The LYCEUM BANNER

A SPIRITUALIST MAGAZINE FOR OLD AND YOUNG.

"In things Essential, Unity—In things Doubtful, Liberty—In all Things, Charity."

VOL. XVIII. No. 208. MAY, 1908. ONE PENNY.

"SEEK AND YE SHALL FIND."

BY CHARLES TABERNER.

CHAPTER IV.

Having plenty of time he walked leisurely along, and on arriving at the station he had still some time to wait before his train was due, and he walked the platform with impatient steps until the train arrived. He took his seat and was soon being rushed along towards home. But quick as the train sped along, it was too slow for him, as time after time he consulted his watch. "Never was anyone so unfortunate as I am," he muttered to himself. "If I am too late they will think I am not coming, or that I am indifferent to my father's illness. Good heavens," he cried, jumping up, "if he is dead, and has died thinking I would not break my pleasure to be with him in his last moments? Why did I not wire back to tell him I was hurrying home?" His excitement was fast gaining the mastery over him when he was suddenly brought to himself by the train entering the station. He could not help but exclaim "Thank God! I am here at last." Then jumping into a cab he was soon approaching his home.

He jumped from the cab immediately it pulled up, and, handing the driver his fare, he hurried into the house, and almost rushed into the arms of the doctor, who was just coming from his father's room. "Good evening, doctor," he said, dropping his bag, "what is the meaning of this? Am I too late?"

"No, my lad, your father still lives, but there is no hope for him. He is dying. It is a sad home-coming for you, Walter. I have done all that were possible, but to no purpose."

"What has been the cause of his sudden collapse?" asked Walter. "He was well and hearty when I went away. I cannot understand it."

"It is shock to the system," replied the doctor. "He may live a few days, or he may only last a few hours. Go to him at once. He has been troubling about something he wishes to say to you. I will call in again in the morning if I hear nothing in the meantime. Don't excite him too much or you may cause him to collapse."

Walter softly entered the sick-room with his heart sad and heavy. The nurse rose on his entrance, and putting her fingers to her lips in token of silence, she whispered, "You are, I presume, Mr. Merton's son?"

"I am," he answered with difficulty. "How is father?"

"Your father is sleeping just now, but he is very low and in a critical condition. He has repeatedly asked if you have arrived, and appeared troubled when told you had not."

"Dear dad," he said, with a suspicious quiver of the under lip, "I am very sorry this has happened in my absence. I can scarcely realise that it can be true."

Whether the dying man heard the whispered conversation, or whether the mutual chord of affinity which existed between father and son was responsible for the dying man opening his eyes, we cannot say, but immediately his eyes fell upon Walter he cried out, in a voice vibrating with intense emotion, "Walter, my lad! Thank God, you have come at last! I was afraid I should die before seeing you, and there is much I wish to say before I go. Will you leave us alone, nurse," he asked, "I want a private talk with my son. Do not take offence at the request I make."

"Do not trouble, Mr. Merton, I should be very sorry to intrude in your last moments." Then she rose, and whispered to Walter for him not to excite his father, as excitement might prove fatal to him.

"I will take great care of him," he answered. "I am not desirous of losing him just yet if it can be avoided." Then a great bitterness entered his soul as he turned to his dying father, probably born of the despair which was slowly settling upon him, and when the door closed behind the nurse, and he approached the bed whereon his father lay, and took the trembling hand in his, he felt his heart hardening, and words of condemnation rose to his lips as he exclaimed, "What is the meaning of this, father? What has caused so great a change in you in so short a time? When I left you, there were no signs of sickness, but now it only needs a look to know you are dying. Is this a judgment upon me for my want of belief in a God? I suppose that is what Mr. Walmsley would say if he was here. A poor way of making us see the future," he said bitterly. "More likely to cause us to curse such a being, if there be one. They tell us there is a God, and that He is all goodness. What a farce this is. Where is the goodness in our case? First my mother is taken away when we are happy together, bringing bitterness and sorrow in place of peace and contentment, and now you are struck down helpless. Are there to be two vacant chairs in my home, and I left alone with no one to love? If there be a God, why does He not take away those who are in the way, with no one to care whether they live or die? But the reverse appears always to be the case. Where there is love and harmony, death steals in like a thief and takes off the best, leaving those who would

welcome His embrace to continue their struggle for an existence. How can we recognise such a being ?"

"My dear son," said the dying man sadly, "I am filled with sorrow and shame by your words. They affect me more than you know, more so when I know that the blame is mine for the neglect to which I have subjected you in not permitting you to be as others. I have taught you to ignore all reference to a future life, and led you to believe that death was the end to all things. I have changed my mind upon this matter since your mother's death, and it was mostly upon that subject that I was so anxious for this private talk with you."

"Forgive me, father, if my words have given you pain. I feel very bitter, and could not help but give expression to my feelings. I feel most acutely my position when I think of the parting which is soon to take place between you and I. You surprise me when you tell me you have changed your opinion, and imply that you no longer doubt the existence of a future life. You must have found good proof to cause the change you speak of. Yet you have given me no hint that any such change was working with you."

"It is only while I have lain here that the truth has forced itself upon me, though for some time I have been changing. But it will be useless discussing this matter further now. Your bitterness will not permit of you using reason and common sense. But there is much that I would like to say in reference to it, and as my time here is short we will turn to your question as to what has been responsible for my being helpless and dying. The other matter we can discuss when you are less bitter."

"My dear father," said Walter, throwing away all bitterness, "I am very sorry to have spoken out so strongly. Forget my words. While there is life there is hope. You may even yet get over this sickness, and may be working on your imagination in your weak condition. It is not an uncommon thing for the doctor to give up a patient, and yet that patient to get better again and live a number of years. Therefore, why give up hope ?"

"I know only too well that my days are numbered, and probably only a few hours remain to me on this side of the grave. You would try to deceive me into believing that such is not the case, when I can see from the expression on your face that you believe the worst. Therefore, we will get to business without further delay. When your mother died, as you know, I was not a wealthy man, but was, comparatively speaking, poor. Her death was a severe shock to me, and filled my life with an emptiness that is unexplainable. But after the sharp corners had been worn off my sorrow, I began to think matters over, and, seeing the probability of my following your mother at no distant date, I began to think of your future when I had gone. These thoughts led me to watch you closely, that I might direct my energies to what would be most suited to your nature. I noticed that you had become serious and thoughtful, and when I saw you struggling to save money, I then determined to find some way to help you, for the conviction was strong within me that you needed money for some project you had in your mind. I began speculating with the little I had, and everything I took up went the right way until I had got together a good fortune. But not being satisfied with this, I invested in cotton futures, and was hopeful of making a large sum out of the investment. Had I been satisfied before taking this step all would have been well. But the speculative fever had gained possession of me, and money-making had become the ruling feature in my life. I could not give up, and time after time I put money down in a reckless sort of way. Cotton slumped, and the greater portion of my money was lost, and the shock it produced upon me was so great that I fell under the terrible strain, but I am thankful that I did not put down the whole of my money, and am pleased that I leave you sufficient for the project you have in your mind."

CHAPTER V.

"My dear father," said Walter with much feeling, "you have done all this for me. Your great love has brought you to the verge of the grave. But had I had any thoughts that you were risking so much for me I would not have permitted it to continue. You say you had thoughts that I was aiming for something which I was unable to get for want of funds ? Why did we not be more open to each other, and thus avoid this awful calamity which has been brought about, because of a misunderstanding between us. I will tell you now why, and for what purpose I wanted money, but I am afraid you will be surprised at what I am about to say. When my mother died, there came over me a change, owing to some words spoken by you and Mr. Walmsley. Those words have burned into my brain, and try as I will I cannot get free from their haunting presence. In my sleep I dream of my mother, that she is near me, and when I wake up there is a strange feeling upon me which I cannot explain. This has become so strong with me that I have made up my mind to find a solution, if possible, to those strange thoughts and feelings which flood my brain, and make one feel as though someone was constantly by my side. That is why I was so anxious to get together sufficient for the purpose I had in view, and it was my intention, after my holidays were over, to devote the whole if my spare time to studying the subject. Now you know for what purpose you have given your life."

"What you have told me, Walter, makes my task easier," said the dying man, his voice growing weaker each moment. "While I have been lying here, I have had proof that your mother lives, and that the grave has not ended her life. She came to my bed last night, and the smile on her beautiful face was heavenly. She came——"

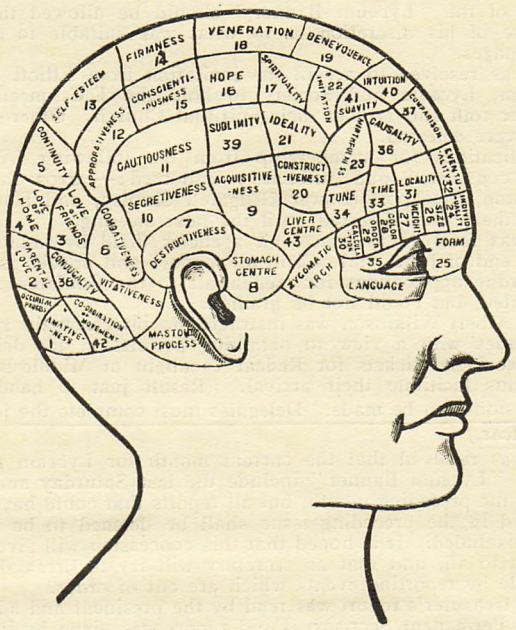
"Your imagination must have been playing you false, father," interrupted Walter. "How long have you been in this state ? Your words lead me to believe that you were in a critical condition last night. Why was I not informed sooner ?"

"I have been in bed three days. The doctor wanted to send for you at once, but I objected, thinking I should get alright again ; and not wishing to spoil your pleasure, I would not permit them to notify you until I was convinced there was no hope, and that my days were numbered. You say I have imagined your mother's presence here last night, but your words just now only go to confirm it. She told me that I should soon be with her, and also told me that she had influenced you since her passing on, and was leading you to recognise the existence of a God. Is that the outcome of imagination ? You admit the strange feelings, and the thoughts of your mother's presence with you. How then can you explain her telling me of these things if her spirit is dead ? I was in ignorance of your purpose. Your admission only goes to prove her presence."

(To be Continued).

EASY LESSONS IN PHRENOLOGY.—No. 2.

By J. MILLOTT SEVERN, F.B.P.S., BRIGHTON.
Past President of the British Phrenological Society, Incorporated.



The illustration in last lesson showed the four great divisions of the mental organs—the intellectual, moral, animal, and domestic groups. The illustration in this lesson shows the names and locations of all the mental organs. In this lesson we will deal with the domestic qualities, including amativeness, conjugality, parental love, friendship, and inhabitiveness, which, as you will see, are located at the back of the head.

