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By Dr. GUSTAV EGLOFF

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH, UNIVERSAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY, CHICAGO, AND
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INTRODUCTION

In a world at war one gets the impression that all forces are solely for destruction. When war ends, the new technology will more quickly, efficiently and effectively convert the war effort to the pursuits of peace with an amazing speed. With the tremendous increase in research and development, the commercialization of processes has occurred which would have taken years under normal conditions to reach fruition. Out of the welter of the war effort, values will flow that will increase man’s effective span of life with greater satisfaction for living.

Science has already prolonged and saved man’s life through germ-killing chemicals, new anesthetics and synthetic vitamins. Through scientific and technical research our food supply has increased in quantity and quality. Synthetic textiles have provided us with more beautiful, durable and sanitary clothing. Plastics will revolutionize the building arts, for the trend is to supplant many house-building and house-furnishing materials with plastics as soon as they can be released for civilian use. Plastics together with new and more efficient fuels will also play a dominant part in our transportation systems.

Let us look at the transportation situation first. The petroleum industry will play a controlling part in this. Airplanes hurtling through the air at over five hundred miles an hour carrying a thousand or more passengers will make all parts of the world less than twenty-four