

New Superintendent Heads B'ham Schools

Dr. John B. Smith is the new superintendent of the 14,000 student Birmingham School District. Smith, 55, succeeds Dr. Otis M. Dickey who resigned the post after three years to accept a similar job near Denver, Colo.

A graduate of the Harvard School of Education, Smith was superintendent of the Greenwich Public Schools in Greenwich, Conn.

His career in education began as a teacher at Tilton Junior College, Tilton, New Hampshire in 1934. From 1935 to 1937 he was involved at the evening high school program in Springfield, Mass.

From 1937 to 1939 he served as both a teacher and supervisor in the adult education program in Springfield. (He then served as administrative director of the Fairchild School in Worcester, Mass., from 1939 to 1943.

For the next seven years Smith held the position of principal and then superintendent of schools in Stockbridge, Mass. From 1949 until he moved to Greenwich in 1958 he was superintendent in Foxboro and Lexington, Mass., schools.

In 1954 he was the co-author of the Lexington Plan and School Industry Program for the training of men and women for teaching, combining the attributes of industrial experience and teacher training.

A pioneer in foreign language teaching in the elementary schools, Smith was the developer of one of the first programs in the public schools in New England at Lexington in 1953.

He also served as a lecturer for the Boston University School of Education, University of Wisconsin School of Education and Teachers' College of Columbia University.

A sailing enthusiast, he is also active in the American Association of School Administrators, the Harvard Alumni Association and the Rotary Club.

Dr. Smith is married and has one child.



JOHN B. SMITH

before coming to the \$25,000 a year Birmingham job.

He is one of the originators of the team-teaching concept on the elementary school level. The team-teaching concept generally makes use of two teachers in a class. Smith has gained a national reputation in this field of education.

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