

ing, nor comforts. Our standard of living is the highest in the world and higher than ever before in the history of this country. The basic problems facing America today are not economic. Not when 75.6 million Americans are gainfully employed; not with a national income exceeding \$534 billion; not when business flourishes as never before and personal income rises to the highest point in history and continues to soar. These are the signs of the well-being of Americans today. They are manifestations of the quantitative character of our American civilization. What perhaps are of more importance are the qualitative aspects of our American civilization. These external symbols of our national progress, our national affluence, cannot hide the defects which hamper us as individuals or impede our progress as a society. The richer we get the more tense we become; the higher our income the greater our feeling of insecurity. Here we are, wealthier than ever before, more powerful than ever before; and yet, pockets of unbelievable poverty and squalor exist in the shadows of the great wealth and the great power. Our national income rises, our stores and warehouses overflow with gadgets and items of luxury. At the same time, our cities are choked with congestion; the air we breathe and the water we drink are polluted; crime and juvenile delinquency are rampant. Women—and men, for that matter—are afraid to walk the streets at night; unprovoked shootings and stabbings are a daily occurrence.

We have developed our scientific and technological knowledge and skill to the point that a voyage to the moon is no longer a dream but a reality, but we have not found a way to deal with the stubborn problem of highway accidents. As our wealth increases, so do our relief rolls; as our per capita income rises so do our expenditures for public welfare. With all of our educational and cultural advancements, there is no visible decline in prejudice, bigotry, crime, delinquency. We have physical abundance—houses, automobiles, television sets, swimming pools—luxuries and conveniences to suit every conceivable taste and inclination. But our spiritual wants plague us as our material abundance increases. We desperately need and desperately seek inner peace—peace of the mind, peace of the heart, peace of the soul.

We need to improve the quality of our lives to match our quantitative blessings, so that we may better use the material products of our scientific and technological age. The scientific and technological progress we have made has relieved us to a large extent of the back-breaking burdens of earning a livelihood. The resulting energy we have to spare should be used to promote freedom and justice, not only in this wonderful country in which we are privileged to live but also