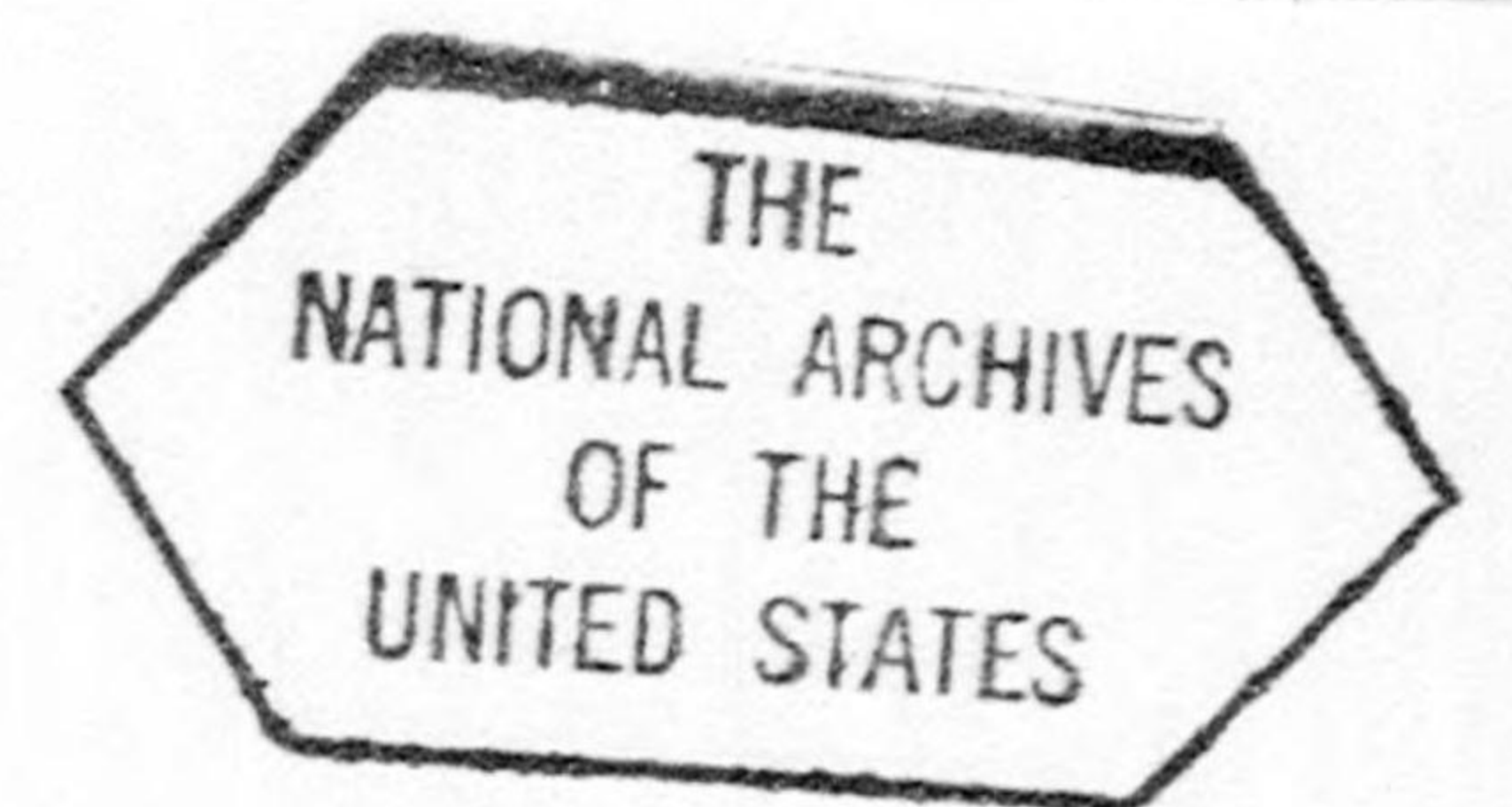


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Summation of Local Elections, 1949

Of 2,011 local elective contests held in Japan during 1949 to fill 7,364 vacancies, 916 were "no poll" contests in which 2,608 of the available seats were filled by uncontested candidates. In the remaining 1,095 elections in which the electorate actually balloted, 7,003,481 voters went to the polls to register an average voter participation rate of 62.84 percent.

The percentage of the total vote accorded each party, the number of candidates entered, and the number and percentage of the available seats acquired by each during the year are given in the following table:

<u>Party</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Vote</u>	<u>Number of Candidates</u>	<u>Number of Seats Won</u>	<u>Percentage of Available Seats</u>
Social Democrat	7.6	294	144	2.0
Democrat	4.1	138	86	1.2
Democratic Liberal	24.3	495	338	4.6
Communist	6.8	404	100	1.4
Minor Parties	2.6	101	60	0.8
Independents	54.6	8,531	6,636	90.1

In these local elections the nation selected prefectural governors and assemblymen and heads and assemblymen of cities, towns, and villages. The level at which each party garnered its seats and the number won are shown in the table below:

<u>Type of Election</u>	<u>SD</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>DL</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>MIN</u>	<u>IND</u>	<u>Total</u>
Governor	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Prefectural Assembly	1	10	41	1	2	25	80
Mayor	0	0	9	0	1	15	25
City Assembly	15	12	30	7	7	158	229
Town Headman	4	5	13	0	1	188	211
Town Assembly	31	19	94	36	8	1,451	1,639
Village Headman	10	8	44	4	6	720	792
Village Assembly	83	32	106	52	35	4,078	4,386
Total	144	86	338	100	60	6,636	7,364



Although a substantial segment of the Japanese electorate was sampled in these numerous local contests, the results as listed in the above tables, though from a statistical viewpoint correct, may possibly lend themselves to an overemphasis on some particular aspect of election results.

Two cogent reasons exist for this contention. First, the above table includes the results of 916 (45 percent of the total) "no poll" contests in which 2,608 of the 7,364 vacant seats were filled by uncontested candidates. Secondly, of the 1,095 elections in which voters actually balloted, only 102 -- barely 9 percent -- were conducted on a level at which organized parties showed marked interest and entered into competition with each other. Most observers agree that a year's-end appraisal of local election results must be tempered with the admission that only a full-scale national election will clear up many of the controversial aspects of the 2,011 contests held during the year.

