

Finally, there is in *Courage* a recurring emphasis upon the need for new directions based on greater self-awareness and a surer sense of identity. Editorially Paul M. Edwards,⁸ professor of history and philosophy at Grace-land, writes:

We are sitting on the doorstep of our childhood and expecting wisdom where there is, as yet, no familiarity with the agony of the wise. We have felt the romance of logic and the simplicity of coherence, we have felt the first seeds of doubt, but rarely have we . . . experienced the treacherous investigation of our own minds. . . . Lord God, we need a Socrates. Christ spoke for God; prophets speak for godly men. In all humility, Lord, what we need now are men who will lead us into knowing ourselves by not being afraid of themselves.

⁸Edwards, a great-great grandson of Joseph Smith Jr., recently received the Ph.D. from Oxford University.

ANOTHER VIEW OF THE MORMONS

Samellyn Wood

The Mormons: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. By Kathleen Elgin. New York: David McKay Company, Inc., 1969. 96 pp. \$3.95. Samellyn Wood is a junior high school teacher of English and history in Los Angeles. She is a member of the Westwood II Ward.

The Mormons is the second in the Freedom to Worship series designed to tell stories of "outstanding Americans of the nineteenth century and their different religious beliefs." The series is intended to fit into the Social Studies curriculum for grades 4, 5 and 6. Kathleen Elgin also wrote the first book, *The Quakers*.

An introductory chapter of *The Mormons* tells of the westward migration and introduces Charles Rich as an outstanding Mormon leader. The second chapter, comprising almost half the book, tells of Charles Rich's experiences and work in the Church from the time of his conversion to the terms he served in the legislature of the Territory of Utah. The third chapter summarizes the history of the Church from the first vision of Joseph Smith to the successful colonizing of the West, and the fourth chapter answers such questions as "What is the Book of Mormon?" "Did They Practice Polygamy?" and "Why are Non-Mormons Called Gentiles?" A brief chapter discusses the growth and activities of the Church today, and the book concludes with a list of "Some Famous American Mormons of the Nineteenth Century and of the Present Day."

Numerous black and white illustrations by the author are perhaps the strongest feature of the book. Mormons may also appreciate the sympathetic treatment, although some might prefer a more historical objectivity.

With the exception of minor factual errors (such as credit to Ezra Taft Benson and the Mormons for laying the final rails of the Union and Central