

being currently created within us and in others.

It is more important to build a great character than to build a great skyscraper. We know that the worth of souls is great, but mostly we are not great for what we are, we are great for what we may become, and it is my hope and prayer in my own behalf that I may develop those qualities that will enable me to accomplish the duties of this assignment as is expected of me by my Father in heaven and those who preside over me in the Church.

### ELDER HENRY D. MOYLE

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

**I** AM GRATEFUL, my brethren and sisters, to be back in this goodly land. I am very happy this morning to welcome into the circle of the General Authorities those who have been called of our heavenly Father to fill these important positions and sustained this day by the vote of the people. I can't help commenting with some pride that my father, as well as Brother George Q. Morris and his father and his mother, came from the old Fifteenth Ward. It seemed, as I grew up to manhood, that the Fifteenth Ward became a part of me although I never had the privilege of living in it, because I heard so much from the lips of my father concerning the wonderful families that lived in that ward. He always mentioned the Morris family, and Sister Morris, and what a lovely woman she was. Brother Morris's father was one of the great industrial leaders of the state and helped with others of our forefathers to make this state what it is. So I am happy to welcome Brother Morris into our Council this day. I have appreciated the associations that we have had with him in the past.

It has also been my privilege to work to a slight extent with Brother Sill, and my heart goes out to him in gratitude for his faithfulness and devotion to the

work of the Lord, and I pray that the Lord will bless and sustain these wonderful men in the offices to which they have been called.

#### President David O. McKay:

He to whom we have just listened is Elder Sterling W. Sill, sustained as Assistant to the Council of the Twelve Apostles.

We will now hear from Elder Henry D. Moyle, member of the Council of the Twelve. Elder Moyle.

I have never before in my life been so grateful as I am this day for the blessings of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ, for my membership in the Church, and for what strength the Lord has given me to assist in helping his children here upon the earth. My labors this winter in the great countries of Europe have brought me close to the people. I have had the opportunity of visiting them in their towns and in their villages, seeing them in their homes, feeling of their faith and of their devotion, and understanding to some slight extent the difficulties that confront them in their daily lives, the manner in which they are still ostracized by their neighbors the moment that they join the Church and begin to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ to their neighbors and friends and their families. My heart goes out to them, and above all else, a desire that I have within me to be of help to them. I feel now, as I have felt all winter, that every ounce of strength, every blessing that the Lord has given me, should be shared with those people. I would love to live among them and to ask the Lord to continue to bless me that I might have

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strength to impart unto them and to give to them the blessings that come from the power of the priesthood which has been restored in these latter days.

Never has the power of the priesthood been so bestowed upon me or felt in my presence, as it has been this winter, as we have gone forth to seek to bless the Saints in Europe. I have been impressed with the one attribute common to them all, and that was the fact that they wanted no pity. I wish you could all have been present in Berlin: Nearly a thousand people assembled there on a Sabbath morning with a beautiful choir, singing the hymns of Zion in German, so dear to my heart. We listened to the testimonies of those men, the expressions of gratitude in their hearts for that which they had, and when you looked around, you wondered really what they had to be grateful for, as compared with us. They have but one thing, the most priceless gift that our Father in heaven has given to man, the testimony of the divinity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It has brought strength to their hearts; it has destroyed fear; and it has reconciled them to whatever their lot may be.

I had the privilege of shaking hands with some four hundred people who live behind the Iron Curtain. I heard their leaders say that they knew that they had a mission there to perform that was far greater than any mission that they could perform elsewhere in the world. They did not seek by migration to relieve themselves of the burdens, of the oppression, or of the persecution under which they live. All they prayed for was strength that they might withstand the same, and in overcoming their obstacles grow strong. I had one lovely sister say to me she was so glad that she lived where she did and had the opportunity to meet all of these oppressive circumstances of life because she knew within her very being that she was growing stronger, and she rather pitied those of us who had been born in the Church, considered in a way as though by so being we had been born in the lap of luxury and ease.

I tell you in that meeting in Berlin there was not a word of pity, not a word of complaint, nothing but praises sung and spoken to our Father in heaven for the blessings that he gave them, for the freedom that they enjoyed.

I might take you from Berlin for a moment down into Switzerland where circumstances are a little more favorable, but where still in some of the cantons we do not have the religious freedom that we would like. A little black-haired boy, not more than eight or nine years of age, came up to me after our meeting in Basel, and with fear and trembling he said he wanted to shake hands with me, and when he got hold of my hand, he looked up into my eyes with his big black eyes and he said, "Brother Moyle, would you come and administer to my father?"

When I went to that boy's home, I met a faithful mother, and an older brother. That mother threw her arms around me, and she said, "Brother Moyle, we have fasted and prayed, and especially this youngest son of mine, that he might have the courage that we older ones lacked to ask you to come to our home and bless our father who is so critically ill."

I tell you when I saw the faith of that boy, and the faith of that mother and of that son, and of the appreciation that they had for the priesthood of God, it touched my heart to the very core. It gave me a sense of humility I would like to keep all the days of my life. The Spirit of the Lord and his power were there present, and we blessed that good father and gave to that family the desires of their heart through the gift and power of our heavenly Father.

That instance could be multiplied many times in the experiences which we had this winter. I was so grateful that my good wife was with me. Those people seemed to feel as though they had been specially blessed by the presence of my good wife and the love and the affection that she bestowed upon these wonderful people.

I tell you, brethren and sisters, when the faith of Latter-day Saints is such

that they can praise the Lord for the restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ and the blessings which that has brought into their lives through their obedience to its principles, to the exclusion of practically all else in life, then we see, I am sure, reflected in their lives the image, the Spirit, and the power of our heavenly Father. God bless these people.