Proceeding on the premise that only in those contests where voters participate, and even then only in contests conducted at a level sufficiently high to ensure party competition, do the results lend themselves to the refining of a clear cut trend, the following two tables were compiled:

Number and Percentage of Votes Accorded Each Party in 102  
Upper Level Elections in 1949

<u>Party</u>	<u>2 Elec- tions for Governor</u>	<u>75 Prefec- tural Assembly Elections</u>	<u>25 Mayor- alty Elections</u>	<u>Total Vote by Party</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Vote Cast</u>
Social Democrat	168,789	222,952	32,455	424,196	9.7
Democrat	- - -	216,938	- - -	216,938	4.9
Democratic Liberal	386,361	933,133	202,202	1,521,696	34.8
Communist	31,179	245,085	77,230	353,494	8.9
Minor Parties	48,830	90,015	14,053	152,898	3.4
Independents	481,362	787,824	430,099	1,699,285	38.9



Candidates, Successful Candidates (in parentheses) and Percentage of Available Seats Granted Each Party in Top Level Elections in 1949

<u>Party</u>	<u>2 Elec- tions for Governor</u>	<u>75 Prefect- ural Assem. Elections</u>	<u>25 Mayor- alty Elections</u>	<u>Total Can- didates Entered</u>	<u>Succes- ful Can- didates</u>	<u>Percentage of Seats Available</u>
Social Democrat	2	39 (1)	5	46	1	0.9
Democrat	-	26 (10)	-	26	10	9.3
Democratic Liberal	2 (1)	88 (41)	12 (9)	102	51	47.6
Communist	1	64 (1)	16	81	1	0.9
Minor Parties	3	16 (2)	2 (1)	21	3	2.8
Independents	6 (1)	106 (25)	43 (15)	155	41	38.3

These 102 contests, the results of which are shown above, constitute barely 9 percent of the total of local elections held during 1949 yet account for 4,368,507 (62 percent) of the 7,003,481 ballots cast during the year. Here then is where political parties met in competition with each other in 1949 and, if accurate analysis of the year's contests is to be made, results of these contests will assure a reasonable degree of validity.

Results of these higher level elections as seen in the above tables contrast sharply with the results as seen in the less comprehensive over-all coverage. For example, the Democratic Liberal Party secured nearly 35 percent of all votes cast in the top level contests but less refined results covering all elections give them only 24.3 percent; they were granted only 4.6 percent of the total available seats during the year but garnered 47.6 percent of the available seats on a level where a concerted effort was made.

Another example is found in the Communist Party's year-end tally. The 100 seats granted to Communist candidates appears to be a substantial slice of the total vacant seats but, from a study of those higher level contests where full-fledged opposition was encountered, it is seen that only 1 of their 81 contestants was accorded a seat -- their remaining 99 seats were acquired at city assembly and town and village levels. However, the percentage of the total vote garnered by the Communist Party in top level elections does not substantiate the contentions of many that the Communist Party is no longer a threat in the political field.



In spite of deterioration of their party organizations, the vote tallied by the Social Democrats and Democrats in these high level contests against stiff opposition may well indicate their ability to offer worthy competition in a future national election.

Variations in the vote-getting successes of each party by month during 1949 is shown in the table following:

Percentage of Votes Garnered by Parties in Local Voting Elections, 1 January - 31 December 1949

<u>Month</u>	<u>Social Democrat</u>	<u>Democrat</u>	<u>Democratic Liberal</u>	<u>Communist</u>	<u>Minor</u>	<u>Independent</u>
January-March	5.2	6.3	33.8	11.4	3.2	42.6
April	6.7	3.1	19.1	9.9	0.9	60.3
May	16.3	1.9	20.2	2.8	6.1	52.6
June	3.0	1.4	10.0	4.6	0.9	80.1
July	5.8	2.1	13.7	5.0	0.2	73.2
August	8.9	0.3	18.7	4.8	0.6	66.7
September	6.1	0.5	30.0	8.3	0.4	54.6
October	6.0	0.5	12.1	2.7	1.2	77.5
November	5.4	8.8	14.3	6.2	0.1	65.2
December	10.9	1.3	10.5	4.6	0.7	72.0

From the above table a direct relationship between the election levels encountered and the success of organized parties is evidenced. For example, during May, 1 gubernatorial, 2 prefectural assembly, and 3 mayoralty contests were conducted. Organized parties polled a substantial percentage of the vote during that month. During the following month, high level contests were limited to the selection of 2 prefectural assemblymen. As a result, organized parties sustained a deep cut in their share of the vote case while Independents garnered over 80 percent of the total vote.

Viewed alone, however, certain contests did seem to throw light on the trend of Japanese political thought and to substantiate the contentions of some observers. One of these was the mayoralty contest in Kobe conducted on 25 November. Results showed the Communist Party to have lost 70 percent of those voters who had supported it in the January House of Representatives' election. Further evidence of their lack of real grass roots support was



contained in an appraisal of the House of Councillors' by-election on 24 December in Fukushima Prefecture. Here again Communists lost a large portion of their January supporters -- 44 percent. The Democratic Liberal Party, on the other hand, showed its mettle in garnering over 54 percent of the total vote in that contest.

In brief, 1949 saw the consolidation of past gains by the Democratic Liberal Party as it sought to maintain its marked lead over all other organized parties while Independents still held over 82 percent of the 203,732 local elective seats in Japan at year's end.

The percentage of the total number of seats (excluding vacancies) held by each party as of 31 December is as follows:

Percentage of Local Elective Seats Held by Each Party  
as of 31 December 1949

Democratic Liberal	6.40
Democrat	2.82
Social Democrat	2.82
People's Cooperative	0.17
Communist	0.38
Social Renovation	0.05
Labor Farmer	0.02
New Liberal	0.01
Japan Farmer	0.36
Minor	0.88
Independents	82.31

All statistics and tables used in this summation were compiled from reports furnished Government Section by the National Election Administration Commission.

A. A. J.



Summation - December 1949

Local Elections

Local elections in Japan during December 1949 numbered only 98 -- fewer than in any previous month of the year. Of the eligible voters in these contests, 245,390 cast ballots to register a slight gain of 3.8 percent in voter participation over the year's low of 54.2 percent scored in November's contests.

Of these 98 elections, 39 were "no poll" matches in which 82 candidates secured seats unopposed. In the remaining 59 races the percentage of the total vote accredited each party, as well as the number and percentage of the seats won in all elections, were as follows:

<u>Party</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Vote</u>	<u>Number of Seats Won</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Seats</u>
Social Democrat	10.9	12	3.7
Democrat	1.3	7	2.2
Democratic Liberal	10.5	30	9.4
Communist	4.6	4	1.3
Minor Parties	0.7	4	1.3
Independents	72.0	262	82.1

From the above table it is seen that another major party, the Social Democratic, has surpassed the Democratic Liberal Party in its percentage of the total votes secured. During no previous month of 1949 had an organized party succeeded in even closely approximating the Democratic Liberals' percentage of the total vote.

This vote-getting victory of the Social Democrats over the Democratic Liberals was but the result of their having entered 4 candidates in upper level contests where a large vote was registered. The Democratic Liberals entered only 1 contender. These contests included 2 prefectural assembly, 1 mayoralty, and 1 city assembly election.

