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ITEM 5 Ibaragi Ken Awaits General Election - Mainichi (Ibaragi Edition) - 1 Aug 48. Translator: A. Kido. (DD)

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Full Translation:

Anticipating a Diet dissolution to follow directly after passage of the Public Service Law revision bill, IBARAGI Ken political circles have become active. Although some question the probability of an early Diet dissolution, election fever in the First District, especially, is already high. This is because the purge of HANASHI, Shingoro, elected from the First District, and the fraud indictment of Diet member IIMURA, Izumi, if upheld, will create two vacancies in the National Assembly; and regardless of a Diet dissolution, at least the by-election will have to be held. The Democratic Liberal Party, as an advance maneuver, is rushing about forming the Mito Chapter of the Party. The Democratic Party striving to maintain its present influence, is narrowing its choice of candidates, while the Socialist Party is scheduled to hold a Chapter Executive Committee meeting in TSUCHIURA on 1 August to map out election measures. The following is the situation as it exists in each of the three electoral districts:

1st District: For the four seats, Democratic Liberals, ONOSE, Chubei, HASHIMOTO, Tomisaburo, HATAYA, Senjiro, YAMAMOTO, Tadashi, and KAWAHARADA, Iwao; Democrats, YOSHIDA, Hiroshi, KANEKO, Matsutaro, NOSAKA, Mitsumasa, and EBIZAWA, Hatsutaro; Japan Farmers Party member YAMAGUCHI, Takehide; and Communist KUROTAKI, Raisuke are being mentioned as possible candidates.

Socialist MORI, Motojiro, in want of election funds, and NUMATA, Masajiro, as head of the Agricultural Administrative Bureau, it is said, have given up the idea of running in the election. NODA, who is a prosecutor of the Mito Procurators' Board, has already tendered his resignation. Official announcement of his retirement is expected on 7 August, so that his running for the Diet has become certain.

2nd District: For the three seats here, possible candidates are, from the Democratic Liberal Party, YAMAZAKI, Takeshi, TSUKAWARA, Shunro, and KOIWAI, Tadashi; Democratic Party, FUKUCHI, Keizo, and SHIMAZU, Saburo; Socialist Party, MANDA, Goro and ISHINO, Hisao; and from the Communist Party, NUMADA, Hidesato. Due to abortive negotiations by YAMAZAKI, it is said that TSUKAWARA will join the Democratic Party. This, coupled with the question of FUKUCHI's entering this same party, has created a delicate atmosphere.

3rd District: For the five seats, the Democratic Liberal candidacies of SUZUKI, Akiyoshi, KITAZAWA, Naokichi, FUKAYA, Keizo, MINAKAWA, Yoshimitsu, and KATAOKA, Shichiro, in addition to KANAZUKA, Ko are being rumored. The names of Liberals KIKUCHI, Yutaka and HARA, Hyo; Socialists KIKUCHI, Jusaku and HOSOTA, Tsunayoshi; and Communist OGATA, Taro are also mentioned.

With the election law revision, election campaigns have been extremely restricted, and, moreover, prefectural assemblymen are not allowed to run as candidates for the Diet unless they have first resigned from their posts. Hence, indications point out that most of the prefectural assemblymen are hesitating in their decision and all the candidates are in want of election funds.

ITEM 10 Election by Recall in Hagi City Invalidated - Provincial Paper: Bocho Shimbun (Yamaguchi) - 29 Jul 48. Translator: F. Noda. (WM)

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Full Translation:

The Election Supervision Committee of HAGI City on 27 July invalidated a recall election after recognizing a protest by the recall faction that some literate voters had voted by proxy.

Originally the recall faction was adjudged victorious by one vote in the recall election, but this was reversed when the municipal assembly faction lodged a protest. The invalidation was a final turn of events when the recall faction filed the objection which was the basis for the nullification.

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ITEM 6 Anticipating "October Election" - Tokyo Shimbun - 8 Aug 48. Translator: S. Ono. (WM)

45-7

Full Translation:

With the growing anticipation of a general election in October, various parties have started to prepare for election campaigns. The issue of revising the National Public Service Law and accompanying revision of labor regulations laws are believed to have increased the possibility of Diet dissolution. Yet, in face of another possibility that the Government may resign en bloc during the third session of the Diet, various parties are somewhat hesitant to push the election campaigns too earnestly. An analysis of the attitude of various parties in meeting this changeable political situation follows:

Democratic-Liberals Confident of Victory

The Democratic-Liberals, who have completed preparation for their election campaign, are determined that the Diet be dissolved. The party's objective is to create a single-party cabinet of its own. For this purpose, the party has decided to use both former and present officials with political talent to run on the party ticket. However, the scheme to tie up with bureaucrats and form a single party cabinet was apparently made by President YOSHIDA alone after consultation with only a few of the top party leaders, there is some opposition to his plan. Yet, YOSHIDA's firm determination to create a single-party cabinet has strengthened the confidence of the party members, who were pessimistic.

The Election Committee was set up in the party headquarters to direct local chapters in their election campaigns. The committee had ordered local chapters to finish the selection of party candidates by the end of July.

In view of the experience gained in the last election, the party will select candidates after rigid examination of their backgrounds, etc., and expects to return one or two additional candidates in each province. Furthermore, to expand the party's sphere of influence, President YOSHIDA will make a speaking tour of the KANSAI, CHUGOKU and KYUSHU districts, while SHIDEHARA, adviser to the party, is slated to visit HOKKAIDO for the same purpose.

The Election Committee will select, new hopefuls, including men of letters, journalists and businessmen, as DLP candidates.

The Democratic-Liberals are capitalizing on the unpopularity of the Ashida Cabinet. Their preparations for the coming election are in a more progressive stage than those of other parties. Though there is a conflict in some localities between the current Representatives and

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newly selected candidates, party members in general are united to gain power next. The Political Affairs Investigation Committee and the Labor Committee of the party are busily engaged in creating labor policies, which they expect to put into force when the party is ready to form the Cabinet.

(by Staff Writer F.M.).

Democrat Party Leaders Optimistic

Despite his public announcement denying the possible Diet dissolution, President ASHIDA is making preparations for the election campaign. The establishment of a committee for the expansion of party influence and the change of the party chief-executive, which took place recently, are signs of Democratic preparations.

The objective of the committee is to enlarge the party's sphere of influence, while combatting the current unpopularity of the party, through the utilization of the political talent of INUKAI and NARAHASHI, who were recently released from the purge. KURUSU, TOMABECHI, and TAKEDA will co-operate with the two ex-purgees.

At the Democrat Representatives Conference on 3 August, President ASHIDA reported that large audiences who came to hear him speak everywhere he went during the recent tour, convinced him of the strong support the public is giving to his party. With suitable candidates, the party could expect additional return of one or two Democrats in each prefecture, he said.

In contrast to the optimism of ASHIDA and other party leaders, the rank and file Democrats believe that the holding of a general election at this stage will prove extremely unfavorable to them. They feel that the Diet dissolution should be avoided until after the introduction of foreign capital and the increased ration of staple food, which are long advocated by the Democrats, are realized.

The financial standing of the Democratic Party is not too good. At the time of the last election, the party could use funds collected to cover the expenses of the party formation. Now, the existence of the Illegal Property Transactions Investigation Committee hinders contributions from patrons. The future of the party is not as rosy as President ASHIDA pictures it.

(by F. M.)

