DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

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'TOP HEAVY' JAPANESE LABOR UNIONS CREATE BUREAUCRACY

Unions' Boss Sysiem Under Criticism

By YO TAJIRI, Staff Writer

A SCAP Labor division official yesterday told the press that the top heavy organization of Japanese labor unions had created a "tremendous" labor bureaucracy.

Richard L. G. Deverall, chief of the Labor Education branch, Economic and Scientifis section, said that in Japan —land of the oyabun system (boss control)) and control associations—it was easy for labor unions to follow similar patterns.

Certain political parties can easily get control of unions which are bureaucratically-operated and not democratically run by the rank and file, Deverall warned.

The labor chief said that two examples of "democracy at the bottom" in American labor unions, which allowed for rank and file participation, were the volunteer work done by union members and the grievance machinery setup.

By volunteer activities outside working hours, American union members do much of the work that is now done in Japan by full time union workers.

Under the grievance system, individual union members take active part in their unions through shop stewards who meet each day for a short period to work on problems of the contract, the official said.

Full time labor leaders average one for each 1,000 union members in America and England, while in Japan the figure is closer to one full time labor worker for every 100 to 300 union members, Deverall said.

The Labor Education official gave an informative report on national labor unions and made several recommendations to the rank and file of Japan's trade unions.

Among his recommendations, Deverall advised that top labor federations should be rearranged so that they are liaison bodies, coordinating the work of the national unions but subject to the control and policy decision of the national unions.

AUG 2 0 1948
STARS & STRIPES

Asahi Dispute Settled

A labor dispute of the Asahi Press chapter of the All-Japan Newspaper, News Agency and Radio Workers Union was amicably settled Wednesday, June 2, at 1.30 a.m. after last-minute negotiations between the labor union and the company management, according to a Kyodo report.

Demanding the grant of funds to cover up the deficits of living expenses in May, the Asahi labor union has been threatening a strike since May 31.

MAINICHI JUN 2 1948

Communications Workers To Hold National Rally

Kyodo

TOKYO, June 11.—The Communications Workers Union will hold an extraordinary nationwide rally for five days beginning June 22 at the Oyama Club in Kanazawa City.

Attending the rally will be 60 policy committee members, 180 executive committee members and 600 regional representatives, making a total of 840.

The subject for discussion at the five-day session will include:

1. Reorganization of the policy committee.
2. Problem of a new wage scale.
3. Future policy in union movement.
4. Revision of the union covenant.
5. Union budget.

MAINICHI JUN 1 2 1948

JCWU Holds Convention

KANAZAWA, June 22.—The All-Japan Communications Workers Union held their fifth extraordinary national convention at Oyama Club here today at 9.30 p.m. attended by 534 delegates of the Union.

Kezo Hachiyanagi of the Union's Tohoku district council was elected chairman of the convention.

MAINICHI JUN 2 4 1948

Tokyo Independent Unions Organize Federation

TOKYO, June 12.—The Federation of Tokyo Independent Unions was formally inaugurated this morning at a meeting held at the Kyoiku Kaikan, Kanda, Tokyo.

Chuzo Moriguchi of the Mainichi, who acted as chairman of the meeting, solemnly declared at 11 a.m. the formal organization of the federation in which he stressed the high importance of cooperation among the fellow members of the federation by which a sound and healthy development of democratic trade unions can be assured.

Following this, Paul D. Jackson, labor relations officer, SCAP's ESS, emphatically noted the following three points which would, he stated, preserve the democratic management of the federation:

(1) All election of officers shall be taken from the rank and file in secret ballots and the nomination of them also shall be made on open floor of the meetings.

(2) There must be a regular general meeting at least once a month to embody and reflect the free opinions of the rank and file on the final definition of the management of the federation.

(3) They must maintain independence of the union from the company and employers' control.

Having a membership of some 200,000 workers of various independent labor unions in the Tokyo Metropolis including those of newspapers (Yomiuri, Mainichi and Sun Photos). construction companies, department stores, dockyards and private railways, the federation has been making every effort to organize, firmly with the aim of promoting and preserving the independence of laborers without being influenced by such outer powers as political parties, the National Congress of Industrial Organization and National Federation of Labor Unions.

MAINICHI JUN 1 4 1948

SCRIBES SET UP UNION

Press and Radio Workers Union Is Dissolved

The National Newspaper Workers Union was organized formally Saturday night at the Meiji University auditorium.

The new union claims a membership of 28,600, excluding the Mainichi, reports Kyodo.

Following the organization of the new Union, the Japan Press and Radio Workers Union was dissolved.

The Communist organ, Akahata, voluntarily refrained from joining the Union, in face of opposition raised by the Yomiuri Shimbun workers.

Shonosuke Suenaga of the Asahi, was elected chairman, and Norio Yamazaki, Kyodo and Rokuro Motosugi, Yomiuri, were appointed vice-chairmen.

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ITEM 8 Livelihood Co-operative Association Rally Scores Emasculated Government Bill - Akahata - 17 Jun 48. Translator: M. Hirasawa. (FST)

145

Summary:

A consumers' meeting of the Japan League of Livelihood Co-operative Associations, which had been demanding the enforcement of a democratic livelihood cooperative association law since last year, was held on 15 June. The meeting was attended by approximately 1,000 persons, including representatives of cooperative associations from neighboring prefectures and TOKYO.

The rally unanimously resolved that the government-drafted bill was ineffective and worse than the presently enforced Industrial Association Law, and that a more democratic law should be enacted. It was also decided to demand that operational right of the livelihood cooperative associations be expanded and regulations clarified; conducting of credit enterprise by livelihood cooperative associations be recognized; a nation-wide enterprise federation of the livelihood associations be recognized and its international level, guaranteed; and exemption of livelihood cooperative associations from taxation.

Representing the 300,000 members of the workshop livelihood cooperative associations, SOTOTATE, Tajiro, chairman of the All-Tokyo Council of Workship Workers Livelihood Co-operative Associations strongly advocated, "either enforcement of a democratic livelihood cooperative association law, or dissolution of the Diet."

Communist Party representative, KAMIYAMA, Shigeo, then explained the contents of the huge budget of the Ashida Cabinet, and declared that it was an evil plan to sacrifice the masses to the great capitalists. He added that the Communist Party will soon introduce a democratic co-operative association law into the Diet.

KATSUME, Teru stated: "At present, half of the co-operative associations are facing financial difficulties, and practically all are barely operating. Thus, all are pinning fervent hopes on the passage of the co-operative association bill. However, the organization of co-operative associations is still weak, and only 3.4 percent of the people in TOKYO have registered with them for their fish and vegetable rations. Thus, the co-operative association cannot fully protect the diet of the metropolitan citizens.

"The co-operative associations must gain rationing rights for staple foods and request loans from people's banks. As this is a great political struggle, pressure of the masses must be exerted on the Government and Diet in concert with labor unions and other democratic organizations. There is a tendency for the present Japan League of Livelihood Co-operative Associations to decide matters only among the officials, which will result in the league being taken lightly by the Government and political parties."

ITEM 3 Unions to Launch Movement against Price Increases - Akahata - 22 Jun 48. Translator: J. Ide. (CS)

145

Summary:

In response to the NCIU's proposal calling for nation-wide opposition to the increase in prices, representatives of 30 unions assembled Friday in the headquarters of the National Revenue Office Workers Union. The progress of this movement is being watched with keen interest.

According to the decision reached at this meeting, a Joint Action Committee for Opposition to Price Increases is to be organized. It was also agreed that there was no other alternative but to display the power of the working class in order to achieve their purpose. To this end, each of the unions represented may launch a 24-hour, a one-hour, or a 10-minute strike, if circumstances permit.

In view of the Government's flat rejection of the union's demand for a 5,200-yen wage base, it is anticipated that this movement will become even more intensified.

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ITEM 4 Time Ripe for a United Labor Front - Akahata - 22 Jun 48.
Translator: Y. Takahama. (JJY)

1.45

Full Translation:

Prior to the new action to be taken by the National Council of Government and Public Office Workers Unions, union workers of private enterprises are also earnestly deliberating on their joint action, stepping beyond the frame of the National Congress of Industrial Organizations and the Japan Federation of Trade Unions.

Above all, the Metal Workers Union, the Chemical Industry Workers Union, and the Printing and Publishing Workers Union, advancing a step further from the organization of the labor front, have launched an actual move toward a united front for resisting the antilabor policy of the Ashida Cabinet. Their activities are now placed before the eyes of the world as the start for the movement to strengthen the National Labor Unions Liaison Conference with a joint campaign of the unions belonging to the NCIO.

Last October the mass meeting of the NCIO reached the conclusion that to complete the united front of unions the NCIO would dare to modify its policy, and now minor unions under the NCIC, as well as neutral unions, have started to realize the decision through their experiences of actual joint actions.

Following the mass meeting for accelerating the fusion of metal workers unions held on 15 and 16 June, the preparatory meeting for establishing the All-Japan Metal Workers Union was held at Nenryo Hall, MARUNOUCHI, at 1000 hours last Thursday. The contemplated union will consist of three NCIO-affiliated single-industry unions - the All-Japan Machine Tool Workers Union, the National Railway Workers Union, and the National Rolling Stock Workers Union.

The meeting was attended by about 150 representatives of local chapters. WADA, Jiro (National Rolling Stock), KAN, Osamu (All-Japan Machine Tool), ONISHI, Akira (National Railway), were elected chairmen. After a report by HAYASHI, Takeo (National Railway), a member of the preparatory committee, on the progress of the negotiations, serious discussions were held.

The meeting agreed to (1) holding a mass meeting for establishing the preparatory conference for the All-Japan Metal Workers Union at the beginning of September, (2) simultaneously dissolving the afore-mentioned three single-industry unions, the substance of which being shifted to the preparatory conference, (3) empowering the preparatory committee for the fusion of metal workers unions, not the single-industry unions, to be the center of the preparatory meeting, (4) holding joint conference or meetings of committees, (5) amalgamating the local chapters of the three single-industry unions and including, if possible, the electric industry workers unions.

After that, Chairman NAKAHARA of the National Electric Industry Workers Union, made a proposal that, as the National Electric Industry Workers Union cannot join the union for certain reasons, it desires to send its representatives as observers to the meetings of the preparatory committee to co-operate with the union before its formal entry into the union, and that what is especially required by the Electric Industry Workers Union is the establishing of a joint-action committee by central executives.

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ITEM 4 (Continued)

Chairman NAKAHARA's proposal was unanimously approved. An urgent motion presented byy YAMAMOTO (National Machine Tool) to decide the matter by the action committee, not by the joint-action committee of the three single-industry committees, was at once agreed. NISHIKAWA, KANEKO, OKAMOTO, YAMAMOTO of the National Machine Tool Workers Union, together with SUMI and HIGASHISHIMOE of the National Rolling Stock Workers Union, were elected members of the preparatory committee.

Chemical Workers Move toward Labor Front

The second extraordinary national conference of the All-Japan Chemical Workers Union entered into the third session at 1000 hours last Thursday at the Central Labor Hall, SHIBA, TOKYO. The conference decided to approve the proposals presented by the subcommittee of the Labor Issue Countermeasure Section in connection with (1) anti-budget action as the general policy of the movement, (2) overthrowing of the Ashida Cabinet, (3) establishing of the government by workers, (4) united front for the formation of a major chemical industry union.

As to the measures for the action, decisions were made on these matters: (1) actions for securing real wages in order to establish the maximum wage system, (2) opposition to the revision of the Labor Union Law, (3) opposition to suppression, (4) countermeasures for major and minor industries, (5) action against heavy taxation.

Regarding the formation of the chemical industry union, the conference decided on a policy to complete a major industrial union through the actions effected by the National Association of Chemical Workers and the Japan Federation of Trade Unions together with some neutral unions. At the same time, the conference decided to advance toward the expansion of the front, strengthening the National Labor Unions Liaison Council by dint of the NCIC with the chemical workers unions as the center. To achieve success in these actions, (1) each chapter shall immediately form a joint-action organization of the major chemical unions in each district, and (2) the industrial unions shall strive to extend this joint-action organization to those of the single-industry unions. In short, the unanimous decision of the conference was to foster the front with the vigorous power of all industrial unions in conformity with the attitudes of the chemical union workers and other labor fronts. Mechanical removal of frames of the industrial unions for a perfunctory unity was by no means what the conference intended.

Local Joint Action Already Launched

Messages were sent from the National Chemical Workers Association, the National Gas Workers Union, and the Tokyo Area Joint Action Preparatory Committee together with the Communist Party, to the mass meeting of the All-Japan Chemical Workers Union which was held last Thursday. KUBOTA, Seiji, secretary of the Chemical Association, expressed in his message his enthusiastic desire for the united front of neutral unions, swearing to make his best effort for the development of practical joint action.

Joint actions for the united front are being conducted in each district. The All-Japan Chemical Workers Union Headquarters has formed a joint-action committee with the Lime and Nitrogen Workers Union, assuming an attitude to conduct a joint action in response to the strike slated by the Showa Electric Workers Union last Friday.

The Niigata Chapter of the National Chemical Workers Union carried out a 12-hour strike on 4 June, for the encouragement of the wage-raise issue of the Aomi Plant of the Electric Chemical Manufacturing Company, connected with the Coal and Nitrogen Workers Union. The Miyazaki Chapter of the All-Japan Chemical Workers Union is now taking measures to boost

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ITEM 4 (Continued)

the workers of the Asahi Chemical Manufacturing Company in MIYAZAKI, who are going to enter into an indefinite strike on 25 June.

The most striking example of the joint-action campaign is seen in the issue between the workers and the management of the Yatsushiro plant of the Showa Agricultural Chemical Manufacturing Company at KUMAMOTO in connection with the discharge of 135 workers. To encourage the workers, the Kumamoto Chapter of the National Chemical Workers Union, the Yatsushiro chapter of the workers union of the Oji Paper Manufacturing Company, and the Labor Conference of the prefecture advocated to form a joint-front organization uniting the workers of 14 plants including the National Gas Workers Union belonging to the National Congress of Trade Unions and the All Japan Chemical Workers Union. With the formation of this joint-front organization, a preparatory council for the major chemical industrial unions was created in the Miyazaki Prefectural Labor Conference.

Local Joint Action Planned with NCGPOWU

The national conference of the All Japan Chemical Workers Union was resumed on Friday at the Central Labor Hall. Decision were made on principal policies for financial problems, the production rehabilitation struggle, and the wage issue. Animated discussions were made over forthcoming major struggles in co-operation with the NCGPOWU and over local joint actions. Speakers stressed further steps beyond the present minor joint action. The Democratization League was labeled "antilabor" by the conference.

On the fifth day of the mass meeting, decisions were made on countermeasures for the young women problem, policies for education and culture, and special rations for laborers. The conference was closed after the election of its officers. Prior to the close of the Conference, it agreed unanimously with an urgent motion to urge the dissolution of the Diet and co-operation with the Association for Protecting Japanese Culture.

Printing Workers Move to Fusion

Printing workers are now showing sign of merging. On 15 June a meeting was held for accelerating the fusion of printing and publishing workers unions at the Shizuoka plant of the Government Printing Office. The attendants were 20 representatives of the NCIO-affiliated All Japan Printing and Publishing Workers Union (20,000 members), the JFTU-affiliated National Federation of Printing Industry Workers Unions (3,000 members), the neutral National Printing Office Workers Union (6,000 members) and the Tokyo Federation of Printing Workers Unions (450 members).

Chairman YANUMA of the All Japan Printing and Publishing Workers Union (Itabashi Plant of the Toppan Printing Company) reported the principal policy for fusion, commenting:

"Not a few printing and publishing workers desire a single organization. As the problem concerns workers throughout the country, it is advisable for them to join such a contemplated single union. Then policies for action and the problem for adhering to the NCIO will be decided by the meeting of the new union."

"Mr SEINO (Bunjudo) held that: "We cannot join the Congress and we are not satisfied with the policies of the JFTU. I want to endeavor to go along the line of the All Japan Printing and Publishing Workers Union."

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Chief Secretary YOKOTE, Yukio, of the National Government Printing Office Workers Union, expressed the opinions and hopes of the neutral union, saying: "We want to join the projected union according to the decision of the NCIO and the JFTU."

The meeting agreed to the following:

(1) The National Congress of Printing and Publication Workers Unions (tentative name) shall be established;

(2) Each union shall join the projected union, without leaving either the NCIO on the JFTU, and the issue will be determined by a majority vote.

The four unions which were present at the meeting inyited other independent unions to join the 3 July preparatory meeting for establishing the major union.

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ITEM 7 Nagano JFU Cautious against Communist Fraction Activities - Mainichi (Nagano Edition) - 18 Jun 48. Translator: A. Kawamura. (RL)

145

Full Translation:

The secretariat of the Japan Farmers Union Independence League (NICHINO SHUTAISEI DOMEI) issued a statement on 16 June, refuting charges of non-confidence expressed by the Farmland Committee of the Prefectural Federation of the Japan Farmers Party, which had been made against WAKABAYASHI, reelected acting chairman of the Prefectural Agricultural Committee.

"It had already been assumed that the Communist fractions within the federation would brand WAKABAYASHI as a reactionary element," the secretariat pointed out. "Such action will serve to make all farmers recognize the pressing need of establishing the Japan Farmers Party Independence League.

"The resignation of Secretary HORIGOSHI, and the other four officers, as well as that of SHIOBARA, Youth Department chief, shows the character of the union's secretariat. We must always be on guard against Communist fraction activities within our group so that we will not be misled by their propaganda. It is known to all farmers that the Communist fractions always utilize farmland reform to expand the strength of their party"

ITEM 7 Union-Gov't Committee to Start Collective Bargaining Today - Mainichi - 23 Jun 48. Translator: K. Sato. (UG)

145

Full Translation:

In accordance with the decision reached Monday by the full committee of the National Council of Government and Public Office Workers Unions, Business Director TSURUOKA and other union representatives interviewed Chief Cabinet Secretary TOMABECHI yesterday afternoon at the Premier's official residence.

They proposed that a committee for collective bargaining be established. It was agreed that the first committee meeting would be held today in order to continue collective bargaining.

ITEM 5 JLMO Outlaws Production Control - Nihon Keizai - 20 Jun 48. Translator: K. Sato. (FST)

145

Full Translation:

The Japan League of Management Organizations on 19 June notified the Government and other circles concerned that it feels control of production by labor is illegal. This decision was reached by the League's standing committee as a result of a study made by the Special Investigation Committee.

ITEM 10 Plaza to See Anti-price Increase Rally Today - Minpo - 25 Jun 48. Translator: Y. Takahama (UG).

145

Full Translation:

The anti-price increase mass rally, which was to be held on 16 June under the sponsorship of the Tokyo Area Joint Action Committee, was postponed because of inclement weather.

This rally will be held today at the People's Plaza (TN: Imperial Plaza) regardless of the weather. Participants will assemble at 0930 hours. The meeting will open at 1000 hours, and close at 1600 hours after the parade which is to start at 1300 hours. The meeting will be attended by about 150,000 members of some 30 industrial workers unions in TOKYO belonging to the NCIU, JFTU and all other groups opposing the projected price raise.

The following two slogans will be added to those made public previously:

a) Opposition to tuition increases.

b) Opposition to the Police Officers Discharge of Duty Law.

Originally, the meeting was to be held under the joint sponsorship of the Tokyo Area Joint Action Committee and the NCIU-NCGPOWU Joint Action Committee, but this idea was abandoned.

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ITEM 5 Fukiai Second Union Workers Support First Union Member - Akahata - 20 Jun 48. Translator: T. Tsukazaki. (TK)

145

Full Translation:

(KANSAI Headquarters) - As previously reported, workers of the First Fukiai Plant Workers Union of the Kawasaki Steel Plate Manufacturing Company still remain locked out from the plant. Meanwhile the management and Second Union leaders were thrown into confusion when the members of the Second Union, who remained at their jobs after being forced to join the union, began mass absenteeism tactics at two or three workshops, demanding that their fellow workers of the First Union be allowed to return to work.

There are 2,500 workers in the Second Union, of whom 700 are absent in protest against the company. Consequently, the remaining two-thirds of the workers are compelled to follow the eight-hour overtime system, with the result that the workers are demanding that the Second Union join hands with the First Union.

About 60 workers belonging to the Third Team of the A Tempering Unit (on night duty) resorted to mass absenteeism tactics on 11 June, and about 30 workers belonging to the First, Second, and Third Teams did likewise on 12 June. The mass absenteeism was led by the Reform League and the Kawasaki Steel Plate Manufacturing Company Workers Unification League established within the workshops under the banners of "allow all workers to return to work" and "opposition to the company union"

Negotiations were resumed on 14 June between the union and the management when the company proposed to the First Union on 12 June that it was willing to take part in an all-night session. At the negotiations the company made known a proposal which had been made by the Second Union leaders to the effect that if 120 members of the First Union were discharged, they will persuade all workers to return to work, and at the same time added that it was not the management but the Second Union leaders who strongly contended that workers of the First Union should not be allowed to return to the plant.

ITEM 12 Harbor Workers Present 7-Point Demand - Nihon Kaiji - 18 Jun 48. Translator: M. Hirasawa. (DD)

145

Summary:

The All Japan League of Harbor Workers Unions, which has a total membership of 30,000 persons, held its third national convention at UJIYAMADA Shi in April. After electing officers and deciding future activity policy, a seven-point written demand was passed, which is scheduled to be submitted to quarters concerned on 25 June, with the deadline for the reply set at 1 July. Contents of the demand are as follows:

Establishment of a minimum wage system; establishment of a central negotiating body by the management; enactment of harbor legislation; establishment of a central welfare foundation; opposition to taxation on wages for overtime work; opposition to unjust oppression; and opposition to the establishment of a dispute conciliation organ.

The contents of the wage demand, which is the chief item, are as follows:

Based upon a 25 working day month and on 8-hour day, and dividing working areas into four districts, the wages in the special district, including OSAKA, KANTO, TOKAI, and HYOGO shall be 10,000 yen; in A district, including HOKKAIDO, and KYUSHU, 9,000 yen; in B distirict, including TOHOKU, SHIKOKU and Japan Sea, 8,000; and in C district, including areas not within districts listed above, 7,000 yen.

Ratio of wages within the standard shall include a livelihood guarantee wage of 50 percent for the individual and 15 percent for his family, and an ability wage of 35 percent. The longevity wage shall not be included in the standard wage. Also to be paid outside the standard shall be overtime work and special work allowances.

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ITEM 4 Labor Unions' Finance with a Sound Basis - Rodo - 11 Jun 48.
Translator: E. Sato. (FST)

145

Summary:

Since labor unions are laborers' voluntary organizations, it is proper that they be financially independent. Article 2 of the Labor Union Law, which stipulates that labor unions which depend on employers for their main expenses, are not qualified as unions, is based on this fundamental principle.

Most Japanese labor unions were organized for the first time after the surrender. There were various weakenesses in the system of those unions. The major one was their lack of necessary funds on hand.

In order to accelerate the formation of labor unions, laborers made financial demands and concluded agreements with enterprisers and employers, not only on working conditions, but also on union activities. The agreements were that employers offer offices for labor unions, that labor unions keep full-time clerks to handle business, and that union members will be permitted to use some of their working hours for union activities.

If labor union members think that the establishment of offices for labor unions within the companies and factories and the employment of clerks for the union's business at the expense of the companies and the Government is in accordance with the fundamental principle of labor unions, they are mistaken.

A decision was made at a cabinet meeting to decrease the number of full-time clerks for government and public office workers unions and make it a rule to charge the salaries of those clerks to the unions. We do not object to this decision. However, we fear that the capitalists, taking advantage of the Government's policy, may take steps to simultaneously suppress labor unions. In actuality, some capitalists are demanding that laborers immediately insert provisions into their contracts for the removal of union offices and prohibition of employment of full-time clerks. They are intentionally aggravating the relations between labor and capital.

We take a firm stand against this attitude of the capitalists. It is absolutely necessary to place unions' finance on a sound basis and make unions independent. A certain labor union affiliated with the Japan Federation of Labor Unions pays its full-time clerks a salary on the same level as the wage standard of the company, and union members bear the expenses at 170 yen a month per capita. It is worthy of notice that the union set its wage demand at a level which would permit its members to pay union expenses.

In regard to the matter of union offices, labor unions in the same district must collaborate with one another to construct labor halls as soon as possible. If they have joint offices and manage various enterprises in concert, it is certain that their finance will be placed on a firmer basis.

With the approach of the capital offensive and a drastic hiking of commodity prices, we keenly feel the necessity of promptly placing labor unions' finances on sound bases.

ITEM 4 Labor in Shimane Ken Leads Recall of Governor Hara - Osaka Asahi (Shimane Edition) - 18 Jun 48. Translator: N. Tachibana. (WM)

145.

Full Translation:

An executive committee meeting of the Shimane Prefectural Federation of Labor Unions was held on 16 June at the Public Hall in MATSUE Shi. The Federation decided to take the lead in the recall of Governor HARA and extend a call to the political parties, farmers unions, young men's associations, women's societies and cultural organizations.

At a meeting scheduled for 21 June, a recall-promotion body is to be organized, combining all the anti-Hara influences, and the course of action for the recall campaign is to be decided. The Federation also decided to send representatives to investigate the recent elaborate practice maneuvers staged by the Izumo Shi Police Office, which pretended that 300 labor union members were rioting, for this gives an unfavorable impression of labor. The Federation will further formulate a concrete plan for the erection of a prefectural labor hall and present it to the prefectural assembly session in July.

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ITEM 2 Hokkaido Committee Meets to Oppose Commodity Price Increase- Akahata - 20 Jun 48. Translator: Y. Sato. (TK)

145

Full Translation:

(HOKKAIDO) - The sixth meeting of the Hokkaido Joint Committee for Opposition to Commodity Price Increase was held in the conference room of the Hokkaido Federation of the All-Japan Communications Workers Union at 1400 hours on 14 June.

Communist KIRIYAMA, Tatsuo, a standing committee member, made reports on the progress of the committee. Then a heated debate ensued among the representatives of the Japan Screen and Theater Workers Union, Industrial Rehabilitation Council, Hokkaido Federation of Metal Mine Workers Unions, All-Japan Communications Workers Union, Japan Electric Power Workers Union, All-Hokkaido Public Office Workers Union, National Policy Pulp Company Workers Union, National Revenue Office Workers Union, Japan Express Company Workers National Union, Government Railway Workers Union, All-Japan Coal Workers Union, Hokkaido Council of Labor Unions, Young Communist League, and the Communist Party.

The following opinions were expressed by representatives of various workers unions:

National Revenue Office Workers Union: Utmost efforts should be made in opposition to the budget which sacrifices the country.

All-Japan Coal Workers Union: Not only should an active propaganda campaign be conducted throughout the coal mining camps by utilizing the lower branches of the coal mine unions, but also the Diet members from the labor unions should be made the object of a post card campaign.

Japan Electric Power Workers Union: The campaign which has been conducted in opposition to the delayed distribution of coal from last year should be continued in line with opposition to the increase in commodity price.

The Government Railway Workers Union: Each labor organization should take voluntary action with regard to the concrete measures of the campaign.

Following the debate, the meeting decided to push forward vigorously the signature and street propaganda campaign, in which the Young Communist League is playing a prominent role. It also decided to discuss the concrete measures to be taken for the campaign in opposition to commodity prices increase at the meeting of the heads of youth, women, and culture departments of the various workers unions to be held on 17 June. Meanwhile, a people's meeting is slated to be held on 25 June.

ITEM 4 Playwrights Union Not to Yield to Outside Pressure - Mainichi - 22 Jun 48. Translator: M. Yoshii. (FST)

145

Full Translation:

The issue which arose when the Keio University Students Self-governing Committee protested against HISAMATSU, Eijiro's play "A group of Youths" staged at the Nichigeki Small Theatre early in June, was settled with the substitution of "Kanto University" for "Keio University" in the original play.

Since the "Bunraku Case" arose in OSAKA at about the same time, the Playwrights' Union held an emergency rally at the Tsukiji Drama Building on 21 June and decided to absolutely refuse to make any revisions hereafter in response to outside interference or pressure with the exception of those made voluntarily. The union also decided to handle all such cases henceforth and released an announcement to that effect.

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ITEM 3 Rally of 60,000 Opposes Price Increases - Tokyo Shimbun - 26 Jun 48.
Translator: Y. Takahama. (UG)

145

Full Translation:

On 22 June, the Government made public its decision to increase prices on an average of 70 percent. To cope with this matter, labor union workers held a rally at the Imperial Plaza yesterday and launched a campaign against the price increases.

Premier Ashida confidently said that the present price revisions were effected for the purpose of curbing the inflation and would surely prove effective enough to achisve this aim. But can we place confidence in his statement, when even the employees union of the Price Board, the source of this price policy, has initiated an antiprice increase drive? What are the effects upon the masses?

Popular Mass Rally at Imperial Plaza

At 1030 hours yesterday, the antiprice increase mass rally opened at the Imperial Plaza on an early summer day.

This meeting composed of about 60,000 was held under the sponsorship of the Tokyo Area Joint Action Committee, consisting of unit unions of the NCIU, GRWU, PRWU and others. They cried out for a decisive struggle against the present antidemocratic Government, with their five slogans, opposing unfair pressure upon workers, discharges and increases in railway charges, postal rates and commodity prices.

There was but little breeze in the plaza. The sun was so hot that the majority of the participants covered their heads with towels. Red flags did not even flutter.

At 1330 hours the parade started, and the decisions were handed to the heads of both Houses, the Premier and the Ministers of Labor, Commerce-Industry, Transportations, Communications and Education. At a little after 1600 hours, the parade reached the Music Hall in Hibiya Park (Doolittle Field), where it broke up.

Nation-wide mass rallies are scheduled for 1 July. On that day, union workers will leave their workshops for periods varying from an hour to the entire working day.

ITEM 1 Dobashi Re-elected Chairman of GCWU - Tokyo Shimbun - 26 Jun 48.
Translator: N. Satake. (UG)

145

Full Translation:

By correspondent NASUI at KANAZAWA Shi

The final session of the GCWU Convention at KANAZAWA was held yesterday at 0900 hours. The subcommittee draft (concerning the future campaign policy), which had been prepared at its all-night conference the night before last, was reported to the meeting by its chairman. It was immediately voted upon and passed by a majority vote.

The plan includes the following:

Object of the Dispute: Regarding the present wage dispute, we shall secure the minimum wage base of 5,200 yen on the following conditions:

(A) That the average number of a family (as in April) should be 2.5.
(B) That commodity prices should not be hiked
(C) That no discharges should be carried out.
(D) That the sum should be the take-home pay.
(E) That the right to strike should be secured.
(F) That the job classification system, as advocated by the present Ashida Cabinet, should not be adopted.

Fight for the 5,200-yen Wage Base: In perfect accord with all the government and public office workers unions and in close co-operation with friendly organizations in the respective areas, we shall speedily determine the minimum wage on the basis of reliable data. To extend the fight, we shall make demands voicing, first of all, opposition to increase in postal rates, transportation fares, commodity prices, new tax levees, etc, in order to bring home to the general public the principle underlying these demands.

Further, the proposed amendments to the constitution were approved. Then followed the election of chairman, vice-chairmen and secretary-general. The results were as follows:

Chairman: DOBASHI, Kazuyoshi 436; NAGAOKA, Mitsuji 94. (Chairman DOBASHI was re-elected)

Vice-Chairmen: TAKAHARA, Shinichi 444; HOSHINO, Sakuichi, 291; EBIHARA, Tetsu 279. All three are to remain in office. The election of the secretary-general was to follow, but it seemed that the present secretary-general was favored.

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ITEM 7 Amalgamation of Laborers' and Farmers' Unions a Threat - Sekai - 23 Jun 48. Translator: H. Furukawa. (WM)

145

Summary:

The recent labor union movement has been characterized by a tendency toward the unification of the laborers' and farmers' unions. The left-wing labor unions, such as the NCIU and the Government Office Workers' Union, and the left-wing faction of the Japan Farmers Union, are particularly interested in this movement, and their activities are slowly spreading throughout the country.

The peasants, small farmers and laborers have common interests, being of the same working class. Their positions are far from being satisfactory, despite the land reform and labor legislations. Co-operation between the peasants and the laborers should be encouraged as a means to improve conditions for them and democratize the country. However, it will prove dangerous for both the nation and the classes themselves if the joint power of the two classes are utilized for other purposes. We fear that the movement now rising in our country spells this danger.

The NCIU is regarded by some as a faction of the Communist Party. Apart from whether this view is correct or not, it is widely recognized that the so-called left-wing unions, such as the NCIU and the Government Office Workers' Union, as well as the leftist faction of the Japan Farmers Union are revolutionary in nature, compared to the neutral and the right-wing unions. As a result, the movement for the unification of laborers' and farmers' unions, which is being conducted under the leadership of these leftists, is of revolutionary character. If this movement follows a purely revolutionary course, the result will be serious as it contradicts the principles of democracy.

Democracy does not permit arbitrariness or dictatorship on the part of any class, although it fights for the elevation of the maltreated classes. We must, therefore, be on guard against the revolutionists who are conducting the movement for the unification of laborers' and farmers' unions, while we support the purpose of the movement itself. We must oppose the revolutionists not only for the sake of the nation, but for the classes involved, for we know that a dictatorship by the laboring classes is, in practice, a dictatorship of one or a very few individuals under the title of labor and that the laborers and farmers mechanically follow the dictatorship for fear of being called reactionary or unpatriotic.

This view on the dictatorship of the laborers and farmers may be criticized by many as prejudiced. It is practically impossible, however, for the laborers and farmers, who constitute the majority of the population in any country, to exercise dictatorial power by themselves. To those who attempt to rationalize the dictatorship on the ground that a supreme council or parliament still exists under dictatorship, it should suffice to say that these organs can do nothing but to extol the Government, as they did under the rule of HITLER or TOJO. It is also impossible, except on pain of death, to bind the thought and will of the individual, which change constantly according to individual taste, circumstances, and eras.

The laborers and farmers, who are going to take part in the movement for the unification of their unions, must give these points serious consideration. The intellectuals, who have realized the spirit of democracy, must guide the earnest laborers and farmers away from erring courses. The Government and the local authorities must not hesitate to take steps to prevent potential tragedies. All the people must realize that the struggle against the new feudalism is no less important than that against the old.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

1. ITEM 13 Labor Unions Belonging to Government Enterprises - Magazine: Chory (Monthly) - Jun 48. Translator: W. Takashima. (DD)

145

Summary:

(The following is a summary of a round-table discussion on "Disunity and Progress of Government Enterprises' Employees". - Translator)

Participants were II, Yashiro, member of the Central Labor Committee, DOBASHI, Kazuyoshi, chairman of the central executive committee of the All Japan Government Communications Workers Union, TSUJI, Kiyoaki, assistant professor of law at Tokyo University, UJIHARA, Masajiro, assistant professor of economics of the same university, and MIYATAKE, Kinichi, staff member of the China Research Institute.

