

The original documents are located in Box D19, folder “Davenport College of Business, Grand Rapids, MI, January 20, 1966” of the Ford Congressional Papers: Press Secretary and Speech File at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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CONGRESSMAN
GERALD R. FORD
 HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER

**NEWS
 RELEASE**

Excerpts from a speech
 Davenport College of Business, Jan. 20, 1966, Grand Rapids, Michigan

In tracing the history of this college, we can draw a parallel with the growth of the Nation. The chronicle of events include the facing and overcoming of obstacles, economic depression, neglect and complacency. From the battles has come strength. And, strength will remain as long as individuals rely on their own initiative and self-reliance to achieve their goals. This is the hard way. The easy way is to pass the problems to government. As a result, we have a growing federal bureaucracy that seems unlimited in size.

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Too few elected officials and self-appointed leaders---who find it politically expedient to suggest Washington has the cure-all---are aware how a powerful, centralized federal establishment can crush the individual while panting on behalf of the "common man."

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An idea has been spread across the land that there is magic in federal money, that its supply is unlimited. The demagogue seeks to sell the idea of using federal funds borrowed by a debt-ridden federal government in preference to raising money locally under community stewardship.

* * *

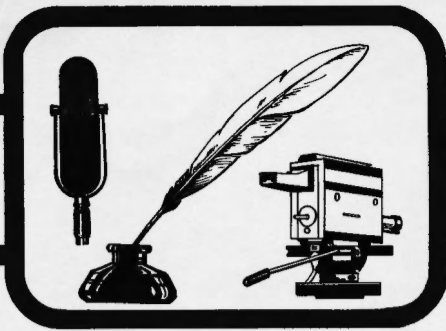
Under our Constitutional form of government, local governments are designed to preserve individual liberties. If they become figureheads, we then have provided the basis for complete concentration of power in Washington leading to absolute tyranny.

However, there is much the national government can do without the heavy iron-fist of federal control.

For example, the Congress should ease the financial burden of getting an education beyond high school. To achieve this, I recommend a federal income tax credit for students, and their parents, where the individuals seek higher education. This plan would ease the financial burden for families and students.

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