

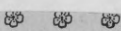
July 25, 1932

THE METHODIST CHURCHMAN.

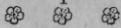
The members of the quarterly meeting at Mossel Bay placed on record their high appreciation of the Rev. J. Flesher Rumfitt's services for eleven years before he left for Durban, we learn. "He has been a constant source of strength and comfort to his people," says the resolution. "He has given of his time and his talents liberally to the highest welfare of those connected with the Church—young and old; the finances of the church were never so sound, and he has been the means of relieving the church of half the debt on the property. As a citizen he has taken his part faithfully and well in all good works connected with the town, and it is a great source of comfort and satisfaction to his people to know that their pastor has been enabled to give to the work of God here eleven of his best years." The affection of his people will ever follow him in prayers for his happiness and welfare." His successor, the Rev. G. P. Thomas, has received a cordial welcome.



~~X~~ Dr. Barnes, Bishop of Birmingham, has an interesting reference in a recent diocesan charge to the Oxford Group Movement. "In that Movement," he says, "belief that God's guidance can be reached by meditation and surrender is fundamental." We ought to emphasise far more than has been done that men can feel God's presence and receive His guidance. Guidance, sharing, and discipline were three notes, as it were, of the new Oxford Movement. In the message of which they were the key-words there was, it might be fairly objected, nothing new. What was new was that men and women—especially young men and women—with the new scientific outlook, and often with acceptance of the negative conclusions of ultra-modern New Testament criticism, turned to meditative quiet, and through it found religious certainty. To them God came. In their experience they found renewal of life.



Mr. Eric Liddell, the well known athlete, who is now a Presbyterian Missionary in China, has been on furlough in Scotland. He has evidently been greatly impressed by the Oxford Group Movement, for in a recent sermon at Morning-side Church—the last service which he conducted before leaving for Canada and China—he spoke of the Movement in very enthusiastic terms, and described it as the Movement in which he had found more of the spirit of Christ and its gatherings as more full of power than any at which he had been present.



The influence of the Oxford Group Movement has practically transformed the Middelburg Circuit. The Rev. C. Albertyn, with his happy band of enthusiasts, recently went over to Burghersdorp for four weekdays and they gathered at least thirty-four into the fold and left Burghersdorp talking of the wonders of the love of Jesus. The Rev. Chas. Crabtree went down from Aliwal North, and his Primitive Methodist fire added to the blaze. There is a movement on foot to take the party to Graaff-Reinet next month, and we shall await results with interest.