Peoples Co-operatives Would Maintain Status Quo

Despite the continuous efforts of such party leaders as MIKI and OKADA, the Peoples Co-operatives Party is more and more inclined to favor Diet dissolution. The Party's proposal at the three party heads conference at the end of the Diet session, its strong stand on agrarian finance policy, and MIKI's proposal to create the Centrist Political League seem to illustrate the intention of the party to gain public favor when the time comes. The general meeting of Peoples Co-operative Diet members on 4 August decided to name TAKEYAMA as chairman of the Election Committee, establishing the principle recognizing one candidate in each electoral district. The dissolution of agricultural associations, hithertō its stronghold, has been a big blow to the Peoples Co-operatives. However, the party will capitalize on its remaining influences in rural areas and try to maintain the present influence in the Diet. In view of the unpopularity of governmental parties and the lack of election funds, it is believed that 31 seats in the Diet is the best the party can hope to maintain. The maintenance of its sphere of influence in rural areas will turn the party's attitude more to the right regarding the revision of the National Public Service Law.

(by T.Y.)

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POLITICAL SERIES: 2580 (Continued)

ITEM 6 (Continued)

Socialists Expect Fewer Diet Seats

The Socialist Party is in unprecedented difficulty and has no slogan for its election campaign. Though its party leaders are engaged in speaking tours in local provinces, they have nothing to say to the public except to explain why the party has remained in the coalition cabinet. . . .

The departure of ARAHATA, Katsuzo, KURODA, Hisao, and other leftists from the party demands deep reflection on the part of the party concerning its original nature as a political group dedicated to Socialism. And more and more of the new-yen rich, who supported the party in the last election, are leaving the Socialist camp, thereby making the party poor financially.

The Election Committee does not know how to balance the leftists and the rightists in the selection of party candidates. Though the party leaders, including ASANUMA and KATAYAMA, expect to obtain about the same number of the Diet seats, the opinion widely held by the party members is that they will be lucky to return about half of the present number.

Moreover, the Orthodox Socialist Corps and the Social Reform Party will inevitably cut into the Socialist sphere of influence, rendering the standing of the party all the more difficult.

(by C.S.)

Communists Watching Effect of NPSL Revision

Unlike other parties in which election returns are the personal affair of individual candidates, the Communist Party is characterized by strong solidarity; each party member must fight for the party. Every party member, including the Central Committeemen and cell in each district, is engaged in strife over the issues of taxation, food and housing. Since the revision of NPSL has come to be talked about openly, the attention of the party members is closely focused upon countermeasures to meet the revision.

Since the end of the Diet session, TOKUDA, NOZAKA, ITO, Ritsu and other party leaders have been on speaking tours of the local provinces to promote party doctrine. The candidates to run on the party ticket will be about the same as at the last election.

The revised Election Law, limiting methods of collecting contributions on the street, street meetings, etc., is expected to be unfavorable to the Communists. Yet, the strong support it enjoys from the various labor and farmers' unions is a strong point. The number of its members increased from 100,000 last year to 150,000. Though the present situation is not necessarily favorable to the party, ITO, Ritsu, one of the party leaders, is reported to have said that it will take time to see what effect the revision of NPSL will have on the party.

(by N.S.)

Social Reform Party Hopes to Maintain Present Strength

Believing that the coming general election will end in the birth of a single party Democratic-Liberal Cabinet, the Social Reform Party expects to participate in it. At present, there is little hope for the development of the party, but Chief-executive SATAKE and other party leaders are busily occupied in propagating the party platform.

The greatest issue of the party is to work out favorable slogans to collect enough votes to secure about the same number of Diet seats as at present (21), in an effort to hold the casting vote in the formation of a succeeding cabinet.

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ITEM 2 Chiba Prepares for General Election - Mainichi (Chiba Edition) - 8 Aug 48. Translator: F. Ota. (RL)

457

Summary:

In anticipation of the Diet dissolution in October, Chiba political circles have become active.

More than 40 candidates, including present representatives who will run again, candidates unsuccessful in the last election, and new candidates, are in full activity behind the scene. Each party is busy in establishing election footholds, dividing the constituencies among its candidates, and raising funds. The exact political situation in CHIBA Ken follows:

At present the district has 13 representatives, eight of whom are Democratic-Liberals; three are Democrats, one is a Socialist, and one a member of the Diet. The Diet member is TOKORO, who recently bolted the Socialist party.

This ratio is not expected to change, but some people hold that Democratic-Liberals may not win back their present eight seats if they split the votes by placing too many candidates in the election.

As shown by the public opinion survey conducted by the MAINICHI SHIMBUN last June, the Democratic-Liberal Party is supported by 45 percent of the prefectural residents; the Socialist Party by 25 percent, the Democratic Party by 20 percent, and other parties by 10 percent. These may not be the actual figures today in the event of an election, but it is true that the Democratic-Liberal Party is enjoying overwhelming popularity.

A conservative merger was once loudly advocated, but this recently has been on the wane because there is a fear that if the Democratic-Liberal Party tries to cover too much territory, it will be difficult to control the constituency and may eventually lose out to the Socialist Party.

The rumor that Representatives TANAKA and NARUSHIMA will enter the Democratic-Liberal Party has completely disappeared. It will be interesting to see what action the Democratic and Socialist parties will take in the second and third electoral districts, where they have no candidates.

All the present Democratic-Liberal representatives will run again to secure eight seats in the House. One or two new candidates may also run, taking advantage of the party's current popularity. The difficulty will arise over the fact that there are too many candidates in the field.

In the first and second districts, committees were formed to negotiate on dividing the constituency, but no agreement was reached. Many difficulties are expected in the third district, where negotiation will be started shortly. The party members are planning to raise election funds by selling badges.

The Democratic Party now has three seats, but hopes to secure five, although the party is suffering from lack of candidates.

The Socialist Party is expected to control the number of candidates and sponsor one candidate in each electoral district. It is a question what candidate it will sponsor in the third district. The Socialists' relations with the teachers' union in the third district is changing delicately, and is drawing attention.

Although the Communist Party has not yet started preparations, it is expected to put up one candidate in each electoral district, as in the last election, and try to win at least one seat, probably in the first district.

Several independent candidates will run, but no one except a very strong candidate will be successful under the present circumstances.

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ITEM 1 Mayoralty By-Elections Examined - Seiji - 8 Aug 48. Translator: F. Noda, M. Ota. (PL)

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Full Translation:

With the issuance of the Katayama statement, anticipation of a general election has become keener throughout the country.

An examination of the by-elections which have been held during the year and a half elapsing since the last elections should be significant. This is particularly true since local elections, the basis of local self-government, were held democratically for the first time in Japanese history.

Seven hundred seventy two by-elections were held throughout the country by the end of May. It is believed that this number will exceed 900 if the number of those held during June and July are included.

Of the 772 by-elections, 612 were mayoralty elections. They form 79 percent of the total number of by-elections held. Of the 107 by-elections held during June and July, as reported by the National Election Committee, 82 were mayoralty elections. However, the number of towns and villages in the nation totals 10,300; NIIGATA has the most with 387, and MIYAZAKI the least with 85. Thus the preponderance of mayoralty elections is only natural.

Mayoralty By-Elections Show Increase

Mayoralty by-elections are increasing. In May, more than 137 towns and villages held such elections. The fact that elections take place when the mayors have held office for only one year gives cause for reflection.

Peculiar features of the mayoralty by-elections have been as follows:

1. Many non-partisan candidates were returned.
2. There were many districts where only one candidate ran and was thus automatically elected.
3. The number of abstentions was small.

Women's election enthusiasm was low, and the fact that women seem to have been completely unsuccessful as candidates is worth noting.

In the mayoralty election held in 1947, the Socialist Party polled 2,270,000 votes; Liberal Party, 1,360,000; Democratic Party, 1,080,000; People's Co-operative Party, 150,000; and Communist Party, 250,000. Non-partisan candidates polled 15,780,000 votes, which is 73 percent of the total valid votes cast. A similar tendency was seen in the by-elections.

The Socialist Party won by-elections held in 17 towns and villages; the Democratic Party in 14, and the Democratic-Liberal Party in 18. Non-partisans, however, won by-elections held in 551 towns and villages.