Reporter: There is a marked tendency toward anti-Communist activities which, first arose in the Government Railway Workers Union, an organization of special importance among the Government enterprise workers unions. It next appeared in the National Council of Industrial Unions in the form of the Democratization League. Although the NCIU is said to have taken the initiative in organizaing the League, the fact is that it was started by MITSUMURA and OCHIAI of the All Japan Government Communications Workers Union, the largest government outdoor workers union next to the Government Railway Union. A problem appears to have arisen on this point.

II: The basic reason for the formation of the anti-Communist League in the Government Railway Workers Union was that the union was being duped by Socialist intrigues and bribery and the Government's policy of splitting up the labor unions. I believe that the League is composed of three groups, those who do not understand but are instinctively opposed to both Marxism and the Japan Communist Party, or those who consciously oppose them, the unionists who have the economic interests of the workers at heart and those who stand on the side of the government authorities to advocate labor-capital co-operation. In other words, the League is organized by persons who do not hold the same ideas as the workers. They stand apart from the class idea, respect the opinion of authority and tend to compromise the workers.

The Character of the Democratization League of the NCIU

DOBASHI: We think that the first problem lies in the fact that a thorough study was not made to determine whether orgnizing such a league under the present situation would be advantageous to the workers. Frankly speaking, I greatly regret that it was organized at the time when we were just beginning to fight. I know well that Mr MITSUMURA is most sincere, for we work in the same office. But it is necessary to consider that moves to utilize such persons to break, change, or disrupt the progressive union way of thinking are consciously and unconsciously being carried out behind the scenes.

It appears that the League maintains close liaison with the Economic Rehabilitation Council and certain political parties. The Japanese working classes will not be saved by such a League, which cannot ease their living conditions.

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ITEM 13 (Continued)

I think that, under the present situation, attacking the Communist Party will only delay the democratization of JAPAN. At least we must understand the party more fully. At the least, it should be developed to the point where it can participate in collective negotiations in the Diet. If we neglect to do so, the spirit of the new Constitution, which stipulates that Sovereignty rests with the people, will be lost.

TSUJI: The general problem (TN: Seen in the recent anti-Communist movements of the large labor unions.) is that such movements are initiated, not by the union masses, but by the private opinions of the union leaders. In view of the present world situation and the general atmosphere that prevails, we believe that this fact contains considerable political significance. From the viewpoint of the relative importance of the Government enterprises in the Japanese industrial structure, the Government workers' labor unions play an important role in her national economy. Therefore, there is abundant reason for crushing the unions' labor offensive.

Power behind Anti-Communist League

Reporter: In the case of the Government Railway Workers Union, why are the secessionists being supported by the union members, and why do they compose the executive department?

II: It is because the so-called anti-Communistic union leaders are clever schemers. And the present political and economic situation, where the Japanese ruling class and the monopolistic capitalists cannot smoothly settle the labor movement problem by suppressing the unions or bringing them under their control without joining hands with the left-wing socialists, is also one of the big reasons. Such a situation is seen in the Economic Rehabilitation Council, attempting to bribe or buy the union leaders with Government funds.

DOBASHI: More specifically speaking, the Economic Rehabilitation Council has on hand considerable funds contributed by the Government and the businessmen in the KANTO and KANSAI districts. We think, the basic reason why the Democratization League started its activities is related to the purpose for which this fund was appropriated.

TSUJI: The union members of the Government enterprises must have the same consciousness as the members of the other unions. For instance, members of the Government Railway Workers' Union should return their free passes to the railway authorities, for the ordinary workers as well as other Government employees are not granted such a privilege. If a pass is necessary, it should be obtained in a equitable manner in the form of transportation expenses. From the past, they seem to have the feeling that this public facility belongs to them. This is, ultimately, attributable to the persisting feudalistic mind. As long as this state exists, the roots of the tendency to submit to authority will always remain. The union must take the initiative in removing this evil.

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ITEM 13 (Continued)

II: The pass system represents one of the Government's manipulations to lower the workers' wages.

Lack of a Modern Labor Consciousness

MIYATAKE: It is difficult to get rid of their feeling that they are government officials, as long as they are dressed in Government railway uniforms and are granted free family passes. As long as this is not changed, it will remain as a weapon in the hands of monopolistic capital to strengthen their offensive against the workers, for the various forms of granting pay in kind obstruct the unification of the workers wage demands and make difficult the organization of a united labor front.

UJIHARA: We think that a similar situation may also be seen in the labor movements of the other workers. In the enterprise which can give its employees much of their wages in kind, the workers tend to look upon that enterprise as a family.

Reporter: The fact that Government enterprise workers are not paid on the basis of a modern wage system is a problem of great importance. This is naturally inconsistent with Mr DOBASHI's view that JAPAN has become a republic due to the Showa constitution. In this respect, the question of whether or not the Japanese bureaucratic system today is being democratized or whether or not it is inclined toward fascism comes to the front, for this is a major factor in determining the character of our labor unions.

TSUJI: If fascism should rear its head in future JAPAN, it is expected to fully utilize and control the present bureaucratic system in the same manner as was seen during the war where government officials fawned to the militarists. Therefore, it is natural that we should completely do away with the privilege consciousness of the bureaucrats and the bureaucratic system.

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ITEM 3 Union Fights Over-age Lay-Offs in Niigata - Mainichi (Niigata Edition) - 24 Jun 48. Translator: K. Yasutake. (TK)

145

Full Translation:

Personnel lay-offs on grounds of over-age has begun in six city offices and in some town and village offices in NIIGATA Ken. The executive committee of the Prefectural Federation of Self-government Office Workers Unions has decided to inquire into the true motives of the administrators.

In the instance of the Niigata Prefectural Office, the administrators notified the union through the chief of the Personnel Affairs Section on 17 June that they would like to enforce the 58-year age-limit system founded on the labor pact. The union rejected this, claiming that it was mutually understood between them that the age-limit system inserted in labor pact was no more than a formality. It is said that this system has already been enforced in the two cities of SANJO and SHIBATA.

Since this retirement of personnel because of age was exercised almost simultaneously, in the town and village offices concerned, the Self-government Office Workers Union suspects an agreement may have been concluded at the joint conference of administrators held at KASHIWAZAKI Shi recently. The union is probing in every direction to get at the truth.

ITEM 2 JFTU Secedes from NLULC - Tokyo Shimbun - 29 Jun 48. Translator: K. Ueda. (UG)

145

Full Translation:

The Japan Federation of Trade Unions seceded from the National Labor Unions Liaison Council on 28 June.

At the third committee meeting of the Federation held from 10 June, director KIKUCHI of the National Labor Unions Liaison Council reported that the Council was communistic in everything but name, and that the secretariat of the committee for accelerating participation in the World Labor Unions Liaison Council was led by more than 20 Communists and was administered in an extremely undemocratic manner.

Thereupon, discussions were made on whether the Federation should remain in the Council. It was unanimously agreed that its secession would be unavoidable. Procedure and other related matters were left up to the discretion of the standing committee.

At the 15th meeting of the standing committee on 28 June, final decision was made for formal secession, and, together with the issurance of a statement, an announcement was made regarding the present trade union situation.

It is a year and half since the National Labor Union Liaison Council was formed in March of last year, with the objective of unifying the labor front. Now that the Japan Federation of Trade Unions has seceded from the Council, public attention is focused on its increasing anti-Communist attitude.

ITEM 2 Union Reports to Prefecture as Management Reneges Promise - Provincial Paper: Osaka Asahi (Ehime Edition) - 18 Jun 48. Translator: A. Kido. (TK)

145

Full Translation:

The Fujiwara Paper Manufacturing Company's labor union of 21 members, formed in March, in mid-May demanded higher wages and improved conditions in a labor contract. The president of the company made the proposal: "If you dissolve your union, I will give you beyond what you are asking for."

The matter was discussed at a union meeting on 4 June. About half of the members being women who did not understand the labor union spirit, the majority voted for dissolution. Since then, however, the company president gave no indication of doing anything about his promise, so the union at last reported the matter to the Prefectural Labor Committee on the 15th.

The committee found that the company had violated the basic labor laws in using its employees over-time and for late night work. It was decided that the Prefectural Labor Committee would help from the sidelines to lead the union and to educate the employer.

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ITEM 3 Labor Organizations Demand Support of Education Rehabilitation Struggle - Asahi - 25 Jun 48. Translator: M. Odaka. (RL)

145

Full Translation:

Representatives of 10 organizations, including the NCIU, JFTU, Japan Teachers Union, Communist Party, and Democratic Scientists Society, presented a statement and written demand to Education Minister MORITO on 24 June in the name of the Central Education Rehabilitation Council.

The statement disclosed that in the event the government fails to comply entirely with the council's demand for support of Students Self-governing Federation's education rehabilitation struggle, the council will launch a nationwide people's movement, based on the council's resolution of 17 June.

ITEM 1 JFU Files Demurrer against Court Land Action - Tokyo Shimbun - 25 Jun 48. Translator: Z. Konishi. (WM)

145

Full Translation:

(UTSUNOMIYA) - The Tochigi prefectural chapter of the Japan Farmers Union (NIPPON NOMIN KUMIAI) filed a demurrer with the Utsunomiya District Court on 24 June on the grounds that the court injunction prohibiting tenants from entering their own fields is a violation of the Farmland Adjustment Law (NO CHI CHOSEI HO). Direct protest of court action of this nature is rare in this country.

ITEM 3 JFTU's Withdrawal Will Strengthen NLULC - Nihon Keizai - 29 Jun 48. Translator: H. Nakayama. (GS)

145

Full Translation:

Mr TAKAHASHI, director of the NLULC stated the following relative to the withdrawal of the Japan Federation of Trade Unions from the National Labor Unions Liaison Council:

"The JFTU's withdrawal was expected. Since the formation of the NLULC there has been a great divergence of opinion between the JFTU and the majority of the member unions of the NLULC. Most of the member unions advocated giving the NLULC the authority to make decisions on joint struggle while the JFTU tried to make the Council a weak social type of organization. There have been cases where the JFTU's veto defeated such moves as the no-overtime work drive and other tactics which might otherwise have been enforced in the name of the NLULC. It is regrettable that the JFTU has dropped from the joint labor front at present, when a great many labor problems remain to be solved. However, this will help to strengthen the NLULC."

ITEM 7 Fuso Metal Workers' Democratization League Dissolved - Akahata - 25 Jun 48. Translator: M. Fujiyama. (RL)

145

Full Translation:

(TOKAI) - The Democratization League of the Fuso Metal Workers Union, of sub-chapter of the All-Japan Machine and Tool Workers Union, NAGOYA Shi, MINATO Ku, was dissolved on 18 June, unable to withstand the protest that the league's factional activities serve to disintegrate and weaken the union.

When formation of the Democratization League was under way, many union members signed in favor of it, confusing the league with the anti-taxation movement. After the leauge's formation, union members often witnessed league leaders walking home with unsteady gait, after being entertained with wine at the Shinno Dormitory, which is under the company's control.

When the reelection of executive members was held on 21 June, MATSUKI, chairman of the executive committee, and KOBAYASHI and NARUSAWA, executive committee members, who formed the nucleus of the league, failed to be reelected.

Members of the liquidated Democratization League announced that they will form the KAKUSHI DOMEI (Reform League).

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ITEM 8 NCGPOWU Negotiations Broken Off - Mainichi - 29 Jun 48. Translator: Y. Akabane. (UG)

145

Full Translation:

In reply to the government proposal of 26 June, the National Council of Government and Public Office Workers Union yesterday served notice to the effect that the union was dissatisfied with the Government policy of unilaterally laying before the Diet a bill for a 3,791-yen monthly wage, in the course of collective bargaining.

In compliance with union demands, the third round of collective bargaining on the new wage was conducted at the Premier's official residence during the afternoon of the same day. The Government stated, "The Government is desirous of submitting the bill for the payment of a 3,791-yen monthly salary, in view of the impending adjournment of the Diet."

Against this, the union, after consultation in a separate room, replied:

1) A bill for the payment of a new wage should be based on the conclusion reached through collective bargaining and then introduced in the Diet.

2) In the case where a compromise has been reached through collective bargaining, an extraordinary Diet session must be convened.

Thus, the union refrained from making its attitude clear on whether or not it will accept the government proposal for the payment of the controversial monthly salary of 3,791 yen. Instead, it has insisted on dealing with the question from a broader financial viewpoint. The union demanded the presence of Finance Minister KITAMURA again at the next meeting, and the meeting came to an end at 1700 hours.

Although no understanding of the National Council of Government and Public Office Workers Union has been obtained on the bill concerning the payment of the 3,791-yen monthly wage, the Government is determined to present the bill to the Diet today, in view of the impending adjournment.

ITEM 9 Kyushu Workers Plan Wave of People's Rallies - Akahata - 27 Jun 48. Translator: S. Sakata. (FST)

145

Full Translation:

(KYUSHU) - Although secession of the Kyushu District Headquarters of the Japan Electric Power Workers Union from the Kyushu National Congress of Industrial Organizations last April disturbed the unification of the labor front, preparations for the front are still under way with efforts being exerted by the Kyushu Congress of Industrial Organizations, the Government Railway Workers Union, the All Japan Communications Workers Union, the Japan Electric Power Workers Union, etc.

On 21 June, 40 representatives of 26 labor organizations gathered at the Kyushu District Headquarters of the Japan Electric Power Workers Union in FUKUOKA Shi to hold final negotiations on the matter. As a result, the decision that nation-wide industrial unions should directly participate in the projected front and local unions which do not belong to any nation-wide single union should participate through district or prefectural labor organizations concerned was reached. It was also decided that more voice should be given to the chapters to avert the bad example of the Kyushu Congress of Labor Organizations which was dominated by its Board of Secretaries alone.

The labor representatives approved the sending of an investigation mission to the Katsuta Coal Mine and staging struggles to oust judicial officers involved in the illegal oppression of the National Revenue Office Workers Union. Plans for a series of peoples' rallies and demonstrations to be held throughout KYUSHU, beginning with a general meeting of workers in KUMAMOTO Ken on 25 June was also passed. The rallies and demonstration marches will be conducted under the slogans of opposition to the tremendous budget, opposition to raise in prices, opposition to mass taxation and illegal oppression, and overthrow of the Ashida Cabinet.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 1 Asahi Chemical Synthetics Employs Ruffians to Suppress Communism - Akahata - 16 Jun 48. Translator: M. Sato (DD).

145

Full Translation:

(KYUSHU) - A vigorous campaign against Communist activity is being conducted by the management of the Nobeoka Factory of the Asahi Chemical Synthetics Company (11,000 workers) which has been engaged in a dispute over the wage increase demand. The management even resorted to the tactic of organizing a gang of ruffians in order to suppress the Communist elements and the labor union.

The Takachiho Fraternity which has anti-Communism as its slogar, was organized by a part of the employees on 4 June when the dispute between management and labor was becoming acute. All the staff members of this anti-Communist organization are judo experts and are closely connected with Chief of the Labor Section KURODA who is the leader of this organization.

Another example of company intrigue occurred when about 300 graduates of middle schools and higher institutions were newly employed by the company as of 1 April. These newly employed workers became regular company employees after serving one months apprenticeship and consequently became eligible to union membership. However, the company stipulated as one of the conditions for employment of these new workers that they be judo experts above second grade.

Furthermore, the company gave them anti-Communist training during the term of apprenticeship. It is observed that these newly employed workers will become the nucleus of the Takachiho Fraternity.

Meanwhile, 6,000 workers of the Nobeoka Factory participated in the general strike conducted on 7 June, but the remaining 5,000 workers remained in the workshop for security purposes.

ITEM 5 JFTU to Use Dispute Conciliation Organ - Shakai Shimbun - 16 Jun 48. Translator: H. Nishihara. (WM)

145

Full Translation:

The Japan Federation of Trade Unions held the third central committee meeting at the Kanda Public Hall in TOKYO, on 10 and 11 June to discuss pressing problems.

On the first day, following the reports from headquarters, the conference discussed the problem of revision of the labor laws and the formation of an organ for liaison with the Socialist Party. With regard to the revision of the labor laws, it was agreed that the ultra-leftist opposition of the NCIU affiliated unions would result in a quite reverse effect, spurring adverse revision. Therefore, the JFTU decided that it should initiate the move to force out the capitalist plan for the adverse revision by uniting democratic labor unions. It also adopted a proposal to form a liaison organ to maintain contact with the Socialist Party, since the formation of a liaison office between a labor union and a political party is not illegal.

The second session dealt with the democratization of labor unions, reconstruction of the Economic Rehabilitation Council, the formation of dispute conciliation organs, the attitude towards price revision, measures to oppose the introduction of foreign funds, and measures to push the movement to rejoin international labor groups.

The discussion, however, dealt mainly with the union democratization movement, and it was agreed that a powerful national organization to push the movement would be formed in June, initiated by the JFTU, the Democratization League of the Government Railway Workers Union, the NCIU Democratization League, the Japan League of Coal Mine Workers Unions, and the Japan Redio Workers Union, for the purpose of democratizing labor unions and establishing their independence. This agreement introduced the question of whether or not there was room for self-criticism on the part of the JFTU concerning its own democratization move. The prefectural federations of OSAKA, AICHI and HYOGO presented a motion demanding the democratization of the management of the JFTU, as well as other unions, in order to prepare for the future. Heated discussions were exchanged on this issue, and it was finally agreed to push the democratization movements both within and outside of the JFTU.

There was a demand for severe self-criticism over the dissolution of the Economic Rehabilitation Council, and it was finally resolved to restore it. It was also resolved to make good use of the dispute conciliation organ since the usual protest movements would be of no avail. They also agreed to hold a national rally in October.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 1 Labor Union Movement at Turning Point (By Kato, Kanju) - Magazine Shakai Shicho (Monthly) - Jun 48. Translator: F. Tsuneishi. (NZ)

145

Summary:

Although a split in the labor union front is most undesirable in our nation's union movement, it is inevitable insofar as it is brought about by definite difference in policies, such as introduction of foreign capital, revolution through peace or through force, restoration of production, or perpetual strikes.

As disunity is not brought about by boss control, but through difference in policies, it is incumbent on the masses themselves to judge which policy is right. The labor union democratization movements, which lately have been occurring in the various fields of work, are one manifestation of the criticisms of the masses. This movement is being observed as a light showing the way to front unification.

The labor union movement is at a turning point, and, needless to say, the recent severe shifts, shown as follows, demands such a change.

1. The degenerating capitalist class is attempting to strengthen the rationalization of management by desperate capital offensives. The favorable outlook that a relatively stabilized economic condition will prevail, if the present crisis is overcome and foreign capital is introduced, is making the offensives of the capitalists much more intense.

2. The acknowledgement that a general strike is impossible, a lesson learned through the Government and Public Office Workers Union struggle, became a source of self-reflection for the labor union, but it cannot be denied that it has also given courage and confidence to the capitalist class.

3. Along with the deepening of the recognition of the severe inflationary crisis, the fact that increased production is the first prerequisite to overcome inflation has also become acknowledged.

4. With the intensifying of the crisis, a turn toward the right-wing can be seen among the masses. Some are awakening to the fact that if a relatively stabilized economic period is reached now, the labor union movement will also turn toward the right-wing, and there is danger of the union becoming a tool for government service.

The aim of the labor union movement, which at present is at a turning point, lies in advancing in correspondence with development of the abovementioned changes in situation.

of the Socialist Party losing its political power, to be replaced by a parliamentary bourgeois dictatorship. If such changes occur before the union's policy is fully realized, it is clear it would be of disadvantage to the union front.

Democratic unification of the union front is indeed an urgent duty. The workers must realize this fact.

ITEM 5 Niigata Chapter of NCMWU Submits 3-Point Demand - Akahata - 10 Jul 48. Translator: H. Nishihara.(FST)

145

Full Translation:

(HOKURIKU) - The Niigata Chapter of the National Council of Medical Workers Unions decided to stage a campaign to have hospitals belonging to medical organizations turned over to the prefectural governmerrt. It appealed its demand, covering the following three points, to the prefectural labor relations committee:

(1) All medical facilities should be handed over to the prefectural government.

(2) When the transfer is effected, facilities shall not be reduced, employees shall not be discharged or transferred, nor should their wages be reduced.

(3) After the prefectural government takes over these medical institutions a management committee, composed of representatives of all classes of people, should be formed for the purpose of democratizing the management of the institutions.

The chapter is determined to have its demands met.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

SOCIAL SERIES: 2217 (Continued)

ITEM 1 (Continued)

For this purpose, the labor union must comply to the demands of the mass by awakening to this position in overcoming the eminent production crisis and by increasing production. When the capitalists attempt to monopolize profits, although production restoration is in progress, and when no concern is shown in regard to the interests of the workers, the labor union must open a struggle. However, strikes, which involve a contentious method, applied at the expense of suspending production, are not desirable at a time like the present when the economy of the nation is facing a crisis. Instead, a method of negotiations should be adopted, and the Management Council and the Regional Labor Committee must utilize to their fullest capacity.

If strikes are carried out determinedly, they will become rods of steel to bring about a system of people's control of monetary organs and essential industries. This, in turn, will lead to the breakdown of unions.

Thirdly, democratization of unions must be carried out thoroughly, and all important work and the election of officers must be carried out under a substantial democratic method.

Fourthly, the union must fight for thorough democratization of enterprises and of economic control organs, and for participation of the labor representatives in such organs. Only such an organ can prevent monopoly of interest by the capitalists, and can guarantee the utilization of foreign capital for the democratic reconstruction of JAPAN's economy and the welfare of the workers.

Opposing the introduction of foreign capital until a democratic people's government is established is betraying the common sense and demands of the people. The union which adopts such an attitude is only isolating itself from the mass, and becoming the destroyer of economic rehabilitation.

Lastly, the fact must be observed that as economy becomes stabilized, there is a possibility of the strengthening of the conservative front with the forming of a conservative federation, and of the Socialist Party losing its political power, to be replaced by a parliamentary bourgeois dictatorship. If such changes occur before the union's policy is fully realized, it is clear it would be of disadvantage to the union front.

Democratic unification of the union front is indeed an urgent duty. The workers must realize this fact.

ITEM 5 Niigata Chapter of NCMWU Submits 3-Point Demand - Akahata - 10 Jul 48
Translator: H. Nishihara.(FST)

Full Translation:

(HOKURIKU) - The Niigata Chapter of the National Council of Medical Workers Unions decided to stage a campaign to have hospitals belonging to medical organizations turned over to the prefectural government. It appealed its demand, covering the following three points, to the prefectural labor relations committee:

(1) All medical facilities should be handed over to the prefectural government.

(2) When the transfer is effected, facilities shall not be reduced, employees shall not be discharged or transferred, nor should their wages be reduced.

(3) After the prefectural government takes over these medical institutions a management committee, composed of representatives of all classes of people, should be formed for the purpose of democratizing the management of the institutions.

The chapter is determined to have its demands met.

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ITEM 11 Labor Front and White Collar Classes (Shinobu Seizaburo) - Magazine: Shakai (Monthly) - Jun 48. Translator: M. Takagi. (FST)

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Summary:

Newspapers report new capital offensives, which appear as readjustment and unification of capitalistic organizations, as a trend toward the restoration of financial circles. For what purpose and how are these organizations being readjusted and unified?

October 1946 and through the 1 February strike in 1947.

The strengthening of capitalist organizations by consolidating each industry is being planned and, at the same time, regional co-operation among them is being earnestly undertaken. Such a trend can be seen in the thorough unification of Kanto and Kansai financial circles by close and firm co-operation, and the fact that management lawyers' corporation (a provisional name) is scheduled to be established.

Workers Splitting Labor Front

The Tokyo Optical Company has brought forth an anti-communist group. From what class was this anti-communist group born? The white collar class, including clerical workers, in the accounting, welfare, business, and planning sections is the womb of this anti-communist group.

The Broadcasting Corporation Branch of the Japan Newspaper Communications Broadcasting Labor Unions split into three last December and when the second labor union was born, the management executives contributed 500,000 yen. The Government Railways, being large in structure, is much more subject to bribes. At the time of the last Extraordinary Assembly at KAMISUWA, Mr S was presented with 10,000 yen by the Anti-Communist League. Needless to say, he refused.

It is universally known that such money comes from capitalistic pockets and the secret funds of the Government. This is the fundamental character of the Democratization League and Anti-Communist League, and these forces are established through bribery.

Bribery is the most corrupt phase of monopolistic capitalism, and, therefore, the Democratization League and the Anti-Communist group present one of the most corrupt phenomena.

Fascism Growing Up

It cannot be said that presentday JAPAN is being placed under the control of fascism,but there are paths to fascism everywhere. Terroristic control can never be forced in organized workers. In the light of Austrian and German history, there were various regular processes before fascism established its control. Among them were the organization of the middle classes and the emasculation of organized workers through democratic socialism. Then, just when democratic socialism had broken organized workers completely, fascism launched upon crushing revolutionary workers at a stroke.

The democratization movements are pushing forward to fascism. With the progress of these movements, interference, and pressure by armed police are taking place here and there. This is a typical road to fascism.

We place two points before our readers, who are probably not workers. Does the fact that manual workers gain higher wages than white collar workers by resorting to struggles mean that only they are going to live an easy life? Manual workers are struggling for higher wages in order to eat. The reconstruction of JAPAN cannot be expected unless the workers who actually mine coal and operate machines and electric cars are fed. It is necessary first of all to feed the people who are actually working. Otherwise, the lives of white collar workers will never be improved. Let us understand the facts.

The other point is that a new force, that of the working people, is growing up in place of the old regime. This is a new force that will save JAPAN, but if the working people keep snarling at each

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SOCIAL SERIES: 2215 (Continued)

ITEM 11 (Continued)

other, how can the Japanese crisis be tided over?

Capitalism develops at the sacrifice of the middle classes. The position of the middle classes can never improve under capitalism.

The improvement of the position of the middle classes -- white collar workers who are neither capitalists nor workers -- is possible only when the white collar workers co-operate with the working classes in tiding over the crisis. The new society will welcome white collar workers as intellectual, administrative, and technical specialists.

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ITEM 6 Hokkaido Agricultural Association Attacked by Other Farm Organs - Provincial Paper: Hokkai Times (Sapporo) - 25 June 48. Translator: Y. Terasawa. :(TK)

145

Full Translation:

Investigation of a 700,000-yen transaction in SEIROGAN (TN: a patent medicine), in which the Hokkaido Agricultural Association(due to be dissolved soon) and the Peoples Co-operative Party is involved, is being demanded by the Farmers League, the Farm Employees Union, and others. The latter organizations have been severely criticizing the Agricultural Association for not having dissolved earlier.

Last March, the Tokyo Office of the HAA made a contract to buy 700,000 yen worth of SEIROGAN from the Osaka Pharmaceutical Company. The president of the company is AWAMURA, who allegedly left the People's Co-operative Party. However, after 300,000-yen worth of the medicine was delivered to the HAA last May, no further delivery was made. The HAA gave a total of 700,000 yen last spring to Chairman MIKI, Takeo of the People's Co-operative Party (then communication minister) who had received power of attorney from AWAMURA. But the money has not been received by AWAMURA.

Political Deal Suspected

A political transaction is suspected between leaders of the People's Co-operative Party and the HAA. Moreover, it is said that the case may involve campaign expenditures as the general election took place at that time. The Farmers League and the Employees' Union are now demanding that the directors of the HAA expose the truth.

In connection with this matter, HAYAMA, vice-director of the HAA Business Department, stated: "We contracted to buy SEIROGAN after Managing Director TAKESHIGE told me that the drug could be obtained at a cheap price last March. We received 300,000-yen worth last May, but later deliveries were not made on the grounds that the price of the drug had increased. However, we settled the matter through our Tokyo office, and recently it has been agreed that the money will be returned. I know nothing of the details of the transaction."

Managing Director TAKESHIGE stated: "Id did not know that the money did not reach AWAMURA until he pressed me for the money through MATSUMOTO last summer. It seems that AWAMURA did not receive the money. We are now negotiating with AWAMURA to settle the matter. In short, AWAMURA and the HAA are victims of the case. I do not know the past connection between AWAMURA and MIKI, but since then they have not been on friendly terms."

MIYAGUCHI, member of the Farmers Union, stated: "I think we should thoroughly investigate the point that public money belonging to an organization such as the HAA was spent for private use."

Chairman KAWAGUCHI of the Employees' Union stated: "Our intention is not to investigate whether or not the HAA was engaged in unfair practices but to determine the course of the new Agricultural Co-operative Union by investigating the past activities of the HAA. The problem is whether the HAA has acted for the benefit of the farmers."

It can be safely said that the HAA indirectly contributed political funds to the People's Co-operative Party.

ITEM 8 Saitama NCIU Workers to Stage Strike against Price Hike - Akahata - 2 Jul 48. Translator: M. Yoshii. (TK)

145

Full Translation:

(SAITAMA)--The meeting of the executive committee of the Saitama NCIU (membership some 20,000), which was held on 28 June, decided to take the following measures in protest against the proposed increase in commodity prices:

(1) A one-hour strike will be staged on 1 July (by the All-Japan Machine and Tool Workers Union, All-Japan Electric Industry Workers Union, National Rolling Stock Workers Union, etc) or a rally will be held (by the All-Japan Communications Workers Union, the Japan Electric Power Workers Union, etc) in protest against the price hike.

(2) A people's rally will be held about the middle of July for the same purpose.

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ITEM 13 JFU Split Deepens in Nagano Ken - Provincial Paper: Shinano Mainichi (Nagano) - 27 Jun 48. Translator: K. Murakami. (TK)

145

Full Translation:

Chairman OBARA, Yoshimi of the Nagano Prefectural Federation of the Japan Farmers Union (HIGASHI-CHIKUMA Gun), who is being criticized by prefectural Socialists, and AOKI, Keiichiro (SARASHINA Gun), who was ousted from the Socialist Party and the JFU following the formation of the JFU Independence Establishment League for alleged Communist leaning, joined an association of the FU leftwing faction in TOKYO on 21 June.

On 25 June AOKI issued a statement, expressing his determination to fight the Independence Establishment League in concert with his comrades in Nagano. Although ousted from the party, AOKI and his group will nevertheless work together with national left-wing Socialist leaders in a move to purge the party.

Thus as the Socialist Party expansion executive committee meeting scheduled for July and the August JFU convention draws near, a clear line has been drawn between the pro-and anti-Communist factions of the Socialist Party, which have been pitted against each other since the party embarked upon its anti-Communist program. The association issued a statement. It said in part: "Although the Socialist Party is called a workingmen's party, it did nothing for labor after becoming a government party. Far from taking side with labor, the party plotted to split labor and farmers union. Furthermore, under political pressure it has even decided to expel some of its members on the grounds that they are pro-Communist elements. This is a tendency prevailing all over the country.

"We must remain in the party to start the party purge movement. Our association will fight the Independence Establishment League with firm resolution."

On the other hand, in opposition to the united front campaign of the association, the JFU Independence Establishment League is trying to extend its influence over other farmers organizations. On 25 June, its Chairman WAKABAYASHI made a proposal to Chief-secretary KOMATSU of the Farm Village Construction Federation, that a farmers council be organized including the National Farmers Union. The Farm Village Construction Federation will decide its course of action after holding an executive meeting. Since this federation intends to expand its influence in order to strengthen the Agricultural Rehabilitation Conference, it will probably enter increasingly intimate relations with the Independence Establishment League in the future.

ITEM 12 NLULC and NCIU Issue Statements on JFTU Secession - Akahata - 1 Jul 48. Translator: T. Tsukazaki. (RL)

145

Full Translation:

The National Labor Unions Liaison Council, at a meeting of its standing secretaries on 29 June, issued the following statement in regard to the secession of the JFTU from the council:

"We support neither anti-Communists nor pro-Communists. Our purpose is to determine who is really a friend of the working class in our struggle against the capitalists. At the present time, a united front of the working class is most urgently needed. Five million workers remaining in the council will strengthen their unity, and make every possible effort to win the struggle now being fought. It is their earnest desire that the JFTU will return to our camp."

The NCIU, at a meeting of secretaries on 29 June, issued the following statement:

"The JFTU, by exercising its veto, has always tried to quash the efforts of the NCIU and many other independent unions toward the consolidation of the labor front through their joint struggle.

"The JFTU seceded from the council when we urged it to take part in our joint struggle machinery, in which 80 percent of the labor class participated in order to oppose the commodity price raise and the enormous budget.

"We have no choice other than to consider its secession as having contributed to the capitalists' offensive by splitting the labor front. We hope that, on this occasion, the rank and file members of the JFTU will criticize their leaders and eventually participate in our struggle."

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ITEM 2 Livelihood Cooperative Unions Face Crisis - (by Kanai, Mitsuru) - Dai Ichi - 30 Jun 48. Translator: H. Arai. (RL)

Summary:

The livelihood cooperative unions, established since the end of the war, are now in a critical situation due to difficulties in management. What is the cause of this predicament?

First, many of the unions are being managed by unsuitable persons. Union officials, who formerly were bosses in town associations, are blackmarketeering only for their own interests by taking advantage of the name of "consumers union," or are despotically conniving to extend their influence. This situation can be improved and union activities can develop only when union members grasp the social meaning and financial conditions of the livelihood cooperative unions, and union officials and members are of one mind.

Next is a great lack of funds. A share in the unions is mostly 30 or 50 yen; union members hold only two shares on the average. A share in any union in prewar days was at least 10 yen. Since commodity prices at present have increased at least 100 times since those days, the 10 yen of former times is worth 1,000 yen at present. Accordingly, the successful management of the unions with such a small amount is impossible, and the share should be increased to at least 1,000 yen.

Thirdly, the structure of a livelihood cooperative union is almost the same as that of the former town association. Therefore, the union members lack the desire to develop the unions; merchants also are trying to hinder the development of unions.

As mentioned previously, the prospects of the livelihood cooperativ unions are very dark, although we need not take a pessimistic view of the situation. We know of an instance when the dissolution of a union was proposed because of financial embarrassment. The union members voluntarily advocated increasing the working fund to reestablish management, in view of the fact that prices of commodities sold by dealers in the union's neighborhood decreased between 10 and 20 percent because of the influence of the cooperative union.

The general public under a capitalistic economy wants a consumers union. We hope the livelihood cooperative unions will surmount the current crisis and extend their influence.

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ITEM 12 Overthrow of Ashida Cabinet Averred Necessary by NCGEU Meet - Akahata - 2 Jul 48. Translator: Y. Sato. (TK)

Full Translation:

The National Council of Government Employees Unions held its first meeting since its reorganization at the Science Museum in UENO on 29 and 30 June. The meeting was attended by 208 delegates of 21 unions affiliated with the NCGEU such as the Agriculture and Forestry, Commerce and Industry, and Finance Ministries Employees Unions.

As a result of the election of officials conducted at the first-day session, SATO was re-elected chairman and OSHIKAWA, TAKAHASHI and IMAI were elected vice-chairmen.

At the second-day session, they deliberated on the policies for future activities centering around the wage problem, dismissal issue, adverse revision of the labor laws, unification of the labor front, democratization of the government and public offices, etc. After deliberations, they reached a conclusion that, in order to secure a fundamental settlement of these essential problems, the Ashida Cabinet must be overthrown and a democratic government established. The new 5,200-yen wage standard was also reaffirmed as a dispute policy.