In validating this contention the following table was compiled to show the number of candidates entered by each party in those 4 top level contests along with the number of seats won and the vote accorded them at that level:

DEC



Results of 4 Top Level Elections, December 1949

<u>Party</u>	<u>Number of Candidates</u>	<u>Number of Seats Won</u>	<u>Number of Votes Polled</u>
Social Democrat	4	-	22,856
Democrat	-	-	- - -
Democratic Liberal	1	1	15,411
Communist	3	1	8,111
Minor Parties	-	-	- - -
Independents	16	10	88,448

The vote tallied by the Social Democrats in the above 4 contests, though not sufficient to win a single seat for them, constituted 85 percent of the votes garnered by them in all elections during the month and raised their percentage of the total vote cast above that of all other organized parties. In view of this fact it is apparent that the Social Democrats success in December was but "skin deep".

The month's elections were highlighted by a House of Councillors' by-election in Fukushima Prefecture on 24 December. The Democratic Liberal candidate garnered 304,945 votes, 54.7 percent of the total cast. This smashing victory gave further evidence of the popular support of that party. The Communist Party candidate was granted only 34,196 of the total votes compared with 60,483 polled by them in that prefecture in the January 1949 House of Representatives' general election.

Forthcoming high level contests in January 1950 -- 2 House of Councillors' by-elections and 1 gubernatorial contest -- are being shown much interest and their results should clear up many aspects of December local elections.

All statistics used herein have as their source the attached 9 tables compiled from regular reports furnished Government Section by the National Election Administration Commission.



Summation - November 1949

Local Elections

Further evidence of the Democratic Liberal Party's high-level popularity is contained in an appraisal of the results of the 137 local elections held in Japan during November 1949. Of the 48 Democratic Liberals who entered these contests, seats were acquired by 38 --- a higher percentage of success than chalked up by any other party including Independents.

The percentage of the total vote accredited to each party, along with the number of candidates entered, seats won, and percentage of the seats available are shown in the following table:

<u>Party</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Vote</u>	<u>Number of Candidates</u>	<u>Successful Candidates</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Seats</u>
Social Democrat	5.4	30	14	2.5
Democrat	8.8	19	12	2.1
Democratic Liberal	14.3	43	38	6.7
Communist	6.2	24	3	.5
Minor Parties	0.1	4	4	.7
Independents	65.2	655	499	87.5

Of these 137 contests held during November 67 were "no poll" contests in which 194 seats were granted uncontested candidates; Independents accounted for 179 of this number. In the remaining 70 elections 417,955 voters cast ballots for an average participation rate of 54.2 percent. This percentage of voter participation is the lowest monthly voter participation rate registered during 1949. Not necessarily denoting a lack of voter interest, this surprisingly low figure is probably the result of a combination of inclement weather and nation-wide participation in the November rice harvests.

As one of the aspects of November local elections being shown widespread interest, a comparison of voter participation in this month with past monthly percentages in 1949 is given below.

Percentage of Voter Participation by Month (1949)

<u>Jan-Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun</u>	<u>Jul</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>Nov</u>	
72.2	75.6	65.4	71.0	69.4	69.8	68.6	72.7	54.2	<i>58.1</i>

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This marked decrease in voter participation, resulting in the main from preoccupation in the rice harvest, should have proved distinctly advantageous to the Communist Party whose ability to get its supporters to the polls is universally accepted. The gain in their percentage of the total vote cast recorded by the Communist Party --- from 2.7 in October to 6.2 in November --- seems to authenticate this premise, yet only 3 of the 24 Communist candidates succeeded in acquiring seats. And those three seats --- only 0.5 percent of the total seats available --- were garnered on a village level.

The Kobe mayoralty race on 24 November in which the Communist candidate was accorded only 8,757 votes compared with the 27,333 ballots marked by Communists in the general election of January 1949 seemed to bear out the contention of many political mentors that the vote-getting strength of the Japanese Communist Party has been greatly debilitated.

In brief, local elections held in Japan during November 1949 point out the continued high-level popularity of the Democratic Liberal Party and, though marked by lessened voter participation, show no substantial gains by the Communist Party.

All statistics used herein may be found in the attached 9 tables compiled from reports furnished Government Section by the National Election Administration Commission.



Summation - October 1949

✓ Local Elections

Further evidence of the Communist Party's dearth of real grass roots support is contained in an appraisal of the results of the 143 local elections held in Japan during October 1949.

In these elections Communists succeeded in filling 12 vacant seats as a consequence of circumstances peculiarly advantageous to the party --- 7 of their candidates moved into office in uncontested "no poll" elections --- yet tallied only 2.7 percent of the ballots cast in the 82 voting elections in which 288,164 electors participated. In no like period during 1949 has the percentage of votes garnered by Communist candidates fallen so low as in local elections held in October.

Furthermore, all seats acquired by the party, including those 7 granted them in the "no poll" contests mentioned above, were won in town and village assemblies --- a level where organized parties traditionally limit their political activity. Even those 5 candidates successfully filling seats in contested elections acquired a scant 6 percent of the votes cast in those contests.

An even more crushing defeat was suffered by the Communist Party on entering four higher scale elections which included 2 prefectural assembly, one mayoralty, and one city assembly race. Their 4 candidates were supported on only 3,760 of the 101,622 ballots marked --- a mere 3.7 percent --- refuting Communist claims of strong support in the urban areas.

The Democratic Liberal Party was also a heavy loser in the percentage of the total vote accredited to them during October, dropping to 12.1 percent from a substantial 30 percent chalked up by them in September. Despite this setback in the percentage of votes acquired, they maintained their established seat-getting power by securing posts for 29 of their 38 candidates.

In view of the established fact that only in higher level elections do organized political parties in Japan make a concerted vote-getting effort, these elections viewed alone provide far better raw materials for refinement into a clear-cut analysis of the nation's political tenor. With this premise in mind the following table is given to show how political

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parties fared during October when in actual conflict with each other. High level local elections held during the month included 2 prefectural assembly, 1 mayoralty, and 1 city assembly contest. The combined results of these follow:

<u>Party</u>	<u>Number of Candidates</u>	<u>Seats Won</u>	<u>Votes Obtained</u>	<u>Percent of Vote</u>
Social Democrat	1	0	8,154	8.0
Democrat	0	0	0	0
Democratic Liberal	4	4	30,270	29.7
Communist	4	0	3,760	3.7
Minor Parties	1	0	1,348	1.3
Independents	22	14	58,090	57.3

Appraising the results of these 4 elections wherein major parties campaigned intensively, it becomes increasingly apparent that the support of the Democratic Liberal Party is well-founded and sincere. On the other hand, the vacillating support of the Communist Party, even in urban areas, when confronted with full-fledged opposition is evidenced in the negligible number of ballots backing its 4 candidates. These results are adduced by many observers as denoting the debilitation of the Japanese Communist Party by its own excesses.

Validating the contention that the Democratic Liberal Party maintains a high degree of favor within the electorate, a nation-wide public opinion poll was conducted by the ASAHI SHIMBUN on 1 and 2 October. Results of the poll indicated that 40 percent of the voters supported the Yoshida Cabinet while only 20 percent opposed it. Among those with definite political opinions the Democratic Liberal Party was most popular --- 37 percent said it would get their vote in event of an immediate general election.

