GENERAL SCIENCE

Future Leaders In Science

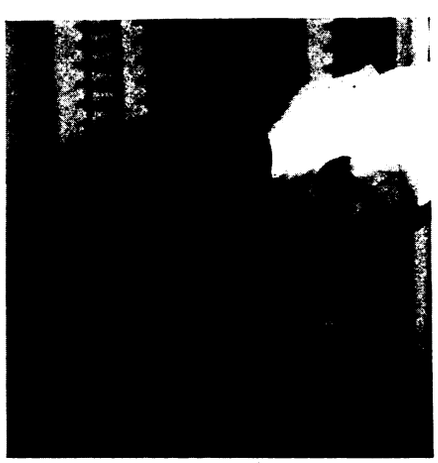
Nine girls and 31 boys have been invited for an all-expense visit to Washington to compete in the finals for scholarships totaling $11,000.

➤ FORTY future leaders in American science—nine girls and 31 boys—have been invited to Washington for a five-day, all-expense visit. While at the annual Science Talent Institute, they will compete for $11,000 in Westinghouse Science Scholarships in the finals of the Eighth Annual Science Talent Search conducted by Science Clubs of America, administered by Science Service.

The 40 trip-winners were chosen by a panel of judges after a nation-wide competition in which top-ranking seniors in all the public, parochial and private schools in the continental United States were invited to participate. Entrants, representing every state in the Union, totaled 16,218, of whom 2,482 completed the stiff science aptitude examination, submitted recommendations and scholarship records and wrote an essay on "My Scientific Project."

At the end of the winners' five-day stay in Washington, March 3 through March 7, the judges will award the scholarships. One boy or girl will receive the $2,800 Westinghouse Grand Science Scholarship ($700 per year for four years). The runner-up will receive a $2,000 Westinghouse Science Scholarship. Westinghouse Science Scholarships, ranging in size from $100 to $400 and bringing the total to $11,000, will be awarded at the discretion of the judges to the rest of the winners.

The scholarships may be used at any college, university or technical school of the winners' choice so that they may continue their training in science or engineering.



DEAMER, THE LEMUR—Deamer, rare visitor to this country, will be studied to find out how he uses his bones and muscles in various activities.

Chosen without regard to geographic distribution, the 40 trip-winners come from 32 localities in 17 states and the District of Columbia. Three states, Louisiana, Texas, and Utah, have winners this year for the first time. This brings to 38 the total of states that have been represented by winners since 1942.

Two high schools in the United States have produced more than one winner this year. Two boys and two girls have been invited to come from the Forest Hills (N.Y.) High School, and the Bronx High School of Science in New York City will send two boys.

Exactly half of the winners this year come from schools that have never before placed winners in the annual Science Talent Search. Others among this year's winners are adding new laurels to schools already honored by having produced winners in the past.

Of the 280 winners (40 per year) named in the first seven Science Talent Searches, 11 have come from the Bronx High School of Science and eight from Stuyvesant High School. Both schools are in New York City. Forest Hills (N.Y.) High School has sent six winners in previous contests, and four each have come from Herbert Hoover High School in Glendale, Calif., Eugene (Ore.) High School, and Shorewood (Wis.) High School. Oak Park Township High School in Oak Park, Ill., and Walton High School in New York City have each produced three winners in the past. Two Brooklyn schools, Abraham Lincoln High School and Midwood High School, have produced two winners each, as has Southwest High School in St. Louis, Mo. The following schools have had one winner each in the past seven years: Millburn (N.J.) High School, New Brunswick (N.J.) High School, Mont Pleasant High School in Schenectady, N. Y. and Mt. Lebanon High School in Pittsburgh, Pa.

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

Over half (60%) of the Science Talent Search trip winners rank first, second or third in their graduating classes, which range in size from 13 to 700 students. Approximately 70% of the winners' fathers and 50% of their mothers attended colleges. A number have parents who were born or educated abroad and some of the winners themselves are of foreign birth.

Contrary to a frequent conception of scientists the winners are not interested in science only. While most of them spend much of their spare time in science pursuits such as science clubs and individual hobbies of a scientific nature, all of them have participated in varied extracurricular interests such as music, athletics, journalism and dramatics, and all belong to social and educational organizations outside their school work.

Many of the top 40 have already chosen the lines of study and research they wish to pursue. Physics attracts eight, while nine intend to study chemistry. Three hope to enter medicine as a career and four want to be biochemists. Others plan careers in mathematics, astronomy, psychiatry, engineering, geology, psychology, biology, anthropology, ornithology, paleontology and bacteriology. All hope to do research in their respective fields.

Most of the 280 winners in the seven Science Talent Searches held since 1942 are now students in colleges or universities where they are preparing themselves for scientific careers. A total of 109 of them now have undergraduate degrees, 11 have master's degrees and one is a Ph.D. Six are already M.D.'s. A few are now employed fulltime in jobs in industry or are on university teaching or research staffs. None of the 280 previous winners is more than 25 years old.

In addition to the 40 trip-winners who will attend the Science Talent Institute in Washington, an Honorable Mentions list of 260 in the Eighth Annual Science Talent Search will be announced Feb. 10. These high ranking contestants will be recommended to colleges and universities for their aptitude in science. If they are as fortunate as those previously included in the Honorable Mentions list, they will receive offers of scholarships from many institutions of higher education seeking students with talent in science.

Through an arrangement with Science Clubs of America, 18 states are conducting state Science Talent Searches concurrently with the national competition. In these 18 states all entries in the national Science Talent Search will be turned over to state judging committees. From their entries they will choose state winners and award scholarships to various colleges and universities within the state. Cooperating states are: Alabama, District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

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 and Dr. Steuart Henderson Britt, psychologists of New York City; and Dr. Rex E. Buxton, psychiatrist of Washington, D. C. Drs. Edgerton and Britt design the Science Aptitude Examination each year for the Science Talent Search.

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