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sation. Humility is a godly virtue. The missionary realizes that he is engaged in God's work. It is not man's work. His best qualifications are his worthiness and a firm and unshakable testimony.

Someone has said, "A testimony supported by two or more witnesses is worth a thousand arguments." I know that is true. Converts are a source of strength to the Church. On June 6, 1840 the first company of English converts left their native country for Nauvoo, Illinois. Other companies followed in rapid succession. They arrived in Nauvoo at a crucial moment when the forces of evil were asserting themselves with persistent and relentless fury. God is blessing

the missionary endeavors of 15,000 missionaries laboring at home and abroad. He will continue to do so.

God's work will triumph in the earth, and the warning is going forth to the nations. May the Lord inspire us to support the missionary program of this great Church, I humbly pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

President David O. McKay:

Elder Alma Sonne, Assistant to the Twelve, has just addressed us. Bishop Thorpe B. Isaacson of the Presiding Bishopric of the Church, will now speak to us.

BISHOP THORPE B. ISAACSON

First Counselor in the Presiding Bishopric

President McKay, President Moyle, President Smith, my beloved brethren and sisters: I am very grateful for the prayer offered by Brother Trauffer at the beginning of this session: He is a great man in his own right, deeply loved by the people in far-off Switzerland and by everyone.

When one faces this responsibility, I assure you that much fasting and prayer precedes this assignment.

I address my remarks today to the young men of America upon whom so much responsibility rests for all that we are to become in this land of freedom.

Not anything of value is without price, neither honor nor freedom, neither life nor living, neither health nor wealth, nor anything which is counted for the blessing of man. The greater the worth, the greater the price.

I cannot talk of all our great blessings within the limitation of my allotted time. Therefore, in considered judgment, I desire to speak of that great blessing of freedom which is so often talked about, so seldom appraised, and less frequently appreciated.

George Washington knew full well the price of freedom and felt it was his duty and a privilege to pay that price.

Abraham Lincoln was well acquainted with the price of freedom. In an editorial in the Church News, February

18, 1961, it was said of him, and I quote, "He realized that Washington's success lay largely in the divine help which came to him. Lincoln fully believed that God guided and prospered Washington in winning freedom for the United States." With this feeling, he spoke to his friends in Springfield before leaving for the nation's capitol, and said:

"I now leave, not knowing when or whether I may ever return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington. Without the assistance of that Divine Being who ever attended him [Washington] I cannot succeed. But with that assistance, I cannot fail." (John Wesley Hill, *Abraham Lincoln Man of God*, p. 206.)

Lincoln was convinced that "independence came to America as a gift of God, and that George Washington was but an instrument in the Divine Hand to bring it about."

Yes, Washington and Lincoln were both believers in God, humble servants who prayed constantly and received answers to their prayers.

I quote again from the editorial in the Church News:

"No man who has been an instrument in the hands of God, has any doubt about it. He knows it and feels it unerringly. He recognizes the divine Spirit upon him, he is conscious of its strength and of its direction.

"Lincoln wrote about this power and

said: 'I have had so many evidences of God's direction, so many instances when I have been controlled by some other power than my own will, that I cannot doubt that this power comes from above.'

"Washington experienced this same power and controlling force. He admitted it. He prayed about it. He gave thanks for it. . .

"But Washington having had the experience of being an instrument of heaven, also gave us warning: 'We ought to be persuaded that the propitious smiles of heaven can never be expected on a nation that disregards the eternal rules of order and right which heaven itself has ordained.'

"That is for now and for the future. Will God's hand continue to be over America?"

During the Civil War, it is reported that President Abraham Lincoln, when anxious over the battle of Gettysburg, stated:

"I went to my room one day and locked the door and got down on my knees before Almighty God and prayed to Him mightily for victory at Gettysburg. I told Him that this war was His and our cause His cause, but we could not stand another Fredericksburg or Chancellorsville. Then and there I made a solemn vow to Almighty God that if He would stand by our boys at Gettysburg, I would stand by Him, and He did stand by our boys and I will stand by Him. And after that, I don't know how it was and I cannot explain it but soon a sweet comfort crept into my soul." (*Ibid.*, pp. 339-340.)

