

ing out we had saved the Church at least \$1,500,000 in construction costs for Ward meetinghouses. Brother Henry D. Moyle of the Executive Committee of the BYU heard me make that statement, and when he arose to speak, stated, "I suppose President Wilkinson will now come to the next meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Brigham Young University and ask for another million and a half dollars for academic buildings." Under the circumstances I thought that honesty was the best policy and informed him that I was already preparing a speech to support the request. With this unexpected frankness on my part he agreed to go along with the request.

May I, my brothers and sisters, in conclusion express our gratitude for your support and confidence in us, not only at the Brigham Young University, but also for your confidence and support of all the various units of the Unified Church School System. Not only do we have 9900 students at the Brigham Young University this fall, which will grow to over 11,500 before the year is ended, but we have approximately another thousand college students at Ricks College.

This year, also, there will be around 8,000 Latter-day Saint students enrolled in religious courses of university grade at 56 Mormon Institutes of Religion adjacent to 56 other colleges or universities, which include all of the major institutions of higher learning, save one, in the eleven Western States and the Province of Alberta, Canada. This is an increase of 40 colleges or universities at which we have organized Latter-day

Saint Institutes of Religion in the last five years. In our time Latter-day Saint Institutes of Religion will be organized all the way from New England and Florida on the East to Alaska and the southernmost area of California on the West, and in foreign countries. Already we have requests for such institutions from our students at the University of Florida and from our Saints in Germany and Hong Kong.

This year, also, religious classes are being given for approximately 50,000 Latter-day Saint high school students in Seminaries connected with 713 high schools extending all the way from Maryland on the East to the Hawaiian Islands on the West. I hope your child is one of those 50,000 choice spirits.

By the year 2000 A.D. we expect students in our Church institutions of secondary and higher education to more than quadruple. Truly for our young people the "glory of God is intelligence."

May the Lord bless us to appreciate the significance of this great educational system; may we have the inspiration to carry on under the simple but powerful instructions of Brigham Young, that we shall do nothing without the aid and inspiration of our Heavenly Father, I ask in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

President David O. McKay:

He who has just spoken to us is Dr. Ernest L. Wilkinson, president of the Brigham Young University at Provo, Utah.

PRESIDENT DAVID O. McKAY

My brethren and sisters, we have come to the closing exercises of a great conference. My soul, with yours, has been filled with thanksgiving and gratitude to our Heavenly Father for the outpourings of his Holy Spirit. We have heard some great messages from the leaders of this Church, and what I have noticed with great satisfaction, are the receptive audiences, showing that the messages were received graciously, with gratitude.

At noon today, there came to me the memory of something I had read years ago in a book entitled, *The Simple Life*, written by Charles Wagner. He said: "Your religion is good—first, if it is vital and active; second, if it nourishes in you confidence, hope, love, and a sentiment of the infinite value of existence; third, if it is allied with what is best in you against what is worst, and holds forever before you the necessity of becoming a new man; fourth, if it

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makes you understand that pain is a deliverer; fifth, if it increases your respect for the conscience of others; and sixth, if it renders forgiveness more easy, fortune less arrogant, duty more dear; the beyond less visionary."

The gospel when obeyed does all that and more. To this every true member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints can bear witness.

I love these associates of the General Authorities, and love them in the spirit of the true meaning of that word, the love of the brotherhood of Christ. God bless them and bless their wives and their children that the ideals that make for the dignity of manhood, that lead into the presence of our Heavenly Father may eventually continue to be perpetuated in our homes, in our association with our business fellows, and in all our travels.

God bless Zion, the pure in heart. God bless our friends with whom we associate, who are contributing, too, to the advancement of this great Church. We appreciate their fellowship.

God bless those who speak evil against us because they do not know us, and give us charity in our hearts for them, and may he enlighten their minds and open the vision of their souls that they may see Christ's Church as it is and that for which it stands. Hasten the coming of our Lord when peace shall reign and the kingdom of God be established, I pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

President David O. McKay:

The Tabernacle Choir will now favor us with, "Worthy Is The Lamb," conducted by Elder Richard P. Condie. The closing prayer will be offered by Elder Kenneth B. Dyer, formerly president of the West German Mission, after which this Conference will be adjourned for six months.

The singing, as you know, for this afternoon has been furnished by the members of the Tabernacle Choir, and you have thrilled with the excellency of their singing.

We express appreciation and gratitude for the public press, the reporters' fair and accurate reports throughout the

sessions of our Conference; for the co-operation of City officials, Police Chief W. Cleon Skousen, traffic officers in handling the increased traffic, for the Fire Department, and the Red Cross standing ready for any emergency.

We express appreciation to the ushers of the Tabernacle who have rendered service early and late in seating the great audiences; especially for the radio and television service 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 the Conference. All have been the means of permitting untold thousands of people to hear the proceedings of this, the One Hundred Twenty-Eighth Semi-Annual Conference of the Church.

We appreciate the singers throughout this entire Conference, the Relief Society Singing Mothers from the three Southern California regions, the Men's Chorus of the Tabernacle Choir last night thrilled us, and today this great Tabernacle Choir. They leave October 20th for a 23-day tour to major cities of the eastern United States, including Wichita, Kansas; Kansas City, Missouri; Columbus, Ohio; Washington, D. C.; Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, Boston; Toronto, Canada; Detroit, Chicago; and St. Louis, Missouri. Brother Condie, members of the Choir, Brother Hewlett, and the other officers, you have our prayers and best wishes for your success on this memorable tour.

The beautiful flowers which you see arranged on the stand and pulpit have come from two countries far removed from each other—South Africa and Hawaii. What we have said in other sessions we now repeat, and send greetings and thanks to those who so graciously furnished us with these beautiful flowers.

Tonight, the Deseret Sunday School Union Conference will convene in this building at seven o'clock. All Sunday School workers will wish to be in attendance. The public is cordially invited.

The Choir will now sign, "Worthy Is The Lamb," and the benediction will be offered by Elder Kenneth B. Dyer, and this Conference will be adjourned *sine die*.