

Star
Jan, 1933

OXFORD GROUP MOVEMENT

RENEWED CAMPAIGN IN S. AFRICA

Interesting developments in the Oxford Group movement in South Africa are to take place immediately, following the return to this country of Dr. E. Macmillan, of Pretoria, who has been touring Great Britain and America in the interests of this revivalist organisation which has gained immense popularity.

The Right Rev. Ray Foote Purdy, of New York, who has been acting in South Africa during the absence of Dr. Macmillan, returns oversea soon, and a big welcome and farewell gathering is being arranged to take place in St. Andrew's Church, Pretoria, on Friday, February 24.

Another event to which great importance is being attached is the Oxford Group dinner to be held in the Carlton Hotel, Johannesburg, on Thursday, March 2, when the Group members will be welcomed by Sir William Dalrymple, K.B.E. Among those associated with the Group who will speak at the dinner are: The Rev. E. Macmillan, D.D. (Pretoria) and Mrs. Macmillan, Mrs. Jessie Sheffield (Bloemfontein), the Rev. Ray Foote Purdy, Professor Edgar Brookes (Pretoria) and Mr. George Daneel (Capetown). Between 700 and 800 invitations have been issued.

TRAVELLING TEAM

Evidence that the four great Christian denominations in South Africa are recognising the value of the Oxford Group work is contained in the representation that will be noted at a Commissioning Service to be held on March 7 for the whole-time travelling team of the Group, which is to tour South Africa. The service, which is to take place in St. Mary's Cathedral, Johannesburg, will be attended by the Bishop of Johannesburg, the Right Rev. Dr. A. B. L. Karney, the Rev. P. J. Nel, Moderator of the Dutch Reformed Church, the Right Rev. F. Stakes, Moderator of the Presbyterian Assembly, and the Rev. J. W. Allcock, President of the Assembly of the Methodist Church.

The touring Oxford Group team will be led by Dr. D. F. Moorrees, Major J. Guy Swart and Mrs. Swart, and Mr. George Daneel, the South African international rugby player.

It is likely that the team will begin its work this week on the East Rand, and for some time its operations will be confined to the Transvaal.

The Oxford Group in South Africa has had only three big "house parties" and it is expected that this latest development will bring rapid growth to the movement.