



Mr. F. J. Hawley, senior lecturer in mathematics (right) and Peter Burden, Wolverhampton Grammar School boy, at work with WITCH, the electronic digital computer.

WITCH AND TWO BOYS SOLVE KEY PROBLEM

"Express and Star" industrial correspondent

ELECTRONIC computers, you would think, are fearsome things. Not the sort of instruments which grammar school boys, even their former, should be expected to master.

But two 18-year-old Wolverhampton Grammar School Boys have completed a problem programme on WITCH, the electronic digital computer installed about a year ago at Wolverhampton and Staffordshire College of Technology.

The boys, Peter Burden, of 28, Coalway-road, and Michael Tedd, of 76, Tettenhall-road, have won scholarships to Cambridge, where they will study for degrees in mathematics.

The problem they were set came from Chubb Research, Ltd., a subsidiary of the Wolverhampton lock and safe firm.

16,000,000 VARIATIONS

The boys had to programme the computer so that it would print "safe" and reject "unsafe" key patterns out of a combination of some 16,000,000 variations.

It took them about a fortnight to carry out the programming. Work with the computer took just a little under that period.

The college's computer will be on show during Commonwealth Technical Training Week, working on the problem I have just outlined.

A spokesman for the college said today: "It seems most fitting that this programme should be used during our exhibition week as the two principal claims which gained the machine for our college were that we would demonstrate the computer to local schools and that we could help local industry."

"Representatives from local industries are invited to consider sending problems for solution on the computer," he added.

WITCH: Wolverhampton Instru-

that did
acid-
field-
l to
tree.
tion
Bash
oun-
dent
flor-
staf-
scu-
was
E,
R

r
d
y

weds
nsby
ood
mink
aried
curren
etten-
ollege,
on of
of 79.
Wol-
is the
rs. A.
road,
by her
ess of
bustle
back-
s, She
es and
Misses
bride's
bride's
millan
s Mr.
Drew
New-
couple
nwall.
ES
was at
today
of the
est in
Ascen-
patricia
emony
e Rev
Nuptial
at St
th, be-
months