

A reporter who toured Soviet Russia not long ago, made the statement that 95% of the people of Soviet Russia, if they were to walk through an American Ten Tent Store, would think they were in heaven. They had never seen anything like it. An American Super Market would be quite beyond their wildest dreams. When Khrushchev was here not long ago, and was taken through one of our supermarkets, he expressed the opinion that this was simply put up in order to fool him into thinking that the American people enjoyed such luxury. Yet it is a commonplace to most Americans.

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Americans are so accustomed to material prosperity that they do not realize how far they are in this regard ahead of almost any other section of the world. Two years ago I visited one of the leading nations in Europe. This spring I visited one of the leading nations in Asia. In each of them I found that it is quite unusual for a private citizen to have a telephone in his home. America has half the telephones of the world.

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The same is true of automobiles. This little section of the globe, less than one and one-half percent of the total surface of the globe (less than 6% of its land surface) has just about as many automobiles as all the rest of the world put together. In most countries possession of an automobile is a rare luxury. In the United States it is something that is just about taken for granted.

Mr. S.-- Dr. MacRae, it is true that America has a prosperity far beyond that of any nation in the past. But is not this due to its great natural resources?

Dr. MacRae.-- Not entirely, Mr. Steele. The seekers of freedom to worship God, who crossed the ocean to make their homes in this land, knew nothing about the coal, iron, ^{copper} and oil that were buried under the soil. God directed their steps. Besides, other nations also have tremendous resources. South America