

face the painful task of reconversion in its economy. At that time steps to cushion the blow will become necessary. We are hopeful that such steps can be taken and that undue hardship to the economy and our people will be avoided. It is our hope that the Joint Economic Committee, as well as the Council of Economic Advisors, will look into the postwar period with a view toward developing sound national policy. In this endeavor they should call upon the leaders in the business community, the labor movement and the academic world. Surely, the United Mine Workers of America will assist in any such program to permit the orderly growth of the American economy.

Growth is the key to our national progress and prosperity. The history of our Nation is the story of growth—of reaching for the prize and securing it by sacrifice, ingenuity, and struggle. Its cornerstones has been resource development. Our Nation is rich in natural resources and we have grown economically, socially, and politically by developing those resources to the fullest extent. Today, as before, resource development is the key to future growth; and research and development is the key to total resource utilization. America is the center of technological progress. From our laboratories comes a constant flow of new products. Such scientific endeavor has made us the envy of the world and has permitted our industry to remain competitive with other nations not so blessed.

But, to our minds a great deal of our research and development work is not properly channeled. Over 60 percent of research and development in the United States is financed by Government. Of that total, over 90 percent is devoted to atomic energy, space, and military applications. We recognize that much of such work is necessary and in the national interest. Conversely, the preponderance of scientific effort in relatively unproductive fields seems inadvisable and detrimental to the development of our resources. We do not refer here solely to the money involved. If that were the only problem it would not be of such importance. But research money employs skilled scientists—men and women who are in extremely short supply and whose talents are vital to the success of any research effort. It is this misallocation of scientific manpower that disturbs us greatly and hinders, we believe, the future growth of the United States of America.

It is true that we need weapons of defense. It is probably true that we require a space program. There may—may—be justification for an effort directed toward the further use of the atom. But, by the same token we also need clean air. Research can provide it. We must use all of the resources available to us. Research can show the way. Our coal, for example, contains treasure awaiting only the genius of the scientist to make it available. It would seem to us that those charged with the formulation of national economic policy would look into this area. From them should come proposals to properly allocate our scientific resources so that they will be truly responsive to our national needs. What is needed, in our opinion, is the application of a cost-benefit analysis to the overall research program by officials with the objectivity and knowledge to make such determinations. Economic criteria are of prime importance for such policy decisions.

We have no doubt that the future of our Nation will be as productive as our past and that we will solve those economic problems which