

financial management caused the discontinuance of this program in 1965. More than 2,000 buildings were constructed under this system.

In the late 1950s, increased construction in the United States and Canada led to the creation of four area offices within the Building Department in Salt Lake City, each supervising property acquisitions, plan refinement, construction, and financial management of projects within a geographical area. These area offices have been divided and extended through the years to include other countries as well. During the late 1950s and early 1960s, building plans evolved toward more diversified styles.

In 1965 a new Church Building Committee, under the chairmanship of Mark B. Garff, instituted more centralized control of the building program. The headquarters office continued to prepare detailed standardized plans and specifications, including color schemes and landscape designs, for virtually all new buildings. Local architects were retained for each project to help in preparing site plans, obtaining competitive bids and building permits, and overseeing construction. In 1978 the Real Estate, Building, and Operations and Maintenance divisions were combined into the Department of Physical Facilities, with Fred A. Baker as managing director. Area offices were expanded, increased in number, extended worldwide, and placed under the direction of General Authorities assigned as area presidencies in 1984, with many offices moved to the regions they served. Plans for meetinghouses were still produced in the headquarters office in Salt Lake City and distributed through these offices. The ratio of Church to local financial participation in building projects changed over these years, to 70–30 in 1960, to 96–4 in 1982, and to 100–0 in 1990. In the United States, nearly all construction is performed by contractors, while in some other countries local members still contribute some labor. Where practical, meetinghouses are shared by two or more wards or branches.

The building of temples throughout the world has remained under the close supervision of the First Presidency. The Temples and Special Projects Division of the Building Department (later the Department of Physical Facilities) in Salt Lake City began supervising the preparation of plans and construction of temples throughout the world in 1965. In 1983 the design of temple standard plans was transferred to the Architectural and En-

gineering Division. In most cases, local architects have been retained to adapt these standard designs to local conditions and styles and to aid in supervising bidding and construction.

The centrally directed building program has been one of the largest and most costly programs of the Church. While the high degree of central control and standardization may have discouraged architectural innovation and flexibility in meeting local circumstances, the system has provided consistent guidelines and orderly procedures for an enormous undertaking. Between 1948 and 1990, it directed the construction of more than 8,500 buildings, supporting and aiding the growth and development of the Church around the world.

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BULLETIN

The *Bulletin* (1980–) constitutes official correspondence from Church headquarters to all general and local-unit Church leaders. It was formerly called the *Messenger* (1956–1964), the *Priesthood Bulletin* (1965–1974), and the *Messages* (1975–1980). Issued as needed by the Correlation Department of the Church under the direction of the FIRST PRESIDENCY and the QUORUM OF THE TWELVE, it communicates or reaffirms current Church policies, practices, procedures, and programs. All previous *Bulletins* are periodically superseded by the issuance of a revised GENERAL HANDBOOK OF INSTRUCTIONS and by policy letters from the First Presidency.

J. HUGH BAIRD

BURIAL

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints counsels its members to bury their dead in the earth to return dust to dust, unless the law of the

country requires CREMATION. However, the decision whether to bury or cremate the body is left to the family of the deceased, taking into account any laws governing the matter. Burial of the body usually follows a funeral or graveside service. The body of a deceased member of the Church who has received the temple ENDOWMENT should be dressed in temple clothing. RELIEF SOCIETY sisters dress deceased women, and priesthood brethren the men. When it is not possible to clothe the body, temple clothing may be laid over it.

A member of the BISHOPRIC typically presides at the burial, where a simple, earnest prayer is offered to dedicate the grave, with blessings promised as the Spirit dictates. This prayer may include a dedication of the grave as a sacred resting place until the resurrection if the person giving the prayer holds the MELCHIZEDEK PRIESTHOOD and has been asked to give such a dedication. The grave site often becomes a sacred spot for the family of the deceased to visit and care for.

CHARLES D. TATE, JR.

BURNINGS, EVERLASTING

Moses described God as a “consuming fire” (Deut. 4:24), his glory consuming everything corrupt and unholy (D&C 63:34; 101:23–24). The Prophet Joseph SMITH explained, “God Almighty Himself dwells in eternal fire; flesh and blood cannot go there, for all corruption is devoured by the fire,” but a resurrected being, “flesh and bones quickened by the Spirit of God,” can (*TPJS*, pp. 326, 367; cf. Luke 24:36–43; 1 Cor. 15:50). Heaven, not hell, is the realm of everlasting burnings, a view contrasting with the popular conception of hell as a place of fire, brimstone, and searing heat. Heat is a characteristic of God’s glory (D&C 133:41–44).

Only those cleansed from physical and moral corruption can endure immortal glory (3 Ne. 27:19; Moses 6:57; *TPJS*, p. 351). Hence, Isaiah rhetorically asked, “Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings?” (Isa. 33:14). Joseph Smith taught, “All men who are immortal (i.e., resurrected beings in any of the DEGREES OF GLORY) dwell in everlasting burnings” (*TPJS*, pp. 347, 361, 367). Resurrected bodies are qualitatively different according to their glory (1 Cor. 15:39–44; D&C 88:28–32).

Describing a vision of the CELESTIAL KINGDOM, Joseph Smith reported, “I saw the transcendent beauty of the gate through which the heirs of that kingdom will enter, which was like unto circling flames of fire; also the blazing throne of God, whereon was seated the Father and the Son” (D&C 137:2–3).

RODNEY TURNER

BUSINESS

[*This is a two-part entry:*

LDS Attitudes Toward Business

Church Participation in Business

The first article explains the Church position toward business in general, and the second article describes the nature of the Church’s participation in business activities through recently affiliated corporations. For historical information, see Community; Economic History; Kirtland Economy; Pioneer Economy.]

LDS ATTITUDES TOWARD BUSINESS

Business endeavors hold no mandated interest for the Church or its members. Church members involve themselves in all avenues of life in much the same proportion as the general population of the region or country in which they live (*see OCCUPATIONAL STATUS*). Church members are urged to be honest in all their dealings with their fellow men, including business and professional activities. Elements of history, theology, and practice combine to form a positive LDS attitude toward honest business endeavors.

Many LDS attitudes toward business are rooted in the Church’s frontier heritage. As the Church developed settlements in Ohio, Missouri, Illinois, and the Great Basin, it became necessary and desirable to be involved in business activities. Cooperative business efforts were necessary for success, independence, and survival.

In addition to its spiritual and cultural roles, the Church sponsored economic initiatives that could not be mounted by individual entrepreneurs. For example, when it was determined that sugar would be expensive and difficult to obtain in the Great Basin, the Church in the 1850s sponsored a business venture to cultivate and process sugar beets. Converts brought capital and equipment from Europe, and factories were constructed. After extended difficulties, a thriving