

Out of this has come great improvements. While there are thousands of school systems in this country, nevertheless there is surprisingly great uniformity where something works someplace if it has promise it is not long until it is pretty general across the United States.

However, the best example of a real forward thrust was Headstart.

Mr. SCHETTER. Would you not say the Federal Government provided the stimulus?

Dr. BRIGGS. Yes.

Mr. SCHETTER. There seems to be a useful and constructive role that the Federal Government plays apart from the dollars that it provides. It seems to me that this does provide the justification for continuing the categorical grant system at least for a few more years until some of these newer approaches have achieved the widespread acceptance that you gentlemen indicate they deserve to achieve and you hope they do achieve.

Dr. DAILARD. The reason behind the answer I gave to the previous question was that if the same amount of money would be spread generally it would be refused. As long as the amount of money is limited it would better be aimed at the No. 1 priority.

That gives us the protection we need. Each community has the same kind of political pressures that you work in among the States.

Mr. SCHETTER. That it is a justification for the categorical approach.

Dr. DAILARD. If the amount of money is limited it is inadequate to do the job for which it is aimed; then we should keep it within the structure, rather than permitting it to be released. All of us would have pride in our own judgment to believe that we could make better use of some of it, particularly more money.

Mr. SCHETTER. In other words, the categorical approach helps you to do what you would like to do but which you might not be free to do were you abandoned more or less to the local political pressure?

Dr. DAILARD. When it comes to the level of financing, large amount of Federal funds coming into our district amounting to 37 percent of our expenditures for a year, we were moving on a number of fronts.

When our financing tightened up it began to dry up our ability to innovate.

Dr. PAQUIN. Congressman, I think I have a little different point of view. I find it difficult to draw the distinction between money which I get from the Federal Government, which is categorical aid and to be spent for specific purposes, and the money I get from the city in terms of general funds for which I have to make some judgment along with the board and members of the staff as to how that money is to be spent.

We do this with the bulk of the money we spend. We do exercise this kind of judgment. It is general aid. Personally, I don't see why this same formula can't work in terms of a total general-aid program even with Federal money.

Mr. SCHETTER. Thank you very much.

I want to thank my colleague for his courtesy in yielding to me.

Chairman PERKINS. Mr. Ford?

Mr. FORD. We got off the legislation here a bit today but we have touched on something rather important. It appears that sometime during this Congress we are going to be confronted with a proposal