What would our lives be without the freedoms we enjoy in America and elsewhere? But who can make reply except he who has been denied his freedom! How can free men who have always been free, know anything about the hopelessness of life unacquainted with freedom? Someone has said:

"Will a free man sell his liberty? Will he trifle with the freedom of his loved ones, his friends, his neighbors?—Will he barter the privileges and opportunities of free men for that which enslaves, downgrades initiative, destroys incentive? No! A thousand times, No! Yet

it is feared that apathy toward our blessings is creeping into our society as a malignant monster."

Let all who enjoy freedom in America, and everywhere else on earth, remember that the price of freedom comes high. Freedom has never been free to anyone. If there are those who believe and live as though freedom were free, we pray they may wake up, or be awakened, before it is too late.

To be specific: in America we have been warned that there is a movement attempting to set up new national organizations, master-minded by those who are the enemies of our form of government.

Conferences are being held, meetings are scheduled in an attempt to plan for youth organizations in America; youth organizations which will be secretly directed by men trained to deceive. Young men of America, youth of America—the future of our freedom, the future of democracy will soon be in your hands. With these responsibilities coming to you, we pray that you may never be victimized by the propaganda being master-minded by men who would destroy you, your country, and all freedom-loving nations everywhere.

There will be great emphasis upon American youth and an endeavor made to indoctrinate you with those ideologies that would enslave and destroy you. Publications will be printed, aimed directly at America's young people. Young men of America, we pray for your strength to shun these secret organizations. Have nothing to do with them. They are designed and organized for the purpose of weakening America from within. Leaders in these plans spearhead mob demonstrations by college students and others against honest investigations designed to expose their treachery.

Whenever there is frustration or turmoil within any segment of our government or within any freedom-loving nation, that is the time these secret organizations come forward in full force, inject their propaganda most successfully into the hearts and minds of youth in particular. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, has warned us, saying,—“during a period

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of international tension, America cannot afford to relax her internal defense even momentarily."

Information has already been published to the effect that an alarming number of scheming diplomatic personnel have received intelligence assignments in the United States. Young men of America, stand up strongly against anything and everything that would tend to destroy your faith in, and your love for, God and America. Do not be deceived. Your first impression of these unsuspected enemies may be favorable. That is their hope and their ambition. Refuse to listen to them; refuse to attend their meetings which are not open to the public. Secret meetings under the direction of these trained experts in propaganda may well be the beginning of trouble for you and for America unless you refuse to take part in such carefully veiled subversive activities.

During recent years, we have learned that some few young men have left our country and deflected to the enemies of our way of life. Some have taken valuable and confidential information to the enemy. Others, victimized by the cunning of these propaganda experts, have awakened too late. The future is dark for those who have failed their country, regardless of their motives or reasons for deflection or of giving aid to the enemy. Remember that deflection first takes place in the mind before it is expressed in actions. This is the real danger.

We have been told that the greatest effort will be concentrated among some of our institutions of learning. Therefore, young men of America, teachers, leaders, be on the alert for these new national youth organizations. Some of them will, according to the plan, be established under a deceitful guise only to entice your membership and attendance. Friendliness will be extended to you, favors, amusement, all with the hope, the desire to deceive, until you may become slightly indoctrinated, and then their cunning ways will become more and more severe until you have become their puppet.

College students and other young people should be strongly advised against joining any of these un-American

organizations. In American history, we have known of leaders who gave their lives for their country, patriots who would die rather than betray their great land of liberty and freedom. But those great blessings for which our leaders and patriots have died shall not long continue with us unless we recognize our responsibility to preserve our heritage and pay whatever price such preservation entails.

Every institution of higher learning, including our high schools, should make sure there are no youth organizations or activities within their schools not approved by those in authority, regardless of the attractive name, regardless of their surroundings, regardless of their first approach. Each new national youth organization should be thoroughly investigated and fearlessly exposed when any subversiveness is in evidence.