Amativeness [Am'-at-iv-ness] gives love and admiration for and attraction towards the opposite sex. When it is large in children it makes boys fond of girls, and girls fond of boys. You will frequently see boys who prefer the companionship of girls; they admire them, and if they have sisters are more than ordinarily proud of them, and delight in their accomplishments. They like the girl companions of their sisters. The same may be said of girls. Girls and young women having this faculty large prefer the companionship of boys and men. Grown-up persons in whom this faculty is large have strong love for and are greatly attracted by the opposite sex. Besides being the instinct of propagation, it is a very useful faculty in creating love and admiration and amiability between the sexes. In years gone by it was thought very improper for boys to be associated very much with girls in schools and other institutions. Even at the present time in some places of worship the women and girls sit on one side of the church and the men and boys on the other (how very odd this would seem now in our Spiritualists' Lyceums). It is now generally considered that children, and likewise adults, learn and get on better when associated together in their various kinds of work and study; and the standard of moral conduct is probably much higher under these conditions than formerly. When this faculty is small it gives unloveableness and coldness and indifference towards the opposite sex.

Conjugality [Kon'joo-gal-ity] when large endows persons with constancy and exclusive attachment to matrimonial partner. When small it gives inconstancy in love affairs.

Philoprogenitiveness [Fil-o-pro-jen-i-tiv-ness], or parental love, is the faculty which gives parental tenderness and affection—love of children and of pets and animals. It makes boys fond of horses and dogs, and girls fond of dolls and babies; fathers and mothers of their children. Had we not a faculty of parental love, many poor, helpless children and unprotected animals would die from neglect and want of love and care. It will thus be seen how necessary it is that we possess a good development of this faculty. It also gives interest in the study of natural history, and insect and animal life. When this faculty is small, there is a tendency to dislike children and animals, and the liability of being cruel towards them.

Inhabitiveness [In-hab'-i-tiv-ness] is the faculty which gives love of home and attachment to places such as one's birthplace and one's own country; and the place where we live or have lived; and the place, seat, or corner in the home or places of meeting we have been used to occupy. Persons with large inhabitiveness always try to get in the same seat if possible which they have previously occupied when attending meetings; and if they leave home they prefer to go to places they have been to before rather than go to fresh places. In their homes they are quite uneasy if anyone happens to sit in their chosen seat or corner. Persons with large inhabitiveness greatly desire to have a home of their own, and they take great pride and interest in furnishing and improving their homes. They appreciate the sentiment expressed in the song, "Be it ever so humble, there is no place like home." They get home-sick if obliged to be away from home long, and pine to return.

Persons in whom this faculty is small take little or no interest in their homes. They are oftentimes of a roving and unsettled disposition, and are neglectful of their homes, and all homely associations. It is a good thing that many people have this home-loving instinct strongly developed, especially mechanics and business people whose occupations necessitate their living in districts at or near their employments. Though if everyone had the faculty large, we should have to forego many advantages which are brought about by the thousands of persons who travel both in our own and other countries, as travellers, sailors, commercial business men, scientists, and explorers, in the interests of the nations and business affairs.

Friendship. This is a faculty which one could say a great deal about. With the editor's permission, I may some time, when you know a little more of the localities and definitions of the faculties, give you a lesson entirely devoted to friendship.

When large this faculty gives friendly and companionable attachment, sociability, love of company and society, a ready aptitude for making friends and a liking to entertain friends and company.

It is a good thing to have the companionship of a really good and trusty friend or friends. If you will think for a moment, you will realise how very little we could do single-handed, without the assistance, help, influence, and encouragement of our fellow-beings. The hermit who secludes himself away from the world can realise but very little enjoyment of life. We are all more or less dependent upon one another, and this being so we ought to be very appreciative of the good things bestowed upon us, and which accrue from the intelligence, energies, abilities, and enterprise of our fellow-men. Therefore, we can ill-afford to be unfriendly towards even the lowliest of persons; we never know how soon we may be beholden to them for

services which only they could perform for us. It is well, however, that we should, if possible, select for friends persons having high moral aims and purposes, and who possess refinement, intelligence, moral integrity, and superiority of mind; and persons in whom this faculty is large, especially young people, need to be very careful lest they are led and influenced by, or place too much trust and confidence in, unworthy or seeming friends. Valuable and necessary as friendship is, much cautiousness and prudence is required in choosing friends and companions. Many a young person, not perhaps bad in themselves, has been lured to ruin and disgrace through their association with worthless and bad companions.

Continuity [Kon'-tin-u-ity] or concentrativeness, though not belonging to the domestic and social group of faculties, may be briefly explained here, though I may in a future issue give you a lesson entirely dealing with this quality. This is the faculty which gives continuity of thought and feeling, or the ability to apply the mind closely to one thing or subject at a time until finished. This is a weak faculty in very many young people, making them too changeable and unsettled. Persons in whom it is small are apt to be very impatient, changing their minds rapidly from one thing or subject to another. They are apt to have "too many irons in the fire," as the saying goes. Want of mental application is frequently the cause of much failure in life. To cultivate this faculty, when small, it is necessary to apply the mind diligently to one thing or subject at a time until finished and complete, and never allow the thoughts to wander.

(To be Continued).

THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION AT NELSON.

The Executive Council of the above Union paid a pleasant and highly successful visit to the Spiritual Church, Vernon Street, Nelson, on April 11th and 12th. The visitors were conducted over the new church by Mr. Albert Wilkinson, who explained the various details and appliances for the comfort and convenience of both the members of the Church and Lyceum. The building is lofty and well lighted. The woodwork is made of pitchpine. The seats fold up and made to run on castors, so that boys can easily manage them. The arrangements for heating the church and cooking are the most modern. Electric lights throughout. The general opinion of the Executive was that it was the best-arranged church in our movement and a credit to the Nelson friends.

The meeting for the business was held at the residence of Mr. Raw, 49, Bentley Street. Mr. E. A. Keeling, the president, feelingly referred to the unavoidable absence of the treasurer, Mr. Councillor John Venables, who was suffering from a broken arm; Mr. John J. Bennett, who was just recovering from a severe illness; Mrs. Annie E. Bentley, who had just undergone a most trying operation; and Mr. H. A. Kersey, who was unable to leave the bedside of Mrs. Kersey, who is very seriously ill. A vote of deep sympathy was passed to these absent members of the Executive, and also a vote of condolence with Mrs. Lee and family, of Rochdale, at the passing on of Mr. Peter Lee.

It was resolved that the Lyceum Union be represented at Mr. Lee's funeral on the following Wednesday by Mrs. Nurse, Rochdale, and Mr. Albert Wilkinson, Nelson.

A telegram was received from the North-East Lancashire United Societies' meeting, at Darwen, expressing deepest sympathy with the Lyceum Union at its loss by fire at Keighley, signed by Messrs. Airey and Gregson.

The general secretary was instructed to return home on the Monday, via Keighley, and ascertain the extent of the Lyceum Union's loss, with a view to replacing the same with the least possible delay.

A vote of sympathy and condolence was passed to Messrs. J. Wadsworth & Co. and the two families of the men who had perished at the terrible fire at the Rydal Press, Keighley.

Applications to form district councils were granted to the Lyceums in the Barrow-in-Furness District and Scotland.

It was resolved to ask Mr. F. Hepworth to again contribute to "The Boys' Special" in the "Lyceum Banner," but the E.C. did not feel it beneficial to our young Lyceumists to continue the "Limericks," and they hoped he would agree that it is the best course to adopt in respect to the whole question.

It was also thought desirable that the general secretary, as editor of the "Lyceum Banner," should be allowed the due exercise of his discretion as to what was suitable to appear in its pages.

It was resolved to accept the invitation from Elliott Street, Oldham, Lyceum and Society to hold the E.C. meeting of October 10th and 11th at their Spiritual Church. Other invitations were deferred.

Applications for membership from the following Lyceums were considered and ultimately endorsed:—Jarrow-on-Tyne, Ulverston, Stockport (Lower Hillgate), Shipley, and Hucknall. Two others were deferred until the next meeting.

It was resolved to cancel all agencies (held by individuals) at the end of June, and call in all moneys and unsold goods.

Overdue applications for credentials to the Conference were submitted, but could not be granted.

Mr. Albert Wilkinson was instructed to interview the railway companies with a view to obtaining permission for delegates with week-end tickets for Redcar to alight at Middlesbrough, and thus facilitate their arrival. (Result just to hand: No concessions can be made. Delegates must complete the journey to Redcar.)

It was resolved that the current month for Lyceum reports in the "Lyceum Banner" include the last Saturday and Sunday of the preceding month, but all reports that could have been inserted in the preceding issue shall be deemed to be out of order excluded. It is hoped that this concession will give satisfaction to all, and that no secretary will try to break through the rule by reporting events which are out of order.

The treasurer's report was read by the president and adopted.

The Permanent Secretary Fund report was given by its hon. secretary, Mrs. Jessy Greenwood, and adopted; as was also the report of the United District Councils' meeting, given by Mrs. Nurse.

The general secretary reported the following sales as having been effected up to March 31st, 1908:—"Lyceum Manuals: Board, 365 copies; limp cloth, 58 copies; full cloth, 66 copies; half bound, 49 copies; and full roan leather, gilt, 185 copies; total, 723. "Outlines of Spiritualism for the Young": Cloth, 30 copies; blue and gilt, 19 copies. "The Spiritual Songster": 112 copies; full roan leather, gilt, 2 copies. "Physical Exercises": Paper covers, 56 copies; limp cloth, 49 copies. "Registers": Small size, 12 copies; large size, 14 copies. "Reminiscences," by the late Mr. Alfred Smedley, Belper: 9 copies. "Hymn Sheet": No. 1 series, 1300; No. 2 series, 800; No. 3 series, 400; No. 4 series, 500; total, 3000. "Badges": 509. "Services of Song": Ministering Spirits, 125 copies; Rest at Last, 110; and Unseen Hands, 35; total, 270.

CASH.

Contributions, £35 10s. 7d.; the "Lyceum Banner," £40 18s. 6d.; Publishing Department, £76 3s. 11d.; total, £152 13s.

THE "LYCEUM BANNER."

This report showed a steady increase in the sales. The figures for the quarter being 10,000 copies, as against 9450 for the March quarter last year, being an increase of 550 copies.

The outstanding accounts for "Lyceum Banners" supplied were £9 4s. 1½d. The Editor deeply deplored the arbitrary action of a certain Lyceum which had cancelled its order because its out-of-date report had not been inserted. Such actions do not reflect creditably on those who show such disregard for the decisions of the Executive Council, whose efforts are to secure "the greatest good of the greatest number."

