

"Report on Science" Reaches Millions with Daily Radio Broadcasts

To many people science is little more than test tubes, microscopes, and six-syllable words. But every day "Report on Science," the AAAS' radio news feature show proves otherwise. The program's subjects range from psychology to geophysics, but they all have one thing in common. They describe science as an ongoing process—a part of everyday life.

"Report on Science" is coproduced by the AAAS Office of Communications and the CBS Radio Stations News Service. The daily 90-second program began airing on CBS owned-and-operated stations (those in the major markets of Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, and St. Louis) in March 1981. The program's audience continues to grow and it is now aired over WTOP (Washington, D.C.), WGST (Atlanta), KIRO (Seattle), WTTB (Westminster, Maryland), WTTB (Vero Beach, Florida), KXL (Portland, Oregon), and CKEY (Toronto), in addition to the CBS owned-and-operated stations.

Allen L. Hammond, editor of *Science* 82, is the on-air reporter/science editor;

Carol L. Rogers, head of the AAAS Office of Communications, is AAAS project director/producer; and Kathleen Johnston is the script writer/researcher.

Many of the programs are based on articles which appear in *Science* 82. Other items are taken from *Science* and other journals, meetings, reports, and publications.

Programs often look at a widely reported story from a different perspective. A story asked, "What's happening at Mount St. Helens now?" (Life is returning and gophers are helping. They might have been underground when the blast occurred; now they're aerating the soil and helping to revive the mountain.) When the medfly story was reported last summer, "Report on Science" did a program on malathion—the controversial pesticide used in an attempt to eradicate the pest. During Black History Month a show looked at the work of organic chemist Percy Julian. In her research for the program, Johnston found a contemporary of Julian's who described the excitement of scientific discovery during the 1930s and 1940s, and explained how Julian's major discoveries

are particularly remarkable when one remembers the rudimentary laboratory equipment in use at the time.

"Report on Science" often deals with subjects that scientists are still trying to understand. How did the moon form? How does our brain work? The program also sometimes tells listeners about the lighter side of science. Why do chickens drink carbonated water? (It helps make their eggshells harder.)

Researchers throughout the country help put "Report on Science" on the air. Scientists and engineers cooperate in offering new information about little-known projects, suggesting other sources of knowledge, verifying the accuracy of scripts, and explaining—in uncomplicated language—their own work.

Response to the program is enthusiastic. Listeners often write for more information about a particular subject. For example, one program, which described the possible health hazards to workers using video display terminals, brought an information request from a labor union leader. He wanted to find out how this potential problem might affect members of his union.

With an audience of several million, "Report on Science" is one of the major public understanding activities of the Association. AAAS also produces "Focus," a half-hour discussion program, for noncommercial radio stations.

If none of the radio stations in your area carry "Report on Science" and you would like to hear the program, please write to us. We will work with the CBS Radio Stations News Service to help bring "Report on Science" to a station in your area. Address letters to Carol L. Rogers, Office of Communications, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

JOAN WRATHER
 Office of Communications

"Science: Woman's Work"



Should a young woman pursue a career in science? The women featured in the National Science Foundation (NSF) film, "Science: Woman's Work," answer with an emphatic "Yes!"

"Science: Woman's Work" features, among other women scientists, AAAS president E. Margaret Burbidge (photo on the left) director of the Division of Astrophysics and Space Sciences, University of California, San Diego.

The premier for the film was held at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., 24 May. Co-sponsored by the AAAS, NSF, and TRW, Inc., a highlight of the showing was a question and answer session, moderated by NSF director John B. Slaughter, between the women scientists and the audience.

The film, "Science: Woman's Work," is available for showings free of charge. For further information write Modern Talking Picture Service, 5000 Park Street North, St. Petersburg, Florida 33709.

SWARM Holds Annual Meeting in El Paso

The 58th Annual Meeting of the AAAS' Southwestern and Rocky Mountain (SWARM) Division took place from 28 April to 1 May at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). It was the fifth time SWARM had met in El Paso, and

the first time it used the new conference facilities at UTEP.

The program included some outstanding major addresses and prizewinning student papers. In addition to being one of the major scientific meetings of the southwestern and Rocky Mountain area, it is the forum in which many promising young scientists give their first paper. The contributed paper sessions were augmented by general and special sessions on "Research Priorities in the Chihuahuan Desert," "Plato's Dilemma: How Is Discovery Possible?," "The Role of Research in the Management of Our National Parks," and "America's Crisis in Science Education."

Harvey O. Banks, an internationally recognized expert in planning for and management of water, gave the John Wesley Powell Memorial Lecture. He spoke on "The Real Water Crisis." His presentation emphasized water supply problems, contamination issues, and the need to better regulate the distribution and cost of water resources in order to be sure that they are meeting our personal, agricultural, and industrial needs. He drew upon his experience as director of the Six State (Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas) High Plains-Ogalla Aquifer Regional Resources Study to conclude that the availability of good water per se, rather than food or land, will determine whether people can continue to live and thrive in many areas of the United States.

