

work in each coming year—in forging the long-term future that so many are discussing and projecting today.

In spite of the tension and turmoil so apparent in the world today—just reading the daily newspaper is enough to give one a headache—in spite of this, there are some hopeful signs that we are doing some of the right things and moving in the right direction.

If the first step in dealing with a problem is the recognition of that problem, then certainly we are well on our way toward meeting some of the major challenges ahead. Today we view with growing concern the assault on our environment, the pollution of our atmosphere and our waterways to an intolerable degree. We are now painfully aware that most of that pollution originates from the same technologies that give us our products and power and that, if we are to enjoy the blessings of the latter without being plagued by the former, we must make certain adjustments and pay some price for them. (Though not everyone is yet convinced that he must share the cost of clean air and clean water.)

I think we are also being forced today to realize that our general affluence and rising Gross National Product bring with them new responsibilities we must accept. We are facing, domestically and internationally, social and humanitarian problems of unprecedented proportions. Because of the events of the day, we are undergoing some serious soul-searching and perhaps developing a new national conscience that could help guide us more successfully in the future.

We are not only realizing the extent of our problems today; we are and have been doing things about them. Sometimes I think it is unfortunate that our newspapers, magazines, and TV and radio networks do not emphasize more of the *good* news of the day, the positive and promising things that are going on, and the programs that are making progress. Such things are happening, and, if occasionally more light was shed on some of the things that are right with America and on its attributes and successful programs, many of us might take a healthier, more positive approach to improving ourselves and suffer less from the despair and frustration abounding today.

In education we have increased by several millions the number of undergraduates attending college today. Our health programs and our medical research continue to grow and improve, with more and better care becoming available to more people and more health problems being solved. We know we have a long way to go in eliminating poverty and