

GENERAL SCIENCE

Scientists of Tomorrow

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

► THE forty most promising young scientists in America's high schools have just been selected in the ninth annual Science Talent Search. The winners—nine girls (including two of a set of triplets instead of a pair of twins) and 31 boys—have been invited to Washington for a five-day all-expenses-paid visit March 2 through March 6.

They will participate in the Science Talent Institute and compete for \$11,000 in Westinghouse Science Scholarships in the finals of the Science Talent Search conducted by Science Clubs of America, administered by Science Service.

The 40 trip-winners, 15 to 18 years of age, 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 13,585, of whom, 2,245 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 2 through March 6, 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 they may continue their training in science or engineering.

Chosen without regard to geographic distribution, the 40 trip-winners come from 25 localities in 15 states. All of the states represented have had winners in previous Searches. The total of states represented by winners since 1942 is 38.

Six high schools in the United States have produced more than one winner this year. Leading is Stuyvesant High School in New York City with four boys invited; Abraham Lincoln High School in Brooklyn will send three boys. Kenmore (N. Y.) High School, the Bronx High School of Science in New York City and Brooklyn Technical High School of Brooklyn will each send two boys. One boy and one girl have been invited from the High School of Music and Art in New York City.

Twenty-three of the winners this year

come from schools that have never before placed winners in the annual Science Talent Search. The other 17 among this year's winners are adding new laurels to schools already honored by having produced winners in the past.

Of the 360 winners (40 per year) named in the first nine Science Talent Searches, 15 have come from the Bronx High School of Science and 13 from Stuyvesant High School. Forest Hills (N. Y.) High School has sent 11 winners in previous contests, and six have come from Abraham Lincoln High School. Brooklyn Technical High School has produced five and Midwood High School in Brooklyn has had four winners up to now. The following schools have had two winners each in the past nine years: Huntington (N. Y.) High School, Springfield (Oreg.) High School and North Phoenix High School in Phoenix, Ariz.

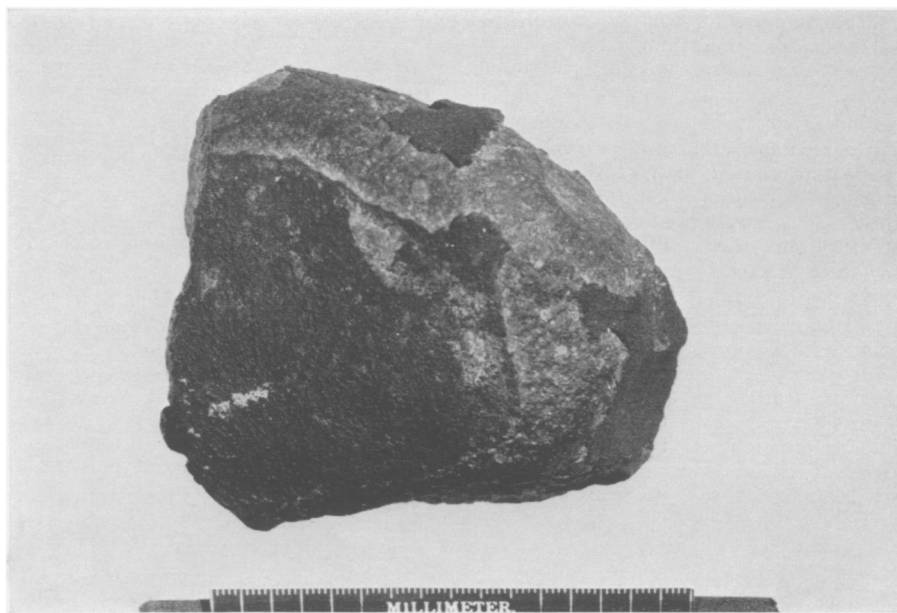
Most of the winners live at home and attend their local or nearby public, parochial or private secondary schools.

Over half (55%) of the Science Talent Search trip winners rank first, second or third in their graduating classes, which range in size from 17 to 504 students. Approximately 57% of the winners' fathers and 35% 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. Relatively few, only 11, claim scientists in the family.

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 14, while four intend to study chemistry. Others plan careers in mathematics, astronomy, ichthyology, engineering, geology, genetics, medicine, biology, biochemistry, ornithology, botany, bacteriology, electronics, parasitology, entomology and histopathology. All plan research in their respective fields.

Most of the 320 winners in the eight Science Talent Searches held since 1942 are



BEDDGELERT METEORITE—The 1½ pound meteorite which fell through the roof of the Prince Lewellyn Hotel, Beddgelert, Carnarvonshire, on September 21, 1949, is shown above. Only large meteorites survive the passage through our atmosphere and reach the earth, and there are only between 1300 and 1400 instances of these known throughout the world, only eleven meteorites recorded as having fallen in Britain. The photograph shows how much of the thin black crust has been broken off, probably on impact with the roof of the hotel or the rocks above.