

# U. S. Educators Urge Change in Jap Language

Tokyo, April 6 (U.P.).—An American education mission today recommended substitution of Roman letters for picture characters in written Japanese and urged drastic reform of Japan's "bureaucratic" school system. It urged compulsory high school education free from mythological indoctrination.

The proposals were contained in a report which was submitted to Gen. Douglas MacArthur by 27

American educators who recently completed a study of the Japanese education system.

The mission, headed by Dr. George D. Stoddard, president-elect of the University of Illinois, urged the change in Japan's written language because school children who might otherwise be studying "a vast range of useful skills" are forced to spend most of their time during their elemen-

tary schooling "in the struggle to master the characters of the Japanese language."

The report said that adoption of some form of romaji system of writing that puts the Japanese language phonetically in Roman characters would be a most practical reform.

The educators' recommendations included elimination of mythology from history and

geography books to make them more objective, greater "flexibility" in teaching; formulation of "ethical" education for democracy, compulsory free education in co-educational schools until completion of "low secondary schools" or until the age of 16, broadening of adult education facilities and more emphasis on vocational training at all education levels, and

higher education as "the opportunity for many rather than the privilege of a few."