Training Directors, You Can Help with JETS, the . . .

Junior Engineering Technical Society

A program to encourage young engineers and scientists

The JETS program was initiated by Michigan State University in 1950 as an experimental program to stimulate and guide high school students in selecting engineering and science as a career. The program has been so successful that it now consists of 376 chapters in 35 states. As the program de-

veloped, the name Junior Engineering Technical Society was adopted and through usage this has been reduced to IETS.

JETS has proven itself to be a workable means for merging the latent talent and interest of young people with the



JETS winners Joel Smulson (left), Fulton Jr. High (Pacoima) and Richard Hupp, Garden Grove Sr. High at the Jr. Technical Science Exhibition, Los Angeles County Fair. Smulson, first place in junior division shows his electronic wind vane and anemometer. Hupp's pH meter won first place in senior division. Winners each got two shares General Dynamic stock and model of Convair B-58 Hustler.



"Atoms for Peace" or "Suday's Cyclotron" is a typical JETS project and the theme for exhibit of Third Place, Lower Division winner Charles Sautier, Northridge Jr. High, at the 1958 Junior Technical Science Exhibition, co-sponsored by Convair (Pomona) Division of General Dynamics and Los Angeles County Fair Association.

professional stimulation and guidance of teachers, practicing engineers, and scientists.

The chapters operate in the high schools with mathematics, science, or shop teachers as sponsors. They and the students are assisted by engineers and scientists from local industries and professional societies. These adults provide project guidance, technical assistance, and program materials.

The national headquarters provides each chapter with a charter and pins for each member in the form of a miniature slide rule. In addition, each group receives regular mailings of various publications on science and engineering, plus a bi-weekly newsletter called the JETS-O-Gram.

The program includes a project contest which is held in the spring of each year. Appropriate prizes are awarded for

outstanding projects. Through a scholarship program, scholarships are awarded to outstanding JETS students.

Sponsorship of JETS chapters on an area basis is taking three forms: a college of engineering or university, a professional society, a local industry, or some combination of these.

It would appear that many industrial and government training directors are in an excellent position to assist and to initiate new JETS clubs. Full information is available from John W. Groomes, Director, Junior Engineering Technical Society, Box 589, E. Lansing, Mich.

Soviet Training Literature Abstracts

A great deal of interest has been evidenced recently in USSR scientific and technical literature and in their educational and training methods. Consequently, the *Journal* is publishing these abstracts of articles from recent issues (May and June, 1958) of the USSR Journal, *Vocational and Technical Education*. Your Editor would be pleased to have comments regarding reader interest and the publication of additional abstracts.

IMPROVING THE TRAINING OF WORKERS IN INDUSTRY by Veysbland, A.

Over 100 state farms and endless committees, etc. are preparing the technological training of reserves. Preliminary calculations show that workers are being prepared for 10,000 different professions and specialties. From 1946-57, authorities issued programs for 1,500 of these fields, but many of these were not carried out. Over 8,000 must now be issued. Many programs also were 5-10 years out-of-date. At present, 120 of these have been re-worked and covered by handbooks. Workers being trained at the factories tend to find learning very difficult; most of their programs are severely cut or just not carried out at all. Textbooks constitute a special problem: over 8,000 different