

OXFORD GROUP ARRIVES IN LONDON

5,000 at Opening of "Attack"

TWO OVERFLOW MEETINGS

Arrivals by 'Plane, Car and Train

There were enthusiastic scenes at the opening in the Central Hall, Westminster, last night of the Oxford Group's London campaign.

Five thousand people sought admission, and overflow meetings had to be held in the library of the conference hall, and Westminster School Hall.

Special trains had brought a contingent of 250 from Oxford, and another of 150 from Cambridge, a number of "dons" being included in both cases. The Rev. H. C. L. Heywood, Dean of Caius College, Cambridge, had personally issued 2,200 invitations to members of the University and had secured "late leave" for the Cambridge party.

Many who attended the meeting had travelled great distances. A business man came from Vancouver and another from Toronto. Dr. Jan de Bordes, of the finance section of the League of Nations secretariat and a delegate to the World Economic Conference, had flown over that afternoon from Geneva.

Enthusiasts came also from the Continent, one party from Germany in a chartered aeroplane.

There were even family parties, one having travelled all day from the North.

Scores of police dealt with the continuous stream of cars which brought people to the meeting.

SITTING ON THE FLOOR

So crowded was the Central Hall that people sat on the floor and others stood in the gangways. All classes were represented in the audience. There were women in evening gowns and men in top hats and office girls and servants.

The chair was taken by Dr. Foss Westcott, Bishop of Calcutta and Metropolitan of India, who suggested that the Group movement found itself naturally at home in London because the city's motto, "Domine, dirige nos," embodied three of the great principles for which the movement stood. These, he said, were putting God first, guidance, and teamwork.

The Bishop was followed by representatives of the movement at the universities—as he described it, "young Oxford, with a certain addition from London and a slight flavour of a great sister university."

Mr. Heywood was himself a prominent speaker, describing how he, a man "seven years ordained, 36 years old, and Dean of his college," had been asked and asked again by one in mere *statu pupillari* until he heard that there was a house-party in Cambridge and went to see what made "these strange people so excruciatingly persistent."

"I am persuaded," he said, "that there are others for whom this way for God to break through is what they need." Yet, he confessed, he found no new thing in the movement.

Other speakers included Dr. Jan de Bordes, Lady Fletcher, widow of the late Sir Walter Morley Fletcher, Professor L. W. Grensted, D.D., Oriel Professor of the Philosophy of the Christian Religion, Oxford, and Mr. Charles Sergel, formerly captain of the Cambridge Eight.

BISHOP'S EXPERIENCE

The Bishop of Warrington, in conclusion, described how he had felt on coming into touch with the movement that he was once again "face to face with life."

It was announced that the list of speakers was so great that many people would not be able to speak until to-day.

Among those who accepted invitations to be present were the Austrian Minister, Lord Aberdare, Lord Noel-Buxton, Prebendary Carlisle, Lord Irwin, Dame Beatrix Lyall, and the Countess of Oxford and Asquith.