

Saturday, October 3

Second Day

music comes into it, our choirs. This wonderful Tabernacle Choir, singing as it has been doing for lo, these many years, the second longest, I think, in radio, continued singing; and their choir numbers were being transcribed by another fine young man in Stuttgart. He had charge of the radio system there, Brother Fred Taylor, Jr. And those Tabernacle Choir songs were transcribed and went into quite a large part of Germany. Our members were thrilled by them.

Scores of letters from appreciative friends in Europe were received by the choir. Sister Mary Jack, secretary of the choir sent them over to my office. I had the honor of being acting mission president for the European Mission, and we would read them and send them to these fine mission presidents over there.

Well, God bless our choirs and our music, it is a great help to this great missionary work.

I remember, too, I want to recommend not only choirs throughout the Church, but also singing in the home, the parents singing together, husband and wife. President Smith will pardon me for this, I am sure; he gave some fine sermons there in visiting our European Mission, but they will not be remembered like the duet that he and his sweetheart sang; he would sit down on the bench, and she would play the accompaniment, and they would sing a song. The members will remember that. There are members here in the choir who will remember that duet.

I recommend that as an example to you fathers and mothers, you husbands and wives. Sit down at the piano and

play together. Sometimes the husband has to play with one finger, but it is all right; I want to tell you it does the work to that family.

And then I remember visiting a stake where a young mother brought her three children and handed the baby to somebody to take care of while she accompanied her family. I do not believe the conference was ever so touched as by the beautiful music of that mother accompanying her three daughters. So I recommend music in the home.

God bless our missionary system. This is a great missionary Church. And God bless the music in this system. I am glad that Brother Asper is playing here. He is one of my German missionaries, by the way. And speaking of—I should stop, I know; my wife is worrying; so are some others, I should not speak so long—but I recall receiving a letter on my second mission from Brother Hansen who was presiding over the Nuremberg District. He asked whether the mission could help buy an organ for the branch, that they had a wonderful little organist there, and I was delighted to help them. That little organist is our wonderful, one of the greatest organists in the world today, Brother Alexander Schreiner. God help us to have music in our homes, in our branches, in our stakes, and music everywhere. In the words of Tiny Tim, "God bless us everyone." I ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### President David O. McKay:

Elder Thomas E. McKay, Assistant to the Twelve, has just spoken to us. Elder Antoine R. Ivins, of the First Council of Seventy, will be our next speaker.

#### ELDER ANTOINE R. IVINS

##### *Of the First Council of the Seventy*

**M**Y BELOVED brethren and sisters: It is twenty-two years this month since I made the first trip up those steps, and it is no easier today than it was then.

I stand before you as your servant, depending entirely upon your faith and prayers and the Spirit of our heavenly Father to direct the testimony that I shall bear to you today. I have a fer-

vent testimony and knowledge of the truth of the gospel, for which I am truly thankful. I am thankful to be a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the organization which has the responsibility of implementing in the lives of its members, the gospel of Jesus Christ, and the carrying of a warning to the world that the gospel and priesthood have been restored.

The advantages of membership in the Church are tremendous. You know them as well as I. Time would hardly permit that we should enumerate them, but they are tremendous, and I am very grateful to be the recipient of those blessings. One of the greatest of them is the opportunity for service. In the twenty-two years that I have occupied this position, my purpose has been to learn my duty and gain the strength, if I could, to do it well, that perhaps my service might be helpful to someone else.

I realize that in it all, of course, I am the chief beneficiary, because I develop a love for the people whom I serve, and love of one's fellow, Christ said, was the second great principle of the gospel. If I can continue to do that, and serve you with that motive only, I shall be very happy.

I am glad that I belong to a Church which gives me the opportunity of striving to learn these things, to learn the truth, which encourages me to reach out and search constantly for the truth, and having learned it, to attempt to apply it. I am glad that you and I are not circumscribed in our privileges of study and research, for it has been the purpose of the Church, from its inception, to stimulate education among the people.