Colleges should be encouraged to turn out vigorous men. We cannot afford to turn out college men who shrink from physical effort or from a little physical pain. In any republic, courage is a prime necessity, and moral courage is needed.—The courage that dares, as well as the courage which endures, the courage that will fight valiantly alike, against the foes of the soul and the foes of the spirit.

It was never intended that our life on earth would be one of ease, since this life is but an interlude between two eternities.

Is there a need in American schools to teach our young men what America should really mean to them? And what about the young men of America who are not in our schools? Who will alert them? Because these secret youth organizations will be aimed directly at America's young people, leaders of state and city governments should investigate every new youth organization seeking to become established within their respective jurisdictions. Our danger is greatest from within. If America is to be destroyed, the enemy knows full well it will have to be weakened from within.

Young men of America, stand by the traditions of your founding fathers. Make no compromise with the enemies of your freedom. Stand for your rights. Be true to your government. Be known

and remembered for your patriotism, for your contribution to the freedom with which you would bless your posterity as you have been blessed by those who have paid the price and gone before.

Young men of America! Do you labor under the illusion that you can fight only behind a gun to defend your priceless heritage? Be not deceived! We are at war right now—not a shooting war, but a contention as real and deadly as any shooting war ever fought in the history of man. Think of the uncounted millions already enslaved by the enemy without the horrors of a shooting war.

Each one of us should resolve to do everything he can for his country, which has done so much for him; assist in helping the rest of the world realize what freedom is and to keep aglow the fire which can truly light the world. You share in the noblest privilege of man, which is to make God's work your own. "Men must choose to be governed by God or they condemn themselves to be ruled by tyrants," was the way William Penn pronounced our death sentence as a nation or expressed our hope for survival.

Someone has said there is enough wrong now among our citizens to indicate the need of a real moral and spiritual reawakening if America's greatness is to do the efficient job which it is capable of doing and which must be done!

Indeed, the ultimate failure or glory, happiness or misery, of the people of America is dependent upon their active support of its freedoms and the homage they pay to the God of this land.

Young men of America, God is your Father. Jesus Christ is your beloved Savior, the Son of God. God lives. Jesus Christ is your elder Brother. The Church of Jesus Christ is on the earth. You need not look very far to find it. The gospel is here. The truth is here. Today there is a living prophet, a prophet who lives so close to God our Father that he constantly receives inspiration and revelation. Inspiration and revelation has never ceased and will never cease in this Church.

Young men of America, I bear testimony to you that President David O. McKay is the Prophet of God, repre-

senting Jesus Christ here in the earth. I bear you this testimony in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

President David O. McKay:

Bishop Thorpe B. Isaacson of the Presiding Bishopric has just concluded speaking. The combined choirs of the Logan Institute and the Utah State University at Logan will now favor us with "Almighty God Of Our Fathers," conducted by James L. Bradley.

We are always inspired with the presence of young people from our leading institutions of learning. I am impressed to say to these young people, following this appeal to them, that we are happy to have you here with us this morning, and shall greet you again this afternoon. As the poet says:

There are gains for all our losses,
There are balms for all our pain:
But when youth, the dream, departs,
It takes something from our hearts
And it never comes again.

We are stronger, and are better,
Under manhood's sterner reign:
Still we feel that something sweet
Followed youth, with flying feet,
And will never come again.

Something beautiful is vanished,
And we sigh for it in vain:
We behold it everywhere,
On the earth, and in the air,
But it never comes again.

Treasure it, students; keep your youth by living in the spiritual ideals of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Yes, we welcome you, and now will listen with appreciation to "Almighty God Of Our Fathers." The benediction will be offered by Elder Julius B. Papa, president of the Gridley Stake, after which this Conference will be adjourned until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

Singing by the Combined Choirs of the Logan Institute of Religion and the Utah State University, "Almighty God Of Our Fathers."

The closing prayer was offered by Elder Julius B. Papa, president of the Gridley Stake.

Conference adjourned until 2:00 p.m.