An appeal for mediation will be made to the Central Labor Relation Committee on the six conditions for the enforcement of the new wage standard in the name of the National Liaison Council of Government and Public Employees Unions. However, they decided that the time of appeal would be left to the discretion of the joint dispute committee of the National Liaison Council of Government and Public Employees Unions.

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ITEM 10 Kyushu District Headquarters of Farmer-Labor Relief Ass'n Established - Akahata - 27 Jun 48. Translator: M. Yoshii. (FST)

1 145

Full Translation:

(KYUSHU) - A mass meeting for the formation of the Kyushu district headquarters of the Farmer-Labor Relief Association was held on 22 June at the Tocho Temple in FUKUOKA Shi. The rally was attended by some 30 representatives from various organizations including the Communist and Socialist Parties, the Liberal Bar Association, the Kyushu Chapters of the National Congress of Industrial Organizations, All Japan Chemical Workers Union, Japan Electric Power Workers Union, the All Japan Shipbuilding Workers Union, prefectural labor relations committees of FUKUOKA, KAGOSHIMA, OITA, and KUMAMOTO, Federation of Fukuoka Prefectural Chapters of the Japan Farmers Union, Fukuoka Prefectural Headquarters of the Korean League of Japan, and the Fukuoka Livelihood Cooperative Union. After deliberating on the projected association's future policy, directors and councillors were decided.

The meeting passed a resolution on a relief campaign for the victims of the Katsuta Coal Mine explosion and decided to offer support at the public trials for the Takamatsu Coal Mine explosion case, the National Revenue Office Workers Union Saga Chapter case, the All Japan Lumber Workers Union, Kagoshima and Satsuma Chapters' cases as well as to provide assistance in the land owner violence case involving the Sammon Gun Chapter of the Japan Farmers Union.

ITEM 7 Union Leader Charged with Violation of Labor Union Law - Akahata - 26 Jun 48. Translator: A. Ohori. (WM)

145

Full Translation:

(KANSAI) - The Fukiai Sub-chapter of the Kawasaki Steel Plate Manufacturing Company Labor Union has filed charges with the Hyogo District Labor Relations Committee against SAKUMA, Iwao, head of the separatists second union, for violation of Article 11 of the Labor Union Law, which was recently accepted by the committee. It is the first time a union man has been charged with violation of Article 11 of the Labor Union Law.

The reason for this charge is that SAKUMA helped the management to violate the Law by advising them "to discharge 50 workers of the first union." SAKUMA affirms the fact that he made the suggestion to the management, and stated: "Should the two unions be merged before those employees are discharged, the union's control could be disturbed. I ascertained the will of the union members and at the same time merely expressed my opinion."

ITEM 7 Employment Agencies to Be Consolidated - Jiji - 28 Jun 48. Translator: K. Shinoda. (DD)

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Full Translation:

In order to consolidate employment agencies, the Shibaura Employment Stabilization Agency and nine other employment agencies in the Metropolis, which are engaged exclusively in finding employment for day laborers, are scheduled to be abolished at the end of June, and be merged with the 17 Public Employment Stabilization Agencies which will begin from 1 July the work of finding employment, regardless of whether it is temporary or permanent, for the general public, women, or juveniles.

This change was brought about due to the recent tendency on the part of applicants who are suffering from livelihood difficulties to snap at any job, temporary or permanent, and the tendency for employers to prefer temporary employees even for such clerical work as filing cards and making surveys for insurance companies, since they can thus economize in personnel expenses, and also since they can discharge temporary employees much more easily than permanent employees who belong to a labor union.

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Labor Chief Asks Change In Unions

By BETH EVERETT, Staff Writer

Japan's labor unions should be structurally changed to permit monthly meetings of the rank-and-file membership, Richard L. G. Deverall, SCAP's Labor Education branch chief, declared yesterday.

The present structure of many unions makes monthly membership meetings of the rank-and-file physically impossible, Mr. Deverall stated.

"There are unions in Tokyo where the rank-and-file have not gone to meetings in two years. They have had one meeting, an inaugural meeting, elected officers and the officers have run it ever since," he said.

Deverall explained that this situation is caused because "frequently, the local union units are spread over a large geographical area which does not permit meetings of the rank-and-file."

Further, he explained, many of these local union organizations elect or select delegates to attend branch union meetings who in turn report to a central union. Thus rank-and-file meetings, at which education of the workers could be promoted, simply do not take place.

Defending Japan's rapidly growing labor union movement, but at the same time urging increased efforts to educate union members in their responsibilities and privileges, he said, "some people might say it is a fake labor movement. That is not true, it is merely a lack of information on the part of the rank-and-file."

Deverall felt that although much had been done by the distribution of labor media both through the unions and the Labor Ministry, the real answer to education of union members lies in discussion of their problems by the rank-and-file membership.

JUN 30 1948

STARS & STRIPES

NCIU FACTION MOVES TO OUST RED LEADERS

Democratization League Holds National Convention

The need to democratize the Japanese labor movement and to free it from extreme leftist leadership was stressed in a declaration issued by the National Congress of Industrial Unions' Democratization League as its first national convention at Nagoya came to a close Sunday evening.

The NCIU Democratization League's national convention, approved a number of proposals centering on the leagues' policy of organizing workers in its drive against Communist faction activities among labor unions as well as on tactics of pushing its union democratization drive.

A resolution calling for the formation of a united labor front centering around "democratized unions" in the interest of stepping up Japan's economic recovery was also unanimously passed by the convention.

In the course of a debate on the resolution many delegates voiced the opinion that the Japanese workers must positively contribute to increased production programs at their own workshops and that such is clearly in the interest of facilitating foreign investments in Japan in order to aid her economic recovery.

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As the convention got under way, observers were nearly unanimous in predicting that the present meeting would set the pace for other government employes unions in what is generally anticipated to be a new labor offensive for higher wages and other demands in the coming months.

Indicative of tough going ahead, the convention witnessed a lively encounter between the union's rival factions at its opening session over the method of election the presiding officers of the convention.

While all the delegates agreed on public election of the convention's chairman and vice chairman, heated arguments developed over whether the election should be held by single-entry or plural-entry balloting.

A group of anti-Communist delegates moved that if the election is to be held by plural-entry balloting, all candidates running for the convention chairmanship and vice chairmanships make public their political party affiliations.

By a majority vote, however, the convention rejected the motion and decided to elect the presiding officers by en-

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NCWU Meet Opens In Kanazawa City

(Continued from Page 1)

tering the names of three candidates on each ballot.

Kozo Hachiyanagi, of the union's Tohoku district council, was elected chairman of the convention, with Takeo Iwai, of the Kinki district council, and Torazo Shimamoto, of the Hokkaido district council, named vice chairmen.

The election of the convention chairman and vice chairmen over, Kazuyoshi Dobashi, chairman of the union, addressed the meeting reporting on the union's activities since the last national convention at Matsumoto, Nagano Prefecture, early this year.

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fringed upon. Joint action with other government and public workers' unions was also pledged.

Electric Workers Conf...

Kyodo

KAMISUWA, May 31—The national convention of the All-Japan Council of the Electric Industrial Workers Union closed at midnight Sunday with an unanimous adoption of a resolution calling for execution of policies by the newly-elected executive committee.

The resolution provided:

1. The new executive committee replaces the existing central strike policy committee for implementation of the convention decisions.
2. Strike tactics may be used to achieve the convention decisions.
3. Date and techniques thereof shall be decided by the new executive committee.

NIPPON TIMES JUN 1 1948

NCWU MEET OPENS IN KANAZAWA CITY

New Labor Offensive for Higher Wages, Other Demands Predicted

The national convention of the National Communications Workers Union, NCIU, opened yesterday at Kanazawa City, Ishikawa Prefecture, with the attendance of 792 dellegates and Central Committee members, it was reported.

NIPPON TIMES JUN 23 1948

DOBASHI RE-ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF NCWU

Kazuyoshi Dobashi was re-elected for his fifth consecutive term as chairman of the National Communications Workers Union at the last day session of its national convention at Kanazawa City, Ishikawa Prefecture. He won by an overwhelming majority of 434 votes as against 94 ballots for runner-up Koji Nagaoka. The convention also approved a "movement policy" calling for the attainment of a ¥5,200-a-month wage base as the union's immediate objective. It opposed all price increases as well as the raising of the railway and postal rates, and asked for the assurance that the right to strike shall not be in-

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International Labor Body Ready to Include Japan

Kyodo-AP

SAN FRANCISCO, June 22—Sir Guildhaume Myrdbin-Evans of Britain said today the International Labor Organization "will be very glad" to have Japan, Germany and Russia back in the organization.

Sir Guildhaume, a Government member of the United Kingdom delegation to the ILO conference here, made this statement at a press conference.

Replying to a specific question on Japan's possible return to the ILO, he said he believed Japan should come back at the appropriate time. He added he had not yet formed an opinion as to the appropriate time.

The British delegation, he said, is "anxious to see every nation back in the ILO as early as possible."

"Russia withdrew from the old League of Nations in 1940, and since then has not replied to various invitations to return.

The ILO conference agenda this year is one of the most important and difficult in its history, Sir Guildhaume said. Considered on top importance are questions of wages and freedom of association. These will be taken up for the first time by committees late today.

Wages, freedom of association of workers and employers and other important subjects on the agenda reached the committee discussion stage today.

NIPPON TIMES JUN 23 1948

POLITICIANS HIT BY ESS OFFICIAL

Socialists and Communists Said Using Labor Unions As Political Weapons

By TAMOTSU MURAYAMA

The Social Democratic and Communist parties were criticized by a SCAP official for utilizing labor unions as political weapons.

Miss Elizabeth Wilson, Labor Division, ESS, in urging the public to take more interest in the present-day labor movement, pointed to the danger of labor being used for political exploitation purposes. Miss Wilson spoke before a gathering of 1,000 educators and social workers at the Nagata Primary School, Wednesday.

"The general public," she declared, "fails to understand the fundamental purposes of the labor unions since the labor movement is new in Japan. Political parties have taken advantage of the public ignorance and have exploited the labor unions. Even the leaders are politicians in many instances. These politicians have utilized this labor movement for their own benefit and even for vote-gathering purposes."

She also pointed out that some unions are virtually in the grip of the politicians. The unions must be independent from the hands of politicians, she declared.

Miss Jean Smith of the Tokyo Military Government Team, spoke on women's problems in Tokyo in connection with various organizations. She pointed out that the so-called women's organizations, in many instances, are in the hands of men, and they are led by men.

Miss Smith demanded the awakening of Japanese women to realize their own problems for the democratization of this country.

JUN 25 1948 NIPPON TIMES

JFU Moves to Oust Reds

In a significant move, the standing committee of the Japan Farmers Union Wednesday went on recording seeking to eliminate Communist influence within the JFU. The committee vote was 11 to four.

The issue will be presented to the August convention of the JFU for formal decision. In the meantime, the committee decided to work out concrete measures to implement the anti-Communist decision.

The JFU has been generally considered predominantly leftist in character.

Observers said the JFU may possibly be seriously split over the Communist issue. Earlier this week, the pro-Communist members headed by JFU Chairman Hisao Kuroda organized a new group called the "Seitoha Doshikai" (Orthodox Comrades Group) to combat the growing activity of the anti-Communist members.

JUN 25 1948 NIPPON TIMES

TROUBLE SEEN IN TALKS BETWEEN GOV'T., UNION

Workers Pessimistic Over Success of Negotiations

A joint Government-union negotiating committee met Wednesday in an attempt to reach a settlement on the establishment of a new wage scale for the Government and public workers.

The committee was formed as the two parties ran into difficulties at their first meeting on Tuesday.

Union officials, however, felt that the negotiations would fail. They predicted either a series of "short-time" work stoppages from July 1, or a request for arbitration to the Central Labor Relations Board, if the talks reach an impasse.

At the outset of the meeting on Tuesday, the Government representatives made it plain that the proposed ¥3,791-a-month wage scale will be made the basis of negotiation as the 1948-49 national budget has been computed on the basis of the wage standard.

The union representatives vigorously took exception, contending that it is not appropriate for the Government to one-sidedly set the new wage scale at ¥3,791 a month.

The Government was requested to give a written reply by Saturday to four demands presented.

JUN 24 1948 NIPPON TIMES

A 16-point demand including a decision to support the ¥5,200-a-month wage standard being asked by the Government workers was approved

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Red Actions Hit At NCWU Confab

(Continued from Page 1)

for ultimate presentation to the Administration.

At yesterday's sessions ways and means of achieving the demands were discussed.

The union's admission of Communist excesses came after the convention had approved a bitter denunciation of the Democratization League and other anti-Communist groups within the union.

After heated debate, Chairman Kozo Hachiyanagi summing up the discussion declared that the "self-righteous" activities of the Communist fractions as seen in the March disputes with the Government were "in excess." He called upon the pro-Communists to "reflect" upon their actions and to guard against their recurrence in the future. The report was approved by the convention.

RED ACTIONS HIT AT NCWU CONFAB

Communists Went 'Too Far' In Last Wage Dispute; Anti-Reds Also Scored

In a surprise move, the national convention of the National Communications Workers Union meeting in Kanazawa City agreed that the Communist fractions within the union had carried their activities "too far" during the wage disputes earlier this year.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 4 Miyagi Labor Committee Proposes to Stop Tohoku Metal Co Strike - Akahata - 3 Jun 48. Translator: T. Fukushima (FST)

145

Full Translation:

The Miyagi Local Labor Committee which recently dumbfounded labor by adopting the company plan in the personnel cut dispute of the Tohoku Dock Company, proposed on 1 June to halt the strike of the Tohoku Metal Company.

The union of the company's employees had spontaneously determined at a strike committee meeting to stop the strike and continue negotiations with the company while working as usual. In defiance of this, the new local labor committee which was recently given full authority over labor by the prefectural governor disapproved the walkout of the union while intentionally delaying mediation.

The labor members of the committee were attacked by workers for leaving the whole matter to MISHIMA, a neutral member instead of working for solution in accordance with the wishes of labor.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 6 Accelerate Formation of Livelihood Cooperative Union - Rodo - 26 Mar 48. Translator: H. Arai. (RL)

1 145

Summary:

Everyone knows that one of the ways to guarantee labor's livelihood and improve its living standard is to increase wages through union activities and to organize consumers' cooperative unions to aid them in using their wages effectively. With the intensification of inflation, Japanese labor unions have concentrated upon struggles for higher wages, but they have shown little interest in the formation of a livelihood cooperative union. What is the reason?

In the first place, labor unions in this country were convinced that the quickest and simplest way to improve labor's living conditions was to obtain higher wages. Another reason is because formation of a livelihood cooperative union is so unostentatious, union members gave it only slight attention.

Thirdly, since there is an acute shortage of daily necessities and all distributing organizations are under control, an advantageous collection of goods is believed impossible. Moreover, a difficult problem arises as to how to raise a large amount of funds to carry out the plan.

Japanese labor unions deeply felt, by their two years' wage strife, the necessity of increasing substantial wages instead of nominal wages. They realized that rehabilitation of production and elimination of blackmarketing activities would result in bringing an increase in substantial wages. The government also planned to establish an order in the circulation of goods, but this plan still remains unsuccessful. There were various reasons for this, one of which is that the organized labor of 6,000,000 persons took no interest in the program to form a livelihood cooperative union, which aims at guaranteeing the supply of daily necessities to the laborers, too the government failed to lend its support.

The Socialist Party submitted a Livelihood Cooperative Union bill to the first session of the Diet, but the bill was not even studied. However, in the organization of the Ashida cabinet, the plan once again was considered in the three-party policy accord. We hope that prompt action will be taken on the plan. At this time, labor unions should start the formation of a livelihood cooperative union.

From the viewpoint of independent management, labor unions should reinvestigate cooperative unions benevolently established by companies. As for funds, it will be advisable to appropriate reserved funds in excess of legal limits on welfare annuity, health insurance, and national insurance, as working funds of the livelihood cooperative union. While developing the wage strife, we must exert every possible effort to form a livelihood cooperative union in order to improve our living standards.

ITEM 10 Further Complications Arise in Toshiba Workers' Negotiations - Nihon Keizai - 15 Apr 48. Translator: S. Sakata. (DD)

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Full Translation:

Demanding an increased salary of 3,500 yen excluding taxes, the Federation of Tokyo Shibaura Electric Company Workers Unions has been negotiating with the management in the company's Tokyo Office located at the Tsukamoto Building in TOKYO, NIHONBASHI. Meanwhile, 600 union members working at the office have moved into the company's head office in KAWASAKI Shi, since 12 April, complaining that the negotiations over the dispute were so clamorous that they could not continue their work there. In the Kawasaki office, however, there are no desks or materials necessary for their work. Consequently, they are now in a state of sabotage.

The management interprets this action as either disobedience to the orders of the company or a strike action and is prepared to take necessary steps in either case.

On the other hand, the union insists that the action is not a strike action. According to its explanation, the union's demand that a room having a capacity of about 50 men be set aside in the Tsukamoto Building for the union's central executive committee members and liaison members was rejected by the management, a fact which brought about the noisy negotiations. And this compelled the workers to go to KAWASAKI. Thus, the confrontation between them has been renewed.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 1 Labor Unions at the Crossroads - Mainichi - 10 Apr 48. Translator: R. Ishii. (JJY)

145

Summary:

It has been clarified in Premier ASHIDA's speech that the Government has no intention of revising the Labor Union Law. It is highly desirable that the Government does not restrict labor's right to strike, while, on the other hand, workers should be wise enough not to misuse their right. It is still a question whether the right to strike should be given without any control on unions. The labor unions of JAPAN are now at the corssroads.

The right to strike is not as inviolable as some extremists insist. It must sometimes be controlled according to the situation. Controls must be applied when it is considered necessary from a broad social point of view. Many examples for this are easily found everywhere in the world. The laborers in SOVIET RUSSIA are not allowed to enter into strikes. Even in the UNITED STATES the right to strike is limited to some extent by the Taft-Hartley Law when strikes are considered harmful to public interest. The same can be said in ENGLAND.

These facts surely give the labor unions of JAPAN basis on which they can reflect upon their hasty and thoughtless conducts. The right to strike in JAPAN is not especially controlled at present except in the case of policemen and fire fighters. But the extreme measures resorted to by the laborers during the past two years are not praiseworthy. For intstance, the recent strike condeucted by the National Revenue Workers Union greatly surprised the world. The strike of teachers could not gain the sympathy of the public. The strikes of the government employees were halted as a danger to the nation's industry. Management control was ruled illegal. These facts clearly show that the laborers of JAPAN are on the whole not faithful to the labor laws. If the present trend continues, the day when the Government must place broad controls on the laborers' right to strike is not distant.

JAPAN is now facing the same crisis as ENGLAND did at DUNKIRK some seven years ago. Indeed the hope of speedy economic rehabilitation has been given by the proposed introduction of foreign capital, but one must be fully aware that before we can get foreign capital we must first of all show our sincere attitude that we are devoting, heart and soul, to the rehabilitation of our country. The best way for us is to produce real results by increased production of food, coal, and other basic materials necessary for the restoration of the country. It must be remembered that countries that will be interested enough to extend their aid to JAPAN will also be most interested in evaluating the qualities of the country that receives their aid.

ITEM 9 Ibaragi Ken Cell Doubles Membership - Akahata - 9 Apr 48. Translator: A. Kido. (DD)

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Full Translation:

The ISAN Cell in the western area of IBARAGI Ken, the biggest in the prefecture, has, through a rigorous development of the crop delivery and the taxation strifes headed by comrades NOBEYAMA, OTANI and others, succeeded in doubling its membership in the two months since January. Not only this, it is now going to triple its membership. Such an accomplishment deserves special mention. Team Captain NOBEYAMA, Kunai (20 years old) says:

"Like our comrades in AOMORI, we earnestly abided faithfully to the party's program and carried it out. In our crop delivery and our taxation strifes, we fought always mindful of keeping exactly with our party's policy. All the members of the cell have come out openly, and from the start, they have revealed to the masses the whole picture of our party. Today, when we talk of racial independence, most of the youths come rushing to join our party. When in our fight we explain to grown-up farmers the significance of the fight with authority, they can be prompted more easily to join the party than they can to join the union. It is more fun getting the masses to join our party than it is to sit down to a meal.

Comrade NOBEYAMA joined the party at the age of 18. In the two years since then, he alone has persuaded perhaps more than 50 persons to join the party." (MITO Chapter Dispatch)

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

AYUZAWA LEAVES FOR U.S. MEETING

Labor Relations Board's Executive to Attend Social Work Confab

Iwao Ayuzawa, secretary-general of the Central Labor Relations Board, left yesterday from Haneda airport for America to attend the fourth session of the International Social Work Conference.

Having obtained permission of GHQ to travel abroad, Mr. Ayuzawa will proceed by air to Atlantic City where the conference will sit from April 17 until 25. He will bear the message of the Japan Social Work Association.

The conference which had met three times before the war is an authoritative gathering to study world social problems including labor relations.

Interviewed just before departure, Mr. Ayuzawa said: "I wouldn't like to be absent when labor unrest is mounting at home but I shall avail myself of the opportunity offered to study the labor problems in the United States that have undergone such changes since the war, especially the Taft-Hartley Act and other labor legislations, which will be of use to me in the solution of problems in Japan."

APR 17 1948
NIPPON TIMES

BIG CELEBRATION SET FOR MAY DAY

Various Labor Unions Plan Elaborate Program With Parades in City

An elaborate program to celebrate the coming May Day is being mapped out by representatives of various labor unions.

In Tokyo, the program will start on April 24 when May Day songs and dances will be held at the music stand in Hibiya Park. The meeting will be repeated the following day, April 25.

On the eve of May Day, April 30, a "Citizens' Festival" will be held at various unions.

The May Day celebration is scheduled to open at 10 a.m. at the Imperial Palace plaza. Following addresses by various union representatives and musical and theatrical performances, four parades will be staged beginning at 1 p.m. —to Ueno Park via by Kyobashi; to Korakuen via Kanda; to Hamamatsu-cho Park via Toranomon and to Meiji Shrine via Akasaka.

NIPPON TIMES APR 20 1948

May Day To Be Feted In Japan With Festivals

The celebration of May Day will be marked, this year by almost a week of commemoration by the Japanese with songs, dances and festivals predominating, the Japanese press reported today.

The program will begin April 24 with a meeting of "May Day Songs and Dances" at Hibiya Music Stand. The meeting will be repeated the following day April 25.

Various unions in Tokyo are sponsoring "citizens' festivals" at scattered points throughout the city, on May Day eve, April 30.

The celebration May Day is scheduled to begin at the Imperial Plaza at 10 A.M. opening with addresses by union representatives. Following musical and theatrical performances, four demonstrations will be staged at 1 P.M. They will end respectively at Ueno Park, Korakuen, Hamamatsucho Park and Meiji Shrine.

APR 20 1948
STARS & STRIPES

NCIU-GFTU CLASH SEEN OVER FUTURE OF ERC

Showdown Expected at Meeting Scheduled for April 28

The nation's two major labor unions are on the verge of a frontal clash over the question of either dissolving or reorganizing the Economic Reconstruction Council, a management-labor organ on a nationwide scale.

The ERC has been criticized severely for its passiveness in dealing with current problems.

At Monday's meeting of the ERC's standing central committee, members representing the National Congress of Industrial Unions suggested a reorganization but opposed the dissolution of the ERC.

Members of the General Federation of Trade Unions, on the other hand, urged its dissolution and the subsequent creation of a new management-labor organ, excluding the NCIU.

A showdown on this issue is expected at a meeting of the ERC's central committee scheduled for April 28.

ERC members representing the management favored the dissolution proposal.

Observers predicted a head-on clash at the April 28 committee meeting.

APR 24 1948
NIPPON TIMES

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

SUIT AGAINST KITAMURA FILED BY UNION MEMBERS

Penalized Tax Collectors Sue Finance Minister

The six executive officers of the All-Japan Tax Collectors Union, who were discharged for engaging in strike activities, yesterday filed a suit against Finance Minister Tokutaro Kitamura with the Tokyo District Labor Relations Board.

Twenty-eight other members of the union's executive committee whose salaries were reduced by 10 per cent for six months also brought suit against the Minister.

They charged that the steps taken by the Finance Minister violated Articles 11 and 40 of the Labor Relations Adjustment Law.

The union, in the meantime, refused to accept the official notice defining the penalties for the above-mentioned members.

NIPPON TIMES APR 1 1948

LABOR MINISTRY SEEKS TO BACK UNION'S GROWTH

Kato Tells Governors Gov't. Seeks To Eliminate Labor Unrest

Labor Minister Kanju Kato told the governors yesterday his Ministry is charged with the weighty mission of realizing the healthy growth and development of labor movements in this country.

The present administration, he emphasized, is exerting its best efforts to eliminate unrest among working classes.

Touching upon the recent dispute between the Government and its workers, Kato said the current domestic situation requires the settlement of the dispute for the nation's economic rehabilitation.

He urged the necessity of labor's understanding of the prevailing situation and cooperate with the Government.

Meanwhile, the Government revealed it was prepared to loan funds necessary for the provincial governments to pay wages under the new standard. This was revealed by Chief Secretary Ogita of the Provincial Government Finance Committee at the gubernatorial conference.

NIPPON TIMES APR 8 1948

R.R. WORKERS REJECT REDS

Aomori Local Repudiate Communist Leaders in Election

Communist "fraction" leaders in the Aomori local of the Government Railway Workers Union were soundly defeated in the election of officers held Wednesday, it was learned from Aomori.

Of the 43 officers elected, one-half were new men who replaced the Communist and the "fellow travelers."

Under its Communist leaders, the Aomori local hitherto staged a series of "wild-cat" strikes in defiance of the GRWU headquarters.

NIPPON TIMES APR 11 1948

CLEAVAGE OF OPINION IN UNIONS WIDENING

Indecision Seen Holding Up Settlement of Dispute With Government

A cleavage of opinion among the unions of Government and public workers regarding different solutions for the long standing dispute between the Government and Public Workers' Union became increasingly apparent as the negotiations for the 13th scheduled conference Saturday evening were held up by the indecision of the extension committee of the union.

The extension committee which met at 3 p.m. Saturday afternoon was unable to reach a decision until late in the evening as some members of the committee insisted upon the immediate acceptance by the Government of the union's three-point demand while others voiced a much milder opinion.

The unions of Government and public workers appear to be equally divided into two main groups; one demanding the solution of the economic question simultaneously with the three-point demand, and the other expressing willingness to compromise by separating the three-point demand from the pay question.

The Communications Workers' Union has not changed its demand that the three-point demand and the pay question be solved simultaneously. On the other hand, the Finance Office Workers' Union is asserting that after a compromise on the pay question the issue of taking disciplinary action against the leaders should be taken up separately.

Among the unions of autonomous administration workers, a

(Continued on Page 2)

Cleavage of Opinion In Unions Widening

(Continued from Page 1)

voice for carrying out separate negotiations is gaining strength.

Gizo Tomabechi, Chief Cabinet Secretary said at his press conference Saturday afternoon that through the mediation of Dr. Izutaro Suehiro, Chairman of the Central Labor Relations Board, the Government especially approved the new points of understanding at Friday's Cabinet meeting.

He stated, however, that if the union insisted upon the simultaneous solution of the three-point demand and the economic question, the Government would not participate in any further negotiations with the union.

He also revealed that the payment of salaries to the Government and public workers was made Saturday on the basis of the new ¥2,920 scale, but those unions which refused to accept the new standard were paid on the former basis of ¥1,800.

NIPPON TIMES APR 12 1948

Osaka's NCWU Workers Form Democratic Body

The organization of the Democratic Cultural League (Minshu Bunka Renmei) in the Osaka Communications Bureau was announced Wednesday at a conference of 300 communications workers, Kyodo reported from Osaka.

The conferees charged that the National Communications Workers Union is "controlled by Communists," and resolved to accept the Government's new ¥2,920 wage base and to oppose further strikes if the current labor dispute is prolonged. The decision was forwarded to the UCWU's Central Strike Committee.

NIPPON TIMES APR 16 1948

RED NAMED UNION HEAD

Electric Workers Reject Chief of Democratization League

Communist Junkichi Nakahara was elected chairman of the All-Japan Electric Equipment Workers Union, which was generally regarded as the stronghold of the National Congress of Industrial Unions' Democratization League, at its national convention Thursday.

Ex-Chairman Eiichi Ochiai, a leader of the NCIU Democratization League, was ousted by a vote of 220 to 147.

Middle-of-the roaders, Seiichi Shundo and Koichiro Miyazaki were elected vice-chairmen. Communist Michio Watanabe was re-elected secretary-general.

The union has a membership of 100,000.

NIPPON TIMES APR 17 1948

Suehiro Is Reelected

Dr. Itsutaro Suehiro was reelected Thursday as chairman of the Metropolitan Labor Relations Board by committee members. At the same time deputy chairmanship of the board was assumed by Miyoshi Kimura, financial adviser to Nagoya Municipality.

NIPPON TIMES APR 17 1948

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

300 Workers Force Way Into Typewriter Plant

Some 300 workers of the Mita Plant of the Nippon Typewriter Company Friday afternoon forcibly reoccupied the plant's workshop and warehouses from which they were driven out by the police on the previous day following a bloody battle.

The workers defied a tentative court order freeing the company's plants from production control by labor and drove out 20 company officials.

The reoccupation was carried out, according to Kyodo, with the assistance and encouragement of sympathizing members of NCIU affiliated unions, such as the All Japan Machine Tool Workers Union.

Their action in seizing the Plant came after approximately 1,000 ousted workers and sympathizing union members held a mass rally in Hibiya Park.

At the rally, participants drew up a resolution vigorously protesting against what they termed "unjust suppression" of labor rights. The demonstrators, on the conclusion of the meeting, paraded through the streets to the Procurator's Office and the Tokyo District Court, where they presented their protest.

A part of the angry demonstrators then made their way to the Mita Plant, where throngs of other workers and sympathizers were milling about in front of the plant in an angry mood.

Mounting tension among the demonstrators finally led some 300 of the workers to band together under the leadership of their union leader and storm the plant.

The men tore off the court order plastered on the front entrance and smashed their way inside, quickly occupying the workshop and warehouses, amid wild cheering and the singing of labor front songs.

The workers then decided to go to the assistance of their fellow workers now under police custody at the Mita Police Station and other police stations.

They staged two demonstrations at the Mita Police Station, which they completely enveloped. They called out to the arrested men and encouraged them to keep on fighting.

Meanwhile, non-Communist employes at the Mita Plant of the company said yesterday

(Continued on Page 2)

Workers Force Way Into Plant

(Continued from Page 1)

that Communist-inspired workers in the Japan Typewriter Company have been resorting to threats, intimidation and even force in their negotiations with the management.

Non-Communist workers revealed that Shozo Shiromori, 70-year-old president of the company, was humiliated and threatened by the Communist-supported employes in October, last year. They cited one instance in which Mr. Shiromori and other executive officers were surrounded by 800 workers who were made to remain in their office continually for more than 36 hours.

Every attempt of the executives to speak was drowned out by the angry shouts of the workers, they said. Mr. Shiromori was taken ill by this "inhuman and harsh" treatment, these workers pointed out.

Eiji Morita, representative of the anti-Communist group, declared that the dispute was amicably settled in October, last year, but Communist leaders rejected the agreement and entered into "production control."

Mr. Morita disclosed that only 50 unionists are actually involved as far as the Mita Plant is concerned, but about 300 Communist workers in neighboring factories joined the fight against the policemen.

"We cannot condone the tactics of violence and force adopted by the Communists," he said.

APR 25 1948

NIPPON TIMES

Kyushu Union Quits NCIU

The Kyushu chapter of the Electric Workers Union at their conference Tuesday at Hiyoshi City, Fukuoka, decided to withdraw from the Kyushu chapter of the National Congress of Industrial Unions.

NIPPON TIMES APR 30 1948

10,000 WORKERS HOLD PROTEST RALLY HERE

Rap Unlawful Suppression Of Labor Unions

Some 10,000 workers Wednesday held a rally at Hibiya Park under the auspices of CIU affiliated labor organizations to protest against the Government for its "unlawful suppression" of labor unions in the recent disputes such as the Nihon Typewriter, Toho and others.

The unions included the National Communications Workers Union, Machine Tool Workers Union as well as several student groups.

Following the meeting, the workers carried out a demonstration parade in the main streets of the capital while representatives delivered written protests to the Prime Minister's official residence, Diet and the Tokyo District Procurators' Office.

NIPPON TIMES APR 30 1948

Buddhist Priests Ask Right To Organize Labor Union

A strange case which will determine whether Buddhist priests are qualified to organize a labor union is now before the Kyoto Prefectural Labor Relations Board.

The case in question concerns Priest Tatsubun Matsubara and six others performing clerical work in the Nishi-Honganji Temple of the Shin Buddhist sect who attempted to form a union among the temple's 160 priests.

High temple officials promptly issued an order transferring the seven priests to branch temples in Hokkaido.

The priests appealed to the labor relations board declaring that this action violated Article 11 of the Labor Union Law which stipulates that the management cannot take prejudicial action against an employe because of his affiliation with a labor union.

Temple officials denied that the transfer of Priest Matsubara and six other priests had no connection with the projected formation of the union.

Priest Matsubara, on the other hand, is contending that he is being transferred because of his activities with the labor union movement.

Sources close to the Nishi-Honganji Temple alleged that the action of the high temple officials is a move to oust "radical elements" from the Kyoto temple.

The Kyoto Prefectural Labor Relations Board is now conducting an investigation into the unprecedented case.

NIPPON TIMES APR 30 1948

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

RAILWAY WORKERS UNION LEADERSHIP CRITICIZED BY KILLEN

Failure of the national leadership of the Government Railway workers union to control locals which have been disrupting railway transportation in some parts of Japan was scored today by James D. Killen, Chief of the Labor Division in SCAP's Economic and Scientific Section.

Mr. Killen said: "It has been assumed and often stated publically that national leadership of this union constituted one of the more mature sections of the Japanese labor movement.

"Recently, however, several of its local unions, particularly those in Muroran (Hokkaido Prefecture), Shimbashi (Tokyo-to), Fukushima Prefecture, and Osaka, through ill-advised wildcat tactics, have disrupted local rail transportation and injured the reputation and prestige of the national union.

"Under these circumstances, it was expected both the union's national leaders and rembers of the locals involved would take steps toward effectively controlling their own organizations.

"Unfortunately this has not been done. The fact that it hasn't is a reflection on the union's responsibility to the Japanese people. The overwhelming majority of the union's membership expect a national leadership to show itself worthy of the name and to control these local unions."

PRESS RELEASE - AFPAC APR 30 1948

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DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 8 Finance Ministry Employees Union to Re-elect Leaders - Asahi - 15 Apr 48. Translator: Y. Sato. (DD)

145

Full Translation:

Internal trouble has been brewing within the Finance Ministry Employees Union which signed an unofficial agreement with the Finance Ministry, accepting the new wage plan.

