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THE END OF WORLD WAR II

As this is written, we can hear about us the sounds of a cheering city; the horns, yells, and carousing of America's largest metropolis rejoicing at the end of the world's years of struggle against the black menace of German military feudalism, Italian fascism, and Japanese imperialism. When the U.S.A. entered this struggle, in December 1941, that month's issue of The Phantagraph carried the declaration of the Futurian Society of New York which said: "The shape of the Future is being decided on the field of battle of the Present." The issue of arms has been decided, and in the field of battle the progress of civilization has been conclusively sealed to a scope beyond even the fondest expectations. For in that struggle, humanity at long last conquered not only a mortal foe but the ultimate secret of cosmic power--the energy of the atom. That this has shaped the future for the remaining existence of humanity, though it last a million years, will prove an ever-growing fact. But for us, at this moment, from this tiny segment of society, it is clear that as the military battle quiets another struggle begins. This is the struggle to secure for humanity the social control of the new power. Though it may take many more years to realize the socialized application of atomic energy for the Future's economy of abundance, this further victory, far-off though it may seem, is also beyond doubt.