

I must tell you, President McKay, about the meeting with our lovely Chinese folks down in Hong Kong. We had no meeting place. They have not had much opportunity since they were baptized. It has now been nearly a year since they received the sacrament. But in our hotel room overlooking the harbor from Kowloon to Hong Kong we held a sacrament meeting. We bore testimony to them. We had gone up to that high point overlooking Hong Kong, where Brother Cowley, in company with President Robertson, President Aki, and their wives, had dedicated that land to the opening of a mission, July 14, 1949. There, too, we bowed our heads and thanked the Lord for the degree of Brother Cowley's blessing that had been received, and asked the Lord for a further outpouring of his blessing. Then, after we had visited briefly with these young Chinese students, one of these was a young girl—little Yook Sin Yuen—they call her Nora, a beautiful little girl who speaks good English, as taught her by the missionaries. As our bus pulled out from the hotel the next day to take us to the airport, she reached

up her hand through the window, and said to me as a parting word: "Apostle Lee, tell President McKay to please send the Church back to China." And I said to her, as the tears were in my eyes also, "My dear sweet girl, as long as we have a faithful, devoted band like you who without a shepherd, are remaining true, the Church is in China."

Well, I say, President McKay, as I commenced, I have gone now under your appointment to the Far East. We have seen the miracles of God's divine intervention. We have seen how the gospel has been preached, to the poor as an evidence of its divinity. God grant that the time shall not be far distant until the deathgrip of communism shall be unloosed, and those peoples shall be free to receive in fulness the gospel of Jesus Christ, for I am convinced that there are hundreds of thousands of souls who are begging for the truth.

I bear you my solemn testimony that I know these things are true, that God lives, and that this is his work, and I bear it humbly in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRESIDENT DAVID O. MCKAY

AT THE closing hour of this great conference, I know you would have me express appreciation to persons and agencies that have helped in taking care of all who have been in attendance. I know in naming individuals and groups that I may omit some, but to you all we express appreciation and gratitude for your services:

To the public press, to you reporters, for your care and accuracy in reporting the proceedings, to the audiences for their responsiveness and attentiveness throughout the sessions of the conference; to the city officials; the traffic officers in handling increased traffic. As we have driven up and down South Temple we have noticed how attentive, how careful to duty, how considerate of the pedestrians you have been. Thank you! We mention the fire department also. They went to the trouble of seeing to it by actual tests that the fire wagons could in an emergency come

through the gates. To the Red Cross, who have been on hand to render any assistance to those who might need their tender care. For the semi-tropical flowers from Hawaii, we have already expressed appreciation. To the ushers, we say thank you. We have noted your attention to your assigned duties as given by your superiors under the Presiding Bishopric.

Gratefully we mention again the assistance rendered by the various radio and television stations here in our own city and state and in other states named in the various sessions of this conference. What a means of permitting hundreds of thousands of people to hear the proceedings of this conference of the Church! We thank you congregations assembled in the stakes in California, Arizona, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, and Colorado for the messages of appreciation you have sent in. Everyone has said that the proceed-

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Third Day

ings have gone over the wire perfectly and then added: "Thank you and God bless you for the opportunity we have had this day of joining and worshipping with you."

We must mention again gratitude, not only appreciation, but gratitude for the groups of singers who have contributed so much to the inspiration of this conference, beginning with the Relief Society Mothers, and followed next day by those lovely little girls—the Bee Hive chorus. Just their presence and their sweet voices, aside from their singing, brought tears to many a mother's eye. Then the combined Scandinavian choirs, and the Men's Chorus of the Tabernacle Choir last evening in the priesthood meeting, and finally, our own Tabernacle Choir. Do you know, they have been here since seven o'clock this morning?

I am happy to re-announce to you that in appreciation of the great service that this body of devoted singers is rendering under the able directorship of Brother J. Spencer Cornwall and the organists, Elders Alexander Schreiner, Frank Asper, and Roy Darley, they will be given a trip to Europe. They will go as ambassadors of good will—representing in honor and artistry the state, as well as the Church. With all our hearts, here today we say, thank you and God bless you in the preparation of that great trip!

All that has been said and done and sung, all the testimonies borne have directly or indirectly led to this divine admonition: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt. 6:33.)

