: Gladys Holmes. Duets: Mary McKenna and Lotty Taylor, Gladys Holmes and Mary McKenna. Quartet: Molly Halsall, Edna Taylor, Evelyn Sugden, Percy Kemps, Kenneth Halstead, George Ashworth. Quintet: Mrs. Carter, Mrs. Turner, Evelyn Sugden, Lillian Ashcroft.—S. Carter, Sec.

BIRKENHEAD.—Open Session March 3rd, Mrs. Harding conducted the Session. Individual items were numerous and well received. We hope to capture some "Firsts" in the Eissteddfod to be held in May.—Reg. Robb, Hon. Sec.

BLACKBURN, St. Peter St.—On Sunday, Feb. 24th, we held our Open Session, which was fairly well attended, about 80 being present. Pearls were given by a few of the Lyceumists, solo by Clara Railton, recitations by Joyce and Iris Entwistle. The Speaker for the day was Mrs. Shanks of Preston, who spoke a few words on the Session, and the advantages of Lyceums in general. A thoroughly good Session.—S. Lightbourne, Sec.

BLACKPOOL.—We held our Annual Tea Party and Prize Distribution on February 20th. The Lyceumists gave a splendid Concert, under the tuition of Messrs. A. Chattington, Sydney Porter, J. Connor, Mr. C. Ward, our Musical Conductor was pianist. Our thanks are due to Mesdames, Long, Connor, Kenyon, Lamb, C. Wood and Mr. Lamb in dressing and preparing the Children for their parts. Lily Kenyon, Novello Bates, May Moore, Gladys Ashcroft, Eunice Hough, Elsie Storie, Vera Higson, Sylvia Higson, Murial Higson, Joan Reay, Jean Reay, Dorothy Wood, Eileen Long, Edith Connor, Freddy Long, Albert Bates, Teddy Walsh, Harry Walsh, Edward Reay, Edward Webster, John Connor, Peter Connor, Arthur Connor, Charley Wood, took part in the sketches, Peggy Wilde, Betty Middleton, Nellie Barnes and Mr. Howarth recited. Mrs. Howarth and Mrs. Ireland were the Soloists. Mrs. E. H. Rothwell presented the Prizes.—Mrs. E. H. Rothwell, Sec.

BORDER CITIES (Canada).—On March 3rd, we held our Open Session. Pearls were given by every Lyceumist present, and songs rendered by Mrs. Weber, Kathern Carolyn, Mr. Carolyn and a duet by M. Ralston and K. Alexander. A few encouraging remarks were spoken by our visitors. Attendance excellent.—H. V. Stott, Sec.

BRADFORD, Laisterdyke.—Open Session March 3rd, Recitations: Evelyn Babbs, Maisie Hargreaves, Joyce Hardman. Songs: Mr. Hargreaves, Miss Wilman, Mrs. Gale. Enjoyed by everyone.—F. Babbs, Sec.

BRADFORD, Milton.—Open Sessions, March 3rd. Recitations: Betty Glover, Olive Hinton, Mrs. Fowler. Readings: Mrs. Dibb, Mrs. Acres, Mrs. Barker. Solos: Miss F. Clayton, Betty Glover, Olive Hinton, Frank Hinton, Mrs. Fox.—Mrs. Fowler, Sec.

CALGARY, First Spiritualist Lyceum.—Our 1935 officers are now well in harness and our newly-elected conductor, Mrs. W. C. Biles is an unqualified success.

The Lyceum held its Annual Valentine Social in February and every one had an enjoyable time, so we plan a St. Patrick's affair in March.

The Rev. J. Skelton, S.N.U., Gen. Sec. for Canada has just completed a very interesting tour of Western Canada and addressed our children on two occasions.

We hold monthly whist drives which sponsor a get-together spirit between the Lyceum and Church members.—(Mrs.) E. M. Collett, Secretary.

CHESTERFIELD.—We held a very enjoyable Open Session on March 3rd. The Invocation was given by our conductor, Mr. Heath. Items were rendered by the following Lyceumists. Recitations: Merwyn Glyn and Irene Cowell; Jimmy, Audrey and Kathleen Clements; Irene Hobster; Betty Bennett; Betty Holmes; Shirley Widdowson and Miss M. Holland; Pearls; Mr. E. Hobster and Mr. Campbell.—S. Hobster, Session Sec.