In taking the tremendous advantages as I do of membership in the Church, I feel an equal responsibility towards it; if I am to benefit by it, I should help it meet its tremendous burdens. They are of varying and different types, of course, but if I am to take the benefit of any organization, I feel duty-bound to

carry my portion of its burdens, if I can. I feel that loyalty to the Church demands just that thing, and recently in talking to a conference, I suggested that, that if we could implant in the hearts of our children that type of loyalty, they would have no difficulty in subscribing to the program of the Church of which we are all members.

I was glad when President Clark said this morning that there are times when we must accept the requests of our heavenly Father even though we may not understand their purpose and, even though at times it be blind obedience that we render, that we should do it, if we expect to take the benefits and blessings that come from membership in the Church.

When I said that the other day, it was suggested that perhaps I was implying that the leadership of the Church is infallible, and that the free agency of man is circumscribed by that doctrine and teaching, but I do not believe that either applies. I have never been told what I should study. I exercise my freedom in the things that I teach, trying always, of course, to make them conform to the teachings of the Church. But I feel that in it I am not particularly circumscribed in my liberties and in my privileges, and I glory in the fact that the Church throws open to me all of the books that have been written, if I care to delve into them. I have faith that if I delve, seeking the Spirit of God in my teaching, I will never find anything that will upset and disturb my faith in God and the restoration of the gospel.

The blessings of membership in the Church, brothers and sisters, are tremendous. Loyalty to it should prompt you and me to abide by its teachings.

When I have occasion to set up a presidency of a seventies quorum, I teach the members this: You are to think independently, you are to discuss freely, and give expression to your thoughts regarding the problems that arise in your meetings, but if you happen to be on the losing end of the

discussion, and the majority rules one thing while you have felt and argued for another, then loyalty on your part demands that you not only withdraw from opposition, but that you say, brethren, if that is your will, I will help you. I believe that is the spirit in which we ought to serve, brethren and sisters, and if we could develop that loyalty in our own hearts and implant it in the hearts of our children, the bad stories that we read in the newspapers would be fewer and fewer, as our teachings might be absorbed by the people.

We have no reason, whatsoever, to be ashamed of the Church or of its leadership. Let us support it. Let us teach seriously, for the message we have is absolutely essential to the highest exaltation of men in the kingdom of God. Nobody would deny the fact that any man who strives to live the gospel of Jesus Christ shall benefit by it, but adherence to the teachings in their detail requires that one repent, be baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, be confirmed a member thereof, and if he be a man, that he receive the responsibilities of the Melchizedek Priesthood and enjoy the benefits of such ordinances as the temple extends to each of us here in order that we may attain to the

highest exaltation and eventually to the powers of God. Can we develop that loyalty, brethren and sisters, can we sustain the program of the Church to that extent; until I can, I shall feel unworthy to partake of the high blessings that the Church offers me.

God bless you all in your ministry; service to your fellows is your greatest privilege; to serve you is my greatest privilege, and I would like to live as long as I can do it well and then make way for somebody who can take it up, because it must go on, until the consummation of the purposes of God.

Again, may he bless you all, I pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

#### President David O. McKay:

Will the congregation, and so far as convenient, the listening audience, now join with the choir in singing, "How Firm a Foundation." Brother Spencer Cornwall will conduct.

The Choir and congregation sang the hymn, "How Firm A Foundation."

#### President David O. McKay:

Elder Milton R. Hunter, of the First Council of Seventy, will now speak to us. He will be followed by Elder Oscar A. Kirkham.

### ELDER MILTON R. HUNTER

*Of the First Council of the Seventy*

**M**Y BRETHREN AND SISTERS: Today, with the help of the Lord, I would like to reason directly with members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, because they have taken upon themselves the name of Christ and have entered into a covenant to keep all of his commandments. According to the word of the Lord, they belong to "... the only true and living church upon the face of the whole earth. . . ." (D. & C. 1:30.) This Church has within it the power of the priesthood with all the ordinances of

the gospel and doctrines necessary to bring its members back into the presence of God and give them exaltation. Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints are heirs not only to the celestial glory but also to exaltation or eternal life in that glory; and that heirship shall be obtained if they keep all the commandments given by Jesus Christ to members of his kingdom. Thus, the words of Paul apply very aptly to the Latter-day Saints:

Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the