According to a recent survey of the situation in various parts of the country, there were only three successful candidates affiliated with political parties. They were Democratic-Liberal YOSHIDA, Ko, elected in the 13 June by-election at MIZUHO Mura, SAMBU Gun, CHIBA Ken;

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POLITICAL SERIES: 2582 (Continued)

ITEM 1 (Continued) .....

a Socialist who won on 4 June at KURAHASHIJIMA Mura, AKI Gun, HIROSHIMA Ken; and OKABE, Sukejiro, of the Japan Liberal Party, who won on 21 June at YAGISHO Mura, ECHI Gun, SHIGA Ken. .....

The only candidate in the April election of last year was automatically elected in 3,367 towns and villages. This is 33 percent of a total of 10,300 towns and villages throughout the country.

MIE Ken had the largest number of single candidate slates, with 195 towns and villages out of 287 presenting such slates.

In recent by-elections, a preponderance number of towns and villages ran single candidate slates. In April the number was 57 out of 87 elections, and in May, 88 out of 137.

This tendency reveals that town and village bosses are still exercising an influence. In many cases, they made direct negotiations to elect the single candidate automatically. An exception was the by-election in SHUTTO Mura, HIKAWA Gun, SHIMANE Ken, which failed to take place because candidates were unavailable.

Mayor Dissolves Ohata Town Assembly

In the case of OHATA Machi, AOMORI Ken, the town assembly was dissolved by the mayor because it passed a no-confidence vote in the mayor. The election of town assemblymen is to be held on 18 August.

In last year's general election, 73.5 percent of the total voters went to the polls. However, only 68.6 percent of the women voted, compared to 88 percent of the men. (TN: These figures do not match the figures in the chart below.)

The following chart shows the percentage of eligible voters who voted, with the male and female votes further subdivided:

Type of Elections	All voters	Men	Women
Lower House	67.9	74.9	61.6
Upper House (National Constituency)	61.6	69.2	54.7
Upper House (Prefectural Constituency)	61.1	69.6	54.2
Gubernatorial	72.1	76.8	65.2
Prefectural Assembly	81.6	83.3	80.6
Municipal Assembly	81.1	82.9	79.5

ITEM 6 NCLU Election Committee Forms Policy - Tokyo Minpo - 4 Aug 48.
Translator: K. Shinoda. (RL)

45

Full Translation:

The Election Policy Committee, formed under leadership of the National Council of Labor Unions in anticipation of a general election, has started a public opinion survey and an information campaign. The committee has now decided on the following campaign policy:

1. To seek cooperation of the Socialist and Communist parties.
2. To make a detailed list of the actions of Diet members, which will be revealed to electors.
3. To set up an election policy committee in every district, and conduct a vigorous information campaign.
4. To form farm-labor liaison councils in all districts, and to make them and the central Farm-Labor Liaison Council a basis for labor union election plans.

In accordance with this policy, all participating unions have selected election committeemen and have become very active.

For instance, the All Japan Communications Workers Union has decided to send its central dispute committee members to various districts in order to carry on active propaganda and liaison work. The National Congress of Industrial Unions, under a policy of forming a joint struggle in collaboration with the National Council of Labor Unions, is now working out a concrete program.

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ITEM 6 Osaka Political Circles Prepare for General Election - Provincial Paper: Osaka Shimbun (Osaka) - 9 Aug.48. Translators: F. Mitsuhashi & A. Kido. (WM)

452

Full Translation:

The possibility that the Socialist Party will swing to the opposition has decreased since it has become urgently necessary to revise the National Public Service Law. However, the gap between the Socialist and Democratic Parties over this issue has been further widened, and their parting is considered only a matter of time. Despite strenuous efforts by the Government to avoid Diet dissolution, the political situation still points that way. In anticipation of the Diet dissolution, every political party is earnestly engaged in election campaigns in local districts. Almost all Diet members have returned to their own constituencies and are speeding up preparations for the election by holding speech meetings every day. Reflecting this atmosphere, OSAKA political circles have begun to show active movements in preparation for the coming general election.

The sphere of influence of political parties in OSAKA has changed greatly since the previous general election in last April. The Socialist Party, which had nine Lower House members, now has eight, one having joined the Social Reform Party. Half of the six Democratic Diet members have joined the Democratic-Liberal Party which had three Diet members, and thus, the influence of the two parties has reversed.

Changes in party affiliation by National Assemblymen affected the spheres of influence of respective parties in the Osaka prefectural and municipal assemblies. In April, seven Democratic prefectural assemblymen joined the Democratic-Liberal Party, which became the top party, though it had formerly been the third ranking party. Two prefectural assemblymen and three municipal assemblymen of the Peoples Co-operative Party joined the Democratic Party and the PCP was dissolved in OSAKA. The change of party influence in the prefectural and the municipal assemblies is worthy of attention; it not only mirrors the prosperity and decline of the respective parties, also shows the change of popularity being enjoyed by them.

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ITEM 6 (Continued)

In the by-election for the prefectural assembly, held in ABENO Ku, the popularity of the respective parties was clearly shown by the number of votes, polled by them. The Socialist Party, which won a great victory in last year's election for the prefectural assembly, was defeated miserably, whereas the Democratic-Liberal Party, which polled fewer votes than the Socialist and Democratic Parties in the previous election, won a big victory over both of the other two parties. The decline of the Socialist and Democratic Parties was brought to light in the election for the prefectural assembly, which is regarded as a skirmish prior to the coming general election.

The Democratic-Liberal Party, which had a glorious success in the election for prefectural assemblymen, is planning to be careful with the selection of its candidates and is going to face the election with a firm attitude of electing at least nine candidates. Although its unpopularity cannot be denied, the Socialist Party decided at the 27 July meeting of its Prefectural Federation Executive Committee to send two recognized candidates from each district to attack the stronghold of the Democratic-Liberal Party.

The Democratic Party, as it did last year, will make a strict selection of its candidates, putting up only one or two candidates from each district. The party hopes to increase its strength by one to two percent over its present influence.

The Communist Party has already informally set up the plan to back one candidate from each district, hoping to expand its influence in one stroke and taking advantage of the unpopularity of the Socialist Party.

The Social Reform Party has decided to back three recognized candidates.

Incumbent Diet Members Expected to Run for Re-election

Socialists: OYA, KAWAI (from the first district); NISHIO, MAEDA (from the second district); INOUE, MATSUBARA (third district); KUBOTA (fourth district); and NISHIMURA (fifth district).

Democrats: HITOTSUMATSU (first district); HOSOKAWA (second district); and KITA (fourth district.

Democratic-Liberals: ARITA (first district); NAKAYAMA, Masa (second district); SHIDEHARA, HARADA (third district); TANAKA (fourth district); and HIRAJIMA (fifth district).

Socialist Reform: KANAE (fourth district).

Unsuccessful Candidates in the Last Election Expected to Run Again

SHIGA (Communist), AWAMURA (Democrat), ASAI (Anti-communist), from the first district; OSHIYA (Democratic-Liberal), NAKAGAKI (Democratic-Liberal), MIKI (Democratic-Liberal), and OKADA (Independent), all from the second district; YOKOTA (Communist), TADOKORO (Democrat), and IKEGAMI (Democratic-Liberal), all from the third district; and MATSUNAGA (Democratic-Liberal), and SUZUKI, both from the fourth district. YAMANAKA, Sadako who ran from the first district last year and suffered defeat has reportedly given up her candidacy in order to join the Communist Party. Mrs NAKAYAMA, Tomi, has also decided not to run in the coming election.

