

From One Who Fled—

# A LOOK AT SCIENCE IN RED CHINA

Last March Dr. Wang Chi-hsiang, an American-trained chemist, went home to his native China. Five months later he left in disgust. He tells why in this interview with "U. S. News & World Report."

At TAIPEI, Formosa

**Q** Dr. Wang, why did you decide to leave the United States and go to Communist China?

**A** I had been planning it for a long time. All Chinese want to help their country. It's American-like—to want to help your country.

**Q** What did the Communists do first, interrogate you about your education and abilities?

**A** They knew that already. They had complete lists of all students studying in the United States. The lists had been supplied by other students who returned earlier.

**Q** In what direction is Chinese Communist science directed, in general—toward military objectives, or what?

**A** Certainly the military. Everything they are doing now is aimed at one thing—to beat the United States, in the end to destroy it.

**Q** In what ways are they trying to do this now?

**A** They have people, very smart men, working on projects to put a satellite into orbit. They have a project set up to fire a rocket to the moon.

They have atomic scientists. Most of these came from America. Three of them are from Cal Tech.

**Q** Were Soviet scientists helping the Chinese in these fields?

**A** Oh, yes. There was close co-operation. My friends, nuclear scientists, said everything they wanted was provided by Soviet Russia. Of course, they couldn't get equipment anywhere else for this research.

**Q** Did your friends appear to be happy in their work?

**A** Well, they were watched very closely. They couldn't go anywhere. But they were devoted workers. If a scientist is given something to do he will work on it—he forgets about everything else.

**Q** Are the Chinese Communists much interested in pure science?

**A** Yes, but they don't have enough scientists to do it in a big way. Probably not more than one or two thousand scientists in various institutes are in pure science.

**Q** What happens to a scientist's mind after several years of Communist indoctrination?

**A** They dare not think for themselves, and sooner or later they forget how to think.

**Q** How can a scientist function if he loses the ability to think?

**A** As I said before, you forget politics. You can be flexible in science and rigid in politics and other fields.

**Q** Then you could still be a good scientist under Communist control?

**A** I don't know, really—I've never been a Communist. But my friends who have lived in Peiping for many years are still professionally intelligent and professionally proficient.

**Q** What was your impression of the level of technical and scientific knowledge in China?

**A** The Communists have collected the best Chinese brains there—most of them from America and England. Libraries are excellent—in some ways better than those at Cal Tech. Laboratories are very good, perhaps not as good as in the States but they are building some new ones. Scientific equipment comes from Russia, and they even have some smuggled in from the United States and England.

**Q** Is the primary stress on Soviet science?

**A** Well, most of the scientists can read Russian, and it's better to know it since so many books come from Russia. I started studying Russian—I wasn't ordered to—but I continued for only two days. I've forgotten the few words I learned.

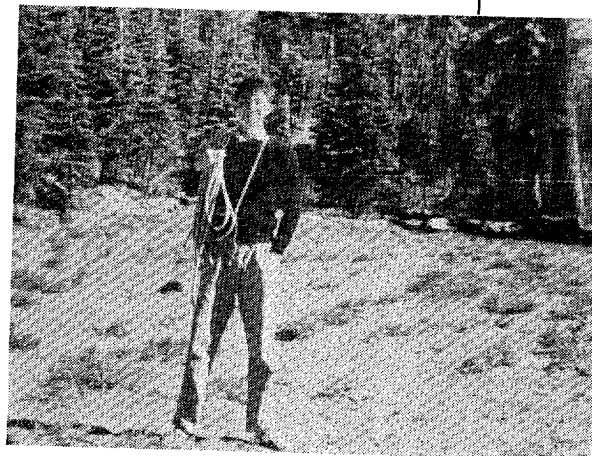
**Q** How high was the quality of

Chinese technicians and scientists educated in the Soviet Union?

**A** Certainly the quality is not as good as those educated in the United States. Students who went to America before the Communists got power went on their own merits. Students sent by the Communists to the Soviet Union were selected on the basis of their reliability rather than ability.

**Q** What made you decide to leave China?

**A** Well, we had to conform to too many things. When I protested, my friends told me I was blind and couldn't see good things inside. Then, too, I had a feeling that something



DR. WANG, pictured on a mountain-climbing trip in the United States. At the time, he was a student here.

