

GENERAL SCIENCE

Test Requests Top Record

Student interest in a scientific career is reflected in the number applying for the Seventeenth Annual Science Talent Search test which has increased by almost one-fourth.

► THE NATION'S top test for finding potential young scientists is underway. Approximately 25,000 high school seniors throughout the United States have voluntarily requested to take the Seventeenth Annual Science Talent Search.

This marks an increase of almost 25% over the number of examination requests made last year.

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 Dec. 2-27. Completed entries must be in the offices of SCIENCE SERVICE by midnight Dec. 27.

Heightened interest in scientific careers is reflected in the unusual number of students competing for the tripled amount of science scholarship awards, totaling \$34,250, provided by the Westinghouse Educational Foundation.

Forty top potential research scientists will be chosen on the basis of their test scores, school records and research papers. These winners will come to Washington for the

Science Talent Institute, Feb. 27 through March 3, and will be judged for the Westinghouse Science Scholarships and Awards.

The Grand Winner will receive a \$7,500 scholarship. The second, third, fourth and fifth place winners will receive scholarships of \$6,000, \$5,000, \$4,000, and \$3,000 respectively. Science awards totaling \$8,750 will be given to others of the 40 winners.

In addition to completing the test, the applicant must write a 1,000-word report on a scientific project of his own choosing. Samples of the research studies reported last year include work on: cancer culture; the classification of fossils; observations of Mars; the effect of metal compounds on the deterioration of rubber; testing color blindness; changes in snail populations; an automatic Wilson cloud chamber; a design for a digital computer; a study of the poison of the Black Widow spider; and a radio frequency heating unit.

In addition to these 40, another 260 seniors will be given honorable mention and also will 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, in years to come, the outstanding research scientists and engineers of the nation. Widespread public and official recognition of the country's need for these young scientists adds particular urgency to this year's Search.

The science aptitude test was designed by two psychologists, Dr. Harold A. Edgerton, New York, and Dr. Steuart H. Britt, Evanston, Ill. The 40 scholarships will be awarded at the discretion of three judges: the two designers of the test and Dr. Rex Buxton, Washington psychiatrist.

State Science Searches, based on entries in the national search, will give students a double chance in these 32 states: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Georgia, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Entry material and full details of the Seventeenth Annual Science Talent Search can be obtained by writing to Science Clubs of America, SCIENCE SERVICE, 1719 N St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Science News Letter, December 14, 1957

EDUCATION

Education Tops Other Graduate School Studies

► MORE GRADUATE students in the nation's colleges and universities study education than anything else, and they receive less financial help than anyone else.

This is shown in a National Science Foundation study on graduate enrollment and support for 1954, the most recent year for which data are available.

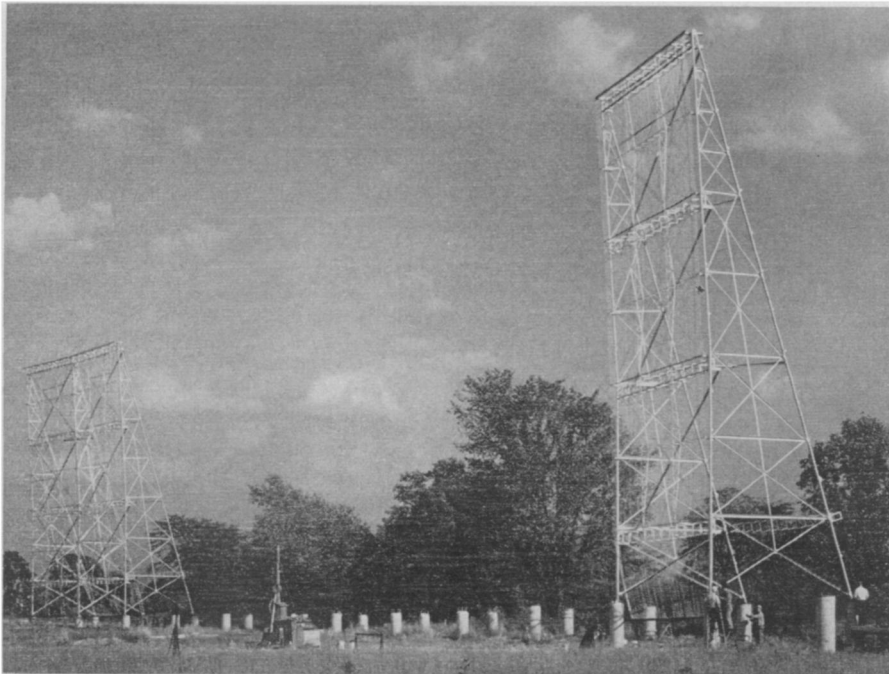
In that year, an estimated 88,500 graduate students of education were enrolled as compared to 58,000 in the natural sciences and engineering and 68,000 in the social sciences, humanities, psychology and other fields. Only four percent of the education graduates received help in the form of assistantships and fellowships. Sixty percent of those studying the natural sciences, on the other hand, received this form of financial help, and from 25% to 30% of all the other graduates, including engineers and historians, received aid.

In addition the average yearly stipend ranged from \$1,560 in engineering to \$920 in education.

A marked difference was noted, the Foundation says, in the pattern of graduate study in education and natural sciences. The average graduate department of education enrolled more than 100 students, most of whom were studying part-time for a master's degree. In the natural sciences the average department enrolled fewer than 20, the majority of whom were full-time students working for their doctor's degree.

Science News Letter, December 14, 1957

Meat is important to the person who has undergone an operation; it promotes speedier healing and restores lost blood.



RADIO TELESCOPE—Rising from a field near Perkins Observatory, Delaware, Ohio, are the first sections of a giant radio telescope. The framework, when completed, will form a curved reflector 78 feet high and 360 feet long. Ohio State University is building the large antenna on a 20-acre site contributed by Ohio Wesleyan University. Dr. John D. Kraus of Ohio State, in collaboration with graduate student Robert T. Nash, designed the radio telescope, scheduled for completion in 1959.