The number of new candidates is believed to be very small. However, from the Democratic-Liberal Party, OKANO, Seigo, president of the Sanwa Bank and a prominent figure in the Nation's financial world, who joined the party on 23 August at the earnest request of

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President YOSHIDA and other party leaders, is scheduled to run from the first district. In addition, former Diet Member MASUTANI, Torakichi (first district); FUKUOKA, Suematsu, managing director of the Fish Dealer's Union; SAKAI, Meizo, president of the Kita-Osaka Newspaper Company; NAMBA, Shiro (second district), chief director of the Knitted Goods Industry Co-operation; ASAKA, Tadao, now prefectural assembly member; KIMURA, Koji (third district), formerly local chief clerk of HONO Gun; and SAKURAI, Yoshikuni (fifth district), chief of the Prefectural Federation's Youth Section; reportedly intend to run for the Diet.

On the Socialist ticket, TAKIGAWA, Sueichi, right-hand man of former Chief Cabinet Secretary NISHIO, hopes to run from the third or fourth district while from the fifth district, KAGAWA, Tamotsu (Socialist) and chairman of the Osaka Local Labor Union, who was defeated in the gubernatorial election, reportedly wants to run for the Diet. On the Democratic ticket, Chief Secretary KAMEI, Jotaro is scheduled to run from the fifth district. The anti Hosokawa elements are going to back KATAKAMI, Keizo, managing director of the Fuel Control Body, from the second district.

The Communist Party has informally decided to change the list of candidates and to recognize from the second district KAWAKAMI, Kanichi of the Kansai District Committee, in place of IWAI, Sukeji; and from the fifth district, SAKAI, Toyoichi in place of SHIDA, Shigeo. On the Socialist ticket, ECHIZEN, Nagamatsu (first district), chief of the Prefectural Federation's General Affairs Section, and HAYASHI, Kozo, (third district), executive committee chairman, will run for the Diet.

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ITEM 2 Significance of Elections for Educational Committees - Tokyo Times - 24 Aug 48. Translator: C. Ida. (RL)

452

Summary:

Educational associations in all districts have launched campaigns in preparation for the election of seven educational committee members of all prefectures and five metropolitan cities, which will be held on 5 October.

The authority vested on publicly-elected educational committees will be strong and far-reaching, empowering the committees to supervise all schools except universities in the regions concerned, and to hire and discharge teachers and decide upon the adoption of school textbooks. This means the transfer of authority, hitherto in the hands of bureaucrats of the central and local governments, to educational committees. This is the reason for the importance attached to the committees.

Enforcement of the Educational Committee Law is intended to rectify the existing bureaucratic uniformity and formalism. As the forthcoming educational committee elections are construed as a forerunner of the educational committee elections, to be held by November, 1950, in more than 3,200 cities, towns, and villages in our country, the coming elections are of great significance, and it is hoped that fair elections will be held.

Although education has been renovated since the end of the war, educational administrative power still remains in the Education Ministry. Upon enforcement of the Educational Committee Law, the most important consideration is that after the removal of bureaucratic influence, no other evil must be allowed to take its place.

Through the public election of educational committees, the democratization of education, including such matters as, respect for impartial public opinion concerning education, the guarantee of educational independence, and the decentralization of educational administrative power, are expected to be pressed forward.

At the same time, there is a fear that those who take little interest in education, those who are radical, and those who seek only to exploit education for expanding their influence and achieving their ambitions may take office and seize broad powers in the educational committees. The infiltration of boss influence of this sort must be precluded by the intelligence of the electorate.

Meanwhile, since educators now in office are allowed to run in the elections, there is a possibility that the greater part of committee seats may be won by teachers belonging to unions. However, such an occurrence should not be permitted to happen.

Educational committee members should be elected from all fields. It is also hoped that nominating bodies of candidates refrain from resorting to undemocratic tactics to vest educational authority in one faction or one party.

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ITEM 11 Two Important Elections Imminent - Shin Hochi - 26 Aug 48.
Translator: W. Hayashi. (WM)

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Summary:

Prior to the convocation of the extraordinary Diet session to revise the National Public Service Law, the government and opposition parties as well as the public are discussing whether the Diet should be dissolved or whether the Cabinet should resign collectively. However, we should not forget about the two important nation-wide elections which are scheduled to take place during the coming fall and winter: the election of members for the Educational Committees to be held on 5 October in all prefectures and five major cities, and the election of members for the Science Council of Japan to be held on 20 December. Since these will be the first such elections in JAPAN, their significance in the democratic revolution of the nation must not be overlooked. Absolute co-operation is required of the people, and the authorities must launch a strong enlightening movement.

The objective of the election for the Educational Committee members is the democratization of the educational administration and the establishment of its autonomy, and all the voters will vote directly for their representatives. Although the elections of this year will be limited to the prefectures and the five major cities, all local communities may also elect members to their respective committees if they so desire. At any rate, such committees must be set up by the end of 1950. Anyone above the age of 25 who meets the qualification standard of the Education Minister, can run in the election. However, since each prefecture is a single electoral district, a candidate's campaign may be unsuccessful unless he is affiliated with a political party or with the Japan Teachers Union. Consequently, despite the fact that democratic management of educational administration requires non-partisan members, there is the danger that only those affiliated with political parties or with local bosses may win in the elections. Therefore, proper men with firm conviction must be elected. All voters must thoroughly acquaint themselves with the candidate's personality, career, and merits so that they can reject those who have purely political ambitions.

The Science Council of Japan will replace the Japan Academy and the Science Research Institute, It will be the only organ to represent scientists, and will have a strong voice in scientific administration of the Government. It will be composed of 210 members, and about 80,000 scientists shall be eligible for election and shall have the right to vote. Most candidates will be recommended by scientific research institutions and academic associations.

The 80,000 scientists who are eligible for election and simultaneously have the right to vote, must be registered by the Election Control Bureau, while all academic associations are requested to submit the list of qualified members to the Bureau and, after screening these candidates, the election will be held on 20 December in both national and local electoral districts.

The establishment of such a high representative organ based upon the will of scientists is a rare instance even in other nations. Therefore, how to manage the new Council democratically is a matter of grave concern, not only for scientists but also for the entire nation. Past elections have revealed a high abstention rate in this sort of an election but we hope that those qualified will not abstain from voting this time.

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ITEM 4 Government Parties Favor By-election Instead of General Election - Mainichi - 27 Aug 48. Translator: A. Kido. (DD)

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Full Translation:

The view that a general election is not desirable under present conditions and that by-elections for the 17 Lower House vacancies should be held instead as a basis for determining anychange in Government has arisen among the government parties.

It is believed by proponents of this view that a general election will not be decisive and that, in general, the strength of the various parties will remain pretty much what they are today. Opponents of this view maintain that the people's will must be imposed on politics by a general election.

A conference of the heads of the three government parties is expected to be held after Socialist Party Chairman KATAYAMA returns to TOKYO. At that time it is believed that Chairman MIKI of the People's Co-operative Party will also speak in favor of by-elections.

By-elections can be held if Article 79 of the House of Representatives Election Law is revised. This law stipulates that by-elections will be held only when two vacancies develop in any single electoral district.

The electoral districts where there are vacancies are: TOKYO (fifth and sixth districts); SHIZUOKA (first and second districts); SAITAMA (second district); IBARAKI (first district); GUMMA (first and third districts); YAMANASHI (second district); FUKUSHIMA (second district); AICHI (first and second districts); TOYAMA (second district); HYOGO (third district); HIROSHIMA (second district); FUKUOKA (third district); and NAGASAKI (first district).

ITEM 9 Education Rehabilitation Conference Publishes Principles for Election of Education Boards - Akahata - 29 Aug 48. Translator: A. Ohori. (RL)

452

Full Translation:

The Education Rehabilitation Conference, appealing to all democratic organizations of the country, on 25 August announced the following principles for the election of boards of education, based upon decisions reached at the second meeting of its directors on 9 August:

1. All educational expenses should be charged to the national treasury. Therefore, we are opposed to holding local governments responsible for education expenses. We are opposed to tuition fees, donations, and education taxes. Educational expenses should be met by thorough taxation of illegal profiteers, big capitalists, and landowners.