On Friday evening (30 April), SWARM retiring president Max Dunford of New Mexico State University, gave his address. Entitled "Shrubs. Shrubs? Shrubs!," it was an engaging, amusing, and informative review of key southwestern desert shrubs, their function in the desert, and their many uses and potential in commerce, as animal food, and in the development of pharmaceuticals. The three most prevalent "shrubs," each with unusual characteristics, are the creosote bush, the four-wing salt bush, and mesquite.

The SWARM executive committee met twice during the meeting as did the council. Walter Whitford of New Mexico State University was elected president-elect of SWARM and Donald J. Nash of Colorado State University was elected to the executive committee. Moving into the president's spot is Klaus Timmerhaus of the University of Colorado. Results of a survey of AAAS members in parts of Kansas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas not now included in SWARM indicated that 95 percent of those who responded favor being included in SWARM.

The El Paso meeting was also the occasion to begin planning for next year's meeting. This will be a joint SWARM/Pacific Division meeting, held in Logan, Utah (Utah State University), 12-17 June 1983.

RICHARD A. SCRIBNER
Office of Public Sector Programs

Major Scientific Meetings

The following is a listing of major meetings of the AAAS, some of its affiliated scientific societies, and other key scientific organizations. The list is updated quarterly. Affiliated societies are invited to send announcements of their major national and international meetings to the Office of Communications at the AAAS address.

July

- 12-17. National Society of Professional Engineers, Omaha, Nebraska
- 18-22. Society for International Development, Baltimore
- 19-23. Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics, Stanford, California

August

- 2-7. National Technical Association, Baltimore
- 8-11. Soil Conservation Society of America, New Orleans
- 8-11. American Society of Animal Science, Guelph, Ontario
- 8-12. American Institute of Biological Sciences and Ecological Society of America, University Park, Pennsylvania
- 8-13. American Society of Horticultural Science, Ames, Iowa
- 16-19. American Statistical Association, Cincinnati
- 16-20. American Association for Artificial Intelligence, Pittsburgh
- 18-20. Asociacion Colombiana de Geologia Geofisicos del Petroleo, Bogota, Colombia
- 23-27. American Psychological Association, Washington, D.C.

September

- 2-5. American Political Science Association, Denver
- 6-10. American Sociological Association, San Francisco
- 12-17. American Chemical Society, Kansas City, Missouri
- 16-18. AAAS Alaska Division, Fairbanks
- 19-22. American Association of Diabetes Educators, San Antonio
- 19-22. Society of American Foresters, Cincinnati
- 20-22. Oceans '82, Washington, D.C.
- 29-2 Oct. American Society of Human Genetics, Detroit

October

- 1-2. Nature Conservancy, Washington, D.C.
- 10-15. American Physiological Society, San Diego

- 14-17. Society for the History of Technology, Philadelphia
- 17-21. Society of Exploration Geophysicists, Dallas
- 18-21. Instrument Society of America, Philadelphia
- 18-21. Geological Society of America, American Geological Institute, and Geochemical Society, New Orleans
- 18-22. American Dietetic Association, San Antonio
- 18-22. Optical Society of America, Tucson
- 20-21. National Academy of Engineering, Washington, D.C.
- 22-25. Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, Dallas
- 24-27. American Astronautical Society, Houston
- 24-28. American Association of Cereal Chemists, San Antonio
- 25-29. American Society of Civil Engineers, New Orleans
- 25-29. Human Factors Society, Seattle
- 27-30. History of Science Society, Philadelphia
- 28-31. Society for Social Studies of Science, Philadelphia

November

- 1-4. Material Research Society, Boston
- 3-5. Institute of Medicine, Washington, D.C.
- 4-7. Speech Communication Association, Louisville
- 6-11. American Dental Association, Las Vegas
- 14-18. American Institute of Chemical Engineers, Los Angeles
- 14-18. American Public Health Association, Montreal
- 14-18. National Fuel Cell Seminar, Newport Beach, California
- 14-19. American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Phoenix
- 16-22. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, New Orleans
- 18-21. American Speech, Language, Hearing Association, Toronto
- 28-3 Dec. American Society of Agronomy, Anaheim, California

December

- 4-7. American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C.
- 6-10. CHEMRAWN II, Manila, Philippines
- 6-10. American Geophysical Union, San Francisco
- 28-30. American Economic Association, New York

January 1983

- 5-9. American Mathematical Society, Denver

February

March

- 6-12. American Society of Microbiology, New Orleans
- 13-18. American Society of Photogrammetry, Washington, D.C.
- 17-20. American Association for Dental Research, Cincinnati
- 18-20. National Wildlife Federation, Albuquerque
- 20-25. American Chemical Society, Seattle
- 23-24. AAAS Colloquium on R&D and Public Policy, Washington, D.C.