ALFRED KITSON,
General Secretary and Editor.

SUNDAY MORNING.

The open session was well attended. The children's faces were bright, smiling, and full of expectancy, evidently anticipating a happy, joyous morning with the visitors.

The Lyceum was called to order. The leaders were seated at the head of their respective groups. Mr. Keeling conducted, supported by Mr. Hargreaves, the conductor; Mrs. Stables, the energetic Lyceum secretary; and members of the E.C. After the opening exercises the session went on apace. The chain

recitations were well rendered. A lengthy programme of interesting recitations, songs, solos, organ and pianoforte selections, and a brief address by Mr. W. Johnson.

The afternoon and evening services were addressed by the Mesdames Nurse, Law, and Greenwood, and Messrs. Johnson, Wilkinson, Latham, and Keeling. The addresses were mainly on behalf of the children and the Lyceum movement, and were impressive. The evening service concluded with a vote of sympathy with Mr. J. Wadsworth, in his loss through the terrible fire, and a vote of condolence to the widows and families of the two workmen who had lost their lives.

Lesson Plan for May, 1908.

By JESSY GREENWOOD.

SESSION PROGRAMME.

Date.	Opening Hymn.	G.C.R.	M.R.	G.C.R.	Closing Hymn.
May 3	381	385	222	118	402
,, 10	329	81	229	107	395
,, 17	391	388	236	104	382
,, 24	376	373	234	123	356
,, 31	359	355	*345	108	347
June 7	354	357	*346	112	—

* Impromptu Readings.

Pearls of Thought.

May 3rd.—"A poor man with a sunny spirit will get more out of life than a wealthy grumbler."

May 10th.—"The poorest education that teaches self-control is better than the best that neglects it."

May 17th.—"Well-arranged time is the surest mark of a well-arranged mind."

May 24th.—"The strength of a man's virtue is not to be measured by the efforts he makes under pressure, but by his ordinary conduct."—*Pascal.*

May 31st.—"Wherever the search after truth begins, there life begins. Wherever that search ceases, life ceases."—*Ruskin.*

LESSON PHOTOGRAMS.

May 3rd. G.C.R. 118.

LOVE

THY NEIGHBOUR

Suffereth long.
Envieth not.
Is not provoked.
Endureth all things.
Never faileth.
Nor ceaseth, nor vanisheth.

AS THYSELF.

LOVE IS THE LIFE OF MAN.

May 10th. 81 and 107 MANUAL.

I.—Compare the two readings, The poetic spirit of Montgomery, and the philosophic treatment of the same topic—Creation.

II.—Take the Natural Divisions in 107 and make necessary explanations of difficult words and strive to get the pupils to memorise the main parts.

III.—If this world is so fair it is but a prophecy of what Spirit Land is, therefore a pleasant anticipation to the sick and weary ones.

May 17th. G.C.R. 114.

Divide the G.C.R. as arranged and describe each step fully, finally arriving at the grand ultimate of all searching—freedom.

May 24th. G.C.R. 123.

I.—The Religion of Use demands the ministry of all for the Welfare of Humanity.

Questions:—Who are its Ministers?
What are its rites?

II.—Its demands are Self-sacrifice and Consecration on the Altar of Duty.

Questions:—What is rendered sacred thereby?
What inspires us to duty—Love?

III.—LESSON: All Religion has relation to life, &c.

BLACKBOARD:

A CONTRAST.

Selfishness. *Unselfishness.*

SELF. OTHERS. **OTHERS.** SELF.

May 31st.— G.C.R. 108.

This well-known G.C.R. could well be used with the one on the origin of the Lyceum in the last edition of the MANUAL, thus impressing the history of the Lyceum and its originator on the minds of the children.

MARRIAGE.

At Keighley, Heber Street Lyceum, on Saturday, April 18. Miss M. Whitaker, daughter of Mr. J. Whitaker, to Mr. C. Scott, both Lyceumists. Mr. Albert Wilkinson, of Nelson, officiated. Misses M. Scott and A. Whitaker were the bridesmaids. After lunch the happy pair left for their honeymoon in the South of England, accompanied by the best wishes of all our Lyceumists. E. SHACKLETON, Secretary.

THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

DISTRICT VISITORS' QUARTERLY REPORTS,

FOR THE QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31ST, 1908.

BOLTON DISTRICT—There are six societies in this district which have a Lyceum.

GENERAL REMARKS.

HORWICH.—I am pleased to record a great improvement in this Lyceum, my appeal to the parent society for support has been successful. The session was most enjoyable. Reading and responses, very good. Order, excellent. A little more energy put into the calisthenics will further improve the session.

LEIGH.—I found the Lyceum at the Market Buildings had been closed for a few weeks through lack of workers, etc. I then visited the Lyceum held in Brown Street, and was in time for the open session. I had the pleasure of distributing prizes for regular attendance. This Lyceum is making good headway. Harmony seems to reign supreme, thus showing that the work of the officers has not been in vain.

DAISY HILL.—I found a slight improvement here. I explained the calisthenics to them. I must give great credit to the few friends from Hindley who have regularly attended this Lyceum to get it firmly established.

HINDLEY.—This Lyceum has made rapid progress since it was reopened. Good and instructive sessions continue to be held.

BOLTON (Bradford St.)—This Lyceum maintains its standard of excellence, interesting subjects being dealt with in groups. ROBERT BILLSBOROUGH, D.V.

BRADFORD DISTRICT.—There are sixteen societies in this district, ten of which have a Lyceum.

GENERAL REMARKS.

IVY ROOMS.—There were over 60 present. The session was very good throughout. Such a Lyceum ought to be able to dispose of a dozen copies, and even more, of the "Lyceum Banner," and I asked them to reconsider the matter. I hope they will do so favourably.

BOYNTON STREET.—I am glad to report this Lyceum has been reopened, mainly owing to the efforts of Mr. J. Lightowler. I trust it will have a successful career.

SKIPTON.—There is a decided improvement in this Lyceum. The session was very orderly and interesting, thanks to Mr. Smith and Mr. Brunt, who are doing a good work for the Lyceum cause.

KEIGHLEY.—This is the strongest and best Lyceum in this district, both officers and scholars do their best to make it a success. H. HARGREAVES, D.V.

HALIFAX AND HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.—There are 8 Lyceums in this district. The D.V. has been able to visit two Lyceums only, owing to serious illness contracted by having to walk in the wet from Halifax to Huddersfield.

GENERAL REMARKS.

HUDDERSFIELD (Ramsden Street).—I visited this Lyceum on January 26. There was only a moderate attendance in the morning, no doubt owing to the very bad weather. In the afternoon there was an open session, which was very good. Scholars behaviour good. It would be hard to improve on this Lyceum.

HALIFAX (Raven Street).—This is a splendid Lyceum as regards number of scholars. The general conduct was only fair More attention should be paid to the conductor.

A. BARRACLOUGH, D.V.

LEEDS DISTRICT.—There are 16 societies in this district, 14 of them have a Lyceum.

GENERAL REMARKS.

BATLEY CARR.—This Lyceum keeps up to its old standard of excellency both in conduct and group lessons.

OSSETT.—I took 4 of our Dewsbury friends to assist in the opening of a Lyceum. Much interest was manifested in the session. Some of our Dewsbury friends attended on the two following Sundays to render further help.

LEEDS (Bethel Street).—This is a good Lyceum, although the attendance is moderate. I impressed upon all of them the importance of practising our teachings in our everyday life.

LEEDS (Psycho).—A very poor attendance, which improved by late arrivals. I strongly urged upon them to persevere, and assured them the workers would win success.

JAMES KITSON, D.V.

LIVERPOOL DISTRICT.—There are 14 societies in this district, 10 of which have a Lyceum. Hope is entertained that the Runcorn Society will open a Lyceum shortly.

GENERAL REMARKS.

CREWE.—50 present. An interesting session throughout. The quality of the work has been maintained, which reflects with credit upon the past officers.

CHESTER.—53 present. Excellent session, especially recitations and solos by the children, and the group lessons. Marching open to improvement.

WARRINGTON.—Morning, 36 present; a fair session. No explanation of or comment upon the chain recitations. 2.30 p.m., 46 present. Group lessons interesting. Splendid discipline.

SEACOMBE.—A late start, 29 present. An improvement noticeable all round. A little more enthusiasm would be a still further improvement.

DAULBY HALL.—55 present. Mental exercises good. Marching fair. Calisthenics still missing.

SOUTHPORT (Queen's Hall).—Late start, 15 present. Owing to the society's lack of interest in the children's welfare it is proving an uphill struggle for the two or three ladies to keep the few children together. (Hawkshead Hall).—19 present. Singing weak. Mental and physical exercises good.

WIGAN.—Ten a.m., 51 present. An excellently conducted session. Marching rather prolonged; 1.45 p.m., 48 present. Responses and group lessons good.

BIRKENHEAD (Hamilton).—Eleven a.m., 35 present. Attendance not so good as formerly. Conductor's explanations on the chain recitations good. Pearls and calisthenics excellent.

MOUNT PLEASANT.—27 present. Pearls and responses good. The presence and assistance of Mr. Keeling, the Union's president, added to the interest. A good session.

R. A. OWEN, D.V.

MANCHESTER DISTRICT.—There are 16 Lyceums in this district.

GENERAL REMARKS.

HOLLINWOOD.—Although there is a decrease in numbers there was a good session.

MANCHESTER (Chell Street).—Owing to absence of chief officers I conducted. A good response to chain recitations and question on the same.

COLLYHURST.—There is an improvement in this Lyceum. They still adhere to the old system of calisthenics, preferring them to the new.

PRINCESS ROAD.—Open session very good. There is always a good response to the conductor's call for recitations and pearls. Good conduct.

MASKELL STREET.—Special Lyceum Sunday. Our President, Mr. Keeling, conducted. Good attendances from local Lyceums. A good day.

(Mrs.) A. E. BENTLEY, D.V.

NORTH-EAST LANCASHIRE DISTRICT.—There are 22 societies in this district, 19 of them have a Lyceum.

GENERAL REMARKS.

PRESTON (Clarke's Yard).—Thirty-three present. I had the pleasure of conducting their session. I advised them to read the "Lyceum Banner" and other literature belonging our movement.

BLACKBURN (Northgate).—Twenty-five present. A very good session. I hope the officers will work harmoniously together for the children's sake.

GREAT HARWOOD.—Thirty present. An excellent session. Chain recitations nicely explained.

BLACKBURN (St. Peter Street).—Attendance: Morning, 90 present; afternoon, 200. Open session. A splendid day Lyceumists took the evening service.

