

He is very knowledgeable in this. I think he is one of the ablest men around in the student financial aid area. He is testifying later. He can give you very complete information on that.

Mr. QUIE. I will withhold my questions until he appears.

Dr. KNOWLES. To get on with my recommendations, I think I have already covered some of the things I had in my report. First I would like to recommend that the Office of Education give greater attention to what I call institutional grants to the universities and colleges that show evidence of being strong and have a potential for being strong and academically excellent.

I think that in a country as large as ours with a big and rapidly growing population, education is vitally important to our national welfare. The Nation can't be as strong as it ought to be if we have only 15 to 25 of what we think of as academically excellent, outstanding institutions of higher education.

These are in part as you know the "name" institutions that are usually mentioned when we talk of those that are very outstanding. I think we ought to have a couple hundred of these. I would hope that we could select the institutions that we think have the greatest potential, and pour funds into them so that we would have not just a small number but as many perhaps as 200 very strong, very outstanding, academically excellent institutions.

I think these programs secondly should be administered—

Mr. QUIE. Before you get on the second point, let me ask you, what you are talking about is really an expanded land-grant-college type of grant used by the institutions for whatever purpose they see fit?

Dr. KNOWLES. Not necessarily. The Land-Grant College Act provides funds for the support of agriculture, mechanical arts, home economics, and so on. I am talking about institutions that are already privately financed and are on the threshold of academic stature of real strength.

I think substantial grants of \$5 million, \$10 million or maybe grants to bolster certain departments across the board within the institution could make this difference between having very outstanding undergraduate and graduate programs and doctoral programs and having institutions that are not as strong as they ought to be.

Mr. QUIE. Once they become as strong as they ought to be would they lose their grants?

Dr. KNOWLES. It ought to be done two ways.

First of all I think the institutions should try to find some ways of bolstering their own finances. I think that this might be a continuing program of grants. I know what you are talking about, "What happens when the grant runs out?" There ought to be a continuing program of grants.

I think this is important to our total national welfare. The National Science Foundation is already doing this. As you know, in some instances they are helping institutions in the technological science fields to bolster them and become very much stronger and outstanding in different parts of the country.

I learned just this morning that apparently the Department of Defense is going to have a program in the science area. I think we need to support more than just science. We need to support the humanities,