In line with the premise that only in higher scale contests where organized political activity exists do the results lend themselves to forecasting the political climate in Japan, is the conclusion that only in those elections in which votes are actually cast are the results of any value in discerning political trends.

Excluding then all "no poll" elections, the following table may reflect a clearer light on results of October local elections:



Candidates and Success --- Voting Elections Only

<u>Party</u>	<u>Number of Candidates</u>	<u>Seats Won</u>	<u>Votes Obtained</u>	<u>Percentage of Votes Obtained</u>
Social Democrat	20	12	17,335	6.0
Democrat	3	2	1,411	0.5
Democratic Liberal	28	19	34,850	12.1
Communist	27	5	7,835	2.7
Minor Parties	2	1	3,498	1.2
Independents	496	361	223,235	77.5

From these figures the paucity of Communist Party support is evident. Public favor of the Democratic Liberal Party is even more perceptible.

In brief, local elections held in Japan during October have been characterized by a refuting of Communist claims to increased support and a vindicating on higher levels of the losses suffered by the Democratic Liberal Party in the percentage of the total vote garnered during the period.

The National Election Administration Commission furnished Government Section with statistics from which the attached 9 tables were compiled. These tables are the source of all figures used in this summation.

A. A. J.



Local Elections

As a result of local elections held in Japan during September it has become quite apparent that the Democratic Liberal Party is well along on its way to recapture public favor. Although it must be conceded that an appreciable amount of time is necessary before the raw materials of Japanese election results can be analyzed and a clear-cut political trend be extracted and refined therefrom, results of the past three months' local elections lend credence to the existence of a trend to renewed Democratic Liberal support.

Following necessary, but ill-received, legislation promulgated by the Democratic Liberal Government early in the year, a trend was seen by many authorities away from organized political parties to the support of independent candidates. In supporting their contention they pointed to results of June local elections which gave independent candidates 80.1 percent of the vote cast while Democratic Liberals sustained a crushing defeat in capturing a mere 10 percent.

But as a logical outgrowth of the new hope and increasing confidence which has become evident in the political consciousness of the electorate since June, the Democratic Liberals have, month-by-month, succeeded in regaining their lost support. A factor attributing to this waxing support might be found in the forthcoming special session of the Diet on 25 October during which a new streamlined tax system based on the Shoup recommendations and an overall tax cut are known to be ready for presentation by the Democratic Liberal Government.

The following table is given showing clearly how, from their June low, the Democratic Liberal Party has succeeded in recapturing support at the expense of Independent candidates. Other parties' support has remained comparatively stable with the exception of a slight gain by the Communists in their percentage of votes garnered in September.

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Percentage of Votes Accredited Parties by Month

<u>Month</u>	<u>SD</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>DL</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>MIN</u>	<u>IND</u>
June	3.0	1.4	<u>10.0</u>	4.6	.9	<u>80.1</u>
July	5.8	2.1	<u>13.7</u>	5.0	.2	<u>73.2</u>
August	8.9	.3	<u>18.7</u>	4.8	.6	<u>66.7</u>
September	6.1	.5	<u>30.0</u>	8.3	.4	<u>54.6</u>

The gains registered by the Democratic Liberals during these past three months cannot be appraised as temporary nor as being the consequence of unusual circumstances peculiarly advantageous to the party. They seem instead to be a vindication of the party's high-level popularity and not an ebb and flow of support.

Because of the traditional reluctance of organized political parties in Japan to concern themselves with small-scale town and village elections, the results of such elections can be utilized in ascertaining the tenor of political thought only with caution.

Results of September elections prove that this reluctance does exist and gives rise to much speculation on what might be the outcome of local elections if those organized parties saw fit to intensify their activities on a lower level.

To bear out this view a refining of September election results is needed. In brief, there were 583 vacant offices available, 233 of which were awarded to unopposed candidates in 73 "no poll" elections. The remaining 350 seats were vied for by 512 candidates. A total vote of 348,845 was registered in those 82 voting elections, giving a voter participation rate of 68.6 percent.

Of the 350 contested seats, 343 were vied for on a town and village level yet drew only 48 percent of the total vote. The remaining 7 seats were on a city and prefectural level and accounted for the remaining 52 percent of the votes.

In the 6 city and prefectural elections conducted to fill those 7 vacant seats, 18 candidates were entered; Independents and Communists backed 6 each, Democratic Liberals entered 4, and the Social Democrats gave support to 2 contenders. All Democratic Liberal candidates acquired seats; Independents secured 2 and Social Democrats 1. Of the 6 Communist candidates entered all were defeated.



Of the 104,721 votes accredited to the Democratic Liberal Party during September, 92,845, or 88 percent, were cast for their 4 candidates in city and prefectural races. In contrast, only 26 percent of the Independent votes were garnered by their 6 candidates on that level.

Independent candidates have not generally been successful in higher level contests -- only 2 of their 295 winning candidates in September voting elections secured city or prefectural seats. In view of the fact that town and village elections are conducted almost entirely in the absence of political activity, the apparent success of Independents leads to a negative conclusion, namely, that their success is due to the disinterest of major parties and not necessarily to their defeat.

The Japan Communist Party garnered 8.3 percent of the votes cast during September -- an increase of 3.5 percent over the previous month. However, they acquired only 4 seats, all in town and village assemblies, and one of which was granted them in an uncontested "no poll" election.

The assumption that this gain in votes acquired by the Communist Party infers a strengthening of their support is essentially negative for in an analysis of their vote we discover that 85 percent of it was garnered by their 6 candidates in the 6 city and prefectural races which accounted for 52 percent of all voting in September elections.

In view of the fact that all Communist candidates were easily defeated on this level it is evident that the vote acquired by them, though sufficient to raise their percentage of the total vote cast, need not support, coincidentally, any claim towards a strengthening of their party's support.

The number of candidates, seats won, and percentage of seats won by each party during September are given in the following table:

<u>Party</u>	<u>Number of Candidates</u>	<u>Number of Seats Won*</u>	<u>Percentage of Seats Won</u>
Social Democrat	19	8	1.4
Democrat	13	10	1.7
Democratic Liberal	44	34	5.8
Communist	29	4	.7
Minor Parties	11	9	1.5
Independents	629	518	88.9

\*Note: Includes seats won in uncontested "no poll" elections; Independents 223, Democratic Liberals 5, Minor Parties 3, Communists 1, and Democrats 1.



From this table we note that Communist candidates secured an almost negligible percentage of the available seats during September in spite of their having tallied 8.3 percent of the votes cast. The small scale success of minor parties can possibly be attributed to voter support of personalities presented by those parties. The number of Democratic Liberal candidates elected was greater than the number elected by all other organized parties combined.

