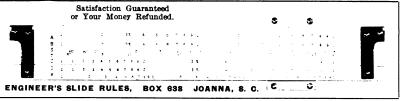
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#### **Youths Start Younger**

(Continued from page 171)

teachers. Other mothers are registered nurses or hold clerical, secretarial or sales positions. Two mothers are scientists.

More than a third of the fathers are professional men. Managerial and executive positions are listed for 65 fathers. Another 54 are employed in sales, service and clerical work. Manufacturing, construction and factory jobs are held by 35. Thirty are farmers and ranchers, and so on.

Since reading is such a potent source of inspiration and information, the computer's count of magazines read regularly by the finalists offers some interesting points to ponder. Specific magazines and journals were mentioned more than 2,300 times! The top dozen publications in sheer number of mentions include Scientific Ameri-CAN, LIFE, SATURDAY EVENING POST, NA-TIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, LOOK, TIME, SCIENCE News Letter, Popular Science, Popular Electronics, Science Digest, Popular Mechanics, and Science World. Other magazines popular with many of the high-school scientists are Electronics Illustrated, MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED, SCIENCE, RADIO-ELECTRONICS, SCIENCE AND MECHANICS, ELEC-TRONICS, RADIO-TV News, SKY AND TELE-SCOPE, MISSILES AND ROCKETS and CHEM-ISTRY. Some 252 mentions were made of professional or specialty journals read by fewer students, or by only one enthusiast.

# Nature Note

Science News Letter, 84:170 Sept. 14, 1963

➤ AS THE AUTUMN leaves change color and fall, there is an annual outbreak of brush and forest fires throughout the country. Each year thousands of acres are left blackened and scarred as valuable timber stands are destroyed.

Yet after the autumn and the next spring's rains, a scattering of green shoots will be seen among the ashes. For the forest is a phoenix; its life is immortal, although its regrowth may see several generations.

its regrowth may see several generations. Following close behind the fire's breath is the great willow-herb known as fireweed. Its flaming crimson flower, which blooms in July and August, defies the wanton destroyer to return again and lay waste to the land.

Fireweed seeds are carried by their own built-in parachutes of downy silk, similar to the down of a thistle or milkweed.

The plant is not difficult to grow in a garden and prefers a dry soil and open areas. A field or brush fire gives fireweed conditions that it likes.

• Science News Letter, 84:173 Sept. 14, 1963

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