

Man With An Answer —

Frank Buchman, Allentown's Famous Son, Founder of the Oxford Movement, Receives the Prayers of Men and Women Everywhere as He Lies Seriously Ill.

(Contributed)

Men and women in every corner of the world are praying for one of the greatest Americans, who is lying seriously ill. He is Frank Buchman, founder of the Oxford Group and initiator of the program of Moral Re-Armament, Allentown's most famous son. Perhaps no man in our time is so much beloved by so many. The reason is simple. The key to his far-sighted spiritual statesmanship is that he is a great lover of his fellow men and knows the heart of the ordinary man. He has given his life to meet the deep human needs of men and women everywhere. He is consulted by leaders in many lands. Yet, like all the truly great, he has maintained a great simplicity. Of him it may truly be said, "He walked with Kings, nor lost the common touch."

He is fighting a spiritual global war. New men, new nations, a new world has ever been his program. In an age that puts its faith in systems and organizations, he is putting his faith in God and God-led men. His fight is to restore God to leadership in the lives of individuals and in the affairs of nations. For he knows that this is the secret of Total Victory in the war of arms as well as the war of ideas.

Captured Cynics

He has expressed the great fundamental truth of man's relation to his Maker with a power, reality and freshness that captured a cynical age. He is one of America's great creative minds. But his unique achievements he ascribes to no special gifts or powers of his own. He is an ordinary man following the light of a great vision.

That vision is the Cross of Christ. It is the dynamic of his life and work. His life can never be fully understood by those who have not entered into such an experience. As the experience of the Cross shattered his human preconceptions, so, he believes, must man-made answers to the world's ills give way to the overarching philosophy of God's government.

He believes that a new world can only come through the rise of a new spirit in men and in their relations with one another. He has begun to demonstrate the truth of the great words of President Roosevelt which he often quotes, "There is no problem—social, political or economic—that will not melt before the fires of a great spiritual awakening."

Many Find New Life

With amazing energy he gave himself to the task of creating that spirit. Countless numbers throughout the world have found new life through

him. Homes have been restored, and a new spirit brought into industries, a new strength created within the democracies to prepare them for the fiery ordeal of total war. How effectively he did this may be gauged by the official report of the Lord Mayor of Bristol, ("Bristol Under Blitz"), which ascribes the city's magnificent morale to the work of Moral Re-Armament.

In America he anticipated the Nation's great need, and already in June 1940, during a Moral Re-Armament Week proclaimed by the mayor of San Francisco and mayors of other leading west coast cities, he sounded the call to America for industrial cooperation and national unity. Moreover he developed the weapons to help make that a reality. The morale-building handbook "You Can Defend America," which General John J. Pershing in the foreword commends to "every American," was given to the Nation by Dr. Buchman and his fellow workers and is already in its second million. It is described by a War Department Public Relations bulletin as, "probably the most challenging statement of this country's philosophy of national defense that has yet been written." In California's great Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, where every worker received a copy of the book, the president of the union says the effect has been "an all round speed up of production all the way from the assembly line to the completed bomber."

The same message is presented dramatically in a revue "You Can Defend America" which has already been seen by over a quarter of a million people in 20 states. It has been sponsored by governors, legislatures, labor and management, defense councils. In industry it has been a powerful instrument to break bottlenecks of friction and mistrust and create sustained cooperation between management and labor, worker and worker, thereby hastening the flow of war weapons to the fighting fronts. Another well known Pennsylvanian, H. Birchard Taylor, executive vice president of the Cramp Shipbuilding company, says of this group, "It is my considered opinion that their work in industry has already been worth a sizeable task force to the Navy; and I agree with the Army officer who rated their value as equal to that of an Army corps."

At the request of the Canadian government some of his trained American and Canadian workers are at the moment busy carrying the program to the coal mines of Nova Scotia to meet the paralyzing problem of apathy and absenteeism. Night after night thousands are thronging their gatherings

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