

ing to each other by radio. Another application may be the equipping of policemen with pocket-size radios which could keep them in constant two-way communication with their headquarters....

Already the nation has become as

Wheels, Keels and Wings, By Charles F. Kettering
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We sometimes hear it said that we are living in a world on wheels in an age that has solved the transportation problem. That is a pretty broad statement despite all the marvels of transportation which will be shown at the New York World's Fair. We have come quite a way since the time when a man's own feet were the only means he had to get him from where he was to where he wanted to be, and the transportation theme exhibit will dramatize that progress. We are beginning to learn, but there is a long road ahead for the wheels we are so proud of today.

Here in America we have seen some remarkable achievements. When George Washington was inaugurated the country's travel was by coach or wagon or by river boat. A man really in a hurry went on horseback. And that was only 150 years ago. It wasn't until just about a hundred years ago that we had the first steam railway train or that the first steamship crossed the Atlantic, and we didn't have a transcontinental railroad until after the Civil War. Men are still living who saw the pony express.

Within the span of a lifetime we have seen isolation banished. The railroad, the airplane, the automobile, the motor bus and the truck have given us an entirely new conception of distance.

I have seen those changes come about, and yet I was 21 before I saw a trolley car. But here is a strange thing about it: on the isolated farm in Ohio where I was born there is a tree in the front yard which, without moving an inch, has seen all the changes I have seen. Only now are they putting an improved road past that farm, but trains have roared past not far away, airplanes

one community, so far as communication can make it so, and in the same manner the whole world has become a group of neighboring communities. National crises and international disputes are no longer hidden behind a curtain of time and distance. Diplomacy has already changed. Will it change still more

have flown overhead and automobiles and trucks have traveled the country road. There have even been radio programs from across the Atlantic heard right there beside that tree, from a radio set in a car, and there have been motion pictures there in the yard, pictures taken in far places. The whole world, in a

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So there are big changes ahead for humanity. I am a great believer in a wonderful future. We're not very far

tomorrow? We already know what is happening and the whole world is close beside us at our beckoning. In the future we shall see as well as hear the world in action, have its features set down for us in black and white as well as listen to a description of them.

along the road of civilization yet; we're just bursting through the underbrush and starting down the road. Wait till we really get going. When we hit this spot the second time around we'll be doing things and getting somewhere.

Today we have an unusual condition because there is an excess of materials, an excess of money and an excess of manpower. All that means to me is that we haven't enough projects to work on. It means we are technologically behind, not technologically ahead. Not enough work to do, and there's so much yet to be done! We are just learning about steel. We are just learning about rubber. We are just learning about oil. Never was there such an opportunity to do things; but we can't go on doing only the same things we are doing now. We have got to open up a new field, and there are thousands of new fields waiting. It's up to us to find our way into them.

If we can only get some of these new projects under way we won't have enough materials or money or men to do the job. And we can start anywhere. There's no end to the opportunities.

But first we've got to get the idea through our heads that we don't know very much about anything and that the whole field of knowledge and achievement is ahead of us. That's why there's hope in the younger generation; they haven't learned yet that things can't be done. They aren't afraid of new ideas. I still think this is the age of the biggest opportunities for young men that ever existed. We are just beginning to learn.

