

GENERAL SCIENCE

Science Scholarships

16-year-old "vacant lot" ecologist shares top honors in Science Talent Search with 17-year-old girl who hopes to become a brain surgeon.

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► BRAINS LITERALLY won a \$2,400 college scholarship for a 17-year-old girl, while the other top Westinghouse Science Scholarship in the Fifth Annual Science Talent Search went to a 16-year-old boy, whose science studies began in a vacant lot near his home. The winners are Marilyn Rohrer, 306 College Ave., Elizabethtown, Pa., and Jules Kernens, 5065 Oleatha Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Portraits of the top winners are shown on the front cover of this SCIENCE NEWS LETTER.

Eight other high school seniors were awarded Westinghouse Science Scholarships worth \$400, while 30 received one-year \$100 scholarships.

Jules

Proving that science laboratories are where you find them, Jules Kernens, who won a \$2,400 scholarship, made an ecological survey of a three-acre lot inside the city of St. Louis in which he catalogued 245 different varieties of plants and animals in one month. Medical research also interests Jules and he hopes to help find the causes of cancer. In addition to his ecological survey in the vacant lot, he has experimented with white rats to study nutritional deficiencies, and

SCIENCE TALENT INSTITUTE
—Alternates for the \$2,400 scholarships are shown on the top row of the facing page: left, Stephen Arnold and right, Josephine Raskind. Center, Henry Wallace talks to a group after addressing a session of the Science Talent Institute. Second row left, Stephen Arnold, Marilyn Rohrer, Jules Kernens, and Josephine Raskind congratulate one another, Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg discusses new chemical elements with a group. The \$400 scholarship winners below are: Douglas Baird, Richard Lewontin, Gordon Newkirk, Abraham Schweid, Arthur Sicular and Harold Zirin. Photographs by Fremont Davis, Science Service staff photographer.

has published the results of some of his work.

Marilyn

Miss Rohrer, who hopes to become a brain surgeon, boasts a collection of carefully preserved brains from such animals as squirrels and dogs and even has a human brain carefully preserved for study. Jokingly called "the brain" by her friends, her interests are not limited to

science. She is a "hot" trumpet fan of the Harry James school. Her brain exhibit at the Science Talent Institute consisted of 33 different specimens weighing 80 pounds.

Alternates to the \$2,400 scholarships are two \$400 winners, Josephine Raskind, 16, 108-21 70th Ave., Forest Hills, N. Y., and Stephen Arnold, 17, 1128 Washington St., Oak Park, Ill., a student at Culver Military Academy.

A student of embryology, Miss Raskind conducted extensive experiments with small snails.

In his study of cosmic radiation by use of Geiger counting tubes, Stephen Arnold found that commercial tubes were too expensive so he built his own. He plans to continue his study of high energy particles.

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GENERAL SCIENCE

Science and Our Future

Military operations and scientific research are two different kinds of activity, and neither should be subordinated to the other.

By DR. E. U. CONDON
Director, National Bureau of Standards

Address given before the Awards Dinner of the Fifth Annual Science Talent Institute, March 5, 1946.

► WE ARE MET here tonight to do honor, not only to the 40 boys and girls who are the winners in the Fifth Annual Science Talent Search, but also to the thousands of boys and girls throughout our land and throughout the world, who are our hope for the scientific development of the future. You 40 are bright boys and girls. You are therefore intelligent enough to realize that you are fortunate. You know that there are plenty more of equal promise and enthusiasm back home where you come from. You know that your presence here does not mean that you are already "made" as scientists. You know that it simply means that you have shown yourselves worthy of the support and encouragement which Westinghouse Science Scholarships afford.

And you know that with this support you accept a responsibility to work for maximum self development, as creative scientists and good citizens.

The future of science in the world indeed need give us no concern if in every land the boys and girls of eager intelli-

gence comparable to yours will be sought out and given the opportunities for growth which await you. I have no fears for the future if we entrust it to free, inquiring, critical minds such as yours.

But, my young friends, there are quite a few of your elders gathered here tonight, and there are some things I want to say to them. The people of my generation, and those who are my elders, have made quite a sorry mess of the world in which you are going to have to live. I want to talk to them about some things we need to do right away—in the next few years—to make amends as best we can, while you are acquiring the background knowledge and technique with which you will make your contributions to science in the future.

Millions are dead, millions more are homeless, hungry and shivering, at the end of the worst war in man's history. In America we have been more fortunate, although even here we have war-born difficulties—there is, for instance, a serious shortage of women's stockings made of a particularly favored synthetic fiber!

The war's destruction far exceeds that of any catastrophe yet known. The war ended with the application of a new weapon that is a thousand times more frightful than the weapons which produced most of the war's frightfulness. And already we have responsible state-

