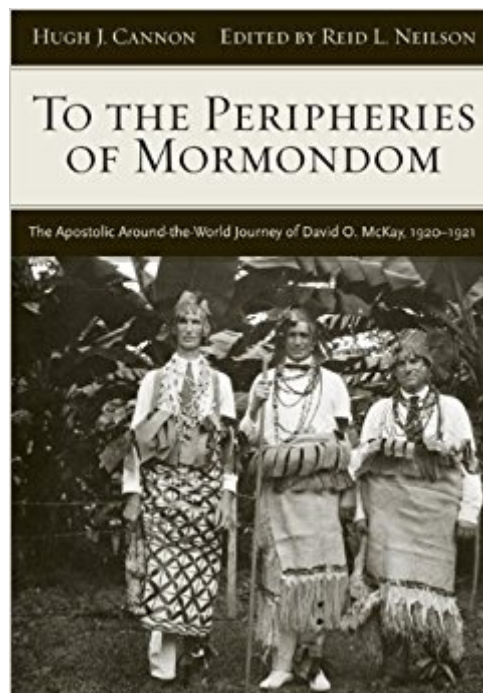




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# To The Peripheries Of Mormondom: The Apostolic Around-the-World Journey Of David O McKay, 1920-1921



## Synopsis

The year-long fact-finding mission of apostle David O. McKay and his traveling companion Hugh J. Cannon to places historian Leonard J. Arrington has called the "geographic and organizational periphery" of Mormondom was one of the most significant moments of the twentieth century for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. While the contemporary LDS church has grown to become a global presence, the early decades of the last century found missionaries struggling to gain converts abroad. Cannon's rich and vivid account of his and McKay's 61,646-mile around-the-world journey illustrates the roots of Mormonism's globalization. The account is without doubt one of the more significant texts in the historical canon of global Mormon studies. Reid L. Neilson annotates Cannon's account, enriching the experience for scholarly and lay readers alike. Ancillary material, including the transcripts of Cannon's letters to the *Deseret News* detailing the journey, the complete text of Cannon's original journals (available for the first time ever), a collection of 60 photographs, maps, and illustrations culled from McKay's own collection, as well as comprehensive lists of names and places, will be available digitally.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“Anyone interested in David O. McKay must be interested in this journey.”  
—James B. Allen, Brigham Young University  
“An exciting history of a remarkable, and somewhat forgotten, journey undertaken at a time when most of the world considered Latter-day Saints to be a solely American institution.”  
—Deseret News  
Neilson's

careful annotations clarify names, terms, and places along the journey, making the story easy for any reader to follow. Neilson further enriches the McKay-Cannon journey by including a photographic essay consisting of fifty-four images, both photographs and postcards, that visually document the journey." •BYU Studies Quarterly"Neilson's editorial comments are insightful. Crucial source material for subsequent scholarly treatments of this important era of LDS Church history." •The Journal of Mormon History

Hugh J. Cannon (1870-1931) was traveling companion to apostle David O. McKay from 1920 to 1921. Reid L. Neilson is an assistant professor of church history and doctrine at Brigham Young University. He is the author of *Proclamation to the People: Nineteenth-Century Mormonism and the Pacific Basin Frontier*.

It is difficult to adequately describe how fantastic this book is. "To the Peripheries of Mormondom" is a scholarly reproduction of Hugh J. Cannon's attempt to record the world journey he and David O. McKay took in the early twenties. As I read Cannon's account of his travels I was constantly reminded at how different our two worlds are. Cannon and McKay traversed the world via boat, horse, rickshaw, train, camel, and foot from the sacred temples of Japan to the holy city of Jerusalem. Cannon's writing hide some of McKay's racist sentiments but Reid Neilson's masterful endnotes justly bring them out. McKay comes across as a strong willed man always ready to participate in whatever cultural traditions he encounters, as well as a man with a slight distaste for the poor. The book contains an introduction by the editor, as well as many pages of pictures Cannon took during the trip. the pictures are arranged in a "photographic essay. The reader of this book must pay attention to the endnotes because they contain a great deal of helpful information as well as numerous passages from David O. McKay's personal diaries. This book offers a fantastic glimpse into one of the most influential experiences in, then Elder D.O. McKay's life. This work is a must for students of Mormon history. The book is exceptionally bound. The paper quality is high. I cannot recommend this book enough.

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