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## Seven Days a Week

Twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, the Voice of America broadcasts radio programs in 35 languages from 87 transmitting stations. Many of the programs are available on tape for foreign distribution and rebroadcast, and many are recorded when received by foreign stations and rebroadcast later.

In addition to regular weekly reports on science and medicine in the United States, the Voice of America has during the last two years produced several series of programs about science and scientists: *Frontiers of Knowledge*; *International Geophysical Year Series*; *American Men of Science*; *Science Features*; *Science in the News*; *Birth of a Spaceman*; *The Ocean Depths—A New Frontier*; *Man in Space—Project Mercury*; *Atoms for Power*; *The New World of Atomic Energy*; and *Forum—The Arts and Sciences in Mid-Century America*.

The *Forum* series is of special interest in that it makes no attempt to reach a mass audience: it is directed to intellectuals abroad. In the sciences, two series of *Forum* lectures were given in 1959: a 16-program series in medicine and a 20-program series in the behavioral sciences. In 1960 an 11-program series in chemistry was produced, and the first of 20 lectures in the biological sciences was broadcast last week. A few titles from the latest series and the names of the lecturers give some idea of the scope and quality of the programs. In chemistry, the following are representative: *Chemical Research in Solar Energy*, Farrington Daniels; *Radioactive Isotopes in Chemical Research*, Paul C. Aebersold; *Proteins*, John T. Edsall; and *Origin of the Solar System*, Harrison Brown. In biology some sample lectures are: *Characteristics of Animal Populations*, Edward S. Deevey; *Plant Photoperiods*, H. A. Borthwick; *Biochemistry of Human Heredity*, H. Bentley Glass; *Chromosomes and Tissue Culture*, Theodore T. Puck; *Enzyme Feedback Controls of Living Processes*, DeWitt Stetten.

The lectures in this series are available abroad not only on tape but also in the form of pamphlets which are obtainable for the asking at any of the 200 foreign posts of the United States Information Service or by direct request to the Voice of America in Washington.

Some Americans who are aware that these *Forum* lectures may be freely published or broadcast overseas have been under the impression that they cannot be used in a similar way in the United States. This is in part true, in that it is easier for a foreigner to obtain and publish the material: all he needs is a copy or a tape. A domestic user must in the first place get wind of the lectures and then get permission of the lecturers to use the material. Subject to the lecturers' permission, commercial publishers are, however, planning to bring out at least three of the *Forum* series in paperback editions, and the National Association of Educational Broadcasters will make the tapes available for further distribution. Thus it will soon be possible for Americans to have access to much of the material that is now virtually limited to a foreign audience. They then can judge for themselves whether an English chemist was justified in writing recently that these lectures would assist him and his colleagues in keeping up with modern developments in science.—G.DuS.