

Would you comment on this if you had to mention the two between leadership and fund, which would be more important?

Dr. MATTHEIS. I think I would give priority in the problem area to the funds. I think this is indicated in title III, as for instance, where this is an innovative situation, and I think Minnesota and many other States exemplified the kind of leadership and thinking that is available in the States when given an opportunity. We had more projects and new ideas thrown out than anyone ever guessed we could.

I think the leadership is there not to the degree we would want, but there is plenty of leadership.

Mr. GARDNER. If the proper funds were available for the State in the same amounts that the Federal Government has been giving in grants-in-aid programs, do you think the State could do a better job of administering these programs compared with the Federal Government, and why?

Dr. MATTHEIS. It would be my opinion, Mr. Congressman, that we could do equally as good a job.

I think most studies in research and education that we come out with about equal or as good a job, but rarely can we prove conclusively that one way of doing it is better than another, but with this very important difference that we would still then be maintaining a higher degree of respect and integrity for the State and the development of State institutions and legally constituted agencies within the State to do the job.

I think it could be done equally as well with ability in guarantee to develop and continue the agencies that are existing within the States to do those jobs.

Mr. GARDNER. On page 10 of your testimony you say you strongly support Federal aid for elementary and secondary education. Would you want to change this statement if we went into a Federal tax-sharing plan with various States and the money were available to the State?

Dr. MATTHEIS. Would I want to change the statement?

Mr. GARDNER. Yes.

Dr. MATTHEIS. No, sir; I would think that the tax-sharing plan, Mr. Congressman, that is being talked about would be a satisfactory and desirable way of getting Federal dollars back to the States. I have a high degree of confidence in the way the public education has been dealt with in Minnesota, that education would receive a due portion of any Federal funds that were returned to the State on a tax-sharing program.

Chairman PERKINS. Mr. Steiger.

Mr. STEIGER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I will be just as brief as possible so we can get the other witnesses on. You made a very eloquent statement. Let me just ask a couple of things.

Archie Buckmiller, the deputy superintendent of schools in Wisconsin, made a presentation to Mrs. Green's subcommittee and title II was touched on. One of the concerns that they expressed was, and I will quote here "that the Federal Government seems to be bending towards even greater specificity and administrative control in its educational control programs. Descriptive detail narrows the option available to