

THE CHRISTIAN INTERNATIONALE

Toyohiko Kagawa
and others

1933 NEW YEAR'S POEM

THE EMPEROR OF JAPAN

We pray to the God
Of heaven and earth
For world peace—
For a world as peaceful
As morning calm
On a waveless ocean.

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PRAYING FOR PEACE

O God our Father, we beseech Thee for Peace in the East. Bring to an end the present agony of conflict. Cause us to renounce the error of depending on brute force and militarism for ultimate solutions. That peace through love is the only way to ultimate victory—make this clear to all souls. Teach the Japanese nation that its one and only way to make a contribution to the world is through the Cross. . .

To Thee Who answerest prayer miraculously, we give thanks already for the answer to this petition. Finding an inexpressible blessing in so doing, we affirm the faith that this prayer will eventually be carried into realization. . . Give us new energy, and enable each one of us to go forward, filled with Heavenly Power from High. Through the Lord Jesus we ask it. Amen.

Toyohiko Kagawa.

See footnote on page 8.

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AS THE FIRST READER SEES IT.

T. T. BRUMBAUGH.

The Christian Internationale begins to take definite form and to command wide recognition. When it shall have become a world reality, Mr. Kagawa's program for personal and social regeneration will be seen as one of the mightiest factors in it. I for one want to be among those who are able to recognize the dawn of the new day when it arrives—nay more, I want to be so cognizant of the new spirit, which I verily believe to be God's will at work in the world, that I may be able to help somewhat in the realization thereof.

It is for this reason that I always welcome some new publication from Mr. Kagawa's pen and from those close to him in spirit and purpose; for thereby not only am I enabled to enter more closely into Kagawa-san's mind and heart where God seems to find hospice congenial to His own great will, but I become acquainted with spiritual quickenings and social awakenings in other hearts and in other lands, all of which must needs be identified in one great Kingdom of God Movement...

Universality of
approach and
appeal

The present volume is one more trail-blazer in the direction of that Kingdom. Despite its apparent composite character I find in it a universality of approach and appeal which commends itself to me as in keeping with the scope and breadth of God's will as it must be applied to the various interests of life. Something of this unity in diversity is envisioned in the leading article by Marion Draper, in which she associates in spirit and aim the Kingdom of God Movement of Mr. Kagawa in Japan with the Oxford Group Movement which has touched the hearts and minds of so many thousands in England, South Africa, the United States and Canada. Here too I find evidence that in Canada the Kagawa Committee has actually joined hands with the Group in the realization of the personal and social value of both movements. And in testimony from distraught China I see that Christian leaders there are refusing to allow national hatreds or anti-foreign propaganda to interfere with the acceptance of both Mr. Kagawa's and Mr. Buchman's love and help in the regeneration of the Middle Kingdom.

In Mr. Kagawa's own contribution to this issue of *Friends of Jesus* I find both soul satisfaction and social challenge in his series of sermons on *The Holy Spirit*. And when he and other contributors move to consideration of the Cooperative Movement in this and other lands as Christianity in action, I begin to understand what Kagawa-san means by insisting upon an *economic foundation* of justice and righteousness among men before genuine and lasting peace can be hoped for in this or any other part of world.

Finally there are in this remarkable pamphlet suggestions of how Christians in the United States and elsewhere may help Mr. Kagawa in these most distressing days in Japan. "We needs must love the highest when see it."

(Reprint from the April-May *Om Mustard Seed*. Other journals please copy:)

GOD USING TOYOHICO KAGAWA

WM. MERRILL VORIES

Probably most of our readers have heard more or less about Dr. Toyohiko Kagawa—the projector of the "Kingdom of God Movement" in Japan—the most efficient and united evangelistic campaign yet undertaken here. His more permanent works—for slum dwellers, for industrial workers, for farmers; his settlements; labor organizations, and cooperatives; his literary work—including many *best-sellers* in fiction (all with definite moral and religious implications), the most powerful and widely-read tracts, pamphlets and books on Christianity; his lectures and sermons which attract capacity crowds in any part of Japan,—these are less known abroad than here.

Many international thinkers claim that the two outstanding spiritual leaders of the entire world today are Gandhi and Kagawa.

For many years Dr. Kagawa supported his wide work by the income from his writings. For the past few years a group known as *Kagawa Cooperators* has been securing funds to subsidize his various undertakings, in order to free him from the pressure of fiction writing (which is profitable) for the more valuable work of definitely spiritual writing, and for his evangelistic work. Unfortunately, this subsidy has been interrupted by the economic depression, and today Kagawa faces the sudden need to earn 2,500 *yen* per month—in the midst of the most unfavorable conditions for earning by his pen.

It seems tragic that one of the outstanding Christians of any age or nation, doing one of the greatest pieces of service to the Kingdom of God in the history of Christianity, should be forsaken by his financial supporters in a crisis like the present.

Dr. Kagawa is not strong physically, altho he continually does the work of three able men. In his student days, he was threatened with death from tuberculosis. His recovery while living in and working for the worst slums in Kobe, was nothing short of miraculous. His eyesight is all but gone and his body is weakened by over-work. Yet he keeps on his strenuous and far-flung work, and repeatedly recuperates undreamed-of strength.

The entire cause of Christianity derives strength from the life and work of this truly great character. It would be an irreparable loss to the world if an untimely ending of his career should be caused by added strain upon his physical resources for the lack of a few hundred dollars!

This is not a matter of comparative needs but an urgent emergency. Surely a few of our American and British readers can spare some succor—even tho it cost a real sacrifice—for the great work of Toyohiko Kagawa—which is really the great work of God using Toyohiko Kagawa as His efficient instrument.

Thruout the centuries there have not been very many characters, anywhere, of whom it could be said as truly as of Dr. Kagawa, "To know him is to understand *Christianity*."

(Any gifts, great or small, forwarded thru the *Friends of Jesus* for Dr. Kagawa's work will be gladly conveyed to him. *Personal checks on your local bank* are easily cashed here. Don't waste time and expense in buying drafts or other complicated transfer paper. Make your checks payable to *Dr. Paul S. Mayer, Treasurer, Kagawa Cooperators*. See back page of the pamphlet, *Kagawa Works for Peace*, enclosed in the present issue.)