We demand the complete execution of a school lunch program, complete provision of school supplies, insurance of school facilities and materials, and democratic administration of schools.

2. We demand the establishment of a minimum wage system so that the teachers' livelihood may be stabilized. We oppose administrative readjustment, dismissals, and unjust purging of teachers. We plan to increase the number of teachers, and we protect the right of teachers to organize, bargain collectively and strike.

3. In order to protect democracy and our racial independence, all that is anti-people or anti-labor should be excluded from the course of Education. At the same time, bosses should be expelled from the PTA. We oppose bureaucratic social education and shall prevent our educational culture from becoming colonial.

According to these principles, the Education Rehabilitation Conference will nominate its own candidates, excluding bureaucrats and bosses.

Representatives of the Central Education Rehabilitation Conference, Metropolitan League of Teachers Unions, Metropolitan Teachers Union, and labor unions and democratic organizations, met at the Education Hall in KANDA at 1000 hours on 28 August to discuss plans for the forthcoming election of boards of education.

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ITEM 6 By-election as Substitute for General Election Advocated - Seiji - 29 Aug 48. Translator: M. Ota. (RL)

Extracts:

Chairman MIKI of the People's Cooperative Party and others are advocating that in place of a general election, by-elections for the 17 vacancies in the Lower House should be held simultaneously, and be used as the basis for determining the course of national administration. They hold that this would be a convenient shortcut for ascertaining the people's will.

The present 17 vacancies were created as a result of the purge of 13 Diet members, the death of two, and the resignation of two. Purgees include former Agriculture and Forestry Minister HIRANO, from the Yamanashi Electoral District; ISHIBASHI, Tanzan from the Shizuoka Second Electoral District, and HAYASHI, Heima from the Fukushima Second Electoral District. The party affiliations of the 17 are: Democratic-Liberal Party seven; Democratic, five; Socialist, three; Social Reformist, one; and Daiichi Diet Members Club, one.

From April of last year to May of this year, by-elections to fill vacancies in the Lower House have been held in the Niigata First Electoral District, Hiroshima Third Electoral District, and the Miyagi First Electoral District. As a result, three Democrats, two Democratic-Liberals, and one People's Cooperative filled the six vacancies formerly occupied by four Democratic-Liberals, one Democrat, and one Socialist.

The fact that the Democratic Party, together with the People's Cooperative Party, took over seats formerly occupied by the Democratic-Liberal and the Socialist parties convinced the Democratic Party that it is most powerful in by-elections. Premier ASHIDA has even voiced this conviction during his provincial speaking tour.

The electoral districts where there are vacancies are spread over the country. They are TOKYO, fifth and sixth electoral districts; SHIZUOKA, first and second; SAITAMA, second; IBARAGI, first; GUMMA, first and third; YAMANASHI and FUKUSHIMA, second; AICHI, first and second; TOYAMA, second; HYOGO, third; HIROSHIMA, second; FUKUOKA, third; and NAGASAKI, first.

Should the by-elections be carried out, it is certain that all political parties will put as much effort into it to win as they would for a general election. Although the scale of elections will be smaller, the outcome of the elections will be the same as in general elections because it will determine what the government will be.

Because by-election campaigns will be fought as strenuously as a general election, if these by-elections are held, a certain circle believes that it would be better to hold a general election anyway.

ITEM 13 Election of Metropolitan Ward Boards of Education Dropped - Asahi - 31 Aug 48. Translator: M. Fujiyama. (RL)

Full Translation:

Despite movements to elect the boards of education of each ward in the metropolis, as seen in certain quarters of SHIBUYA, CHUO, and OTA Ku, it has been decided to drop this plan and elect a board from the metropolis as a whole.

The candidates will not have to pay any candidacy deposit. They will be legally allowed to spend up to 139,519 yen for campaign expenses. Applications for candidacy will be accepted during the period from 4 to 28 September. The election will be held on 5 October, and ballots counted on 6 October.

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ITEM 8 Novel Plan Introduced in Yokohama By-election - Seiji - 29 Aug 48. Translator: F. Noda. (RL)

457

Full Translation:

In conjunction with the city assembly by-election held in YOKOHAMA Shi on 25 August, the Yokohama City Election Supervision Committee appropriated 100,000 yen for a lottery. A dresser, sewing machine, and other goods were presented as prizes. In view of the very high abstention rate in various recent by-elections, this unique means of inducing people to cast their votes is noted with interest.

In the above Yokohama City Assembly by-election, 52 percent of the women and 51 percent of the men voted. However, in the Kanagawa Prefectural Assembly by-election held 5 July in ISOKO Ku, YOKOHAMA Shi, only 36.1 percent of the men and 30.5 percent of the women voted. In both the city and prefectural assembly by-elections held in FUJISAWA Shi 19 July, only 32.1 percent of the men and 23.9 percent of the women voted.

Thus when there is evidence throughout the country of the voters' general lack of interest in elections, the recent lottery plan adopted by the Yokohama City Election Supervision Committee introduces a new point. The National Election Supervision Committee expressed its views in this connection as follows:

"If the lottery had been operated by a candidate, it undoubtedly would constitute violation of the Election Law. If operated by the Election Supervision Committee, it is not illegal. It is regrettable, however, that the voters lack political consciousness. It is hoped that they will become more fully civic minded."

ITEM 7 Electorate, Tenure Changes Suggested in Upper House Revision - Mainichi - 31 Aug 48. Translator: R. Abe. (RL)

458

Full Translation:

In line with the Diet's Constitution Revision Study Group, the National Election Supervision Committee will launch an investigation into the question of revising the House of Councillors system.

The committee will confer with the Upper House National Election Supervision Committee and conduct an exchange of opinions of each committeeman. The question of revising the electoral districts and the councillors' term of office, as proposed by some, will meet with considerable argument, and an early conclusion on this question is believed difficult. Reasons why the proposed change will meet with opposition are:

1. Under the current system, national members of the House of Councillors are elected from a single national electoral district, whereas local members are selected by prefectures. The proposal to divide this national electoral district into the KANTO, KINKI, and other blocs will make the new divisions resemble those of the House of Representatives. This will then necessitate a revision of the Lower House electoral districts, for without it, the proposal will be senseless. It is felt that the time for the vocational representation system is not quite ripe.

2. Under the changing national situation, a reduction of the term of office for six-year-term councillors to four years and three-year-term councillors to two might be considered. However, this will have to be decided according to the character of the House of Councillors.

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ITEM 2 The Popular Front and the Women - Magazine: Jinmin Sensen (Monthly) - Aug 48. Translator: K. Sugasawa.

457

Summary:

(By HANI Setsuko)

In what way should women participate in politics? This is the serious problem which Japanese women must consider.

A number of women were elected to the Diet in the past two general elections, but their activities cannot be regarded as being satisfactory.

Today, the opinion is voiced that women must have more political training. Again the lack of women's interest in politics is roundly condemned. On the other hand, however, it is often advocated that women's organizations should have no political coloring or that women with political leaning should not become officials of the Mother's Association (HAHA NO KAI).

Democratic Politics

Democratic politics is being repeatedly advocated, but unless stress is placed on the people's livelihood, the cry falls on the deaf ears of the people who are laboring under living difficulties. Democratic politics is not something which has been suddenly forced upon the people; it is a political system which must naturally materialize as the result of reflection on the unreasonable war which oppressed the people's livelihood.

Although the number of politicians who assert that the welfare of the people must be safeguarded has increased of late, the masses are still unable to forget that those who uphold such advocacies were, until just recently, being denounced as unpatriotic. Have the politicians forgotten that they once condemned those who used the word "livelihood" as being Reds? The people must be emancipated from the agonizing situation where they were compelled to call the past war against humanity a "Holy war."

