

There, they heard encouraging words from Gov. Goodwin J. Knight and other adult leaders, and enjoyed an all-star program, with A. J. John Conte as master of ceremonies.

**CONCLAVE REVIEWED** — Discussing Youth Forum conclusions at a luncheon, from left, Richard A. Carrington Jr., vice president of the Hearst Corporation and founder of forum; Gov. and Mrs. Good-

## STUDENT FORUM REPORTS

# Special-Class System Urged

*In a half dozen discussion groups, 600 teenagers discussed subjects vitally affecting their lives at the 14th annual Examiner Youth Forum. Later, at the Forum luncheon, young speakers reported to assembled delegates what had transpired in each session. This, the first of a series of reports, is by Michael Tigar of Reseda High School, speaking on "Education and the Space Age."*

By MICHAEL TIGAR

The space age requires that there be special groups in school according to ability to assure everybody gets the most education possible, the majority of the group decided.

The genius, or very bright student, must not be neglected any more than the slow learner, and he must be encouraged to progress. The slow learner must have his chance, too, to learn as much as he can—as fast as he can.

### OPPORTUNITY—

Each must have his opportunity for education, and division of classes, according to ability, seems the best way to provide this opportunity.

Most of us thought junior high school is the best place to begin separating the very bright students from those who learn more slowly. There were some in the group, however, who thought the separation should begin in grammar school—even as early as the first grade.

While there is a need for greater emphasis on science, we must accelerate our whole educational program.

For instance, we should learn more foreign languages. It was suggested

that each student be required to master at least one language other than English.

### SCIENCE—

Science, we decided, is being over-emphasized now only by talk—people talking about it so much since the Russians launched Sputnik. It isn't over-emphasized yet in the classroom—or even emphasized enough.

About 75 per cent of our group thought educational standards should be nationwide.

We agreed that this is a long-term goal since it would involve a change in our Constitution, but we believe it would be necessary to improve general educational standards.

We thought teachers' salaries probably should be increased. But we decided that good pay shouldn't be the only incentive for teachers to improve their standards. They also must be dedicated to their jobs to be good teachers.

### GRADES—

Most of us were critical of what seems to us to be over-emphasis on grades at school.

We also thought the kind of homework we now



—Los Angeles Examiner photo.

MICHAEL TIGAR

are required to do should be different.

Homework time should be for research and not for repetition of what you have learned in class, the group decided.

Generally, the group agreed that education should be more complete and intensive in all fields.

I think I can sum it up with something one of my teachers said about the big demand that we concentrate more on science since Sputnik I was launched. She said:

"I wish the Russians had sent up a sonnet with Sputnik."

## Delegates Attending Forum