

ment structure I think when they are in two separate departments, interdepartmental cooperation might be a little more difficult to attain than it would with an independent agency.

That is the thinking that I have received in Washington about the idea of transferring the function.

Mr. ERLNBORN. The reason I ask the question is that yesterday in Washington we had testimony from the representative of George Washington University, and he was very critical of the fact that the engineering and architectural services were performed by HUD. His feeling was that they were putting the same commercial tests to the construction of student housing facilities and college buildings, the same sort of tests that they would use for commercial apartment buildings, and so forth. He felt that they were not rendering the kind of service that HEW could and would, or that the Office of Education itself would.

Dr. MARTIN. Yes. Well, Dr. Geiger is here. I don't know whether he has heard of any—

Dr. Geiger, would you speak to that for a moment?

Dr. GEIGER. We have had no objection that I know of, and of course our relationship with the people in the local office, here, is so good, and as far as I know, what they get from Washington is good. But we have had no direct objection in that connection.

Mr. ERLNBORN. Thank you.

One last question.

I hear the complaint from many people that there are so many Federal programs now in the field of education, most of them new, or a good many of them new, that the individual colleges and universities and junior colleges have great difficulty in determining which program they are eligible for, which they should make application for, and how to fill out the forms.

Now, will the regional offices be better equipped to handle this sort of problem, once the decentralization has been completed?

Dr. MARTIN. I think they will. And I think we can agree that the programs have become so numerous that many colleges, many institutions, are having to designate an individual just to try to keep up with what they are eligible for, and what they can participate in.

We have established here, as was mentioned in the paper, this information center, and it is growing very rapidly in importance. We have been able so far to answer, I think, all of the questions that have come into the office. If we don't know the answer ourselves, we can get on the phone to Washington and find out. But we are trying to render service to all of the clientele in this region, giving them proper answers.

Mr. ERLNBORN. I have heard, for instance, that the practice has grown in Washington of individuals engaging in the business of helping school administrators prepare the forms and make application to the Office of Education, and that they are charging a fee based upon the amount of grant that is received.

And this rather bothers me, that you would have business being developed along the line of this sort of thing, where the remuneration of the person who is rendering the service to the college or university depends upon the amount of the grant that is given ultimately.