

Burnley Express 15 May 1918

UNITARIAN SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION

MUSICAL FESTIVAL AT PADIHAM

On Saturday the North East Lancashire Unitarian Sunday School Union held their 14th annual festival at Padiham. It was well attended, about 350 people taking part in the service at 3.30. The devotional part was conducted by the Rev Thomas Munn of Padiham. The singing of the choir and soloists was good, the address was brief and cordial and the devotions were taken part in by the large congregation which had assembled from north east Lancashire towns. The soprano solo was rendered by Mrs Richard Brown, of Burnley, and the contralto one by Mrs Ellen Welsh of Blackburn. Mr Ridley (Newchurch) had a pleasant tenor voice, which was heard to advantage, and Mr Alan Newell, member of the Todmorden Unitarian choir, took the bass solo. The choirs gave the "Hallelujah Chorus" "And the Glory" and "Sing to the Lord, O ye righteous". The special hymns given were "O Love that would not let me go" and "These things shall be, a nobler race". The tune "Kursale," which was sung to the words of the last mentioned hymn, was composed by the Todmorden choirmaster, Mr Harold Lees, who was present.

After a portion of the programme had been gone through, Alderman Wadsworth gave the annual address. He said that though they meet together under the dark cloud of war they had much of happiness and joy still left to them. Proceeding, Mr Wadsworth referred to the death of the 1918 Sunday School Union president, the Rev Thomas J Jenkins, and expressed his condolence with the widow and family of the deceased minister. After a short welcome to the congregation, Mr Wadsworth urged his hearers to back up and support their Union, teachers and schools.

After tea which was dispensed by the ladies of Padiham, a short concert and dance were held. Mr Ridley, Mrs Welsh, the young ladies class of Trafalgar street, Miss Josephine Monk, Mr Edgar Northage and others assisted. During the evening Ald. Wadsworth moved a vote of thanks to the Padiham people and the choirs and soloists. Mr John T Ribby (Burnley) seconded and the vote was carried with acclamation.