

registered, wine was served in unlimited quantities. Before the next convention, one member wrote the following to the officials of the organization: "I am for the law. I appeal to you to recommend to the Society that at our next meeting we pass a resolution informing the people of the United States that this Society stands for the Constitution and the laws of our country; and that, while some of our members may not like the Prohibition law, yet while it remains on our statute books we pledge ourselves to live in accordance with its provisions and to assist the President and other officials in their efforts to enforce it."

No liquor was in evidence at the next convention.

If one prominent business or social leader who breaks the law were placed behind prison bars, this one act would create for the law an immediate respect so strong that it would reform a whole city.

#### A CALL TO PATRIOTS

Thus, "in these last days," and "from the top of the mountains," as a representative of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, I appeal to the people of the country to come to the support of the Constitution of the United States.

And in accordance with the motto of our nation may we in God so trust that "government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

At the request of President Grant, the Choir and congregation arose and sang the first verse of the hymn, "The Spirit of God Like a Fire is Burning."

#### ELDER HYRUM G. SMITH

*Presiding Patriarch of the Church*

I am very grateful, my brethren and sisters, to be present upon this occasion. I don't remember having ever attended a Conference that was more blessed of the Lord. I have been thrilled with the testimonies and remarks of all the brethren, and with all the songs that have been sung. The Spirit of the Lord, and the spirit of the Gospel have touched my heart in testimony of their divinity.

I am thankful for the wonderful privilege of associating with men who the Lord has chosen to stand in the leadership of the Church in this important time of the world.

#### BLESSINGS THROUGH SACRIFICES OF OTHERS

For several months past, about the most important meetings of a public character which I have attended have been funerals. I have attended a number of them of late, due to the fact that a great number of my relatives have recently passed away. At these services, of course, the addresses and the remarks of the brethren have been largely tempered with the spirit and teaching relative to the resurrection, the

great mission of life, and the great blessings that have come to the human family through the atonement of Jesus Christ.

I am always impressed with the spirit of devotion and humility when I hear my brethren and my friends speak in remembrance of the great experiences, sometimes called sacrifices, which our parents and forefathers endured, that we, as younger members of the Church might enjoy the multiplicity of blessings and privileges of the present time, for many faithful souls gave their lives for the cause of this Gospel.

Personally, I am grateful for the blessings which have come to me, because of the sacrifices of others. I feel my unworthiness of the great blessings that have come to me, the great privileges and opportunities, especially the responsibilities. I do not say this in any manner of boasting, but I wish to say it by way of reporting the growth of the Church as seen from my particular viewpoint.

#### HELPED BY PATRIARCHAL BLESSINGS

I think my predecessor, the late John Smith, holds the record in point of time for any officer holding one position in the Church. He was Presiding Patriarch for over fifty-six years. During that time he was instrumental in administering to members of the Church something over twenty-one thousand recorded blessings. During the last nineteen years nearly twenty-one thousand recorded blessings stand to my credit in the office.

A great many faithful Latter-day Saints are struggling with their responsibilities in life. Many times they have come to the office, fasting, with a prayer of faith and a keen desire for help to guide them in handling those responsibilities. And in their patriarchal blessings many have received the desired consolation.

#### ANSWERS TO PRAYERS

I am grateful for the faith and the prayers of the members of the Church. I believe in prayer. I know that the Lord hears and answers prayer. I have heard little children pray, and almost immediately have seen the answers come. I have seen adults and older people pray with faith, and have seen immediate and soul-satisfying results. I am converted to the devotion and the practice of prayer. I believe in it, and I practice it myself. I teach my children to pray. They pray for others as well as for themselves. My children, all of them, pray for the President of this Church, and for his associates, for the members of the Church, for the missionaries, for the sick and for all who need the favors of the Lord.

Through the kindness of the Lord, a great many testimonies have come to us in our home relative to the answering of our prayers. I will not take your time to tell these stories, but our family history is replete with testimonies that are soul-satisfying, relative to the answering of our prayers. So I believe in prayer.

