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Note on High School Physics as a Preparation for College Physics

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Note on High School Physics as a Preparation for College Physics

W. H. KADESCH

A standardized test was administered to a class of 47 students at the beginning of their study of Electricity and Magnetism, and again on completion of the study. The scores of those who had taken a year or more of physics in high school were compared with those who had either not taken physics in high school at all, or who had taken so little as not to have covered the subjects of electricity and magnetism.

The former group included thirty-one men. The latter included fourteen men and two women. The average scores of each group, and the average gain made are shown in the table.

	<i>Av. score on Pre-study test</i>	<i>Post-study test av.</i>	<i>Av. Gain</i>
Group 1	6.18	15.84	9.66
Group 2	3.39	10.71	7.32

Obviously no valid general conclusion can be drawn from so small a number of cases. It is perhaps not possible to go beyond the language of the table, and say that in this group, and on this examination, students with a year of entrance credit in physics not only made a better score than those who did not, but also made a greater gain.

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