At the employees' emergency rally held on 14 April, opposition was voiced against the steps taken by the union leaders in accepting the Government's plan.

As a result of a vote, they passed a resolution to re-elect all the union leaders, including the chairman of the executive committee, executive committee members and councillors.

The election of new leaders will be carried out soon, since most of the union leaders have already expressed their intention to resign. The union's attitude toward the new wage problem will be determined following the re-election.

ITEM 4 Trade Unions Should Have More Flexibility in Bargaining--Kato - Mainichi - 16 Apr 48. Translator: K. Higashikawa. (FST)

145

Summary:

Trade unions have become excessively uncompromising when they should be more flexible in their bargaining, Labor Minister KATO said in a press interview in NAGOYA yesterday. Asserting that trade unions are essentially economic organizations, he stated that it is only right that they leave politics in the hands of political parties.

The Labor Minister said that as long as he stays in his present post he would not revise existing labor laws, adding, however, that he fears he will be compelled to alter existing labor laws if, in the future, the settlement of labor disputes takes such an unduly long time as was the case with the recent civil service dispute.

Labor Minister KATO arrived in NAGOYA at 1454 hours yesterday.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 6 Labor Representatives of LRC Uphold Government Workers' Stand - Tokyo Shimbun - 9 Apr 48. Translator: S. Sakata. (JJY)

145

Full Translation:

The National Liaison Council of Labor Representatives of Labor Relations Committees issued a statement expressing its sympathetic attitude toward the union in the government and public office employees' dispute at its general meeting held on 6 and 7 April at the auditorium of the Ueno Park Museum. The statement said:

"(1) Payment of the new 2,920 yen wage to the Government Railway Workers Union alone and not to the other government and public office employees unions clearly constitutes a violation of Article 40 of the Labor Union Law.

"(2) Although the Government alludes to a violation of Article 28 of the Labor Relations Adjustment Law on the part of the National Revenue Office Workers Union, responsibility for the alleged violation should be shouldered by the Government itself.

"(3) The Public Service Regulations for government employees cannot be recognized under the new Constitution.

"(4) In the dispute of the government and public office employees unions, the Government has disciplined some union members without consulting the labor committees in advance, regardless of the fact that its position is that of a mere employer. This represents an all-out violation of both the Labor Union Law and the Labor Relations Adjustment Law."

ITEM 15 Finance Ministry Union Criticized for Taking Independent Action - Jimmin - 14 Apr 48. Translator: K. Shinoda. (FST)

145

Full Translation:

Representatives of executive members of the National Council of Government Employees Unions, declaring that the independent action taken by the Finance Ministry Employees Union, in signing the 2,920-yen basic wage contract proposed by the Government was a betrayal of the Council in that it created disunity within the organization, stationed themselves at the entrance of the Finance Ministry main office in YOTSUYA from early morning of 13 April. The picket warned the ministry employees coming into the office that such action slighting the authority of the proper organ should be sharply criticized and filed a stern protest with the executives of the Finance Ministry Employees Union.

The aforementioned move was taken when it was revealed on 12 April at a session of the standing committee of the National Council of Government Employees Union that on the morning of 10 April, AOJUKU, Chairman of the Finance Ministry Employees Union, acting on his own authority accepted unconditionally the Government proposal and provisionally signed the contract without conferring with the strike committee of the National Council of Government Employees Unions. The acceptance was criticized by the Council as an action designed to break up the labor front. The Council has decided to set up a board of inquiry in which AOJUKU will be called to account.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 14 Shizuoka Labor Unions Differ over LRC Members Election - Rodo - 23 Apr 48. Translator: H. Nishihara. (GS)

145

Full Translation:

The National Congress of Industrial Organization persists in demanding an unrestricted plural-ballot system or a five-name ballot and group-by-group voting system in the election of prefectural labor relations committeemen. This is an attempt to seek the successful return of its candidates, thus revealing its oppressive and autocratic attitude.

The Shizuoka Prefectural Federation of Labor Unions, which is opposed to such an attitude decided, by means of a democratization campaign of labor union, to abstain from voting, to establish democratic councils, and to expose the trickery of the NCIO.

A conference was held on 27 March at the Shizuoka Municipal Hall to discuss the election system for the Shizuoka Prefectural Labor Relations Committee. At the conference, the Prefectural Congress of Labor Unions proposed the compromise plan of a four-name ballot system, while the Federation of Prefectural Government Employees Unions and the JFL proposed the two-name ballot system. Both of these were rejected, and the voting resulted in the acceptance of the five-name and unrestricted ballot system.

The Shizuoka Federation of Labor Unions held a conference of representatives of 148 unions (about 30,000 members) which would co-operate with the JFL in discussing the problem. As the result of a secret ballot on whether they should abstain from voting, the majority were of the opinion that the undemocratic election system should be opposed and so it was agreed to abstain from voting. A declaration was issued to clarify this standpoint. It was announced that if members of the prefectural labor relations committee should be elected through such an undemocratic system, reliable labor unions would refuse to be held responsible.

ITEM 5 Government Workers Unions Sign Pact with Government - Jiji - 20 Apr 48. Translator: U. Futonaka. (JJY)

145

Full Translation:

The dispute between the Government and the National Council of Government and Public Office Workers Unions reached a formal compromise yesterday.

The compromise settlement of the dispute was provisionally signed on 16 April. In compliance with the council's desire, however, a formal signing was conducted by both disputing parties at the Premier's official residence yesterday at 1700 hours.

The signatories were Chief Cabinet Secretary TOMABECHI and five union representatives--SATO of the National Council of Government Employees Unions, TSURUOKA of the National Council of Government and Public Office Workers Unions, INOUE of the National Council of Revenue Office Employees Unions, and HISHI of the Federation of Public Office Workers Unions. In addition, cabinet ministers will sign separately with the unions concerned.

ITEM 8 Independent Unions in TOKYO to Unite - Mainichi - 14 Apr 48. Translator: T. Ogawa. (DD)

145

Full Translation:

All the neutral labor unions in the Metropolitan area, which do not belong to the established labor union groups, such as the NCIO or the JFL have been preparing to form a lateral union group.

As a result, representatives of labor unions, including the Tokyo Field Workers Union, the Ishikawajima Shipbuilding Company Workers Union, the All Department Store Workers Union, the Tokyo Construction Workers Union, the Mainichi Newspaper Workers Union, etc, assembled at 1000 hours on 13 April at the office of the Tokyo Field Workers Union in MINATO Ku, SHIBAURA.

After discussing the matter, it was decided to establish the Council of Tokyo Independent Labor Unions during the latter part of May. According to the plan, the Council is prohibited to engage in any political activities and its principal object is to respect the independence of each participating union.

It is anticipated that more than 100 organizations, including 100,000 members will join the council.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 4 Riken Ojiya Plant Workers Take Over Production Control - Akahata - 6 Apr 48. Translator: Y. Inouye. (MM)

Full Translation:

(Niigata) - The Ojiya Plant of the Riken Industrial Company in NIIGATA on 28 March announced, as a result of conferences with union leaders, its enterprise readjustment plan which calls for the shutdown of the plant and the immediate employment of 50 workers.

The 110 workers, led by the communist cell members, issued a struggle declaration on 31 March and took over production control. They submitted their case to the local labor relations committee, charging the company and union leaders with violation of Articles 11 and 2 respectively.

The average wage at the factory is only 2,200 yen and, in addition, payment has been delayed for more than two months. Furthermore, production had fallen to such a degree that the company was forced to reject orders already accepted by the union. The union has started on a production rehabilitation campaign, manufacturing farm implements in co-operation with the Prefectural Federation of the Japan Farmers Union and the Nitto Spinning Company.

ITEM 7 Kyushu District League Council Meets - Seinen no Hata - 17 Apr 48. Translator: M. Fujiyama. (DD)

145

Full Translation:

(KYUSHU) -- The Kyushu District League Council held a meeting at KUMAMOTO-Shi on 28 and 29 March attended by 128 delegates and 42 councillors.

On the first day, following the central committee report and the report on the national and international situations, the emergency motion made by the Oita chapter, petition for acquittal and release of two communist members and immediate issuance of a declaration for their acquittal and release, as well as the drafting of a declaration for unification of the Youth front to be sent to democratic organizations of each labor union proposed by the council leaders, were unanimously approved.

On the second day, after the discussion of various problems concerning student struggles, revision of the agreement, election of district committee members, culture struggle, information and education, and unification of the election front, the importance of sound finance for expanding the Council's structure, it was concluded that without a firm financial background they could not uphold the independence of the nation to the fullest extent, and pledged to launch positive activities toward this end.

The first general meeting of the district committee was then held and a discussion conducted on how to thoroughly enforce the resolutions reached.

Lastly, they elected MEKATA, Jiro (TN: Name not clearly printed) as a responsible member of the district committee.

ITEM 5 Rational Wages Control Urged - Nihon Keizai - 29 Apr 48. Translator: I. Yoshinaga. (UG)

145

Full Translation:

With the spotlighting of the Labor Law revision issue, strong pressure for wage control is rising among financial circles, backed chiefly by NAGASAKI, Eizo; SATO, Kiichiro; ISHIKAWA, Ichiro; and MOROI, Kannichi. The economic world's future moves surrounding the wage policy is being watched with keen interest from all quarters.

The opinions prevalent in economic circles can be summarized as follows:

Since the new price structure, formulated last July, cracked under the pressure of the rising wage level, unless some positive wage stabilization measure is taken, it will be impossible to freeze price advances to a reasonable level or maintain the revised price structure to say nothing of a stabilized livelihood for workers.

Therefore, along with price revision must come some measures for wage control. Especially is it necessary that the labor committee decision on wages be based on a broad national viewpoint.

Wage control, in this case, does not necessarily aim at pegging of wages, but seeks to rectify an irrational wage structure.

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ITEM 2 Refusal to Seat Disputing Unions Stalls Wage Committee Formation - Mainichi - 14 Apr 48, Translator: R. Shibata. (TK)

145

Full Translation:

With a view to providing speedy establishment of the Wage Adjustment Committee, the Government sent its final ultimatum on Monday to disputing unions affiliated with the National Council of Government and Public Office Workers Unions demanding a reply by noon yesterday. However, with no reply received from disputing unions by the designated time, the Government, being determined to set up the committee consisting of representatives of unions which had accepted the proposed 2,920-yen wage base, convened the first meeting of the preparatory body of the Wage Adjustment Committee at 1500 hours yesterday.

It was attended not only by ARITA, vice-secretary of the Cabinet, and IMAI, chief of the Wage Bureau, both representing the Government, and representatives of unions which had accepted the new base, such as the Railway Workers, Japan Teachers' Union and the Finance Ministry Employees Union, but also by a large number of representatives of disputing unions including the All Japan Communications Workers Union. The attendance of disputing union representatives was based on their belief that they should participate in the meeting whether or not they had accepted the proposed wage base.

At the meeting, the Government allowed the right to speak only to unions which had accepted the new wage standard while prohibiting a voice from disputing unions. In this manner, the Government attempted to proceed to discussions on the method of selecting committee members. The Government's attempt, however, was brought to failure as even the unions which had accepted the new wage level, such as the Japan Teachers' Union, strongly insisted that the Government should first settle the pending dispute and that only with the over-all participation of unions belonging to the NCGPOWU should the committee be formed.

With the Government's failure in its attempt to carry out selections of the committee solely from unions which had accepted the 2,920-yen base, the meeting was adjourned at 1600 hours. Meanwhile, in response to the Government's ultimatum demanding the unions' answer "yes" or "no" to the question as to their participation in the Wage Adjustment Committee with the deadline set at yesterday noon, the Strike Committee of the National Council of Government and Public Office Workers Unions, maintaining that the committee should embody the over-all participation of all government workers unions, asked Chairman of the Central Labor Committee SUEHIRO, who had been mediating the dispute, to relay the unions' desires to the Government.

Upon the unions' request, SUEHIRO met Chief Cabinet Secretary TOMABECHI Monday night to explain the unions' plan for settlement of the disputes including the previously proposed "three conditions", and to sound out the Government as to the unions' proposal and also to propose resumption of negotiations at the same time. However, he had to end the meeting at 1030 hours with a discouraging answer from TOMABECHI who firmly refused to go beyond the line of the government proposal.

The Strike Committee of the NCGPOWU, hearing the result of the meeting from SUEHIRO, decided to send representatives to the first meeting of the preparatory body of the Wage Adjustment Committee to request reconsideration on the part of the Government. The Government, taking this union move as forecasting a change of attitude toward conciliation, is maintaining a firm attitude toward the unions.

ITEM 1 Metal Mine Workers Threaten to Strike - Tokyo Shimbun - 16 Apr 48. Translator: F. Hagiwara (TK)

145

Full Translation:

The All Japan Metal Mine Workers Union consisting of 75,000 workers has been demanding a wage increase from the Mine Management Federation. The demand being flatly rejected on 9 April, the union decided to go on strike on about 20 April. This intention was conveyed yesterday to Commerce-Industry Minister MIZUTANI and Director SHISEKI of the Bureau of Mines of the Commerce-Industry Ministry.

According to the wage list for workers in various industries released by the Statistics Bureau of the Premier's Office last December, metal mine workers stand tenth in the case of pit workers, and eighteenth in the case of surface workers.

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ITEM 1 Unions Oppose New Government Overture - Tokyo Shimbun, Mainichi - 13 Apr 48. Translator: K. Higashikawa. (FST)

145

Summary:

(TOKYO SHIMBUN)--With the Government making a new overture to union leaders yesterday and demanding a definite reply by noon today, prospects are that development will be made in the long deadlocked government employees dispute. The various unions involved in the present dispute were slated to hold a joint executive committee meeting at noon yesterday to deliberate upon the new proposal.

In the overture, the Government proposed that the unions involved accept the 2,920-yen basic pay as the final settlement of the present dispute, and demanded that they forthwith call off all strikes now being held or contemplated. The Government agreed to pay immediately for January to March inclusive the difference which will bring the pay of these months to the 2,500-yen level on the basis of the recommendations of the Provisional Wage Committee. It further proposed that the Government and all government employees unions jointly organize immediately a special committee for the explicit purpose of formulating a plan for differentiation in pay according to each class of job.

The Government will pay the April wage on 10 April on the basis of the 2,500-yen base, the new proposal said. The Government further stipulated that as soon as the differentiation in pay according to each class of job is decided upon with the consent of the Diet, the balance due, covering January to April, will be speedily paid in a lump sum, adding that the deliberation of the differentiation be completed by 1 May at the latest. It was also said that government employees shall be paid the May wage on the usual pay day on the basis of the new differentiation according to each class of job.

In the new proposal, the Government further agreed not to oppose the following claims when they are made by the unions as a whole at meetings of the New Wage Adjustment Committee: (1) the present ratio of difference in pay according to qualifications shall not be in any way increased but there will be no objection to differntiating pay according to the nature of each job, and (2) all government employees, with the exception of special cases, shall secure 160 percent of the 1,600-yen basic pay.

to divide and rule the unions. The Japan Teachers Union and the three unions within the Finance Ministry reserved their final stand.

DOBASHI, chairman of the All Japan Communications Workers Union and 20 other union leaders called on Dr SUEHIRO, Chairman of the Central Labor Committee, yesterday afternoon and requested him to do "his best" on the question of the organization of the New Wage Adjustment Committee and in connection with the issue of the pay after April. Following his meeting with the union leaders, Dr SUEHIRO called on Assistant Chief Cabinet Secretary ARITA. With the mediation of Dr SUEHIRO, it was generally considered that negotiations would be started last night between the Government and the unions.

ITEM 4 Elected LRC Labor Members Rejected as Unsuitable by Aomori Governor - Yomiuri - 28 Apr 48. Translator: Y. Sato. (GS)

145

Full Translation:

(Aomori) - As a result of the 21 April election for the Aomori district labor relations committee, five committee members were elected--two from the Government and Public Office Workers unions, two from the unions affiliated with the NCIO, and one member of the prefectural committee of the Communist Party. Branding four of the members elected as undesirable, Governor TSUSHIMA refused to appoint them.

The Governor decided to act independently and to appoint persons whom he considered most suitable, irrespective of the number of votes they received. His intention was revealed at the conference with representatives of labor unions, held on 26 April. At that time, the Governor expressed the following opinion: "The prefectural labor relations committee members, representing labor, had persistently forced their opinion upon others, ignoring the views of neutral and employers' representatives. Their action caused the latter group to resign, necessitating another election."

However, since the election resulted in the return of four committee members whose views were opposed to those of the Governor (as had been the case in the previous election) he finally took unprecedented action in refusing to appoint them.

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ITEM 1 (Continued)

In addition to this proposal, the Government yesterday made a verbal representation to each union in each ministry, urging them to accept the new overture and warning that in case some failed to do so, the Government will organize a new Wage Adjustment Committee with the participation of only those unions which have accepted the new government proposal. The representation made by the Government ran as follows:

"Any further delay in the settlement of the already protracted wage dispute between the Government and its employees will not only defer the start of the New Wage Adjustment Committee but will also impede necessary procedures to establish the New Wage Adjustment Committee, and will also delay the payment of the new wage, which will in turn place government employees in a difficult position. The Government does not like to see such a state of affairs brought about. Accordingly, the Government earnestly hopes that the New Wage Adjustment Committee will be able to start its work as speedily as possible. Therefore, the Government desires that all unions involved in the present dispute make a definite reply by noon, 13 April, to the Government's new proposal. If any of the unions fail to accept the proposal, the Government will be reluctantly compelled to organize the New Wage Adjustment Committee with the participation of those unions which shall have accepted the proposal."

Unions Oppose Overture

(MAINICHI)--Opposition to the government overture dominated yesterday's meeting of the joint executive committee of the unions with the All Japan Communications Workers Union and five other unions leading the opposition. They charged that the Government in making the overture before the dispute is settled is motivated by the desire to divide and rule the unions. The Japan Teachers Union and the three unions within the Finance Ministry reserved their final stand.

DOBASHI, chairman of the All Japan Communications Workers Union and 20 other union leaders called on Dr SUEHIRO, Chairman of the Central Labor Committee, yesterday afternoon and requested him to do "his best" on the question of the organization of the New Wage Adjustment Committee and in connection with the issue of the pay after April. Following his meeting with the union leaders, Dr SUEHIRO called on Assistant Chief Cabinet Secretary ARITA. With the mediation of Dr SUEHIRO, it was generally considered that negotiations would be started last night between the Government and the unions.

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ITEM 5 Two Significant Labor Confabs - Tokyo Minpo - 9 Jun 48. Translator: E. Okajima. (UG)

1/5

Summary:

Two significant labor union meetings have been held recently--the Government Railway Workers Union four-day confab at NARA and the All Japan Electric Industry Workers Union four-day meet at KAMISUWA.

It need not be emphasized that these two are the largest among government and public office workers unions and non-government enterprise workers unions, respectively.

The Government Railway Workers Union, having once fallen out of the "common line" of struggle for higher wages, formally declared its return to the struggle of the All Japan Government and Public Office Workers Union and fixed a 5,100-yen base as the new wage to be demanded by the union in opposition to the newly-established 3,700-yen base.

The reason for this is that the former executive staff of the Government Railway Workers Union, led by the Democratization League, has come to be criticized as having swallowed the government-baited 2,920-yen plan and that the Reform Society has simultaneously come to wield control over the union in conjunction with the Communists.

The Democratization League leaders forgot their responsibility of working for the benefit of the working people and devoted all their energies to the propagation of anti-Communist propaganda. As a result, dissatisfied elements cut off relations with the right-wing union leaders and joined the Reform Society and the Communists.

What were the results produced at the Electric Industry Workers Union meeting?

It was confirmed that the 5,358 yen wage base is not the minimum wage but the average wage and that it is naturally erroneous to adopt the sliding scale system on this basis. A new policy, therefore, was adopted that the union would strive for the establishment of a minimum wage system, upon which the sliding system would be based.

What is the significance of these two meetings?

The struggle of labor unions in this country for wage increases has entered a new stage in both government and non-government enterprises.

The All Japan Government and Public Office Workers Unions has established a powerful structure for the "common struggle" on the basis of the two largest unions--the All Japan Communications Workers Union and the Government Railway Workers Unions.

The general tendency clearly indicated they are opposed to the wage system based upon job classification and favor the livelihood wage system.

Although the new budget may pass the Diet, the Government will face a decisively difficult problem in enforcing the 3,700-yen wage base since the Electric Industry Workers Union, which has decided upon the struggle for the establishment of a minimum wage system, will start urging other government and public office workers unions to join it.

What a difference there is between this tendency and government efforts to stabilize wages by setting a maximum wage system!

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ITEM 3 National Conference of Prefectural Labor Representatives to Be Held - Akahata - 3 Jun 48. Translator: K. Shinoda. (GS)

Full Translation:

(Tohoku) - The Liaison Council of the Tohoku and Hokkaido Labor Union Councils sent a written request to the NCIO and all other nation-wide and regional labor organizations for the unification of the local labor fronts. The request was based on the decision adopted at the committee meeting, held on 21 and 22 May at OWANI, AOMORI Ken. The question of investing prefectural labor relations committees with authority is under discussion in every prefecture at present. At the suggestion of the Miyagi Prefectural Joint Labor Council, a nation-wide conference of prefectural labor representatives is scheduled to be held early in June in SENDAI Shi.

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ITEM 3 Revenue Workers Protest Premier's Anti-Communistic Statement - Akahata - 5 Jun 48. Translator: Y. Terasawa. (TK)

Full Translation:

Premier ASHIDA's statement on 20 May that he was considering exclusion of Communists as civil servants is creating indignation among labor union members.

On 1 June, the All-Japan Revenue Workers Union announced its opposition with a statement that such a measure against the Communists who are taking active part at the head of laborers would be the first step toward exclusion of Socialists and then the Liberals. It lodged the following protest against revival of absolute government with the Premier through Vice-chief Cabinet Secretary ARITA on 2 May.

"The Premier declared at the Diet session on 20 May that he would bar Communists from civil service positions. We cannot understand why the Premier made such a statement in the Diet. We civil servants who are laborers have freedom of thought and conscience guaranteed by the Constitution. Therefore, there is absolutely no reason why this right should be restricted by the Cabinet.

"The Premier's intention to eject unilaterally Communists, whose only creed is communism, from civil service in disregard of our fundamental rights can be construed only as a plan to chain our zeal to carry out democratically our public duties and re-establish the absolute, despotic bureaucratic structure of the past, together with feudalistic capitalists and bureaucrats. We absolutely oppose such an unconstitutional act enforced by unilateral will. At the same time we protest in the name of all labor unions and demand that the Premier's statement be withdrawn immediately."

ITEM 7 JLEO Seeks Revision of Business Organization Law - Tokyo - 6 Jun 48. Translator: Z. Konishi. (RL)

Full Translation:

The JAPAN League of Enterprisers Organizations (NIPPON KEIEISHA DANTAI REMMEI), asserting that the Business Organization Bill (JIGYOSHA DANTAI HOAN) imposes a far heavier restriction on management than on labor, voted to seek a government revision of the bill at a nationwide meeting of 60 directors at the Industrial Club in MARUNOUCHI, TOKYO, on 5 June.

The group also decided on the following three resolutions in order to report the progress of the movement for securing management rights in the TOHO Movie Company case:

1. The Enterprisers Organization will establish a Labor Personnel Committee (ROMUJINJI KAI) to work out its policies on the Labor Law revision.
2. In co-ordination with the Management Bar Association (KEIEI HOSO DAN), the organization will compile a written opinion, distinctly pointing out the illegality of production control by labor.
3. In co-operation with Economic Organizations (KEIZAI DANTAI REMMEI), it will study concrete measures to stabilize wages.

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ITEM 9 Tokyo Shopkeepers to Participate In People's Rally - Akahata - 8 Jun 48.
Translator: M. Yoshii. (GS)

145

Full Translation:

The Tokyo District Joint Strike Preparatory Committee is dispatching publicity squads daily in preparation for the "people's rally," in opposition to an increase in railway fares, postal charges, and commodity prices, which is to be held on 16 June at the People's Plaza. On 5 June about 60 members of the All-Japan Communications Workers Union, Japan Screen and Theater. Workers Union, All-Japan Machine and Tool Workers Union, Japan Electric Power Workers Union, Young Communist League, and the Communist Party assembled at the headquarters of the said committee (located at the Kanto Haiden Building at UCHISAIWAI Cho). They were dispatched to the Tokyo Shibaura Electric Co and to the Oki Electric Co Sub-chapters of the Tokyo Chapter of the All-Japan Electric Industry Workers Union, and to the Shimbashi Chapter of the Government Railway Workers Union.

Following the lead of the Shimbashi Chapter of the Government Railway Workers Union, which has already issued strike orders in protest against the unreasonable oppression of workers by authorities and the rise in prices, the Tokyo Chapters of the All-Japan Electric Industry Workers Union and the All-Japan Machine and Tool Workers Union have decided to stage a 24-hour protest strike on 16 June, the day of the rally. At the same time, all labor unions are appealing to the public with signature dampaigns. Shopkeepers in the Metropolis have become so enthusiastic about the rally that they have decided to close all the shops in TOKYO, in protest against the Government on the occasion of the people's rally, and to participate in the rally.

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ITEM 2 The Third Meeting of the JFL's Central Committee - Rodo - 4 Jun 48. Translator: E. Sato. (FST)

145

Summary:

The capitalists led by the Toho management, which staged a systematic offensive, are enforcing drastic steps against laborers in the various working places. They are employing such measures as mass dismissals, lockouts, and oppression of labor unions.

Suggestions made by management in revising labor conventions are extremely reactionary. Moreover, the capitalists are assuming an insincere attitude toward the laborers' struggles for higher wages, toward arbitrations by labor committees, and toward management councils through which laborers can openly conduct collective negotiations and take part in management. It may be said that the capitalists are plotting to realize their ambitions by taking advantage of foreign capital which will certainly be introduced into JAPAN in the near future with the development of the international situation.

The third meeting of the Central Committee of the Japan Federation of Labor Unions, which is scheduled to be held shortly, aims to formulate concrete policies to challenge the political and economic offensive of the capitalists. Let us survey the labor front facing the capitalists' tenacious drive.

Labor unions affiliated with the National Congress of Industrial Organizations are briskly continuing a "labor union democratization campaign," and the Democratization Movement Confab within the NCIO, which has recently increased in power will shortly put its system on a firmer basis and take more positive action. The Japan Federation of Labor Unions held bloc conferences in the Tokai, Seibu, Kanto, and Hokuriku Districts to enlarge democratization movements.

On the other hand, the Communists' fraction movements are becoming more intensified daily. Since the Communists are undoubtedly plotting a third general strike through powerful labor unions, such as the Government Railway Workers Union and the All Japan Communications Workers Union, we must struggle for the democratization of labor unions with a firm determination.

We must immediately launch an effective and vigorous struggle for production and wage increase according to the new situation. If we fully utilize the dispute settlement organs, JAPAN's industry will be kept in a peaceful condition, and our struggling power doubled. Our enemy is the capitalists who are assuming a brisk offensive against laborers and the Communists who are plotting to stem the intensified democratization movements. Labor unions must present a united front and establish positive dispute tactics in an effort to beat them out. In other words, the labor unions must raise ample funds and adjust their lineup so that they and their local chapters and the headquarters of the JFL may stage a speedy, positive, and joint struggle against the capitalists in working places throughout the country. At the same time, the labor unions must try every available means to obstruct the Communists' fraction movements.

New policies to fight the capitalists and the Communists will be formulated at the third meeting of the JFL's Central Committee which is scheduled to be held soon. At present, when the Japanese labor movement is about to take a new turn by rejoining international labor organs, this meeting is of deep significance.

ITEM 2 JCLU Determines Attitude towards Economic Rehabilitation Council - Asahi - 11 Jun 48. Translator: Y. Inouye. (GS)

145

Full Translation:

(OSAKA) - The Japan Congress of Labor Unions recently held its Central Executive Committee meeting at OSAKA to deliberate on what stand should be taken towards the Economic Rehabilitation Council after its split-up. As a result, it decided upon its fundamental attitude towards the Economic Rehabilitation Council. At the same time it decided to secede from the Sponsors Committee, which is led by members of the National Congress of Industrial Unions.

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ITEM 1 NCIU Estranged from Labor Unions - Shakai Shimbun - 9 Jun 48, Translator: N. Tachibana. (WM)

145

Full Translation:

The National Congress of Industrial Unions Executive Committee and its Secretariat have been completely occupied by official and non-official Communist Party members since Executive Committeemen MITSUMURA, KANAYAMA, KIDA and OCHIAI and Secretaries SANNOHE, AKIYAMA, OTANI and OGISAWA tendered their resignations on 17 February, and started a movement to democratize the NCIU. Consequently, the liaison between the NCIU headquarters, which has become, in effect, a Communist fraction headquarters, and the Communist Party headquarters and Communist fractions in each industrial union has become exceedingly smooth. But the NCIU headquarters has been gradually estranged from labor unions participating in the NCIU, and liaison with them has become limited. Because of this, membership fees are not paid punctually, thus causing financial difficulty.

Rumors have spread that the NCIU headquarters is raising funds solely by compulsory sale of papers and publications. Since the NCIU headquarters has adopted a new policy to collect funds by bringing out such publications as the SAMBETSU TOKUHO (NCIU Special News) and the "Guide to Labor Front Publicity Campaigns" and various other Communist-line material, some observers make the cynical comment that it would be more suitable to call the NCIU headquarters the "NCIU News Agency".

Three months have elapsed since the NCIU Democratization League faction broke away. The policies employed by the NCIU headquarters during this time were to push their Democratic Racial Strife and to oppose everything absolutely. On the occasion of the All Japan Communication Workers Union and National Federation of Government and Public Office Workers Unions disputes in March, the NCIU headquarters urged a joint struggle and gave its various industrial unions instructions to go on 24-hour strikes. But 1,500,000 workers ignored the instructions. As the regional struggle policy determined at the second convention proved a mistake during the process of disputes caused by the All Japan Communication Workers Union, the National Federation of Government Railway Workers Unions and other unions, the NCIU headquarters changed over to a unified strife policy. In this manner, the Communist fractions' guerrilla tactics were abandoned.

Communist fractions, who defined the Economic Rehabilitation Council as an organ for exposing and combatting capitalistic economic reconstruction policies, took over the council secretariat and conducted a movement to impede every project. However, as there are indications that the Economic Rehabiliatation Council will be dissolved at the insistence of the Japan Federation of Trade Unions and the

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ITEM 1 (Continued)

Democratization Round-table Conference and that a true economic rehabilitation movement will override the NCIU, Communist fractions have suddenly raised an objection to dissolving the ERC and are now conducting a forestalling movement saying, "The ERC should be reorganized".

With the emergence of the NCIU's ultra left-wing disruptive policies, the National Labor Unions Liaison Council has become ineffective and many Communists who got into the NLULC secretariat have been placed in an embarrassing situation. The NCIU headquarters is finding positions for the Communist fractions who failed to secure positions in the ERC and NLULC secretariats, it is reported.

Recently, the NCIU has been working to unite metal workers into a great union in an effort to cover up the isolated aspect of the NCIU. However, this organization task is not likely to work smoothly under the Unification Preparatory Committee, consisting as it does of isolated organs and fraction councils. The Communist Party's proposals to form a democratic racial front and to oppose the introduction of foreign capital are now being rejected by the general public. The ultra left-wing elements, who were stimulated by the control of production by workers in the Japan Typewriter Company and the Aikodo, planned to set up a joint defense committee and allowed the NCIU headquarters to take the initiative in advocating it by mobilizing Communist fractions in labor unions. However, this proposal was generally rejected. Thus, the great plan to organize red "guerrilla units" (fractions) gives every evidence of breaking down. Where is the NCIU headquarters, a rendezvous of Communist fraction leaders, going? The present NCIU leaders are running counter to the Communist Party's organizational policy approved by the second NCIU convention in November 1947 and the NCIU headquarters' statement that the NCIU is ready to broaden its organization at any time. The fact that the masses are growing in political consciousness will continue to threaten the existence of the NCIU headquarters.

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ITEM 4 Hokkaido Governor Clashes with Labor Unions - Akahata - 11 Jun 48. Translator: M. Yoshii. (GS)

145

Full Translation:

(HOKKAIDO) - A dispute has been raging between the Hokkaido Council of Labor Unions (which advocates the election system) and Governor TANAKA (Social Democrat) who favors exercising his own authority in the appointment of labor representatives on the local labor relations committee. On 6 June the Governor announced his unilateral selection of nine representatives to the labor relations committee, including UJIIE, Tomio (Hokkaido Newspaper Workers Union and the Hokkaido Council of Labor Unions); ARAI, Terutaka (chief secretary of the Sapporo Central Chapter of the Government Railway Workers Union and a member of the Reformed Comrades Association and the Hokkaido Council of Labor Unions); SHIBATA, Tokuzo (chief secretary of the Hokkaido Federation of All-Japan Communications Workers Union Chapters); ODAIRA, Ikuji (standing committee member of the Japan Federation of Trade Unions); and MATSUMIYA, Toshiji (Japan Metal Workers Union). Also, he declared that appointment on his own authority is completely democratic. Thus he has clashed with the Hokkaido Council of Labor Unions.

ITEM 10 Tokyo Council of Independent Labor Unions Organized - Mainichi - 13 Jun 48. Translator: T. Ogawa. (FST)

145

Full Translation:

An inaugural rally of the Tokyo Council of Independent Labor Unions, which aims at the combination of organized laborers of TOKYO who are not affiliated with the National Congress of Industrial Organizations, the Japan Federation of Labor Unions, or Japan Congress of Labor Unions, was held at 1000 hours on 12 June at the Education Hall in KANDA, HITOTSUBASHI. MORIGUCHI, Chuzo of the Mainichi Newspaper Workers Union was elected chairman and YAMAGUCHI, Eiji (All Mitsukoshi) and TAKASHIMA, Shingo (Public Works), vice-chairmen.

After the selection of committee members and a report of past events, visitors, including Mr JACKSON, who represented Mr KILLEN, chief of the Labor Section of SCAP, Labor Minister KATO, and Director of the Metropolitan Labor Bureau HAYASHI, delivered congratulatory addresses. Mr JACKSON stated that he expects the projected council to assume the position of leader for all labor unions. He further stressed that the council should not be influenced by its minority members.

The meeting adjourned at 1600 hours after it was decided that a temporary office be opened at the office of the Sanseido Bookstore Workers Union in KANDA, JIMBOCHO.

The leading labor unions now affiliated with the council are the Metropolitan Public Works Workers Union, the All Japan Automobile Workers Union, the Toho Chapter of the National Screen and Theater Workers Union, the Yomiuri Newspaper Workers Union, the Tokyo Chapter of the Mainichi Newspaper Workers Union, etc, with a total membership of approximately 160,000.