PADIHAM.—Attendance: Morning, 50; afternoon, 75. There were two good sessions. The prospects of this Lyceum are good.

COLNE.—Ninety-five present. There was good conduct and an excellent session throughout.

GEORGE H. EDWARDS, D.V.

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.—There are 10 societies in this district, 8 of whom have a Lyceum.

GENERAL REMARKS.

PARLIAMENT STREET.—This Lyceum is gradually increasing under the able management of its energetic conductor, Miss Twelvetrees. They have decided to add calisthenics to their sessions.

GLADSTONE HALL.—A high degree of excellency in calisthenics, with bells, has been attained here. The interchange of visits between Lyceums is having a good effect.

MECHANICS' HALL.—I found splendid order here under the united conductorship of Mr. Farnarth and Mr. Adkin, who labour under certain restrictions of the society.

HAWARDEN TERRACE. — This Lyceum is working unitedly, and bids fair to fill up the vacancies caused by recent withdrawals. Mr. Todd is cheered by the results thus far obtained.

The new Lyceums recently opened at Brittain Hall and Hucknall are, I hear, making some progress.

J. J. ASHWORTH, D.V.

ROCHDALE DISTRICT.—There are 18 societies in this district, 16 of them have a Lyceum.

GENERAL REMARKS.

BURY.—This Lyceum is in a good condition. There is an improvement in responses, and discipline, marching, etc., good.

ROCHDALE (Regent Street).—Too many late arrivals, otherwise a good session, with a nice, harmonious condition.

BACUP.—I am sorry to see a falling off in attendance, etc. I hope something will be done to revive the general interest.

OLDHAM (Coronation Street).—Singing, responses, marching, etc., very good.

ROCHDALE (Penn Street).—This Lyceum is making good progress in numbers, singing, responses, etc., all but the calisthenics.

J. BROWN, D.V.

STOCKPORT DISTRICT.—There are nine societies in this district; all but one (Glossop) have a Lyceum.

GENERAL REMARKS.

STALYBRIDGE (Bennett Street).—I found a good Lyceum, readings nicely rendered, and exercises well done.

STALYBRIDGE (Vaudrey Street).—This Lyceum has suspended sessions for a few weeks. Will commence its sessions again on May 3rd, at two p.m. It is hoped the altered time of sessions will be more convenient, and a good Lyceum the result.

HADFIELD.—This is a good Lyceum; not large in numbers, but most efficient. The session throughout was smartly conducted, and the exercises very well done.

STOCKPORT (High Bank).—This Lyceum is improving. There were 50 or more present. Reading and responses very good. Appropriate recitations by Lyceumists. Exercises well done. It is certainly a good all-round Lyceum.

HYDE (Clarendon Street).—A good all-round Lyceum, with interesting and instructive sessions, is maintained here.

W. H. POULTON, D.V.

TEESIDE DISTRICT.—There are eight societies in this district. Only three of them have a Lyceum.

GENERAL REMARKS.

SHILDON.—This Lyceum is getting on splendidly. Further development is hindered for lack of more accommodation.

The societies at Auckland and Ferryhill will be visited shortly, and special efforts made to induce them to instruct their children in the teachings of Spiritualism.

GURNEY VILLA made an effort, but had to close for lack of workers.

HENRY JAMES, D.V.

TYNESIDE DISTRICT.—There are 19 societies in this district, 11 of whom have a Lyceum. Efforts are being made to induce the others to do their duty to the children.

GENERAL REMARKS.

SOUTH SHIELDS (King Street).—The good work of this Lyceum continues to grow and improve, which is very pleasing to observe. I would like to see the society take a greater interest in the good work.

SOUTH SHIELDS (Robinson Street).—This Lyceum is also in a flourishing state, considering the size of the society. May success continue with them.

BENWELL.—A small attendance, owing to bad weather; otherwise satisfactory work by those present.

JARROW-ON-TYNE (Co-operative Hall).—This is a newly-opened Lyceum, and bids fair to be a most successful one. The officers are enthusiastic. On my second visit, a month later, I was pleased to see the progress they had made.

MONKWEARMOUTH.—I have been urging this society to do its duty to the children, and I am glad they have promised to start a Lyceum on April 5th, concerning which I hope to report favourably in my next.

JONAH CLARKE, D.V.

THE LEEDS DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The above Council held its annual meeting at Armley on Saturday, April 4th. Eight Lyceums were represented. The minutes were accepted as correct. Lyceum visitors and district visitors' reports were given and accepted; also secretary's report of the U.D.C. meeting at Rochdale. It was decided to allow the question of shield competition to drop, as only one or two Lyceums were in favour of the same. A suggestion re a field day was well discussed, and finally left with the visitors and delegates to report the views of their respective Lyceums at our next meeting. Election of officers followed, the result being:—President, Mr. S. Lee; treasurer, Mr. Lunn; secretary, Mr. A. E. Beety; D.V., Mr. J. Kitson; auditors, Miss L. Mortimer and Mr. Barnes.

A. E. BEETY, Hon. Secretary.

THE BRADFORD LYCEUM DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the above Council was held at Yeadon on Sunday, April 5th. A good number of delegates and friends were present. We were pleased to receive a delegate from Shipley Lyceum; also our late district visitor and energetic worker, Mr. Arnold. Miss Pollard gave an excellent report of the U.D.C., which was accepted. The Secretary, Treasurer, and Auditor gave their annual reports, which were accepted. The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mr. Rau (Tong Street, Bradford); secretary, Mr. H. Birdsall (Otley Road, Bradford); treasurer, Miss Pollard (Keighley); district visitor, Mr. H. Alderson (Windhill); ouditors, Mr. H. Barnes (Tong Street, Bradford) and Mr. Spurling (Shipley). The quarterly meeting was decided to be held at Windhill on their Lyceum Bluebell Day in June, when the church will be decorated with bluebells, the date to be forwarded later. It was resolved that we arrange a "Bunting Banner" competition; full particulars will be furnished later. In the afternoon, at 2.30, an open session was held. Mr. Rau conducted. "Forward press to conquer" was heartily sung by a good gathering. Mr. Barnes offered the invocation. Lily Lumb, a little girl about five years old, took charge of the silver chain recitation, "Think gently of the erring one." Mr. Arnold conducted the M.R., "Welcome to Angels," and Miss Lumb officiated in the G.C. recitation, "The Pioneers of Freedom." A series of marchings and calisthenics were gone through in promising fashion. Recitations and solos, etc., were given by Lyceum scholars. Brief addresses were given by Messrs. Alderson, Birdsall, and Spurling. The evening service was one long to be remembered. A good number congregated. Mr. H. Alderson gave an interesting address on "What are we here for?" A solo by Miss Pollard, entitled "The Motherless," was sweetly rendered. Mr. Barnes gave a good address. Mrs. Hale (Bradford) gave good clairvoyance. Many thanks to our Yeadon friends for the way they catered for us.

H. BIRDSALL, Secretary.

FOUNDED NOVEMBER, 1890, BY J. J. MORSE.
Adopted as the Official Organ of the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union, May, 1891.
Transferred to the above Union, as a Free Gift by the Founder, May, 1902.

THE LYCEUM BANNER:

ALFRED KITSON, Editor.

Terms to Lyceums and Societies :—
Twelve copies, 10½d. ; 18 copies, 1/4 ; 24 copies, 1/9 ; 36 copies, 2/7½ ; 42 copies, 3/- ; 48 copies, 3/4. All orders for four dozen copies and upwards are supplied at 10d. per dozen. All parcels sent post free. Accounts due quarterly : March, June, September, and December.

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

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Office: BROMLEY ROAD, HANGING HEATON, near DEWSBURY.

MAY, 1908.

Lyceum Notes and Comments.

Our readers will be sorry to learn that four members of the Executive Council were unable to attend the meetings at Nelson owing to ill-health. We hope that all will have sufficiently recovered by May 9th, to enable them to attend the Lyceum Conference.

* * *

Delegates to the Conference should be careful not to leave their credentials at home, as no one will be allowed to pass the barrier without showing their credentials to the Credential Committee, Mr. A. Wilkinson and Mr. R. Latham.

* * *

The statement of the Lyceum Union's accounts, with the annual reports, are worthy of the careful study of our readers. We are, indeed, sorry to find our fears that the "Lyceum Banner" account would show a loss have been confirmed. Those Lyceums who have done all they could to help us to avoid this deplorable state have our warmest thanks.

* * *

CHEAP WEEK-END TICKETS.

Delegates from those towns that are served by the North-Eastern Railway Company can book week-end tickets to Middlesbrough. Those delegates from other towns can book week-end to Redcar or Saltburn, which is a few miles beyond Middlesbrough, and after spending a few hours at the seaside, can return by ordinary train to Middlesbrough in time for the Conference.

* * *

We are officially informed that the North-Eastern Railway Company are unable to grant any concessions to delegates as passengers for Redcar, such as allowing them to break their journey at Middlesbrough and pay the return fare to Redcar. Delegates, please note.

* * *

It is with pleasure we learn that the Lyceums reported last month as having suspended their sessions have now commenced them. This applies to Edinburgh, Parkgate, Rotherham, and Stalybridge (Vaudray Street). While new Lyceums have been opened at Monkwearmouth, Ossett, and Runcorn.

* * *

As announced last month, we are unable to print any Lyceum reports this month. Will the friends at Ashington, Heaton Norris, Tottenham, and Padiham please accept this notice of their reports. Reports will be received as usual next month. Reports of important events taking place on April 25th and 26th may be sent. No report to exceed 120 words.

Will Lyceum secretaries who have instructions to increase their orders for Lyceum Banners please do so before the last Sunday in May, so as to allow us time to notify the printers at Keighley, with whom arrangements have been made to despatch all parcels of Lyceum Banners ?

* * *

A fatal fire occurred at Keighley on the morning of April 10th, when the printing establishment of Messrs. J. Wadsworth and Co., the Lyceum Union's printers, was totally destroyed by fire, causing the death of two men and injury to several young women employees. Mr. J. Wadsworth made strenuous efforts to rescue the staff, and would have succeeded had they not become panic-stricken. The loss of the Lyceum Union is fully covered by insurance, and prompt steps are being taken to replace the stock of Lyceum manuals, etc. The "Lyceum Banner" joins its readers in deep sympathy for the firm of the Rydal Press.

* * *

Miss Lilian Grummitt has sent the editor a copy of a neatly-bound little book of poems entitled "Pressed Flowers, and a Few Leaves." The first section, "Pressed Flowers." contains thirty-seven poems, amongst which we notice a few that have appeared in the pages of the "Lyceum Banner." There are nine poems in the second part, "A Few Leaves." "Joe's Prayer" and "Long Ago" will appeal to boys who love wit and humour. The volume is bound in roan, gilt lettered and edges ; price not stated.