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ITEM 2 (Continued)

Political Paradox

Democratic politics is a deep desire which has welled in the hearts of Japanese women as the result of bitter experience. Then why is it that the way for the political solution to this problem which lies so deep in the hearts of the women has not become apparent? This is attributable to the persistence of a feudalistic political structure with its fatalistic pessimism and fear. One absurd inconsistency is the recent attempt by the Education Ministry to wipe out prevailing superstitions without attacking the crux of the problem.

For JAPAN to continue under a condition where she is considered socially, economically, and politically feudalistic only means that she will lag behind the other civilized countries. No matter how much effort JAPAN may make to learn of civilization, introduce arts, and study science, it is impossible for her to make progress so long as her cultural level is the lowest in the world.

Despite the fact that politicians have come to expound on the problem of the people's livelihood, the situation has not yet been substantially improved. The tragic scene of confused people milling around the tax offices cannot be passed over with indifference. Housewives complain that the noose tightens around their necks while blackmarketeers need not go to the tax office even today. On considering that there are some people who profit as the result of further squeezing the suffering people, one cannot help but despise the politics which exploits the good working people as in the prewar years.

Co-operative Politics Desired

As in the case of a bankrupt family where its head must give up his privileges and old ways, so in JAPAN, special privileges and social standings must be abolished and the people must equally share hardships in order to make possible the reconstruction of JAPAN. This is the sort of politics that is so earnestly desired.

As long as feudalistic politics persists in Japanese society, it is impossible for women to participate in political activities. In such a society, woman suffrage is a mere formality to deceive the people; an election is always a boisterous festival; and the feudalistic domain of the leaders where bribes and persopal influence and connections hold sway will remain intact. Thus, JAPAN will miss the opportunity to become a modern society, and the women's desire that the livelihood of the people be respected will never be gratified.

Reform Feudalistic Politics through People's Unity

The greatest problem of the Japanese people today is found in the reformation of the feudalistic ruling structure which has long exploited them. It is repeatedly emphasized that this must be initiated, not by any others, but by the people themselves. Those who are obsessed with protecting their influence or party platform, will ultimately leave the people to their miseries.

To rescue the people from their current plight, they must rise to form a new front and give up the idea of depending on feudalistic politics. If the people do not unite their efforts to oppose taxes and price increases, or if they merely remain dumbfounded by the Government's irresponsibility, an influentical force cannot be developed.

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SOCIAL

ITEM 2 (Continued)

The only way to rouse the political interest of the people and gain power is to form a broad, united popular front and proceed to help and educate one another. As long as one understands the significance of the people's struggle against feudalistic influences, he cannot permit the formation of factions within the existing popular front or criticize it. Those who do not join this front are ones who are still reaping benefits from a feudalistic society.

Unless the people's voice for a popular front is united, they can only stand by and see the reins of government handed back and forth endlessly between the Liberal and Democratic Parties.

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ITEM 8 Police Board Issues Instructions for 5 Oct Election - Asahi - 14 Sep 48. Translator: K. Shinoda. (TK)

452

Full Translation:

To provide necessary supervision of the first election on 5 October of the metropolitan board of education, the Metropolitan Police Board decided its policy and on the 13th informed all police stations under its jurisdiction as follows:

(1) Persons who obstruct the election shall be arrested on the spot;

(2) Since a candidacy notice requires at least 60 signatures, house-to-house canvassing is authorized, but care must be taken to prevent such violations as soliciting or buying votes;

(3) No supervision is needed at the polls or counting offices.

ITEM 12 Minato Ku Women Start Price Campaign - Asahi - 19 Sep 48. Translator: K.Shinoda

452

Full T anslation:

The Minato Ku Women's Association will start a housewives' campaign next week for the reduction of prices of daily necessities. This will be the first drive of this kind in TOKYO.

On 18 September, MURAKAMI, Hideko and some ten other women met at the Minato ward office to confer with SARUHATA, chief of the Survey Section of the Price Board and decided to take the following initial steps:

First, on receipt of rationed goods, housewives will be sure to check the weight, thereby eliminating illegal dealers Next, to the dealers who faithfully observe official prices, placards testifying to the fact will be presented by the housewives. They also will resort to boycotts the Price Stabilization Promotion Headquarters says that it has no objection to awarding prizes to stores of integrity.

ITEM 11 Election Day to Be Full or Half Holiday for Workers - Akahata - 2 Oct 48. Translator: Y. Akabane. (HM)

452

Full Translation:

In defiance of the false propaganda and election intervention and interference of the conservative camp, the Communist-led school board election campaign of the democratic front has recently lined up to prepare for positive counterattacks in the showdown battle.

In nearly all workshops, mass meetings were held to demand a holiday with pay on voting day in accordance with Article 7 of the Labor Standards Law. The objective is being achieved bit by bit. In reply to the representation of the National Liaison Council of Government and Public Office Employees Unions demanding a holiday with pay in addition to a 7,300-yen-a-month wage level, the Government delivered a note to the council on Wednesday, which had been decided on at the cabinet meeting the previous day purporting to accommodate government and public office employees on voting day. The note is to be following effect:

1. Late arrival or early departure (half holiday) will be allowed workers in government and public office workers and government schools according to actual office conditions.
2. Payment of salaries and allowances will be for a full day's work.

A holiday with full day pay has been recognized by the Tokyo Optical, Japan Electric, and Tokyo Shibaura Vehicle companies and the Hino factory of the Konishiroku Company and granted to the Tokyo chapter of the All-Japan Printing and Publication Workers Union and the Kanto chapter of the Japan Electric Power Workers Union (GUNMA and KANAGAWA). The Public Coal Distribution Corporation Workers Union, the Government Railway Workers Union, and the All Japan Coal Workers Union have obtained a half holiday. A mass meeting of the young women's department of the All Japan Automobile Workers Union passed a resolution to demand a holiday with pay and not to vote for the three conservative parties.

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ITEM 14 Communist Backed Candidates for the Education Boards - Akahata - 26 Sep 48. Translator: Y. Akabane. (UG)

45-2

Full Translation:

With the approach of the 5 October election day, election campaigns for the board of education members are becoming more and more active. To counteract the anti-Communist conservative front and the maneuvers for disrupting the democratic front, which are being engineered by the conservative reactionary elements in accordance with the four party agreement, the democratic front centering around the Communist Party has organized a large-scale democratic racial front throughout the nation, in the form of the Democracy Protection League, joint struggles for human rights, etc, with a firm conviction of ultimate victory.

Nearly all the Communist candidates have been selected and the party's central committee conducted its first confirmation of those candidates who have already gone through the party's prescribed procedures as of 24 September. Their names, careers, etc, are as follows (a. career; b. chief positions they are now holding; c. supporting or recommending organizations; previously reported details are omitted):

First Group of Recognized Communist Candidates

HOKKAIDO; MIYAKAWA Torao (41).

a. Joined the Communist Party in 1930 and later took an active part as a standing committeeman and central committeeman. Has been working hard since the war's end as one of the leaders of the labor movement in HOKKAIDO.

b. Hokkaido District committee member. Vice-chairman of the HOKKAIDO Labor Conference. Central executive committee member of the All Japan Chemical Workers Union.

c. HOKKAIDO Labor Conference and the Chemical Labor Union.

AKITA Ken; SUZUKI Yoshio (44).

a. Graduated from the Akita Normal School. Took an active part in the 1 February struggle as the vice-chairman of the dispute committee of the National Teachers Union Council. Election Counter-measures Council.

b. Central Executive committeeman of the Japan Teachers Union and vice chairman of the prefectural teachers union.

TOCHIGI Ken; ODA Yoshinori (29).

a. Graduated from the Yokohama Higher Commercial School. Organized the Kanto Manufacturing Labor Union after the war's end.

b. Chairman of the prefectural chapter of the All Japan Machine and Tool Workers Union. Chairman of the prefectural chapter of NCIU.

TOKYO To; HORIE Yuichi (53).

