quarters. In July 1884, Deseret Hospital moved to a larger building that could accommodate forty to fifty patients, though it seldom had more than sixteen at a time.

Deseret Hospital featured a homelike atmosphere, the latest surgical equipment from New York, and a staff of dedicated, well-trained, mostly female physicians, including Ellen B. Ferguson, Ellis R. Shipp, and Romania B. Pratt. Long before its doors opened, the women of the Church, led by Eliza R. Snow, raised funds for the hospital. Though these efforts continued, support was never adequate to pay for the treatment of the many “free” patients, and the hospital was forced to close in 1894. The hospital kept its nursing and midwifery schools operating until the opening of the Groves Latter-day Saints Hospital in 1905 (see hospitals).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

SCOTT PARKER

DESERET INDUSTRIES
Toward the end of the Great Depression, in August 1938, Deseret Industries was established "to help Church members help themselves" through a program of donated household items, volunteer labor, and vocational training.

In a letter to LDS congregations in Utah's Salt Lake Valley dated August 11, 1938, the FIRST PRESIDENCY and PRESIDING BISHOPRIC called for "contributions of clothing, papers, magazines, articles of furniture, electrical fixtures, metal and glassware" from each household. The letter explained that the project would be known as Deseret Industries, and that the organization would make "periodic collections of these materials from homes . . . and employ men and women to sort, process, and repair the articles collected for sale and distribution among those who desire to obtain usable articles . . . at a minimum cost."

Since then, goods have been sold at thrift stores bearing the Deseret Industries name. Local Church congregations continue donation drives, during which volunteer workers collect goods from the homes of members. Anyone can donate items at any Deseret Industries store as well.
This donation bag from the 1940s features the beehive, symbol of industry for the Church Welfare plan, as well as one of the stated goals of the Deseret Industries, "Help others to help themselves." Photographer: Holger Marius Larsen.

The Deseret Industries program was implemented specifically for the benefit of members who could not obtain employment elsewhere, and its initial work force consisted primarily of the unemployed and elderly. It was operated under the umbrella of the Church Security Plan—now Church Welfare Services—and continues as an integral part of the Church welfare system. Church leaders use Deseret Industries not only for employment training but as a resource for clothing and household items for needy members.

There were more than a dozen Deseret Industries stores in Salt Lake County and five in the Los Angeles area before World War II. Most of those were closed during the war, and operations were consolidated. By 1948 there were six stores, and growth continued slowly but steadily into the 1950s.

Deseret Industries started a rug-making operation in 1954 and acquired a woolen mill in 1957. The plants not only provided additional jobs but also goods to be distributed to needy Church members through the welfare program. Many elderly and handicapped members found work at Deseret Industries, and those who were sufficiently able were trained and moved into private industry.

As the program moved through the 1960s and into the 1970s, the emphasis on rehabilitation increased. Preparing people to enter the private workplace became a forte of Deseret Industries. Stores and equipment were upgraded through the mid-1970s and early 1980s to compete favorably with any of their kind.

Deseret Industries outlets have followed large concentrations of Church members. At the beginning of the 1990s there were forty-six Deseret Industries retail stores in cities of the western United States.

The Deseret Industries program still focuses on those with disabilities and those who have other social, employment, and economic challenges and obstacles to overcome. An estimated 60–70 percent of the people in the program are somewhat limited physically, mentally, emotionally, or socially. In 1980, Deseret Industries placed about 240 people into jobs with private companies. In 1989, it placed more than 700.

People needing training are usually referred to Deseret Industries by a Church leader. A program for each person is written with the individual's supervisors and rehabilitation workers. It incorporates personal and work-related goals and is closely monitored. Local Church members sometimes receive CALLINGS to help with training and rehabilitation.

Most Deseret Industries programs are more closely related to work adjustment than to skills training. Trainees get the experience of entering the workplace every day, being on time, learning to get along with coworkers, and taking directions from supervisors. Deseret Industries is not set up to train people to be journeymen plumbers or electricians, for example, though people may get experience doing these types of things.

Employment or career development is one of six standards of personal and family EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS outlined by the Church, the others being literacy and education, financial and resource management, home production and storage, physical health, and social-emotional and spiritual strength.

The mission of Deseret Industries parallels the mission of Church Welfare Services. A 1936 statement by the Church's First Presidency explains the philosophy of the welfare program:
Our primary purpose was to set up, in so far as it might be possible, a system under which the curse of idleness would be done away with, the evils of a dole abolished, and independence, industry, thrift and self-respect be once more established amongst our people. The aim of the Church is to help the people help themselves. Work is to be re-enthroned as the ruling principle of the lives of our Church membership [CR, Oct. 1936].

BIBLIOGRAPHY

MICHAEL C. CANNON

DESERET NEWS

The Deseret News began as a weekly newspaper in Salt Lake City on June 15, 1850, just three years after the Mormon pioneers founded the city. Established by the Church under the direction of Brigham Young, the News has had uninterrupted publication to the present. It became a daily on November 21, 1867. From the beginning, the Deseret News has championed the U.S. Constitution and "truth and liberty." Editorially it has promoted free enterprise, the work ethic, and high moral values.

The early pioneers launched a newspaper against great odds. Because paper had to be brought in from California or Missouri by oxcart, they tried to make their own locally from rags in 1854. The result was a thick, gray paper that was often streaked with colors from the old shirts, pants, and dresses from which it was made.

The first editor of the Deseret News was Willard Richards (1850–1854), who was also a counselor in the FIRST PRESIDENCY of the Church. George Q. Cannon was the editor from 1867 to 1873 and from 1877 to 1879. As a youth, he had worked in the Times and Seasons printing office in Nauvoo, Illinois, and had edited the Millennial Star in Great Britain. He was mentioned by Charles Dickens in The Uncommercial Traveler in connection with his work in Church emigration.

As editor from 1880 to 1892 and again from 1899 to 1907, Charles W. Penrose was a tireless editorial defender of the Church. He fought over many topics, particularly polygamy, and was fond of referring to an opposing editor as "my friend, the enemy." Horace C. (Bud) Whitney, as business manager of the Deseret News from 1899 to 1920, increased circulation nearly 500 percent, doubled the number of pages, and left the News a substantial financial surplus.

Mark E. Petersen became editor of the Deseret News in 1946 after working as a reporter, news editor, and manager. Called to be an apostle in the Church in 1944, he handled both full-time jobs for several years. He wrote editorials for the Church News, a weekly supplement, until his death in January 1984.

In 1952 Elder Petersen brought the Deseret News into a newspaper agency arrangement with its competitor paper, the Salt Lake Tribune.

The Deseret News building, c. 1899, in the background, stood at that time on the corner of Main and South Temple Streets in Salt Lake City, the site of the former Hotel Utah. The Brigham Young Monument in the foreground was designed by Cyrus E. Dallin and dedicated in a five-day celebration, July 20–24, 1897, the fiftieth anniversary of the pioneers’ arrival in Salt Lake Valley.