THE ANGEL'S MISSION.

In history's page there is revealed a noble-minded man,
Whose words have swept throughout the world, to every sect and clan ;
His principles and visions clear, born of an angel band,
First saw the light across the waves, in a distant western land :
Upon a couch, a youth, he lay, and travelled in his mind.
Young Davis reached the spirit spheres, strange newer thoughts to find.
The children whom we thought were lost, when death had claimed its own,
Became revealed as conscious souls, as bright young spirits grown.

The children of a higher birth, unconscious of his gaze,
Went singing through the Elysian glades, and many a pretty maze,
Marching with banners waving high, in token of their joy,
As earth-bound thoughts were in their souls, and no one felt annoy :
Returned to earth, he greeting gave unto his fellow-man,
Unfolding all his vision brought about the heavenly plan,
Arranged for children in the spheres, and thus our plan began ;
The first Lyceum then was formed, a blessing unto man.

The spirit-pedlar came to bless, the children of Hydesville ;
The knockings caused a welcome change, and human hearts to thrill.
Sad friends then ceased their mourning, the veil of death was torn,
Our lost, regained, stood with us, a welcome truth was born.
The eager news came flashing to us, o'er the sea and land,
A hope to all the dying, from the bright angelic band.
The bonds of superstition fell from our souls away,
We feel a brighter era has come with us to stay.

Yes ! now in union blended, our Lyceum cause is blest ;
God grant unto our leaders, the wisdom fitted best
To propagate our teachings, and show us how to live ;
Unto the earnest workers, sweet inspiration give,
And unto every scholar, may angels bring a balm,
To shield them in their pathway, and cause a holy calm,
To come within the sphere of all within our cause,
And teach that true progression is living Nature's laws.

G. F. KNOTT.

THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION

WILL HOLD ITS

Nineteenth Annual Conference

IN THE

Spiritual Church, Grange Road West, Middlesbrough,

ON

Saturday and Sunday, May 9th and 10th, 1908,

Saturday at 6 p.m. Sunday at 10 a.m.

Teas will be served on the premises on the Saturday at 4 p.m.; price, 6d. Sunday: Dinner, 1s.; tea, 6d.

A GRAND PUBLIC MEETING

will be held on the Sunday at 6.30 in the above church, to be addressed by the President and President-elect, supported by the other Officers and the Executive Council.

President - Mr. ERNEST A. KEELING (Liverpool).

AGENDA.

1.—Opening Exercises.

2.—Appointments, *pro tem.*

3.—Minutes of the last Conference.

4.—Correspondence.

5.—REPORTS.—(*a*) Secretary's General Report.
(*b*) Lyceum Banner Report.
(*c*) Treasurer's Report.
(*d*) Permanent Secretary Fund Report.
(*e*) Delegates to the Spiritualist National Union Conference Report.

6.—Unfinished Business on the Agenda.

GENERAL MOTION.—To consider the advisability of issuing an Officers' Edition of the LYCEUM BANNER, to deal exclusively with matters helpful to the same.

Per Mrs. M. LAW, *Coventry Lyceum.*

That the business of the E.C. of the B.S.L.U. be recorded by publishing in the BANNER the minutes of all E.C. meetings.

Miss MARY A. MARSDEN, Sec., *Elland Lyceum.*

That this Lyceum suggest to the Conference the advisability of the consideration of the question of the *Lyceum Manual* and its position in relation to the Trustees, and that a committee be appointed to consider the whole matter and confer with the donor.

Mr. S. LEE, Sec., *Armley Lyceum.*

1st—That uniform teaching in our Lyceums be fully considered.

2nd—That the Conference consider the advisability of issuing an Officers' Edition of the *Lyceum Banner.*

Mr. J. D. BUTTERWORTH, *Nelson Lyceum.*

1st—That it be an instruction to our General Secretary that all District Visitors shall be supplied with a copy of each publication issued by the B.S.L.U. Publishing Department, such copies to be exhibited by the District Visitor on his visits to the various Lyceums.

2nd—That the policy of having a Serial Story running through the columns of the *Lyceum Banner* be discarded, and in its place shall be inserted matter that shall be of practical use to Teachers and Leaders in our Lyceums.

Signed on behalf of the *Accrington (China St.) Lyceum,*

WM. FISH, Conductor.

JAS. F. SHUTTLEWORTH, Secretary.

7.—Elect place of next Conference.

8.—Elect Officers. The following have been nominated:—PRESIDENT: Mr. E. A. Keeling, Mrs. Annie E. Bentley, Mr. H. A. Kersey, and Mrs. Jessie Greenwood. VICE-PRESIDENT: Mr. H. A. Kersey. TREASURER: Mr. Councillor John Venables and Mr. H. A. Kersey.

9.—Elect Executive Council (Four members wanted): Mrs. Lizzie Nurse, Mr. H. A. Kersey, Mrs. Annie E. Bentley, Mr. W. Johnson, Mr. R. Latham, Mr. R. A. Owen, Mr. E. A. Keeling, Miss Lizzie Mortimer, Mr. J. D. Walton, Mr. D. Griffiths, Mrs. Butterworth, Mr. J. C. Chappell, Mr. H. Raw, Mr. Will Edwards, Mr. B. Dyson, and Mr. T. H. Wright.

10.—Elect Auditor: Mr. W. S. Stott.

11.—Elect two Representatives to the S.N.U.

11A.—Elect Hon. Secretary to the P.S.F.

12.—MOTIONS:—1st.—That the E.C. shall publish monthly, an Officers' Edition of the LYCEUM BANNER, such edition to contain articles helpful to leaders of groups, such as lesson plans, essays, correspondence, etc. The Officers' Edition to form a supplement to the present LYCEUM BANNER, and the price to be increased to meet the expenditure thereof.

Moved by the Rochdale District Council.

G. F. KNOTT, Secretary,
30, Whitehall Street, Rochdale.

2nd.—That we consider whether certain movements in the Calisthenics as per B.S.L.U. instruction book, are correctly rendered by Lyceums, particularly the alternate movement, fifth commandment, page 8.

Moved by the Liverpool Lyceum District Council.

JOHN HOPE, Secretary,
10, Longfield Street, New Spring, Wigan.

13.—Notices of Motions for next Conference.

14.—Votes of thanks to retiring Officers, Executive Council, Auditor, the local Society, and Lyceum.

15.—Closing Exercises.

ALFRED KITSON,

General Secretary.

THE BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION

ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Lyceum delegates in conference assembled, greetings!

Once again it gives your E.C. pleasure to be able, in presenting its Annual Report, to record the steady progress of our grand, angel-inspired movement, the Children's Progressive Lyceum! True it is that during the past year there have been a few Lyceums which have lapsed, or suspended their sessions, but we feel sure it is only temporarily, and that they will ere long recommence active work. When we consider our new methods, requiring greater skill and ability in managing a Lyceum, and that the work often depends on a faithful few earnest souls whose hearts and minds are aglow with love for the children, we need not be surprised to learn of the suspension of sessions owing to removals, or sickness, and other causes. But we may rest assured that as soon as those few faithful ones can reopen the Lyceums so closed they will lose no time in so doing. This fact is fully borne out by the editor's notes and comments in this issue. So let us take heart at the general onward march our grand movement is making.

We are pleased to record that 21 Lyceums have been enrolled as members of the B.S.L.U. since your last conference. The total is 173, as against 166 last year.

While we beg to place on record our appreciation of the work of our district visitors, and thank them for their past services, we beg to urge upon them the necessity for renewed effort in interviewing those societies in their districts who have no Lyceum, and urging them to do their duty to their children. This has been done in a few districts with good results. We sincerely hope that in future it will be done in all.

We are pleased to observe a general awakening to the importance of a fuller exposition of our teachings in our Lyceums, and your E.C. beg to record its high appreciation of the splendid educational services rendered to our movement by the excellent lesson plans contributed to the Lyceum Banner by Mrs. Jessy Greenwood.

Your E.C. also desires to place on record its appreciation of the kindly act of the *Two Worlds* Publishing Company in deciding to insert announcements of the B.S.L.U. on the same terms as existed previous to the Lyceum Conference held at Blackburn in 1903.

Your E.C. have decided to cancel all agencies at the end of the present quarter, as they have not proved the success that was anticipated from them two and a-half years ago.

We would specially draw their attention to the large stock of "Reminiscences," which are splendidly illustrated, and well worth the original price, 2s.; but now that they are offered at half-price as a memento edition of their venerable author and donor, *i.e.*, of the late Mr. Alfred Smedley, their sale should be large and rapid. We beg to direct Lyceums' attention to this important work, and ask their assistance by placing it on sale on their Lyceum bookstalls.

It will be noticed, with regret, that 10 Lyceums have not made their annual returns as per constitution, thereby showing an apparent decrease of 205 scholars. Perhaps some of those Lyceum secretaries are new to their duties, and unaware of the importance of such. We trust district visitors will draw attention to the matter, with a view to more prompt attention being paid to it in the future.

We also regret the tendency to fill up the statistical forms with the number of officers and scholars on the register on the *first Sunday* of *January*, when a number of names have been removed from them, than as they stand in the register on the *last Sunday* in *December*, as per constitution, thereby reducing both the returns and contributions. It will be noticed on comparing the balance in hand of the general fund with last year's balance that there is a decrease of £10 10s. 4½d. One way of checking this reduction is sending in the returns as per constitution.

Once more the hon. secretary to the P.S.F., Mrs. Jessy Greenwood, has earned the warm appreciation of your E.C. by her untiring efforts to maintain the efficiency of this important fund. Your E.C. notes with pleasure a slight increase, 13s. 7d., contributed by the Lyceums, and £2 19s. 8d. from private subscribers; total increase £3 13s. 3d. A detailed list of subscribers appears on another page. See if your name is among the number; if not, have it placed on next year.

We are pleased to report an increase of £14 9s. 6½d. in sales, and trust this sum may show a much greater increase next year by the sale of the Reminiscences.

We much regret the loss of the services of Mr. F. B. Smedley on the E.C., owing to a removal to New Zealand. We have no doubt he will plant our flag in the midst of his new friends, and the cause will be benefited. In the meantime your E.C. invited Mrs. Law, a past president, who was the next on the list, to fill the vacancy.

Your E.C. also regrets that one of your auditors, Mr. Wright, was unable, on account of ill-health, to take part in the final audit. Mr. Stott, of Nelson, was therefore called in to help Mr. Tompkins.

