## COLLEGE REPORT

By ROBERT M. BERSI

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One cannot talk of main- Pearl Harbor and discovtaining a climate of free- ered that seven out of ten dom on our college and university campuses without, at the same time, dealing with the question of who controls them. It is an old saying, but "he who pays the piper calls the tune." leges or universities estable the control of the piper calls the tune." leges or universities estable the control of the piper calls the tune." leges or universities estable the control of the contr But in our American colleges and universities this is by no means as true asmost people seem to think.

While a graduate student, I cooperated on a study of

lished with these monies managed to divert the funds to other purposes.

Stanford University constitutes a case in point. Sen-ator Stanford originally

versity to be developed. SIMILARLY, in his will Paul Tulane made the strong suggestion that his bequest be used for voca-tional education, but the board of trustees to which he left his money disregarded his expressed, but legally unsupported, wish and endowed the institution that became Tulane University. Private donors have great influence upon colleges and

universities, but they are not all-powerful. Nor do legislatures have as complete freedom to de-termine the policies and programs of state universities as it may appear. In the seven states that have constitutional state univers-ities, for example, the legislatures can starve the uni-versities, but they cannot control them.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 6, 1968 Jordan, its first president, universities, the University educated him and Mrs. of Michigan, has successfuleducated him and Mrs. Stanford to a different con-ception of the kind of uniof Michigan, has successful-ly rejected funds appropri-ated by the legislature bely rejected funds appro ated by the legislature cause the board of regents did not wish to undertake the educational programs for which the funds were

voted.

IN A 1928 decision, the Supreme Court of Minnesota stated the principle that applies to all the constitutional state universities. The management of the unvirsity it ruled the unvirsity, it ruled, stands "beyond the dangers of vaccilating policy, ill formed or careless meddling and partisan ambition that would be possible in the case of management by either legislature or executive, chosen at frequent in-

tervals." These seven constitutional state universities — and the University of California is one of the number—are

branches of state govern-ment "except as a law of the regents might conflict with the police power of the state."

The other state universities of the country have varying degrees of independence from the execupendence from the execu-tive and legislative branch-es of government. Consti-tutional provisions and ju-dicial decisions give the governing boards of the se state universities rights which legislatures cannot invade except by abolishing the universities. In short, boards of regents have large powers to govern state unipowers to govern state uni-versities which limit the tune-calling abiilty of legis-

ALL OF THIS means that in operational fact boards of regents—or, as they are more frequently called, boards of trustees—control colleges and universities. the great financial gifts to American colleges and universities one of the number—are colleges and universities. Sut they cannot constitutional corporations But even this statement alumni, State legislature and executive two other groups during the rect power.

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past century have acquired legal or customary powers which limit the freedom of action of boards of trustees -the alumni and the fac-

Since 1866, for example, the alumni of Harvard have been its real governors. Thirty of the thirty-two Thirty of the thirty-two members of the Harvard Board of Overseers are elected by the alumni, and the Board of Overseers must ratify all policy enactments of the Harvard Corporation. At Dartmouth the Alumni Council has no such local status as the Harvard Alumni Council has no such legal status as the Harvard Board of Overseers, but it elects five of the twelve members of the Board of Trustees and has acquired extraordinary prestige in shaping Dartmouth policy.

THESE ARE but two examples among many which illustrate the increasing governmental power of alumni, State university alumni have much less di-

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## Ask Abolition of Five Committees

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn settled. The committee has said today he will suggest five more county committees be abolished because

served its purpose.)

Special Fact. 1

Committee on Air Po they are not accomplishing anything.

They are:

• The 10-member Election Devices Committee. (Voting devices - the IBM • Great Votomatic — have already been acquired and are be-ing used in Los Angeles County.)

• The Intergovernmental Board to Coordinate Civic Center Parking. (This 15- longer hold the comember board, composed fice which qualifimainly of city and county for membership.) employes, has not met since April 2, 1965.)

• Special Study Commit-tee on Sale of First Street Boar Property. (The issue is ing.

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· Special Fact . Finding Committee on Air Pollution. (No report has been submitted by this committee, there is no record that it

• Greater Los Angeles Voluntary Intergovernmen-tal Cooperation Committee. (Formed in 1963, there is no record of this committee meeting for at least three years. Some members no longer hold the elected office which qualified the m

Hahn said he will propose abolishing these committees and commissions at today's Board of Supervisors' meet-

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