

ON THE TRAIL OF THE PEACEMAKERS

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On the trail of the peacemakers by Fred B. Smith

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FRED B. SMITH

**ON THE TRAIL OF
THE PEACEMAKERS**



HIS HOLINESS MELETIOS

The Greek Patriarch, Constantinople, President World Alliance
of Churches for International Friendship.

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OF THE PEACEMAKERS

BY
FRED B. SMITH

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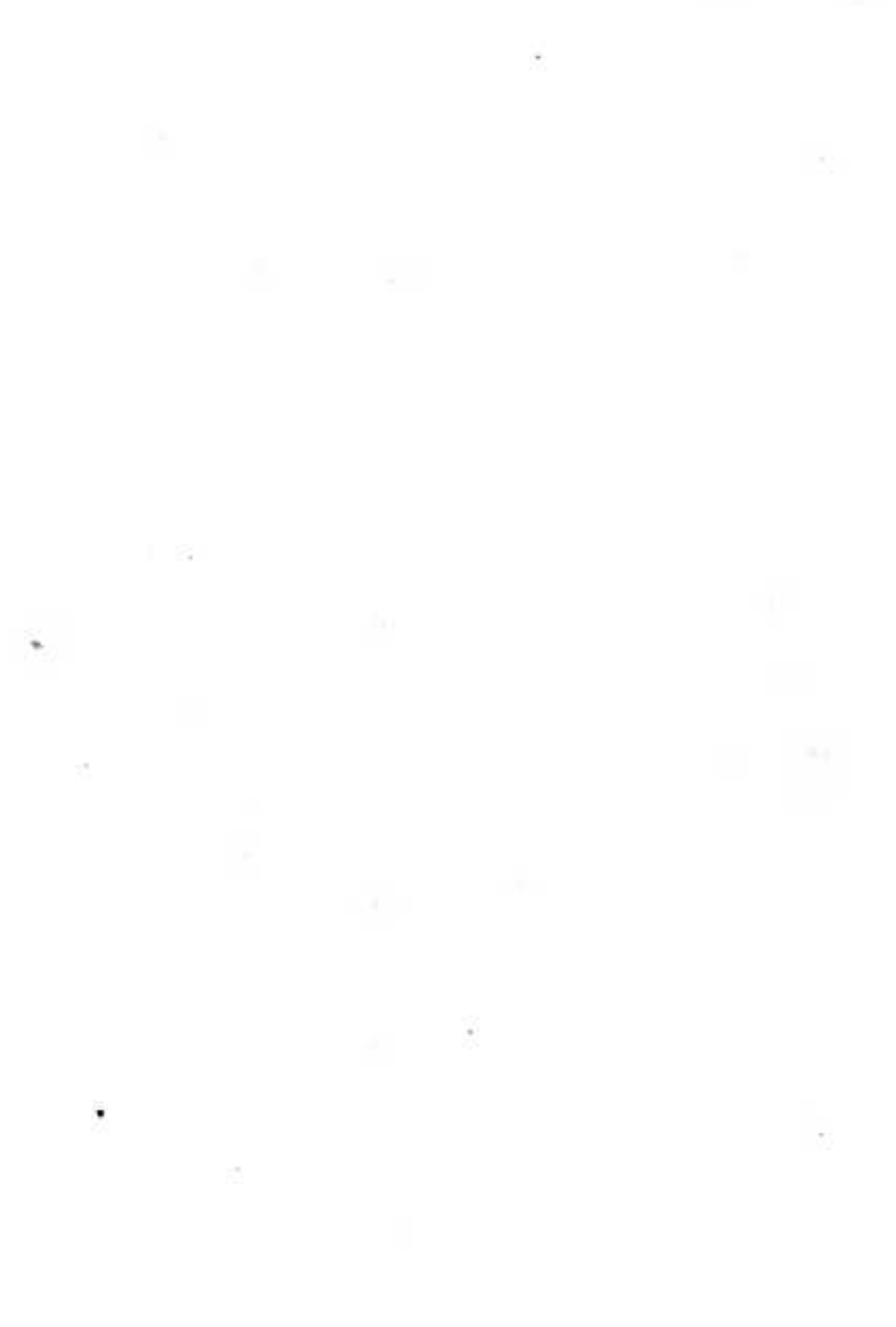
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CHAPTER I

AN EXPLANATION

WHATEVER of value there may be to the reader of the following chapters or to the cause represented, will be very much augmented by the privilege of a few personal comments by the author.

In the first place, it is well to know that most of the articles were written before there was any thought of their taking permanent form and were the record of incidents and impressions at the time of the visits to each of the nations referred to. When it was thought important to have them appear in the present form the purpose was to rewrite or at least so to recedit that there would be more of continuous logic and of sequence in the whole. But several intensely interested persons of literary ability strongly advised against any essential change and they therefore appear practically as written en route.

In the second place, those who read must also keep in mind that many themes of particular interest, especially of a political character, are not dealt with be-

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cause they did not come within the scope of the commission under which the work was done. The first chapter reveals the fundamental issue of the book and of the tour. Are we to have a world of more war or peace, of hate or brotherhood, of jealousy or friendship, of despair or hope? This was the central issue and a desire to help a little, if possible, in realizing the first alternative, was the objective.

The last chapter is the summary of it all and gives the conclusions, so far as they are correct, upon which the Christian Church and all peace-loving people must go forward. All that is found between must be regarded as so much evidence to be accepted for what it is worth, sifted out and used only where it helps one to understand the real situation, makes known the methods, and inspires continued effort.

The complete facts must be valued not as coming from the mind of a technical expert, for the writer is not an authority upon Internationalism, but more as the honest record of what capable witnesses testified to, concerning the signs of the times in many lands.

I was invited to go forth as a messenger of the "World Alliance for International Friendship through the Churches" and under the joint auspices of that organization and the "Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America" and also advantaged by the unofficial commendation of the following allied Christian societies: The World Alliance of the Young Men's Christian Association; The International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations; The World's Committee of the Young Women's Christian Association; The World's Sunday School Association; The World's Christian Endeavor Union.