

sider electric power, waste disposal systems, world-wide banking, efficient postal services, and many others as necessities.

The fact that a Symposium such as this can be held reflects our dependence on our physical environment. Many of us left busy lives halfway around the world only hours ago, we had paid our registration by cheque and mailed it in advance, and travelled by automatically-

trolled aircraft through automatically monitored and controlled air space.

But how near capacity are the control systems we used getting here — indeed, how near the catastrophe of collapse of this physical environment we have made for ourselves? The Social Resources

The social resources involve people supported by complex and often

automatic equipment. Let me cite only the three major ones. Our system of health care must provide for maintenance of the well,

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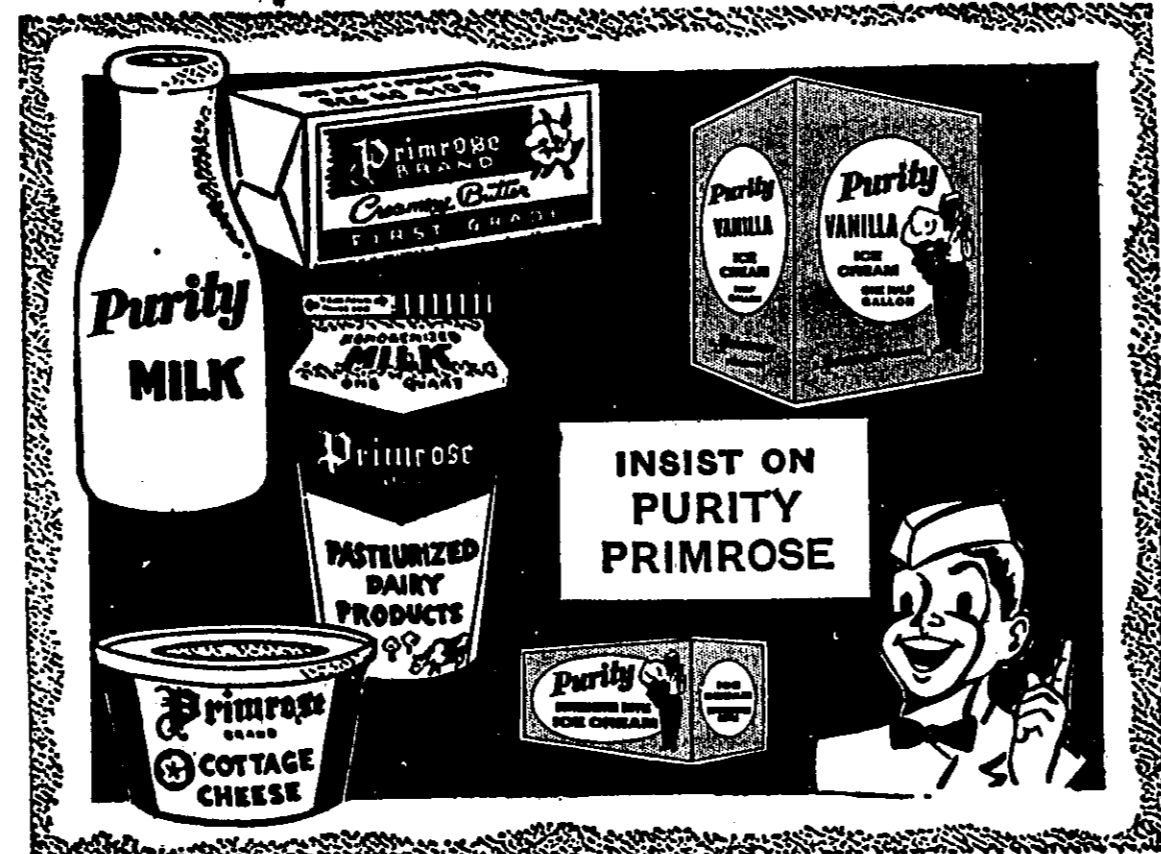
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as well as care of the sick. It includes physicians, paramedical personnel (nurses for example) and also workers in public health. These people are supported by hospitals, diagnostic centres, and water supply systems, to name only a few.

