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GENERAL SCIENCE

Name Other STS Honors

► HONORABLE MENTIONS in the 17th Annual Science Talent Search have been announced by Watson Davis, director of SCIENCE SERVICE. These 260 high school students selected for high national honors are additional to 40 winners announced earlier. (See SNL, Feb. 1, p. 69.)

The unusually competent research projects of these young people reflect the most current interests of the scientific world. There are, for example, studies of rocketry, rocket motor design and testing, solid rocket fuels, and the mathematics of the Vanguard rocket.

A 17-year-old California girl has studied the practical application of solar energy and an Ohio boy has presented an experimental solar generator.

Other interesting projects include a two-

year study of thunderstorms, the experimental growth of metal whiskers, the geophysics and meteorology of the planet Venus, and new uses for the Osage orange seed.

The young scientists given honorable mentions go to school in 159 communities, located in 40 states and the District of Columbia. Of the 260 outstanding seniors in the list, 55 are girls and 205 are boys, the ratio being determined by the number of girls and boys who completed entries in the competition.

All 300 selected for honors will be recommended for scholarship awards to the nation's colleges and universities.

Students in the honorable mentions list rank high in their high school graduating classes: 146 of the boys and 50 of the girls ranked in the top five percent in their high school classes.

Those given honorable mentions, without exception, participated in extracurricular activities. Science clubs have attracted 184 of these students. Of the honorable mentions, 129 have had experience in local, regional, state or national science fairs. Most of them have won awards and seven of them have been finalists at the National Science Fair. All of them gained valuable experience which proved helpful in winning recognition in the Science Talent Search.

Among the scientific professions selected seventy-two of the boys and three of the girls named physics as their first choice for future careers. Engineering is the first choice of 47 boys. A total of 43 boys and girls want to become chemists. Medicine is the chosen career of 23, including 9 girls. Fifteen boys and two girls look forward to becoming mathematicians. Other sciences were also represented.

The Annual Science Talent Search is conducted by Science Clubs of America, administered by SCIENCE SERVICE.

The Westinghouse Educational Foundation, supported by the Westinghouse Electric Corporation, makes the Science Talent Search financially possible.

Science News Letter, February 22, 1958

"QUOTES"

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Questions

ASTRONOMY—How much water vapor do scientists believe exists in the Martian atmosphere? p. 121.

BIOPHYSICS—What changes were observed to occur in heart muscles of rats exposed to high altitudes? p. 119.

MEDICINE—What is the name of the chemical compound successfully used to treat tumors? p. 115.

PUBLIC HEALTH—How does the strontium-90 concentration in females' bones compare with that in males? p. 117.

Photographs: Cover, U. S. Air Force; p. 115, Westinghouse Research Laboratories; p. 117, Harvard University; p. 119, Stanford University; p. 128, E. I. duPont de Nemours Company.