

NEW ORDERS AND BETTER PLAY.

STARTLING CHANGES
CLAIMED.

FRANK WITNESS.

An intensely personal account of how the change made in his life by contact with the Oxford Group Movement had helped him in business affairs was made by Councillor Harry Cunningham yesterday.

He was speaking at a luncheon at the Angel Hotel, Sheffield, to which young Sheffield business men had been invited to meet members of the visiting "team" of the movement, who are conducting a campaign in the city.

"Since I surrendered myself to Christ," Councillor Cunningham said, "my bills have gone up rather than down. Previously I was not charging a fair price, and that was not fair competition.

"Christ is the best business man I know. I have never met anyone superior at giving guidance than Jesus Christ. He does actually speak to us and tells us exactly what to do. There is no fuss, worry, or anxiety."

CHALLENGING CHRISTIAN.

Councillor Cunningham spoke also of the change which had been wrought in his home and in his public life.

"I can go up to my opponents on the City Council now and never remember their political colour until they remind me of it," he said.

"I have been compromising in the past. I hope that I am a challenging Christian now."

Mr. Jimmy Rodger, of South Africa, a member of the "team," said that before he met the Group he was intensely respectable and pious, but behind his pious exterior there was total defeat on certain issues.

"The biggest thing it did for me was that it let me into a fellowship of people to whom Jesus Christ was real," he added.

"When I first met the group I was neither respectable nor pious," said Mr. Bob Wid-dowson, "I was just an ordinary commercial traveller. Things which seemed insurmountable then seem perfectly clear and smooth now."

BUSINESS SUCCESS.

He spoke of how change in his life had given him added confidence in his business and in two days he had obtained four new accounts under difficult conditions.

Mr. Stephen Copnall, of Liverpool University, an international water polo player, told how he had "surrendered his water polo to Jesus Christ," and the three games he had played since then had been the best in his life.

Several other members of the team also gave their testimony.

STRICTLY INFORMAL.

TESTIMONY GIVEN WITH HUMOUR.

The lower Cutlers' Hall was crowded last night for the second public meeting in Sheffield of the Oxford Group Movement. Among those present were the Master Cutler (Mr. Joseph Ward), Provost A. C. E. Jarvis, Vicar of Sheffield, Canon S. T. G. Smith, the Rev. P. M. Medcraft, and the Rev. T. J. Whitman.

The Master Cutler said he looked upon this movement as another phase of the wonderful working of the Spirit of Christ. He felt that God was speaking through the young men and women of England to show that the world which was broken with discord could be healed.

Mr. Francis Elliston, who took charge of the meeting, said that if people had come there to feel formal they had better try some other meeting, because they tried to be more natural than a Pagan or the people at a Saturday night dance.

"TOUGH GANG."

"Chip" Lutman told of the kind of things he did when he belonged to "a very tough little gang" at Oxford. They did not care for God, and did not believe in His existence. He thought God had let him down because, though he had been confirmed, he had not been freed from his badness.

Then he got in touch with the movement and got new standards of honesty, purity, unselfishness and love. Among other things it meant returning things he had filched, and apologising for wrongs he had done—a hard but necessary step.

One speaker was introduced by the leader as looking so nice that people would hardly realise that he could sin. This was Malcolm Ross, who said that his first experience of the movement was when he and some friends who had been drinking thought they might "go and inspect this group zoo."

WOMEN'S MEETING.

So large was the gathering at the women's meeting that before the opening a change had to be made from the drawing room of the Cutlers' Hall to the Lower Hall. In five minutes that, too, was packed.

"Are you all comfortable?" Nancy Heard, the leader of the visiting team, a girl of 24 with a little green beret perched on the side of auburn curls, prepared her vast audience for the "moment of silence" with a winning smile.

Then for a few minutes she spoke, brightly and confidently. She told of the objects of the movement, of the work of the followers, of the future they hope for.

"The group is not an organisation; it is a quality of living," she emphasised. Then, as though she talked to a few of her intimate friends in her own drawing-room, she told them of her life before she met the fellowship.

CANDID FRIENDS.

Mrs. Alfred Peters, of Sheffield, was the next witness, and she gave her account of the increased happiness and understanding in her family through the movement, after a friendly and familiar order to "Speak louder!" (Candour is one of the principles of the Group.)

For her own part, she said, she had been satisfied with her religion, but she realised that her boys needed something more attractive and more adventurous, and they found it in the Oxford Group. 'They were more united than they ever had been.

Peggy Herbert, of Birmingham, spoke of a great difficulty in her life. She was an adopted daughter, and her problem had been to get to understand the mother of the household. She spoke of her happiness in making friends with people who once bored her.

Mrs. Lutman, the "mother" of the team, spoke of the breaking down of a barrier of reserve which had grown up between herself and her husband.