

field, he called me to one side and said: "We know you've had opportunities to go elsewhere, but we want you to stay with the cooperative movement. All you need to do is name your figure. Don't become disinterested. We want you to continue." I said, "Mr. Teague, I have no desire to leave the fine group of men with whom I have been associated during the past four years. I love the cooperative movement—I believe in it. It squares with my philosophy of life, my religious philosophy."

Then only a few days later this call came. I called this man on the telephone from Grand Junction, Colorado, and said, "Mr. Teague, the Church has called me to a more important work," and then I indicated what the call was, and this good man said, "With all my heart I congratulate you." From that day until this, there have been nothing but words of praise and congratulations to me personally, but particularly for the Church and its fine ideals and standards and the type of manhood which it turns out into the world.

#### THE GREATER CALL

I carried in my pocket as I went through Salt Lake a note to call to my attention a matter which I proposed to discuss with some of the Brethren. I had had an opportunity for almost a year to go elsewhere at a figure that shocked me, running into tens of thousands of dollars, an offer to go into the active management of a great cooperative corporation. It would mean leaving the Washington Stake, and I had hoped to have an opportunity to confer with the leaders of the Church. But now there was no need of conferring, for in the meantime this call came, a call greater than any call that can come from men—that can be offered by the men of the world.

My brethren, I am grateful for it. I know my own limitations, my own weaknesses, and I tremble as I contemplate the great responsibilities and obligations which this call entails. But I am grateful to know that I will be associated with the best group of men in all the world. More than anything else, besides my desire to maintain my testimony, I desire the love and confidence of the Priesthood of this Church, and I pray the Lord to give me strength that I may merit that love and confidence.

I leave with you my testimony. I know that God lives. This is His work. He has again spoken from the heavens with a message for the entire world; not for a handful of Latter-day Saints only, but for all our brothers and sisters, both in and out of the Church. May God give us strength to carry that message to the world, to live the Gospel, to maintain the standards of the Church, that we may be entitled to the promised blessings, I humbly pray, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### ELDER MARVIN O. ASHTON

##### *First Counselor in the Presiding Bishopric*

I once heard of a man who put on his tombstone, "I expected this, but not so soon." (Laughter.)

I hope that these brethren who have just spoken won't think for a

minute, speaking of this commodity we term "humility," that they have a monopoly on it. After about eleven or twelve such occasions as today some of us still feel as weak as we did when we gave our maiden conference speech.

#### APPRECIATION FOR NEW APOSTLES

Seriously speaking, and to be right frank with you, I had something I was going to try to say provided I was called on. We generally expect it. That seems to be the program. After the impression made on all of us by our two new Apostles, I cannot resist laying aside what I was going to say and express appreciation of them. They are splendid men, and I want to sing their praises. I am speaking particularly of their humility. I am sure that when the call came to these two men from those who have a right to call, there went an "Amen" all through this Church. There is a combination here today of decided ability and humility. These are the characteristics that your mother and my mother tried to instil in us since we were old enough to stand bracing ourselves against their knees. I glory in such men, men of initiative, men of vision, and yet humility. I have yet to see a man who excelled at all in leadership—real leadership—that did not have those qualifications.

May the Lord bless these fine men. May we have the good sense to support them not only with our prayers but also in every way that it is our responsibility as members of this Church. And may we so rededicate ourselves always. We have some problems ahead of us and they are going to be big ones. Let us get back of our leaders and say "Amen" to the splendid vision of their leadership. May the Lord bless us. Amen.

#### ELDER RICHARD R. LYMAN

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

The last message of Jesus the Son of God before His ascension into heaven was, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15.) Carrying out this great and important injunction proclaimed by Him who is the Prince of Peace, the King of kings and Lord of lords is the prime business of this, His Church, the Church of Jesus Christ.

And while, because the whole world is at war, we cannot at present continue to carry our gospel message abroad, I am glad to report that the work at home in our stake missions is going forward with ever increasing efficiency and success.

These missions, now a little more than six years old, were in good operating condition before our foreign missions had to be closed. This work is done under the direction of the First Council of the Seventy in accordance with the instructions of that modern revelation which says:

The Seventy are to act in the name of the Lord, under the direction of the Twelve . . . in building up the church and regulating all the affairs of the same. . . . (D. & C. 107:34.)