



## IN CELEBRATION OF DR. WANG SHIH-CHIEH ON HIS NINETIETH BIRTHDAY

Dr. Wang Shih-Chieh (王世杰), former President of Academia Sinica, was born on March 10, 1891, in Chungyang district, Hupei province. A scholar and statesman of many interests and accomplishments, this issue of the *Botanical Bulletin* is dedicated to him with our highest regards.

Dr. Wang began his education at the age of five in his family school and later attended the first modern elementary school in the city of Wuch'ang. He subsequently graduated from the Hupei Teachers' College for Science and in 1911, after studying for one year at Peiyang University in Peiping, returned to Wuch'ang to join the revolutionary government.

From 1912 to 1920 Dr. Wang pursued his studies in Europe. He received the degree of B.S. in Political Science and Economics from the University of London in 1917, and Doctor of Philosophy in Law from the University of Paris in 1920. He was professor of Constitutional Law at Peking University from 1921 to 1926, during which time his major writing *Comparative Constitutional Law* was published. In 1927 he was in charge of the Bureau for Drafting Legal Codes in Nanking, and from 1929 to 1933 served as the first Chancellor of National Wuhan University.

Dr. Wang was active in many fields of governmental work and his posts included the Minister of Education (1933-38), Secretary General of the People's Political Council (1938-43), Member of the Presidium of the People's Political

Council (1943-46), Minister of Information (1939-42 and 1944-45), Minister of Foreign Affairs (1945-48), Secretary General of the Office of the President (1950-53) and Chairman of the National Council of Science Development (1962-70). He was elected member of Academia Sinica in 1948. He represented our government in many international conferences such as the Five Foreign Ministers' Conference in London and the United Nations' General Assembly in New York. After his retirement in 1970 he was appointed Senior Advisor to the President.

He was ardently interested in the classical art of China and has been a Trustee of the National Palace Museum for over forty years. He was instrumental in having the art treasures of the Museum shipped from the mainland to Taiwan and the construction of a new museum building to house them, and organized a major travelling art exhibit in the USA from 1959-61.

From 1962 to 1970 Dr. Wang was elected President of the Academia Sinica where his contribution consisted of (1) the addition to and/or improvement of several Institutes (Botany, Zoology, Physics and Economics), (2) the establishment of six Research Centers (Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Engineering Science and Agriculture) and (3) the establishment of the ROC Committee for Scientific and Scholarly Cooperation with the USA, of which he was president from 1964-78.

He has been married to Hsiao Teh-Hwa since 1922 and has four children, nine grandchildren and one great grandchild.

On this happy occasion of his ninetieth birthday, the member of Institute of Botany express to Dr. Wang their best regards.

Hong-pang Wu  
Editor in Chief