

GENERAL SCIENCE

STS Honorable Mentions

Fifty-five girls and 205 boys will be recommended for scholarships as a result of their selection for honors in the Seventh Annual Science Talent Search.

► HONORABLE Mentions in the Seventh Annual Science Talent Search were announced by Watson Davis, director of Science Service. Of the 260 outstanding seniors in the list, 55 are girls and 205 are boys; the division was determined by the ratio of girls to boys who participated in the competition.

The 260 young people to whom Honorable Mention listing was given reside in 158 communities, located in 38 states and the District of Columbia. They were chosen from among 16,421 entrants, 3,161 of whom completed the science aptitude examination, submitted recommendations and scholarship records and wrote essays on "My Scientific Project."

Forty highest-ranking boys and girls have already been notified that they are winners of all-expense trips to Washington, where they will spend five days as participants in the Science Talent Institute, held in Washington Feb. 27 through March 2. At the closing session of the Institute, \$11,000 in Westinghouse Science Scholarships will be distributed, (See SNL, Jan 31).

All 300 selected for honors will be recommended as candidates for matriculation to scholarship-awarding colleges and universities.

In the six preceding Science Talent Searches, most of the students named in the Honorable Mention list have been offered scholarships, and many of those named this year will qualify for valuable scholarships and other financial aid in the colleges, universities and technical schools of their choice. The judges found all 300 winners to be students of outstanding ability.

Students in the Honorable Mentions list invariably rank high in their high school graduating classes: 37% of the boys and 33% of the girls stood first or second among their classmates. All have been interested in science for some years; 59% of the boys and 64% of the girls have studied some science in each of the four high-school years. A larger number have three years each of science: 90% of the boys and 98% of the girls.

The Honorable Mentions did not win their places merely by keeping their noses

in books; without exception they show records of participation in extracurricular activities. Science clubs have attracted many; 191 belong to such clubs, most of which are affiliated with the Science Clubs of America.

In Alabama one student received honorable mention; in Arizona, two;

Arkansas, one; California, 20; Colorado, three; Connecticut, one; Delaware, one; District of Columbia, one; Florida, two; Georgia, three; Idaho, five; Illinois, 11; Indiana, four; Iowa, one; Kansas, four; Kentucky, one; Maryland, five; Massachusetts, three; Michigan, four; Minnesota, four; Missouri, seven; Montana, one; Nebraska, one; New Hampshire, one; New Jersey, 15; New Mexico, one; New York, 97; Ohio, 18; Oklahoma, two; Oregon, one; Pennsylvania, 17; Rhode Island, one; Tennessee, three; Texas, three; Utah, one; Virginia, four; Washington, five; West Virginia, one and Wisconsin, four.

Science News Letter, February 7, 1948

ELECTRONICS

Recalls 400,000 Digits

► A NEW electronic calculator recently dedicated in New York combines the speed of electronic circuits with a "memory" capacity of 400,000 digits.

The latest brain child of the International Business Machines Corporation is equipped to utilize this speed and memory on the most complex problems of science. It combines for the first time electronic speed, vast memory capacity, and highly flexible and convenient programming facilities.

The over-all productive capacity of the Selective Sequence Electronic Calculator is reported to exceed that of any

other calculating machine in operation today. It can remember and recall automatically as required a total of nearly half a million digits.

Numbers that must be recalled most quickly are held in electronic circuits. The remainder are stored in relays and as holes in continuous cardstock tapes. By using punch cards as a supplementary medium of storage, the memory capacity is made almost limitless.

With this machine, located at the company's World Headquarters Building, 140,000 digits a minute can be read from punched tapes, 30,000 a minute



VAST MEMORY CAPACITY—This new electronic calculator can remember and recall automatically 400,000 digits. Its speed, memory capacity and flexible and convenient programming facilities will make it especially advantageous in the realm of science.