among themselves; and make their country a good neighbor among the nations.

Other nations may well look to the United States to demonstrate that, under democratic methods of government, the miracles of science and the energies of a free people can translate national wealth into a volume of human comforts hitherto unknown -- and raise the lowest standard of living in this favored land far above the level of mere subsistence.

But in this nation I see tens of millions of its citizens -- a substantial part of its whole population -- who at this very moment are denied the greater part of what the lowest standards of today are termed the necessities of life. I see twenty-five million people trying to live on family incomes of less than $500 per year. Their current resources are so meager that the pell of disaster on the morrow hanges over them today.

I see these millions who live their daily lives in city and on farm amid conditions outlawed by a so-called polite society half a century ago. I see conditions where these millions are denied the opportunity to better their lot and the lot of their children. I see these millions lacking the economic power to consume the products of farm and factory and thereby removing work and productiveness to many other millions.

It is not in despair that I paint you that picture. For I know that only recently has our nation as a whole been able to see that picture as a whole. Accordingly I can paint it for you in hope. For if the nation does see it, I am certain the nation proposes to paint it out -- and paint it out.