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## Oxford Group



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### DOES IT WORK?

It is somewhat difficult to set down in a concrete way impressions of a spiritual movement such as the Oxford Group. But the great impression left on all of us who were privileged to hear their message, was that they had something that works, and works effectively. That after all is the great test of any movement, or of any invention. "Does it work?" In our utilitarian age, that is what interests us most. Men are asking that question of the churches. "Does the religion they preach, and profess, work?" The churches stand high, or fall low, in men's estimation, according to the decision of the questioners.

The Oxford Group shows abundant evidence that their religion is the kind that works. That \$12,200 check, and many smaller sums sent to the government, is indubitable evidence that the religion of the Oxford Group works. The testimony of the Group as to just how their religion works, thrilled every listener. Theirs is no theory. A great many of us have theories about the Christian life, while we have somehow missed the reality. They have delved into the New Testament, discovered the foundation principles of the Christian church as enunciated by our Lord Jesus Christ, as well as by His inspired disciples, and they have had the courage to follow those principles to their logical conclusions. Better even than that, they are able to persuade others to do the same thing.

Personally, I liked the intimate way they came to grips with unpopular subjects, such as sin and shortcomings. They didn't argue. Sin is sin, and they called it by its proper name. Then they proceeded to show that there was deliverance, if the sinner wanted to be delivered. I was glad to hear, especially at their closing meetings, their insistence on the Cross of Christ as the way of deliverance. The cross is behind all their teachings. The power of the Risen Christ is manifest in their lives. How else to explain the changed lives we see everywhere in our churches? No counterfeit Christianity could have accomplished in Ottawa what the message of the Group has accomplished, and is accomplishing.

The Oxford Group is not perfect. No one demands perfection. But they have laid hold of many phases of Truth that are liable to be forgotten today in the hustle and bustle of our lives, and I am personally thankful for their contribution to my own spiritual life.

H. C. WILKINSON.