

GENERAL SCIENCE

Science Aptitude Test

Deadline for taking science aptitude test to compete in Eleventh Annual Science Talent Search approaching. Besides passing tests, entrants must write project report.

► IN HIGH schools over the nation 15,000 seniors have been taking one of the toughest tests of their young careers.

Testing in the Eleventh Annual Science Talent Search, conducted by SCIENCE SERVICE, began on Dec. 10. Only 40 of these 15,000 seniors will hurdle this science aptitude test and the other obstacles of the Search to come to Washington next spring as the top potential scientists in the nation. In Washington they will compete for \$11,000 in Westinghouse Science Scholarships.

The test, designed to measure ability to think and reason along scientific lines, is given in the public, private and parochial schools during a three-hour session. This session can take place any time between Dec. 10 and Dec. 27, last day for entering the Search.

On the basis of past experience it is expected that only about 2,000 of the 15,000 who have requested the opportunity will actually complete all requirements of the competition.

In addition to completing the test, the applicants must write a 1,000-word report on a scientific project of their own choosing. As in the past these range through a host of simple and complex subjects, from a discussion of the tracks of cosmic rays to a description of the fish found in a pond.

In addition to the top 40, who will attend the Science Talent Institute in Washington from February 28 through March 3, another 260 seniors will be given honorable mention and will also be recommended for scholarships in colleges and universities.

All this is part of the annual process of seeking out the high school seniors who show the greatest promise of becoming the outstanding scientists and engineers of the nation in years to come. According to government officials, these will be desperately needed.

The science aptitude test was designed by two psychologists, Dr. Harold A. Edgerton, New York, and Dr. Stuart H. Britt, Chicago. The scholarships will be awarded to the top 40 at the discretion of four judges: the two designers of the test, Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of the Harvard College Observatory, and Dr. Rex Buxton, Washington: psychiatrist.

State Science Talent Searches, based on entries in the national Search, will give students a double chance in these 25 states: Arkansas, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas,

Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

The Science Talent Search is conducted annually by Science Clubs of America, administered by SCIENCE SERVICE and financed by the Westinghouse Educational Foundation of the Westinghouse Electric Corporation.

Since 1942, 400 boys and girls have come to Washington as winners to participate in the Science Talent Institute. Of these, 40 are already Ph.D.'s, M.D.'s, or D.Sc.'s. A large number have master's degrees. Many are already doing important research work. They are proving that potential science talent can be recognized at high school senior age.

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