

Uncle Sam, Schoolmaster

The States, the cities, the towns, can no longer provide adequate education for their children. As a result of a recent report issued by an Advisory Committee on Education, appointed by the President in 1936, the federal government has embarked on a school subsidy plan involving grants of \$855,000,000 to the states.

One might fulminate about the political significance of centralized education. But, whether the curricula of schools is determined by the politicians in Washington or the politicians at City Hall is of secondary im-

portance, except that since there are many City Halls there may be less uniformity in the municipal regimentation of child minds than where the pattern is nationally determined.

The significance of these grants-in-aid is in the light it throws on the taxation tendency of the country. This tendency has been to shift the burden more and more on the producing class, to the relief of landowners. With the decline of the incomes of producers, during "depression" and "recession" times, the income from this source has not been sufficient to pay for the education of children. Instead of resorting to the collection of rent, the mayors and governors (tools of the landowning class) sell out to Washington—which is quite willing, for political purposes, to enlarge its sphere of control.

—F. C.