

Chinese asked AAAS to take a central role in persuading U.S. experts from academia and industry to go to China for extended lecture visits and in generating a cooperative project in the area of popularizing science and technology. Other possibilities to be pursued by correspondence include some joint activity in science education and a possible Sino-American symposium at the 1980 annual meeting.

2. The Board sought meetings with key figures in the PRC in areas of science, technology, and government to clarify China's intentions and priorities in modernizing science and technology.

This was accomplished with in-depth

meetings with such leaders as Fang Yi, Professor Chou Pei-yuan (acting head of STAPRC and president of Peking University), top officials of the Ministry of Education and the Academy of Sciences, and heads of universities and institutes concerned with basic and applied science.

All contacts and meetings with officials and scientists were extremely cordial; the Chinese were disarmingly frank in assessing the damage visited upon education and science between 1965 and 1975. Equally clear was the government's and Party's solid commitment to recovery and modernization of science, technology, and education and for a

strong Western connection to help bring them about. While a mere 3 weeks spent in a society as complex as China's is too short a time to produce strong conclusions, the evidence available indicated a decisive turn in China's internal and external policies for science, technology, and development.

3. The Board tried to get a clear understanding of institutional arrangements for policy-making in science and technology. The answers came in bits, for the most part. In important ways, the policy structure reflects the residual influence of the former Soviet presence with an interlocking apparatus in which the Party, the State Commission, the Academy, the ministries, and the provincial organs are all involved. Despite many signs of liberalization, the Party organs still provide the direction over research institutes, and scientists are required to be, in the words of Party Vice-Chairman Teng, "both red and expert." While the values of basic science are acknowledged at every level, expectations for benefits to defense, industry, and agriculture are very high. This may reflect a tilt in the early years toward emphasis on applied science and technological innovation.

4. We sought a broad and mixed view of the state of basic and applied research. It is very clear that the Chinese have pragmatic reasons for reentering the larger world of science and rebuilding both their laboratory competence and their science information resources. With occasional exceptions, the general impression was that both basic research and applied research must overcome a decade of neglect and disruption. The "needs" cover the whole spectrum: modern instruments, new equipment, replacement of facilities, contact with overseas scholarship and literature, higher standards of undergraduate and postgraduate education, replenishment of faculty, and foreign language capability. Where the Chinese appear to have an advantage is in combining traditional Chinese science with Western approaches to science, notably in such areas as health care and preventive strategies. With this, China has an impressive cohort of zealous and resourceful younger scientists who are now doing good work under Spartan conditions. As they get opportunities to study abroad, the prospect is that China may be less than one generation away from putting on a very good scientific show.

5. Because the education system is critical to the four modernizations (industry, agriculture, defense, and science

Warren Weaver 1894-1978

Warren Weaver, former AAAS president and Board chairman, died 24 November 1978. At the time of his death, Weaver was consultant for scientific affairs at the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

A mathematician by training—Ph.D., University of Wisconsin—Weaver spent most of his career with philanthropic foundations. He was director for natural sciences (1932-55), vice president for natural and medical sciences (1955-59), and vice president (1959-64) of the Rockefeller Foundation.

Weaver also served as director for natural science at the General Education Board, 1932-37; chief, applied mathematics panel, 1943-46, and chairman, Naval Research Advisory Committee, 1946-47; member, National Science Board, 1956-60; member, National Advisory Cancer Council, 1957-60; and vice president, Sloan-Kettering Institute, 1958-59. He was instrumental in founding the Scientists Institute for Public Information and served as its director from 1963-67.

At its meeting in Houston, 3 January 1979, the Board adopted the following:

"Warren Weaver will be remembered for many reasons. He early understood how greatly the tools and techniques of physics and chemistry could advance knowledge of biological processes, and used his position in the Rockefeller Foundation to identify, support, and encourage the young scientists who years later earned Nobel Prizes and other honors for their contributions to genetics or molecular biology.

As a skilled interpreter of science, he helped many audiences to understand the sweep and nature of scientific work. His collaboration with Claude E. Shannon on *The Mathematical Theory of Communication* introduced scientists from a broad range of interests to the power and usefulness of communication theory. His deep personal commitment to improving the public understanding of science was honored in 1965 by award of the first Arches of Science Medal for outstanding contributions to the public understanding of the meaning of science to contemporary men and women, and in the same year by award of UNESCO's Kalinga Prize for distinguished contributions to the popular understanding of science.

Government, other foundations, and many scientific institutions and societies called upon him to fill posts of major responsibility. AAAS was fortunate to have him as President in 1954 and Chairman of the Board in 1955; as a member or chairman of numerous boards and committees; and as the primary author of the Arden House statement, a 1951 declaration of principle that has since served as value guide in setting the goals, the plans, and the procedures of the Association.

Be it resolved that the Board and Council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science record their lasting appreciation for his wise counsel and his versatile and farsighted leadership."