

## Search for Scientists At High School Level

► HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS putting the finishing touches on research projects are being invited through their school officials to enter competition for \$34,250 in scholarships and awards to be presented in the 23rd Annual Science Talent Search.

The invitations are going to some 30,000 public, private and parochial high schools throughout the nation.

Rules, instructions and examination materials will be mailed in November to school officials requesting them. The test is administered locally, and completed entries must reach SCIENCE SERVICE, Washington, D. C., by midnight, Dec. 27.

Selection is based on a two-hour science aptitude examination, a report on the student's science project, personal data and high school scholastic records.

More than \$5,000,000 in other scholarships and financial aid have come to past Science Talent Search Winners and Honors Group members as a direct result of their placing in the Search. Unlike many scholastic competitions, the Search does not prohibit winners from accepting other scholarships.

State Science Talent Searches held in 41 states and the District of Columbia in conjunction with the national Search offer considerable additional benefits to the participants in the states involved.

Interested seniors should contact their science teachers early to assure that materials will be requested for them.

The Science Talent Search is administered by SCIENCE SERVICE through its Science Clubs of America, is supported by the Westinghouse Educational Foundation of the Westinghouse Electric Corporation, and is approved by the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

• Science News Letter, 84:207 Sept. 28, 1963

## Nature Note

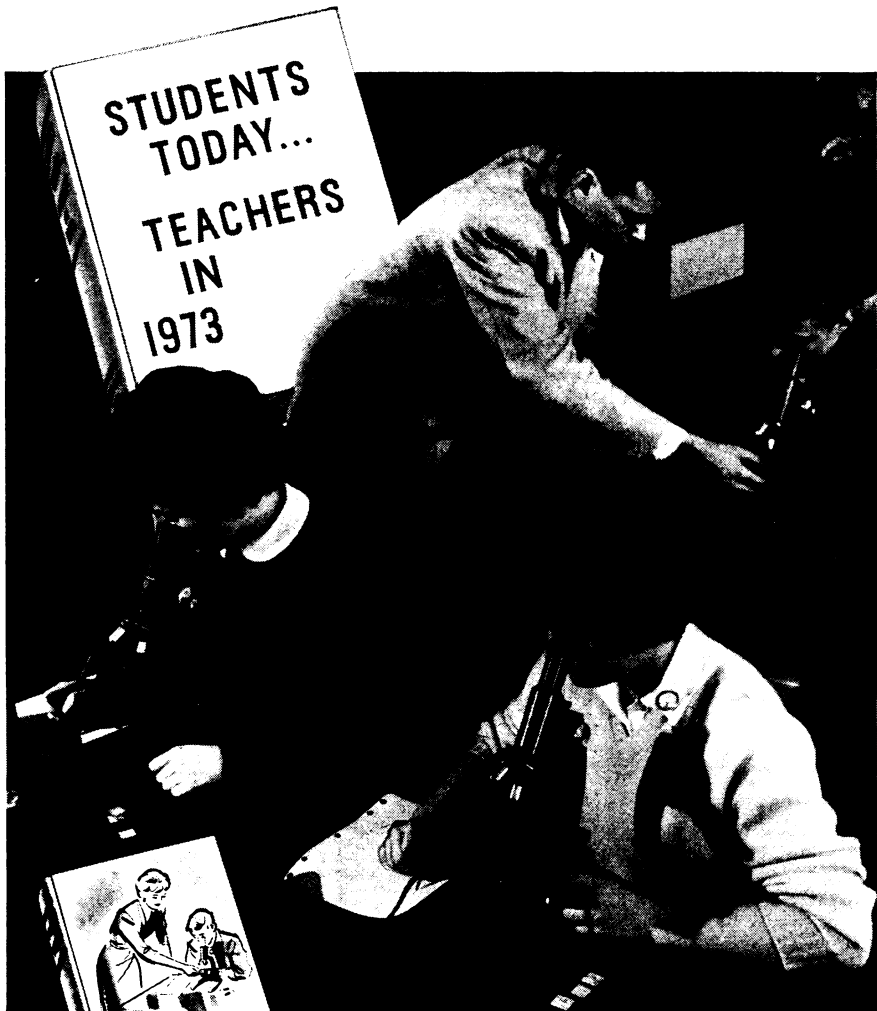
► OF ALL THE blue-and-gold splendor of the autumn kingdom of flowers, the fringed gentian, *gentiana crinita*, "flower of heaven's cerulean wall" as Bryant wrote, is one of the most beautiful and beloved wildflowers.

Formerly found in moist meadows and bogs and still found today in high alpine meadows in the Rockies and Sierras, the gentian should never be picked and cannot be transplanted. Once common in the eastern part of the country, the gentian has almost completely disappeared, due to its thoughtless appropriation by flower lovers.

The flower can be grown only from seed and lives only for one season. When the seeds ripen in the fall, they should be sown as soon as possible and protected with dead leaves or grass. Its cousin, the closed gentian, is the most common one on the east coast today and is far easier to grow.

A European species of gentian has been used for hundreds of years in medicine. The generic name, according to Pliny, is given in honor of one Gentius, king of Illyria, who discovered its value as a drug.

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