

PREFACE

Fanatics have been defined as those who re-double their energies when they have forgotten their aim. Doubtless all who are interested in the missionary enterprise are in these days putting forth new energy and advocating more rapid movement to attain their object. Have not some, however, forgotten the goal in their earnest effort to press forward? Is there not some danger lest we run so fast that we forget to carry the message? Will the broader outlook diminish deep insight?

A brilliant writer in the *Atlantic Monthly* (May, 1920) characterized the modern missionary as one whose "first concern is always something deeper, something more vital than questions of theological and metaphysical speculation relating to the Person and the Work of Christ, to the Virgin Birth (in which, together with other miracles he may or he may not believe); to the fine distinctions between the humanity, the divinity, the deity of Christ; to the nature of the Trinity; to the Atonement. Upon just one thing he insists: that which touches not the *bene esse* of the Christian faith, but its *esse*: the personal assimilation in the disciples' life of the teaching and of the *spirit* of Jesus."

On the contrary, we believe that the very nature of Christianity, its dynamic, its passion, its power of missionary appeal, its *esse* as well as its