Your E.C. deeply regrets to record the loss by fire of all unbound copies of the *Lyceum Manual*, *Outlines of Spiritualism for the Young*, and the *Spiritual System*, along with the stereo-plates of the latter, warehoused at the Rydal Press, Keighley, on the 10th of April. We beg to take this opportunity to assure you that we shall do our best to replace our loss with as little delay as possible, as we are fully covered by insurance.

We also desire, on your behalf, to place on record our deep sympathy with Mr. J. Wadsworth & Co. at their sad loss, and also our condolence with the widows and families of the men who lost their lives by the fatal fire.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL'S REGISTER.

	Possible Attendances.		Actual Attendances.
Mr. E. A. Keeling	4	...	4
Mr. R. Latham	4	...	2
Mr. J. Venables	4	...	3
Mr. A. Kitson	4	...	4
Mr. H. A. Kersey	4	...	3
Mr. W. Johnson	4	...	4
Mr. A. Wilkinson	4	...	4
Mr. J. J. Bennett	4	...	3
Mrs. J. Greenwood	4	...	3
Mrs. A. E. Bentley	4	...	3
Mrs. L. Nurse	4	...	4
Mrs. M. Law	2	...	2

THE *LYCEUM BANNER* REPORT.

We are pleased to be able once more to report to you the continued increased sales of your official organ, the *Lyceum Banner*. The circulation of the past year has increased by 2600 copies, which to a young and unpopular cause like ours indicates a healthy condition. We desire to place on record our deep sense of gratitude and in-

debtedness to all who have in any way contributed to this marked success—the staff of contributors, Lyceum conductors and secretaries who have laboured diligently to make our Banner both interesting and instructive, and worthy the name of the Lyceum Union's Official Organ.

We have been sorry to note that a slight misunderstanding has arisen in certain Lyceums regarding overdue reports. We found it necessary last July to exclude for a time all reports that were not for the current month. This term "current month" has now been extended to include the last week of the preceding month, thus allowing the important events occurring on the last Saturday and Sunday to be recorded. We are sorry to learn that the editor, in carrying out his instructions, should have incurred the displeasure of certain Lyceums. We sincerely trust this explanation will fully restore confidence and continued support.

We very much regret to record a deficit in the *Lyceum Banner* accounts of £8 15s. 2d., which has been brought about by three causes, viz.: (1) Increased cost of carriage; (2) increase in the size and quality of the *Lyceum Banner*; and (3) one quarter of the secretary's wages having been charged to the *Lyceum Banner* account. Under these circumstances we beg to suggest that the *Lyceum Banner* account be incorporated in the Publishing Department.

As in previous years, free copies of all issues containing important announcements have been mailed to all federated Lyceums who do not take the *Lyceum Banner*. By this means such Lyceums are kept informed about all important matters affecting the welfare of the Lyceum Union.

Signed on behalf of the Executive,

ERNEST A. KEELING, President.
ALFRED KITSON, General Secretary.

PERMANENT SECRETARY'S REPORT, 1907.

We beg to report the receipt of the following:—Lyceums' subscriptions, £27 5s. 6d.; private contributions, £35 17s. 8d.; total, £63 3s. 2d.

The following Lyceums have contributed:—

Blackpool, 10s.; Batley Carr, 10s.; Huddersfield (Ramsden Street), 10s.; Leeds (Psycho), 5s.; Darwen (1d. per member), 13s. 6d.; Heywood, 12s.; Hollinwood (Byrom Street), 10s.; Middlesbrough, 10s.; Armley, 10s.; Smethwick, 5s.; Morley, 5s.; Rochdale (Bailie Street), 5s.; Bacup, 10s.; Rothwell, 1s. 6d.; Stockport, 5s.; Manchester (Maskell Street), 10s.; Heeley, 5s.; Manchester (Bradford Street), 1s.; Rochdale (Regent Hall), 5s.; Belper, 30s.; Bury, 12s.; Keighley, 10s.; Preston, 2s. 6d.; Skipton, 5s.; Barrow-in-Furness (Berry's Building), 5s.; Halifax (Raven Street), 10s.; Attercliffe, 2s. 6d.; New Hirst, 2s. 6d.; Manchester (Chell Street), 5s.; Blackburn (Northgate), 5s.; Barnoldswick, 10s.; Dearnley, 7s. 6d.; Edinburgh, 3s. 6d.; Great Harwood, 2s. 6d.; Halifax (Alma Street), 10s.; Manchester (Harpurhey), 7s. 6d.; Burnley (Richard Street), 5s.; Wigan, 5s.; Lancaster, 5s.; Todmorden, 5s.; Ulverston, 2s. 6d.; Leigh, 1s. 6d.; Nottingham (Gladstone Hall), 7s. 6d.; Blackburn (St. Peter's Street), 10s.; Nottingham (Mechanics' Hall), 5s.; Oldham (Coronation Street), 10s. 6d.; Glasgow, 20s.; Macclesfield, 6s.; Leicester (Queen Street), 8s.; Stockton-on-Tees, 5s.; Hull, (Lime Street), 10s.; Nottingham (Hyson Green), 5s.; Liverpool (Mount Pleasant), 20s.; Oldham (Elliott Street), 21s.; Yeadon, 5s.; Lincoln, 2s. 6d.; Brighton, 2s. 6d.; New Shildon, 12s. 6d.; Leeds (Bethel Street) Lyceum, 10s.; Bolton (Bradford Street), 5s.; Birkenhead, 2s. 6d.; Crewe, 5s.; Newcastle-on-Tyne, 20s.; Liverpool (Daulby Hall), 10s.; Walsall, 20s.; Leeds (Joseph Street), 5s.; Hebden Bridge, 10s.; Derby, 5s.; Bradford (Otley Road), 5s. Total number of contributing Lyceums is 70 out of 173 affiliated with the B.S.L.U. The following well-wishers have contributed during the year:—Alfred Kitson's Sunday services fees, £4 5s.; Mr. and Mrs. Naylor, 10s.; Mr. Horne, Johannesburg, 6s. 8d.; Mr. Smith, 5s.; Mr. Wilkinson, 10s.; Mrs. Law (Sunday fees), £1 5s.; Mrs. Veary, 5s.; Mr. J. W. Thompson, 2s.; Mr. Birkett, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Smedley, £13; Mrs. Hobson (Toronto), 4s. 2d.; Mr. Horsfall, 5s.; Mrs. Rowley, 1s.; Mr. Wadsworth, 10s.; Mr. Keeling, 5s.; Mr. Ringrose, 5s.; Rev. J. P. Hopps, 3s.; Mr. Venables, 21s.; Mrs. Stair, 2s. 6d.; Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Davis, 2s. 6d.; Mr. T. H. Wright, 2s.; Mrs. Shaw, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Smith, 2s. 6d.; Mr. George, 10s.; "Starnos," 20s. 10d.; Miss Mortimer, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Walker, 2s. 6d.; "A Friend," 3s. 6d.; Mr. Coupe, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Glendinning, 10s. 6d.; Mr. Aaron Wilkinson, 2s.; Mrs. Thompson, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Robertson, 20s.; Mrs. K. T. Robinson, 21s.; Mrs. Batie, 1s.; Mrs. Entwistle, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Hunter, 2s.; Mrs. Harwood, 5s.; Mrs. M. Wilkinson, 3s. 6d.; Mr. E. Howarth, 2s. 6d.; Mr. and Mrs. Briggs, 5s.; Mrs. Nurse, 2s.; Mr. H. E. Clarke, 4s.; sale of services of songs (Mrs. Griffins), 37s. 6d.; Mr. D. Fisher, 1s.; Mr. Bennett, 5s.; Mr. Goold, 5s.; Mr. Tompkins, 5s.; Mr. T. Aldridge, 5s.; Mr. Booth, 1s.; Mr. T. F. Smedley, 10s.; Mr. G. Wheeldon, 10s.; Mr. W. Wheeldon, 5s.; Mrs. Adshead, 2s. 6d.; Mr. and Mrs. Gull, 2s. 6d.; Mr. White, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Wigley, 2s. 6d.; Mr. A. Wigley, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Bodell, 2s.; Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins, 4s.; Mr. Varney, 1s.; Mr. Moffat, 1s.; Mr. A. E. Sutcliffe, 10s.

Altogether 62 contributors, and the sale of service of songs kindly given by Mrs. Griffin.

It is distinctly encouraging to find so many willing helpers in this particular part of the Union's funds. The conference will, no doubt, show its appreciation of such help at its meetings at Middlesbrough.

We regret the loss of two subscribers, viz., Mrs. S. Smedley and Mr. Booth, both of whom were deeply interested in the wellbeing of the union.

Another regret is the non-recognition of the P.S.F. by the majority of the Lyceums, 103 not contributing.

The following Lyceums deserve special mention, viz.:—Belper, 30s.; Oldham (Elliott Street), 21s.; Glasgow, 20s.; Walsall, 20s.; Mount Pleasant, Liverpool, 20s.; and Newcastle-on-Tyne, 20s. All have done their best, and the thanks of the E.C. have been duly sent in each case.

I appeal to all the delegates present to bring this matter before their Lyceums, and in reporting a successful year urge their committees to make an effort to send an annual subscription to the P.S.F.

The generosity of Mr. Wadsworth is once more shown in printing, free of cost, circular-letters to all Lyceums, reminding them of their usual remittances.

Once more thanking all for past support, and confidently anticipating its continuance,

I am, yours sincerely,

JESSY GREENWOOD, Hon. Sec.

Contributions for 1908:—

Lyceums:—Batley Carr, 10s.; Leeds Psycho, 5s.; Middlesbrough, 10s. 6d.; Darwen, 11s. 9d.; Huddersfield (Ramsden Street), Burnley (Hammerton Street), 5s.; Wigan, 5s.; Stockport, 5s.; Rochdale (Penn Street), 5s.; Colne, 5s.; Heywood, 12s.; Mr. Smith, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Kitson's services at Armley and Oldham, 10s.; Rochdale and Derby, 10s.; and Rishton, 5s.; and York (St. Saviour's Gate), 10s.

JESSY GREENWOOD, Hon. Secretary.

Ashleigh, Hebden Bridge.

"Mrs. Glanders can read her husband like a book." "Yes; and she can shut him up like one, too."

"Bridget, did the dog eat much when he got into the pantry?" "Sure, mum, he ate everything but the dog biscuit."

"Fur hiven's sake, don't shoot, Casey. Ye forgot to load yer gun." "Begorry, Oi must, Pat. Th' burd won't wait."

BRITISH SPIRITUALISTS' LYCEUM UNION.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

For the Year ending 31st December, 1907.

GENERAL FUND.

