

THE OXFORD GROUP MOVEMENT.

HOUSE PARTY AT ST. ANDREWS. MAIN OBJECT.

THE mammoth House Party of the Oxford Group movement is now in full swing at St. Andrews.

About 550 members of this remarkable religious movement are in residence in the ancient city, the biggest majority being housed in University Hall, Dean's Court, St. Salyator's Hall and Chattan House, the residence halls of the University.

Youth is the predominant figure in the gathering. There are young women and young men in all walks of life, but particularly from the educated and the well-to-do classes. Typists mingle with University women, and millworkers with the daughters of the rich.

EX-CONVICTS.

It is not, however, purely a youth movement, for taking part are about 100 ministers of all denominations, a number of ex-convicts, missionaries from India, Scots Rugby internationalists, millworkers, barristers, professors, doctors, school teachers, and business men and women.

Among well-known members of the House Party are Sheriff Jamieson, Edinburgh; Professor and Mrs. Philip Marshall Brown, of Princeton, U.S.A.; the Very Rev. Provost Margetson, St. Mary's Cathedral; Professor Candlish Henderson; Principal Cairns, Aberdeen; Admiral and Mrs. Drury-Lowe; the Rev. Dr. E. MacMillan, former Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of South Africa; Mr. "Jimmy" Watt, an ex-member of the National Executive of the Communist Party in Great Britain. Mr. and Mrs. S. Sanderson, Galashiels, are present along with a party of their millworkers.

Dr. F. N. D. Buchman, founder of the movement, is also present. He was born in Pennsburg, Pennsylvania, about 55 years ago, took his B.A. and M.A. degrees at Muhlenberg College, was ordained a Lutheran minister, and later studied at Cambridge University.

NEGLECTED FIELD.

Dr. Buchman became convinced that the most neglected and ill-handled field of spiritual endeavour in the English-speaking world was to be found in the colleges and universities of Britain and America, and to awaken the interest of these men and women he established the week end "house-party," which affords students opportunities to meet and engage in free and frank discussion on the spiritual problems of life.

Mr. Loudon Hamilton, who organised the House Party, told the *Daily Record* that the object of the Oxford Groups was to relate modern individuals to Christ in terms which they understood, and in an environment which they found congenial. The movement was inter-denominational and worked with and not against the churches.

It tried to make the principles of the New Testament a living force from personal experience with Jesus Christ. The Groups, he stated, emphasised the principle that individual salvation would issue in social, national, and international salvation. The way to this individual salvation was through first century Christianity.

BECOMING WORLD-WIDE.

Mr. Hamilton said the Movement was becoming world-wide, and was doing work in 20 different countries.

The St. Andrews meetings are being held in University Hall, which is crowded to its utmost capacity.

The lively fun of the young people has its place side by side with serious deliberation and worship, and the place has an atmosphere pulsating with vitality.

Bible study takes up an important part of each day. Groups, sometimes mixed and sometimes separate for men and women, and divided as to age and profession, provide an opportunity for discussion of various problems of life.

Each morning opens with a time of united quiet for contemplation and silent communion, and mass meetings are held in the evenings.