

Every once in a while we get rather discouraged because we can't see that people are reacting in a way that will result in good, and we think our efforts are all lost; but I presume it is just like the word that goes out on the air. Before we had receiving sets, we were insensible to radio impulses, and they passed us by. I suppose when we do an act of kindness, when we do something for somebody else, which seems to be lost, that all those fine, good things—the kindness and the mercy and the good will and the forgiveness and all the rest of the things that help men and women to be better—keep going until some day they reach somebody who has the proper receiving set, and all the truths and all the worthwhile things that have been said by you, or by any-

one else, reach somebody's heart, just as the words of the guide's message reached the son's heart, although the father did not quite understand.

May the Lord bless us and guide us as we live our lives. May we be kind and thoughtful of other men and women, and even though things do not seem to come back to us, or we cannot see the results of them, may we be assured that in some place, somewhere, they are being registered on somebody's heart, either in our wards or our stakes or out in the world, and then shall we find joy and happiness because of the good things which we have done.

May the Lord bless us, I pray, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

### ELDER NICHOLAS G. SMITH

*Assistant to the Council of the Twelve Apostles*

**M**y brethren, I am grateful to my heavenly Father for this Church, and for the opportunity that has been mine to visit in distant parts of the world, to meet different races and peoples, to learn that the gospel of Jesus Christ affects them all exactly the same way.

I know the gospel is true. I realize that each and every one of you, who

are watchmen on the tower, know that fact.

I pray that our Heavenly Father will bless us all, that in our lives we may evidence to Him that we know this truth.

May peace be in our hearts and homes and amongst the people over whom we preside, is my prayer, in Jesus' name. Amen.

### ELDER SAMUEL O. BENNION

*Of the First Council of the Seventy*

**M**y brethren, I am very happy to be in your midst tonight, and during the day, and to partake of the spirit of the Lord that I find so abundantly among us.

I hope none of us overlooked the fine testimony that we heard from President Grant this morning, one of the most wonderful that I have listened to in some time.

I haven't thought of anything to say, except this, brethren: I trust that when we return to our homes again, that we will remember our Father's work, that we will be about our Father's business, that we will encourage the leadership

of the quorums of the Priesthood to meet together and to appoint members of the quorums to visit the inactive of the members of the Priesthood who do not attend to their Church obligations. They are good men, and if only we can just get them to become active in their work we would be doing a fine and good service. Those men are in our midst and many are fine characters and are at work in some position or another. Many hold positions of trust that are worth while, so far as our civic and business life are concerned. If we could just get these men to participate

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with us I think it would be a marvelous thing.

I am happy to bear my testimony that I know, without a doubt, that this is the work of God; that we are engaged in the building up of the Church and kingdom of God on earth; that the people in this Church are the ones who hold the confirmed gift and power of the

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Holy Ghost, and that you men, as leaders, all of us here, have the rights and gifts of the Holy Priesthood which cannot be found elsewhere in this world, only in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. I am happy and thankful to be numbered among you.

I pray the Lord to bless us, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## PRESIDENT J. REUBEN CLARK, JR.

*First Counselor in the First Presidency*

Our next and concluding speaker will be President Oscar A. Kirkham, of the First Council of the Seventy. This, I believe, is his first Conference, and we will give him ten minutes.

## ELDER OSCAR A. KIRKHAM

*Of the First Council of the Seventy*

I HUMBLY pray that the Lord will bless me as I attempt to express my appreciation for the high and holy calling which He has brought into my life. It may be surprising to you at this moment that I see my father's face and my mother's face. May God help me to be humble and worthy of the joy which might be theirs.

I rejoice greatly in the more intimate association with the choicest group of men that I have ever known in my life; and in this country, in most of its states, and in many countries of Europe, through the kindness of the Lord, I have had conferences and association with our national and international great men. I was deeply impressed when I came to this calling. The word of it came to me in New York. I was in East Orange, attending service. I came back to New York, to the hotel, opened a telegram from my wife, which said: "Unanimously sustained as one of the General Authorities today. I wish you were home." I confess to you—it may have been my weariness—but the idea didn't strike me that it was myself. I didn't quite get it clear. I went and got a copy of the *New York Times*, went upstairs to my bed, turned on the night lamp

and started to read. I said: "I believe I will read that telegram again." I read it again, and this time I realized what had happened. Then I did not read, nor did I sleep.

When the First Presidency of the Church set me apart, I asked President Grant if he had any official word for me, any instruction. He said: "Yes, Oscar. Express yourself freely in council. Say what you have to say, freely, but when a decision is made, line up." I will tell you that those are words of wisdom. In my opinion that is democracy in its very essence.

The First Presidency have asked me to keep my connections with the Boy Scout program. I shall attempt to do that. My special calling in the Church is with the Council of Seventy. I have learned to love these brethren already, and appreciate greatly their intimate association. I humbly pray that God will help me to be a good Scout, a good missionary.

Before you again I express my humble appreciation. May God magnify me for the task. May I ever enjoy your sympathy and your blessing, as I am called to labor with you, I humbly pray, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.