

1 SEP 1953

RAND DAILY MAIL

**DR. BUCHMAN'S
MISSION**

Dr. Frank Buchman, founder of the Moral Rearmament movement, and his team will visit South Africa under the highest auspices.

They have had invitations signed by Mr. Speaker, the President of the Senate and the Administrators of all four provinces and South - West Africa. This gives their proposed tour virtually an official status. It also offers them an unrivalled opportunity both to preach and practise the "practical" Christianity in which they believe.

Indeed, the letter that has been addressed to them on behalf of members of Parliament and Senators almost asks for their help. It mentions the "results achieved in many parts of the world by the application of the principles of moral rearmament in homes, industry and national affairs" and says that "all of us are anxious to find the right answers." Such an invitation addressed to members of an organisation that does not recognise colour bars and believes in equality of opportunity for all men in the Christian plan, seems to offer Dr. Buchman and his followers the chance of a lifetime for missionary work. Other religious movements, none of them ever likely to receive so open an invitation, will envy them the opportunity and pray for their success.

Dr. Buchman's movement believes in talking directly to the leaders in every community and in getting their co-operation. Their theory is that the leaven then works downwards. This has led in some countries to the unfair criticism that Moral Rearmament is a "drawing-room" faith, out of contact with the people who need it most. With the facilities they will have on their forthcoming tour of the Union Dr. Buchman's team will have every opportunity of disposing of this charge. We hope that they will succeed in bringing moral rearmament not merely to Parliament Street, Cape Town, but to Orlando Township, too. Both need it.
