

Oxford Group Ready to Carry Drive to West

**Dr. Buchman Departs for
Washington and Team of
60 Is to Follow Today**

Will Divide for Tours

**Nine-Day Gathering at
Briarcliff Manor Ended**

Their nine-day house party at Briarcliff Manor ended, members of the Oxford Group paused in this city yesterday before starting out to spread first-century Christianity throughout the West and Canada.

The Rev. Frank N. D. Buchman, founder and leader of the movement, departed in the morning for Washington on the 11:05 train, and that departure in itself, according to C. Scoville Wishard, one of his lieutenants, furnished another instance of the "guidance of God."

"There was a maelstrom of packing," said Mr. Wishard, who has devoted all his time to the movement since he left college in 1924. "I told him good by, and went about my work. Then a clear conviction came to me that I should go with him to the train. I did and found he was taking along Bill Pickle, an ex-bootlegger who's been in the movement twenty years and is now eighty-three. Bill was taking another train at the same time and had to be helped—he's an old fellow—and Dr. Buchman was wondering how he could both catch his own train and help Bill at the same time.

"It was just a compelling thought: do this! If it had happened only once

I'd say it was a coincidence, but when my life has been packed with such things twenty-four hours a day for seven years I think there must be something in it."

Team to Follow Today

A team of about forty British visitors and twenty Americans will depart today for Washington to spread the tenets of the movement, which include applying the principles of Christ—"absolute honesty, purity, unselfishness and love," one of the Buchman young men said—to daily life. The team will hold meetings in Washington Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at the Shoreham Hotel and will then divide, one group, headed by Dr. Buchman, going to Akron and Chicago, and the other, with Mr. Wishard in charge, proceeding by way of Louisville.

The teams will meet in Kansas City January 24 and will reach Los Angeles February 3, passing a month in California and probably holding a house party on the Pacific Coast. Then they will return through various Canadian cities and hold an all-Canadian house party of about 1,000 in the spring.

Among the American members, it was said, will be Russell Firestone, son of the rubber manufacturer; Carl Vrooman, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture in the Wilson administration; the Rev. Samuel Shoemaker jr., pastor of Calvary Episcopal Church; the Rev. S. Du Bois Morris, Presbyterian clergyman, of this city, and their wives; Alexander Beck, mechanical engineer; Victor Kitchen, advertising man; Hanford M. Twitchell, real estate operator, and Miss Jean Barker, president of the Junior League of Louisville, the last four going only part of the way. British and other foreign members will include Sir Walter Windham, Vice-Admiral Sidney Drury-Lowe, R. N., C. M. G., both of London; Baroness Lillian van Heeckeren van Kell, of Holland; Hallen Viney, chaplain of Downing College, Cambridge; Frau Anneliese von Cramon, cousin of Von Richthofen, the German war ace, and James Watt, the red-headed Edinburgh ex-Communist.

English Group Sail Home

Eight members of the English group, headed by Professor L. W. Grensted, lecturer in psychology at Oriol College, Oxford, are already on the high seas, having sailed for home Wednes-

day on the Aquitania. They passed their Christmas vacation "working eighteen hours a day," according to several of Dr. Buchman's lieutenants who were grouped in Dr. Shoemaker's study in Calvary House, 61 East Twenty-first Street.

"I worked eighteen hours a day myself," said Irving Harris. "Yesterday I spent the day distributing our 1 per cent tip among the Briarcliff help so that every maid got her exact percentage. That's just one thing."

Members who devote all their time to the group depend entirely on God for support and have never been disappointed, Mr. Wishard asserted. "The world has gotten away from the realization that there is such a thing as God," he said. "We say it theoretically, but it doesn't mean anything. If we really serve Him, He takes care of us. This is Sanskrit to most people but we know God does take care of us because He has. We have gotten down to our last dollar and help has come, and we haven't had to bite our nails worrying, either. People are guided to give. Work and worry don't necessarily go together. I average eighteen hours a day, and, believe me, it's work."

The gathering included John S. Beck, a mechanical engineer who "got into the movement by mistake because I went to a hotel where they were having a house party, and I'm still in it"—he, too, has given up his work for the movement—and Kenaston Twitchell, who was studying law at Princeton when he became "changed," went to Oxford to study theology, and likewise ended up by devoting his whole time to the group. Dr. Shoemaker was absent—he has gone on to hold some meetings at Princeton and will meet the "team" in Washington.