

**MESSAGES OF THE
FIRST PRESIDENCY**

OF

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST

OF

LATTER-DAY SAINTS

INTRODUCTION, NOTES

AND INDEX

BY

JAMES R. CLARK, Ed.D.

VOLUME SIX

1935-1951



BOOKCRAFT, INC.
Salt Lake City, Utah

PREFACE

Acknowledgement is made, as for the previous volumes, to the many agencies and individuals who have given helpful suggestions and have cooperated in the locating of the *Messages* comprising this volume. The debt I owe for this assistance has now widened until I hesitate to be specific lest I fail to acknowledge portions of that indebtedness. Again, as with previous volumes the staffs of the Library and Archives Departments at both the headquarters of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Salt Lake City and at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah, have been very helpful.

Two colleagues of mine at Brigham Young University, Dr. Richard Cowan and Edward J. Brandt, were extremely helpful in providing copies of documents from their own collections.

Again I acknowledge the kindness and cooperation of Marvin Wallin and George Bickerstaff of Bookcraft, Inc. Their continued support of the series is hereby acknowledged and profound thanks given.

JAMES R. CLARK

COPYRIGHT © 1975 BY
BOOKCRAFT, INC.

1st Printing, 1975



LITHOGRAPHED IN U.S.A. BY
PUBLISHERS PRESS

A
 Vol
 R.
 195
 nei
 acc
 al
 Hel
 and
 len
 I
 the
 rep
 sior
 Chu
 aga
 in 1
 Chu
 kno
 gra
 yea
 com
 sage
 cerr
 Chu
 botl
 with
 Pre
 the
 gra
 and
 forc
 inch
 Chu
 and
 as a
 drav
 A
 this
 of a
 show
 affai
 the
 tion

CONTENTS

	Page
Quorum of Twelve members released from auxiliary organization positions, January 18, 1935.....	1
A Testimony to the World, April, 1935.....	3
High status of women in L.D.S. theology, May, 1935.....	5
Patriarchal blessings, September 13, 1935.....	6
Christmas greeting, December 24, 1935.....	7
Church Welfare Program, April 7, 1936.....	9
Stake missionary work, March 23, 1936.....	13
Warning on Communism, July 3, 1936.....	16
Church Security Plan, October 2, 1936.....	18
Christmas greeting, December 22, 1936.....	23
Christmas and Church Security Plan, December, 1936.....	23
Church Security, January, 1937.....	24
Evils of alcohol, April 26, 1937.....	25
Arts of homemaking, storehouses, and canning, May 4, 1937.....	27
Memorial Day address, Zion National Park, May 20, 1937.....	29
Patriarchal blessings, July 23, 1937.....	36
Fast offering funds, August 11, 1937.....	36
Church Security Program, September 30, 1937.....	36
Christmas message, December 9, 1937.....	37
Church Security survey, December 31, 1937.....	41
Church Improvement and Beautification program, February, 1938.....	41
Young people away from home, February, 1938.....	42
Manti Temple, May 4, 1938.....	43
Boy Scout Program in the Church, June 4, 1938.....	43
L.D.S. Church educational system and philosophy, August 8, 1938.....	44
Deseret Industries Church-wide, August 11, 1938.....	58
Deseret Industries, August 10, 1938.....	59
Temple recommends, October 17, 1938.....	60
Christmas message, December, 1938.....	61
Anti-liquor-tobacco campaign, January, 1939.....	62
Brigham Young University Board of Trustees, January 19, 1939.....	62
Church Welfare Program, Estes Park, Colorado, presentation, June 20, 1939.....	62
Performance of civil marriages by Church officers, August 22, 1939.....	88
Salt Lake Tabernacle Choir, September 28, 1939.....	88
World Peace, October 6, 1939.....	89
Comment on war, November, 1939.....	92
Greeting and prayer for a war-torn world, December, 1939.....	93

