

A GRAIN
OF WHEAT

TOYOHICO
KAGAWA



KAGAWA ARCHIVES & RESOURCE CENTE



HODDER & STOUGHTON

KAGAWA MEMORIAL HALL

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PREFACE

Kagawa is one of the most striking figures in the Far East. Son of a man of Cabinet rank and a geisha, giving up all in response to a mystic vision of the Cross of Christ, he plunged into the life of the slums, and through fifteen years' residence acquired an unequalled insight into the problems of the poor. From being the suspect of the police he has risen to be an adviser of Governments. For a time he served as head of the Social Service Bureau of the City of Tokyo.

He is a prolific writer; over one and a quarter million copies of his books have been sold. "A Grain of Wheat" has run through a hundred and fifty editions and has been put on stage and film.

Kagawa, student of the slums, labour leader, novelist, poet, city official and—Christian. The countryside of Japan, desperately poor, awake from the sleep of centuries, stretching out to new ideas, and—everywhere cramped for space. Eschewing a political career, Kagawa has given himself to the preaching of the Gospel, and that in its widest applications. To-day he is the outstanding figure in the Christian movement.

W. H. Murray Walton.

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