In brief, local elections in Japan during September were marked by further gains in popular support of the Democratic Liberal Party and is viewed by many as a "vote of confidence" for the present Government and its policies. A growing political consciousness does seem to be reflected in results of September local elections and future months' results should clarify many aspects of Japanese political thought.

The attached tables, compiled from reports furnished Government Section by the National Election Administration Commission, are given as the source of all statistics used in this summary.



Summation - August 1949

Local Elections

Results of local elections held in Japan during August 1949 will not support the contentions of those observers who saw during June a shift in popular support away from organized political parties to a favoring of independent candidates.

For the second successive month, both the Democratic Liberal and Social Democratic parties were accorded substantial increases in their percentage of the total vote cast; the Democratic Liberals moving from their low of 10 percent in June to 18.7 percent in August, and the Social Democrats gaining 5.9 percent over their June showing of only 3 percent.

Successes of both parties in this respect have been at the expense of independent candidates whose percentage of the total vote cast has dropped from their high of 80.1 percent in June elections to 66.7 percent in August.

Variations in the strength of minor parties, garnering an almost negligible portion of the popular vote, is difficult to gauge. The percentage of the total vote accorded Communist candidates has remained comparatively stable.

In the 213 local elections held in Japan during August, 925 candidates contended for 683 vacant seats and 475,480 voters turned out to cast their votes for an average participation rate of 69.8 percent.

Democratic Liberals and Social Democrats made impressive gains also in the percentage of seats allotted them; again at the expense of independent candidates.

Percentage of the total vote garnered and the percentage of contested seats won by party since June 1949 are given in the following two tables:

Percentage of Votes Obtained

<u>Month</u>	<u>SD</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>DL</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>MIN</u>	<u>IND</u>
June	3.0	1.4	10.0	4.6	.9	80.1
July	5.8	2.1	13.7	5.0	.2	73.2
August	8.9	.3	18.7	4.8	.6	66.7

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Percentages of Seats Won

<u>Month</u>	<u>SD</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>DL</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>MIN</u>	<u>IND</u>
June	1.4	.8	3.8	2.6	1.2	90.2
July	1.4	.9	2.1	.3	1.1	94.3
August	5.4	.7	4.6	1.3	.6	87.4

In consideration of the above figures it might be contended that the party in power as well as the Social Democrats were recovering popular support lost during past months. However, it must be kept in mind that only a small portion of the Japanese electorate is sampled each month in local elections and that the value of conclusions drawn therefrom in regard to seemingly apparent political trends is controversial.

The number of candidates entered by each major political party in August were as follows: Democratic Liberals, 49; Social Democrats, 55; Communists, 45; and independents, 764. Of those candidates entered the Democratic Liberals acquired seats for 32 and the Social Democrats won 36. Communists secured 9 seats and independents filled 597.

Although independents succeeded in electing 74 percent of their candidates, and thereby filling 87 percent of vacant seats, it is of interest to note that in view of the reluctance of organized parties in Japan to concern themselves with local elections, the Social Democratic and Democratic Liberal parties were yet able to elect 65 percent of their candidates.

Of the 597 successful independent candidates, 98 percent were elected in contests on a town and village level. All seats vied for on a prefectural level were garnered by Democratic Liberal and Social Democratic candidates. In light of these facts it is interesting to speculate on the outcome of local elections if organized parties saw fit to intensify their activities on a lower level.

The Japan Communist Party entered only 45 candidates in the 213 local elections held during August and, though securing only 4.8 percent of votes cast, was successful in acquiring seats for 9 of those candidates. Credit for this small success can be attributed possibly to party tactics. To substantiate this view we find that only 13 Communist candidates were entered in those 9 elections where their party attained a degree of success. Full



party support, as opposed to splitting support between several candidates, was possible for most entries. Of the nine posts won by Communists, one was in a city assembly and four each were in town and village assemblies.

In brief, August local elections have been marked by a vindicating, on the part of the Social Democratic and Democratic Liberal parties, the setbacks suffered during June. Whether or not their marked improvement constitutes a barometer with which to determine the complexion of future elections is doubtful, but a growing political consciousness of the Japanese electorate does seem to exist, and future months' election results should clarify many aspects of the political tenor in Japan.

All statistics used in this summary have as their source the attached tables compiled from reports of local elections furnished Government Section by the National Election Administration Commission.



Summation - July 1949

31 August 1949

Summary of Local Elections, July 1949

Over 94 percent of contested seats in the 189 local elections held during July were won by Independent candidates. As a result, the contention of many observers that a shift away from organized party support exists was highly favored.

Conflicting with this view is the fact that these winning Independent candidates garnered only 73.2 percent of the votes in the 108 voting elections held, as compared with their showing of 80.1 percent in the June elections. Minor parties also suffered in popular support. All other parties benefitted in the percentage of votes allotted them as the following table indicates:

Percentages of Votes Credited to Each Party

<u>Party</u>	<u>June</u> <u>(96 Voting Elections)</u>	<u>July</u> <u>(108 Voting Elections)</u>
Social Democrat	3.0	5.8
Democrat	1.4	2.1
Democratic Liberal	10.0	13.7
Communist	4.6	5.0
Minor Parties	.9	.2
Independents	80.1	73.2

Although voter participation in July voting elections shows a 1.5 percent decrease from June elections, the total vote of 430,627 nearly doubled that of the preceding month during which only 248,689 votes were cast in 96 voting elections. This remarkable increase, not due to greater voter interest as pointed out above, is the probable result of large-scale local elections held during July which were lacking in the previous month.

A comparison of the level on which contests were conducted during these two months should bear out this contention. A table for this purpose is given below.

Number of Seats Contested in Elections by Type

<u>Type of Election</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>
Prefectural Assembly	2	2
Mayor	-	2
City Assembly	-	1
Town Headman	18	18
Town Assembly	185	193

JUL



<u>Type of Election</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>
Village Headman	70	76
Village Assembly	377	430

From the above table we see that two mayoralty elections and one city assembly contest were held during July but that elections on this level were lacking during June.

Local election reports inform us that approximately 65,000 votes were cast in those three contests. In addition, 67 more seats were contested on a town and village level during July than in June. Combining the probable number of votes cast in these 67 elections with the 65,000 votes mentioned above should account for the increased number of votes cast during July.

Many observers contend that the Japan Communist Party has suffered during the past month because of having had the responsibility for certain "incidents" laid on the Party's doorstep. Others see a dwindling of Party funds. Many feel though that these theories are premature and future months' election results are needed to bear them out.

However, in view of the unfavorable showing of Communist candidates during July, a trend away from their support might well be indicated. During June, 37 Communist candidates were entered in 96 voting elections. They won 13 posts and garnered 11,317 votes. During July, 25 candidates were entered by them in 108 voting elections, and although polling nearly twice as many votes (21,321), they had not a single candidate voted in.

The increased number of votes credited to the Communist Party was probably due to its having entered, with the exception of Independents, a greater number of candidates during July than any other party. In addition, candidates were also entered by them in prefectural races where a large popular vote was cast. In view of this fact, their poor showing might have been the result of splitting party support between more numerous candidates; an obvious "about face" from Communist Party tactics in the past.

