GENERAL SCIENCE-EDUCATION

40 Science Talent Winners

Nine girls, 31 boys are invited to Washington to attend the Science Talent Institute and compete for scholarships totaling $11,000.

➤ NINE GIRLS and 31 boys have been invited to Washington, D. C., Feb. 28 through Mar. 4, to compete for the Westinghouse Science Scholarships in the Sixth Annual Science Talent Search conducted by Science Clubs of America, administered by Science Service. They will spend five days together at the Science Talent Institute in Washington.

The names of the trip winners were announced by the judges as the result of a strenuous competition in which superior seniors of all secondary schools in the United States were invited to participate. The 40 winners were selected from 16,558 entrants. Of these students, 3,197 completed a science aptitude examination, submitted recommendations and scholarship records and wrote an essay on "My Scientific Project".

16 States Represented

The trip winners come from 32 localities in 16 states and the District of Columbia. Entries were received from every state in the union.

Those who come to Washington for the Science Talent Institute, Feb. 28-Mar. 4, on the all-expense trips, will compete for scholarships which will allow them to go to any college, university or technical school of their own selection to continue science or engineering training. One boy and one girl will be awarded $2,400 Westinghouse Grand Science Scholarships ($600 a year for four years), while eight winners will be awarded $400 Westinghouse Science Scholarships ($100 a year for four years), and $3,000 more in Westinghouse Science Scholarships will be awarded at the discretion of the judges.

Selected without regard to geographic consideration, the results show that this year winners come from two states that have not had winners before. Massachusetts and New Hampshire have winners in their public schools this year for the first time. This brings the total of states that have had winners to 34.

Only two schools in the United States have produced more than one winner this year. Stuyvesant H. S., New York, N. Y. will send three boys, and the Bronx H. S. of Science, New York, N. Y. will send two boys to the Science Talent Institute.

Ten schools have been able to repeat winners. The Bronx H. S. of Science, New York, N. Y. leads, having had seven winners in three previous years. Stuyvesant H. S., New York, N. Y.; Bassick H. S., Bridgeport, Conn.; and Eugene H. S., Eugene, Oregon, have each had two winners in previous years. The following schools have had one winner before in the Science Talent Search: Erasmus Hall H. S., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Roosevelt H. S., Washington, D. C.; Cheltenham H. S., Philadelphia, Pa.; Alexander Hamilton H. S., Los Angeles, Calif.; College H. S., Upper Montclair, N. J., and William Howard Taft H. S., New York, N. Y.

All of the winners live at home and attend their local or nearby public, private, or parochial high schools.

Of the 40 Science Talent Search trip winners 72.5% rank first or second in their graduating classes, which range in size from 13 to 750 students. About 17% of the winners have parents who attended college.

Most of the winners are members of science clubs and at least 11 of them are presidents or hold other offices in their clubs. The total number of science clubs in which they work is 70; of these 29 are affiliated with Science Clubs of America.

Many of the winners have chosen their fields of science study. Their choices range from biochemistry to theoretical physics. Eight hope to get into the field of medicine. Fourteen are choosing to enter chemistry for research or engineering. Others want careers in mathematics, mineralogy, physics, electronic engineering, geology, and zoology. All plan to do research in their chosen fields.

Judges of STS

The judges of the Science Talent Search are: Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of the Harvard College Observatory and president of Science Service; Dr. Harold A. Edgerton, professor of psychology, Ohio State University; Dr. Steuart Henderson Britt, psychologist, New York City, and Dr. Rex E. Buxton, psychiatrist, Washington, D. C. Drs. Edgerton and Britt design the Science Aptitude Examination each year for the Science Talent Search.

In addition to the 40 winners of trips to Washington for the final competition for the Westinghouse Science Scholarships, 260 boys and girls will be named for honorable mention in the Sixth Annual Science Talent Search. They will be recommended to colleges and universities for their science aptitude and, if they are as fortunate as those previously named for this honor, they will receive offers of scholarships from many schools and colleges.

Previous winners chosen in the Science Talent Search total 200. Most are now students in colleges and universities where they are preparing themselves for scientific careers. Many have already received one or more college degrees and six are working on their Ph.D degrees. None is more than 23 years of age.

The annual Science Talent Search is conducted by Science Clubs of America, administered by Science Service. Scholarships are provided and the Science Talent Search made financially possible by the Westinghouse Educational Foundation, an organization endowed by the Westinghouse Electric Corporation for the purpose of promoting education and science.

Science News Letter, January 25, 1947

ENGINEERING

Steam Reconditioner Makes Old Surfacings Re-Usable

➤ WITH THOUSANDS of miles of war-worn and neglected highway and street pavements to be replaced, more than usual interest attaches to a steam reconditioner for bituminous binder material, making possible the re-use of old surfacings. This machine, the invention of W. F. Chester of Bayside, N. Y., is protected by patent 2,413,908.

It is of quite simple construction, consisting of a sealed hopper containing a superposed series of perforated steam pipes in grid-like patterns. The broken-up pavement material is thrown into this, and the steam, at fairly high pressure and temperature, digests the bituminous binder out of the mass. At the same time, new pavement materials are added. Preliminary analyses are necessary to determine the needs for each stretch of road.

Science News Letter, January 25, 1947

A film of *dust* on an electric light bulb may absorb 20% of the light.