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ITEM 2 NCIU Democratization League Extends Influence - Chuka Nippo - 15 Jun 48.
Translator: K. Shinoda. (WM)

145

Full Translation:

... (NAGOYA) - The Democratization League of the National Congress of Industrial Unions -- a powerful body intent on combatting the capitalists' offensive as well as eliminating communist activities,-- is estimated to have a membership of over 300,000 out of approximately 1,100,000 NCIU members. The Democratization League's strength is arterially extended from within the NCIU into the All Japan Shipbuilding, the Private Railway, and the Government Railway Workers Unions, and the Japan Teachers Union, with a total of 600,000 persons coming under the sphere of the league's influence.

The Democratization League released the following figures representing the numbers of those affiliated with the league in the various industries. Parenthesized are the total memberships of the respective industries.

1) All Japan Communications Workers Union -- 108,000 (357,000).
2) Japan Electric Power Workers Union -- 49,000 (114,000).
3) Japan Express Company Workers National Union -- 55,000 (96,000).
4) All Japan League of Harbor Workers Unions -- 10,000 (27,000).
5) All Japan Chemical Workers Union -- 19,900 (100,000).
6) National Federation of Life Insurance Workers Unions -- 7,000 (14,000).
7) All Japan Machine and Tool Workers Union -- 18,000 (100,000).
8) All Japan Electric Industry Workers Union -- 22,000 (75,000).
9) All Japan Occupation Forces Workers Union --4,000 (30,000).

In addition to these, the All Japan Iron and Steel Workers Union, the National Rolling-stock Workers Union, and the All Japan Printing and Publishing Workers Union each have membership of about 3,000, according to the survey conducted by the Democratization League.

ITEM 2 NCGPOWU to Combat Job Classification System - Akahata - 19 Jun 48.
Translator: N. Satake. (JJY)

145

Full Translation:

In anticipation of the Government's reply to be given on the 19th in answer to its new demands, the National Council of Government and Public Office Workers Unions held on Thursday afternoon a meeting of its Expansion Committee at the Patent Office, TORANOMON, TOKYO. To prepare for its future fight the union held secret discussions on how to more effectively organize and how to strengthen its operations as well as on the various steps to take for coping with the possible development of the conflict

Regarding the future policy, though there were some differences of opinion between the Government Railway Workers Unions, which had recognized the job classification system in the new demands, and the rest of the government unions, which had refused to accept it, the policy of carrying on a unified fight by the NCGPOWU, including the Government Railway Workers, and of effectively squashing the Government's job classification system was confirmed.

As for the wage system, it was decided that the government draft should be referred to a special committee for study so that a final draft can be prepared as soon as possible. The meeting adjourned at 1700 hours.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 3 Democratization League of NCIU Opens Convention - Mainichi - 13 Jun 48. Translator: K. Sato (UG).

T-15

Full Translation:

The Democratization League of the National Congress of Industrial Unions opened the first day of its general meeting at 1100 hours yesterday at the Shinkawa Primary School, near NAGOYA Shi.

MITSUMURA was appointed chairman. OCHIAI explained the progress of the League, and HOSOYA delivered the following speech on its basic policies:

"We have developed the democratization movement, not as one ideology opposed to another as was done in the past by the leftists who attacked bureaucratic dictatorship, but to effect a comprehensive democratization. We will promote democratization within the framework of the NCIU."

This was approved, and details are to be submitted to the executive committee. The meeting adjourned at 1800 hours.

ITEM 7 Akita JFU Organizes Democratization Movement - Mainichi (Akita Edition) - 10 Jun 48. Translator: F. Ota. (TK)

145

Full Translation:

The anti-Communist democratization move in the Akita Prefectural Federation of the Japan Farmers Union, which is dominated by the leaders of the Prefectural Federation of the Socialist Party, has started in earnest with the announcement on democratization issued by the Central Committee of the JFU headquarters.

Socialist Prefectural Assemblymen SEKIYAMA, MIYACOSHI, KURIBAYASHI, KASUGA and others met in the lobby of the prefectural assembly building and held a preparatory meeting for organizing a democratization league. They decided to send instructions to branches and develop the movement fully.

On the other hand, Communist Local Committeemen MIURA, SUZUKI, and KEMUYAMA hold that the union must avoid a split at all costs, and develop a united front in view of farmers' pressing problems such as farm land, labor, taxes, and materials issues. Therefore, the future development of the union is drawing attention.

ITEM 12 AJCWU Accepts Provisional Agreements - Asahi - 11 Jun 48. Translator: M. Odaka. (DD)

145

Full Translation:

(SUWA) - The Convention of the All Japan Coal Workers Union held at KAMISUWA in NAGANO Ken, on the third day of the conference, 10 June, submitted for debate the provisional agreements on wages and on the dispute conciliation organ which the central strike committee had concluded with the Coal Mining Industry League. The meeting was thrown into disorder when motions to defer the decision, and to adjourn the meeting were introduced. Later, however, when a vote was taken on the question of "decision" or "deferment" the count was 59 to 59. Consequently, it was decided that the meeting's attitude should be determined by the vote of Chairman YAMAZAKI. (FUKUOK

The result of the second vote was that those favoring acceptance outnumbered their opponents 73 to 40, (5 invalid) and the formal signing of the agreements was decided.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 12 Tottori Governor Target of Prefectural JFU Clean-up Drive - Provincial Paper: Sanin Nichinichi (Yonago) - 4 Jun 48. Translator: F. Mitsuhashi. (TK)

145

Full Translation:

The clean-up of the Tottori prefectural administration began with a public meeting of prefectural citizens on 30 May at TOTTORI Shi under sponsorship of the Tottori Prefectural Federation of the Japan Farmers Union. It has launched a full-dress clean up drive.

Because clean up movements have gained nationwide momentum and the conduct of the Tottori JFU prefectural federation is gradually becoming a target of criticism of the prefectural citizens, the JFU prefectural federation headquarters decided to attack the corrupt prefectural administration from all angles instead of concentrating its attack on the banquet issue alone so that this movement will not prove abortive.

At present, the prefectural federation headquarters, headed by its Clean-up Committee, is presently collecting informations by mobilizing all its lower organizations. It is said that new facts have been uncovered like the secret slaughter of stock from the prefectural stock farm for the purpose of banquets. At the JFU Prefectural Federation Standing Executive Committee meeting to be held on 5 June at the Public Hall in AGEI Machi, TOHAKU Gun, the above-mentioned new facts will be all disclosed and, at the same time, a concrete program of the movement will be mapped out.

Governor NISHIO's attitude towards the banquet issue is very obscure. At the 2 June session of the Prefectural Assembly, he stated that he hoped everyone would refrain from derogatory remarks and would be willing to overlook the incident, thus implying that he saw nothing wrong with the banquet incident.

Governor May Be Asked to Resign

The JFU prefectural federation headquarters interprets Governor NISHIO's words as a shelving of his own misconduct and a challenge to the federation, and the opinion is rising that some action stronger than just a clean-up drive should be taken. The possibility that the current drive will develop into a movement to demand the resignation of the Governor has increased.

At the 5 June Standing Executive Committee meeting, Secretary-general TAKEMOTO of the Federation will make a serious statement on the attitude of the Governor, it is said. It can be expected that if the committee approves, the prefectural federation will pass a resolution that the Governor fulfill the public promise he made to the General Federation of Farmers (the present JFU prefectural federation), the Eastern Tottori Labor Council, and the Tottori Citizens League in March 1947, when NISHIO ran as a candidate, that anytime the above-mentioned three democratic bodies pass a non-confidence resolution against him, he would immediately resign without waiting to be recalled. Now that the attitude of the JFU prefectural federation towards Governor NISHIO is to be defined at its Executive Committee meeting on 5 June, that meeting is being watched with much interest.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 10 Fate of ERC Still Undecided - Tokyo Mimpo - 10 Jun 48. Translator: Y. Bannai. (GS)

145

Full Translation:

At the fourth meeting of the Central Committee of the Economic Rehabilitation Council on 28 April, HOASHI, Kei, of the Council's secretariat, and GOSHI, Kohei, SHOJI, Takeo, MIZUNO, Nario, TAKANO, Minoru, MITAMURA, Shiro, and other capitalist representatives, together with representatives of the Japan Federation of Trade Unions, walked out over the question of breaking off relations with the National Congress of Industrial Unions. This amounts to the virtual dissolution of the ERC, though no formal steps have yet been taken, nor has the main office notified the secretariat of the dissolution or of personnel dismissals. However, under the auspices of the NCIU and the Japan Congress of Labor Unions (NICHIRO), Economic Rehabilitation Councils in all regions and industries insist upon the reorganization of the ERC on a national basis. Immediately after the dissolution, NAKAHARA, Junichi of the NCIU, HANAZUKA, Shokichi of the JCLU, and delegates from Economic Rehabilitation Councils in the Automobile, electric Appliances, lumber, and other industries, established a promoters' association for the re-establishment of the ERC. The latter has launched an active campaign in various quarters, and public hearings have been held to discuss concrete plans for its re-establishment. The proposal that the council should be re-established on a unified national basis is now being given overwhelming support by the NCIU, neutral labor unions, all regional and industrial Economic Rehabilitation Councils, and the National Federation of Manufacturers (ZENKOKU CHUSHO KOGYO REMMEI).

The promoters' association, after reaffirming the following three principles at its 5 June liaison meeting, informed Chairman SUZUKI (of the ERC) of its insistence upon national unification.

1. The ERC should be made an organ for the development of a Nation-wide, peoples' movement; 2. The ERC should be re-established in accordance with the true conditions within each industry; 3. Dissolution of the ERC should be prevented.

The association will continue its active campaign in many quarters. On the other hand, even among members of the three economic organizations, the JFTU, and the Democratization League (MINSHUKA DOMEI), the opinion is gaining ground that the ERC should be unified on a national basis. However, this campaign is not very active, and the aversion to the NCIU is still prevalent.

Such right-wingers as HARA, KONO, and KIKUKAWA, as well as the leftist faction of the JFTU, are reportedly trying to re-establish the ERC on the basis of industrial peace, in co-operation with the Democratization League and capitalists.

The Economic Friends Society, whose members insisted upon the dissolution of the ERC, made it clear, at its national meeting, held at UJIYAMADA at the end of May, that the dissolution was based upon the private opinions of GOSHI and others, and that it did not reflect the opinion of the entire Society. It then suggested alternative remedies to the Japan Federation of Enterprisers' Organizations (NICHI KEIREN). The Japan Industrial Council (NISSANKYO) also decided, at a committee meeting, to re-establish the ERC, admitting that its dissolution was premature. In both cases, however, opinion is divided concerning the question of how to deal with the NCIU; consequently, their campaign is quite passive. Those favoring the dissolution now intend to re-establish the ERC on an entirely new basis, after liquidating the present Council, by doing away with the secretariat and freezing all funds.

It is said that this move aims at obtaining NISHIO's assistance, through the influence of certain capitalists, for the council's re-establishment. Thus the strife between those favoring dissolution and those advocating unification will become even more intense.

The main office had neglected to formally notify the secretariat of dissolution and dismissal since the break-up of the ERC, it paid only one-third of the May salaries, and it appears to be forcing employees to resign, without taking adequate measures. Therefore, the employees' union of the ERC secretariat, charging the main office with irresponsibility, submitted the following four-point demand to chairman SUZUKI, requesting, at the same time, a responsible reply by 1200 hours of 10 June.

1. Immediate payment of May salaries; 2. Preparation for the payment of June salaries; 3. Establishment of a retirement allowance system; 4. Creation of an organ for the democratic liquidation of the ERC.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 7 Start of Farm-Labor Liaison Council - Akahata - 13 Jun 48.
Translator: J. Wada. (JJY)

Full Translation:

The launching of the Farm-Labor Liaison Council on 9 June represents a major political advance of this country's organized workers and farmers. Excppt for the Japan Federation of Trade Unions, all large labor organizations, including the National Congress of Industrial Organizations, the National Council of Government and Public Office Workers Unions, neutral unions, the Japan Congress of Labor Unions, and the Japan Farmers Union, participated in this council together with more than 20 Diet members from the Communist and Socialist parties and the independent camp.

As is clarified in the announcement, this advance has been attained as the result of severe self-criticism of the weak connection between mass movements and activities within the Diet which was revealed in the recent government and public office workers' dispute.

At the time of the downfall of the Shidehara Cabinet and the holding of the four-party conferences, these mass organizations demanded a Communist-Socialist popular front cabinet with active moves within the Diet and the encouragement of the headquarters of the parties concerned. Before the 1 February dispute, a segment of the Socialist Party was closely connected with our party and all popular movements were mustered under the Committee for the Downfall of the Yoshida Cabinet. However, since the leaders of the Socialist Party became more conciliatory with the conservative forces and more anti-Communist inclined, the connection between the farm-labor organizations and the Diet weakened remarkably. This is evidence that the Socialist Party played the part of dulling the political sense of the masses and of hampering the development of a sharp class-consciousness.

The moves of the Katayama Cabinet during its eight months' term of office and of the Ashida Cabinet have given the people an object lesson in antisocial administration and have revealed the willingness of the Socialist Party. It is now clear that even the most trivial matters of our daily life cannot be solved without being made a political issue. Workers, farmers, and city-dwellers are showing the greatest concern over politics.

It is undisputably the efforts of the Communist Party which has guided the masses in this direction. This fact is indicated by the kind of problems which was brought up before the Farm-Labor Liaison Council meeting. These problems are all earnest demands of the working masses, including opposition to the 3,700 yen wage scale, demand for a net income of 5,200 yen in terms of April prices, opposition to dismissal because of administrative reorganization, and demand for increased budget appropriations for the 6-3 school system. However, all these demands cannot but contradict outright the policy of the present Cabinet and this fiscal year's budget.

Labor and farmer organizations have begun to put into practice the lesson that none of the problems can be solved without connecting popular movements with activities within the Diet. This is a development in the consciousness of authority.

It was decided that a special budget and wage committee will be created to formulate a policy of struggle within the Diet. This means that the wage struggle has expanded its sphere into the National Diet. Further, the unification of the farmers' front by the JFU's establishing the principle of freedom to choose any political party was decided.

These are earnest demands of the working masses and are most feared by the ruling class and the Ashida Cabinet. It is natural that only about 20 Diet members joined the council from the Democratic Party and the Socialist Party, which follow monopolistic capital. The demands of the labor and farmer organizations are utterly incompatible with the policy of the Ashida Cabinet. Therefore, as the masses strengthen their unity and solidarity and elevate their political sense, factions of the Socialist Party will be compelled to choose between continuing to follow in the wake of the Democrats and severing relations with the conservative forces to fight side by side with the masses.

It is our desire that all democratic forces and patriots will exert themselves to overcome the existing crisis by co-operating with the masses.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 2 Ashida Refuses to Hear Gov't Unions' Cabinet Resignation Demand - Akahata - 15 Jun 48. Translator: J. Ide. (GS)

1/45

Full Translation:

Premier ASHIDA and Chief Cabinet Secretary TOMABECHI held an interview Saturday, in the Diet Building, with the following: DOBASHI, All-Japan Communications Workers Union; SUZUKI, Government Railway Workers Union; SATO, National Council of Government Office Employees Unions; SUGIMURA, National Revenue Office Workers Union; HISHI, Japan Federation of Public Office Workers Unions; ISHIDA, Federation of the Finance Ministry Mint, Printing, and Monopoly Bureau Workers Union; HARADA, Federation of Tokyo Metropolitan Office Workers Unions; and eight other union leaders, representing the National Liaison Council of Government and Public Office Workers Unions. These union representatives presented demands for establishment of the 5,200-yen wage base and a resolution calling for the resignation of the Ashida Cabinet.

Chairman DOBASHI of the All-Japan Communications Workers Union read the demands and presented them to the Premier. In the middle of the anti-Government resolution, which was adopted at a conference of NLCGPOU representatives on the previous day, the hitherto calm Premier ASHIDA paled when the part was read which called for the downfall of the Ashida Cabinet. Then the Premier roared "I cannot accept such a proposal. This is a political movement, started by labor unions, which violates the Labor Union Law." He stood up, stumbled against a chair, barged through the press corps, and fled the chamber.

ITEM 5 Anti-Price Increase Rally at Plaza Tomorrow - Akahata - 15 Jun 48. Translator: Y. Takahama. (GS)

1/45

Full Translation:

Popular Mass meetings opposing price increases will be held tomorrow at the People's Plaza (TN: Imperial Plaza to non-Akahata readers), TOKYO, and in KAMONYAMA, HOKKIAMA. Observers feel that the power of the laborers and citizens assembled at these meetings will affect the present political crisis to a large extent. Sunday, the Tokyo Area Joint Action Preparatory Committee of the Kanto Electric Power Distribution Company, SHIMBASHI, TOKYO, selected as its principal slogans the following:

1. Establishment of a minimum wage scale; 2. Opposition to increases in commodity prices, railway fares, communication charges, and school fees; 3. A united labor front.

The schedule of the meeting in TOKYO is as follows: Assemble at People's Plaza--1000 hours; Meeting opens--1030 hours; Demonstration parade-1330 hours; Parade route-People's Plaza, Diet Building, Shiba Park. Negotiations with the Government, as well as with the Diet, will be conducted in co-operation with the Kanagawa rally.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 2 Warm Welcome Given Released Japan Typewriter Workers - Akahata - 12 Jun 48. Translator: A. Ohori. (FST)

145

Full Translation:

The Japan Typewriter Manufacturing Company Workers' Union is considered the stronghold of laborers fighting the Ashida cabinet's oppressive policy. Fifty-four brave fighters belonging to this union were released temporarily from the Tokyo Prison at KOSUGE after 50 days of detention at 1650 hours on 9 June.

The rest of the union members, who had fought increasing difficulties in their livelihood, during the absence of these men, by engaging in peddling, also greeted this happy day. Impatiently, they awaited 1600 hours, the appointed hour for the release of the men. Many friendly groups also arrived, one after another, to fill the open space in front of the main entrance to the prison. Among them were IWATA, Eiichi, Communist member of the Metropolitan Assembly; the wife of a Communist Party Central Executive Committee member, KAMIYAMA, Shigeo; and HIRANO, Kimi, Wife of HIRANO, Juhi of the Mita Factory and her three children, Kimiharu, 10, Haruyuki, 8, Yumiko, 3.

Kimi, remarked: "As we live at the dormitory, it is difficult to engage in peddling. However, all of the union members are working hard even in spite of illnesses, for the benefit of the people in jail. They offered us kind assistance in our livelihood difficulties."

Beside her stood a young woman, OYAMA, Sakako, fiancee of UOTANI, Junichi, of the Hatagaya factory one of those he released. A 60-year old Communist member, HARA, Hichinosuke teased the girl: "When I met UOTANI at an interview, he had a grisly face. He told me be could not wait for his first smoke when he got out. Did you bring cigarettes?"

At 1650 hours, about one hour behind schedule, the first group, UOTANI and about ten others came out guided by guards. Cheers arose. People repeatedly cried: "Thank you!" "Thank you!"

Immediately following the first group, the second group composed of MIDORIKAWA, Kishio and others appeared. "Here's tobacco!" "How about a cigarette!"

UOTANI lighted one and remarked: "I can't seem to taste it." MIURA and two other victims embraced one another saying "What a good experience."

Welcomed with red flags and applause all 54 showed up. ICHIKAWA, Motohide, of the Relief Association on behalf of the Defence Committee delivered a speech of welcome, and KOIZUMI of the Japan Typewriter Workers Union Central Executive Committee responded, Lawyer FUKUDA of the Liberal Bar Association and OTA, president of the Relief Association also delivered addresses. In front of the main gate, the gathering linked arms and began a march with the Japan Typewriter Workers, going first, the victims next, their families, the Defence Committee, and other friendly parties following, singing the "Internationale" in chorus. At the Ayase Station, they disbanded.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 5 Central PO Workers to Back 20% Personnel Cut - Akahata - 12 Jun 48.
Translator: K. Yasutake. (FST)

145

Full Translation:

On 9 June, Chief ARAMAKI of the Planning Section and Chief AZUMA of the Working Section of the Communications Ministry called on the Tokyo Central Post Office Chapter of the Tokyo District Council of the All Japan Communications Workers Union and told union members that 20 percent of the Central Post Office workers engaged in postal work can be reassigned and that the remaining 80 percent will be sufficient to run the business. They intimated that the 20 percent would be dismissed. The two chiefs left, saying that any steps taken would be taken upon consultation with each section and after mutual consent.

The authorities conducted a survey of the situation in the Central Post Office in November, 1947. However, this survey was completed in only a few hours. Closing their eyes to actuality, they compelled the workers to heavier duty. As a result, some 100 men quit their jobs within a month unable to tolerate low wages and the heavier work schedule.

Unionists Favor Cabinet Overthrow

Chief Secretary SAKAMAKI, Shimpei of the Central Post Office Chapter says: "While a demand for an increase of the staff by 20 percent was resolved at our chapter meeting, the authorities have declared a decrease by 20 percent. The Government has compiled a budget which is close to two times as large as that of last year and yet it says that for want of sufficient sources of revenue it must dismiss workers. Unless we oppose this budget as well as the raising of commodity prices, and overthrow the Ashida Cabinet, the peoples' livelihood will never get easier no matter how many millions are dismissed.

"In a popular opinion poll conducted by our chapter the other day, we found that almost all of the members were against the Ashida Cabinet. Whenever the authorities speak of the deficit, they bring up dismissal of workers. But there are many more ways of making more funds available than just dismissals. An enormous sum may be brought in from illicit sales and hoarded goods. Let us fight any such measure as will shove all the sacrifice upon laborers."

Chapter Demands Minimum Wage System

A meeting of the Central Post Office Chapter of the All Japan Communiçations Tokyo District Council was held on 8 June and proposals to be presented to the national convention of All Japan Communications Workers Union to be held in KANAGAWA starting 22 June were discussed. The chapter adopted 33 demands, headed by the establishment of the minimum wage system, opposition to the job classification wage system, (minimum wage of 5,200-yen), and opposition to the revision of commodity prices as well as increasing railway and postal rates.

It adopted such slogans as (1) "The overthrow of the Ashida Cabinet," and, (2) "The immediate unification of the labor front." A statement on the overthrow of the Ashida Cabinet will shortly be published in the name of this Chapter. It will wage a full-scale fight with the Government which, while pressing a low wage on labor, is going to raise commodity prices by compiling an enormous budget.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 4 Livelihood Co-operative Unions in Tokyo Oppose Bureaucratic Control - Akahata - 12 Jun 4E. Translator: N. Tachibana. (FST)

145

Full Translation:

The second general meeting of the Federation of All Tokyo To Purchasing and Utilization Associations was held on 10 June at the Communications Hall in YURAKU Cho. One hundred and thirty representatives of livelihood co-operative unions throughout TOKYO approved the business policy and budget for the current fiscal year and deliberated on how to promote the enactment of a livelihood co-operative union law.

It was decided, in particular, to oppose taxation on livelihood co-operative unions and the revision of prices by the Government. For this purpose the federation will start a street movement to ask passers-by for their supporting signatures.

The purchasing power of co-operative union members has suddenly decreased within the last few months. Articles with the exception of foodstuffs do not sell well. Recently, some families have not been able to buy rationed fish and vegetables. Because of this, it has become difficult even to operate co-operative unions which have long suffered from the shortage of funds.

For example, the Musashino Co-operative Union is now 40,000 yen in the red. A glance at the accounts in May of the Ebara Market, a vegetable market operated by the federation, shows that the indebtedness of the co-operative unions to the market totals approximately 645,300 yen and accounts payable to vegetable producing districts, about 385,800 yen.

At the above meeting, a report was made to the effect that, if official prices are raised and new taxes are levied, the whole co-operative unions structure will collapse. The Ota Ku Budget Council (a council of five co-operative unions) and the Mushashino Co-operative Union has already started a popular petition movement in opposition to the revision of prices, raising of railway and communication rates, and bad taxes. The Musashino Co-operative Union has joined the Tokyo District Joint Struggle Preparatory Committee. With mutual interests involved, a joint struggle by co-operative and labor unions seems imminent.

At present livelihood co-operative unions are restricted by unrealistic bureaucratic control and by the Industrial Build Law enacted 50 years ago. At the general meeting on 10 June, the federation decided to fight for the enactment of a democratic livelihood co-operative union law and to demand the following points in opposition to the Government bill:

1. The right to operate business enterprises.
   a. Opposition to the regulation that a co-operative union must not handle staple food, clothes, and condiments. Co-operative unions should have the right and means to handle any kind of commodity.
   b. Opposition to imposition of conditions other than those fitted to the capacity of such unions and the demand of union members. For example it is improper to prohibit a union of less than 1,500 members from handling fish or not to make a receiving organ of a union which cannot afford to receive 60,000 KAN of fish a month.
   c. Co-operative unions should have the right to operate credit organs and fraternal aid societies.
2. Supervision.
   a. It is proper that a co-operative union should be supervised by its own members.
   b. Opposition to administrative authorities holding the right to dissolve co-operative unions as stated in the Government bill.
   c. Absolute opposition to the levy of corporation and business taxes on co-operative unions.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 2 Rejection of Union Demand Decided - Mainichi - 17 Jun 48.
Translator: U. Futonaka. (UG)

145

Full Translation:

The Government has decided to spurn the 5,200-yen demanded by the National Council of Government and Public Office Workers Unions. A report on the union demand was made to a conference attended by Chief Cabinet Secretary TOMABECHI, Labor Minister KATO, Labor Vice-minister YOSHITAKE, Cabinet Vice-secretary ARITA, and Wage Bureau Director IMAI (Finance Ministry), which was held in the Diet building yesterday at 1600 hours.

At the same time, concrete measures were decided upon. Discussion resulted in the decision to reject the 5,200-yen demand, in the government's reply slated for 19 June.

ITEM 4 Major Metal Unions Head toward Merger - Akahata - 17 Jun 48.
Translator: F. Hagiwara. (UG)

145

Full Translation:

The first meeting of the Major Metal Unions Amalgamation Regional Representatives Council, which will unite the main forces of the working class, was held on Tuesday at the Japan Red Cross Society headquarters auditorium. It was attended by approximately 300 local representatives of individual industries.

NAKAMURA, Hideya (All-Japan Automobile Workers Union), WATANABE, Michio (All-Japan Electric Industry Workers Union), FUJITA, Masayuki (All-Japan Shipbuilding Workers Union, and WADA, Jiro (National Rolling Stock Workers Union) were elected chairmen.

After a progress report by MOCHIZUKI, Hatsuo (All-Japan Automobile Workers Union), representing the Major Metal Union Amalgamation Preparatory Committee, Chairman KAN of the NCIU gave an address:

"The labor movement is divided pivotally into the NCIU and JFTU. However, amalgamations are being carried on through regional struggles. I hope the metal industry joint struggle will accomplish its unification by means of a struggle and not end as a mere demonstration."

Reports from individual industry headquarters and regional metal organizations were then delivered. YAMAKAWA, a Central Committee member of the All-Japan shipbuilding Workers Union, stated:

"It is our unswerving policy to achieve unconditional merger without regard for any distinction between the NCIU and JFTU. Already definite amalgamation preparations are in progress in OKAYAMA, TOKAI, and OSAKA".

Regarding regional metal organizations, representatives of the various metal labor unions, including SHIZUOKA, GUMMA, and TOKAI, report on the state of the metal workers unions joint struggle, which transcend the boundaries of NCIU and JFTU. KUKI, Takeyoshi, a representative of t Tsubakimoto Employees Union affiliated with the Japan Congress of Labor Unions, stated:

"I am not formally representing the JCLU. However, since the union earnestly hopes for a major metal workers joint struggle, I will do my utmost for its realization."

An urgent motion was introduced to send a letter of encouragement to that union. The motion was unanimously adopted. The industrial unions attending this meeting were: the All-Japan Electric Industry Workers Union, the All-Japan Machine and Tool Workers Union, the All-Japan Iron and Steel Workers Union, the National Rolling Stock Workers Union, the All-Japan Shipbuilding Workers Union, the National Wire Workers Union, the All-Japan Automobile Workers Union, the National Federation of Mine Workers Unions, and various local metal workers unions.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 5 Right-Wing Faction Gains on Kyushu Labor Front - Provincial Paper: Seibu Mainichi (Moji) - 3 Jun 48. Translator: Y. Terasawa. (RL)

Full Translation:

(FUKUOKA) - The All-Kyushu Congress of Labor Unions, which is to be organized on 20 June following collapse of the Kyushu Congress of Industrial Union's plan to unify the Kyushu labor front, is believed to be the consequence of increasing strength of the democratization movements among labor unions in KYUSHU.

The Kyushu Electric Industry Workers Union suddenly withdrew from the Kyushu CIU in April, dealing a severe blow to the leftist camp. This action is said to have been a death-blow to the Kyushu CIU.

The EIWU gave as its reason for withdrawal the fact that the Kyushu CIU was hampering unification of the labor front. It said that it withdrew in order that a larger united labor front may be organized.

The Kyushu CIU implicitly denied any change in its ideology by stating that the EIWU action, on the contrary, would result in uniting labor unions under the CIU. The fact is, however, that the KCIU is propagandizing in order to check withdrawals from the leftist camp, and the withdrawal of the EIWU is evidence of increasing right-wing strength.

Moreover, during the National EIWU Convention in May, much importance was given to the democratization of labor unions.

The KCIU Secretariat, meanwhile, complained that it is impossible to understand the move taken by the EIWU.

The FUKUOKA District Council of the National Communications Workers Union has also recently shown signs of moving toward the right. It was decided at an executive committee meeting in May that the main objective of its strifes would be the establishment of a minimum wage system.

At the same time, it was resolved that rehabilitation of production should be strongly supported, and the principle of giving too much importance to formal strikes should be abandoned. Such a move means that forces within labor unions are beginning to work toward checking the influence of the leftists.

In connection with coal mine workers' unions, there were 130,000 members of the Japan Coal Mine Workers Union, compared to 115,000 members of the All-Japan Coal Industry Workers Union at the time when the National Council of Coal Mine Workers Unions was split last August.

However, the JCMWU accepted the reserve funds plan for encouraging production and for a new wage agreement on 21 Apr 47, while the AJCIWU accepted it on 24 May. As a result, the membership of the former increased to 200,000, while that of the latter decreased to 61,000. Thus, a great difference in relative strengths developed.

Trouble developed for the AJCIWU even within the Furukawa Federation of Four Coal Mine Workers Unions, reportedly the stronghold of the AJCIWU.

These facts indicate that the guiding principles of the NCIO are being criticized internally, and that it will eventually lead to a crisis in the leftist camp.

On the other hand, the rightists have keenly felt the offensive launched by capital, including the major personnel readjustment carried out by the TOHO Motion Picture Company. As a consequence, the two labor factions compromised on the one-front principle to be created by the All-Kyushu Congress of Labor Unions.

To what extent such an organization, which smacks strongly of a democratization league, will control the leftists will be the test of the labor union movement in KYUSHU.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 4 Labor Minister Comments on ILO Participation - Akahata - 12 Jun 48.
Translator: U. Futonaka (FST).

145

Full Translation:

Labor Minister KATO made clear his position on the question of participation in the International Labor Organization yesterday at a session of the Foreign Affairs Committee on Thursday at 1430 hours. In reply to an interpellation by SASAKI, Morio (Democratic Liberal), KATO answered as follows:

"1. The ILO first suggested participation in the capacity of individuals. Subsequently a cabinet decision was made following SCAP advise.

"2. Participation will be on the basis of the Government, employers, and laborers. The Federation of Economic Organizations and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, among capitalist groups, and the National Congress of Industrial Unions, among labor groups, are withholding their decisions, but the Japan Federation of Trade Unions has expressed 65 percent support. This situation has led to a report to SCAP on an intention to join.

"3. The World Trade Union, a purely labor group, is different in nature from the ILO. The Government, therefore, will neither render positive assistance nor interfere in connection with an attempt to take part in the WTU.

"The NCIO seems to be ardently desirous of joining, but the Labor Unions Liaison Council inaugurated in spring last year has not been active.

"4. Participation as observers in the San Francisco ILO Conference starting 17 June has not been formally decided yet."

ITEM 8 NCIU Democratization League to Hold Inaugural Meet - Mainichi - 9 Jun 48.
Translator: M. Odaka. (RL)

145

Full Translation:

The Democratization League of the National Congress of Industrial Unions will hold its inaugural meeting at the Industrial Hall in NAGOYA City on 12 and 13 June. Fundamental policies will be decided, and plans will be made to gain recognition of the organization.

The league's present strength is approximately 300,000 union members, including those already incorporated in the league as well as prospective members. The league's influence extends over six or seven hundred thausand workers, the league announced on 8 June.

ITEM 10 Governor-appointed IRC to Be Boycotted - Akahata - 9 Jun 48.
Translator: A. Ohori. (RL)

145

Full Translation:

(Aomori) - The Aomori District Labor Relations Committee's Labor Representatives Election Committee, which met at the Station Hotel in front of Aomori Station on 1 June, clarified its policy toward the governor's unilateral appointments. The following program was adopted:

1. IRC members who have already accepted the governor's unilateral appointment will be requested to resign.

2. Any IRC group which is established through the governor's unilateral appointment will be boycotted.

FUKUZAWA who comes under the second category, declared on 1 June that he would obey the Election Committee's decision.

OHATA, Socialist, tendered his resignation.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

ITEM 1 Labor Committee Representatives Meet - Mainichi - 9 Jun 48.
Translator: N. Miwa. (FST)

1 145

Full Translation:

The National Labor Committee Liaison Council began its second three-day meeting at 0930 hours yesterday at a hall of the Japan Red Cross Hospital, Tokyo, Shiba. Participants included about 300 persons representing the Central Labor Committee and local labor committees.

Chairman SUEHIRO of the Central Labor Committee was appointed chairman of the three-day meeting and KATSURA (Central Labor Committee), KATSUKI (OSAKA), MURAKAMI (HOKKAIDO), OTSUKA (Central Labor Committee), and ISOMURA (TOKYO) were elected vice-chairmen.

Chairman SUEHIRO introduced a plan to establish a committee consisting of four sections to discuss proposals made by local labor commitees. This plan was approved. After this, Labor Division Chief KILLEN, in delivering an address, attached importance to the responsibility of labor committees.

During the afternoon meeting, Labor Minister KATO and Chief Cabinet Secretary TOMABECHI, as deputy of the Premier, made speeches. Moreover, chairmen and members of committees for the second session today were selected.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

To Secede From NCIU

The All-Japan Newspaper and Radio Workers Union decided Thursday to secede from the Communist-influenced National Congress of Industrial Unions and attempt to bring about unification of all newspaper workers. The Union has a membership of 10,000.

MAY 8 1948
STARS & STRIPES

National Union Opposes Price Hike

The National Communications Workers union yesterday announced its opposition to the contemplated fourfold hike in communications fares, according to Kyodo News reports.

It also began a national drive to prevent the Diet's approval of the rate raise.

MAY 12 1948
STARS & STRIPES

NCIU NOT TOOL OF REDS, SAYS SEC'Y

Sukeharu Yoshida, secretary general of the National Congress of Industrial Unions, declared this afternoon that the organization is not a tool of the Communist party.

Commenting on the charge made by John R. Harold, acting chief of SCAP's Labor Branch, Yoshida told the press that his organization has no connection with the Communist party whatsoever.