KANAGAWA Ken; IMANO Takeo (42).

YOKOHAMA Shi; IWAFUJI Omokage (47).

a. Graduated from Waseda Technical School. Took active part in the All Japan Press Workers Unions, Farm-Labor Youth League and cultural fronts. Active chiefly in cultural phase after the end of the war.

b. Central standing committeeman of the New Japan Literature

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Association. Business Bureau Chief of the Kanagawa chapter of the Cultural League. Chief manager of the Keihin Labor Cultural League.

c. The Cultural League, Labor Cultural League and other democratic bodies.

AOMORI Ken; MIKAMI Saitaro (40).

a. Has been in teaching profession since 1928. Led trade union movement and farmers' movement and took an active part as a labor committeeman in the Nakamura case of the Government railways, after the war's end.

b. Chairman of the strife committee of the Young Teachers Union. Representative of the tax struggle in Southern HIROSAKI.

c. Young Teachers Union, National Council of Government Employees Unions, Leftist group of the Japan Farmers Union, PTA.

YAMAGATA Ken; WADA Yohei (37).

a. Fighter in the farmers' movement. Joined the Communist Party in 1932. Arrested in 1933 and sentenced to two years penal servitude. Was one of the prominent leaders of consumers' union movements up to the end of the war, and has since been engaged in the reconstruction of the party.

b. Now chairman of the prefectural committee.

c. All Japan Communications Workers Union and another local organization.

CHIBA Ken; OGATA Mitsuo (47).

a. Printer. Imprisoned in 1937 for breach of the Publication Law. Arrested in 1941 on charge of violation of the Peace Regulations. Took an active part in the reconstruction of the party after the war.

b. Prefectural committeeman. Town assembly member of NARITA. Managing director of the Narita Bus Company.

c. Japan Farmers Union.

IBARAGI Ken; KURUSU Munetaka (29).
GUMMA Ken; AKIYAMA Chosaburo (49).
SAITAMA Ken; KIMURA Kanao (45).
NAGANO Ken; KIKUCHI Kenichi (37).
ISHIKAWA Ken; NAGAI Taizo (40).

a. Studied at Waseda University. Imprisoned in 1932 for breach of the Peace Regulations. After the war's end organized the labor union at the Komatsu Manufactory and the prefectural labor conference and has been leading them since.

b. Prefectural Labor Committeeman.

c. NCIU.

NIIGATA Ken; SUDA Seigen (34).

a. Graduated from the law course of Chuo University. Took an active part in the Kanto Electric Power Distribution Company's Labor Union.

b. Chief of the Secretariat of the prefectural chapter of NCIU.

c. Prefectural chapter of NCIU and joint strife committee of the prefectural chapter of the National Council of Government Employees Unions.

AICHI Ken; KATO Susumu (39).

a. Graduated from Tokyo University. Organized the prefectural teachers union after the end of the war. Ran for the Lower House in 1947.

b. Prefectural committeeman. Lecturer of the prefectural political school of NCIU.

c. Prefectural education rehabilitation council.

OSAKA Fu; TSUJIBAYASHI Tomitoshi (44).
OSAKA Shi; IWAI Kyoji (55).
KOBE Shi; ENDO Tadayoshi (45).

a. Arrested in connection with the red airplane case in 1932.

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b. Chief of Kawasaki chapter of the All Japan Shipbuilding Workers Union. Director of the Hanshin chapter of the Democratic Science League.

c. Prefectural Democratic Election Council.

NARA Ken; AOKI Yasuji (36).

a. Arrested in connection with the Kyoto University case in 1930. Participated in the proletarian medical treatment movement in 1935.

b. Chairman of the Nara Council of the Cultural League and local committeeman of the Democratic Cultural League.

c. Cultural League, Japan Farmers Union, Government Railway Workers Union, All Japan Communications Workers Union and the Student League.

YAMAGUCHI Ken; SHIGA Saneto (44).

a. Organized the prefectural federation of the Japan Farmers Union after the end of the war.

b. Vice-chairman of the prefectural federation of the Japan Farmers Union.

c. Prefectural federation of the Japan Farmers Union and the Federation of Farmland Committee Member.

HIROSHIMA Ken; KYUSHIMA Sanichi (44).

a. Imprisoned for violation of the Peace Regulations in 1929.

b. HIROSHIMA Ken committeeman of the Communist Party. Chief secretary of the prefectural league of the Outcast Emancipation Committee.

c. Outcast Emancipation Committee.

TOKUSHIMA Ken; KUSAKI Ayao (42).

a. Graduated from a normal school.

b. Prefectural committeeman. Chairman of the Kaibu Democratic League.

c. Kaibu Democratic League and local of NCGEU.

EHIME Ken; KAKUDA Naoichi (35).

a. Graduated from the law department of Kyoto University. Took an active part in the cultural education at Chikubu Coal Mine.

b. Committeeman of the Araihama Cultural League and chief secretary of the local of the Democratic Science League.

c. Nation wide cultural bodies.

KAGAWA Ken; YAMASHITA Iku (26).

a. Graduated from the Kagawa Normal School.

b. Teacher of the First Middle School of MARUGAME. Chief of youth department of the prefectural teachers union.

c. Prefectural Educational Rehabilitation Council.

KUMAMOTO Ken; FUKUDA Masao (36).

a. Studied at Tokyo University. Arrested in connection with his activities for communications workers union. After the war's end, took an active part in labor union movement as the chief secretary of the prefectural federation of the Japan Farmers Union.

b. Prefectural committeeman of the party. Candidate for Kyushu district committeeman.

c. Japan Farmers Union and teachers union.

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ITEM 15 Untenable Position of Women Laborers - Nanshin Nichinichi (Suwa) - 1 Oct 48. Translator: M. Ohno. (SS)

457

Summary:

The Labor Standards Law has been in effect since May of this year. Keen attention is being focussed on whether the terms of this legislation have been observed to the fullest extent. Whether labor conditions necessary for workers to earn a decent living have been established is a problem. To what extent have working conditions of women laborers been improved?

The Labor Standards Law stipulates that women laborers shall be granted sick leaves and leaves before and after pregnancy. The majority of the labor unions have succeeded in demanding holidays with pay. Actually, however, sick leave regulations have not been observed, because of the women's sense of shyness and men's indifference. In some working places, this regulation is being rejected for the reason that labor efficiency will be reduced. In others, various restrictions are placed on these leaves. Under inflationary conditions, moreover, laborers will be forced to go to work, if sick leaves are not granted with pay. Some emphasize that women laborers in the USA and USSR are not granted sick leaves. However, this is not true of the Japanese factories at present where even the simplest medical facilities are not yet established. Such facilities giving women workers sufficient protection similar to those found in the USA and USSR must be established at working places, if the sick leave system is to be abolished.

The law places restrictions on the overtime work of women workers and prohibits them from engaging in work at night. However, there are numerous cases of violations in minor enterprises and textile industries where the majority of the workers are women. There is a trend for women laborers to be shut out from working places or transferred to other places because of sick leave regulations. Such abuses will not be stamped out unless the general social policies of the nation are improved.

Women workers, in general, are placed where no special skills and training are required. As a natural result, their wages are always very low. This is an indication of surviving feudalistic habits which tend to shut out women from places which require special training and education. However, this may be natural in a transitional period when it is generally been believed that women are lacking in technical and fundamental knowledge and their true mission is to educate their own children.

To improve such a situation, the educational institutions for workers must be completed and women must discard their inferiority complex and start movements to obtain sex equality by themselves. The improvement of the women workers' position can be realized only through their own daily struggles. The feudalistic family system and the discriminative treatment toward women workers still hinder them from playing an important role in their working places, and their daily struggle forces various difficulties.

Women must broaden their views and elevate their character to conquer these difficulties.

