

Saturday, October 3

First Day

boys and girls. I wonder if we are holding council meetings as husbands and wives, and fathers and mothers, to try to meet the new conditions and temptations that are in our midst. I wonder if we know each one of our children well enough to know that they are making their contribution to the building up of the kingdom of God in the earth. Are our children setting an example because of our power as leaders and priests in our own homes?

A few days ago, I received a letter from one of our boys in the service, and I commend the counsel given in this conference, that we write them. He said he had just been ordained an elder in the Church, and he thanked the Lord for that more than for any other thing. While he has been in the service he has changed his way of living so that he is setting an example in upholding the standards of this Church.

But how did he get started in the way of righteousness? His grandmother in one of our stakes was concerned about him, because his mother was dead. She

wrote a letter and asked if we would write to this boy. We finally located him, and the first letter we received told how he was in California and heard two missionaries speaking on the street corner and lady missionaries singing; and he said he wouldn't have gone and spoken to them for anything in the world. He was afraid. He drew a diagram showing how he went down to the corner and back again, and then down to the corner and back again, and finally he found himself standing talking to the missionaries. In his letter he asked: "Do you think the Lord had anything to do with this?" As far as I am concerned I think the prayers of that grandmother and the importunities probably of his mother who had gone beyond, were the means of bringing that boy back into line of duty and righteousness.

God help us to labor with our children, to pray with them, to see that our own are setting an example in the Church. It will do more than all the preaching we can do. God help us to do it, I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Elder Harold H. Bennett sang a solo, "The Seer." (Words by President John Taylor).

### ELDER LEVI EDGAR YOUNG *Of the First Council of the Seventy*

I was deeply touched by the address of President Grant, which was read by President McKay this morning. On the day that President Grant was chosen as one of the Twelve Apostles by a revelation of the Lord to President John Taylor, my father was also called and ordained a member of the First Council of the Seventy. He succeeded his father, President Joseph Young, who was ordained to his position by the Prophet Joseph Smith in the Kirtland Temple in February, 1835. My grandfather and my father both had deep and abiding testimonies of the divinity of the gospel of Jesus Christ as it was restored by the Prophet Joseph Smith. I am grateful to the Lord for the same testimony, for I know that God lives, that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world,

and that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God, for he spoke for God and was sharer of God's counsels. He was the bearer and preacher of God's Word, and opened one of the greatest stages of religion in the history of mankind.

My brethren of the seventies, we are awakened to the great responsibilities of teaching the gospel to all mankind. If ever the world needed the Word of God, it is today. For this reason we must have vision, which gives us a view of the future as well as insight into conditions of the present. The calling of the seventy is an ideal of fellowship, with sacred obligations to God. Our spiritual obligations must make for unity and concord, and promote a spiritual culture within our ranks, which will give us power to teach the Word. From

now on, we of the organizations of seventy will glorify our work as never before, for I believe that the world is waiting for the truths of God. Every one of us has a sacred duty and trust, and while we as missionaries have our daily vocations, the most joyful recreation is in going to the homes of people with the gospel message. Remember the divine injunction: "Not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord." Our hearts need not be troubled or afraid, if we have the simple faith in God and the work He has given us to do. We remember the words of the Prophet Micah:

... in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord. . . . (Micah 4:1-2)

The nations have come to the mountain of the Lord, and they will continue to come and be taught by you, my brethren, for the prophet continues and says:

... they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. (Micah 4:3)

You stake mission presidents should

call your brethren around you and teach the gospel. Remember when you approach people, you will receive from them the same thought that you give them. If hate, you will receive hate; if love, it will be love. God will be the judge of institutions and people; it is your duty to "love the Lord thy God with your might, mind, and strength, and thy neighbor as thyself." In his letter to the Ephesians, Paul speaks of the grace that is given each one:

... for the work of the ministry . . . Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ. (Ephesians 4:12-13)

We pray that the missionaries of all the stakes of Zion will from now on have new life. We must turn our thoughts forward, for the gospel will meet every man's wants, and protect and guide his life. You will see your labors rewarded. Sowers and reapers will rejoice together. You are committed to nothing but the truth. People will listen to you. God bless all the missionaries in the Church, that they may see the importance of the work as never before, and go forth with the Light of God in their hearts, I humbly pray. Amen.

## ELDER THOMAS E. MCKAY

*Assistant to the Council of the Twelve Apostles*

THE singing of the beautiful hymn, "A Poor Wayfaring Man of Grief," followed by the inspirational message of our beloved President, and then the solo so well rendered by Brother Bennett, "The Seer, the Seer," has brought us all, I am sure, nearer to our Father in heaven—nearer to many of our loved ones who are on the other side. I am very grateful today for my parents. I am very grateful that I have been considered worthy to be associated with this splendid body of men bearing the Holy Priesthood and am especially thankful for my rather close association with our beloved president, Heber J. Grant, his counselors, the Quorum of the Twelve

and the other General Authorities of the Church. I appreciate today, more than ever before, my membership in this Church—the great organization of the Church—an organization which furnishes not only just a favored few but all the members the opportunity for service.

I am very happy to report that our members in the European mission are also still carrying on. From some of them we have not been able to hear lately but because of my acquaintance with them and my love for them I am sure I am safe in saying that they are carrying on also as are the members from whom we hear. We receive letters and reports regularly from the