

## **Decade 1950-1959**

**Local Level:** Mrs. Arvigine Simmons was president of Central California Association for the Nursery Education (CCANE) in 1956. She presided over a workshop titled, "Adapting New ideas for the Profession." Edith Storey was president of CCANE from 1957- 1959. (See 1990 for more information on Edith Storey.)

**State Level:** California Associations for Nursery Education (CANE) state presidents were Elizabeth Woods (1955-1957) and Jean DeMattos (1957-1959). On November 2-4, 1951, the Annual State Conference was at Pacific Palisades. In May of 1954 there was a joint conference of the North and South CANE groups. January 28-30, 1955, was another joint conference of the North and South CANE at Asilomar, Pacific Grove. May 11-13, 1956, was a conference meeting at the Presbyterian Conference Ground, Pacific Palisades.

February 1, 1957 was the ninth conference. May 2-3, 1958, the California State ANE conference was the CTA Building, Los Angeles. Edith Storey was the second or third state president of the CANE [editors note; conflicting dates in documents]. Later this organization became the California Association for the Education of Young Children (CAEYC).

"Leaders began to confer in 1952 and by January 1953, a state association proposal was written. This proposal was taken to the sections for discussion and affirmation. In 1955, the first annual meeting of the board of directors was held, at which Elizabeth Woods, the first state president, presided." Source; Brief History of CAEYC and the Board of Directors published in the CAEYC Board of Directors Manual, 1991.

In January 1953, The California State Department of Social Welfare led a state-wide committee on revision of Day Care Standards. They developed standards for staffing, ratios, parent participation in co-ops, and what would be desirable provisions or what would be mandatory. Committee members from Fresno were Mrs. Mary E. Quibell from the Parent Nursery School and Miss Margaret E. Ginet from the Parent Cooperative.

May 11 to 13, 1956, the Conference for the California Association for Nursery Education was at Pacific Palisades, CA. The conference theme was United for Young Children, and it was sponsored by the University of California, School of Education University Extension. Arvigine Simmons was the Central California regional president.

Early March, 1956, the Association for Nursery Education – Northern California held their annual state conference in conjunction with the Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI). The conference was in Fresno. Approximately 12 members were present from all parts of California. The topic was legislation for the 1956 Budget Session.

February 1 to 3, 1957, the Ninth Annual Conference for CANE was at Asilomar, Pacific Grove, CA. One of the presenters was Mr. Martin Gunderson – Superintendent of West Side Schools of Fresno County. Mrs. Edith Storey, was president of CCANE, and presided over the conference.

**National Level:** Edith M. Dowley was president of NCANE and the secretary was Marian Anderson. In the mid-1950s “existing state, local and regional organizations for nursery education could affiliate with NANE if all of their members joined the national association. Within a few years,

membership increased five-fold, to more than 5,000 members". Source: History of NAEYC, Historical Overview, downloaded 2/5/2009.

Standards for Nursery School Teachers were presented in a report prepared for the National Association for Nursery Education Conference in Los Angeles in June, 1959.