	Page
Changes in Aaronic Priesthood program, January 13, 1940.....	95
America's Divine Destiny, June 9, 1940.....	95
Health standards for missionaries, July 1, 1940.....	113
Idaho Falls and Los Angeles Temples, July 2, 1940.....	113
<i>Handbook of Instructions No. 16</i> , September 3, 1940.....	113
Recommending prospective missionaries, September 26, 1940	114
To a World at War, October 4, 1940.....	115
Christmas greetings, December, 1940.....	117
Status of Church officers and missionaries under the Burke- Wadsworth Act for military service, December 31, 1940..	119
Issuance of temple recommends, January 6, 1941.....	121
Expense allowances of Stake Presidents, January 29, 1941....	122
Death of Elder Reed Smoot, February 9, 1941	122
Sunday School and Stake Conferences, February 15, 1941	123
Assistants to the Quorum of Twelve called, April 6, 1941.....	123
Greeting to youth of the Church, June 6, 1941.....	124
Mormon pioneer commemoration, June 6, 1941.....	125
Church opposed to federal payments for not raising crops, especially on Welfare Program farms, June 13, 1941.....	125
Church not opposed to rebates from sugar companies to sugar beet growers, June, 1941.....	126
Sunday funerals discouraged, June 13, 1941.....	127
Medical serological tests before marriage, June 27, 1941.....	127
Mormon pioneer commemoration, June 28, 1941.....	127
Those receiving induction notices for military service not to be called as missionaries, July 10, 1941.....	127
L.D.S. Church literature for those in military, August 6, 1941	128
Care in advancing men in the priesthood, August 21, 1941.....	128
Care in issuing temple recommends, August 23, 1941.....	129
Labor unions and right to work, September 26, 1941.....	130
Trail Builders in Primary organization, September, 1941.....	133
Aaronic Priesthood pageant, October 1, 1941.....	133
Home Builders program in Primary organization, October, 1941	133
To Primary children, November, 1941	134
Employment in defense work, December, 1941.....	135
Uncertainty of employment in government defense programs, December 3, 1941	137
Cruelty, hate, murder to be avoided even in war, December 13, 1941	139
Calling of missionaries with United States at war, December 23, 1941	141
Day of prayer proclaimed by President of the United States supported by the Church, January 2, 1942.....	143
All L.D.S. missionaries to register for military service under Conscription Act of 1941, January 14, 1942.....	144
Auxiliary institutes and conventions discontinued during wartime, January 17, 1942.....	144

	Page
Restrictions on war-time travel of Church officers, January 21, 1942	145
Restrictions on auxiliary organization meetings, January 27, 1942.....	145
Counsel on employment in defense work, January, 1942.....	145
Rudger Clawson's eighty-fifth birthday	145
Foreign language meetings banned, March 12, 1942.....	145
General Conference attendance curtailed, March, 1942.....	146
Admission to General Conference by ticket only, March 14, 1942	146
No missionaries to avoid military service, March 23, 1942.....	146
Church-wide survey of members in military service, defense industries and missionary service, March 23, 1942.....	146
Position of the Church on current issues such as war, military service, false political <i>isms</i> , church and state, etc., April 6, 1942	148
The Church's Part in Defense, April 6, 1942.....	163
Purpose of sacrament meetings, April 25, 1942.....	165
Dress and grooming standards for missionaries, June 1, 1942..	168
Ordination of men in military service to the Melchizedek Priesthood, June 19, 1942.....	168
Expiration dates for temple recommends, July, 1942.....	168
Death of Henry H. Blood, July 14, 1942.....	169
Serological tests before temple marriages, August 17, 1942.....	169
Ward and stake clerks not members of bishoprics and stake presidencies, September 24, 1942.....	169
Restricted authority of auxiliary organizations of the Church, October 2, 1942	169
Admission to General Conference by ticket, October 3, 1942 ..	169
General epistle of the First Presidency to the Saints in every land, October 3, 1942.....	170
Regular audit of all financial records of the branches of the Church, October 10, 1942.....	185
Literature for those in the military service, October 14, 1942	186
Financial audit of mission records, October 19, 1942.....	186
Wearing of temple garments by military personnel, October 30, 1942	186
Support for "curfew" ordinances to protect young people, especially young women, November 23, 1942.....	186
Supplementary rations of automobile fuel for bishoprics and stake presidencies under government (O.P.A.) regulations, December 7, 1942	187
Survey of Church members in military service, December 19, 1942	187
Annual Christmas greeting, December 19, 1942.....	187
Clean-up campaign for all L.D.S. Church property, December 22, 1942	191
L.D.S. literature for military personnel, January, 1943.....	191
Recognition standards of the Church, January 16, 1943.....	193