DARWEN.—Founders Day, 1935. We held our Kitson Memorial Services on this day. The afternoon session was conducted by Mr. J. Shuttleworth and Mr. R. W. Marks of Manchester. At the evening service Mr. Marks very capably outlined "Youth's attitude to Spiritualism." All Lyceumists and friends wore a Buttercup emblem.

Mar. 16th, A grand re-union party. After about 120 people had partaken of an excellent tea, a very enjoyable social evening followed under the chairmanship of Mr. J. Sutton, and consisted of games, dancing and musical items by visiting artistes. A sum of £11 10s. was realized towards the Decoration Fund.—E. Entwistle, Banner Sec.

DEWSBURY.—A splendid Open Session was held on Feb. 24th, ably conducted by Mr. W. Oakes. A note of harmony was struck which prevailed throughout. Plenty of good Pearls, some nicely explained. Recitations by Jean Dyson, D. Dyson, N. Nixon, Mr. Medley, E. Medley, P. Dunn, Mr. Beety, J. Greaves, G. Greaves and Betty Greaves. Solos by Misses M. Dyson, C. Phillips, M. Greenwood, N. Nixon, J. Nixon, A. Bentley, L. Wightman, Mrs. Roebuck, Mr. J. H. Collier and Mr. E. Wilson. Like many more Lyceums we are in need of new Manuals. Efforts are being made and a Dance has been arranged for April 13th, at 7, with the Arcadians Dance Band in attendance, and hopes for a successful time, so that we may put in a good order to the Union's office.—E. Wilson, Sec.

EARBY, Green End Avenue.—Mar. 3rd. Open Session Songs and Recitations were well given by E. Greenhalgh, K. Hodgkinson, G. Blackburn, C. Eaton, J. Bradley, H. Morby, D. Eaton, N. Hodgkinson, A. G. Morly, Mrs. Bradley, Mrs. Howard Mrs. Clarke, Mr. Geo. Bradley. Session was enjoyed by all.—Alf. Geo. Morby, Sec.

FULHAM.—On March 10th, Mr. Fruin conducted the naming Service of Michael William Drew, son of Mr. and Mrs. Drew of Slough. A pleasing feature of the service was that both parents had been brought up in the Lyceum. The inspirational name given was "Champion of Truth." A crowded attendance expressed their good wishes.

HYDE, George St.—Sunday March 3rd we celebrated our Fortieth Anniversary with an Open Session in the afternoon when a number of visitors and friends helped us to enjoy our session. In the Evening we held a Service of Song, namely "A Warning Voice," composed by Mrs. Moulton of Stockport, who was present. The Mayoress of Hyde, undertook the reading whilst the songs were sung by the Lyceumists. Afterwards the Mayoress presented the prizes to the Lyceum children. Our Lyceum Queen, Miss A. Plevin, then presented the Mayoress with a Lyceum Manual, also a beautiful sheaf of Carnations. The Mayoress responded by saying she was overwhelmed by the gifts offered to her and at the affectionate way in which everyone had welcomed her that evening. Mr. Lee proposed a vote of thanks to the Mayoress, seconded by Mr. N. Cartwright, who was the Chairman, on behalf of the Lyceum he thanked everyone who had helped to make a very interesting and pleasant Anniversary.—Ralph Lee, Sec.

LANCASTER, Bulk Road.—We held our Open Session on March 3rd, 1935. Recitations by A. Partridge, P. Walker, A. Bull, O. Nickels, L. Nickels, D. Bleasdale, M. Townly, M. Park, M. Head. Duets by E. Lake and B. Thompson and a song by H. Dennison.—A. Stephenson, Sec.

MACCLESFIELD.—On Sunday, the 17th March, we held our Mass Session, which was one of the most successful we have ever had. Visitors were with us from Bury, Bolton D.C., Ashton, Congleton, Heaton Norris, Hyde and Stockport. The Secretary of the Lyceum Union, Mrs. Mills, was with us and we were all glad to meet her. Mrs. Edwards presided. Mrs. Moulton gave the Invocation and then flowers were given to each official of N.E. Cheshire, also to Mrs. Challinor and Mrs. Pimblott. Mrs. Edwards presented the "Silver Bell" to Mrs. Challinor for the Macclesfield Lyceum for 1935. Macclesfield delights in giving surprises and we had one in store for Mrs. Pimblott, presenting her with the 1st Honour Certificate for her constant work from