Yoshida added, however, "It may be true that a majority of the Kanji-kai and a large number of the central executive committee men are members of the Communist party." He stressed, though, that "I don't see any relations between the NCIU itself and the party to which its members belong." He spoke unofficially and said his views are his own and not representative of the NCIU.

MAY 20 1948
STARS & STRIPES

Union In Appeal To SCAP For Leniency

By United Press

The Liaison Council of All Trade Unions in Japan has appealed to General MacArthur that sentences of two union officials by an Army Provost Court be commuted "as soon as possible."

For disobeying an Army order in March during the strike by government communications workers, the Provost Court sentenced Toshio Yamanouchi, 23, chairman of the "struggle committee" of the long distance telephone workers union to three years hard labor and fined him 75,000 yen. The court sentenced Mitsugi Shinosaki, 20, vice chief of the union's youth department, one year at hard labor and fined him 50,000 yen. The two were found guilty of cutting off Allied communications between Tokyo and Osaka.

STARS & STRIPES
MAY 6 1948

Dancing Team Girls Desert Union For 'Art'

All the girl dancers of the Nichigeki dancing team lost their chains today when they served notice on their union, the All-Japan Motion Picture and Theatrical Workers, that they would soon secede to have more time to practice their dancing.

They said they were dissatisfied with the policy of the union which puts too much emphasis on the labor movement and is not aware of their art. They haven't yet decided to form a union of their own.

A spokesman for the girls said the male members of the dancing team would soon follow suit.

MAY 14 1948
STARS & STRIPES

LABOR UNIONS MAKE GAINS IN MEMBERSHIP

6,334,401 Workers in 29,162 Unions, Survey Shows

The Labor Ministry revealed that there were 29,162 labor unions with a total membership of 6,334,401 at the end of February, this year.

This figure marked a gain over December, last year, when 28,013 labor unions with 6,268,432 members were registered.

The manufacturing industry topped the list with 11,838 labor unions and 2,129,899 members. In transportation and communications, 1,300,459 workers belonged to 4,307 unions.

One hundred per cent of the workers in the transportation and communications enterprises and in public works were unionized.

NIPPON TIMES
MAY 12 1948

"Today, some labor unions are acquiring maturity, recognizing that a strike or work stoppage should occur only as a last resort," Harold said. "The unions have shown their independence from employer or governmntal domination for the most part."

Howard pointed out that it is up to the labor movement itself to fight Communist infiltration. The national and local leaders must see that their unions are free of government domination, employer domination or the domination of any political party, he said.

STARS & STRIPES MAY 18 1948

'New Militarists' Cited By SCAP Labor Official

By BETH EVERETT,
Staff Writer

Calling labor unions the guarantor of a democratic Japan, a SCAP Labor division official yesterday termed Communists within the unions "new militarists" and warned that they should be ousted from leadership.

"These would-be leaders, under the hypocritical cloak of popular slogans and the legitimate grievances of workers, are seeking to again fool the people of Japan. Their philosophy is identical to that of the wartime militarists," John R. Harold, acting chief of SCAP's Labor Relations branch, ESS, said at a press conference prior to his departure for the United States.

The Communists, or "new militarists" within the unions, are attempting to use economic hardship to gain political control of the unions, Howard said. "Iron discipline and unquestioning obedience are their code," he said. They are again talking in terms of the "greater - East co - prosperity sphere," he said.

Howard charged that the National Congress of Industrial Unions, with a membership of 1,000,000 workers, is under Communist control. The leaders of this union have admitted their purpose is to help organize the Communist part, Howard declared.

In commenting on the progress the union movement has made since the termination of war, Howard praised the successful organization of more than six million workers into labor unions.

STARS & STRIPES

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

The NCIU Shows Its True Colors

The National Congress of Industrial Unions is reported to have decided to oppose Japan's return to the International Labor Organization on several grounds. One of these grounds is that the International Labor Organization is based on the principle of labor-capital cooperation.

This decision of the NCIU is a most eloquent revelation of this body's ideological position. The NCIU has often been accused of being dominated by the Communists and of carrying out Communist-dictated policies. It has consistently denied this charge. But by its decision with respect to the attitude to be taken toward the International Labor Organization, the NCIU has clearly cast aside its pretensions and has unmistakenly unfurled its true Communist colors. No amount of verbal denials will now suffice to overcome the incontrovertible proof offered by this tangible act.

By rejecting the principle of labor-capital cooperation, the NCIU demonstrates that it believes in the inevitability and desirability of the class struggle. The theory of the class struggle is the infallible earmark of the Communist doctrine. All labor groups, with the sole exception of the Communists, seek the ideal of labor - capital cooperation. Many labor groups may be bitterly antagonistic in their feelings toward capital, but their attitude is based on the belief that capital has not done its proper share to make labor-capital cooperation a success. Whatever their feelings, they nevertheless hold to at least some form of labor-capital cooperation as the ideal and strive for its eventual realization. That is, all except the Communists.

The Communists alone are inexorable in their doctrinaire belief that there can and should be nothing but a fight unto death between classes. And the NCIU has definitely rejected even any attempt at cooperation and has lined itself up for an implacable social war. This is an unmistakably Communist position.

There is no question that the vast majority of the rank and file who belong to the NCIU are not Communists and have no sympathy with the Communist point of view. But the position taken by the NCIU as an organization is clearly communistic. It can only mean that the NCIU is being manipulated by a minority of Communist leaders who do not truly represent the will of the majority of the members. The majority are being duped into lending their support to a program which does not reflect their interests.

Whatever grievances they may have against their employers, there can be very few workers who do not realize that the only chance of rehabilitating the present shattered economy of Japan lies in concentrating the united efforts of all classes of society upon this one task. And there can be very few workers who do not realize that if the economy of the nation is irretrievably wrecked, their own livelihood will be irretrievably wrecked with that of the rest of the nation. This is therefore no time for warfare between classes which will tear Japanese society asunder; only the closest cooperation of all classes will be able to save any one of the classes. However much the workers may disagree with management concerning the terms of their mutual cooperation, they must all agree on the necessity of labor-capital cooperation. That is, all except the few who would deliberately welcome social distintegration and human suffering for the sake of an ulterior political purpose. And the NCIU has identified itself with this latter position by definitely rejecting social peace.

The NCIU policy-makers say that the participation of the NCIU in the International Labor Organization may be used to split the labor front. This is an obvious lie. Just exactly the opposite is true. The majority of the Japanese workers undoubtedly desire fervently to participate in international movements and they desire labor-capital cooperation. By holding out from the International Labor Organization in opposition to the desire of the majority of the Japanese workers, the NCIU itself is deliberately splitting the unity of labor.

Now that the NCIU has made its indefensible position so clear, there can be no excuse for the Japanese workers to be fooled any longer as to the character of the present NCIU leaders. If the NCIU members are not to be exploited against their own true interests, they should lose no time in repudiating their false leaders and in bringing the control of the NCIU to where it belongs—in the hands of those who will accurately represent the non-communistic majority.

NIPPON TIMES MAY 27 1948

Press Union Holds Meeting

The fourth convention of the All-Japan Newspapers and Radio Workers Union was held yesterday at the auditorium of the Education Hall in Kanda from 10:30 a.m. Attending the convention were 300 representatives from union chapters. Deliberations were centered on a proposal made by the Asahi Shimbun chapter to secede from the National Congress of Industrial Unions. The problems of wages, labor standard and collective bargaining were also discussed.

NIPPON TIMES MAY 6 1948

WILL ASK PERMISSION TO JOIN WORLD BODY

The Ashida Cabinet informally agreed that it should ask Allied authorities for permission to have Japanese labor unions participate in the international labor organization.

In this connection, Chief Cabinet Secretary Gizo Tomabechi declared that although the peace treaty has not been signed as yet, it is desirable that the nation's labor unions be given an opportunity to join the international body.

He added that a request would be sent to SCAP following a complete understanding between labor and capital.

NIPPON TIMES MAY 2 1 1948

ACLU Asked to Help Passage of Judd Bill

A request for efforts by the American Civil Liberties Union to expedite the passage of the bill to abolish the Japanese Exclusion Act was sent to Roger N. Baldwin, director of the ACLU, by Jiichiro Matsumoto, acting director of the Japanese Civil Liberties Union and concurrently vice-president of the House of Councillors, it was learned.

Mr. Matsumoto made this request upon hearing reports that the House Judiciary Committee is holding hearings on a bill to that effect proposed by Representative Walter H. Judd.

NIPPON TIMES MAY 2 1 1948

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

GFTU Bares Withdrawal From Union Liaison Body

The General Federation of Trade Unions yesterday announced its withdrawal from the National Liaison Council of Labor Unions (Zenroren), which is generally considered as dominated by radical unions affiliated with the National Congress of Industrial Unions.

The GFTU's withdrawal from the Zenroren was carried out in accordance with the decision made by its Central Committee at a two-day meeting on June 10 and 11.

In a statement announcing its secession from the labor council, the GFTU charged that the Communist Party were engaged in constant maneuvers to bring Zenroren under its own influence. The Zenroren has thus become one-sided in every respect, it said.

In the face of an official decision to the contrary, the Zenroren has staffed its secretariat with Communists.

Such is but one of the countless instances of how Zenroren is being operated undemocratically, the statement declared.

The GFTU has come to the conclusion that it can no longer stay in the labor union council, which has now entirely become a tool of the Communist Party.

The GFTU declared in this connection that the labor union democratization movement, which represents its aspiration, is now giving the entire Japanese working classes a new hope of strength.

The Zenroren came into being in March, 1947, shortly after the threatened general strike of February 1 with the professed objective of promoting the formation of a united labor front through organized labor's joint action vis-a-vis its common problems.

As originally organized, it was to function as a consultative organ by fully respecting the independent status of its member unions.

Its original membership comprised 32 labor unions, including the GFTU, NCIU, Japanese Congress of Labor Unions, Government Railway Workers Union, and other independent unions, with a total of some 5,130,000 workers.

NIPPON TIMES JUN 29 1948

Red Fraction Activity Will Be Eliminated From Labor Unions

Resolution Adopted By Democratic Party Includes Credit Problem

TOKYO, May 6.—The Democratic Party headed by Prime Minister Hitoshi Ashida declared in its resolution that the revision of the existing labor legislations is still "premature" although the party will do its best "to wipe out Communistic fraction activity from the nation's trade unions."

The resolution was adopted at the last-day session of the two-day national convention of the Democratic Party, which took place at the auditorium of Meiji University yesterday at 10.30 a.m.

Re Foreign Capital

Following close upon heels of the Prime Minister's address on May 4, Takeo Kurusu, "Cabinet braintruster" and ESB director-general, expatiated on the problem of inviting foreign capital into Japan and the long-term economic rehabilitation program.

He was followed by State Minister and concurrently governor of Construction Board Sadayoshi Hitotsumatsu, who took the floor on behalf of Party President Ashida.

Earlier, 11 committees commenced deliberations regarding what policies and measures the Ashida Cabinet should put into practice. The results of their findings were embodied in the resolution, which was passed in the name of the fourth Democrat national convention.

Platform Revised

Owing to the change of a part of the Democrat platform, the national convention has become "the highest policy-making organ of the party."

Hence, the resolution passed by the convention assumes particularly great significance unlike heretofore.

Firstly, the resolution provides, among other things, that though no specific overall legislation shall be enacted regarding investment of foreign capital, the Government shall work out pertinent measures to receive the investment. Its policy shall be embodied in an "Outline of Inducement of Foreign Capital."

Secondly, the Democratic Party shall urge the Government to impose some restrictions upon work stoppage of utility enterprises such as coal, iron and steel rnd broadcast industries.

(To avoid possible conflict with the Socialist Party, influential coalition partner, the resolution employed an abstruct phraseology on this point.)

Thirdly, it stated that though three Government parties shall spare no effort toward nationalization of the petroleum industry, the Democrats shall deem it premature to transfer the power industry to State ownership.

Fourthly, the committee decided to oppose the suspension of payment of interest on wartime national bonds, but the convention shall not include this in the resolution in view of the current political situation.

Fifthly, the resolution declared that the present official prices for the following raw materials and commodities shall be liquidated:

Magnesium, bricks, lacquer, lumber, wood charcoal, straw goods, house fixtures.

High-class fish, vegetable, marine products, cheap candies, pot and kettle, match, sundry daily necessities and stationery for pupils and students.

Cooking and dinner utensils, radio, records, second-hand clothing.

MAINICHI MAY 7 1948

Gist Of Final Proposal

TOKYO, May 19.—The gist of CLRC Chairman Izutaro Suchiro's final "three-point proposal" to private railway operators and workers was as follows:

1. Both disputing parties are asked not to stick to their one-sided points of view on the interpretation of the CLRC's mediation plan, so that negotiations may be continued smoothly.

2. It is desirable to solve the wages for April, May and June, also based on the CLRC's mediation plan. Both parties are requested,

MAINICHI MAY 20 1948

Most Unions' Structure Said Too Complicated

SCAP Spokesman Gives Pointers On Organization

United Press

TOKYO, May 19.—"Union Structure" was the topic discussed by James D. Hoover, assistant chief, Labor Education Branch, ESS, GHQ, SCAP, at the regular press conference held with the Japanese press this morning.

Pointing out the fact that the Japanese union members often ask GHQ and the Military Government Teams questions about proper structure, the spokesman stated that it is not for us to give order on this subject, but only advice is to be given for them, as it is primarily the responsibility of the union members themselves.

A good union structure will make possible: (1) effective bargaining with employers, and (2) control of policy by the members, he revealed.

Is Hard To Judge

He went on saying that although some unions are organized along occupation lines—in one company the office workers may be organized in one union and laborers in another, or both may belong to the same union. In some unions the local unions bargain separately with employers; in others, the national union bargains on behalf of all the local unions and it is hard to judge which is better. "A simple answer is not possible," he said, "it depends mainly on the nature of the industry."

If the office workers are widely separated from the factory laborers in terms of physical location, attitudes, and interests, the two groups may want to organize separately. If they want to negotiate jointly with the company, they may decide to unite, he said.

If there is a single employer, as in the case of the government railways, he revealed, nationwide bargaining and a strong national union are logical.

When Employers Are Many

If there are many employers, as in the case of the prefectural and city governments, separate agreements, and a large degree of local autonomy are logical. In other industries, it may be desirable for the national union to negotiate a master agreement and the local union to negotiate supplementary issues not in conflict with the master agreement, he added.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

Pointing out the other goal of a good union structure, he said that the policy of the local union is made by the members in frequent membership meeting, and carried out in between meetings by officers elected directly by the members.

The policy of the national union, he continued, is made by a convention at which each local union is represented by delegates elected directly by members. In between conventions the policy of the national union is carried out by officers elected either directly by the members or by the delegates to the convention.

Are Fairly Well Adapted

Although some national unions do not have the power to discipline locals which violate national labor agreements, and, on the other hand, some national unions dictate the policy of local unions on matters which would better be settled locally, on the whole, the structure of Japanese unions is fairly well adapted to effective dealing with employers, he said.

It is regretable that the structure of most unions is so complicated that the top officers are several steps removed from the rank-and-file, thus enabling them to ignore the views of the members.

Local Unions should, if necessary, he said, be broken up into units small enough so that all the members can conveniently get together, and they should meet frequently. The member should elect their officers by direct, secret, or written ballot, he concluded.

MAINICHI MAY 2 0 1948

NCIU Not Tool Of Reds, Says Union Sec'y-Gen.

Kyodo

TOKYO, May 20.—"The National Congress of Industrial Unions is not a tool of the Communist party and they are distinctly separate entities," Sukeharu Yoshida, NCIU secretary general, declared.

Commenting on the charge made by John R. Harold, acting chief of SCAP's Labor Branch, Yoshida told the press that his organization has no connection with the Communist party whatsoever.

"It may be true that a majority of the Kanji-kai and a large number of the central executive committeemen are members of the Communist party," Yoshida observed.

"But I don't see any relations between the NCIU itself and the party to which its members belong," he stressed.

He added, however, that those views are his own and not representative of the NCIU.

MAINICHI MAY 2 9 1948

Killen Warns Workers Against Futile Acts

Disputes At Local Levels Weaken Collective Power

GHQ, SCAP, CI&E, May 25.—James S. Killen, Chief of the Labor Division, ESS, warned Japanese workers today that they were weakening their collective strength by engaging in futile acts of dispute at local levels.

Referring specifically to the recent dispute at Sapporo, Hokkaido, where a local union tied up rail movement over the question of tunnel ventilation, Mr. Killen pointed out that the only agency which had the authority to correct the grievance was the Transportation Ministry, and added:

"Central negotiations with the Transportation Ministry are much more effective when the workers are represented by the national union, which speak for 600,000 members, than when a local spends its strength in a struggle which cannot correct the situation."

Mr. Killen pointed out that the reason for establishment of national unions, rather than autonomouslocals, was to pool the bargaining power of the workers. "But when a local union isolates itself," he added, "and ignores the national leadership, it harms not only its own members through wasteful struggle but betrays the other local unions with which it made a compact for collective action."

"These local acts of dispute, with their exhaustive effects on morale of workers and the finances of the union only serve the interests of those who seek to destroy free trade unionism and substitute therefor a form of totalitarian regimentation for revolutionary purposes.

"A first requirement of strong trade unionism is union discipline in accordance with democratic and constitutional authority.

"Your unions here in Japan," Mr. Killen continued, "have come into existence under circumstances more favorable to their growth than has ever prevailed in other parts of the world.

"Perhaps this in part explains the regrettable lack of appreciation by unions in Japan of the need of complete self-support in financial matters.

"The present practice of payment of salaries of full-time union representatives by the employer is totally unjustifiable. How can any organization claim independence when it is primarily supported by the employer?

"If this practice were to continue, it would put a powerful weapon in the hands of the employer, for by suddenly withholding the pay of union officials he could so undermine morale and unity of purpose as to dissipate the union's energies.

"May I suggest that Kokutetsu and all other Japanese unions refuse to gamble with the welfare of their members and put themselves in a truly independent financial position at the earliest possible time.

MAINICHI MAY 2 7 1948

Public Support Key To Labor's Success'

Killen Speaks At Parley Of Ry. Workers Union

NARA, May 30.—A telegram from William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, to the National Convention of the Japanese Government Railway Workers Union was read by James S. Killen, chief of the Labor Division in SCAP's Economic and Scientific Section, who spoke before the convention here today.

Mr. Green's message read as follows:

"Please extend to President Kato and those in attendance at the Government Railway Workers' Convention May 30 my fraternal greetings and best wishes for a successful convention. Assure them of our deep interest in their success and welfare and of our willingness to cooperate and help them in every possible way."

In his speech before the convention, Mr. Killen stressed, "No union has ever made secure gains over long periods of time without some measure of public sympathy. Every union must consider the effect of its actions on public opinion.

"Nothing contributes more to the loss of public support than to have local unions continually engaging in acts of dispute causing loss and inconvenience to the public.

"The energies and finances of the locals are exhausted and the membership tends to become disgusted with those in the union responsible for such acts and is therefore lacking in enthusiasm for concerted action when and if such action becomes necessary on the part of the entire union.

"This is a second major requirement of free trade unionism.

"Japanese workers must in many respects put away that which is old and take on that which is new in democracy if democracy and the benefits of democracy are going to be firmly implanted on Japanese soil," Mr. Killen further asserted.

"May I therefore urge Kokutetsu and all Japanese unions to adopt as a third requirement the establishment of the Japanese labor movement as the foremost advocate of those policies designed to advance the economic freedom and well-being of the Japanese workers.

"As a trade unionist, it is my sincere conviction that the right to strike is a precious right, to be guarded jealously as a symbol of freedom.

"As the largest union in Japan, Kokutetsu's policies and practices will exercise far-reaching influences on other unions and on the attitude of the public at large.

"Kokutetsu is also made up of government employees, who, individually and collectively, must recognize their obligation to the community as their common employer in determining union policy and action.

"Finally, the distressed economic circumstances of this country today are such as to make crippling work stoppages of essential production or services a blow which can ill be withstood.

"Grievance procedures and arbitration should and must be utilized to the maximum extent possible, with the unions' energies and resources conserved for those occasions when, as a last resort, strike action proves to be the only course open to workers, and for the immediate future, to permit the most rapid recovery possible of Japan's economic well-being.

"This I would suggest as a fourth requirement in the development of a healthy and free trade unionism."

MAINICHI MAY 3 1 1948

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Anti-Red Workers May Split Union

An anti-Communist group within the militant Toho Motion Picture Company's studio workers' union may split the union, Japanese news sources revealed yesterday.

This group, numbering about 40 and calling themselves the Reconstruction Comrades Society, issued a statement at its inauguration meeting saying in part: "Now reflecting on the union's past struggle, we are finding the union leaders, especially the dictatorial leadership of Communist factions, objectionable."

Meanwhile, the Toho management's discharge program is making steady headway as those head-office and branch-office workers who had been earmarked for discharge are leaving the company by voluntary resignation, except for the studio workers.

STARS & STRIPES MAY 19 1948

GRWU Confab Scheduled

The Government Railway Workers Union will hold its national convention in Nara City for four days starting June 30. Prior to the national convention, the union's newly-elected Central Committee will meet on June 28 to elect new union officers. A struggle between the right and left wing is expected.

NIPPON TIMES MAY 26 1948

R.R. Workers to Meet

The Federation of Private Railway Workers Union will hold a Central Committee meeting on May 29 and 30 to decide whether to accept or to reject the "final" mediation proposal presented by Dr. Itsutaro Suehiro, chairman of the Central Labor Relations Board, early this week. The private railway workers after striking for two days on Tuesday and Wednesday decided to postpone further walkouts pending decision by its central body.

NIPPON TIMES MAY 22 1948

Enterprise unions accounted for 88 per cent of the total number of unions and for 81.7 per cent of membership, followed by craft unions (6.9 and 9.6 per cent, respectively and industrial organizations (4.1 and 6.4 per cent, respectively).

Unions having labor contracts numbered 12,902, or 40.1 per cent of the total, and their membership aggregated 3,921,945, or 62.6 per cent of the total.

The industries having higher rate of concluding contracts are mining, manufacturing, gas, electric, water supply and communications.

Unions having management-labor councils number 11,883, or 42.4 per cent of the total. Mining, manufacturing, gas, electric, water supply, commercial, financial and communications industries have more management-labor councils than others both in number and percentage.

NIPPON TIMES MAY 22 1948

NCIU OPPOSES RETURN TO INT'L. LABOR BODY

Says Japanese Workers Must Become United First

Japan's return to the International Labor Organization was opposed by the National Congress of Industrial Unions Sunday.

The decision of the NCIU was reached after the Government had asked the former's opinion on the question of Japanese participation in the ILO.

The NCIU gave the following reasons for its opposition:

1. The composition of the committee to decide the basic policies toward the ILO is unfavorable to labor;
2. The unity of the Japanese workers is a prerequisite;
3. The attitude of the ILO to the return of Japan is not clear;
4. The participation in the ILO may be used to split the labor front; and
5. The ILO is based on the principle of labor-capital cooperation.

MAY 25 1948
NIPPON TIMES

Seeks Return to ILO

The Cabinet decided Thursday to ask permission to return to the International Labor Organization. Labor Minister Kanju Kato reported that the employers were all enthusiastic over the proposal and that 65 per cent of the workers supported such a step.

The National Congress of Industrial Unions, however, opposed the return of Japan to the international body.

NIPPON TIMES MAY 26 1948

ORGANIZED LABOR REGISTERS GAINS

6,268,432 Workers Make Up 28,013 Unions as of 1947, Ministry Announces

Japan's organized workers totaled 6,268,432 making up a total of 28,013 registered labor unions as of the end of 1947, according to an announcement made Thursday by the Labor Ministry. These figures represented an increase of 673,733 or 12 per cent in the number of organized workers and a gain of 4,691 or 20 per cent in that of registered unions during the six months since the end of June 1947.

The survey revealed that out of the 28,013 labor unions, 46 per cent or 12,902 of them had labor contracts and 42 per cent or 11,883 unions had labor-management councils. The number of unions having exclusive union officials was 5,143 or 18 per cent.

Classification of unions by membership follows: less than 50 members, 10,431 unions or 37.2 per cent of the total; between 50 and 100 members, 5,687 or 20.3 per cent; between 100 and 200 members, 922 unions or 17.6 per cent; between 200 and 500 members, 281 unions or 15.3 per cent; between 500 and 1,000 members, 1,602 unions or 5.7 per cent; and more than 1,000 members, 1,099 unions or 3.9 per cent.

The Labor Movement

The mass outburst of labor discontent which was evident during the first few months of this year and especially following the inception of the Ashida administration has quieted down during the past month. But it is apparent that the present period of comparative labor peace is a temporary lull. In truth, the nation is in many ways sitting atop a smouldering volcano.

This impression becomes stronger when one considers the various problems still remaining as potential points of rupture in the labor field. No decision has been made as yet on the new wage scale to supercede the present temporary settlement at the ¥2,920 pay base. Inside the labor unions the struggle is continuing between the pro-Communist and the anti-Communist elements.

A similar battle is being waged on a broader scale between the National Congress of Industrial Unions and the General Federation of Trade Unions over the Economic Reconstruction Council, originally established as an influential labor-capital organ.

Again, the workers are showing alarm over the prospects of the Government revising the present labor laws.

Any one of these problems can develop into a fresh outburst of labor disputes. The labor situation is thus in a period of flux.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

Viewed in their entirety, the various problems facing the nation's labor movement have one point in common, and that is that all of these questions have arisen because of the immaturity of the labor unions. There is thus a need for criticism and reform which should come from the workers themselves.

Paradoxically, the very factors mentioned above as possible causes for a fresh outbreak of labor unrest are in themselves phenomena which reveal the workers' move toward self-criticism and correction. The democratization leagues which are being formed in many of the leftist-inclined labor unions reveal one aspect of this movement. The struggle between the NCIU and the GFTU may also be interpreted in a similar light.

Government views on a possible revision of the labor laws at the same time reflect a growing criticism against the excesses of the labor union movement. The Government is also beginning to clamp down on "production control" by the workers.

All of these events point to the fact that the nation's labor movement is today standing at the crossroads of a period in which they must undergo transformation. The need for criticism and reform, to be sure, is not a phenomenon which has arisen only in the labor field. It is a reflection of the great changes which must take place in Japanese economy as a whole. But it can be said that in its outward manifestations any action by the workers strikes close not only to the welfare of the people but to the nation's economic well-being as well. That is the significance of labor's move toward self-criticism and reform.

The danger is present, of course, in this period of flux for the labor movement to go from one extreme to the other. The success of the democratization leagues over the pro-Communist elements and the Red fractions may mean the control of the labor movement by another minority group which may wield as great a selfish influence as the forces they overthrew. But the fact that such a danger exists is proof of the immaturity of the labor movement.

A healthy labor movement devoid of political partisanship must grow out of the present confused labor situation. It is to be hoped that something constructive will develop from the solutions which must be had to the various problems now before the nation's workers.

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ITEM 10 Labor Unions and the Anti-Communist Movements (Sasaki, Tomiya) - Magazine; Atarashii Sekai (Monthly) - May 48. Translator: F. Tsuneishi. (TK)

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Summary:

The introduction of anti-Communist movements into the labor unions causes the workers much concern. If possible, we would like to ask that attacks be brought directly against the Communist Party as a political party, but the wise capitalists will not comply with such requests, for their aim is to weaken the power of the workers and control them as they wish.

For this purpose they will resort to any means, fair or foul. Especially since the war, they have attempted to suppress the labor unions by knocking out from under them. The still tottering foundation due to their raped expansion.

Because the political consciousness of the Japanese workers is low, there is no sense in blaming them. Actually, the power of the labor unions has been weakened because of anti-Communist activities within the labor union, and something must be done about it. Therefore, we must elevate the consciousness of the union members to a point where they will drive out the anti-Communistic elements, which the enemy is attempting to plant within the unions. For this purpose, we must first recognize the true character of the anti-Communist movement. It is necessary that we raise the standard of the labor unions to a level where this element cannot filter in.

Two Types of Anti-Communist Movement

There are two types of anti-Communist movements, one in which the capitalists themselves take direct action and the other where the capitalists use the workers to carry on the movement. In the former case their methods range from suppression negotiation or purge to more moderate methods such as bribery and educational propaganda. In this case, since the capitalists are the opponent fighting, will yield us results, and if it is carried out resolutely, the people's trust in the Communist Party will increase.

On the other hand, in the latter case where workers are used against us, the circumstances are adverse, for if the worst comes to the worst, it will end in a fight among the workers: The danger being that the real enemy will be forgotten (as in the case of the anti-Communist dispute at the Riken Kashiwazaki Factory).

Development of Anti-Communist Movement

Why was the anti-Communist movement born and how did it develop? It is said to have begun with the October dispute, the February dispute, and the suspension of the general strike, but it began to take a definite form in the union movement since the split of the Toho Union.

Those who had a hand in introducing anti-Communist activity into the unions are the capitalists and their tools, the JFTU, the Socialist Party, and the opportunists, who are associated with this party.

Next let us see along what lines it entered the union. First, it entered through the members of the company staff. Anti-Communist union activities are always centered around the company offices. In the large federations, the labor unions of the main company offices ar always the center of anti-Communist activities. This was clearly shown in the Hidachi and Mitsubishi Chemical Works dispute.

Whenever a dispute occurs in the other unions, the weakest and most compromising group are found in the main offices and among the officials, as was seen in the cases of the Nippon Electric, Riken, and Mitsui Chemical Industries. It is an advantage as well as a

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disadvantage to have company staff members in the labor unions, for the company always concentrates its attack on them. This group becomes restless as soon as a dispute reaches a deadlock or is forced with difficulties.

The next line of approach is the organization in the company office, for an anti-Communistic sentiment prevails among those who hold positions such as heads of department, section, etc. Many of them have formed a boss-henchman relationship with the factory workers, and at the least, they enjoy power as members of the management.

The workers have a feeling that they cannot hold their heads up before these officials. . These officials, on the other hand, and prone to side with the company, for they have been employed by them for a long time, receive preferential treatment, and are in an administrative position. The company, utilizing this fact, attempts to control the workers by maintaining a firm grip on the office organization.

Anti-Communist Inclination of Unions

Next it can be said that there exists an inclination within the union to accept anti-Communistic opinions. Firstly, there is an anti-Communist feeling among the leaders of the unions. This arises from their dissatisfaction at not being able to push through their own policies because of the pressure exerted by the unified demands and strong activities of Communist groups.

Secondly there prevails a vague feeling of dissatisfaction against both their leaders and Communists among the union members. The masses, while entrusting the disputes that arise to the union officials, are greatly dissatisfied, when all does not go well. This dissatisfaction is stronger if they themselves do not actually participate in the dispute, for they blame only others when they themselves assume no responsibility. When the leader is a Communist, this dissatisfaction increases. There is no need to worry about the hazy anti-Communistic sentiment among the masses, but it cannot be ignored in that it is tied up with their dissatisfaction with the union leaders.

Some say they like NOZAKA but do not like the Communist Party, or "There are some Communists who appear to be human." The persistence of such a feeling among the people is the responsibility of the cells.

Dissatisfaction among the leaders of the unions and dissatisfaction among the masses interrelated and form a hotbed for the rise of anti-Communistic movements. Feelings which were not anti-Communist at first are gradually led to become so.

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Tanro Accepts CLRB Plan

The National Federation of Coal Miners Unions at its national convention yesterday voted 245 to 105 with two invalid ballots to accept the mediation plan put forth by Chairman Itsutaro Suehiro of the Central Labor Relations Board. Earlier on Monday, the miners failed to approve the measure because the CLRB plan failed to gain the necessary two-thirds vote.

MAY 25 1949
NIPPON TIMES

Electric Workers to Meet

The fourth national convention of the All-Japan Electric Industry Workers Union will be held in Beppu in Kyushu for four days from today. A hard battle is expected between the right and the left-wing factions.

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MAY 26 1949

Muto Elected Tanro Head

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The second national convention of the National Federation of Coal Miners Unions (Tanro) closed its six-day session Thursday with Takeo Muto being re-elected Federation chairman.

With the exception of one leftist, all other newly-elected top-ranking officers of the Federation were right-wingers.

The convention, however, failed to reach an agreement on the future policies of the Federation.

MAY 28 1949

SIX LABOR OFFICIALS TO LEAVE FOR GENEVA

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Five Japanese, accompanied by Chester W. Hepler, Chief of SCAP's Labor Division, were scheduled to leave by Pan American Airways plane today at 2:15 a.m. for Geneva, Switzerland, to attend the annual conference of the International Labor Organization (ILO).

The Japanese will be: Taro Matsuda, Vice-Minister of Commerce and Industry, and Mitoru Eguchi, Vice-Minister of Labor, Government representatives; Masato Kato, president of Daiwa Spinning Company, the employers' representative; Etsuo Kato, chairman of the Central Executive Committee of the Government Railway Workers Union, the labor representative; and Hitoshi Yamamoto, a Mainichi Shimbun reporter, interpreter-liaison officer for the group.

Sessions are scheduled to start June 8. This will be the first appearance of Japanese observers at the annual ILO conference since 1938. The Japanese are expected to return on or about July 8.

ILO

MAY 29 1949
NIPPON TIMES

Densan Confab Agrees On 'Struggle Program'

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Asahi Shimbun-Nippon Times

BEPPU, May 30—The "struggle program" proposed by the executive committee of the All-Japan Electric Industry Workers Union was approved by the union's general convention.

The "struggle program" includes: (1) the immediate release of members imprisoned in connection with the non-payment of tax fight at Kisarazu, Chiba Prefecture; (2) the opposition to the division of the electric industry; (3) the opposition to the opening of the Kumano River dam by monopolistic capital; and (4) the opposition to the city public safety regulations.

No agreement, however, was reached on the method by which the above program should be executed.

Densan Reds Accused

Kyodo

BEPPU, May 30—A demand by rightist Democratization League members that top-level union leaders assume responsibility for the fund misappropriation case involving four former Communist members of the Fukuoka prefectural chapter touched off a bitter rightist-leftist controversy at last night's session of the All-Japan Electric Industry Workers Union's national convention.

Four Communist members of the Fukuoka prefectural chapters are alleged to have dissipated union funds amounting to ¥1,600,000.

The demand raised by Democratization League members and the statement by the Kyushu regional investigation committee member drew vigorous protests from leftist elements, with the result that the convention was thrown into a bedlam. Order was restored only after the rightists agreed to the withdrawal of the statement made by the Kyushu regional committee member.

MAY 31 1949 NIPPON TIMES

Govt. Selects 4 Observers To ILO Parley At Geneva

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Kyodo

TOKYO, May 13.—The Government at its extraordinary Cabinet meeting yesterday afternoon selected four Japanese observers to the forthcoming Geneva Conference of the International Labor Organization.

They are: Mitoru Eguchi, Labor Vice-Minister, Taro Matsuda, Commerce Vice-Minister, both representing the Government, Masato Kato, President of the Daiwa Cotton Spinning Company, representing capital, and Etsuo Kato, Chairman of the Government Railway Workers Union, representing labor.