In brief, the Japan Communist Party won only two seats in July local elections. Both offices were won on default in "no poll" elections. No Communist candidate was voted into office. Independent candidates, though polling a smaller percentage of the total votes cast, increased their favorable lead in the number of posts secured.

8 Results of the elections are summarized in the attached tables for which the National Election Administration Commission furnished statistics.



Summation - June 1949

Summary of Local Elections, 1 January - 30 June 1949

During the period 1 January - 30 June, 70.8 percent of the voters concerned cast their votes in 1,076 local elections throughout Japan. The political thinking of those 4,796,714 voters is obscured by a mesh of controversial statistics. Significant political trends as seen by many observers are proved by one set of statistics only to be disproved in the light of others.

It is believed by many that only future months' election results, including a national election, can either prove or discredit these political trends, real or envisioned.

At first glance, results of local elections held during June seem to uphold a widespread contention that the current political trend in Japan reflects a shifting of support away from organized parties to independent candidates.

In 96 voting elections held during June the percentage of votes garnered by each political party is given below.

Social Democrat	3.0
Democrat	1.4
Democratic Liberal	10.0
Communist	4.6
Minor Parties	.9
Independents	80.1

A popular belief that these results reflect a shift of popular support to independent candidates is not necessarily borne out when a study of the type of contests is made. Consideration must be given the fact that organized political parties in Japan traditionally limit their intense political activity to elections on a national scale, showing relatively little interest in contests of a local nature.

In light of this fact, a further study of the June elections shows that of the 96 voting elections held, 94 were contested on the town and village level. The remaining two were for prefectural assembly posts. The results of the 94 town and village elections gave independent candidates 588 of the 650 contested seats. The two prefectural assembly posts were captured by Democratic Liberal candidates. (see Table 4 attached)

JAN  
JUN



A study of the percentage of votes given each political party during the entire period, 1 January - 30 June, seems to further bear out this contention.

The percentages are:

Social Democrat	7.9
Democrat	4.7
Democratic Liberal	28.1
Communist	7.2
Minor Parties	3.6
Independent	48.5

It is important to note in the above table that the average percentage of votes mustered by independent candidates during the period 1 January - 30 June is 31.6 percent less than granted them during June elections alone. As has been pointed out, the remarkable showing of independent candidates during June might well have been due to the predominance of small-scale elections held. The lower average percentage of votes garnered by independents during the six-month period may, in contrast, be the result of higher-scale contests held during the earlier part of the period wherein organized parties had a greater interest.

For example, during the first half of this six-month period, 248 voting elections were held. Of this number 51, or over 20 percent, were on a prefectural or gubernatorial level. During the last half of the same period 325 voting elections were held of which only 12, or 3.6 percent, were of this higher level.

In short, many believe that the shift of popular support to independent candidates is due only to the level of elections encountered, and does not indicate a trend away from support of organized parties.

However, to further the contention that this trend does exist, there is the fact that rival parties have been prone to capitalize on the public's hostile reception of a great deal of legislation promulgated by the Democratic Liberal Diet. This legislation, though just, has in many instances conflicted with Japanese social, moral, and traditional folkways and an antagonism towards the party in power might reasonably cause a shift to independent candidate support. It is widely believed that only an election on a national scale will throw light on this factor.

A comparison of the results of local elections held during June with average results of those held during the six-month period, 1 January - 30 June, is given



in Table C, attached.

It becomes apparent from a study of this table that the remarkable gain in the percentage of votes chalked up by independents during June local elections was made at the expense of all parties and not the Democratic Liberals alone. Although the Democratic Liberals were the heaviest losers, the fact that all organized parties suffered might well indicate that a trend toward independent candidate support does exist; but is not necessarily a rejection of the Democratic Liberals in power.

It is interesting to note in the table mentioned that despite the greatly increased percentage of votes garnered by independents during June, their six-months' average percentage of seats gained was sharply reduced.

In direct contrast the Communists, after losing ground in a comparison of their June vote-getting with that of the six-month period, came back to show a sizeable increase in their percentage of seats gained during June.

A likely explanation of the above may well be in better tactics employed by the Communists in securing posts for their candidates. It has lately become apparent that Communist candidates are being entered only in those contests wherein a reasonable certainty of success is seen. Seldom is more than one Communist Party candidate offered for any one seat, thereby assuring full party support for that candidate instead of dividing its support between two or more as other parties have done at their expense.

It is believed by some that these tactics are made necessary because of depleted party funds, but this theory has not been substantiated at this time.

The popular support of any party is known to be variable. The Democratic Liberals have been in power for six months during which time the National Election Administration Commission has continuously furnished this Section with local election results. Political trends as seen by many observers are backed up by one set of statistics only to be contradicted by another. Local elections in future months may verify the existence of these trends, but in the light of what is known at present, their existence is a matter of conjecture.



D R A F T

Summation - May 1949 - Local Elections

Public resentment against the steam-rolling tactics of the Democratic Liberals in forcing legislation through the Diet seemed to have been shown slightly in the results of the local elections for May.

At first glance, the results appeared to reflect a grand martialling of forces behind the Social Democratic Party and a widespread renunciation of the Communist platform. But closer inspection failed to prove either trend definitely. The people's political thinking was shrouded in a maze of controversial statistics that only future months' election results can clear up. This, despite the fact that more than 1,000 seats were contested in nearly 300 local elections and over a million voters expressed their opinions at the polls.

Highlighting these local elections on the upper level, was the race for prefectural Governor of Saitama. This election was significant in several respects. Some editors expressed a belief that the results reflected the popular backing of the political parties in the Diet.

The vacancy was caused by the resignation of the former incumbent after he was allegedly involved in the Japan Silk Company scandal. He was an Independent and the candidate who succeeded him was also an Independent with conservative leanings.

In this poll the Social Democratic Party ran 2 candidates, one right-wing and one left. The left-winger, who placed third, was supported by the Communists and the Japan Farmers' Party. A few editors viewed this as indicating a new trend in the political world of Japan, especially as the Communist candidate was withdrawn to throw the party support to the left-wing Social Democrat. The percentage of votes garnered by each party was:

Social Democrat	27.0
Democratic Liberal	25.4
Minor Parties	7.6
Independents	40.0

The conjecture that these results reflected the popular backing of the political parties in the Diet is not necessarily borne out by the



membership of the legislature. On the day following this election, party affiliations of members of the House of Representatives were:

Democratic Liberal	52.1 % of the members
Social Democrat	10.4 % of the members
Democrat	15.0 % of the members
Communist	7.5 % of the members
Minor Parties	9.2 % of the members
Independents	.2 % of the members

In the House of Councillors, the affiliations were:

Green Breeze	31.2 % of the members
Democratic Liberal	20.0 % of the members
Democrat	16.9 % of the members
Social Democrat	16.0 % of the members
Independents	6.8 % of the members
Communist	2.4 % of the members
Others	4.0 % of the members

Results of a public opinion survey conducted by JIJI PRESS, which was released the day of the election, gave a somewhat different picture. A nation-wide sample electorate, including persons of both sexes between the ages of 20 and 60, was questioned on political support. Answers by this sample electorate indicated the following percentages of popular support of the various political parties:

Democratic Liberal	33.9
Social Democrat	14.5
Democrat	7.9
Communist	2.9
Minor Parties	2.6
Independent	38.2

The paper's study of the results of the poll revealed that: 1) the Democratic Liberal, Social Democratic, and Communist Parties were more popular with large city dwellers than with residents of rural areas; 2) Independents and Minor Parties were strongest in the rural villages; 3) the age group - 21-30 years - supplied the most supporters for the Social Democratic and Communist Parties; and 4) the Democratic Liberals



were strongly supported by persons in commerce, industry and enterprising.

