

put it well and succinctly the other day when he said that we should keep our feet on the ground and our heads in the stars. It is not easy; to keep one's feet on the ground without getting stuck in the mud; or to keep one's head in the stars without drifting aimlessly in the stratosphere.

From the earliest days of the Christian church, the insight of theologians has recognized prudence among the seven cardinal virtues. So today, while exploring every possible step toward a genuine peace, we must be careful that we do not in the process prematurely weaken our defensive strength or weary in that vigilance which is still an essential part of the price of liberty. In his Easter message last year, Pope Pius said,

"The danger of today is the weariness that afflicts the good."

The world is still an unsafe place for the weary -- as well as for the weak and unwary.

Nevertheless, prudence without vision would be a sterile and unrewarding thing. To the Christian, educated in the rich tradition of our religious heritage, it should be a truism that the real driving force behind every important political and social movement has been vision. As the Hebrew prophet pointed out long ago, where there is no vision the people perish. We are far too apt to pigeonhole this in our minds as a moral exhortation, rather than to recognize it for the hardheaded political observation that it is.

Patience and strength, prudence and vision are, then, four qualities which should guide our policies and our diplomacy as we move forward, steadily and relentlessly, in the search for a peace which will rest on something firmer and more lasting than force.

The penalty of failure in this search is not pleasant to contemplate, for it would be a war beside which all others would pale into insignificance. It would be a war from which no one could escape; a war which would bring home to us in awesome and terrible fashion, something that has long been evident to religious insight, the oneness of all men.

It is a significant feature of this age that interdependence, which has always been there on the spiritual plane, has become a fact also on the physical and political levels. Its most graphic and awe-inspiring expression is a hydrogen bomb.

The power of nuclear explosives which scientists have now developed is already such that the burst of a single bomb can pollute with radioactive poison or "fall-out", as it is called, thousands of square miles. Quite apart from their destructive effect, there is reason to believe that the explosion, within a fairly