

to go on expanding our energy dependent economy for say another twenty-five years or even more and it is perfectly certain that within that time nuclear energy will be economically available.

Even if nuclear energy should in the future be entirely dependent on uranium as a fuel there is already enough uranium known to be available in the world to supply many times the energy that has been derived from fossil fuels. However, it seems very likely that science will find ways of using a wide variety of other fuels for nuclear furnaces and so it is unlikely that the development of our civilization along present lines will be limited by the availability of cheap energy for industrial and domestic purposes.

In attempting to imagine how the present world scene will look in historical perspective there is a temptation to suggest that divine providence found it necessary to allow man to discover the secrets of nuclear energy at this time in order to ensure the continued development of our material civilization. Unfortunately this discovery necessarily carries with it the possibility of the destruction of our civilization. Man is therefore faced with a dilemma of a magnitude which he never faced before. The whole history of civilization is a history of wars. Man has never solved the problem of living without fighting. In the past these wars have wiped out individuals, families, tribes, and even small nations, but the destructive power of the weapons available was never sufficient to destroy the race. We have now reached a stage in history where we can foresee the possibility of having weapons available in the world in numbers capable of destroying our civilization and of rendering large parts of even the whole of the world uninhabitable by man. This means that our attitude toward war must be fundamentally changed if we are to ensure survival.

At present we in the free world are working on the assumption that the Russians wish to dominate the world and that they will seek to dominate it by force should an opportunity offer. We have built up and are maintaining our armed strength, not with the idea of attacking Russia, or even to ensure victory should war be forced upon us but because of our firm conviction that the best way to avoid the disaster of another world war is to be so strong as to deter any aggressor from starting a war. It is a pity that we have to devote such a large part of our energies to defence but it is obvious that this is a state vastly to be preferred to war. It is of vital importance that the ordinary citizen should not feel that by cheerfully paying his taxes and allowing a large part of them to be spend on defence he is doing everything that he can to ensure world peace. All that defence expenditure can do is to prevent the disaster of war while other forces in the world work toward a more lasting solution of the problems of living together. It is now obvious that we must seek some form of world organization that will make war impossible. This is not an easy task and will not be accomplished quickly. However, there is no reason to give up hope. History shows that man is gradually solving the problems of living together in larger and larger groups. NATO has been more successful than any