

A History of the California State Department of Education

1900 - 1967



Prepared by the
Bureau of Publications
State Department of Education

CONTENTS

| | Page |
|---|------|
| A HISTORY OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, 1900--1967 | 1 |
| The "Department of Public Instruction" Before 1921 | 3 |
| Early Legal Provisions for Education | 3 |
| The First Superintendents of Public Instruction | 4 |
| The First State Boards of Education | 6 |
| Commissioners of Education | 8 |
| The Staff and Increasing Responsibilities | 9 |
| Legislative Study of Education | 11 |
| The Jones Report and the Department of Education, 1921--1927 | 12 |
| A Double-Headed System | 12 |
| Scattered Supervision and Control | 13 |
| Committee Recommendations on Organization | 14 |
| Organization of the State Department of Education | 16 |
| Political Action and Educational Change | 18 |
| Departmental Change and Growth Through the Years of Depression and War, 1927--1945 | 21 |
| Reorganization of the Department of Education | 21 |
| Departmental Changes, 1927--1931 | 23 |
| Effects of the Depression and an Earthquake | 24 |
| Recovery of the Schools | 25 |
| The Influence of World War II on the Schools | 27 |
| Postwar Problems and Solutions | 29 |
| The Strayer Report and the Reorganization of the Department, 1945--1963 | 32 |
| Recommendations of the Strayer Report | 32 |
| The Education Building and Strayer's Recommendations | 35 |
| The Mills Report | 35 |
| Legislative Changes | 36 |
| Department Reorganization | 37 |
| School District Organization Changes | 38 |
| Financial Support for Districts | 38 |
| Role of the Department in Schoolhouse Planning | 40 |
| NDEA in California | 40 |
| Vocational Education | 41 |
| Vocational Rehabilitation | 42 |
| Special Education | 42 |
| Higher Education | 42 |
| Credentialing of Teachers | 43 |
| Time for a Change | 44 |

| | Page |
|--|------|
| The Little Reports and Reappraisal, 1963--1967 . | 45 |
| The Little Report, Phase One | 46 |
| The Little Report, Phase Two | 49 |
| New Vision for the Department | 53 |
| The Future | 56 |
| | |
| Appendix A - The Organization and Services of the California | |
| State Department of Education | 57 |
| Division of Departmental Administration | 57 |
| Division of Higher Education | 58 |
| Division of Instruction | 59 |
| Division of Libraries | 61 |
| Division of Public School Administration | 61 |
| Division of Special Schools and Services | 62 |
| Office of Compensatory Education | 64 |
| | |
| Appendix B - Selected Bibliography | 66 |
| | |
| Appendix C - Superintendents of Public Instruction | 68 |