

and two each in Armenia, Austria and Germany. France, Turkey and Yugoslavia are represented by one parent.

Small families are the rule. Among the 40 winners, 11 are only children, and 15 have only one brother or sister. Eight belong to three-child families, and two to families of four children. One girl and one boy can boast of four brothers or sisters each.

Professions of the fathers are highly varied. The list includes engineer, manufacturer, farmer, salesman, forester, patent agent, machinist, real-estate broker, restaurant manager, optometrist, builder, radio operator, export manager, wood technologist, accountant, appraiser, elevator manager, sheet-metal worker, missionary, teacher and school executive. Two paternal occupations have a unique look: green chain grader, and research analyst for the War Crimes Commission.

Twelve of the students' mothers have occupations outside their homes. Professions represented are teacher, musician, missionary, designer, editor, secretary, bookkeeper, social worker, sales clerk and corsettiere.

Four of the winners have only one parent living. Approximately 62% of the winners' fathers and 52% of their mothers attended college.

Science News Letter, March 6, 1948

GENERAL SCIENCE

Big-Game Hunting, Flying, Not for Modern Youth

► WHAT has happened to the boy who used to want to be a high-altitude flyer, an African big-game hunter or Antarctic explorer "when he grew up"?

Apparently, he is being replaced by a sober group of young people who value service to mankind higher than any other factor in the choice of a job. Boys—and girls too—today want a chance to continue in the same position year after year. They want to feel that they can work themselves up. They are concerned about the effect of the job on their health.

This new view of the ambitions of high school boys and girls and those in grades seven and eight is disclosed by a survey of more than a thousand students made by Dr. R. W. Edmiston of Miami University and Supt. C. H. Starr of the Arcanum, Ohio, schools.

Adventure is pushed down to the bottom of the list of considerations important in picking a job. Kids nowadays don't want adventure—or say they don't. Neither do they want public acclaim.

Or responsibility.

What they do want is security and freedom from political strings. And even

those who would like a chance to travel want to be able to get home at night.

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MEDICINE

Skin Glow Test for Drugs

Persons suffering from such allergic conditions as hayfever or asthma can have the anti-histamine effect of new remedies determined by this method.

► A SKIN glow test for new drugs being developed as possible remedies for hayfever, asthma and other allergies is announced by Drs. Samuel C. Bukantz and Gustave J. Dammin of Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis.

The test will determine the anti-histamine effect of the new drugs. Histamine is a chemical normally present in the body but when freed from its bound state in the body cells acts like a powerful poison and can produce severe shock. It is thought by many scientists to be the agent responsible for the symptoms in various allergic conditions. Many efforts to find chemical cures for allergies have been directed toward making drugs with an anti-histamine action.

The St. Louis scientists discovered, in the course of studies on sensitive, or allergic, states that when the dye, fluores-

cein, and histamine are injected into the forearm skin of normal persons, the skin glows under ultraviolet light for only four to 10 minutes. When the dye, fluorescein, alone is injected, the skin glows under ultraviolet for 30 to 40 minutes. And when fluorescein, histamine and an anti-histamine drug, benadryl, are injected, the skin glows for the same 30 to 40 minutes.

A test on a person with an allergy also showed the anti-histamine effect of the drug, benadryl. With fluorescein alone there was only a four-minute glow. With fluorescein plus histamine there was also only a brief period of glow. But fluorescein plus histamine plus benadryl gave fluorescence for 25 minutes, showing, the scientists state, "the neutralizing effect of the anti-histaminic drug." (*Science*, Feb. 27).

Science News Letter, March 6, 1948



SCIENTIFIC WORLDS TO CONQUER—Dr. Wendell M. Stanley of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, a Nobel prize winner in medicine and physiology, told these future scientists that many problems are waiting for them to solve.