Let us then make God the center of our lives. That was one of the first admonitions given when the gospel was first preached to man. To have communion with God, through his Holy Spirit, is one of the noblest aspirations in life. It is when the peace and love of God have entered the soul, when serving him becomes the motive factor in one's life and existence that we can touch other lives, quickening and inspiring them, even though no word be spoken. There is operative in the world a spiritual force as active and as

real as the waves that have carried the message today to those tens of thousands by radio and television.

"Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle?" cried the Psalmist. That means, who can come into that realm, that spiritual realm . . . "who shall dwell in thy holy hill?"

"He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart." (Psalm 15.)

Who will fail in getting into that divine presence? "He that backbiteth, he that doeth evil to his neighbor, he that taketh up a reproach against his neighbor." (See Psalm 15.)

Let us, as we seek first the kingdom of God, avoid backbiting and evil speaking. Gossip bespeaks either a vacant mind or one that entertains jealousy or envy. Let us avoid self-righteousness. There is a proverb that says, "Every way of a man is right in his own eyes; but the Lord pondereth the hearts." (Prov. 21:2.) "Whoso boasteth himself of a false gift is like clouds and wind without rain." (*Ibid.*, 25:14.)

Finally, brethren and sisters, "be perfected, be comforted, be of one mind, live in peace and the God of love and peace will be with you." (See II Cor. 13:11.) Keep in mind the Savior's prayer: "Make them one, Father, as thou and I are one."

I wish that all within the sound of my voice at this moment, all who have any prejudice in their hearts, might have glimpsed the General Authorities in the House of the Lord last Thursday morning, when they met in fasting and prayer to prepare themselves spiritually for the responsibilities awaiting them in this great conference. You would have glimpsed the unity of the First Presidency and through this transmission of heart to heart, soul to soul, you would have known the love I bear for these two counselors, for their clear vision and sound judgment and their patience with their leader when necessary. You would have glimpsed the unity and love of these twelve men, of their Assistants and of the First Council of the Seventy, the Patriarch, and the Presiding Bishopric. We pray that the love and unity in that meeting may extend to every stake presidency, mission

presidency, every bishopric, every priesthood quorum and auxiliary throughout the Church. With such unity and love there is no power on earth which can stop the progress of this, the work of God.

May his blessings attend you, now, as you go to your homes. We bless you that the spirit of unity and the spirit of testimony of the divinity of this work may abide in your hearts always, that peace and love may be in your homes as never before, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

President David O. McKay:

The Tabernacle Choir will now favor us with "God Be With You Till We Meet Again," Elder Cornwall conducting, and the benediction will be offered by Elder Davis Green, President of the Minidoka Stake, after which this conference will be adjourned for six months.

The Choir and congregation joined in singing the hymn, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again."

The closing prayer was offered by President Davis Green of the Minidoka Stake.

Conference adjourned for six months.

President David O. McKay:

Just one moment, please. I overlooked to tell you that tonight the Deseret Sunday School General Semi-Annual Conference will be held in this building at 7 o'clock.

The congregational singing of the Conference was conducted by J. Spencer

Cornwall, Conductor, and Richard P. Condie, Assistant Conductor of the Tabernacle Choir.

The Tabernacle Choir furnished the choral singing for the Sunday morning and afternoon sessions, J. Spencer Cornwall conducting.

The Tabernacle Choir Men's Chorus, under the direction of J. Spencer Cornwall, furnished musical numbers at the General Priesthood meeting.

The Relief Society Singing Mothers from the Salt Lake, Cache Valley and Southern Idaho areas, with Sister Florence Jepperson Madsen conducting, furnished the music for the Friday morning and afternoon sessions.

At the Saturday morning session the Bee Hive Girls 40th Anniversary Chorus (Young Women's Mutual Improvement Association), under the direction of Sister Margrit Lohner, furnished musical numbers.

Saturday afternoon, the choral music was by the Combined Scandinavian Choirs, with Hulbert Keddington conducting.

J. Spencer Cornwall directed the singing of the Tabernacle Choir and Frank W. Asper was at the organ on the *Church of the Air* program, and also the *Tabernacle Choir and Organ* broadcast.

Accompaniments and interludes on the great organ were played by Alexander Schreiner, Frank W. Asper and Roy A. Darley.

Stenographic notes of the Conference were taken by Frank W. Otterstrom and Joseph Anderson.

JOSEPH ANDERSON
Clerk of the Conference