

advice, although knowing that the problem would probably be dissected in such a manner that perhaps nothing would be left of it. In his lectures, Mark Adams exhibited an unusual gift for developing a scientific theme and for bringing continuity and clarity to a subject of the most complex structure. Above all, his enthusiasm for the critical analysis of the scientific problem, which he tried in vain to restrain, was transmitted to the audience, and he could carry his listeners along through foreign territories. If there was evidence that was inadequate, or if there was a flaw in the reasoning, or if there was perhaps a little wishful thinking, it would never escape his notice.

It was not surprising that these particular talents should be called upon by an invitation to join the Editorial Board of *Science* in 1953. Among his many editorial contributions, his book reviews were outstanding. They embraced subject matter as far apart as chemistry, enzymology, infectious diseases, and Roman history. They all bear the mark of his incisive thinking and his uncompromising attitude toward loose talk. This uncompromising attitude was the same whether he was confronted by a

book or by experimental data of his friends and students or his own. Perhaps sometimes his criticism was ill received by some who did not grasp the spirit in which it was given. Having shared a laboratory with Mark Adams for 8 years, I may perhaps qualify as a key witness in testimony of his critical abilities which spared no time or effort to unveil the precise and relevant facts. That it did not mar the relationship to his friends and students was merely due to the fact that he did not successfully hide from them his gentle kindness, warm affection, and selfless interest in their mental and personal development.

Those who knew Mark Adams only as a quiet and rather shy person, or those who knew him only as a sharp critic, may have been surprised to see him perform as master of ceremonies at a Christmas party or at the yearly farewell party at the end of the phage course. His imagination, powers of observation, and sense of humor came to the surface at these occasions and filled many joyful evenings.

Mark Adams had several avocations. They were pursued with the same thoroughness and perfectionism as his scientific endeavors. Together with his wife,

he studied ornithology and archeology, he was interested in photography and enjoyed sailing. During one summer in Woods Hole he became interested in oil painting. He began by watching a friend paint for several days. After absorbing all the essentials of the procedure, he set out on his own. His second effort, a portrait of a fellow-scientist, was so accomplished and so original that even the model appreciated the painting and was anxious to acquire it.

In Mark Adams we have lost one of our most critical and courageous minds. We miss a brilliant teacher who was capable of transmitting the vibrations of his own enthusiasm. An investigator has left us who did not care how far the road he was building would stretch; who was more concerned that the road could be used by others too. And many of us have lost a teacher and friend whose unostentatious gentleness and warmth will remain in our memory, together with the image of a man utterly and uncompromisingly devoted to scientific truth.

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News of Science

Westinghouse Talent Search

High-school science students from 41 states and the District of Columbia have been selected as winners of 260 honorable mention awards in the 16th annual Science Talent Search. The 205 boys and 55 girls were chosen from a total of 3122 graduating seniors who represented schools in all 48 states and Washington, D.C.

Like the 40 winners named earlier who are competing this month for the Westinghouse science scholarships, all of those who receive honorable mention will be recommended to colleges and universities for scholarships. Selection of the 40 winners and 260 honorable mentions was based on the students' scholastic records and teacher recommendations, their science projects, and their standing in a science aptitude examination.

First place among states producing honorable mention winners this year is again New York with 58, 40 boys and 18 girls. California and Illinois rank second with 19, 18 boys and one girl in the former and all boys in the latter. Third place goes to Pennsylvania with 16 winners, 13 boys and three girls. Ohio's 12 winners, ten boys and two girls, give that state fourth place. Massachusetts is fifth with 11 honorable mentions, seven boys and four girls.

All of the honorable mention recipients have excellent scholastic records, and the judges have reported that they rank close behind the 40 winners who will compete for top national honors in Washington, 7-11 Mar., during the annual Science Talent Institute. One hundred four of them—77 boys and 27 girls—rank first, second, or third in their classes.

Fifty-seven of the boys and four of the

girls selected for honorable mention have named physics as their first choice for future careers. Fifty boys and one girl hope to find careers as engineers, and 39 in the group favor some branch of chemistry. A total of 34, including 11 girls, prefer medicine. Nine girls hope to be teachers. One boy chose the ministry and one girl the writing profession.

The Science Talent Search is conducted by Science Clubs of America through Science Service. The Westinghouse Educational Foundation, supported by the Westinghouse Electric Corporation, provides the awards and makes the Science Talent Search financially possible.

Army's Solar Furnace

The Department of the Army has announced that a large solar furnace capable of concentrating the sun's rays to produce temperatures comparable to those generated by an atomic explosion will be erected at the Quartermaster Research and Engineering Center, Natick, Mass. The furnace will have an energy equivalent of approximately 28 kilowatts.

The facility will be utilized for laboratory testing of materials intended for the protection of military personnel against the thermal effects of nuclear and other weapons. Standard sources of intense heat, such as high-current electric arcs,