

I. NEEDED: A MAJOR ADVANCE IN AMERICAN HIGHER EDUCATION THROUGH SUPPORT OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AS INSTITUTIONS.

At no time in modern history have the opportunity and need for a major American advance through higher education been as great as they are now.

There have been great improvements in primary and secondary education, both in the percentage of young people finishing high school and the quality of their preparation for further education.

It is clear, however, that the American ideal of equality of opportunity for all depends for its realization on making post-high-school educational opportunity a reality for the culturally and economically disadvantaged, who constitute both the greatest untapped human potential of our society and its greatest problem.

Our social and technological development has steadily reduced the necessity for expending human resources on routine work and created an almost unlimited demand for trained intelligence and disciplined, inquiring minds.

The potential of the university as a resource in solving the problems of our society has been dramatically proven. Federally supported university research and extension work in agriculture provide a great example to America and the world of what the marriage of the advancement of knowledge and its application in the lives of the people can do. Similar advances can be cited in other areas. Demands for speeding cultural and industrial advance and for solving the problems of our cities and of the distressed and dispossessed whose manual skills are no longer needed in our rural areas are clear and insistent.

Calls for the college and university to help our society find solutions for its multiple problems and to exercise the leadership for which their staffs are uniquely qualified have multiplied.

These, and the need to accommodate increasing numbers of qualified young people seeking higher education, have increased far faster than have the resources available to respond.

Federal aid designed to help the economically deprived gain access to college has,