



CALIFORNIA BLUE BULLETIN

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Leading Paragraph.

This Bulletin will be issued regularly hereafter. Its purpose is to establish a line of communication between the central school office in the Capitol and the fighting line of teachers and local officers in the school districts throughout the state. It starts as a quarterly and if all goes well may become a monthly by and by. It will be edited by the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the three Commissioners of Education, each in succession taking personal charge of one issue. The next will be from Mr. Snyder; the next, Miss Schallenberger; then Mr. Wood. Each will make himself responsible for his own utterances by signing his own initials thereto. The signer of this leading paragraph in each issue will be the editor of the whole number, thus:

EDWARD HYATT.

Size and Function.

The size of the Bulletin will be indeterminate, free to change with the needs of the occasion and the ideas of the editor. It will never be fewer than four pages nor more than fifty-four.

Its function is not literary or entertaining or pedagogical. It is intended primarily for official announcements, decisions, opinions, explanations, informations. It will try to answer questions on doubtful points of law or method or fact. It will welcome items of news, expressions of dissent, challenges, suggestions. It will try to tell the current things that should interest all the school people in

California, and tell them so compactly and tersely and briefly that no one will be too busy or too tired to read them. So mote it be.

E. H.

Its Noble Audience.

We plan to send the Bulletin regularly to the teachers, the school clerks, the superintendents and to all others interested in our schools who care to ask for it. These will make a noble audience of ten thousand immortals. A little paragraph read by all of them is greater in its effects than a long-winded, learned dissertation before an institute or a club or a mass meeting or any other accessible gathering of educational people whatever could possibly be.

Our prayer will be for strength and wit to: Boil it down. Cut it short. Prune out unessentials. Make it interesting. Leave something to the common sense of the reader. Stop.

And now, a hint to the wise. Do not fail, you schools and school officers, to save these little Bulletins as they come, and put them away safely for the future. They will surely contain things that you will want to refer to, look at, again. Put them away in your desk or on the library shelf. At the end of a year or more fasten them together or have them bound for a permanent volume among the school records. You can not get duplicates or replace lost copies. Once issued, they are never reprinted, and they disappear like snow on the river. Now they seem of little value; in a year

may be absent fifteen days during the year on account of illness and not lose their salaries, provided the illness is properly attested. Of course, the head county officers are on tenure for four years, but this can not be urged in the case of deputies in the county offices. Neither can it be urged in the case of state employees. Since the public pays most of its employees for a reasonable time during illness, and since it appears that the teachers are practically the only employees other than day laborers who are discriminated against in this matter and since there appears no substantial reason why teachers should be discriminated against, I have given the opinion quoted above. Let me emphasize, however, that the allowance is discretionary with the board of trustees with the concurrence of the county superintendent of schools; it can not be demanded as a matter of right.

The schools are at sufficient disadvantage as compared with other employing agencies without denying the teachers the same privileges during illness that are accorded to human beings in practically every other similar employment.

The total time allowed for illness should be reasonable, but for the protection of the interests of the school, I believe it should not exceed ten full days. I believe, further, that satisfactory evidence of illness should be presented in

case there is any doubt whatever about it. This statement does not apply to absence of teachers on account of private business or absence for any other cause than illness. W. C. W.

Training classes for teachers of stammerers.

Special training classes for the teachers of San Francisco, Oakland, and other bay cities in the methods of curing defective speech are to be opened in January by Mrs. Mabel Farrington Gifford, under the auspices of the Extension Division of the University of California.

Beginning Saturday morning, January 17, at the Affiliated Colleges, Mrs. Gifford will form a class to train teachers in methods of correcting speech defects among pupils. This same subject will be taught in a class to begin at the Museum Building, Oakland, on January 26.

On Monday afternoons, beginning January 12, Mrs. Gifford will conduct a class for teachers, training them to correct foreign accents in pupils. This class will meet at the Hotel Oakland.

Mrs. Gifford will also conduct in San Francisco a class for adult stammerers, at the Emanu-El School, 1337 Sutter street, to begin January 7, and beginning February 11 at the same place she will have a class in the teaching of English pronunciation to foreigners.

W. C. W.

ITEMS OF PUBLIC INTEREST FROM PROCEEDINGS OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, NOVEMBER, 1919.

The State Board of Education met in special session in Sacramento, November 10 to 15, 1919.

Two new members were appointed to the Board since the last meeting. They are Mrs. Elizabeth B. Phillips, Porterville, and Mr. Lester J. Hinsdale, Sacramento.

President Clarke announced the following committees:

COMMITTEES OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Legislation—Mrs. Ray, Chairman; Mr. Hinsdale, Mr. Clarke.

Textbooks—Mrs. Phillips, Chairman; Mr. Hinsdale, Mrs. Ray.

Normal Schools—Mrs. Barnum, Chairman; Dr. Stone, Mrs. Phillips.

Accreditation and Certification—Mrs. Barnum, Chairman; Mr. Wilson, Mrs. Phillips.

Vocational, including Credentials in Special Subjects—Mr. Wilson, Chairman; Dr. Stone, Mrs. Ray.

Budget and Finance—Mr. Hinsdale, Chairman; Mr. Clarke, Mrs. Ray.

Physical Education—Dr. Stone, Chairman; Mr. Wilson, Mrs. Barnum.

Publicity—Mr. Wilson, Chairman; Dr. Stone, Mrs. Phillips.

Los Angeles Office—Mr. Clarke, Chairman; Mr. Wilson, Mrs. Barnum.