MAY 14 1949
MAINICHI

Labor Mission Returns From Geneva Conference

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TOKYO, May 14.—The SCAP-sponsored Japanese labor mission, which had been dispatched for the first time since the end of the war to attend the meeting of the ILO Coal Mining Committee at Geneva, returned here, arriving at Haneda airport recently by a Northwest Airlines plane.

Headed by R. T. Amis, Chief of Wages and Working Condition Branch, Labor Division, GHQ, the mission included Makoto Watanabe, vice-director of the Government Coal Board, and Takeo Muto, chairman of the National Federation of Coal Miners Unions.

MAY 15 1949
MAINICHI

Allied Officials Guide, T... In Establishing Free Un...

Editor's Note: This is the second of a series... ment based on exclusive interviews with the Chi... Division. The first in the series dealt with prewa... modern labor unions. This article deals with the... ment under the Occupation.

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By Earnest Hoberecht, United Pres...

TOKYO, May 27.—Today there are 36,132 local unions in Japan with a total membership of 6,852,287, representing nearly 37 per cent of the industrial labor force.

These figures were cited by Chester W. Hepler, Chief of General MacArthur's Labor Division, to show the growth of labor unions in Japan since the end of the war. The largest prewar union membership was in 1936 when there were only about 420,000 workers in unions—about seven per cent of the industrial workers at that time.

"The Occupation, charged with the mission of demilitarizing Japan within a framework of peaceful and self-sustaining economy, was faced with the major task of creating a free democratic society and developing conditions which would guarantee human rights and decent living standards for all of the Japanese population," said Hepler.

Basis For Labor Movement

The basis for the postwar labor movement is contained in the United States Post-Surrender Policies for Japan and the Far Eastern Commission "Principles for Japanese Trade Unions." These call for encouragement of the development of individual liberties, freedom of religion, speech, assembly, and encouragement of unionization of labor, industrial negotiations and legitimate trade union activities including higher living standards.

"To carry out these objectives," Hepler said, "General Douglas MacArthur immediately ordered the Japanese Government to abrogate all restrictive legislation on speech, assembly, press and to release all political prisoners. Subsequent orders reinstated previously suspended protective legislation as a stopgap pending the introduction of revised and expanded measures."

Hepler said that the Japanese were encouraged by the Occupation policy and with the passage of the Trade Union Law in December, 1945, "formation of labor unions proceeded at an unprecedented rate."

5 Unions With 5,300 Members

Between the time of the surrender in August, 1945, and the communication of post-surrender policies to the Japanese Government in October of the same year, five unions reestablished themselves with a total of 5,300 members.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775015

Allied Officials Guide, Train Workers In Establishing Free Union Movement

Editor's Note: This is the second of a series of articles on Japan labor development based on exclusive interviews with the Chief of General MacArthur's Labor Division. The first in the series dealt with prewar labor conditions and obstacles to modern labor unions. This article deals with the developments of the labor movement under the Occupation.

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By Earnest Hoberecht, United Press Manager For Japan

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Between the time of the surrender in August, 1945, and the communication of post-surrender policies to the Japanese Government in October of the same year, five unions reestablished themselves with a total of 5,300 members.

At the end of 1945, Hepler said, there were 509 unions with 380,677 members. By the end of 1946 there were 17,266 local unions with 4,925,598 members; by the end of 1947 local unions numbered 28,013 with 6,384,120 members and by the end of 1948 they numbered 36,132 with 6,852,287 members, representing nearly 38 per cent of the industrial labor force.

More than 93 per cent of mining was unionized, nearly 89 per cent of transportation and communication and 41 per cent of manufacturing.

"The development of the trade union movement involved far more than encouragement of workers to organize," Hepler said.

He said one of the foremost tasks of his division was "directing the Japanese Government in preparation and passage of legislation adequate by international democratic standards to protect labor and to provide workers the opportunity to develop socially and economically through democratic procedures as individuals in a free society."

With the passage of such legislation it was then necessary to develop through Japanese agencies an efficient machinery for administration of the legislative mandates, he said.

Hepler said that in order to accomplish these things Allied officials had to follow two major lines of endeavor.

The first involved a complete change of personnel or at least restraining and reorientation of Government officials to administer the new legislation in accord with the radical concept for Japan that Government agencies are the servants, not the master of the people.

The second was guidance and training of workers in establishing and maintaining a free and democratic trade union movement. This involved acceptance of such democratic principles as free elections of officers, rank and file participation in union affairs, freedom from political party and employer control and a sense of responsibility to bargain collectively for the benefit of workers with due regard for the public interest.

MAY 28 1949 MAINICHI

5 Japanese To Attend ILO Geneva Conference

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TOKYO, May 28.—Five Japanese, accompanying Chester W. Hepler, Chief of SCAP's Labor Division, are scheduled to leave by commercial airline at 2 a.m. Sunday for Geneva, Switzerland, to attend the annual conference of the International Labor Organization (ILO), SCAP PIO announced today.

SCAP's Economic and Scientific Section officials said the Japanese will be:

Taro Matsuda, Commerce Vice-Minister and Mitoru Eguchi, Labor Vice-Minister, Government representatives; Masato Kato, president of Daiwa Spinning Co., the employers' representatives; Etsuo Kato, Chairman of the Central Executive Committee, Japan Railroad Workers Union, the labor representative; and Hitoshi Yamamoto, Mainichi Press reporter, interpreter-liaison officer for the group.

Sessions are scheduled to start June 8. This will be the first appearance of Japanese observers at the annual ILO conference since 1938. The Japanese are expected to return on or about July 8.

MAY 29 1949 MAINICHI

9 Japanese Attending Conferences Of ILO And MRA Leave Tokyo By Air

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Observers to the ILO conference at Geneva, from left to right: Mitoru Eguchi, Masato Kato, Etsuo Kato, Taro Matsuda, Chester W. Hepler, and Hitoshi Yamamoto.

TOKYO, May 29.—Two Japanese delegations departed today at 2.15 a.m. for Switzerland via Calcutta by Pan American Clipper to attend the 32nd annual International Labor Organization and Moral Re-Armament conferences.

The ILO parley, expected to be participated in by representatives from 55 countries, will open at Geneva on June and will last three weeks.

The five-man party accompanying Chester W. Hepler, chief of SCAP's Labor Division, will attend as observers and this will mark the first appearance of Japanese at an annual ILO conference since 1938.

They are expected to return to Japan by way of India some time in July.

The group that left this morning for the MRA world conference, opening on June 4 at Caux-sur-Montrieux, near Geneva, comprises four youths who originally were to have taken part in the production of the motion picture "Good Road" in connection with the convention.

Difficulties in obtaining necessary visas for the trip delayed their departure from here to arrive there in time for the filming.

The four Japanese include Toyotane Sohma, 26, of Chiba Medical University; Seiichi Shirane, 28, of Butterfield & Swire, Yokohama; Miss Kazuko Miyazaki, 21, third daughter of the former Minister of Switzerland and Iran, and staff member of the Kyodo News Agency, and Miss Tokiko Seki, 22, graduate of the Toyo Music School.

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FACTIONAL RIFTS CONFRONT LABOR

Many Unions Are Planning to Hold Conventions in May and June

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Antagonism between left and right wings on the nation's labor front is expected to become accentuated in May and June when some of the major labor unions are slated to hold their national conventions.

The conventions with the places where they will be held are: The National Federation of Coal Miners Unions (Tanro) for four days from May 13 in Tokyo; the Japan Teachers Union for four days from May 19 at Iizaka, Fukushima Prefecture; the All-Japan Electric Industry Workers Unions (Densan) for four days from May 28 at Beppu, Oita Prefecture, or Iizaka; the National Communications Workers Union (Zentei) for three days from June 8 in the city of Akita, Akita Prefecture; and the General Federation of Private Railway Workers Unions in the middle of June at the Yamanaka hotspring, Ishikawa Prefecture.

Intensified antagonism between the left and right wings was among the outstanding developments at the national conventions of the Government Railway Workers, Japan Farmers and Japan Express Company Labor Unions held during April.

Present indications strongly point to the likelihood that similar developments will be witnessed at the coming national conventions of Densan and other major unions.

MAY 4 1949
NIPPON TIMES

Decker Loyalty Check Is Protested by Union

By PETER KALISCHER
UP Staff Correspondent

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The U.S. Navy and General MacArthur's Labor Division appeared at odds yesterday over the demand by the commander of the Yokosuka Naval Base that Japanese union officials at the base sign "Taft-Hartley" type anti-Communist affidavits.

A delegation from the United Metal Workers of Japan called at the Tokyo office of the SCAP Labor Division to protest a Navy order that union officials representing Japanese working for the Navy base sign certificates that they were not members of "Communist, fascist, totalitarian, or subversive" organizations.

The order by Yokosuka commander, Capt. Benton W. Decker, said signing was "voluntary" but refusal to sign meant that a union official automatically would be regarded as "a menace to the security of the base" and would not be recognized.

Labor Division Chief Chester W. Hepler suggested that the union submit its case in writing to him for further consideration by the headquarters.

He said the matter had not been handled officially as yet but indicated that he felt Captain Decker's order contravened Occupation labor policy and the Japanese Trade Union Law, both of which give unions the right to elect officers of their own choosing by secret ballot.

Mr. Hepler said he recognized Captain Decker's right to guarantee the security of his base and said their differences were "more in method than intent."

Captain Decker said by telephone that he would "stand by my guns." He added, "I won't have Communists running the workers on my base. The idea of loyalty check came from the union members themselves."

He confirmed that he had disqualified two Japanese Occupation Forces union officials April 18 for refusing to sign the "loyalty" statement and directed the union to hold new elections.

The union re-elected the same officials April 24, Captain Decker said, in "an undemocratic balloting held on Sunday in a building which could only hold 200 people. I'm told the SCAP labor representative who wanted to observe the election was refused admittance."

MAY 7 1949
NIPPON TIMES

Tanro to Hold Convention

The National Federation of Coal Miners Union (Tanro) will hold its national convention for four days from May 20 at the Kasei Gakuin auditorium here.

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MAY 13 1949
NIPPON TIMES

JAPANESE IMPRESSED BY NEW YORK'S SIZE

Mine-Labor Group Due Back in Tokyo Today

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Kyodo-AP

WASHINGTON, May 11—Visiting Japanese mine and labor officials returned from New York "awed by its bigness—its breadth and height."

The visitors went to New York as the climax of an American tour during which they attended labor meetings in Pittsburgh and conferred with various U.S. Government officials in Washington.

The group left Washington Monday night. It is due in Tokyo Thursday morning, Tokyo time, via Northwest Airlines.

"New York is amazing, almost beyond belief in its efficiency and speed in doing things," said Takeo Muto, president of the Japanese Federation of Coal Mine Workers. Like the other members of the mission he is seeing the United States for the first time.

The others echoed Mr. Muto's sentiments that the visit afforded a "wonderful opportunity to gain better knowledge of the United States and its tremendous resources and capacities."

The group said they hoped a group of American labor union chiefs would visit Japan "soon, to advise us on problems confronting our unions."

The Army said formation of such a group is under consideration, but no decision has yet been made.

MAY 12 1949
NIPPON TIMES

U.S. LABOR HEAD GIVES MESSAGE

Coal Mine Mission Returns to Japan After Meeting Lewis in Washington

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John L. Lewis, American labor leader, hopes the day would come soon when relations between Japanese and American workers would be re-established, according to Takeo Muto, president of the National Federation of the Coal Miners Unions (Tanro), who arrived home yesterday morning from the United States at Haneda airport by a Northwest Airlines plane.

Mr. Muto and four other Japanese observers attended the meeting of the Coal Mine Committee of the International Labor Conference (ILO) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The mission was headed by Robert T. Amis, chief of Labor Relations and Education Branch, ESS, SCAP.

Mr. Muto attended the conference with Makoto Watanabe, vice-chairman of the Coal Board; Hirosaku Teramoto, chief of the Labor Standards Bureau of the Labor Ministry; Asago Yamamoto, a director of the Mitsui Coal Mining Company; and Yasuhiro Goh, interpreter of the Commerce-Industry Ministry. The Japanese observers also attended the World Coal Mine Workers' Federation Conference in Washington, D.C., which lasted three days from May 4.

Mr. Muto said on landing that he had met Mr. Lewis in Washington, D.C. and presented him with a message and a gift of doll from Japanese coal miners.

Mr. Lewis said he hoped the day would come soon when relations between Japanese and American workers would be re-established. He would stint no effort to aid the sound development of Japanese labor movements.

Mr. Lewis was in agreement with the ideals of the World Labor Federation but he could not play ball with them now because of its strong Communist coloring. The same opinion, Mr. Muto reported, was expressed by AFL and CIO leaders. At the World Coal Mine Workers' Federation Conference it was decided that the next session, to be held on October 4, should have Japan officially participate in the discussions.

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NIPPON TIMES

INCREASE NOTED IN LABOR UNIONS

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6,909,542 Members Listed in 36,482 Bodies At the End of March

Labor unions numbered 36,482 with a total membership of 6,909,542 at the end of March, the Labor Ministry announced yesterday. As compared with the previous month, it showed an increase of 47 unions and 8,722 members.

Of the total, 6,352 unions with an aggregate membership of 1,410,565 were those of civil service personnel, reports Kyodo.

Newly formed in March were 463 unions with a combined membership of 37,933, while 408 unions with a membership of 30,790 were dissolved.

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NIPPON TIMES

Independent Organ Planned

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The Democratization League within the National Congress of Industrial Unions has decided to establish an independent labor organ to be called the Federation of Industrial Labor Unions. The preparatory committee for new body expects about 222,000 workers to join by the time the inaugural meeting is held in Osaka early July.

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NIPPON TIMES

Densan to Quit NCIU

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The Aichi Chapter of Densan (All-Japan Electric Industry Workers Union), involving a total 7,500 workers from 13 locals, decided to secede from Sanbetsu (National Congress of Industrial Unions). This decision was reached at the conference of the union held in Okazaki, Aichi Prefecture, reported Kyodo yesterday.

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ITEM 5 Labor Unions! Speed Production Rehabilitation - Provincial Paper: Chuka Kokusai Shimbun (Osaka) - 30 May 48. Translator: H. Arai. (UG)

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Summary:

A remarkable advancement can be seen in the recent labor offensive of this country. Union activities are aimed to improve labor's livelihood, and since collective rights are guaranteed by the new Constitution, it is advisable that laborers try to improve their economic conditions, while being conscious of their responsibilities. However, they must not abuse their collective rights. If labor unions exercise these rights only when striking, it will, in the long run, lead them to ruin.

The exercise of the right to strike by labor unions should be duly admitted, but at the same time, the sincere performance of their duties must be expected.

We are afraid that many unions are only absorbed in struggles for better treatment and neglect their duties as producers. For instance, the theft of freight by railway workers and their impoliteness towards passengers testify that they are unaware of their responsibilities. Delays in postal delivery and pilfering of postal orders and parcels by communication workers also reveal this trait.

Every occupation has its specific duties. Although it is proper for labor unions to use their collective rights to improve labor conditions, they must not forget the responsibilities of their positions.

Under the present circumstances, JAPAN's economic recovery is by no means an easy task. It can be realized only when everyone is awakened to his own role in society. The incompetence of the Government tends to aggravate inflation and redouble living difficulties. We must blame the government and capital for inefficiency and continue our struggles for better treatment.

However, what is most important is for labor to exert its best efforts to fulfill its duty. This is the only course that a progressive and democratic labor union should follow.

ITEM 9 NCGEU to Revise Agreement - Tokyo Mimpo - 29 May 48. Translator: T. Ogawa. (WM)

Full Translation:

The National Council of Government Employees Unions held a general meeting of committee members at 1000 hours, 28 May, at the Ueno Museum. After deliberating on the future struggle policy based on the reports on the situation after the dispute of the National Liaison Council of Government and Public Office Employees Unions, it was decided to correct the duplexity of the liaison and executive organs, long a defect in the organization, and to strengthen the authority of the standing committee as an executive organ. As a result, it was decided to revise the agreement.

As soon as the new agreement is drawn up, the National Council of Government Employees Unions will hold its first mass meeting in the middle of July, elect new officers and build up a new system to cope with the new labor offensive.

ITEM 5 Occupation Forces Employees Won't Bolt NCIO - Minpo - 2 Jun 48. Translator: K. Sato. (TK)

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Full Translation:

The third general meeting of the All-Japan Occupation Forces Workers Union was held on 29, 30, and 31 May at the Fuel Building in MARUNOUCHI to discuss the occupational wage system, the unemployment problem, the contract system, freedom of union activities, and extension and strengthening of the union.

Sharp opposition arose between the Hokkaido Branch and the Democratization League, which contended that the union should bolt the National Congress of Industrial Organizations, and the groups faithful to the NCIO. When it was put to vote whether the union should bolt the NCIO in order "to promote and strengthen the union system," 63 were against and 13 were for the motion, with three abstaining. Thus, it was affirmed that the 30,000 organized and 180,000 unorganized Occupation Forces workers would continue their policy of strengthening their structure.

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ITEM 12 Labor Unions and Communist Party Groups (Kamiyama, Shigeo) - Magazine: Atarashii Sekai (Monthly) - May 48. Translator: F. Tsuneishi. (WM)

Summary:

In every case, the labor union is a mass organization for the purpose of protecting the basic interests of the workers, and the struggle for the realization of this end must be directed not against a particular enemy of the moment, but against all enemies; that is, it leads the fight against the capitalist class and trains the workers in class consciousness. Therefore, a Labor Union is a "school for socialism."

The labor union has been called a mass organization which should take a neutral political stand. But how true is this? Actually politics is an all-out struggle between the governing class and the governed. Therefore, how can the labor union stand aloof from politics or adopt a neutral political stand? For instance, the Enterprise Reconstruction Adjustment Law, the Anti-Economic Concentration Law or the unjustifiable revision of the Labor Standards Law are not only problems of the Diet, but they are manifestation of a fierce class struggle between capital and labor. Can the labor unions maintain a neutral stand in the face of this?

"Autonomy" of the Labor Union is now being advocated. The labor unions have always been independent, but recently the word "autonomy" has begun to mean the dissolution of the Communist Party groups and the rejection of Communist leadership and activities. This will eventually lead the labor unions toward a neutral stand, cause them to discard their class political stand, and weaken their influence by stripping them of all arms. How can such a mistake which can only mean the disarming of the unions be voiced at this time of intense struggle?

The political parties are organizations representing the interests of the classes which are engaged in the struggle. Thus in this sense, the reasoning behind the principle, "The labor unions are permitted to participate in political activities and to support Political Parties" (Principle 16, Labor Union, Far Eastern Commission holds true. It is only natural that individual Union members should participate in politics and join a political party. Moreover, these party members should form and be active in the Communist Party groups, namely, the fractions, within a popular organization in order to give life to the policies of the party that stands as their vanguard.

If labor unions are to discard their neutral stand, must they suppor a certain political party? We do not think so, labor unions should be made up of people with varying ideologies and should support various political parties. Therefore, labor unions or their organs should not exclusively support single political factions.

Labor unions today should participate positively in political activities in the broad sense of the term. The right is guaranteed in the new Constitution and the various labor laws. At the same time, they should guarantee the right of their members to participate in any political party as individuals. This is the real relationship between politics or political parties and the democratic labor union.

If the working classes are to gain power and maintain and strengthen this power, they must be led by the Communist Party. Conversely, the Communist Party should, through the mass organization of the working classes, weld the masses with the other classes, and the link should be provided by our party groups. Thus, it is necessary that the Communist Party form groups within the labor unions, which are the most important of all mass organizations. Under the present political situation, such an act is legal.

The problem would be different in a nation where the labor union movements are unified nationally into one Union, but in a nation where such movements are divided, the Communist Party must not stay in the aggressive unions only, but must go into the unions which have all the various tendencies found among the masses, form groups there and carry on their work. Then the group will not only give life to the party policies within the working classes' organization, and guide all classes in the right direction, but will provide a focal point for the unification of the disunited labor union movement. As such, they have a special significance and purpose.

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ITEM 1 Japan's Return to ILO - Tokyo Times - 31 May 48. Translator: S. Yokoyama. (RL)

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Summary:

It is gratifying to learn that the government has finally taken official action to negotiate for JAPAN's reinstatement into the International Labor Organization.

At a recent cabinet meeting, the Labor Ministry reported that JAPAN's participation in the ILO is supported unanimously by capital and 65 percent of organized labor. Moreover, the Asiatic Area Conference of the ILO, held last year at NEW DELHI, reportedly voted to invite JAPAN to participate in the organization. We must be grateful to the ILO for such a lenient and understanding attitude.

The NCIO opposes the return of JAPAN to the ILO chiefly because it feels that JAPAN's participation in the ILO, which is closely related to the UNITED NATIONS, is still premature since JAPAN is still denied membership in the UNITED NATIONS. Inasmuch as JAPAN's early return into international circles is highly desirable, we feel that this nation's participation in the ILO will be very advantageous to us.

Since the termination of war, the Japanese people have worked for national democratization, but the task is far from being completed. JAPAN's return to the ILO at this juncture will afford the Japanese an ample opportunity to adjust the course of national democratization to the international trend.

It is well known that the pre-war delegates to the ILO conferences were appointed by a one-handed decision of the Government and capital. It is our desire that future delegates be appointed by the Diet so that JAPAN can be efficiently represented in future ILO conferences.

ITEM 9 Government Employees Union Demand Revision of Price Structure and Budget - Tokyo Minpo - 4 May 48. Translator: R. Ishii. (TK)

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Full Translation:

Representatives of the All Japan Government Employees Unions visited each party at the Diet Wednesday and demanded a thorough revision of the proposed raise in commodity prices and the bulky 1948 budget on the ground that they would only result in further aggravation of the vicious inflation at the sacrifice of the laborers.

ITEM 5 Socialists, JFLU Agree to Stay Out of FLLC - Asahi - 3 Jun 48. Translator: F. Hagiwara. (FST)

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Full Translation:

Key factor in the moves of Farm-Labor Liaison Council has been which way the Socialist Party and the Japan Federation of Labor Unions will turn. On Tuesday evening, leaders of both groups met in the Diet. They agreed on the following points:

(1) A permanent liaison organization should be established between the Socialist Party and the unions which support or co-operate with the party. It is desired that in the future this organization be developed into one which links the party with all labor-farmer bodies. For the time being, however, this liaison group should be composed of committee members duly elected from both the JFLU and the Socialist Party. Its purpose, machinery, operation method, and expenditure should be decided by subcommittees.

(2) Regarding its attitude toward the Farmer-Labor Liaison Council, in parallel with the JFL's nonparticipation attitude, the party basically will also assume the nonparticipation stand. However, for the present, 12 sponsors will attend the liaison council with the approval of the Central Executive Committee of the party. These members will endeavor to make it a simple round-table conference. The JFLU, if possible, will break off relations with the Farm-Labor Liaison Council in the future.

(3) No conclusion was reached on wage-price policy. However, the predominant opinion was that the 3,700-yen base should be raised to over 4,000 yen.

(4) The party and the JFLU agreed on utilization of dispute conciliation machinery.

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ITEM 3 Speed Establishment of Livelihood Co-operative Union Law - Tokyo Shimbun - 31 May 48. Translator: E. Okajima. (JJY)

Summary:

To cope with the public demand for less living expenses, the Government is preparing the Consumers' Livelihood Co-operative Union Bill for presentation to the Diet. The bill aims at improving the household finance of the people by eliminating profits earned by merchants.

The livelihood co-operative unions are permitted by the bill to engage in purchasing, services, culture, mutual benefit, education, and enlightenment. Such credit business as savings and loan accommodations are also permitted. In all these operations, no tax is to be imposed.

For the defense of so-called business rights, there will undoubtedly be some opposition but we firmly believe in the sound development of these unions for the benefit of the consumers at large.

Earlier we pointed out the fact that the livelihood co-operative unions under economic control had difficulty in operating smoothly and developing soundly. During the one year that followed, however, these unions have made remarkable progress.

In TOKYO Metropolis, for example, the number of these unions, for both neighborhoods and plants employees, has reach about 800 as compared to 340 at the end of May last year and that the people receiving benefits from these unions has registered a sharp increase to 1,530,000 from 970,000. Admitted that some people have registered their names in two unions of neighborhood and plant workers, about one fourth of the entire population of TOKYO Metropolis are joining the livelihood co-operative unions.

Their business activities are also remarkable in the sales of controlled fish, vegetables, clothes and marine products, the unions accepting free registration by consumers. On the other hand, they are extending their business field to include purchasing of goods including noncontrolled ones, barbering, baths, shoe-repairing, watch-repairing, and bakery and laundry service. This tendency to expand cannot be ignored.

Meanwhile, lack of funds constitutes a serious problem for these unions. However, if their business is expanded to include culture, credit, and mutual benefit work, they will be benefited according to the amount of funds.

Is it not possible that these unions can be utilized for the solution of housing problems in this country? For this purpose, the movement to be launched by the Metropolitan and Prefectural League for doubling the amount of investments is not at all adequate. The accommodation of funds from outside is essential. To receive fund accommodations and gain credit from outside the unions, the establishment of a judicial foundation and the development of their structures and business are required.

In these days when the neighborhood association is extinct, the livelihood co-operative unions will be certain to go a long way toward eliminating various inconveniences. If the union stores and other private stores are in operation side by side within a city, the situation will serve to stabilize the prices in the city. We would like to urge the Government to extend legal protection to these unions.

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ITEM 1 Readjustment of the Union Movement - Seiji - 25 May 48. Translator: S. Yokoyama. (GS)

Summary:

The union movement in our country, unreasonably oppressed during the war, has made rapid progress since the termination of war. However, its position has not yet been consolidated. At present, it appears that a feeling of relaxation prevails in labor circles. However, closer observation will reveal that there are various important problems which may some day congeal to cause a serious labor upheaval. For instance, the impending problems of the Democratization League, the new wage standard to be decided, the divergence of views among the NCIO, the JFLU, and the management (in regard to the Economic Rehabilitation Council, the Toho dispute, and the imminent revision of labor regulations), are all objects of keen public interest. Far more important than these problems, however, is the fact that severe criticism is being raised against the principle of the existing union movement, inasmuch as such criticism is more closely related to the inherent characteristics of the union movement of our country. The democratization movement and the divergence in opinion between the NCIO and the JFLU can be interpreted as expressions of the workers' severe criticism of existing labor tactics.

It is true that the union movement, which has developed rapidly since war's end, has done much to awaken laborers and to improve their social status. However, it cannot be denied that the movement was not endorsed by sound principles, and there were many instances where the realities of the postwar economy were disregarded. For instance, it is imperative for unions to abandon their dogmatic and subjective standpoint and take a more rational and scientific viewpoint in deciding the new wage standard. The strong attitude of the Government toward production control by workers, and the movement to revise labor regulations indicate the recent trend of Government and society in general, calling for the revamping of union movements.

What, then, is the economic and social background which caused such a change in the popular notion regarding the union movement? Without a doubt, the prospect of an early economic recovery through forthcoming American aid constitutes the most important factor. It is quite natural that the union movement would be greatly affected by such a change in our economic prospects. It is undoubtedly necessary to check the extreme leftist trend of the union movement but, at the same time, it is necessary to prevent it from deviating to the extreme right. For instance, the movement of the Democratization League will lose all significance if it results in the shifting of leadership from the hands of the minority Communist fractions to those of minority leaders of the a situation remains unimproved, the union movement here cannot mature. Today, when a revamping of the union movement is so necessary, it is our desire that reorientation will be carried out in such a manner as to establish the foundation of the union movement.

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ITEM 11 Kyoto Reds Losing Influence - Provincial Paper: Miyako Kyoto - 24 May 48. Translator: K. Yasutake. (DD)

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Full Translation:

Kyoto labor circles have been conceiving a delicate atmosphere reflecting the movements of the NCIO MINDO (NCIO Democratization League) and the JFL MINREN (JFL Labor Unions Democratization Federation). Under the present situation, the Regional Council of ZENTEI (All Japan Communication Workers Union) which is to meet on 26 May, may very likely leave the Kyoto Council of the NCIO from an entirely different standpoint from that of the headquarters in TOKYO. On the other hand, the Kyoto Regional Labor Unions Council, which is making advances to the KKR, is regarded as being essentially controlled by Anti-Communist leaders. It is generally regarded that the MINDO and the MINREN will become considerably strengthened.

The Regional Council of the ZENTEI is the extreme leftist organ in the Kyoto Labor front and has been fighting as the spearhead of this front. However a strong anti-leader tendency has appeared since the 2,920 yen base wage issue. Its three most important positions, the chairman, vice-chairman and chief secretary all filled from among the representatives so as to avoid any autocracy by the leaders. However, judging from the situation in the regional chapters, YAMAGUCHI (Fushimi Communications Workers Training School) will most probably be elected chairman, HASHIMOTO (Post Office Insurance), vice-chairman, and TAKAGI (Telegraph) chief secretary, at the regional conference to be held on 26 May at the Bunka Kaikan.

These men are all very partial to the MINDO. Furthermore, the Post Office Insurance Chapter is going to propose its retirement from the NCIO Kyoto Council and there is every sign of its realization. If the regional council of the ZENTEI leaves the Kyoto Council of the NCIC, because of the numerous positions its members occupy in the Kyoto Council of the NCIO, such as secretaries and the business affairs bureau chief, the Kyoto Council will have to be reorganized.

Moreover, the Kyoto Regional Labor Unions Council will turn strongly to the right, and the voice of the Kyoto Council of the NCIO in the Kyoto Regional Labor Unions Council will be greatly weakened. Nor will it be possible for the Kyoto Council of the NCIO to leave the Kyoto Regional Labor Unions Council and operate independently.

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ITEM 1 Anti-Communist Declaration and the NCIO (by Chujo, Hiroshi) - Provincial Paper: Niigata Nippo (Niigata) - 23 May 48. Translator: W. Hayashi. (RL)

145

Summary:

(The author is an instructor at Niigata Higher School.)

In a surprise anti-Communist statement recently, Mr HAROLD of GHQ rebuked neo-Fascism as Communism and the NCIO leaders as tools of the Communist Party. This must have been a bitter statement to the NCIO leaders.

Since they have been branded as tools of the Communist Party, the honor of the NCIO leaders is now at stake. I think that they cannot dismiss the issue too lightly. It is imperative that they now re-examine the past activities of the NCIO in relation to JAPAN's economic reconstruction, and take remedial steps to correct past mistakes, if any, so that they can meet the people's expectations.

Despite the leaders' repeated denials, the NCIO has been repeatedly criticized that its movements have coincided with objectives of the Communist Party. Now is the time for the NCIO to erase all suspicions and restore itself to its original status. We cannot, however, dismiss the evils committed by the NCIO during the course of JAPAN's economic reconstruction.

I must recall here the fact that the NCIO, at its inaugural meeting in August 1946, lodged a public protest against criticisms that the organization was being directed by the Communist Party, and declared that it has no affiliation with the Communist party. This was, in my opinion, a deliberate gesture taken by the NCIO to quell such disadvantageous criticisms.

When we scrutinize the NCIO's ideology and struggle tactics, it is apparent that they do possess something in common with objectives of the Communist Party, as evidenced by their spirited participation in the October offensive, the 1 Feb strike, and many other movements launched to date. Since the NCIO is ideologically radical, very positive in struggles, assimilatory to a political group, and gives the impression that it is under the leadership of a particular political party, it is no surprise at all why its activities have been subject to public criticisms.

The NCIO has shown little faith in unionism, as compared with the JFLU. It has asserted that the laborers' demands must be solved politically, and has transformed this assertion into action. Consequently, it has been subject to severe criticisms; remarks that the NCIO is consubstantial with the Communist Party are only natural.

In regard to trade unionism, the Communist Party insists that it manifests political neutralism, and cannot be proletarian in idea because the idea is a product of the bourgeois class, and that the objective of labor unions is the acquisition of power by the laboring class.

The Communist Party is being blamed for utilizing the labor unions as a means of revolution... Can we allow the labor unions to be utilized as tools at the sacrifice of their autonomy? Is the improvement of union members' positions and welfare possible, and can we realize JAPAN's economic development under such conditions?

It is regrettable that present-day Communists in JAPAN, or union leaders affiliated with the Communists, are striving to realize proletarian dictatorship by denouncing all moderate elements to be conservative and reactionary, and mobilizing all laborers available for this end. The definition that all elements other than the Communists are conservative and reactionary is in itself dogmatism and undemocratic in attitude.

Japanese economy has now entered the most important phase, and it is apparent that any erroneous conduct on our part will lead to its collapse. Those who must play the leading roles in avoiding this collapse are the laboring masses of JAPAN.

With Mr HAROLD's declaration as a turning point, Japanese laborers must examine themselves, grasp the existing circumstances correctly, understand the miserable economic conditions of a defeated nation thoroughly, instead of launching reckless struggles, and strive to accomplish their constructive roles by improving their livelihood based upon rationality. They must keep in mind the fact that their reckless struggles, as a result of ideological formulism, will only lead to the collapse of the laboring class.

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ITEM 3 Long-Term Economic Rehabilitation Plan and Labor Unions - Rodo - 21 May 48. Translator: H. Konishi. (RL)

145

Summary:

The government summoned members of the economic rehabilitation committee on 17 May, and announced the first tentative plan which the executive committee of the long-term economic rehabilitation committee had been studying and preparing since last July.

We frankly admit that we do not begrudge our thanks to the executive committee, for statistical material, which should constitute the basis of the plan, is incomplete in JAPAN. Due to shifting changes in world affairs, the committee probably had to change its work several times.

We of the laboring class cannot help being deeply concerned over this long-term economic rehabilitation plan and being extremely critical about its contents and premises. We wish to call the attention of all laborers to a few points.

The first is that the fundamental aim is to achieve the standard of living of the years between 1930 and 1934. This aim was accepted probably because it was stipulated by the Far Eastern Commission; however, we wish to emphasize that during this period, the laboring class was in the depths of difficult living conditions. Furthermore, 1930 was the year after the panic of the UNITED STATES, and world capitalism was struggling with depression.

JAPAN became disliked by the entire world not only because of the Manchurian aggression by JAPAN's capitalism, but also because of the so-called social dumping based on extreme exploitation of the laborers. Therefore, we are dubious of this level becoming the work goal of JAPAN's working class.

Secondly, is the problem on handling inflation. According to the plan, the aggravation of inflation and the stabilization panic will not affect industrial rehabilitation. Inflation will be dealt with periodically, which will gradually result in interim stableness.

We are doubtful whether or not this will materialize, theoretically or practically, and we cannot help feeling that under all these measures, capital will endeavor to tide-over the crisis by the one-sided sacrifice of the working class.

Capital seems to place the success of tiding-over the crisis on the importation of foreign capital. If the plan is limited to 1,600,000,000 dollars, our method must be adopted. Inasmuch as this plan is not merely a working goal, but will become effective in two or three years, we wish that measures to be taken during the crucial period will be synthetic.

Thirdly, this plan may become the basis for the adjustment of enterprises.

