

Top National Scholars Named in B'ham Area

The names of 14,000 Semifinalists in the nationwide competition for Merit Scholarships have been announced by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

Named in Birmingham from Groves High School are John Wallace Aiken, Lee L. Anderson Jr., John D. Bartleson, Dan T. Hastings, Janet L. Herr and Barbara J. Schiffer.

Announced from Seaholm High School are Kirk J. Bundy, Susan H. Cargill, Timothy A. Carlson, Patricia L. Clayton, Kathie A. Davis, Gregory B. French, Anne W. Greenhalgh, Carol Hollingshead, Nancy L. Horvath, William J. Meeske and Sharon L. Stolberg.

MARY FRANCES GRAY and Colleen J. Taylor are on the list from Marian High School.

Fifteen students were named from Cranbrook School. They are Theodore J. Bant, David L. Craig, Jeffrey W. Doan, Peter Elliott, David W. Gilbert, Robert P. Helms and James Hsu.

Others are Colin H. John, Brock R. Landry, Lance A. Leithausser, Ernest E. Murrhead, Paul R. Pillar, Bill M. Schlecter, Renee C. Shafer, and Benjamin A. Wells.

KINGSWOOD SCHOOL lists Yvette Daunk, Betty Krause, Sara Simons and Mary Todd. Named from the Academy of Sacred Heart is Margery A. Abbink.

Eight are named from Southfield High School: Robert A. Benzinger, Suzanne P. Busch, R. Joseph Chandler, Nancy S. Garlock, David M. Givens, Sidney L. Hantler, Nancy L. Miller and Randall M. Zisman.

They became Semifinalists in the 1964-65 Merit Program through their outstanding performance on the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, administered last March in more than 17,000 high schools. This test of educational development is the first step toward winning a four-year Merit Scholarship to a college of the student's choice.

THE SEMIFINALIST group is composed of the highest-scoring students in each state and in United States territories. Semifinalists must substantiate their qualifying test performance on a second examination, be endorsed by their schools, and fulfill certain routine requirements to become Finalists. All Merit Scholars are then selected from the finalist group. "Semifinalists are representative of our country's most intellectually able young people," said John M. Stalnaker, president of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

Party Ticket Will Be Used Nov. 3 Election

It will be polling as usual on Nov. 3, and residents will still be able to vote a straight party slate by flicking one lever.

Use of the present Michigan ballot, which provides for a straight party voting, was assured when the state board of canvassers certified enough referendum signatures to put the so-called "Massachusetts ballot" (office block ballot) to a vote of the people in the November election.

MORE THAN enough signatures were filed, with 139,000 necessary to place the proposal on the ballot. Local elections' officials, meanwhile, came in for praise from Sec. of State James M. Hare, the state's chief elections' officer.

Hare complimented local elections' workers for what he described as a "tremendous job" in the face of "one of the toughest and most complicated elections in Michigan's history." He said he was amazed at the relative lack of complaints received by the state elections' division on the primary.

HARE NOTED that many local elections' officials reported long lines after official closing of the polls. "We had some reports that some persons, faced with long waits after the polls had officially closed, became discouraged and went home without voting," Hare



County Fills Post

Mrs. Carol Kurth has accepted the position of Home Economics Extension Agent for Oakland County with offices in the Oakland County Office building, 155 North Saginaw St., Pontiac. Mrs. Kurth was home agent in New York State and was voted the state's outstanding home agent in 1963. Presently she is completing work on a master of science degree at Michigan State. Mrs. Kurth lives at 31675 Shiawassee, Farmington.

He blamed the "telescoping" of the spring and fall elections on one ballot as the reason.

The Secretary of State said he was "greatly encouraged" by the "record turnouts" reported in many areas. "I can't remember a primary election in which so much interest was focused on the candidates and the issues," Hare stated.

Pupils Learn to Read; Testing 3 New Ways

Just how much do children know about reading when they start first grade?

A thousand six-year-olds were tested in the schools of Oakland County to find the answer.

These children are in classes trying three new approaches to beginning reading under a \$10,000 grant from the U.S. Office of Education.

The test-teachers in Birmingham are Mrs. Thelma Sauerbrun of Quarton School, Mrs. Dorothy Bergman of Westchester School and Mrs. Patricia Brussels of Midvale School.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS' test classrooms are being taught by Mrs. Amy Comer at Booth Elementary School, Mrs. Rocella Greenlee at Eastover, and Miss Wilhelmine Dahms, Wing Lake School.

In three classrooms from each of 12 districts little hands with big pencils are circling drawings that are alike, crossing out symbols that are different, underlining pictures of things that begin with the sound the teacher makes.

During the coming school year, what these 1,000 children have indicated they know will be analyzed by Oakland Schools data processing equipment to give educators new information about six-year-olds in the mid-Sixties.

TWELVE OF the classrooms will use a language arts approach in which children will make their own first books by dictating stories to the teacher. One of the advantages of this way of teaching reading is that from the beginning big words like astronomer and satellite that little children use in speech become a part of their reading vocabulary.

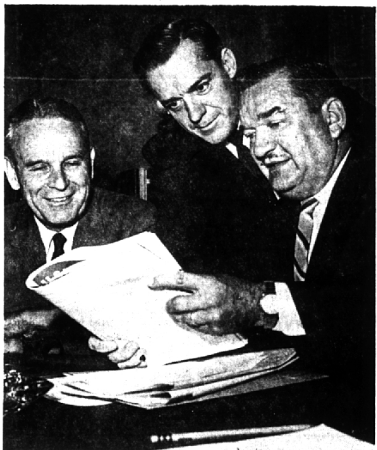
The Initial Teaching Alphabet, developed in England by Sir James Pitman and tested last year in Bethlehem, Pa., will be used in another 12 classrooms.

A third set of classrooms in each testing district will have new standard readers and teachers instructed to use a thorough phonics approach.

Dr. Harry T. Hahn, Oakland Schools director of instruction, is supervising the study.

"EACH OF THESE approaches has been tested in other schools," Dr. Hahn said. "In every case, the children in the test classrooms learned to read better and faster than in control classrooms where nothing new was being done."

"We believe that all the children involved in the study will benefit; we are interested to see which group will benefit most."



Political Parley

Ambassador Maxwell Taylor (left) confers with Rep. William Broomfield (center), R-Oakland County, and Rep. Clement Zablocki, D-Wis., prior to an executive session of the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee. Taylor informed the subcommittee of the situation in South Viet Nam.

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