

## Again the Walls Are Breached

Walter G. Berl, Meeting Editor

In 1967, perhaps for the first time on the scale employed, 11 formal sessions and a large number of informal interviews at the AAAS Annual Meeting were broadcast "live" over the stations of the Eastern Educational Network. This year a somewhat similar undertaking is planned for the AAAS Annual Meeting in Dallas. The formal sessions and participants are listed below, as are the stations carrying the program.

Half of the support for these broadcasts comes from the Ford Foundation, the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation, Research Corporation, Arthur D. Little Foundation, the Merck Company Foundation, IBM, and other supporters of the AAAS. A number of additional contributions will be acknowledged later.

The reasons for proceeding with this substantial effort were summarized in a

recent letter to the producer of the telecasts (Arthur Rabin, Station WNDT, New York):

There is now, in this country, a large and growing audience, deeply interested in the problems that are either caused by or solved by the discoveries and applications of science and of technology.

The problems and the opportunities for facing them successfully are enormous and must be discussed in public.

The concerned citizen is not accustomed to attend scientific meetings, nor can large numbers be accommodated without compromising the essential nature of the undertaking.

For this reason, we want to use television (and radio) as a means of "breaching the walls." We want to experiment until we find the best way of doing this.

We must not do violence to the basic purpose of the meetings: to present and to discuss new ideas.

We welcome the fact that ample time is available on Educational Television Channels to explore such ideas in depth. Our goal is to present a wide variety of

them, in as many fields as possible, and by the most articulate spokesmen.

We will take the risk of not being able to eliminate all mistakes in exchange for the advantages of "live" presentation and spontaneity.

We are conscious of the pitfalls in exploring uncharted techniques. We feel, however, that the payoffs of doing a useful job are high.

This is only a beginning. A substantial effort will be made to record for the National Educational Radio network those lectures and discussions that are of interest to the public throughout the country. Also, with the assistance of the Ampex Corporation and Science Service, audio tapes of, perhaps, as many as 20 technical symposia will be recorded in their entirety for general distribution. This will make information quickly accessible which, otherwise, would either be lost or long delayed. It will supplement an orderly publication effort and will make available discussion comments, the very lifeblood of a stimulating meeting.

The guiding principle behind these undertakings is to strengthen the "General Purpose" of the AAAS Annual Meetings. Encompassing as they do all of science and technology, concerned with the interactions among its many branches and with the influence on the other activities of mankind, a proper balance must be made between the demands of the specialist and the need of the general public. It is none too soon to start in this new direction.

### Stations Participating in Full at the Dates Indicated

WCBB	Channel 10	Augusta, Maine	WMEM-TV	Channel 10	Presque Isle, Maine
WSKG	Channel 46	Binghamton, N.Y.	WSBE	Channel 36	Providence, R.I.
WGBH-TV	Channel 2	Boston, Mass.	WXXI	Channel 21	Rochester, N.Y.
WMEM-TV	Channel 13	Calais, Maine	WMHT	Channel 17	Schenectady, N.Y.
WNDT	Channel 13	New York, N.Y.	WCNY-TV	Channel 24	Syracuse, N.Y.
WMEB-TV	Channel 12	Orono, Maine	WETA	Channel 26	Washington, D.C.
WHYY-TV	Channel 12	Philadelphia, Pa.			

### Station Participating in Full But One Day Earlier than the Dates Indicated

KERA Channel 13 Dallas, Texas

### Stations Participating in Part and at a Later Date

KCET	Los Angeles, Calif.
WQED	Pittsburgh, Pa.
KQED	San Francisco, Calif.
WPSX	University Park, Pa.

27 December, 2:00 p.m.

### **New Developments in Educational Technology. Computers in Education**

*Chairman:* Harvey J. Brudner (Westinghouse Learning Corp.).

*Proponents:* Ed Adams (International Business Machines Corporation); Robert J. Seidel (George Washington University); and M. Keith Myers (University of Illinois).

*Critics:* Hugh McDougall (Superintendent, New York City Local Board No. 28); Charles Blaschke (Institute for Politics and Planning); and Ben Edelman (Western Electric).

*Panel to review one of the most important new developments in education, the use of computers as a direct aid to instruction.*

28 December, 9:00 a.m.

### **Genetic Technology: Some Public Considerations**

*Moderator:* J. E. Rall (NIH).