It was wonderful to meet with your missionary sons and daughters. I heard practically every elder in Europe, with few exceptions, bear his testimony, and the lovely lady missionaries likewise. The hours never ran too long but what we were thrilled by the devotion of these fine young men and women. I tell you it seems as though the difficulties that confront them, the problems they have to solve, make the missionaries stronger, too.

I have had a feeling this winter that greater than anything I did for others was the effect upon me of these wonderful contacts and associations. They have touched my life with a very great force. They have made me realize that God lives and that he hears and answers the prayers of his sons and daughters here upon this earth. I can say amen to all that Brother Spencer W. Kimball has said this morning—that the Lord is no respecter of persons.

I have been led to tell the people of Europe this winter, and I know it as I know that I live, that we have entered into a new era in the history of the Church, one brought about by two great circumstances, toward which we have been unconsciously laboring. The one circumstance culminated when President McKay gave to the Church six months ago a charge that everyone should be a missionary. He indicated the possibility of increasing the membership of the Church by at least 500,000 in 1954 if every family in the Church would accept that admonition and bring one soul into the Church during this year. The people of Europe have caught that inspiration. In place of inviting missionaries to come to their homes to eat, as has been the custom

(sometimes I am afraid we have permitted these people to go to too great a sacrifice to feed our elders), now the missionaries are calling in their neighbors, and just like Brother [T. Bowring] Woodbury [at the special missionary conference] said last night, they are finding that it is a fine way to begin a cottage meeting in the home to give their neighbors a meal before they start to preach the gospel to them. That is what our people in Europe are doing. The work is going forward and will go forward as they continue to follow the admonition of our Prophet. They recognize it is part of their life, that President David O. McKay is the mouth-piece of our heavenly Father upon this earth, they look to him for guidance and direction. They know that by this missionary labor they can accomplish two things: They can first of all establish their own homes in these localities in Europe on a firmer basis, and in place of giving attention to emigration to this country, they give attention to preaching the gospel and disseminating that joy and happiness and assurance to others which has come into their lives.

The other great circumstance that has ushered into the Church a new era is the building of temples in Europe. How I thrilled to stand upon that ground, which is already hallowed by the dedication of a Prophet of God as the site of a temple to be built to the Most High and to there see the machinery and the men at work excavating for that great temple in Europe. I am sure that the one in England will be a like inspiration to those people to build up their branches. The men are preparing to receive the priesthood, that they may be worthy not only to go through the temple and receive the blessings of the Lord there in his house, but likewise to gain knowledge and wisdom, judgment, and discretion in matters that pertain to the priesthood so that they can preside over the branches and the districts of the missions abroad and relieve the missionaries whom we send forth to proselyte.

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It would do your heart good to hear some of those district presidents from behind the Iron Curtain tell you of the percentage of branch teaching that they are getting from the priesthood. They have a priesthood which has practically no contact with the Church. We cannot send into them literature; we cannot visit them; and it is on rare occasions, such as I was privileged to enjoy in Berlin, that they can come into Berlin and into the West Zone to attend our meetings.

I tell you when we get faithful men in Europe, supported by faithful women, to do their branch teaching and to help to sustain and to strengthen and to uphold the weaker members of those branches, a new era has entered into our great missionary work and into the mission fields of the Church. I am sure that there has been a different attitude toward us on the part of some new governments. I am grateful beyond measure to the government of West Germany that they have given to us a legal status equal to any of the churches of the world and have permitted us to become incorporated under their public laws and given us all of the advantages incident thereto. It would have filled your hearts with joy to have been present in Frankfurt when 704 faithful servicemen gathered from all over Europe and Africa, under military orders, some of them, to come there to attend. When one commanding officer heard such a convention was to be held again this year, with knowledge of what had transpired in previous years, he issued an order requiring their attendance and didn't leave it alone to the discretion of his men. That order carried some advantages that they had not enjoyed on previous trips to that conference in Frankfurt.

I say it would have thrilled you to have seen the faithfulness of these men and to have had them welcomed into that German city by the burgomeister, Dr. Leiske, a man whom I honor and respect for his Christian virtues and his integrity and his kindness to servicemen whom he knew to be Latter-day

Saints. I had the pleasure of sitting with him at the banquet table and telling him that it had been my privilege over forty years before, under the presidency of President Thomas E. McKay, to serve as the presiding elder there in Frankfurt and to preach the gospel to his people. I wish the welcoming address which he gave us could be read by all Latter-day Saints, and I wish likewise that we will so live as a people here at home to merit the compliments that were paid us there by those who have been over here.

I must conclude my remarks. I want to say that I met many other public officials, including mayors of cities in Finland, public officials in Sweden, who had been here, and who welcomed us, who entertained us, and who bear for us a kindly invitation. And one great industrial leader, Mr. Eric W. Forsberg, of Sandviken, Sweden, the president and general manager of the Sandvik Steel Company, one of the most wonderful companies in Europe, that so refines steel that it becomes worth more than gold, entertained us, President Clarence F. Johnson, and a group of missionaries of the Swedish Mission, and sent his private cars to take us to our next appointment rather than to have us ride on the train. I say God bless these people.

Before we got through that day, he invited President Clarence F. Johnson to send his missionaries into the settlement in which the employees of that steel works live and said that he had hundreds of refugee Germans there, and that we could send in Swedish as well as German-speaking elders. He wanted the influence of the Latter-day Saints to be felt in his great organization.

God bless us all, I pray humbly, and make us worthy of the heritage which is ours, I ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### President David O. McKay:

He to whom we have just listened is Elder Henry D. Moyle of the Council of the Twelve Apostles.