Results of all local May elections reveal a still difference picture, however. Of the more than one million votes cast during the month, the percentage garnered by each party was:

Social Democrat	16.3
Democrat	1.9
Democratic Liberal	20.2
Communists	2.8
Minor Parties	6.1
Independent Candidates	52.6

Especially significant were the gains made by the Social Democratic Party. Garnering more votes than the Democratic, Communist and all minor parties combined, Social Democratic candidates were accorded 16 percent of the total vote. Only the Democratic Liberals were able to win more.

Reorganization of this party during March and April, Communist support thrown to it, and intensive campaigning during May were perhaps responsible for the Social Democratic gain. But, on the other hand, the election results may not reflect a true picture of the Socialist strength. There are two reasons why this may not be a bonafide comeback for them:

- 1) The Saitama affair may have been only a special case. Communist backing of the Social Democratic left-wing candidates may not be a set policy and whatever support may have been given in Saitama may not be given in future elections.
- 2) The huge number of votes accorded the two Social Democratic candidates in that race may have raised the party's percentage of votes won during the month to an undue high. Together the candidates won 27 percent of the ballots - more than 10 percent of all votes cast during the month of May. This 27 percent pulls up an otherwise poor showing, for the Socialists averaged less than 4 percent of the vote on the lower levels.

Losses by the Communist Party were almost as puzzling as the gains by the Social Democrats. Japan Communist Party candidates captured only 2.8 percent of the votes. But just as the Social Democrats 27 percent may not reflect a true gain, so the Communist 2.8 percent may not reflect a true loss of strength. Again there are two reasons why.

- 1) In local elections held throughout 1949, Communist candidates



entered one out of every two elections. But in May they entered only one out of every six races and informed sources pointed out, "You got to have candidates to get votes."

2) Seven Communist candidates were accorded seats in no-poll elections and 8 won contested seats in voting polls for a total of 15 offices. Thus garnering less than 3 percent of the votes, Japan Communist Party candidates were accorded more seats than any party other than the Democratic Liberal.

Whether any of the foregoing indicates bonafide political trend is not clear. But that the Social Democrats did make large gains, and that the Democratic Liberals and Communists lost considerable ground is shown in the following tabulated results of the local elections.



*File April*

LOCAL ELECTIONS CAUSE CONFLICTING CLAIMS

According to some observers, the current political trend in Japan is a shifting of support away from organized parties to independent candidates. This contention is supported in part by the report of a public opinion survey made during April in Tokyo Metropolis. The poll was taken by the newspaper TOKYO SHIMBUN. Nearly one thousand persons were asked if and how they had changed their political allegiance since the January 1949 general elections. The changes were tabulated as follows:

<u>Party</u>	<u>Unchanged</u>	<u>Changed</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
Democratic Liberal	74.7%	4.2%	21.1%
Democratic	89.4	0.0	11.6
Social Democratic	70.0	9.4	20.6
Communist	57.0	25.4	17.6

Headlining these results as published on 30 April 1949, the paper commented "Public support for the Communist Party shown in the last general election is dwindling drastically."

But the Communist Party organ AKAHATA put the shoe on the other foot. Quoting certain selected gains made by the leftists in recent local elections, this paper stated that a shifting of support away from the Democratic Liberals "could be expected in the future as a result of increasing contradictions in the policies of the Democratic Liberal government and corruption in local government organs."

Results of local elections held during April 1949 tended to support the arguments of both papers. This turning away from all major parties was shown in the comparison of percentages of votes garnered by each for the months of March and April. This comparison revealed a large swing to independent candidates at the expense of all major parties, especially the Democratic Liberals.

MAR  
APR



<u>Party</u>	<u>Percentage of Votes Accorded to Parties in March 1949</u>	<u>Percentage of Votes Accorded to Parties in April 1949</u>	<u>Difference in Percentages</u>
Democratic Liberal	33.0	19.1	-13.9
Democratic	5.5	3.1	- 2.4
Social Democratic	7.3	6.7	- .6
Communist	11.4	9.9	- 1.5
Minor Parties	.2	.9	+ .7
Independents	42.6	60.3	+17.7

The above statements and figures may not reflect a genuine political trend towards independent candidates, however. The TOKYO SHIMBUN's poll was on a small scale and was confined to the metropolitan area. AKAHATA's facts and figures were hand-picked and hard-stretched to prove points and entering into the election results were several factors which may account for the swing and which may show it was not entirely a current shift away from the Democratic Liberal Party or to Independent candidates.

Most significant was the increase in public interest - an increase of 2.7 percent in the rate of participation of April voters over the rate of March voters. This additional turn-out may represent persons who never were diehards or sometimes party members and so would not represent a switch of support. The average rate was 72.9 percent for March, 75.6 percent for April.

Nearly as important may have been the increase in the number of races for village and town assemblies. Independent candidates have consistently been accorded 90 or more percent of the votes in these polls. When village and town assembly elections doubled in number over March and comprised 40 percent of all elections scheduled for April, the number of votes for Independents naturally increased.

A third factor may have been the size and scope of the April polls. There were 176 elections including 88 "voting" ones. (Eighty-eight were "no poll" races in which only one candidate filed for the vacancy and voting was unnecessary.) Seven hundred and eighty candidates filed their intention of running for the 606 contested seats, and 405,057 registered voters participated.



The April races represent an increase of nearly 20 percent more "voting" elections over the March number; represent a larger sample of the population; and so may represent a better cross section than previous month's polls.

Whether or not the shift of strength was a true reflection of the people's political thinking, the following tables of statistics of the April 1949 local elections do reveal that 558, or 92.1 percent, of the contested seats went to Independent candidates, while all political parties combined garnered only 48 offices. The tabulations were prepared from reports of Local Election Committees forwarded to Government Section through the National Election Management Commission.



Local Elections February 1949

*Local elections*

Even<sup>though</sup> the results of the local elections will have a more immediate personal effect on the Japanese people than the national ones, the local elections of February 1949 were somewhat anti-climatical to the House of Representatives election of January. On 1 February a comparative lack of interest was apparent in both urban and rural sections.

