

Mr. PHILLIPS. The question was raised a moment ago whether you could use church facilities for public programs. We regularly do that.

Mr. MEEDS. We are doing that in the State of Washington but I am asking now, do you see a legal problem in your State with this question that I have raised?

Mr. PHILLIPS. I think there would be legal problems in running a program for a parochial school and I don't want to get this too involved. I don't think there is a conflict in giving a program in which parochial school children participate.

Mr. MEEDS. My question was being conducted in a parochial school. I think we all realize we do not have enough educational facilities to run concurrently some of these programs so would the answer to the program be—

Mr. PHILLIPS. We have not used parochial school facilities. We have used church facilities and there is a slight difference.

Mr. MEEDS. You do not satisfy any proposals?

Mr. SPEARS. No.

Mr. GARDNER. In the testimony in the last several weeks I think we heard expressed several times the idea that Federal aid is absolutely necessary, but we have also heard expressed the idea that it possibly could be done better on a State level.

I would like to ask two questions. First of all, do you think if the funds were identical and the States had proper financing, could it be better handled by State agencies as opposed to Federal agencies?

Mr. PHILLIPS. My personal opinion would be that it could be.

Mr. GARDNER. It could be?

Mr. PHILLIPS. It could be.

It is most difficult for a staff or for a school corporation to operate under two sets of rules and that is what in many cases we are doing today. It is creating some confusion. There is some loss of power, loss of energy and I think someone has said we need to get a little closer to where the rubber meets the road.

Yes, I think it would be an improvement.

Mr. Stimbart, I have mentioned some of my administrative feelings before in this regard and even though our relationships with the U.S. Office of Education and other Washington groups that have educational programs operating in our schools, such as the Labor Department, Department of Agriculture, and others, I still think from the standpoint of just plain good business it ought to be canceled in a certain way, and that is why I would answer "Yes" to your question.

Mr. GARDNER. I am specifically referring to a tax-sharing plan which is being given some thought in Congress today and there are several proposals which would eventually phase out Federal programs and put the entire responsibility for it on the State level.

Mr. STIMBERT. I would like to subscribe to the title 5 which is the strengthening of State departments.

Mr. SPEARS. You are just going to get more overhead in the management. If you and your organization set up for it it stands to reason if they do their part there can be less money spent for the middleman.

Mr. GARDNER. This is what has bothered me about the testimony of Commissioner Howe.