

ing the sessions of the conference.

We thank our city officials for the cooperation given this conference; the Relief Society and Church Health Unit nurses, who have been on hand to render service throughout the conference; and the ushers and interpreters.

We again express appreciation to the owners and managers of the many radio and television stations who have given public service time to carry

sessions of this conference in many countries.

Our beloved prophet, President Spencer W. Kimball, will be the concluding speaker of the conference, after which the Tabernacle Choir will sing "I Need Thee Every Hour."

The benediction will be offered by Elder Richard G. Scott, a member of the First Quorum of the Seventy.

This conference will then stand adjourned for six months.

President Spencer W. Kimball

What a joy it is to be in this conference and to hear the word of the Lord as it has been given by so many of the Brethren. As always, my brothers and sisters, I am thankful, personally, as well as in behalf of the Church members, for the counsel and encouragement we have received in this general conference. Those who have provided the music have added so much to these sessions. Those of you who are in attendance have listened thoughtfully, and you have been fed the bread of life. Most of all, the Lord has blessed us with his Spirit, for which we are deeply grateful.

Determination to do better

What has been received, however, must not be put out of our thoughts with the singing of the closing hymn. As we have listened to each sermon, we have added our own emphatic *amens*. With the final *amen* this afternoon still ringing in our ears, let us go back to our homes with a determination to do better and to put into practice those principles we have learned about in the last two days.

Brothers and sisters, our challenge is the same as it always is when we have been taught correct principles. The challenge has been put well by an ancient prophet who

said, "Now, if you believe all these things see that ye do them" (Mosiah 4:10). We must not let the inner resolves we have made during this conference be forgotten as we return to the trials and tribulations and responsibilities of a workaday world, a world of turmoil and strife.

Christ our shepherd to lead us

For a few hours we have been apart from the world in general conference, and the Spirit has whispered peace to our souls. Now we must return to our places again in the world, but we are better prepared to improve the world. Let us more fully and confidently go ahead and meet the problems that beset us. Let us move forward confidently, not with halting steps, but steadily, and with persistent dedication borne of the Spirit.

It has been a great time of rejoicing during these days of conference, when friends have met friends and where the Saints have received much counsel. If all who have been to this conference will return to their homes and make up their minds that they are going to fulfill the obligations they have agreed to—that will be splendid!

We are bound to note events and trends in the world which will

constitute special challenges. We cannot expect to live in times of turbulence without experiencing some of that turbulence ourselves. But we do not need to be "tossed to and fro, and carried about [by] every wind of doctrine" without anchor (see Eph. 4:14). We have fellowship in a divine church. We have present-day prophets to guide us. We have Christ as our shepherd to lead us.

Church to fill the earth

Even so, brethren and sisters, modern communications have a way of bringing the world into our homes, and we must not lose our perspective, even if others are confused. If we hear discouraging reports and are sobered by events in the world, let us not become faint-hearted—"Do not weary by the way." The Lord's program will succeed even if some individuals in the Church fail. We will see the constant progress of the Lord's work, even in the midst of problems in the world. It will roll forth until it fills the whole earth. He has given us his assurances so many, many times. He has told us that if we will keep his commandments he is bound to keep his promises to us. He does! He will!

I suppose if I have learned anything in life, it is that we are to keep moving, keep trying—as long as we breathe! If we do, we will be surprised at how much more can still be done.

We are very much impressed by the Lamanite program, which is so very impressive to me, and we come to realize that this program is a reality. It is not a question in our minds; it is a reality, and it is spread far and wide in the world. We are very proud of the work that is being done. We are grateful for it. We are greatly conscious of the fact that among the Lamanites—as well as among all peoples of the other countries—we have a responsibility to see that the

gospel reaches their hearts and minds and that they understand it.

Love for all nations

We say again to the good people of this Church: Now let us go forth, having been edified, to bless and edify our families, our neighbors, and our friends. We are bound together by the fact that we are all literal children of our Heavenly Father and that he loves us.

We have spoken much about love today. Whenever I think of the countries of the world which I have visited in my lifetime, I have a very great love for them and their peoples—for them as individuals and as a people who have responded to us at one time or another.

Brethren and sisters, I would like to be known as one who loves his brothers and sisters. I would like that love to be extended far and near by all the visitors who leave this conference and go to other places to carry on the work of the Lord.

Blessing and testimony

The Lord lives, God lives, and Jesus is the Christ. He is the Only Begotten Son, the Savior and the Redeemer of this world. It is my solemn testimony that we are the Lord's witnesses, and we are grateful indeed in our hearts for the constant surveillance of the Lord Jesus Christ, for all that he means to us, and for all that he does and gives to us.

The Lord bless you, my dear brethren and sisters. I hope that you will go forward now with a new spring in your walk and that you may be able to carry forward the things that you have planned all your life to do. I hope that you will do them well and do them better than they have ever been done before. And I hope that you will give to the numerous people who need the Lord's blessings

that which they need so much: the assurance that the Gospel is here, that the Lord is God, that Jesus Christ is the Redeemer, and that we can depend on him totally in our work.

We pray that the Lord may continue to bless you, and we would be glad if you take back to your homes and to your people our sincere and

deep love. God bless you, in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

The Choir sang "I Need Thee Every Hour."

Elder Richard G. Scott offered the benediction.

GENERAL WELFARE SESSION SATURDAY MORNING

A general welfare services session was held in connection with general conference on Saturday, October 4, 1980, beginning at 7:00 A.M. In attendance at this meeting were General Authorities, Regional Representatives, stake presidencies, high councilors involved in welfare work, bishoprics, stake and ward Relief Society presidencies, and others responsible for operating welfare production projects.

President Spencer W. Kimball presided at and conducted this session.

President Kimball opened the meeting with the following remarks:

President Spencer W. Kimball

Beloved brothers and sisters, we welcome you to this general welfare services meeting.

In this day of economic uncertainty, it is more important than ever that we as leaders learn and teach to our people the principles of welfare. The instructions to be given to you today have been prepared

especially to aid you at this critical time. We urge you, therefore, to give careful consideration to what is said and to pass on to others within your local organizations what you learn here.

Under the direction of Donald Ripplinger with Roy Darley at the organ, we shall begin this meeting by singing hymn number 64, "Hope of Israel."

The congregation sang "Hope of Israel"

President Kimball

Elder William R. Bradford of the First Quorum of the Seventy will offer the invocation.

The invocation was given by Elder William R. Bradford.
