SOMPHON HAWAREE: CONCEPT OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE PROVINCIAL GENERAL EDUCATION IN NORTHEASTERN REGION IN THE DEMOCRATIZATION OF LOWER SECONDARY EDUCATION PROJECT, DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL EDUCATION.

THESIS ADVISOR: DR.CHUMPOL POOLPATARACHEWIN, 133 pp.

The main purpose of this research was to study the concepts of the directors of the provincial general education in northeastern region in the democratization of Lower Secondary Education Project, department of general education by using the EDFR technique.

The research revealed that the directors of the provincial general education in the northeastern region believed that the purpose of this project was to help reduce the cost of education and provide opportunity for students to be able to go to school close to their homes. Management should be included in the curriculum. Activities for self-learning should be provided in some courses. The number of students is increased by the following factors: free enrollment, free loaned texts, reducing educational expenses, and providing income in school. The government allocated more money to these schools.

The result of the Project should bring more opportunity for Prathomsuksa 6 graduates to further their study in Mathayomsuksa 1.

The problems of the Project were as follows: delay of budget, lack of instructors and instructional aids, and parents' demand for their child to drop out from school for work.