

# The Citizen

Published daily at Ottawa,  
In The Citizen Building, Sparks St., by  
The Citizen Publishing Company, Limited

The Citizen's daily average  
net paid circulation for the month of  
October, 1932, was 34,707.

*The Citizen aims to be an independent  
clean newspaper for the home  
devoted to public service*

MONDAY, NOV. 7, 1932

## FIRST THINGS FIRST

There is a stirring response in Ottawa to the present visit of the Oxford team of messengers for Christ. They came last Thursday, after a wonderful experience in Montreal, testifying to the saving power of God. Ottawa people heard members of the group tell, in simple Christian language, how they had been freed from the bondage of sin, in one form or another, by prayer. Firm in the faith that the way is open for any individual similarly to find the pearl beyond price, they are joyfully bearing witness, imbued with the desire to share this great blessing with others.

Many more people came to the Friday evening meeting, while during the day Ottawa ministers communed with the group. Women members held special meetings with Ottawa women who wished to hear more of this new message of the old gospel, given to humble followers by Jesus of Nazareth nearly two thousand years ago and carried down through the centuries by a great host of God-fearing people. Last Saturday night, an eager audience filled the largest hall in the Chateau Laurier to capacity.

There is something profoundly moving in this response to the simple testimony of individuals to the power of God to solve human problems. It is the same stirring response wherever the message is carried by the teams in this movement known as the Oxford Group. They have no set form of religious service, nor are they setting out to start another church. They are members of various churches: they believe God's power to be unlimited, able to surmount barriers of race, color, creed or dogma.

The truth of this faith in God is being demonstrated in many lands. As the testimony is borne from city to city, country to country, as the torch is passed from hand to hand, by individual experience, there is the greatest hope of the world emerging into a better state of human relations. It is perhaps the only hope.

Reliance on material methods has apparently failed. The world has never before been so organized, educated, equipped for supplying every material need, but it has been made abundantly apparent that politics and economics, scientific and industrial research, the harnessing of the forces of nature, even the assembly of nations in conference, are not enough. With unemployment and fear abroad in almost every land, people are awakening as never before to the need of putting first things first. It is being made clear that the way out begins at home, with the individual—with oneself, not some other individual. Many are learning the way by the testimony of the Oxford Group.