*Panel:* Harold P. Green (George Washington University) and Eugene B. Skolnikoff (Massachusetts Institute of Technology).

*Discussants:* David L. Bazelon (Chief Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia); Rollin D. Hotchkiss (Rockefeller University); and Gordon M. Tomkins (NIH).

*Symposium to provide an "overview" of recent scientific advances and possible technological applications, biological consequences of genetic manipulations, ecological consequences of alteration of human genotype, distinction between therapeutic and eugenic uses of genetic technology. To consider biological, social, and ethical implications of genetic manipulation as well as adequacy of modern institutions and government to cope with problems it would create.*

28 December, 2:00 p.m.

### **Global Effects of Environmental Pollution**

*Chairman:* Athelstan Spilhaus (President, Franklin Institute).

*Panel:* Harrison Brown (Foreign Secretary, National Academy of Sciences); John L. Buckley (Office of Science and Technology); Willard F. Libby (Uni-

versity of California, Los Angeles); Bengt Lundholm (National Science Research Council, Stockholm); Roger Revelle (Harvard); Walter Orr Roberts (University Corporation for Atmospheric Research); and S. Fred Singer (Deputy Assistant Secretary, Department of the Interior).

*Symposium to consider deleterious consequences of man's interference with his environment, and to examine "weak links" in the ecological network. Discussion may provide a guide to further research and pertinent public policies.*

29 December, 9:00 a.m.

### **The Financial Crisis in Science**

*Chairman:* H. Bentley Glass (Academic Vice President, State University of New York at Stony Brook)

*Panel:* Philip H. Abelson (Editor, *Science*); Herbert Hollomon (President, University of Oklahoma); J. A. Shannon (National Academy of Sciences); Roger Revelle (Harvard).

29 December, 2:00 p.m.

### **The Scientific Research Society of America Annual Address and Panel Discussion**

*Chairman:* Chauncey Starr (University of California, Los Angeles).

*Speaker:* Athelstan Spilhaus, "Technology, Living Cities, and Human Environment."

*Panel:* Thomas F. Rogers (Department of Housing and Urban Development); R. G. Studer (Pennsylvania State University); and J. Erik Jonsson (Mayor of Dallas).

30 December, 9:00 a.m.

### **Review of United States Science Policy**

*Chairman:* Herbert Hollomon.

*Panel:* Conrad H. Waddington (Edinburgh University, Scotland); O. M. Solandt (Chairman, Science Council of Canada); and Alexander King (Director of Scientific Affairs, O.E.C.D., Paris, France).

*Panelists to evaluate science policy and science policy machinery and discuss the issues that should be brought into focus in the next administration.*

30 December, 2:00 p.m.

### **Space Applications: Earth-Oriented Applications of Unmanned Earth Satellites**

*Chairman:* W. Deming Lewis (President, Lehigh University).

*Participants:* Beardsley Graham (Washington, D.C.); Thomas F. Malone (Travelers Insurance Company, Hartford, Conn.); Allen E. Puckett (Hughes Aircraft Company, Culver City, Calif.); Paul Rosenberg (Paul Rosenberg Associates, Pelham, N.Y.); Ralph Shay (Oregon State University); and Eric A. Walker (President, Pennsylvania State University).

*Symposium to consider possible applications of space-platforms, their practical benefits and costs, as well as their economic, social, and international implications.*

31 December, 9:00 a.m.

### **Earth as a Planet**

*Chairman:* Frank Press (Massachusetts Institute of Technology).

*The New Planetary Astronomy,* Thomas Gold (Cornell University).

*The Interior of Terrestrial Planets,* Don L. Anderson (California Institute of Technology).

*Resources for the Earth—Today and Tomorrow,* Harrison Brown (California Institute of Technology).

*The study of the earth has undergone a revolution in recent years. The consequences of the new insights may be quite profound.*

31 December, 2:00 p.m.

### **The Social Relevance of Physics**

*Chairman:* Ralph E. Gibson (Director, Applied Physics Laboratory, The Johns Hopkins University).

*Discussants:* Harvey Wheeler (Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Santa Barbara, Calif.); Lewis M. Branscomb (National Bureau of Standards, Boulder, Colo.); Raymond Bowers (Cornell University); and Herbert Hollomon.

*Has physics lost its relevance to the major social problems of the day? Where do the great challenges lie? Are they so shrouded with abstraction that they repel rather than attract?*