


THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

The atom has become the appropriate symbol for the new age that began in 1942 when man realized the first nuclear chain reaction -- the culmination of some of his greatest intellectual achievements. It has come to connote not only the unprecedented application of the fruits of science to man's use; but also the problem mankind faces in whether these uses contribute to welfare or to conflict. The atom affects this problem, but basically its solution depends on whether the nations of the world can learn to order their relations, to identify common objectives, to work together. In the twenty years since the dramatic event in Chicago our progress in the use of science has been great, but our progress in ordering our relations small. We must work ever harder to change this pattern and thereby to release the creative energies of man so that the scientific revolution symbolized by the atom can be devoted fully to man's welfare.



John F. Kennedy