I thank you for your prayers, my brethren and sisters. I have

felt the benefit myself. I am very grateful to you personally for your faith and prayers.

I regret very much that I am physically unable at the present time, and have been for some time past, to visit with the people, and to carry on my duties as I would like to do. However, I feel very grateful that my strength is returning, and I hope to be able soon to discharge my duties in full.

I pray that the Lord will bless you, my brethren and sisters, throughout the Stakes, Wards, and Missions, and in the auxiliary organizations. My heart is filled with blessings for your success, for your happiness, for your peace in carrying on the great work.

#### A STRIKING EXAMPLE

I realize that we are living in a peculiar time, when conditions are not just as we would like to have them: many are out of employment.

A very striking example came to me only a few days ago. A convert to the Church, a well educated man, who was trained for the ministry in one of the religious organizations of the land, left his family at home in Canada, and came here to Salt Lake City, where he received his patriarchal blessing. After searching in vain for employment he decided to "hike" back home, a distance of two thousand miles, which he covered in eight days, he reports. He found his patriarchal blessing of great value in overcoming his despair. He acknowledged the hand of the Lord in his blessings, for he realized that he had been spared and blessed; and that he and the Church were still good friends.

This example is only one of thousands who manifest faith in their blessings and who acknowledge the Lord as the Giver of them.

#### FOR COMFORT AND BENEFIT

I commend to you the faith and the devotion of the good men who are authorized, in the Church, to administer the ordinance of patriarchal blessings. These blessings are for those who understand them and who have a knowledge of their use and value in the Church. They are indeed valuable instruments for the comfort and benefit of faithful members of the Church.

My heart is filled with sympathy and a desire to bless the entire membership of the Church, to see the Lord's work prosper, and to see faith increase in the hearts of our fellow members.

I pray the Lord to magnify, bless, inspire, protect, preserve, and spare those who preside over the Church and who stand as its leaders today.

#### BLESSES THE PEOPLE

In the name of the Lord, I bless you all with peace and with prosperity, notwithstanding the uncertainty of things at the present time. You will go to your homes, and plant, cultivate, and reap, but not in vain, for the harvest will be satisfying and satisfactory; the blessings of the Lord will be upon your lands, and upon your possessions, and upon your faithful labors. Therefore, be honest with the Lord in your

tithes and in your offerings; that the great promises concerning this land and its people may be fulfilled.

I pray God to grant these blessings, that they may be upon the Church, its leaders and its members, and all the organizations in the Church, to the honor and glory of the Lord and his work, and I do it in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

### PRESIDENT HEBER J. GRANT

In his farewell address to the American people George Washington said:

"Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism who should labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens.

"Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in the exclusion of religious principle.

"Let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion."

### ELDER DAVID O. MCKAY

#### *Of the Council of the Twelve Apostles*

"Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?"

"Lord, thou knowest that I love thee."

"Feed my lambs."

"Jesus said to him the second time: "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?"  
\* \* \* Feed my sheep."

This was one of the last and one of the most important injunctions that Jesus gave his apostles, following the resurrection. The Savior's charge to watch over the flock and to feed the lambs is as applicable at the present time as it was in the days of Peter. The Church of Christ must particularly accept this responsibility.

During the few moments that I stand before you I desire to direct your attention to the work that the Church can do in this regard and at the same time co-operate in the great national movement of Child Health and Protection.

#### THE LOST AND FOUND

In the fifteenth chapter of St. Luke there is recorded a very significant message from Christ, relative to the lost and found. That message is embraced in three remarkable parables, one the parable of the lost sheep; another, the lost coin; and a third, the prodigal son.

In the first the straying one seems to have become lost through stupidly wandering away for the necessary things of life. Perhaps the wandering was prompted by just a desire to seek the necessary things of existence.

The second, however, relates to a different kind of lost one—one that seems to be wholly unconscious of having wandered away; and the