



Science Service

**FIRST SCIENCE FAIR EXHIBIT**—Attracted by a problem that was linked with the name of their secondary school, Barry Dodds, 14, a student, and Christopher Grafton, biology teacher at Merry Oak Boys' School, Southampton, England, show Dr. Watson Davis, Science Service director, their display on how a fungus disease attacks British oak trees.

## GENERAL SCIENCE

## Talent Search Is On

► INVITATIONS to participate in the 24th annual Science Talent Search for prospective research scientists now in their senior year are being sent to some 60,000 principals and science teachers of private, parochial and public high schools throughout the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

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 based on a two-hour science aptitude examination, personal data, high school scholastic records and a report on the student's scientific project will determine the members of an Honors Group, consisting of the top 10% of fully qualified entrants.

Further intense judging will determine 40 winners who will receive an expense-paid trip to Washington, and will share \$34,250 in Westinghouse Science Scholarships and Awards.

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

State Science Talent Searches held in 42 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 adminis-

tered 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, 86:182 Sept. 19, 1964

## TECHNOLOGY

## Atomic Heat Can Relieve Pure Water Shortages

► ATOMIC ENERGY promises to solve the critical and continuing pure water shortages that plague many localities in the world.

Heat from nuclear reactors, whose energy comes from the fissioning of the uranium- and thorium-derived atoms, will be used to evaporate seawater to remove its salt. Electricity for homes and industry will be a by-product.

Commissioner James T. Ramey of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission told the Third United Nations International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy in Geneva that an atomic plant could give the Florida Keys both water and energy. It would produce 10 million gallons of water and 50 megawatts of electricity daily.

Water production costs as low as 10 to 35 cents per thousand gallons from future atomic desalting plants were predicted by Commissioner Ramey. Some natural water sources cost as much as a dollar per thousand gallons.

Atomic water desalting can help solve water shortages in the southwestern United States, the Middle East and North Africa.

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## British Hold Science Fair At Annual BAAS Meeting

► BRITAIN'S YOUTH PROGRAM in science is expanding and, at the time of the British Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Southampton, the first science youth fair of the area was held.

More than 130 projects from 60 secondary schools were displayed in the new Technical College building, and laymen of the region as well as scientists attending the annual session's general science organization of Great Britain saw what students not yet in college could accomplish.

About two-thirds of the exhibits were group displays shown without labels giving the names of the students. Credit went primarily to the schools. The teachers participated in planning and executing the experiments to a greater extent than would be the case in the United States.

As in America, teachers took the lead in organizing the fair, aided by a citizen's committee. A London newspaper helped with finances.

In other parts of Britain, similar local fairs have been held in the past few years.

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**ELECTRICALLY GUIDED AUTO**—At the Southampton science fair, Robert S. Hanley, 16, Michael Gallagher, 17, and David Kahn, 20, students at St. Mary's College, Southampton England, displayed a vehicle that follows guidance provided by electric waves.

## GENERAL SCIENCE

## World Science Center Planned for New York

► A HUGE World Science Center is to be built in New York City by 1967.

Part of Lincoln Center for the Arts and Sciences, it is being built by the New York Academy of Sciences, an 18,000-member organization with members in all 50 states and 88 foreign countries.

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