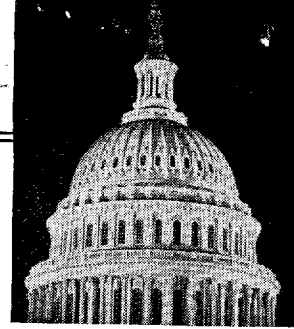
was going wrong with Chinese science, that you couldn't introduce Marxism into pure science.

**Q** When did you actually make up your mind to leave?

**A** Early in April, about a week after I arrived. It was obvious it was stupid to stay if I could leave. But it took time—50 days from the time I applied for an exit permit. I said I had to visit my father, who was dying in Hong Kong. The Communists believed me.

**Q** How did you feel when you got out?

**A** I didn't have much feeling. I thought I was leaving my home—but it was absolutely impossible to remain.



# WHAT MANDATE?

BY DAVID LAWRENCE

**W**HAT IS THE MANDATE of the people in the congressional elections held this week?

Can anyone be sure what the Democratic gains in the House or Senate really signify? Do we have two major parties, each with a recognized obligation to advocate certain policies of government in the field of national and international affairs?

In Britain they still believe in party responsibility. Each party goes before the people with a specific platform, adhered to by all its candidates for parliament. When the incumbent party, moreover, loses the parliamentary election, a new prime minister takes office.

But in the United States we have divided government. For four years now we have had the Democratic Party in control of both houses of Congress. Knowing that we shall continue to have a Republican President in control of the executive branch of the government for another two years, millions of voters this week expressed their desire to continue control of Congress in the Democratic Party.

Unfortunately, the peoples of the rest of the world who are familiar with the ways of parliamentary government will be tempted to assume that the Democratic Party's victories in various States in the election this week of Representatives and Senators to our national legislative body means a repudiation of the policies of the President and the Secretary of State.

Having read dispatches quoting the campaign utterances of leading Democrats, the people in Europe, Asia and Africa will be told by Soviet-controlled radio broadcasts that a triumph of the Democrats means the President must stop supporting the Nationalist Chinese and must surrender our strategic position in the Far East.

The American people, despite the claims of some Democrats, did not intend by the election to be put in the position of repudiating the foreign policy of the present Administration. It would be a mistake for Moscow to proceed on any such assumption.

But, even while refuting such a possible misinterpretation of the election results as bearing on foreign policy, it is evident that the ambiguities in domestic policy are not so readily dismissed.

Do the gains of the Democrats mean that we are in for an era of public spending irrespective of deficits?

Are we now to increase taxes on corporations and on individual incomes so as to balance the budget? Are we to ignore the fact that the inflationary movement may reduce the purchasing power of the dollar?

The "pocketbook issue" has been useful in winning votes for the Democrats in areas where unemployment has occurred. But if all the unemployed do not get jobs in the next two years, will the Democratic Party in Congress be held responsible for this in the 1960 congressional and presidential elections?

The answer is that the electorate will be urged again to hold only the President responsible for economic adversity even though a partisan-minded Congress may have blocked sound measures proposed by the Administration to insure economic stability.

The truth is there is no clear mandate to be derived from the 1958 elections. There is today no party responsibility on either side of the aisle in the Senate or in the House. Each side has been betting apparently on the capacity of its orators to take advantage of the ignorance of an uninformed electorate.

But, while we know there was no general mandate given by the people as a whole, we must face realistically the fact that the new Congress is to be controlled not by the Democratic Party as such but by a clique of union bosses. The labor unions through their political auxiliaries have spent in several instances more money to elect this week the candidates of their choice—almost all of them Democrats—than have the organizations of the nominees themselves.

The mandate to be given by the labor unions to their henchmen in Congress will become clear enough next January. They must try to amend the labor-management laws so as to give more advantages to the labor unions. They must try to repeal the law permitting the States to pass "right to work" laws. They must be ready to defeat any further legislation that might effectively deal with labor racketeering.

To achieve a majority in the Congress, labor unions have spent time and money in electioneering. Businessmen have not risen to the challenge.

Now the question is whether the economic power of labor unions will be curbed. Higher and higher wages will be extorted from management under the penalty of costly strikes. Eventually, as prices must be raised to meet increased wage costs, the result could be a buyers' strike and finally a depression which certainly would bear the union label.

The 1958 election, instead of bringing an era of prosperity, may in time prove to have been the turning point in favor of those forces which really seek a breakdown in the private-enterprise system. Was this the intended mandate of the voters?

## United States Senate

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### MEMORANDUM

November 4, 1958

TO: Mr. Warner

FROM: Ben Mandel

*Sen. Smith See*

*[Signature]*

*[Signature]*