	Page
Local leadership in missions encouraged, February 25, 1943....	193
Regional conferences as part of General Conference inaugurated, April 3, 1943	193
L.D.S. literature for military personnel, May 12, 1943.....	193
Role of Church patriarchs and patriarchal blessings, May 25, 1943	194
Serological tests before temple marriages in Utah, July 6, 1943	197
Older couples called for missionary service, July 26, 1943.....	197
Young men may be ordained elders at 18 years of age dependent on individual worthiness, August 13, 1943.....	198
Ban on publication of lists of servicemen, August 31, 1943	198
Special temple projects to clear male names in temples, September 13, 1943	198
Church finances, October 1, 1943	198
Recommending of missionaries during the war, November 20, 1943	204
Annual Christmas greeting, December 18, 1943.....	206
<i>Handbook of Instructions</i> , January, 1944.....	206
No Church auxiliary organization meeting during war except by special permission, January 15, 1943.....	206
Annual American Red Cross drive, February 25, 1944.....	207
Age restriction on calling of bishops during war, May 24, 1944	207
Postponement of dedication of Idaho Falls Temple, May 27, 1944	207
Invasion of Europe, June 6, 1944.....	207
Church publications and reading committees appointed, August 9, 1944	208
V-Day suggestions, September 9, 1944	216
Limited attendance at General Conference because of travel restrictions, September 13, 1944	217
Notice of Semiannual General Conference, October, 1944.....	217
Annual Christmas greeting, December 16, 1944.....	217
Care for wounded L.D.S. servicemen, January 16, 1945.....	220
Urgent call for Spanish-speaking missionaries, February 8, 1945	220
Proposed unification of L.D.S. Church school system rejected, February 21, 1945	220
Receiving and accounting for tithing is the exclusive responsibility of the Bishop, February 24, 1945.....	223
Contribution of the First Presidency to the repair of the Pilgrim Baptist Church, Salt Lake City, Utah, February 26, 1945	224
Discontinuance of the Church periodical, <i>Liahona</i> , February 27, 1945	225
Notice of the Annual Conference of the Church, February 27, 1945	225
March 9, 1945	225

	Page
Anticipated centennial celebration of Mormon pioneers, July 2, 1945	226
Regional and union meetings of Church resume, July 16, 1945	226
Special day of fasting and prayer, August 18, 1945	226
Dedication of Idaho Falls Temple, September 8, 1945.....	226
Night driving is hazardous, caution urged, September 27, 1945	226
Solemn Assembly to sustain President George Albert Smith, September 28, 1945	227
Apostates, unauthorized persons or dissentient members not allowed to instruct in official Church gatherings and classes, October 29, 1945	227
Charge to Howard S. McDonald as president of Brigham Young University, November 14, 1945	228
Church opposed to Universal Compulsory Military Training, December 14, 1945	239
Annual Christmas message, December, 1945	243
No missionary farewells on Sunday, December 26, 1945.....	243
Warning against delusive spirits, questionable stock ventures, mining schemes, etc., December 29, 1945.....	243
European relief and call of Ezra Taft Benson as European Mission President, January 14, 1946.....	245
Priesthood leadership and returning servicemen, January 21, 1946	246
Evening meeting of stake conferences to be held by the MIA	250
Annual drive of the American Red Cross, February 25, 1946..	250
Ward fast meeting not to be held on General Conference Sundays, March 20, 1946	251
Church Welfare Program, April 6, 1946	251
Writers who use official Church records and sources expected to write objectively and fairly about the Church, April 19, 1946	251
Purpose of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, May 2, 1946..	252
Universal compulsory military service, June 28, 1946.....	253
Sacrament meeting honoring Mormon pioneers, June 28, 1946	255
Curtailement of number of mission periodicals, December 7, 1946	255
Annual Christmas greeting, December, 1946.....	255
Restrictions on travel of Mission Presidents and mission officers outside their jurisdictions, January 18, 1947	255
American Red Cross annual drive, January 28, 1947.....	255
Missionary farewells, January 30, 1947.....	255
Temple prayer circle patterns not to be used or imitated outside temples, January 30, 1947.....	256
Support for Brigham Young University through Alumni Association, February 25, 1947	256
Meeting the spiritual needs of young men drafted into military service, March 10, 1947	256