1907.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Jan. 1	To Balance		35 9 4½
	,, Collections at Propaganda Meetings—		
,, 12	Huddersfield	4 10 9	
April 6	Rochdale	2 0 3½	
July 12	Belper	3 7 0	
Oct. 12	Pendleton	2 15 0	
			12 13 0½
May 11 and 12	,, Collections at Manchester Conference	8 2 9	
,,	,, Part proceeds on Catering per Manchester District Council	1 0 0	
			9 2 9
Dec. 31	,, Contributions from Lyceums		39 4 3
,,	,, Proportion of Proceeds of D.S.F. (one fourth)		15 9 6
,,	,, Bank Interest		5 2 2
			£117 1 1

1907.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Jan. 12	By Train Fares—Executive Council—Huddersfield	3 8 9	
,,	,, Hymn Sheets	0 7 6	
,,	,, Hand Bills	0 5 6	
April 6	,, Fares—Rochdale	2 11 2	
,,	,, Hymn Sheets	0 7 6	
,,	,, Hand Bills	0 4 6	
July 12	,, Fares—Belper	2 16 10	
,,	,, Hand Bills	0 3 3	
Oct. 12	,, Fares—Pendleton	3 5 5	
,,	,, Hymn Sheets	0 7 6	
,,	,, Hand Bills	0 3 9	
			14 1 8
May 11 and 12	,, Fares—Manchester Conference ...	7 8 1	
,,	,, Balance of hire of hall	1 10 0	
,,	,, Posters, Hand Bills, &c. ...	2 9 0	
,,	,, Agendas, Ballot Papers, &c. ...	1 4 9	
			12 11 10
Dec. 31	,, Fares—District Council Meetings		0 14 9
,,	,, ,, Delegates S.N.U. Conference		0 8 0
,,	,, ,, Auditing Accounts		2 10 0
,,	,, ,, District Visitors		11 13 9
,,	,, Typing Minutes E.C. Meetings		1 3 10
,,	,, Advt., "Two Worlds," 1 year		0 12 0
,,	,, Gas Fire for Office		2 5 0
,,	,, S.N.U. Affiliation Fee		0 10 0
,,	,, E. F. Roberts Printing Constitutions ...		6 5 6
,,	,, Insurance of General Secretary—Employers Liability		0 10 0
,,	,, Manifold Books, Stationery, &c.		4 1 6
,,	,, Postages, &c.—General Secretary 8 6 3 Treasurer ... 0 8 0		8 14 3
,,	,, Proportion (one-fourth) of Salary of General Secretary		26 0 0
,,	,, Balance		24 19 0
			£117 1 1

PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT.

1907.		£	s.	d.	1907.		£	s.	d.
Jan. 1	To balance	244	4	1½	Dec. 31	By Wadsworth & Co., Printing, Binding, &c. :—			
Dec. 31	To Sales as under :—					Lyceum Manuals, No. 1 ... 1500			
	Lyceum Manuals, No. 1 ... 1152					,, No. 2 ... 400			
	,, 2 ... 378					,, No. 3 ... 500			
	,, 3 ... 541					,, No. 5 ... 300	83	1	0
	,, 5 ... 285					,, No. 6 ... 400			
	,, 6 ... 429					Spiritual Songsters 500			
	Outlines of Spiritualism (cloth) 150					Service of Song : "Unseen hands" 3000			
	,, ,, (gilt) 54				,,	,, E. F. Roberts, printing on Hymn Sheets ...	0	18	6
	Physical Exercises (paper) ... 149				,,	,, Fire Insurance on Stock, Stereos, &c. ...	1	16	0
	,, ,, (cloth) ... 85				,,	,, *Lyceum Banner*—1 year's advertisement ...	5	0	0
	Spiritual Songsters 421				,,	,, Carriage and Postage on Parcels and Office Stamps	20	9	8
	Reminiscences—A. Smedley ... 93								
	Fourfold Pledges 7				,,	,, Invoice Books, Brown Paper, Boxes, Labels, Price Lists, &c.	2	17	6
	Group Registers (large) ... 43	286	12	7	,,	,, Proportion (one half) of Salary of General Secretary	52	0	0
	,, ,, (small) ... 130								
	Hymn Sheets, No. 1 1625				,,	,, Balance	395	12	11½
	,, 2 1625								
	,, 3 1500								
	,, 4 1300								
	Leaflets—A Lyceum : What it is 5300								
	Services of Song :								
	Ministering Spirits 34								
	Rest at Last 258								
	Unseen Hands 237								
	Badges : Brooches 1641								
	Buttons 525								
	Miscellaneous Books 25								
	To proportion of proceeds of Permanent Secretary Fund (one-half)	30	18	11					
		£561	15	7½			£561	15	7½

"LYCEUM BANNER."

1907.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	1907.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Jan. 1	To Balance—Cash	1	1	7				Jan. 1	By Outstanding Accounts				11	7	8½
	Outstanding Accounts.	11	7	8½											
					12	9	3½	Dec. 31	,, Wadsworth & Co., Printing 40,000 Copies, inclusive of Contents Bills, &c.				116	10	8
Dec. 31	,, Sales to Lyceums and Subscribers				136	10	9	,,	,, Carriage on Parcels				26	18	4
,,	,, Advertisements, including Publishing Department				11	15	0	,,	,, Office Postages				3	0	0
,,	,, Sale of Bound Volumes				1	0	0	,,	,, Stationery, Labels, &c.				1	2	6
,,	,, Proportion of proceeds of P.S.F. (one-fourth)				15	9	6	,,	,, Binding of Complete Volumes ...				0	18	0
,,	,, Profit on Services of Song, per Mr. E. W. Wallis				0	17	0	,,	,, Merit Cards				0	19	6
,,	,, Cash deficit				8	15	2	,,	,, Proportion (one-fourth) of Salary of General Secretary				26	0	0
					£186	16	8½						£186	16	8½
Dec. 31	To Outstanding Accounts				10	3	11	Dec. 31	By Cash deficit	8	15	2			
								,,	,, Balance, being Unrealised Profit.	1	8	9			
													10	3	11
					£10	3	11						£10	3	11

PERMANENT SECRETARY FUND.

1907.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	1907.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Dec. 31	To Donations from Lyceums ...	27	5	6				Dec. 31	By Publishing Department (one half)	30	18	11			
,,	,, Subscribers ...	35	17	8				,,	"Banner" ,, (one fourth)	15	9	6			
		£63	3	2				,,	General ,, (one fourth)	15	9	6			
	By P.S.F. Secretary's Postages, &c.	1	5	3									61	17	11
					61	17	11								
					£61	17	11						£61	17	11

1907.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	1907.		£	s.	d.
Dec. 31	To Proportion, Secretary's Salary :—							Dec. 31	By one year's Salary of General Secretary ...	104	0	0
	Publishing Department	52	0	0								
	General ,, ...	26	0	0								
	"Banner" ,, ...	26	0	0								
					104	0	0					
					£104	0	0			£104	0	0

LYCEUM HOME FUND.

1907.		£	s.	d.	1907.		£	s.	d.
Jan. 1	To Balance at Bank	94	0	7	Dec. 31	By Balance at Bank	96	7	6
Dec. 31	,, Bank Interest	2	6	11					
		£96	7	6			£96	7	6

Statement Showing Liabilities and Assets on December 31st, 1907.

LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.	ASSETS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Cash Deficit Banner Account	8	15	2	By Cash Balances :						
,, Balance, being amount of assets over liabilities ...	910	2	6½	General Fund	24	19	0			
				Publishing Department ...	395	12	11½			
				Lyceum Home Fund	96	7	6			
								516	19	5½
				,, Outstanding Accounts				10	3	11
				,, Stock as certified by Secretary				391	14	4
	£918	17	8½					£918	17	8½

We have examined the Books of the British Spiritualist' Lyceum Union, and find them a correct record of the Union's affairs as contained in the Statements of Account of the General, Publishing, Lyceum Home, and *Lyceum Banner* Departments.

W. H. TOMKINS
W. S. STOTT } *Hon. Auditors.*

WALSALL, 21*st March*, 1908.

VALUE OF STOCK AS ON DECEMBER 31st, 1907.

1907.					£	s.	d.
Dec. 31	Lyceum Manuals (Unbound)				44	1	3
	,, ,, (Bound), No. 1				6	5	8
	,, ,, ,, No. 2				2	12	6
	,, ,, ,, No. 3				1	15	0
	,, ,, ,, No. 5				2	13	0½
	,, ,, ,, No. 6				6	6	6
	Outlines (Unbound)				13	16	0
	,, (Bound, Cloth)				26	14	0
	,, ,, Gilt)				5	12	0
	Physical Exercises (Paper)				5	16	8½
	,, ,, (Cloth)				2	1	5
	Spiritual Songsters (Unbound)				32	0	0
	,, ,, (Bound, Cloth)...				4	19	6¾
	,, ,, ,, Leather)				3	4	2
	Reminiscences—A. Smedley				82	18	6
	Books of 50 Pledges				0	4	7¼
	Registers, Large...				1	11	6
	,, Small...				1	2	3½
	Hymn Sheets, No. 1				1	5	5¼
	,, No. 2				0	2	1½
	,, No. 3				1	6	11¾
	,, No. 4				1	0	9¾
	Brooch Badges				20	4	0¾
	Service of Song—"Ministering Spirits"				3	15	2
	,, "Rest at Last"				3	6	10½
	,, "Unseen Hands"				5	15	1½
	Spiritual Songster Stereo Plates	111	9	2			
	Less 5 per cent. Depreciation...	5	11	5½			
					105	17	8½
	Marching and Calisthenic Blocks	3	8	0			
	Less 5 per cent. Depreciation...	0	3	4¾			
					3	4	7¼
	Book Press	2	2	10½			
	Less 5 per cent. Depreciation...	0	2	1¾			
					2	0	8¾
					£391	14	4

(Signed) ALFRED KITSON, General Secretary.

STATISTICAL RETURN to the British Spiritualists' Lyceum Union, for the Year ending Dec. 31, 1907.

