EXTRACTS OF LETTERS FROM MR. FRED. B. SMITH: RELATING TO THE WORLD TOUR OF THE "MEN AND RELIGION FORWARD MOVEMENT" TEAM

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Extracts of letters from Mr. Fred. B. Smith: relating to the world tour of the "Men and Religion Forward Movement" team by Mr. Fred. B. Smith

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MR. FRED. B. SMITH

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MR. FRED. B. SMITH

RELATING TO THE

WORLD TOUR OF THE "MEN AND RELIGION FORWARD MOVEMENT" TEAM

> PRINTED FOR PRIVATE DISTRIBUTION BY JAMES G. CANNON 1913

Mr. Smith, Mr. Robins and their associates made a tour of the world in response to invitations from Christian leaders in other nations who felt the need of the help of message and method of the Men and Religion Forward Movement.

The following letters were sent back by Mr. Smith, and feeling that others interested in the campaign will profit by reading them, I have had them printed for a limited circulation among the friends of the Department.

JAMES G. CANNON, Chairman.

THE VISITING TEAM



Ma. Freb, B. Smith New York City



Mr. JAMES E. LATHROP Pittsburgh, Pa. Secretary



MR. RAYMOND ROBINS Chicago, 111.



Ma. HABBY N. HOLMES Johannesburg, So. Africa Organizing Secretary



INTERNATIONAL QUARTET Mr. P. H. Metcalf Mr. Connell, M. Keeler Mr. P. H. Metcalf Mr. Edward W. Peck

EXTRACTS OF LETTERS FROM

MR. FRED. B. SMITH

Relating to the World Tour of the "Men and Religion Forward Movement" Team.

I

En route to San Francisco, January 15, 1913.

MY DEAR MR. CANNON: We are now on our way, and are nearly to what may be called the "jumping-off place," so far as the actual beginning of our tour is concerned. In a few hours we will be in San Francisco, and day after to-morrow will set sail for the "far East."

Every man of the team is in fine fettle. I have worked with these same fellows now for two years in almost unbroken campaigns, but certainly never saw them when they were rendering a grander service than during these days since we left you in New York. Robins, Peck, Gilbert, Metcalf, Keeler and Lathrop—every man is practically at his best.

I am so glad we have been granted these two weeks of special campaign across our own dear country before starting with this message to the distant lands. I believe there has been a peculiar providence in our contact with the Christian workers in Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Wichita, Denver, and then a whole group of towns in Oregon, including Portland, Eugene, Forest Grove, Corvallis, Albany, and Salem, and now we are soon to have that privilege in San Francisco and Oakland. It has all been splendid, and will help us in the long heavy weeks to come. Perhaps of all of these experiences, no one memory will stand out so long and powerfully with us, as a constant inspiration, as the dinner in New York on the night of January 3d. There is only one regret about it, and that is that your illness prevented you from being present. It seemed as though there was a wheel off the wagon. I am sure we are going to see some days that are pretty heavy, and some days when we will be tempted, perhaps, to give up the struggle, but the memory of that dinner, and the confidence expressed by our own closest and most intimate friends will remain a compelling force and power with us to the end of the journey.

There have been lessons we have learned during the tour across the country which I believe are just the ones we ought to have to give us liberty and confidence in carrying this message around the world.

FIRST.—The comfort of modern methods of missionary work.

In line with a special course of daily Bible reading which I myself am following, I have been reading "Paul's Missionary Journeys" and some of his letters, and have forty times over said to myself that I believe God had directed that I should be reading of this first missionary's experiences just as we were starting on this long pull. Of course, we are going to see some anxieties; we are going to meet some hardships; we are having to make some sacrifices. If any one thinks there is any special fun in bidding your own home, family, and friends "good bye" to go out upon a campaign of this kind around the world for seven months, they ought to try it once. If the only motives are those of sentimental desire