#28

You look at the world and through the years, lets say up to a couple of centuries ago, you find the great mass of the people of the world either in great slavery or in downright poverty, and subject to the whims of a few people who possessed a certain amount but who themselves would be considered as not having one-tenth of the worthwhile things that 90% of the people of the U.S.A. has today.

Most of the world except for a few sections of western Europe, most of the world is still in that condition. Naturally people hear of these great advances we've made in the U.S., and say let's spread them to everyone m in the world.

If you just take everything we have and divide it up with the rest of the world, we'll all be back about where we were 300 years ago. The only answer to it is if you're going to make a fair division, would be to find out what produced the conditions we have, and to my mind their production was the f result of two different f causes.

One was the type of character, of honesty and general dependability which was produced in a great part of the population by Christian teaching. There you had a situation in which there was a possibility of doing things which could not be done apart from that character.

Then there was also the freedom of the individual to work out a way to advance himself and to try to do things that would enable him to get ahead, and ifhe succeeds he gets great advantages and if he fails he is no better off than the rest of the population. In other words, this freedom from the power of the state that had existed in Europe before these people came to this country, and with that freedom for individual iniative, one person after another tried to do something and one would succeed and pretty soonhe would be hireing the others.

The decision as to who would succeed and who would fail was based to some extent on accidental circumstances, but mainly on who was able to do the thing best. As a rest we have this high level of economic life in this country. Now most people in this country don't realize what their advantages are, or how different they are from the rest of the world, or how different they are from our own ancestor's condition 200 years ago. They just don't realize it.

Instead of thinking, How wonderful that we are up here; They they think, How terrible there are some who are not where we are! When the people lose their Christian evangelical understanding, they substitute for it this idea, Let's build the Kingdom of God on earth and they say, How are we going to do it? This is unjust. Thisman has a big cadilac and this other fellow only has a bicycle. So we'll have to have a better system. We find everything now -- of course nex now it is the oil companies. They are the big boggies. If it wasn't for them think how much better off we'd be! If only the government would take over all