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- Daniel B. Dunham, *Assistant State Superintendent, Division of Vocational-Technical Education*
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A centralized administration of the Maryland public schools was attempted in 1865, but the General Assembly did not establish the State Board of Education until 1870 (Ch. 311, Acts of 1870). The Board, composed of nine members appointed by the Governor for staggered five-year terms, makes policy for the public school system and passes the by-laws and regulations that govern it (Code 1957, 1975 Repl. Vol., Art. 77, secs. 2-22).

The State Board of Education appoints the State Superintendent of Schools for a four-year term. He directs the State Department of Education and executes the policy and enforces the regulations adopted by the Board (Code 1957, 1975 Repl. Vol., Art. 77, secs. 23-33). The State Department of Education consists of the State Superintendent of Schools and the professional staff employed by the Board to assist him. The Department has ten divisions (Code 1957, 1975 Repl. Vol., 1975 Supp., Art. 77, secs. 30, 32).

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

The services of the Division of Administration and Finance include in the offices of the Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent those of legal services and informational services; the office of administrative services composed of budgeting, legislative services, State aid, food services, pupil transportation, driver education, pedestrian safety, personnel administration, and office services and supply; the office of fiscal management and services including accounting, auditing, and scholarship determination and enforcement; and publications.

The Office of Administrative Services prepares the annual State aid and departmental budgets. The Office of Fiscal Management distributes the funds made available to the local school systems by the State and federal governments and provides auditing and fiscal advice (Code 1957, 1975 Repl. Vol., 1975 Supp., Art. 77, secs. 17, 19, 92-94, 123-132).

DIVISION OF CERTIFICATION AND ACCREDITATION

The Division of Certification and Accreditation has been assigned many regulatory functions as well as the responsibility for providing services to the local school systems and the public.

The Division certifies teachers for the public, nonpublic, and independent schools, and various other institutions of the State. It thus has the responsibility for the initial certification, renewal, and upgrading of cer-