the opening in January, 1892, to the present time. Councillor Challinor presented it and made a few appropriate remarks. Then the Secretary got a surprise, she had been in the know with regard to Mrs. Pimblott, but now she was called and given a certificate for constant service for more than 50 years. Councillor Challinor made a very nice speech in presenting it. Both Mrs. Pimblott and Mrs. Rushton referred to the beginning of the Lyceum and Mrs. Rushton told how Councillor Challinor's great Grandfather was a scholar the first Sunday, with his two Grandsons and two great-Grandsons (Councillor Challinor and his brother), Mrs. Pimblott's mother, brother, uncle and two cousins. A bouquet of red tulips was presented to Mrs. Rushton after which we got to the usual routine. Silver Chain recitation, Musical Reading, etc. Greetings from the various Lyceums and then Marching and Calisthenics which were under the Leadership of H. Johnson. We had a lovely session. Tea was provided for the visitors. The evening Service was presided over by Councillor Potts and Mrs. Springate gave the Invocation. Addresses were given by Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Moulton and Mr. Markham. A Duet was given by Mrs. Springate and Mrs. Moulton, two recitals by Miss Swindells and a few clairvoyant discriptions by Mr. Cartwright. Mr. Potts thanked all for their services. We wish all Lyceums worked together with their Church as we do in Macclesfield.—H. Rushton.

MANCHESTER, Cheetham Hill.—We are now a large and enthusiastic Lyceum, Groups being held every alternate Sunday. On March 2nd our Minstrel troupe provided a very successful concert on behalf of Church funds. The evening's fun was ended with a vote of thanks to Mesdames Hunt and Hibbert.—W. Wedlock, Sec.

MANCHESTER, Maskell St.—Open Session March 3rd. Mr. Bentley presiding, morning and evening sessions. Marching and Calisthenics both sessions, Mr. Street and Mr. Thornton Conductors. Recitations and Solos, &c., by Lyceumists and friends. Mr. Barnett gave a few thoughts regarding Lyceum movement and said if any present would like to join they would be made welcome. Representatives from 7 Lyceums and M.S.L.D.C. Benediction by Mr. Bentley. We all had a pleasant day. Social, March 9th, including sketch by Mr. Swindell and friends, singing, recitations and dancing, all present had an enjoyable evening.—H. Ball, Hon. Sec.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—Grange Road.—On Feb. 25th, we held our Annual Prizegiving day. Lyceumists who qualified were awarded their prizes by Mrs. Ainsworth, President of Teeside Lyceum District Council, who also presented the cup for the second best Lyceum in the district. Enjoyable musical items were rendered by many Lyceumists which brought much applause.—T. W. Harrison, Sec.

PRESTON, Moor Lane.—Feb. 24th was Lyceum Day. Our Speaker being Mrs. Mahony of Darwen. We spent a very enjoyable day. March 3rd, we held our Open Session, the children rendered recitations, also pearls by the older Lyceumists.—N. Nikolaus, Sec.

ROCHDALE, Baillie St.—Open Session, March 17th, 2-30. Conductor, Eleanor Buckley, Pearls 16; Recitations 10. Marching Callisthenics enjoyed by all. Evening, 6-15: Special Service by Lyceum; selected Hymns, Pearls, Recitations, by Children, connective readings (by Alfred Kitson). Solo Miss Lully and short address by Lyceumist, concluded a wonderful Service.—J. Plater, Sec.

ROCHDALE, Regent Hall.—On Sunday, March 3rd, we held our Lyceum Anniversary and Re-union Service at 3 and 6-30. The speaker was Mr. J. W. Nurse, the subjects being "What is Truth?" and "The Efficacy of Prayer" which proved very interesting and educational. The soloists were Miss B. L. Matthew, Soprano, who rendered "Bless this House" and "Memories at Eventide," Miss L. March, Contralto, who gave "Sanctuary of the Heart" and "Abide with me." Mr. J. Nield, Baritone, sang "Watchman" and Miss N. Jenkinson contributed "The Children's Home," Mr. Tom Nield accompanied. There was an augmented choir and special Orchestral music lead by Mr. Cropper. A very successful day. May I mention in passing, two outstanding features of 1934. It being our Jubilee year, we celebrated the Jubilee and Lyceum Anniversary on the 4th of March, 1934, the addresses, solos, orchestral music and special singing were all of a bright and happy nature and our Jubilee day was crowned with success. During our Jubilee year, we were fortunate in winning the "Silver Bell" in its first competitive year. The "Silver Bell" competition has been organised by the L.D.C. of S.E. Lanes.

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