No.	Name of Lyceum.	Total on the Register. Officers.	Mems.
1	Accrington, China Street	6	31
2	,, Carter Street	6	30
3	Altrincham, Station Road	4	26
4	Armley, Theaker Lane	17	30
5	Ashington	4	32
6	Ashton-under-Lyne	10	49
7	Bacup, Market Street	12	60
8	Barnoldswick, Green Street	6	28
9	,, Market Street	7	29
10	Barrow-in-Furness, Dalkeith Street	11	44
11	,, Abbey Road	5	23
12	Barry Dock, Newland Street	6	28
13	Batley Carr, Carr Street	11	46
14	Belper, Jubilee Hall	24	120
15	Birkenhead, Grange Road	5	45
16	Birmingham, Martineau Street	—	—
17	,, Saltley	8	27
18	,, Smethwick	8	50
19	Blackburn, Northgate	8	24
20	,, St. Peter Street	24	176
21	Blackpool, Albert Road	11	64
22	Bolton, Bradford Street	9	81
23	Bradford, Carlisle Road	18	42
24	,, Otley Road	7	26
25	,, Shirley Road	8	28
26	Brighouse, Martin Street	5	31
27	Brighton, Manchester Street	12	34
28	Brownhills, High Street	6	24
29	Burnley, Hammerton Street	7	74
30	,, North Street	28	139
31	,, Richard Street	8	34
32	Burton-on-Trent	3	24
33	Bury, off Paradise Street	11	88
34	Cardiff, Queen Street	5	22
35	Carlisle, West Walls	6	34
36	Castleford, Jessop Street	6	69
37	Chester, Brook Street	6	54
38	Chesterfield, Assembly Rooms	6	22
39	Clayton-le-Moors	5	25
40	Cleckheaton, Old Robin Street	8	13
41	Colne, Cloth Hall	31	70
42	Crewe, Mill Street	9	35
43	Daisy Hill, Mabel Street	—	—
44	Darwen, Church Bank Street	21	120
45	Dearnley	10	44
46	Derby, Charnwood Street	8	34
47	Dewsbury, Bond Street	13	55
48	Doncaster, Guildhall	7	25
49	,, Wood Street	5	14
50	Dukinfield, Railway Street	7	18
51	Dundee, Camperdown Hall	10	51
52	,, Foresters' Hall	12	52
53	Edinburgh, Queen Street	6	38
54	Edinburgh	6	38
55	Elland, James Street	4	17
56	Gateshead, Coathsworth Road	6	44
57	Glasgow, Bath Street	20	87
58	,, Great Western Road	4	20
59	Great Harwood, Westwell Street	9	21
60	Greenock, Cathcart Street	—	—
61	Grimsby, Strand Street	9	31
62	Hadfield, Albert Street	8	16
63	Halifax, Alma Street	14	86
64	,, Raven Street	20	130
65	Heaton Norris, Baker Street	4	16
66	Hebden Bridge, Victoria Hall	15	57
67	Heckmondwike, Tower Street	10	34
68	Heywood, William Street	7	54
69	Higher Broughton, Hilton Street	10	40
70	Hindley, Bridge Street	18	40
71	Hollinwood, Byrom Street	15	88
72	Horwich, Beatrice Street	7	25
73	Huddersfield, Ramsden Street	19	61
74	,, St. Peter Street	4	20
75	Hull, Lime Street	12	56
76	Hyde, Clarendon Street	8	52
77	Jarrow, Market Square	6	30
78	Johannesburg, South Africa	4	32
79	Keighley, Heber Street	15	63
80	Lancaster, St. Leonard's Gate	10	59
81	Leeds, Bethel Street	6	33
82	,, Grove House Lane	10	28
83	,, Hunslet, Church Street	—	—
84	,, Joseph Street	10	24
85	Leicester, Albion Street	6	47
86	,, Queen Street	11	55
87	Leigh, Brown Street	6	36
88	,, Market Buildings	—	—
89	Lincoln, Exchange Arcade	9	27
90	Littletown, Well Street	6	22
91	Liverpool, Daulby Street	11	59
92	,, Mount Pleasant	15	42
93	London, Battersea	6	56
94	,, Chiswick	4	17
95	,, Fulham	3	21
96	,, Tottenham	8	19
97	Longton, Stone Road	—	—
98	Macclesfield, Cumberland Street	8	53
99	Manchester, Cheetham	8	40
100	,, Collyhurst	10	58
101	,, Harpurhey	6	60
102	,, Hulme	6	26
103	,, Higher Openshaw	9	87
104	,, Longsight	15	75
105	,, Maskell Street	12	60
106	Manchester South, Princess Road	15	50
107	,, West Gorton	9	33
108	Middeton, Gilmour Street	10	53
109	Middlesbrough, Grange Road W.	20	124
110	Millom, Main Street	4	19
111	Morley, Fountain Street	12	24
112	Motherwell, Park Street	6	39
113	Nelson, Vernon Street	6	131
114	Newcastle, Royal Arcade	20	33
115	,, Benwell Co-op.	—	—
116	,, Heaton and Byker	9	36
117	New Hirst, Miners' Hall	4	34
118	Nottingham, Gladstone Hall	8	30
119	,, Hawarden Street	6	41
120	,, Mechanics' Hall	5	35
121	,, Parliament Street	7	38
122	Oldham, Coronation Street	8	48
123	,, Elliott Street	15	84
124	Padiham, Ightenhill Street	12	58
125	Parkgate, Ashwood Road	6	24
126	Pendleton, Broad Street	—	—
127	,, Ford Lane	11	90
128	Portsmouth, Southsea	3	17
129	Preston, Clarke's Yard	3	24
130	,, Walker Street	5	25
131	Rawtenstall, Back Ormerod Street	11	46
132	Rishton, Eachill Road	10	30
133	Rochdale, Penn Street	8	36
134	,, Regent Street	10	79
135	Rotherham, Howard Street	—	—
136	,, Tusmore Street	—	—
137	Rothwell, Commercial Street	3	21
138	Royton, Union Street	6	43
139	Scarborough, North Street	—	—
140	Seacombe, Brighton Street	5	25
141	Shaw, Lion Street	6	24
142	,, Rochdale Road	4	37
143	Sheffield, Attercliffe	20	76
144	,, Darnall	4	40
145	,, Heeley	12	48
146	,, Surrey Street	5	13
147	Shildon, Main Street	10	53
148	Skipton, Sackville Street	7	43
149	Slaithwaite, Laith Lane	10	30
150	Southport, Hawkshead Street	6	30
151	,, Neville Street	6	29
152	South Shields, King Street	4	44
153	,, Robinson Street	6	36
154	Sowerby Bridge, Hollins Lane	20	90

STATISTICAL RETURNS—Continued.

No.	Name of Lyceum.	Total on the Register. Officers.	Mems.
155	Stalybridge, Bennett Street	9	30
156	,, Vaudrey Street	6	36
157	Stockport, High Bank	15	43
158	,, Lower Hillgate	6	30
159	Stockton-on-Tees, Silver Street	13	65
160	Todmorden, Dale Street	16	44
161	Ulverston, Theatre Street	4	38
162	Uppermill, Court Street	5	22
163	Wakefield, Kirkgate	7	36
164	Walsall, Bradford Street	16	111
165	Warrington, Sankey Street	7	29
166	West Pelton, Old Store Hall	8	34
167	Whitworth, Market Street	6	15
168	Wigan, Miners' Hall	12	32
169	Windhill, School Hill	10	14
170	Wolverhampton, Princess Street	8	34
171	Yeadon Town Side	11	21
172	York, Cromwell Road	9	27
173	,, St. Saviour Gate	14	46
	Total	1504	7214

No.	Name of Lyceum.	Total on the Register. Officers.	Mems.
	NON-FEDERATED LYCEUMS.		
1	Birmingham, Handsworth	—	—
2	Foleshill, Coventry	—	—
3	Leeds, Dow Place	—	—
4	London, Little Ilford	3	18
5	Manchester, Bradford	—	—
6	Merthyr, Lower Drill Hall	—	—
7	Middleton, Co-operative Hall	3	23
8	Oldham, Waterhead	—	—
9	Plymouth, Oddfellows' Hall	2	20
10	Sheffield, Sherde Road	4	26
11	,, Stanley Street	—	—
12	Shipley, Teal Court	6	34
13	Wombwell	—	—

NOTE.—A blank in the columns indicates that no returns have been received from that Lyceum.

ALFRED KITSON, General Secretary.

April 16th, 1908.

PRIZE ESSAYS.

Mr. Hamer, of Shaw, having offered prizes for the two best essays on "What is the Lyceum?" and "Why I am a Lyceumist," has awarded the first prize to Beatrice Mantle (aged 11), and the second prize to Amy Kilsby (aged 13), their essays being considered to be the best.

The two essays are as follow:—

1. By Beatrice Mantle (first prize).

What is the Lyceum?

A Spiritualists' Lyceum is a training school for the mind and body. It cultivates the talents which God, in His goodness, gave to us. It teaches us to live in harmony with one another, to try and uplift our fellow-sufferers who have fallen in the stony road of life, to love and help the children whom we see running about our streets barefooted and hungry, to speak a word of hope to the sorrowing, and give a word of enlightenment to the wayward, and to try and make the world better; also to set an example to those around us who loath and despise our religion. Therefore, the Lyceum is a school where all may learn to perform the will of God.

Why I am a Lyceumist.

The reason why I am a Lyceumist is that I love the work and its teachings. I mean to press forward. Its work keeps my body both physically and mentally healthy. Its teachings are food for my mind, and help me to be good and thoughtful in all things.

I am a Lyceumist because I love the Lyceum. I love its teachers, and loving those helps me to cherish the names of the old pioneers. By God's power, and help from the angel world, I shall ever be thankful to say what my Lyceum is and why I am a Lyceumist.

2. By Amy Kilsby (second prize).

Sir,—These are my answers to the following questions:—(1) "What is a Lyceum?" and (2) "Why I am a Lyceumist."

1. A Lyceum is a Sunday school where the minds of its scholars are trained spiritually and the bodies physically. The mind is trained by the methods and teachings of the Lyceum, whilst the body is developed by physical exercises.

In the Lyceum we are taught to make others happy, and that by doing so we shall be happy ourselves; and also to lead a life of honesty, truthfulness, and justice.

The elders of the Lyceum teach us to be kind to each other and to be always punctual.

2. I am a Lyceumist through the wish of my parents and my own choice. I prefer the Lyceum to other Sunday schools.

I enjoy the marching and calisthenics, for I find them good for my health. I also enjoy the readings and the teachings, because they point out the difference between right and wrong.

Boots (who has overslept): "Will ye plase to get up, sorr. It's an hour later than it was this toime yesterday mornin', sorr."

Milliner: "Really, Miss Passay, the white feather on your hat makes you look at least five years younger." Miss Passay: "Well, you may—er—put a couple more white feathers on it."

"Husband: "What—another new dress?" Wife: "Well, don't be cross. I bought it with my own money." Husband: "Your own? Where did you get it from?" Wife: "I sold your fur coat."

"Why did you abandon your automobile trip so abruptly?" "Oh, my wife is so superstitious. After we had run over the thirteenth man, she said we ought to turn back, otherwise she felt sure we should meet with some accident."