

they can scarcely move without violating them. One eminent writer has said that where the country in which we live chooses our occupation, we need no other talent, no other ability than the ape-like ability of imitation; but where we choose our own occupation we bring in to use all our faculties. I believe in giving children all possible latitude, so long as they do not violate the laws of righteousness. I do not like to see them chained so closely, to be bound by so many rules. I like to see them develop themselves and exhibit the talents and the thoughts which God has planted in their hearts. Sometimes their wisdom is far greater than that of men and women and we should give them the opportunity to develop. Keep them, of course always in proper restraint and under proper influences.

Speaking upon this subject, I want to say here that I know of no better institution outside of the homes of the Latter-day Saints for the inculcation of these very principles than the Latter-day Saints College in this State. I believe that school is having its influence among the people. It is turning out, not only educated young men in the secular sense of the word, but it is turning out cultivated, polite and obedient sons and daughters. It is going further than giving them mere book learning (which we should appreciate to its full extent); it is giving the children something superior to this. So are schools of like character throughout the Church. I would consider it a public calamity for this Latter-day Saints College to be closed because the people fail to give it the financial support which it needs. The tuition which is charged is not sufficient to pay the salaries of the teachers; but the amount is a trifling sum compared with the benefits which our children receive from such an institution. If they were never taught a single lesson from a book, I would consider they were still learning valuable lessons by their association with such men as teach in that school. I know the men and women who teach there. I know them to be men and women of high character, and they have the interests of the work of God at heart; and if the children should live in their atmosphere, I would feel that \$10 was a small amount to pay for such a privilege. The effect of watching these men would be found in the characters of the children and in their actions in life. I was reading only last night of a woman who had three sons, all of whom had gone to sea and had been lost on the ocean; and the fourth son, her last, was growing up and had developed this same inclination. She desired to break it. She did not know why it was that her children all wanted to follow the sea, for they lived a long way inland. She sent to her minister and asked him if he could not use some influence upon her remaining son to induce him to remain at home. He did so but his words seemed to have little effect. In passing through the house he saw a beautiful painting on the wall of a full rigged ship that was battling successfully with the waves. He said, "How long have you had that picture in the house? I believe that is the foundation of the desire of your children to go to sea. It has been daily before their eyes, and has directed their attention to the ocean; they have looked upon the grandeur of the vessel in full sail and have wanted to see that in reality." This picture may have had that effect upon her children; but whether so or

not, the effect of a living example upon children is marvelous; and I wish that we had great men who could move around among the people, and especially among our children. Though they were incapable of speaking publicly, if they could only show integrity by their daily walk and conversation before the eyes of the children, they would have a host of imitators. And this is what they have in the Latter-day Saints College. They have before them the examples of good men and women, who, besides this, give them the mental training which they need, and the moral education which should lay at the foundation of every student's school life. I know that we appreciate too little the teachers we have in our midst. Considering the time and means which they expend in procuring the education necessary to prepare themselves for the stations which they fill, they are the poorest paid people in the Church, or in the community. They are not paid half the value for their services which they should have, and I do not wonder that they sometimes go off and seek employment in other directions, feeling that they are not appreciated by the people. If I were not for the encouragement which they themselves receive in knowing that they are progressing and gaining riches which they will take with them when they pass from this life, I think more of them would go into other businesses than have already done so. But I would like to see their hands sustained and their efforts appreciated by the Latter-day Saints. As I say, in these schools they will be taught the obedience necessary to make them good sons and daughters, and good members of the Church, obedient to the Priesthood and yielding ready response to every call that is made of them.

We have heard during this conference, that about fifty per cent. of those enrolled in quorums are in attendance at their meetings. It is a shame and a disgrace! What would be the result if fifty per cent. of the armies of the United States in a time of war were to report on duty? Why, there would be some wholesale shooting, because they would be accounted as deserters, and they would meet a deserter's fate. We today are living in a time just as perilous as any that ever threatened the nations of the earth. They threaten today the Kingdom of God. Yet soldiers in the cause of Christ will sleep on their arms! They can attend meeting on Sunday, but on business days they must be excused. God will call us to an account if we take this course with the stewardship which He has conferred upon us. We are not yielding obedience to the Priesthood when we do it. Hour after hour, and day after day, the Priesthood, as the watchmen, are crying to the people, especially to the Priesthood, that danger is nigh; that the last days have come, of which Jesus spoke, and troubles are coming upon the nation. They try to rouse the people from slumbering. Heavy slumber has closed their eyes, and even when they awaken, oil is not in their lamps and they cannot go forth. I believe sore affliction will come upon us unless we change our course in this respect.

Let us have obedience in our homes. Let us teach our children the laws of God in respect to their meetings and other duties, and when we do this we will see more respect paid to the aged than is now done. Our aged people do

not have the respect of the young which they should have. Upon the streets and in public places you see the aged and infirm neglected. Once in awhile you will find one young man or one young woman that pays respect to grey hairs; and it is such a noted exception among us that we speak of it in our public assemblies. It should be the exception to find a young man who does not respect grey hairs, instead of having it the rule. I wish we could adopt in Zion one at least, of the laws enforced in Sparta, where it was required that when a grey-haired man or woman came into the midst of the people, every young man should rise to his feet until that aged person was comfortably seated. It is said that an Athenian went into a theatre in his own city and passed among his own countrymen, but no one offered him a seat. Then he came to where the Spartan ambassadors were sitting, and they arose to a man, with their retinue, and took this aged veteran and placed him on a seat of honor among them. It was because of this respect that was paid to the aged that they said it was pleasant to grow old in Sparta. I know that there is a feeling of kindness towards the aged, and we should try to make their lot in life easy. Thanks to those brethren who every year use their efforts, their means and their time to give these aged people an excursion. Thanks to them, I say, and their names are enshrined in the hearts of many to whom they have brought gladness and happiness, at least one or two days in the year. I wish this feeling prevailed among our young people, that they would have respect to the old and infirm and not make light of their infirmities. Wherever they go, let them feel that it is an honor to have an aged person lean upon their arm, and feel that they are bearing the burdens of the Lord when they can have such brethren and sisters lean upon them for a little time. Yet you will find right here among us disrespect to the aged. These men and women who have made this country, who have brought the water from the canyons, who have made the bridges and cut the roads, these are the people whom we now cast aside, and I feel that many of us proclaim by our actions the same statement that was made this morning by the President of the Stake—"Better take them out and shoot them." I know God will not bless us if we indulge in this spirit.

I wish we could feel that importance that we occupy in the midst of the people today. Do you think you would see our sidewalks lined here every evening, as you will see tonight, by young men puffing their cigarette smoke, staring people out of countenance, playing on the rails within this enclosure, while services were being conducted. When the prophet of God stands up here to instruct the people you will find these young people loafing around the corners, wasting their time, disgracing themselves and their parentage and their calling as the people of God. Go where you will, and you will find boys and girls loafing at night on the street corners and paying no attention whatever to the commands of their parents and to their superiors in the Church, nor paying any attention to those who are older than they. The Lord will have a shaking up among the people, and He will put life into the dry bones, or He will bury them so deep that they cannot be resurrected. We need not suppose, because we