The system of public safety provides policemen and their supporting equipment to supply an environment of law and order. It provides for removal of individuals who are unable to function in society, and for their rehabilitation in order that some may return.

Education systems are relying increasingly on automation to augment the teacher in training both children and adults for life in this complex world.

The Problem and Means of Solution
The problem of resource control

power and materials) were combined. Typically, when such a combination works out, a new branch of engineering results — in this case Civil, and more recently Space Engineering.

I have already commented on the technological base — which provides not only for lunar mining, but routine open-heart surgery, supersonic aircraft and world-wide television, to name just a few.

Now, to which resource problem will the systems engineering involving the technology of today be applied, and when?

Before answering that question I wish to propose a theory which accounts for the political constraint

in the problem.

The Crisis Law

We have but to look about us to realize that even in the most enlightened and advanced societies many problems which could be solved are not solved at all. What great city in the world today is not

choking on its own traffic? What society provides its people with all the health care that should be provided? What is the matter? Why haven't we control engineers brought modern technology to bear on these problems? Why can't we see evidence that such a process has even

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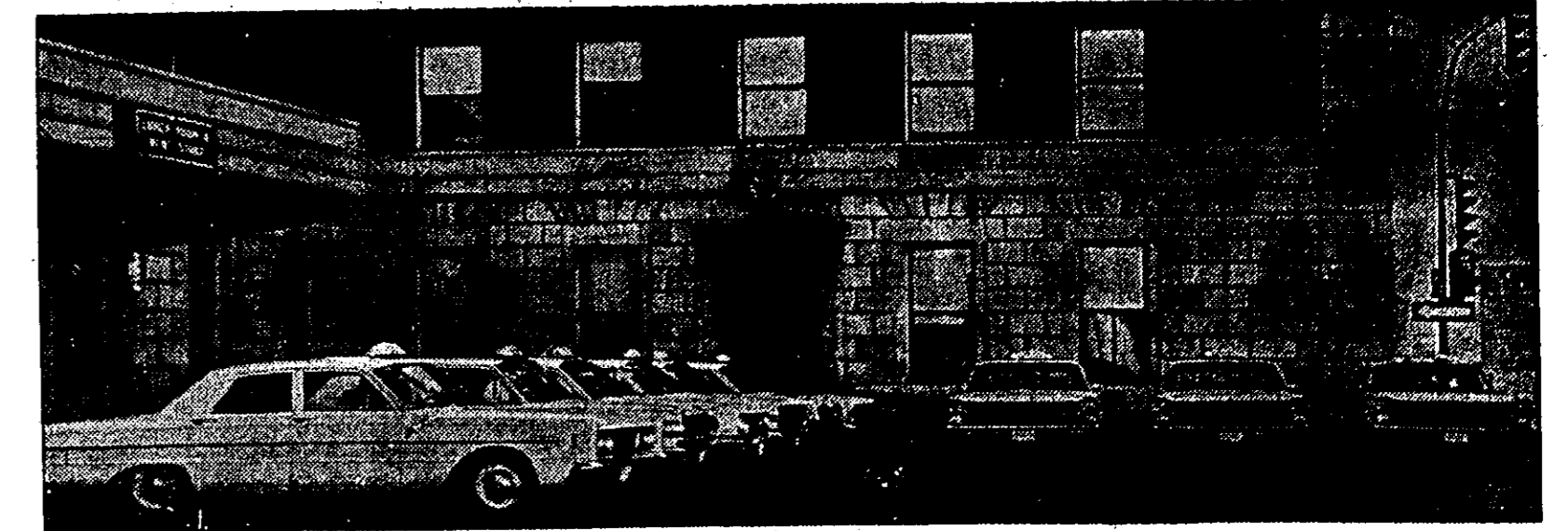
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