

The Lucky Sixty

To show his pupils how strong America is, a school superintendent used this odd device. In imagination, he said, compress all the 2,750,000,000 people in the world into a single town of 1,000 population.

The following contrasts then would be seen:

60 persons would represent the U. S. A.

940 would represent all others.

60 Americans would receive one-half the income.

940 other people would share the other one-half.

300 of the town's population would be Christians.

700 would have other religious beliefs.

303 would be white.

697 would be non-white.

The 60 Americans would have a life expectancy of 70.

The expectancy of all others would average under 40.

The 60 Americans would consume 15 per cent of the town's food supply.

The lowest income group of the Americans would be better off than the average of the other 940.

The 60 Americans would have 12 times as much electricity; 22 times as much coal; 21 times as much oil; 50 times as much steel; 50 times as much general equipment as the 940 remaining members of the town.

This is a vivid picture of our country's greatness, and it should make us humble as well as exultant. It should also convince us that the 60 can be helpful and generous to the other 940.

But it should be such generosity and helpfulness as befits a strong nation, with wisdom beyond impulsive alms-throwing.

In a little different spirit, but without arrogant pride, it might make

us also remember that a nation capable of reaching such a position need not cringe, bargain, haggle, nor pay blackmail to maintain its position.

We believe it not only is the responsibility of a rich and powerful nation to help those less fortunate--- It is also its responsibility to guard the strength which makes this benevolent activity possible.

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