

Survey of 50 States

Appointment of State School Chief Favored



COLONEL RETIRES . . . Col. Edward F. Blum (right) receives his retirement certificate and congratulations from Maj. Gen. Robert E. Greer, deputy commander for satellite programs at the Air Force System Command's Space Systems Division in Los Angeles. Col. Blum, who will make his home at 17007 S. Hoover St., Gardena, retired after 23 years of service. He was director of the Air Force Agena space project here.



ACHIEVEMENT CITED . . . A certificate of achievement is presented to Maj. Cole J. Berggreen (right) for his suggestion that has saved the Air Force some \$50,000. Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Gerrity, deputy chief of staff for systems and logistics at USAF headquarters in Washington, made the presentation. Maj. Berggreen, who suggested a improved method for destruction of classified data, is chief of the Space Systems Division security division.

from the election of state superintendents of public instruction has been established by a California Teachers Association (CTA) survey of the nation's 50 states.

Results of the survey were released through the Education News Service this week as the California Legislature began considering six bills which call for the appointment of the chief state school officer, currently elected every four years, and the extension of terms of State Board of Education members from four to eight or 10 years.

Appointment was found to be the most popular way of selecting state superintendents, with Michigan the latest to drop the election method. Beginning this year its state board of education is empowered to make the selection.

Here, in brief, is what the CTA discovered:

- In five states both the chief state school officer and the state board of education are appointed by the governor.
- In 24 states the chief state school officer is appointed by the state board of education.
- In 21 states the chief state school officer is elected by popular vote.

These figures are in sharp contrast to 1948 when only

17 states used the appointive method.

The CTA survey also reported that in 32 states, including California, the state board of education is appointed by the governor. Only 11 states elect board members.

In one state, New York, the state board is elected by conventions of local school board members, but the state superintendent is elected by a popular vote of the people.

In two states—Wisconsin and Illinois—there is no state board at all and the state superintendents are selected in statewide elections.

In South Carolina, a recent legislative action has changed

the system of selecting the state board of education. It will now be composed of members elected by county legislative delegations within each of the state's 15 judicial circuits.

The CTA said opinion studies of state superintendents, members of state boards and executive secretaries of state education associations indicate overwhelming support for the appointive method of selecting the state superintendent.

Dr. Max Rafferty, California's superintendent, said he supports the idea of appointment, too, but he adds that if this change is made then the state board of education should be elected.

NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION by the California Legislature are two bills by Senator George Miller and two by Assemblyman Mervyn Dymally to make the state superintendent appointive by the state board of education and to lengthen state board of education terms to 10 years.

Also under consideration is a bill by Assemblyman Charles B. Garrigus which would lengthen board terms to eight years and give the state board of education power to appoint the superintendent.

The CTA said if one of these measures is approved by the Legislature and signed by Governor Brown, it cannot become law until it has been approved as a constitutional amendment by a vote of the people.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Two Torrance women were included a long member of the Los Angeles Chapter, National Association of Accountants, who won special recognition for participation in chapter activities at a dinner meeting Tuesday evening at Rodger Young's Restaurant. Torrance representatives were Mrs. Marion B. Lelling of 5220 Merrill Drive and Mrs. Helen V. Owens of 2372 W. 227th St.

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