

EDUCATION

Aid to Education Sought

► IF PRESIDENT Kennedy's recommendations to Congress for Federal aid to education are passed, teachers' salaries and scholarships for students will be increased.

One of the President's programs calls for general assistance for public elementary and secondary school construction, and teachers' salaries in every state of no less than \$15 per year for each student. For the three-year period, this program would cost \$666,000,000 in 1962, \$766,000,000 in 1963 and \$866,000,000 in 1964.

Ten percent of the amount allotted each state in this program is to be used for special educational problems. Projects that might aid education in rural areas or slum areas, for the education of migrant workers, retarded children or especially gifted children could be carried out under this allotment. Projects related to segregation in schools, such as testing and improvement of reading ability, could be aided with this money.

Special projects would be submitted to the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare for approval.

The President also recommended extending the current College Housing Loan Program with a five-year, \$250,000,000 a year program for residential housing for college students and faculty.

In addition he recommended establishing a long-term, low-interest rate loan program for such college facilities as classrooms, laboratories and libraries. Under this program \$300,000,000 a year for five years could be loaned.

One of the President's proposed programs calls for a five-year scholarship plan for college students, averaging \$700 each year per student.

The scholarships would be given without regard to sex, creed or color, but solely on the basis of need and ability, with 25,000 given the first year, 37,500 the second year and 50,000 each following year.

The student would have his own choice of school under this program. The scholarship program would cost about \$600,000,000 during the five-year period.

• Science News Letter, 79:135 March 4, 1961

made possible by the Westinghouse Educational Foundation. The Science Talent Search is conducted by Science Clubs of America (SCIENCE SERVICE) (See story p. 138).

• Science News Letter, 79:135 March 4, 1961



WORLD HELICOPTER RECORDS
—Distance in a straight line and 102.392 miles per hour average speed won world records for test pilot Al Averill in a Bell 47G built by Bell Helicopter Company, Fort Worth, Tex.

ROCKETS AND MISSILES

Mercury Capsule Tested Under Severest Re-entry

► A MERCURY CAPSULE of the kind that will carry the first astronaut out into space has been successfully tested under the most severe re-entry conditions ever tried on this vehicle.

An Atlas rocket carrying the capsule, launched from Cape Canaveral, traveled 1,425 miles down the Atlantic and reached an altitude of 107 miles. On re-entry, the capsule was moving at 12,850 miles per hour, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration reported in Washington, D. C.

The re-heating rate was 30% higher than in a normal Mercury orbital re-entry. Temperatures ran 25% higher at some spots of the capsule. Air pressure was three times normal for the Mercury capsule, about 900 pounds per square foot.

Deceleration, or gravitational, load on the vehicle was twice that of normal re-entry of a Mercury capsule, 16 g's instead of 8 g's.

Purpose of the flight was to test the design and structure of the capsule.

• Science News Letter, 79:135 March 4, 1961

GENERAL SCIENCE

Schools of STS Winners

► THE SPECIAL contribution of American high schools in helping their promising senior science students earn national recognition and extensive future opportunities was cited in honoring the schools of the top 40 winners in the 20th Science Talent Search.

The schools of the winners have encouraged and supported these top level students and have made it possible for them to gain this recognition. Seventeen schools that have placed winners in the Search for the first time now join the distinguished ranks of winner-schools.

These new schools are: Western High School, Washington, D. C.; Melbourne, Fla., High School; Idaho Falls, Idaho, High School; Amundsen Senior High School, Chicago, Ill.; Highland Park, Ill., High School; Malcolm Price Laboratory School, Cedar Falls, Iowa; Atherton High School, Louisville, Ky.; Bladensburg, Md., High School; North Quincy, Mass., High School; Revere, Mass., High School; Southeast High School, Kansas City, Mo.; Yeshiva of Flatbush High School, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Penfield, N. Y., Central High School; New Dorp High School, Staten Island, N. Y.; Fairborn, Ohio, High School; Beaverton, Ore., High School; Arlington Heights High School, Fort Worth, Texas.

One of these new schools, Bladensburg High School, Bladensburg, Md., is starting its record with a double entry, having placed two winners in the current Search.

The grand totals recorded for the schools that placed additional winners this year show Bronx High School of Science, New

York, at the top of the list with 23 winners in the 20 years of the Science Talent Search for the Westinghouse Science Scholarships and Awards. Another New York school, Stuyvesant High School, is second, having recorded 21 winners in the 20 years.

Four new winners this year increase the grand total of Erasmus Hall High School, Brooklyn, N. Y., to 18.

Evanston Township High School, Evanston, Ill., is fourth on this year's honor roll with a total of 15 winners.

Central High School, South Bend, Ind., and Lyons Township High School, La Grange, Ill., are tied with five winners each. Two of Central High School's winners are new this year.

Four each are credited to East High School, Denver, Colo., and Omaha Central High School, Omaha, Nebr.

Three each are on record for Northside High School, Atlanta, Ga.; Jamaica High School, Jamaica, N. Y.; and Stephen F. Austin High School, Austin, Texas.

Placing winners for the second time are West High School, Phoenix, Ariz.; Coral Gables Senior High School, Coral Gables, Fla.; Joseph E. Brown High School, Atlanta, Ga.; New Utrecht High School, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Lourdes Academy, Cleveland, Ohio; Tiptecanoe High School, Tipp City, Ohio; and Wakefield High School, Arlington, Va.

The 40 winners of the current Search will attend a five-day Science Talent Institute in Washington, D. C., from March 2 through March 6 and will be judged for \$34,250 in science scholarships and awards