

returned to nature, but only after it had been put into readily absorbable and relatively nonpolluting forms. There would be a minimum of excess heat from the reactor coolants to pose any environmental problems because we would be applying so much of the heat productively, in ways ranging from desalting to space heating of buildings.

With a little further stretch of the imagination, one can foresee such large nuclear powered industrial complexes—Nuplexes—highly automated, efficient, and clean, as the nuclei of a nation's major industrial areas responsible for most of its products and power. Incidentally, there would be no forest of chimneys rising from these Nuplexes since much of the complex would be composed of underground arteries—pipelines and conveyor systems—over which would be parklike areas.

What of the people? Where are the cities, and what are they like in this nuclear age future? If we follow the workers (they are few in number and well paid for their 20-hour week) home after their workshift, we travel via a high-speed electric train or compressed-air-tube vehicle through an underground channel to a city of tomorrow. This is not a sprawling megalopolis, an unmanageable collection of problems that have multiplied as the population exploded—in more ways than one. Ideally, this city of the future is one that will be built from the ground up following the concept of the Experimental City now being developed by a group in Minnesota spearheaded by such farsighted thinkers as Athelstan Spilhaus, President of the Franklin Institute; Buckminster Fuller, the noted architect and futurist; and a number of imaginative individuals, industrial firms, and government organizations. It will be a city of limited population—somewhere between a quarter and a half a million people. Most of its servicing facilities, including a great deal of its transportation, would be underground and its facilities and living space above ground would be designed for maximum human comfort and convenience. I cannot go into all the details on what would make this city so liveable and the center for commerce and culture that a city should be, but I would like to comment briefly on the role the atom might play here. Initially it will have played a major role by taking all heavy industry away from the city and placing it at the Nuplex I described earlier. The city itself would require a great amount of nuclear generated electricity. Most of its services would be highly automated and would require extensive electronic and electrical equipment, including its complex but convenient communications system. As Dr. Spilhaus describes this system: