

of practicality on some of the problems which you confront as committee members.

As you know, we are committed to the ideal of quality education tied to the concept of universal higher education, to extend the ladder of education upward into the higher education field.

In other words, we believe together with the State university that the motto should read "Let each become all that he is capable of being."

I would like to establish four points in my brief testimony here today. One is that I do believe that we must have an appropriation of Federal funds to all public colleges and universities to insure a tuition-free status.

This would be supplementary to currently available funds from State, municipal, and county funds. This, I believe, is a necessary extension for this reason: All you have to do is read the newspapers to know that tuition-free universities are under constant threat to remove that tuition-free status.

In my own State, sections of the State university which were tuition-free have had imposed tuition on these institutions.

You must understand that in terms of educational cost, tuition is merely the surface aspect of the educational iceberg. There are non-tuition fees for room, for board, for clothes, for fares, for social participation, and to erect this barrier of tuition in the public institutions, I think is one that flies in the face of what our objective should be.

The second thing is that we believe there should be an appropriation to enable all high school graduates from poverty-stricken areas to receive stipends equal to the Federal minimum wage.

If you figure that a student should go and expend about 40 hours a week, at least, in terms of study, \$1.60 an hour is not too much.

The reason for this is very simple. It would encourage high school graduates to continue education and avoid being thrown on the job market as unskilled and semiskilled workers. We know how this operates because we do have a modest program in operation in New York City at the City University. It is called SEEK. This is an acronym meaning search for education, enlightenment, and knowledge.

Mr. Brademas, you asked another witness what they did to try to get the State legislature to provide this aid. On page 54 of today's New York Times the Chancellor of the City University, Albert Bowker, went to Albany and asked for \$7 million to expand that program. By the way, in that program we get kids from high school who do not have academic diplomas. They have what is called general diplomas and vocational diplomas. We encourage these kids to go to college. They have an 80 percent retention rate and their grades are in the C and B category.

Now this is a remarkable feat. But in this program these people receive stipends so that their families are encouraged to keep them in college rather than to supplement the insufficient breadwinning operation of that family and have them go on the streets unskilled.

Now you know what this does, too. It creates a new culture hero in the ghetto, a person who goes to college and has made it. It has elevated the sights of parents so that their children can go to college. This motivation is very important.

The third idea that I would like to bring to your attention is that we should extend the aid of the Federal Government to all areas of