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**Content Note**

This series consists of a near-complete set of monthly reports of the Department of Institutions and Agencies for the period 1926-1971, providing coverage for most of the department's existence (1918-1976). The reports for the first year (January 1926 - February 1927) were actually done on a weekly basis; they record the commissioner's and division directors' day-to-day activities, and also provide reports from the superintendent of each institution or agency. Beginning in March 1927, the reports were done monthly and no longer included separate sections for each institution. The commissioner reported on his own activities, usually including highlights of meetings and conferences, accounts of projects or initiatives at specific institutions, and updates on budget and legislative matters. This was followed by summaries of each division's activities throughout the various institutions (as opposed to sections for each facility). While the number, names and functions of the department's divisions changed over the years, the subjects they reported on generally included: finances, personnel policies, farm yields, grounds and buildings improvements, social services, parole, classification, education, and mental and physical health care. The early reports are predominantly narrative, but do provide some tables of financial data as well as patient/inmate demographics. By the 1940s, the amount of statistical information included in the reports increased and tended to dominate the reports by the 1970s. *NOTE:* The reports for the period July-December 1955 are missing.

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