Finally, we have doubts about the organization. We wish to point out that with only two labor representatives among the forty members, the will of the working class, which has an important role in industrial rehabilitation, will not be reflected democratically.

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ITEM 18 Union Protests Non-Communistic Clause Not in Agreement - Asahi - 12 May 48. Translator: M. Yoshii. (DD)

145

Full Translation:

(YOKOSUKA) - The Yokosuka Labor Affairs Liaison Administration Office has, since June 1947, enforced a system whereby all workers employed by the Occupation Forces in the Yokosuka District must sign a declaration that they are not members of the Communist Party and that they do not belong to any communistic organization. On 26 April, the Administration Office discharged four executive members of the Yokosuka Sub-chapter of the All-Japan Occupation Forces Workers Union, including TOBE, Shu the chairman of the Sub-chapter, and OCHIAI, Kentaro, chief of the Youth Department of the above union. However no mention of such a written oath system is made in the collective agreement which was concluded on 1 June 1947 between ASHIDA, Hitoshi, chief of the Central Liaison Office and KODAMA, Shigeru of the central executive committee of the All Japan Occupation Forces Workers Union.

Accordingly, the union protested against the Yokosuka Labor Affairs Liaison Administration Office claiming that the dismissal of the four executive members was unlawful. Chief MINOBU of the Yokosuka Labor Affairs Liaison Administration Office stated that all the workers within the jurisdiction of the said office were expected to submit new written oaths in the near future.

ITEM 12 Further Arrests Made in Japan Typewriter Case - Yomiuri - 11 May 48. Translator: K. Shinoda. (DD)

145

Full Translation:

Following the court injunction against the Mita Factory of the Japan Typewriter Compnay, on 7 May, the Second Investigation Section of the Metropolitan Police Bureau arrested KOBAYASHI, Takeshi, 31, chairman of the strike committee of the said factory and three others on suspicion of inciting a disturbance, obstructing officials in the execution of their public duties, inflicing injuries, and trespassing. Again on the 10th, these officers under the direction of Public Prosecutor KATSUDA, arrested SHINDO, Kiyoji, 25, member of the said strike committee, and KOIZUMI, Chushi, 23, strike committee member on the same charges.

ITEM 10 Japan Typewriter Union Files Suit to Cancel Provisional Attachment - Mainichi - 6 May 48. Translator: Y. Inouye. (GS)

145

Full Translation:

On 5 May, the Japan Typewriter Company Workers Union, objecting to the recently executed provisional attachment, filed a suit with the Tokyo District Court against SHIROMORI, Shozo, director of the company, demanding cancellation of the above measure.

ITEM 8 Takeda Pharmaceutical Workers Strike Again - Kokusai Shimbun - 11 May 48. Translator: A. Ohori. (DD)

145

Full Translation:

The labor union of the Takeda Pharmaceutical Company carried out a 24 hour strike on 26 April demanding the revision of the labor agreement and the establishment of a sliding wage system. As negotiations were broken off again they went on another 24 hour strike at 0900 hours on 9 May.

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ITEM 14 The Awakening of the Union Masses - Magazine: Asahi Hyoron (monthly) - May 48. Translator: K. Osawa. (DD)

125

Summary:

When the chairman of the executive committee of the Japan Federation of Labor ran as a candidate in the general election successfully last year, one member of that union said, "Though not compelled to vote for him, every union member was called upon to send five letters recommending the candidate; and as long as we had to recommend him to others, we had to cast our votes for him ----."

Just before the election a survey of opinion was conducted among the members of a certain labor union of the NCIO which was known for its high class consciousness, and contrary to expectation, it revealed that most of its members supported the Liberal Party. Considerable time has elapsed since the revival of labor unions, during which there should have been ample opportunity to guide and educate the union members through struggles and labor offensives; and yet confronted with the election campaign "letter-of-recommendation" tactics had to be resorted to. Again union members supported the Liberals, their "enemy."

These facts are being cleverly utilized by management in its counterpropaganda against the labor movement, saying, "The unions dance to the tune of one of its minority elements." They even repudiate indiscriminately the positive union activities in their entirety on the excuse that the ideas held by this one element and the union masses do not concur. The problem lies in how we should strive to adjust the focuses of the viewpoints of both parties.

Regarding this divergence, a certain leader of the NCIO pointed out the inadequacy of union education a year ago. Since then, the critical scope of every union has been developed greatly to include such activities as research, reading clubs, theaters, sports, etc. What are the results obtained from this education?

Let us take two instances from the labor dispute of the Government and Public Workers Union of last March. A certain union went on strike quite unexpectedly to the surprise not only of labor experts but to some of the members themselves, for the union was known as being anti-communistic. Well-informed quarters believed that the real cause was the political discord within the Government; and as they had expected, the union called off the strike midway. In the second instance, it was often heard among the members of a government workers union which resorted to absenteeism that though few of them were in favor of absenteeism, they remained away from work because it was decided to do so at a mass meeting. They knew they should have opposed it at the meeting, but were afraid of the consequences.

Union Masses May Oppose Strikes

What is the significance of strikes being called or halted by internal political discords which bear no relationship to the union masses and walkouts decided against the real will of the union members, who nevertheless abide by the decision? Can the labor leaders say that the "members have been thoroughly educated" or that the "trend is on the upgrade"? To say such things in order to believe them may be easy and self-consoling. But who can guarantee that the down-trodden union masses will not rise in revenge at a most critical moment?

To the union members themselves, this road leads to bitter regret as in the case of the defeat when the cries of "We were betrayed" and "We were fooled" were repeatedly heard. At present the feeling that the lens of the union masses are forcibly adjusted to focus with that of a minority, who, as seen from above, are not always Communists, is strong.

In the March labor offensive, a spokesman for the Government told this writer, "This offensive is said to have been planned and carried out by the Communists. But I could not guarantee that no labor offensives would arise if all Communistic elements were to be ousted from the unions. For, to a great extent, the will of the union masses who suffer from living difficulties supports this offensive.

The fact that stress was placed on the existence of the "union masses" besides the leaders and the minority elements is worthy of notice and of great significance. It means that "a union of the member masses" and not "a union of leaders" has come to the fore to call upon the leaders of all the political parties, labor unions and management to stop their underhand tactics of utilizing union members for their own interests and devote their time, not to their own struggle for power, but for the common interests of the members for the paradise for demagogues will not last forever. The focus must be set on the union masses and not the leaders.

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ITEM 2 Toho Workers Organize Joint Protection Committee - Akahata - 14 May 48. Translator: Y. Sato. (GS)

145

Full Translation:

The movement for the overthrow of the Ashida Cabinet has assumed greater proportions throughout the Nation. The workers' combined strength against the authorities in the disputes involving the Aikodo Printing and Publishing Company, the Toyoko Metro Theater, and the Nippon Typewriter Company, have resulted in the creation of joint protection committees in various districts. The protective committee in MITA is the center of this movement.

The Toho Studio Joint Protection Committee, which was formed as a result of the dispute of the Toho Motion Picture Company, held a 12 May workers' rally to oppose unlawful suppression. The various workers' union directly concerned were invited to attend. The stage was crowded with 3,000 workers from the various unions, including the Government Railway Workers Union, the All-Japan Electric Industry Workers Union, and the All-Japan Machine and Tool Workers Union.

Representatives of the Government Railway Workers, Nippon Typewriter Company Workers, and the Toho Motion Picture Company Workers Unions made reports on the progress of their disputes. While reporting, they stood in front of a placard which depicted the Diet Building.

Chairman of the Communist Party TOKUDA, who attended the meeting as a guest, made the following speech of encouragement: "We should change our defensive policy into a great offensive at this time, when the capitalists, led by the Democratic Party, are attempting to destroy the unions in their effort to kill the union movement by the beginning of autumn."

Seven slogans were adopted, including, "The immediate establishment of a democratic racial front" and "Joint protection is a prerequisite to the unification of the labor front." Following discussions on strike organization and policy, the meeting was adjourned at 1600 hours.

ITEM 4 Revenue Office Workers Revise Union Agreement - Tokyo Mimpo - 14 May 48. Translator: T. Ogawa. (GS)

145

Full Translation:

The National Revenue Office Workers Union is preparing for a long struggle which will include submission of the case to the Metropolitan Labor Relations Committee and a signature campaign against dismissal. This is in opposition to the unwarranted dismissal of five leaders, headed by Chairman INOUE, which was the climax of the Government and Public Office Employees' dispute.

At a national mass meeting held on 5, 6, and 7 May, it was decided that revision of the union agreement should be one item in the projected struggle, in order to prevent unlawful oppression in the future.

It is worthy of note that revision of the union agreement is a countermeasure against the trend of the recent capitalists offensive, which aims at weakening the union through the dismissal of the fighting elements.

The proposed revision of the union agreement states that, to the clause stipulating the qualifications for union membership, in Article 3 of the union agreement, the following clause will be added: Those who have been disqualified as employees as a result of unlawful oppression are qualified for union membership.

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ITEM 8 Socialist Seek Control of Farm-Labor Council - Asahi - 19 May 48. Translator: F. Hagiwara. (FST)

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Full Translation:

The attitude of the Socialist Party and the Japan Federation of Labor Unions toward the Farm-Labor Liaison Council has been watched closely. The Socialist Party yesterday called a round-table conference of its labor-farmer Diet members, attended by AKAMATSU, SHIMAGAMI, YAMAHANA, and ISHINO. The conference reaffirmed the previous agreement that those qualified to join the Farm-Labor Liaison Council should be restricted to members "coming directly" from either labor or farm unions.

The labor union group is not yet agreed to this, insisting on the inclusion of members "concerned" with labor or farm unions. The reason why the labor union group insists on this is that it wants to include Communist members who belong neither to labor nor to farmers unions. However, Socialist Diet men from labor and farm unions do not agree with this opinion. Thus, it is held that the Socialist Party will take the initiative in the Liaison Council.

A preparatory meeting for the Farm-Labor Liaison Council (tentative name) was held yesterday in the Upper House at 1400 hours. The meeting reaffirmed the steering procedure, machinery, and nature of the council which were decided at the 12 May meeting. Then, as sponsors to inaugurate the council, 16 persons were elected including NAKAHARA (NCIO) and TAKEUCHI (Japan Electric Power Workers Union).

ITEM 2 Chiba Prefectural Government Appoints LRC Members - Akahata - 18 May 48. Translator: Y. Inouye (GS).

Full Translation:.....

(CHIBA) -- Recently, the Chiba Prefectural Government selected members for the district labor relations committee from the union side, on their own authority. The Prefectural Council of Labor Unions held a meeting on 13 May to consider measures to oppose this action. As a result of discussion, it was decided to persist in demanding that committee members be selected by election.

Of the members selected, WATANABE, Shichiro, of the Keisei Railway Workers Union, flatly refused to accept the position, despite repeated entreaties. SASA, Yasushi, chairman of the Prefectural Council of Labor Unions (Japan Express Company), who was reported to have accepted the offer, was advised by the council, in the name of the general meeting, to decline.

ITEM 4 State Ownership, Union Control, Demanded by Tenants' Union - Jiji - 24 May 48. I. Yoshinaga. (GS)

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Full Translation:

The National Federation of Tenants' Unions, composed of the residents of homes erected by the now defunct Housing Corporation (JUTAKU EIDAN), has applied to the authorities to buy houses on the condition that the Government reduce the price to one half of that officially established. The Closed Institutions Liquidation Commission, however, sent word to all unions that it would turn down their request. The Central Executive Committee of the federation then decided, at a meeting on 23 May, to take positive measures to adopt State ownership, management, and union control of houses which tenants cannot afford to buy. The second special national convention will convene on 6 June at the Tokyo Industrial Arts Institute auditorium.

About 2,000,000 households under the federation will submit petitions to the Closed Institutions Liquidation Commission and to the Diet, protesting the auction of houses now occupied by its members.

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ITEM 17 The Truth about the NCIO Democratization League (Kogo, Tohei) - Magazine: Kogyo Shunju (Monthly) - May 48. Translator: M. Takagi. (DD)

Summary:

The NCIO Democratization League appears to be led by HOSOYA and his followers, but behind the scene there are various forces--the left-wing of the Socialist Party, the Japan Federation of Labor, the neutral labor unions, the bureaucrats, the capitalists and others.

It is unnecessary to mention the intentions of the Government and capitalists, and in the case of the Socialist left-wingers, catering to their constituencies, or the intention of utilizing the League to achieve conditions favorable to put KATO, Kanju in the post of labor minister can be perceived as possible motives. It appears that all of them are expecting something by lending their support.

Therefore, as long as the League gains considerable influence within the NCIO, these wirepullers may shout encouragement behind the scene but it cannot be conjectured that they will dance to HOSOYA's tune. It can be said that whether or not the Democratization League is supported within the NCIO will determine its fate.

In what way is the League creating a stir among labor unions, and especially among the masses? The anti-Communistic labor unions--the JFL, the Government Railway Workers' Union, etc.--supported the Democratization League in its entirety as soon as it appeared and lodged a protest with the leaders of the NCIO concerning its stand. However, the anti-Communist League, composed of various incoherent elements, cannot be regarded as supporting the Democratization League wholeheartedly. This may be seen in the statement made by HOSHIKA, Kaname, chief-secretary of the Government Railway Workers' Union that unless the Democratization League aims to unreservedly exclude the Communist Party, it is useless in opposition to the League's policy to tolerate even those communists who support its principles.

Attitude of Labor Unions not Certain

The labor unions belonging to the NCIO also took this problem up, but they have not yet decided on the attitude they should assume. For example, the Horikawamachi Factory Branch of the Tokyo Shibaura Electric Company Labor Union adopt the attitude that "the labor union has no objection to the democratization of the union, but definitely cannot agree if it is an attack against the fraction activities of the Communist Party. When many significant problems such as the readjustment of enterprises, economic decentralization, wage increases and the adverse revision of labor laws lay before us, the union has no time to discuss the propriety of this movement. As long as the Democratization League or the Communist factions neither creates splits within the ranks nor is disadvantageous to the working class, the labor union has no concern over their existence."

The Communist factions have adopted the policy of waging an all-out fight against the Democratization League. Their policy is to get the working masses to understand not only through theories, but actual practice who really protects the interests of the workers, and that the activities of the Democratization League are actually being conducted to betray the interests of the working masses. The Democratization League is being strongly encouraged by the anti-Communists to persist within the NCIO and carry on its movement by AKIYAMA and MIE who bolted the NCIC because of dissatisfaction with an executive committee decision. The inconsistency exists where HOSOYA and his right-hand man MIE, who are the chief force behind this advocacy are in reality not members of the NCIO.

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ITEM 17 (Continued)

Although each of these are supporting the NCIO Democratization League, their reasons differ.

It is unnecessary to mention the intentions of the Government and capitalists, and in the case of the Socialist left-wingers, catering to their constituencies, or the intention of utilizing the League to achieve conditions favorable to put KATO, Kanju in the post of labor minister can be perceived as possible motives. It appears that all of them are expecting something by lending their support.

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ITEM 17 (Continued)

Therefore, if driven into a corner, there exists the possibility that the League will bolt from the NCIO taking with it as many union members as possible. But in such a case, the workers, who have an instinctive abhorrence of disunity will not follow them.

Although this will probably resolve into a fight against the so-called Communist factions within the NCIO, at present it is difficult to realize the overwhelming support of the masses. There is also the fear that if they are not careful, the supporters of the League may be driven out of the NCIO. Such being the case, some of its leaders are showing signs of wavering, and there is a strong possibility that this movement, after raising a great cry, will end in little gain.

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ITEM 15 Fascism and the Labor Unions (Yamakawa, Kin) - Magazine: Shin Keizai (Monthly) - May 48. Translator: M. Suzuki. (RL)

Summary:

The existence of a secret underground government in JAPAN has been widely discussed lately. Nothing definite is known, but to deny that it exists, however, is more dangerous than to admit it.

The presence of a semi-feudalistic rightist organization must be given attention although all organizations opposed to Communism do not necessarily have rightist tendencies, rightist organization and gangs of ruffians have used word, "anti-Communist," as their passport in moving around.

Radical nationalistic organizations have been dissolved, but this does not mean that all reactionary elements have been wiped out. There is a possibility of rightist groups and organizations reviving as soon as they are given the opportunity. Many phases in present-day Japanese society reveal the fact that the democratic revolution has already reached a reactionary stage.

From the standpoint of international relations, there is no possibility of an extreme form of reactionary domination, such as a Fascist rule, being set up. However, there are factors in JAPAN enabling Fascism to gain power. The bourgeoisie are losing their influence in politics and ideologies, while social elements which attained economic power at this time of inflation are mainly conservative and reactionary. The former middle class, in its anxiety, unrest, and hopelessness, has lost positive and constructive ability. The golden age of the farmers is passing, and they too are facing unrest. In becoming small-holders, they have lost their cohesive factor, the struggle against landowners. All of these conditions can give Fascism a foothold.

Can the working class and its labor unions serve as barriers against reactionary influences? The fact that no matter how much they work or fight for wage increases, they cannot keep up with the rising living expenses gives them a common ground, but there are doubts as to whether they are conscious of themselves as being one class working toward the same end. The labor unions have expanded so suddenly under exceptional conditions that their consciousness and training have not kept pace.

The labor unions' present struggles have been guided by an appeal to the laborers' impulse to live. That is why no matter what political motives exist in guiding the laboring populace, they can be swayed by giving them what they want. If the leftist leaders should fail to provide them with that which they desire, and Fascism should appear saying, "Here is a power which you can trust," they will readily follow and fight for this Fascist political power.

In the majority of cases, labor union leaders belong to the petit bourgeois class, which is the reason for radicalism dominating the union movements. Under the present system where employers bear the burden of union leaders' wages, there is a possibility that a group of union bureaucrats may be born. As long as the labor movements continue in their low level of consciousness and the petit bourgeois radicals hold sway over the unions, there is a possibility of Fascist supporters appearing from this movement.

One of the reactionary tendencies which has recently come to the fore is racialism. A strong racial feeling exists in the subconsciousness of a defeated people. A certain power can increase its influence effectively and easily by appealing to and stirring this feeling. Reactionary influences, both rightist and leftist, have constantly used this means. Whatever the motives, influences which appeal to racialism are opening the way to Fascism, which from this standpoint, can be said to be reactionary. To stir this feeling among the workers and in their unions is betraying democracy and the laboring class.

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I have merely pointed out the dark side of democracy in our country because it is dangerous to forget that such a side exists. We already find that democratic revolution in JAPAN has come to a standstill in many of its phases, and in some cases has started to recede. One viewpoint is that the democratic revolution has come to an end and all that is left is a social revolution. It is true that democratic revolution is facing a large barrier; if this barrier cannot be surmounted, democratic revolution can be said to have ended.

However, if the viewpoint that the coming social revolution will be peaceful is taken, the present democratic revolution must be carried out thoroughly. Only the modern laboring class can carry out this revolution which possesses such a historical meaning. Termination of the democratic revolution depends on the class consciousness of the working class and the development of a political class consciousness. The labor union movement in our coutry is standing at an important crossroad now, and labor's grave reflection is demanded.

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ITEM 1 Government Contemplates Joining International Labor Organization - Minpo - 23 May 48. Translator: K. Higashikawa. (FST)

Summary:

The Government proposal to rejoin the International Labor Organization has met with a cold reception from National Congress of Industrial Organizations and the Japan Federation of Labor Unions, it was learned. At one of its conventions, the NCIO decided to become a member of the World Federation of Trade Unions, while the JFL desires to participate in the International Free Labor Union advocated by the American Federation of Labor.

Asked by the Government for its opinion on the proposed return to the International Labor Organization, the NCIO reportedly replied that the matter will be discussed at conventions of industry-wide trade unions and the final attitude will be decided at a convention of the National Labor Union Liaison Council. The JFLU replied, the question will be threshed out by the Federation's official machinery.

The trade unions have three doubts on the Government proposal to revert to the ILO. They are: (1) so far they have not been furnished any data on the subject; (2) can Japanese trade unions become members of international labor organizations in the absence of any international treaty? and (3) are the Japanese labor delegates to the ILO to be appointed by the Government as was the case when the ILO was a subsidiary organization of the League of Nations? The JFLU and the NCIO are also afraid that on account of the ignorance of Japanese workers, the world labor front might be split.

The Government is of the opinion that Japanese labor organizations can become a member of the ILO if its permission is obtained even though a peace treaty is not concluded and that the delegation will be composed of two Government representatives, one labor representative, and one representative of employers appointed by the Government. The Government says the present proposal has nothing to do with the World Federation of Trade Unions.

ITEM 1 Election Method for Local LRC Members to be Reconsidered - Nihon Keizai - 20 May 48. Translator: H. Nishihara. (DD)

Full Translation:

At this time when the Central Labor Relations Committee has become the subject of discussion in relation to the National Administration Organic Bill, the prefectural labor relations committees, which are due to re-elect committee members in the near future, will also have to reconsider their election system, especially of labor representatives. Accordingly, the labor authorities are hastening to devise a policy.

Concerning the election method of members of the prefectural labor relations committees, the chief of the Labor Administration Bureau of the Welfare Ministry issued a notification, dated 11 Sep 46, to prefectural governors, "In regard to the Election Method for Labor Relations Committeemen". All prefectures elected their five committeemen representing labor through the direct single ballot system in accordance with this notification, until the National Liaison Council of Labor Relations Committees was held in September 1947. However, AOMORI, TOCHIGI, YAMAGATA, CHIBA, and other prefectures, which re-elected committeemen this spring, adopted the indirect plural ballot system, and, therefore, the spheres of influence of labor unions are not reflected in the number of elected committeemen. Governors of these prefectures have been exercising their authority to appoint the committeemen according to Item 5 of Article 37 of the Regulations on the Execution of the Labor Union Law.

The Labor Ministry and the Central Labor Relations Committee administrative officials are of the opinion that such undesirable situations as resulting from the plural ballot system can be prevented by the adoption of the single ballot system recommended by the aforementioned notification. The problem is that the notification is just an informal provision which has no legal binding power and the authorities, therefore, have no effective means of enforcing it. They, therefore hope to revise this point and to reconsider the election system.

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ITEM 7 Government to Seek Reinstatement in ILO - Mainichi - 16 May 48.
Translator: F. Hagiwara.

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Full Translation:

The Government, at an extraordinary cabinet conference Friday evening, approved the proposal of Vice-Premier NISHIO that in order to make the workers' position in our country befitting a peaceful and cultural country, the nation should seek early reinstatement in the International Labor Organization.

Although the peace treaty is not yet concluded, this step of JAPAN in concert with the civilized nations of the world, is to seek their understanding in regard to the settlement of our labor problems including working conditions based on social justice. To this end, the Labor Ministry is scheduled to start informal negotiations with both labor and management shortly. The Government intends to take necessary steps after the labor-management opinion has been settled.

The International Labor Organization was established in 1919 in GENEVA simultaneously with the inauguration of the League of Nations. The organization was continued even after the dissolution of the League of Nations, with almost all the affiliated nations of the League of Nations participating in it.

The headquarters moved from GENEVA to MONTREAL in 1940. Since the end of the Second World War, a general assembly has been held every year, attended by 52 nations including the UNITED STATES, GREAT BRITAIN, and CHINA, but not SOVIET RUSSIA. Following the negotiations with the United Nations' Economic and Social Council last May, the ILO has been acknowled as a special organization of the United Nations' Organization.

ITEM 1 GRWU Demands 4,700 Yen Net Wage Standard - Nihon Keizai - 6 May 48.
Translator: K. Sasaki (JJY)

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Full Translation:

The headquarters of the Government Railway Workers Union held a Central Strike Committee meeting on Tuesday to discuss a new wage standard. The meeting reached agreement as follows:

"The GRWU has accepted the 2,920 yen base for the months of January through March. Because of changes in the general economic situation, the average wage standard has to be raised to 4,700 yen net from April on. The union will soon submit this demand to the Government."

Concerning a new wage standard program, other member unions of the National Council of Government and Public Office Workers Unions are expected to present their respective minimum wage bases soon. The GRWU's figure in its bearing on other union demands is calling attention of the general public.

ITEM 10 Unions, Dietmen Conflict on Dispute Conciliation Question - Mainichi - 15 May 48. Translator: U. Futonaka. (JJY)

145

Full Translation:

The All-Japan Coal Workers Union and the National Council of Government and Public Office Workers Unions yesterday voiced strong opposition to the Government's plan to apply the Dispute Conciliation Committee system to the coal and metal mining industries.

A second conference of labor unions and interested farm-labor legislators was held in the Upper House yesterday at 1300 hours to discuss the establishment of a Farm-Labor Liaison Council (tentative name) under the chairmanship of Business Bureau Director TSURUOKA.

A number of issues now confronting labor unions were introduced to the gathering by unionist conferees. The first subject on the agenda was the operation of the Dispute Conciliation Committee, which is designed by the Government to affect the fields of coal and metal mining.

This government intention was vigorously protested by the AJCWU and the NCGPOWU, both of which described this projected government measure as a virtual deterioration of labor regulations, vetoing labor's rights of dispute. Discussions were focused upon this matter throughout the conference, with the result that a subcommittee was set up to work out concrete measures. The gathering adjourned at 1630 hours.

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ITEM 8 AJGPOW Union Confers with Labor Farmer Representatives - Seiji - 4 May 48. Translator: M. Ota. (WM)

145

Full Translation:

The representatives of the All Japan Government and Public Office Workers Union and the labor-farmer Diet members group held a conference to criticize the labor dispute of the All Japan Government and Public Office Workers Union at the dining-room of the Upper House on 2 May. About 70 persons were present, including the reporters. Representing the Government Workers Union were chief TSURUOKA of the Business Affairs Bureau, Chairman DOBASHI of the All Japan Communications Workers Union and Chairman SATO of the All Japan Government Workers Union; and representing the Diet members were Diet members SASAKI,(Ind), IWAMA (Ind), NAKANISHI (Com), TSUJI (Soc), SHIMAGAMI (Soc), and NOZAKA (Com).

After DOBASHI reported on the progress of the labor dispute of the All Japan Government and Public Office Workers Union, Diet member NOZAKA stated that in the recent dispute, liaison between the labor unions and the Diet members group within the National Assembly was unsatisfactory, and he proposed that the present conference create a liaison organ for the future.

Diet member SASAKI then explained that it was very difficult to unify the labor-farmer Diet members group because they are divided into factions. He said that the unity of these Diet members depends mainly on the labor unions outside the National Assembly.

Chief YOSHIDA of the NCIC's Business Affairs Bureau and Diet member SHIMAGAMI (Soc), expressed their approval of these proposals. Finally, it was unanimously decided that the Diet members and labor union representatives present at this conference would promote the liaison organ between the labor-farmer Diet members group and the labor unions.

After the conference was adjourned, one or two representatives from each union got together with the Diet members on the arrangments for the liaison.

ITEM 13 Reconsideration of Labor Union Movements - Nihon Kaiji - 10 May 48. Translator: Y. Kuniyasu. (UG)

145

Summary:

The current feature of labor's disputes is that labor is prone to resort to a strike at any time. This is due to the fact that labor unions conduct their negotiations, with the idea that the presentation of their demands is the ultimate.

Although the strike is a powerful weapon in achieving union demands, it also the final weapon. Therefore, the unions should not utilize it indiscriminately.

To resort to strike is by no means profitable to either management or labor. Especially now that labor unions are expanded to cover all laborers of one locality or of the entire nation, it exerts strong influences over the entire nation.

Therefore, in labor disputes, stress must be laid on efforts for negotiations, but not on the strike itself. Japanese labor unions are apt to express their demands with the word, "absolute." As a result, it is obvious that negotiations do not make headway. It is advisable for Japanese labor unions to negotiate without using such words as "fight for" or "unification of the front", which were frequently used during the war.

Under the present circumstances where stress is laid on the reconstruction of national economy, improvement of labor conditions will never be attained unless national economy is recovered, and the same applies to the profit-making of the capitalists.

Such being the case, both capital and labor must co-operate to avoid aggravating national economy by strikes. Accordingly, government policies should be established so that capital-labor agreements are strengthened, and any obstacle to the conciliation of capital and labor and to government policy eliminated in the name of the people.

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ITEM 11 Campaign Started against Establishment of Dispute Conciliation Committees - Akahata - 15 May 48. Translator: S. Katagiri. (JJY)

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Full Translation:

The Farm-Labor Liaison Council, which was established to reflect the will of organizations of laborers and farmers in the Diet through Diet members concerned, convened a round-table conference in the House of Councillors at 1300 hours on 13 May. The conference was attended by interested Diet members and the delegates of labor unions numbering about 100. It was held under the chairmanship of TSURUOKA, director of the General Affairs Bureau of the National Council of Government and Public Office Workers Union.

Without sticking to form, the conference immediately discussed concrete measures for the urgent issues requiring immediate settlement, and heated discussions were made on the projected establishment of dispute conciliation committees and the Political Fund Regulation Bill. Thus, the conference paved the way for the start of the council.

All present agreed to start a campaign against the dispute conciliation committees on the ground that the committees, as well as the dispute arbitration committee projected at the time of the formation of the New Wage Deliberative Council, aim at the deprivation of laborers' right to walk out and is against the Labor Relations Adjustment Law. The conference broke up at 1700 hours, and then a subcommittee drafted urgent measures.

Especially, the establishment of dispute conciliation committees is feared to impede the increase of coal production seriously, and is expected to affect the revision of prices of coal and other commodities. Therefore, the All-Japan Coal Workers Union and the Japan

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ITEM 11 (Continued)

League of Coal Mine Workers Union decided to develop a rigorous campaign against the establishment of dispute conciliation committees in all parts of the country in concert with labor unions of other industries, as well as with the Diet.

The Farm-Labor Liaison Council is scheduled to convene its next formal session in the House of Councillors at 1300 hours on 20 May to take up various problems, such as the payment of the new wages under the 2,920 yen wage level, revision of commodity prices, and the raise of railway fares and postal rates, and to carry on a campaign more vigorously in and out of the Diet.

On 13 May, after the conference of the Farm-Labor Liaison Council broke up at 1700 hours, a subcommittee meeting was held with the attendance of some Communist, Socialist, and independent Diet members and some delegates of the All-Japan Coal Workers Union. They agreed to take the following measures immediately:

(1) A campaign should be carried on to settle the dispute conciliation committee issue separately from the new wage agreement issue.

(2) Absolute opposition to the establishment of dispute conciliation committees should be expressed.

(3) Diet members affiliated with the council should meet Commerce-Industry Minister MIZUTANI and Labor Minister KATO and should make a strong protest to them by referring to the preceding measures.

(4) Diet members interested in this issue should go to KYUSHU, HOKKAIDO, and to other districts to fight in co-operation with outdoor workers.

JFLU to Participate in Council

The Japan Federation of Labor Unions held a meeting of its Central Committee at the official residence of Speaker MATSUOKA of the House of Representatives Thursday morning to determine its attitude toward the Farm-Labor Liaison Council. The meeting discussed a written opinion presented under the joint signature of seven Socialist Diet members--YAMAHANA, SHIMAGAMI, TANAKA, Minoru, AKAMATSU, Isamu, UCHIMURA, Kiyoshi, SUZUKI, Kiyoshi and TSUJII. As a result of this, the meeting approved it and decided to participate in the council with the following conditions:

(1) Structure: The council should be composed of all representative labor unions and farmers' unions. Diet members should participate in the council in their individual capacity and should be members of these unions.

(2) Character: Though the council aims at more close connection between the unions and Diet members affiliated with them and the promotion of mutual understanding between the two, freedom of action should not be restrained by participation in the council.

(3) Management: Some managers should be nominated, and a managers' meeting should be held once a month. General meetings for management of the council should be held as occasion demands.

Tokuda Denounces Dispute Conciliation Committee Plan

Secretary-general TOKUDA of the Communist Party, at a meeting of the Farm-Labor Liaison Council on 13 May, made the following speech amid a storm of applause:

"The existing labor laws contain many points to be revised, not for the worse but for the better. They should be made perfect by including the Unemployment Insurance Law among them. The establishment of dispute conciliation committees is, as it were, a base for bad revision of the existing labor laws. Our party will fight to the last

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in absolute opposition to this.

"All laborers must be aware that the Democratic Party based upon the financial capitalistic principle is the laboring masses' worst enemy contriving bad revision of the existing labor laws."

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ITEM 4 Labor Union Statistics Disclosed by Labor Ministry - Tokyo Minpo - Akahata - 13 May 48. Translator: S. Ota (FST).

1/45

Full Translation:

(MINPO) -- The Labor Ministry disclosed on 10 May the number and membership of labor unions as of last February. According to the statistics, the number of unions in that month reached 9,162 (TN: Sic) with a total membership of 6,334,401. Their distribution in each occupational field is as follows:

Field	Number of Unions	Total Membership
Manufacturing	11,838	2,129,899
Public organizations	4,402	549,991
Transportation and communications	4,307	1,300,459
Free workers	2,637	562,137
Construction	1,365	397,847

Distribution by prefecture is:

Prefecture	Number of Unions	Total Membership
TOKYO	3,035	818,898
HOKKAIDO	2,252	395,632
OSAKA	1,604	450,547
HYOGO	1,052	291,601
FUKUSHIMA	1,009	453,277
AICHI	931	329,518

(AKAHATA)--According to a survey by the Labor Ministry, the number of labor unions and their total membership as of 31 December last year was 28,013 and 6,268,432, respectively, indicating an average membership per union of 223. As compared with the figures at the end of June last year, this marks an increase of 469 in the number of unions and 673, 733 in total membership.

1. Distribution by industry: Leading in the number of unions is manufacturing, which includes 11,466 unions (41 percent), followed by transportation and communications services (15 percent), public organizations (15 percent), free workers, and construction workers. In total membership, on the other hand, manufacturing, transportation and communications services, free workers, mining industry, and public organizations represent 34 percent, 21 percent, nine percent, nine percent, and eight percent, respectively, with the lowest percentage of 0.8 in agriculture.

2. Distribution by prefecture: Foremost in the number of unions is TOKYO (2,946), followed by HOKKAIDO (2,186), OSAKA (1,539), FUKUOKA, AICHI, and NAGASAKI. In total membership, however, FUKUOKA (453,000) comes next to TOKYO (800,000), being followed by OSAKA (445,000).

3. In total membership, 77 percent are men and 23 percent women.

4. Percentage of organized workers in each occupational field is public offices and organizations (100), transportation and communications services (100), gas, electric, and water services (96), mining (94), banking (76), construction works (74), free workers (73), manufacturing (51), forestry (37), commerce (26), agriculture (18), fishery (16), and services (14).

ITEM 1 Mediation Plan for Yokohama City Office Workers Announced - Tokyo Minpo - 11 May 48. Translator: S. Sakata. (GS)

Full Translation:

145

(YOKOHAMA) - The Kanagawa Prefectural Labor Relations Committee, which had been mediating the Federation of Yokohama City Office Workers Unions' demand for 2,400 calaries and 85 grams of albumen, has recently announced its mediation plan. According to it, a worker having three dependents will be paid 6,106.09 yen a month, this figure being based on the theoretical cost of living. However, the Federation demands 12,842.88 yen for a worker with three dependents.