THE PASTOR AND MODERN MISSIONS; A PLEA FOR LEADERSHIP IN WORLD EVANGELIZATION

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The pastor and modern missions; a plea for leadership in world evangelization by John R. Mott

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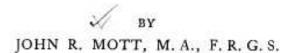
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PREFACE

THE primary work of the Church is to make Jesus Christ known and obeyed and loved throughout the world. By far the larger part of this undertaking is among the non-Christian nations. The world's principal events in recent years have combined to make possible a more rapid and more effective prosecution of the campaign of evangelization. The conditions which obtain at the beginning of the present century favor a great onward movement.

The secret of enabling the home Church to press her advantage in the non-Christian world is one of leadership. The people do not go beyond their leaders in knowledge and zeal, nor surpass them in consecration and sacrifice. The Christian pastor, minister, rector — whatever he may be denominated — holds the divinely appointed office for inspiring and guiding the thought and activities of the Church.

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By virtue of his position he can be a mighty force in the world's evangelization.

This book seeks to set forth the situation in the unevangelized world which confronts the churches of Christendom at the beginning of the new century, to show the vital and potent relation that the Christian ministry sustains to the missionary enterprise, and to indicate the means which may be employed by pastors in order to realize the missionary possibilities of the Church. In the treatment of the subject I have kept in mind the requirements of the larger churches or parishes, believing that the plans given may be readily simplified or adapted to suit other conditions. The various methods suggested are such as have been successfully employed in the churches of America, Canada, Great Britain, the Continent, and Australasia, which have wrought most for worldwide missions, and may be regarded as a repository from which selection may be made to meet the particular needs of each church.

The general outline of the book is essentially the same as that followed in a course of lectures given in the spring of the present year at Ohio Wesleyan University (on the Merrick Foun-

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dation), at Yale Divinity School, and this autumn at McCormick Theological Seminary, and at Princeton Theological Seminary (on the Students' Foundation).

While the book is addressed to pastors, it is hoped that it may not be without its message to laymen. In view of the growing prominence of the lay factor in the work of the Church, it is most desirable that they be kept in intelligent touch with the best experience and plans for carrying forward what the Archbishop of Canterbury has characterized as "the greatest work of the Church."

I wish to express my gratitude to the many pastors and missionary society secretaries of different denominations, and to all other leaders in the thought and work of the Church, who have afforded me the corrective of their experience and the help of sympathetic criticism.

John R. Mott

NEW YORK, November, 1904