

of two billion people—rapidly growing—outside of the developed world and that these people are striving for a life that will demand an energy consumption on a scale with ours.

This thought becomes staggering when one considers that at present two billion people in the world still have no electricity. Asia, with half the world's population produces only one-tenth of the world's total electric power. In raising their standard of living, these people cannot and will not relive our Industrial Revolution—the Coal Age. They obviously are going to enter the Nuclear Age as they work to emulate the developed nations.

Let me state at this point that my remarks related to coal do not mean that I think we can get along without it. Coal will continue to be essential to our lives for decades. I believe we would be wise to consider fossil-fuel resources and the atom as energy partners, not as competitors. But the day has passed when we can look ahead only a few decades and complacently wait for the depletion of each of our resources before we move ahead to compensate for them.

Now, since we are eventually going to live in a world that will have to depend on the energy of the atom, we must learn to live with the atom wisely. This means we must recognize, anticipate, and deal with all the environmental aspects and prospects of nuclear energy. I believe we are doing this, and doing it well. This type of technological development is something that has never before been attempted in the history of man. No technology has been born and developed with the regard for human safety and well-being that is inherent in the development of nuclear energy.

In fact, you might say that the extent of our knowledge about the biological aspects of nuclear energy has been a problem to us—or at least to those in the nuclear field who are impatient. The tremendous amount of knowledge we have accumulated over some twenty-odd years has made us almost overly conservative in the development of nuclear power. I have often thought that if the potential health and safety implications of so many aspects of our lives—our chemical products, our foods, our transportation systems, our athletic activities, even our sleeping habits, to name a few—were so well known and documented, we would have a very apprehensive public, one literally afraid to eat or drink anything or go anywhere or do anything.

Fortunately, because of our knowledge of nuclear energy and the way we have developed it in accordance with that knowledge, we have at