

men and women, had become sincerely devoted to them because of their humility and ability as leaders. Now they were to come into another field and make new contacts, to work under different circumstances and conditions, and this took considerable faith and courage on the part of all these missionaries.

The reports that have come to us from the American fields have been most favorable. You parents can certainly be very proud of these boys and girls of yours who were in Europe, because of their attitude, their love of the work, their devotion to the Cause, and their determination to make good in any field or under any condition.

If future missionaries, parents, and those in leadership could constantly keep before them this example of holding true to high missionary ideals, I am sure that we should find an increase in happiness, spirituality and usefulness on the part of missionaries as they give service to our Heavenly Father.

May this be a part of our missionary life, a part of our true tradition that has been carried forward so splendidly all these years, and may we not be found wanting as we are called into the field, I pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

ELDER RUFUS K. HARDY

of the First Council of the Seventy

My beloved brothers and sisters, I am sure that I feel, as do you on this occasion, gratitude and joy and thanksgiving in our hearts for the presence here of President McKay.

THE INFLUENCE OF THE CONFERENCE FELT AFAR OFF

Somehow or other I feel that perhaps I am not mistaken in the thought that President Grant has been here with us. You know this world and its influences move on, and some marvelous things are coming constantly. Even today we have had a message from him, and his spirit and influence have been with us. When we gather together such a great concourse of people, such a marvelous gathering of the Priesthood as was here last night, that power, that influence, that strength and might which emanate from each individual spirit are felt by other individuals, and I feel confident President Grant will have received this spirit and this influence, together with love, hope, faith, and strength from us. Therefore, he has been blessed and we have been blessed in receiving from him his blessedness, his tenderness, love, and felicitations.

I thank God for His peaceful, sweet influence which has permeated this Conference and that all of us have been filled with the testimony of Jesus Christ, and the knowledge that God is our Father.

STAKE MISSIONARY WORK

As I come to these Conferences lately I have only one thing on

my mind that I should like above everything else to mention, and that is the work which is being done by the two thousand missionaries in your midst in the Stakes of Zion. I thank you sincerely for your help and I would like you to know that during the year 1939, two thousand two hundred and twenty souls have been added to this Church through the missionary labors of those in the Stakes of Zion of this Church, and that four thousand souls have been gathered into the fold who had become somewhat indifferent and inactive. Those six thousand people engaging in activity in this Church—and they are about half the size of this audience—will add mighty strength and tremendous force to the work of God going on here on the earth today.

I sincerely trust that the early days of this missionary work, recently inaugurated, are over, and that our fine and splendid Bishops—God bless them for the help they have given—won't give us Tom, Dick, or Harry, whom they never have been able to get to do anything, and so they suggest them to the President of the Stake because if he can do anything with them in the missionary field the Bishops would like to see it done.

THE TYPE OF MISSIONARIES NEEDED AT HOME

God, our Heavenly Father, chose to give to you and to me the choicest soul He had—His Only Begotten—to lead the great missionary work of the earth and be the pattern for us to follow. These men and women, our stake missionaries, are meeting up and down the highways and the byways of our own cities and towns the finer people, the better class, those who need and seek instruction, and we need that better type of missionary; not only one who is trained, but one who is willing and desires to go forth and do that which God would have him do. I am sure that our work will be made much plainer and much more happiness will result if we are given that kind of missionary.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

I want to read to you something that I have copied, and then close:

• No power or influence can or ought to be maintained by virtue of the Priesthood, only by persuasion, by long-suffering, by gentleness and meekness, and by love unfeigned; * * *

Let thy bowels also be full of charity towards all men, and to the household of faith, and let virtue garnish thy thoughts unceasingly; then shall thy confidence wax strong in the presence of God; and the doctrine of the Priesthood shall distil upon thy soul as the dews from heaven.

I am sure that we have received great blessings, great joys, and great happiness in this Conference, and I know that when we thank God for what we possess and what we are, we can do it with a better understanding and a fuller meaning, so that God Himself will know

that we do those things which we have been taught and trained to do, which have been revealed by Him. May He give to us grace, peace, courage, and above everything else a desire to do that which is right, I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

ELDER RICHARD L. EVANS

Of the First Council of the Seventy

I have been thrilled since the opening of this Conference with each of the statements of my brethren, as I am sure you have been, beginning with the greeting from President Grant, continuing with the broad, enlightening view of the past year, and the deep and solemn admonitions for the year to come by President Clark, and continuing down through the remainder of the speakers.

I was thrilled this morning to have with us President McKay and to hear his remarks, as I know all of you were.

RECORDS MADE BY LEADING BRETHREN

When I came to my present calling in the Church I thought perhaps I should make something of a reputation in some field or another, and I looked around to see what records might be available that could be acquired. I saw that some of my brethren had acquired, justifiably, a reputation for being authorities in the field of doctrine—some were trained in the professions—some in law, some in the sciences; and I concluded that about the only record that was left for me to strive for was that of brevity of expression, but I anticipated no such cooperation from the presiding officer in helping me to achieve this record as I have had here today. (Laughter.)

SPEECHES THAT WERE NOT DELIVERED

I think it was just about a year ago at this hour that a similar situation had arisen, and Dr. Widtsoe was called upon to speak. He advised us that he had a prepared talk in his pocket, but there was no time to deliver it and he would probably deliver it at the next Conference. I think he did not deliver it at the next Conference, however, and my curiosity, fully equal to that of a woman on this particular subject, got the better of me, and I have asked him several times since what that talk was about. He has merely smiled, and I do not know yet.

I think my retaliation at this time will be of like character. I have a talk in my pocket. It was to have been a very good one. (Laughter.) It is still a very good one, but it is not for the ears of this congregation. I am not above borrowing time from my brethren here on the stand, but there is no one left to borrow it from except the congregation, and I refuse to do that.

A TESTIMONY AS TO TITHING

I should like to say one thing more. I was happy to hear the