

6. Closely related to the above is another question which the Legislature will have to face now or later: Why should not the University of Maryland and, indeed, all departments of the State, be required to submit to appropriate State authority their proposals to accept federal funds? These funds are not blessings that fall from Heaven, with no cost or obligation. They frequently involve the State in heavy commitments for the future. No department should be permitted to decide for itself that it will accept federal funds and institute new services or expand old ones which will have to be carried on by the State in later years after the federal subsidy has been withdrawn. If a new service has merit, or if an old one is to be increased, and federal funds should be received for this purpose, others in addition to the department seeking to spend the money, should have a voice in determining the question. We should not back into or be backed into important decisions of this sort.

It has been asserted that frequently there is no time to seek approval from the General Assembly, the Governor, the Board of Public Works or any other agency of the State, and an illustration has been cited of a "secret research project" which had to be acted upon without opportunity for inquiry by anyone outside the University. We may well doubt that such secrecy or urgency is likely to arise often, or that it could not be suitably dealt with.

The bill affects to deal with the matter by providing that the University shall make an annual report of donations and gifts *after* they have been received. This is another of the illusions of limitation upon the broad grant of power contained in the bill. To report after the event serves no useful purpose, and is a mere gesture. Heretofore it has been not unusual for the report and the first news of the gift to come to the attention of the Governor and the General Assembly in the form of a request for additional funds to carry on the work already begun. A suitable distinction could be made between small gifts and large ones, and provision could also be made for prompt action during the recess of the Legislature.

"Secret research" should not, however, be permitted to become the Trojan Horse that may be used to embarrass future budgets of the State with commitments, expressed or implied. House Bill No. 26 copper-rivets the present indefensible policy.

7. Members should ask themselves a few questions about paragraph (d): How many of the Delegates and Senators