	Page
Special meeting in the Salt Lake Temple at General Conference, March 20, 1947	256
Revelation on counselors for Mission Presidents, April 2, 1947	256
Missionaries should be Mission President's first concern, April, 1947	258
Re-evaluation of use of older missionary couples, April 24, 1947	258
Organization of elders quorums in missions, June 20, 1947....	259
Patriarchs and patriarchal blessings, July 10, 1947.....	260
Establishment of stakes within mission boundaries, July 15, 1947	264
Ward and stake fund-raising to be confined within their jurisdictions, July 15, 1947.....	264
Mormon Pioneer Centennial, July 15, 1947	265
Centennial message from the First Presidency, July, 1947....	265
Stake and ward music committees, October, 1947.....	267
Special fast day to aid European Saints, October 30, 1947....	268
Report on special fast day, November 18, 1947.....	269
To the Latter-day Saints everywhere, December, 1947.....	269
Counsel for a New Year, January, 1948	270
<i>Handbook of Instructions</i> , 1948 reprint, January, 1948.....	272
Revised Hymnbook, January, 1948	272
American Red Cross drive, February 9, 1948.....	272
Special session of the April General Conference, March 13, 1948	272
Program to assist and protect girls moving to urban centers, March 28, 1948	272
Anniversary of restoration of Melchizedek Priesthood, April 15, 1948	273
Returned missionaries to accompany stake high councilmen on ward visits, April 19, 1948	273
Stake patriarchs and high priest quorum presidencies are not stake administrative officers, May 21, 1948.....	273
All Church building operations postponed, May 21, 1948.....	273
All missions to send surplus fast offerings to Church headquarters, June 14, 1948.....	274
Influence of Church-owned newspapers, July 8, 1948.....	275
Returning missionaries to be interviewed at stake conferences, July 16, 1948	278
Regulations for coming registration of youths from 18 to 26 for military service, August 19, 1948.....	278
Working agreement between L.D.S. Church and Selective Service on calling L.D.S. missionaries, November 18, 1948	278
Christmas message by President George Albert Smith, December, 1948	279
Christmas greeting from First Presidency, December 15, 1948	280
American Red Cross annual drive, January 19, 1949.....	280
Serological tests before marriage in Utah temples,	280

	Page
Temple marriages must meet legal requirements of state in which couple resides, February 3, 1949.....	280
Safeguards for young women who migrate to urban centers, February 23, 1949	280
Serological tests, summary of previous instructions, February 28, 1949	281
Urge people to do temple work, March 19, 1949.....	282
Scouting, March 31, 1949	282
Commemoration of restoration of the Melchizedek Priesthood, April 25, 1949	282
Twentieth anniversary of the organization of the Czechoslovakian Mission, July 24, 1949.....	282
Two films on Church Welfare Program, August 10, 1949....	283
All persons to be members of ward in which their residence is located, November 28, 1949.....	283
Christmas greeting from President George Albert Smith, December, 1949	283
Annual Christmas greeting, December 14, 1949.....	283
<i>Handbook of Instructions</i> , 1950 reprint, January, 1950.....	283
<i>Scouting in the L.D.S. Church</i> , January, 1950	283
American Red Cross annual drive, January 16, 1950.....	283
Purchase of pianos and organs for L.D.S. Church buildings, January 20, 1950	284
Special session of Annual Conference in Salt Lake Temple, March 10, 1950	284
Merchandising of books or other materials in L.D.S. chapels or buildings of worship against Church policy, March 27, 1950	284
Living allowances of General Authorities, April 18, 1950.....	284
New fieldhouse for Brigham Young University, May 12, 1950	284
L.D.S. Girls Program, May 15, 1950	285
Annual commemoration of restoration of Melchizedek Priesthood, June 1, 1950	285
Instructions on calling of missionaries, September 27, 1950	285
Conducting ward and branch conferences, September 28, 1950	287
Proper wearing of temple garments by men in military service, October 2, 1950	287
Regulations on calling of missionaries of draft age, October 20, 1950	288
Only members of record in a ward or branch of the Church should be called as officers, November 15, 1950.....	290
Annual Christmas message, December 13, 1950.....	290
Membership of missionaries to remain in ward or branch from which they were called, January 29, 1951.....	290
Restrictions on calling missionaries due to obligations for military service, January 30, 1951.....	291
American Red Cross annual appeal, February 26, 1951.....	292
L.D.S. Girls Program, February 19, 1951.....	293