

OXFORD SERVICES FILL CITY CHURCHES, DESPITE WEATHER

Evening Overflow Meeting Is Held at High Park United

EX-MODERATOR SPEAKS

From 47 church pulpits, in morning and evening services, yesterday, Toronto churchgoers heard the message of the Oxford Group of revivalists.

The 2,000-year-old story of the power of Jesus Christ to save sinners—only they call it to “change lives”—was retold trenchantly and earnestly, and retold particularly in the light of the experiences of the spokesmen and spokeswomen.

Toronto's intense interest in the Oxford Group Movement and its message was depicted in the great throngs of people who filled the sacred edifices despite the inclemency of the weather. In all the churches the attendance taxed capacity, while at least one church, High Park United, found it necessary to provide an evening overflow meeting in the Sunday School basement, at which several hundred people heard the message from Dr. and Mrs. Du Bois S. Morris of New York and Miss Jean Hood of Edinburgh.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, King and Simcoe Streets, was filled to capacity for the morning service, conducted by Rev. Dr. Ebenezer MacMillan, Pretoria, South Africa, ex-Moderator of the Presbyterian Church, in that far-off Dominion.

At St. Andrew's Church.

“Come to Jesus—coming to church is not enough,” urged Rev. Dr. MacMillan.

“I knew my Bible, and it stood in the way,” he declared in his earnest appeal for “real” workers for Christ. There were a tremendous number of “terribly sincere” workers, he said, adding: “Those who are sincere without being real are not hypocrites, but there is a vast difference.”

Rev. Dr. MacMillan, who twenty-eight years ago was a sky pilot with Ralph Connor in the Canadian West, and confessed he had come 2,000 miles to the Dominion because he felt he owed Canada a debt, declared he had been in the ministry “for more than twenty-one years before I was able to live what I preached. It took seven youngsters from Oxford to convince me, bring me to a place of honesty.”

“We talk about the communion of sins,” he told his congregation, in urging a “sharing” of experience, “but we cannot have it until we have a fellowship of sinners.”