Early in the month, however, an extensive political information program was launched so that later intensive campaigning by political parties and candidates succeeded in stimulating a large turnout at the polls.

The last local elections were held in April 1947, following the passage by the Diet of the Local Autonomy Law. The ones of February 1949 were held to fill vacancies caused by deaths of incumbents, resignations to run as candidates in the H. R. election, and other reasons as outlined in Article 127, Local Autonomy Law. In all there were 167 local elections held during the month. These include:

Governors	1	
Prefectural Assemblies	41	(involving 43 seats)
Mayors of Cities over 30,000 population	9	
City Assemblies	6	(involving 18 seats)
Headmen of Urban Town less than 30,000 population	14	
Town Assemblies	7	(involving 97 seats)
Headmen of rural villages	65	
Village Assemblies	24	(involving 197 seats)

Of the above, the National Election Management Commission has submitted reports on the following numbers:

Governor	1
Prefectural Assemblies	16
Mayor	6
City Assemblies	2
Town Headmen	7
Town Assemblies	5
Village Headmen	20
Village Assemblies	<u>17</u>
Total	74

FEB



According to the above reports, an average of 70 percent of the qualified voters participated. As shown by the percent of participation, voters in the rural villages were the most interested, over 75 percent of them turning out to cast their votes for Chiefs of Villages. The gubernatorial election held the least interest with less than 63 percent of the registered voters of Miyagi Prefecture casting ballots.

In many cases in these local elections, only one candidate filed for each post and there was actually no polling and counting of votes. The percentages in the following tabulation show the actual percent of qualified voters who cast ballots in each type of election where there was a poll:

Governor	62.4
Prefectural Assembly	67.3
Mayor	66.1
City Assembly	62.5
Headman of Town	70.7
Town Assembly	75.3
Headman of Village	75.9
Village Assembly	<u>63.6</u>
Average percent	70.0

A survey of the results of the elections is shown below, together with the best statistics available to show the trend of the voters' political affiliations.

Governor:

Election in one Prefecture. (Vacancy caused by incumbent's running and being election in H. R. race.)

Person elected was:

<u>Prefecture</u>	<u>Governor Elected</u>	<u>Votes Received</u>	<u>Party</u>
Miyagi	SASAKI Kazuji	225,166	Democratic Liberal

There were 792,839 registered voters of whom 494,814 participated (62.4%)  
(11,036 invalid votes)

Votes by Parties:	Democratic Liberal	225,166 for 1 candidate
	Independent	227,433 for 3 candidates
	Communist	3,414 for 1 candidate



Compared to H. R. election 23 January 1949 when there were 790,020 registered voters of whom 544,136 (69%) participated:

Democratic Liberal	249,464
Democrat	70,856
Social Democrat	86,396
People's Cooperative	26,102
Japan Farmer	4,640
Communist	23,456
Independent	44,666
Mincr	38,556

Incumbent governors of the other 45 Prefectures are:

Democratic Liberal	4
Democrat	2
Social Democrat	3
Minor	2
Independent	34

#### Prefectural Assemblies

Elections in 41 Prefectural districts during February for a total of 43 seats; of these we have reports for 16.

Seats according to parties:	Democrat	3
	Democratic Liberal	7
	Independent	6

Votes by parties (based on 14 of the above elections):

Social Democrat	34,303
Democrat	95,741
Democratic Liberal	118,455
Communist	30,246
Minor	6,889
Independent	144,987

Compared with seats in all Prefectural Assemblies accorded parties in April 1947 elections:

Democratic Liberal	470
Democrat	506
Social Democrat	409
People's Cooperative	108



Communist	3
Minor	205
Independent	788

Mayors:

Elections in 9 cities including Ward Chief of Minato Ward, Tokyo.  
Of these 9, we have reports on only 6.

Persons elected include:

<u>Prefecture</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Mayor elected</u>	<u>Votes Rec'd</u>	<u>Party</u>
Niigata	Sanjyo City	TSUCHIDA Jigoro		DL
Yamanashi	Kofu City	YAMAMOTO Tatsuo	18,840	DL
Gumma	Ota City	NAKAMURA Tobei	9,789	Ind
Kanagawa	Chigasaki City	UCHIDA Shunichi	8,029	DL
Kanagawa	Odawara City	SUZUKI Juro	21,254	Ind
Tokyo	Minato Ward	YADA Naozo	30,556	DL

Votes accorded by Parties:

Democratic Liberals	4
Independents	2

Votes by Parties (based on 5 of the 6 elections):

Social Democrat	5,371
Democratic Liberal	57,425
Communist	24,875
Independent	63,539

Compared with incumbents in 224 cities as of 5 November 1948:

Democratic Liberal	20
Social Democrat	10
Democrat	19
Minor	8
Independent	167

City Assemblies

Elections held in 6 cities for a total of 18 seats. Of these we have 2 elections reported, including 3 seats.

Seats accorded to parties:

Democrat	1
Democratic Liberal	2



Votes by parties:

Democrat	14,418
Democratic Liberal	13,298
Communist	3,121
Independent	10,321

Town Headmen

Elections in ~~13~~<sup>13</sup> towns, of which we have reports on ~~6~~<sup>6</sup>. In ~~2~~<sup>2</sup> of these ~~6~~<sup>6</sup>, only one candidate filed and there was no poll or counting of votes.

Posts won by parties:

Democratic Liberal	1
Independent	3

Posts by party where there was no poll:

Social Democrat	2 1
Independent	1

Persons elected include:

<u>Prefecture</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Headman elected</u>	<u>Votes Rec'd</u>	<u>Party</u>
Chiba	Inba District, Shirai Town	HORII Minoru		SD
<del>XXXX</del>	<del>XXXXXXXXXXXX,</del> <del>XXXXXXXXXX</del>			
Ibaragi	Inashiki District, Ami Town	NOGUCHI Takesuke		Ind
Ibaragi	Namegata District, Itako Town	MIZUGUCHI Kenmei	1,730	Ind
Ibaragi	Higashi Ibaragi District, Ogawa Town	YAGUCHI Noboru	1,058	Ind
Kochi	Ino Town	FUKUSHIMA Kaneji	1,989	Ind
Yamaguchi	Kuga District, Takamori Town	YAMASHITA Issei		DL

Town Assemblies

Elections in 7 towns for a total of 97 seats, of which we have reports on 6 elections involving 6 seats:

Seats won by party: Independent - 6

Village Headmen

Elections in 65 villages, of which we have reports on 21. In 12 of these 21, only one candidate had filed and there was no poll.

Posts won by parties in polls: Independent - 9

Posts won in villages where there was no poll:

Social Democrat	1
Independent	11



Village Assemblies

Elections in 24 assemblies involving 197 seats, of which we have reports on 17, involving 46 seats.

Seats won by parties:

Democrat	1
Independent	45