GENERAL SCIENCE

Pressured To Serve Reds

THIRTY-FIVE HUNDRED Chinese students now in 530 American educational institutions study today in fear they may be forced to use their learning for the Chinese Communists. Of this number, 2,817 are studying on American taxpayers' money. These had been carefully screened and found to have no leftist tendencies.

Already back in Asia are 365 students. How many went to Communist China, how many went to Formosa and how many stayed in Hong Kong, the State Department does not know. One group of 27 recently were escorted through Communist lines by Hong Kong police, declaring that they were going to "serve the people" of Communist China.

Many of the 3,500 Chinese students still in this country believe that most of those 27 who walked over the line did so because of blackmail. Their families were in Communist China. They were made to fear for the safety of their families. Hence they took back American-made educations to "serve the people."

In 1950, the 81st Congress passed the Emergency Aid to Chinese Students Act to help students stranded here by the victory of the Communists on the Chinese mainland. Since then, two Congressional appropriations and one \$500,000 grant from the Economic Cooperation Administration

have given \$10,500,000 to pay for education, subsistence and fares back to China for 2,817 students. This money will last until the end of 1952, when it is expected that all students will have completed their education.

Last April, new regulations went into effect in the Department of Justice's Immigration Bureau, permitting Chinese students to stay in this country after they had completed their education, provided they are gainfully employed. However, if they express a desire to go back to Communist China, there is no way to stop them. There is no way of telling whether they actually want to live in Communist China or whether they are going back only to protect their families from the authorities.

Communist China stands to gain much scientific, technical and engineering skill at the expense of American taxpayers from those who can be forced back onto the Asian mainland. Of the 27 who the other day walked over the border from Hong Kong, eight had received degrees in science.

This story parallels recent reports of blackmail of other Chinese who live in this country. Chinese-Americans with relatives in China, according to these reports, are being forced to pay money to the Communists for the safety of their relatives behind the Asiatic iron curtain.

Science News Letter, August 4, 1951

NUTRITION

Enriched Rice Stops Deaths

➤ BERI-BERI DEATHS have been stopped in Bataan, the Philippines, now that rice sold there is being enriched with the antiberi-beri vitamin, B₁, or thiamin.

This life-saving feat is accomplished by treating about half a pound of rice out of every 100 pounds sold, Dr. Robert R. Williams, the chemist who synthesized this vitamin, reports.

Dr. Williams has just returned from a trip around the world during which he visited the great rice producing countries. He told of conditions in these areas when he spoke as guest of Watson Davis, director of Science Service, on Adventures in Science, radio program produced under the auspices of Science Service over the Columbia Broadcasting System.

Rice is a food staple for millions upon millions of the world's people, Dr. Williams pointed out. But as the rice eating races of the world have concentrated more largely in cities, they have gotten away from the hand-pounding of rice that used to be practiced. As a result, nutritional and deficiency diseases have increased.

When rice is milled nutrients are lost so that beri-beri is still a great killer of mankind, although it is known that this disease is prevented by vitamin B₁.

Production of white rice is necessary for far away markets in order that the rice may keep and be stored. However, the vitamin content can be restored to the rice by the process that Dr. Williams advocates. This involves treating only about a half pound of rice out of every hundred that is sold, restoring to these relatively few grains the necessary vitamins synthetically and then mixing them when the rice is sold to the people for food.

This method has been given a long term test in Bataan, Philippines, where vitaminenriched rice has been used for over two years and a cessation of deaths due to beriberi has occurred, whereas deaths from this deficiency disease were very prevalent in the past.

It looks and tasts like ordinary rice and costs only about 1% more. One of the problems in connection with introducing enriched rice in India, Burma, China, Java and Japan and other areas where beri-beri is prevalent is the introduction of the necessary synthetic vitamins into these areas under present conditions of foreign ex-

change. Although the amount of synthetic vitamins is very small, relatively speaking, they can most effectively be produced in western countries and the problem of the eastern areas is to find the necessary American money to buy it.

Dr. Williams is a member of the Baptist Board of Foreign Missions and has conducted his present introduction of enriched rice under the auspices of the Williams-Waterman Fund for combat of dietary diseases, a fund which he and his associates set up by assigning to it their vitamin Bapatents.

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PSYCHOLOGY

Weight Lifter Called Sissy by Psycho Tests

THE WEIGHT-LIFTING strongman is a sissy!

This is indicated by psychological tests given to two groups of young athletes. One group had an enthusiastic interest in weight lifting, the other consisted mostly of basketball and volleyball players comparable to the first group in age, education, socio-economic status, and interest in athletics.

The weight-lifter, it turned out, is covering up for a feeling of inadequacy and inferiority as a man. He is concerned with demonstrating that he is a real he-man, because of these lacks. He is strongly dependent and feels that he has been rejected. He is hostile toward his mother and is not fond of girls in general. He is very fond of himself.

This study, the results of which confirm Freudian theories, was conducted by Dr. Robert G. Harlow, of Harvard University, who makes his report in the JOURNAL OF PERSONALITY (March).

Science News Letter, August 4, 1951

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