ITEM 11 Only One Candidate Elected to 16-Man Tsurumai Council - Mainichi - 3 Oct 48. Translator: M. Ota. (RL)

452

Full Translation:

Only one candidate sought election in the 16-seat vacancy in the recent Tsurumai Town Council election in CHIBA Ken. The candidate was automatically elected, although 15 vacancies still exist. A by-election has been scheduled for 27 October to fill the vacancies. Deadline for filing candidacies is 20 October.

The town residents are anxiously watching developments in the by-election, for so many vacancies are an unprecedented situation. A meeting is scheduled for 4 October when the ex-councilmen and ward chiefs will discuss remedial action.

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ITEM 5 Voting Turnout Poor Throughout Nation - Mainichi - 6 Oct 48. Translator: H. Miyoshi. (UG)

452

Full Translation:

Yesterday was a historic day in the reform of the nation's educational system, for it marked the first nationwide election of regional board of education members. The number of candidates from prefectures, some of whom withdrew their candidacy before the voting day, numbered 710 (campaigning for 276 seats). This does not include the number to be selected from among prefectural assembly members. In the five big cities, the number of candidates was 60, vying for some 20 seats.

In TOKYO and KYOTO, the number of candidates was five times the number of posts, while in some other districts, the number was three to four times the number of seats. In spite of an all-out campaign by the authorities, the turnout of voters was poor in all districts.

As of 2100 hours yesterday, TOKYO showed a 30 percent turnout and OSAKA 48 percent. The other major cities registered a very poor voting record. In comparison to big cities, local areas showed good results, with SAGA Ken showing probably the highest voting rate in the country with 75 percent.

The average voting rate throughout the nation appeared to be about 50 percent. Approximately half of the nation's polling stations began counting ballots at 1800 hours yesterday. The remaining stations will start counting this morning. Counting will be completed by this evening, except in a few districts.

Few voting irregularities occurred. However, in CHIBA Shi the names of several thousand people were not written in the voters' list. In AKITA Shi those who failed to be registered numbered about 1,000, or 70 percent of the electorate.

Twenty three wards of TOKYO To, which constitute a major portion of the Metropolis' eligible voters, made a very poor showing, with approximately 70 percent abstaining from voting, according to a report completed by the Metropolitan Government as of 2100 hours yesterday.

ITEM 27 On the People's Votes - Tokyo Times - 26 Oct 48. Translator: S. Ota. (JJY)

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Summary:

The average abstention rate in the recent election for the boards of education was 58.7 percent. That is, the board members have been decided by less than half of the eligible voters. As compared with 22 percent in SHIMANE Ken, the abstention rate in TOKYO To reached as high as 70.6 percent, the highest throughout the country.

This fact calls for our deep reflection. The nation should have been fully aware that voting is the only legal means for realizing democratic politics. It is an obligation as well as a right. Although the significance of elections has been fairly well spread among the people, the right or the duty to vote has been apt to be forgotten or ignored. It is very contradictory for the people to be critical of the results alone.

The dissatisfactory results in the recent election may partly be attributed to the lack of public understanding regarding the new educational system. Concerning this point, it is felt that the Government's efforts have been inadequate, partly because of the short period available for the preparations. However, in view of the indifferent attitude of the urbanites in contrast with the zeal of those in farm villages, this may also be interpreted as representing the difference in their thoughts and their ways of living.

That is, whereas the people in the local districts have been familiar with the personal character of most of the candidates, the urbanites in many cases did not know anything about the candidates. Moreover, it seems that the intellectuals in the urban areas, who have experienced the impotence and defects of politics, have become apathetic toward the Government's publicity campaign.

This is a truly regrettable trend. We keenly feel the necessity for instilling more thoroughly the importance of all elections, not only that of boards of education, into the people.

In view of the inadequate numerical strength held in the Diet by the Yoshida Cabinet, Diet dissolution will be inevitable. Heretofore, the abstention rate in a general election has usually reached 20 or 30 percent. Such a custom should be ameliorated at all costs. We must realize that remembering to vote is a prerequisite for a sound development of democratic politics.

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ITEM 12 A Cabinet to Supervise Elections - Tokyo Mimpo - 8 Oct 48. Translator: R. Arai. (TK)

Summary:

The Ashida Cabinet finally resigned en bloc. The Showa Denko scandal in which State Minister KURUSU, ex-Deputy Premier NISHIO, and other powerful politicians and financiers are involved is a great discredit to JAPAN which is headed toward democracy. The crime of the Ashida Cabinet will remain long in JAPAN's political history. The mere censure of the Ashida Cabinet at this time is futile. The pressing need is to save the political situation by making the most of experience.

As to the formation of the succeeding government, different rumors have now arisen, - a conservtive coalition cabinet, an all- Democratic Liberal cabinet, and a national coalition cabinet composed of the Democratic Liberals, the Democrats, the Socialists, and the People's Cooperatives. Moreover, the rumor of averting Diet dissolution is strong. These rumors reveal that political circles neither understand what is the real cause of the Ashida Cabinet's fall nor recognize that the Democratic Liberals, the Democrats, and the Socialists are responsible for the corruption of the Ashida Administration, and express their attempt to continue to handle state administration as unfairly and self-complacently as before.

The fundamental cause of the corruption of the Ashida Cabinet is derived from its mistaken idea on the introduction of foreign capital. The Cabinet thought that the introduction of foreign capital justifies the revival of industrial monopoly, the oppression of labor unionism, and the transfer of the right of management in Japanese enterprises to foreign businessmen. The financial circles also supported this opinion. Thus, the Government, political parties, and capital wasted state capital, such as the Industrial Bank loans and the Reconstruction Finance Bank loans, for their private purposes in conspiracy with one another. Meanwhile the livelihood of the laboring classes including those of the medium enterprisers was sacrificed.

Did the Democratic Liberal Party oppose the Ashida Cabinet's policy of disregarding the people's interests? Did the Socialist Party try to stem this tendency? Actually, the reverse is true. As we often pointed out before, the present Diet and political parties are disqualified to handle politics because they are entirely corrupt. Accordingly, the succeeding cabinet must be such that it is able to control a general election in order to clean up the Diet and political parties and establish a government which the people really want.

Then, what should be the party affiliation of the proposed temporary cabinet to supervise the general election? In view of the present Showa Denko scandal, it is evident that none of the Democratic Liberals, the Democrats, the Shocialists, and the People's Cooperatives are qualified to be members of the cabinet. We advocate that it should be formed by sincere elements of the Orthodox Faction Diet Members Group, which have fought for public interests and exposed blackmarket politics since the end of the war, the Democracy Protection League, and other minor groups existing in the Diet. This election-supervising cabinet should immediately dissolve the Diet and, at the same time, investigate the present scandal case thoroughly to eliminate the sources of political corruption.

The people have now found the real character of the Democratic Liberal and the Democratic Parties representing capital and of the Socialist Party which professed itself to be based on the laboring class. State administration conducted by these parties only tended to aggravate increasingly the people's livelihood and JAPAN's economic condition. Nevertheless, they once again advocate the formation of a national coalition cabinet in order to avert a Diet dissolution and another general election. Politics without Diet dissolution means the collapse of the people's livelihood and the corruption of politics and economy.

The people should demand the establishment of a truly democratic cabinet to supervise the election and the dissolution of the present Diet.

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ITEM 12 Get Ready for the General Election! (Part 1) - Akahata - 15 Oct 48. Translators: A. Kayamura, R. Abe, Y. Terasawa. (TK)

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Full Translation:

(Political Bureau of the Communist Central Executive Committee) - All organs and members of the Communist Party must make immediate preparations for the forthcoming general election along the following lines.

Time of the general election: Various observations on the date of the general elections are being made, but the following two views appear the most likely:

(a) If YOSHIDA is designated premier in accordance with the demand of the Democratic Liberal Party, he will have trouble in forming his cabinet and in controlling the Diet. In this case the cabinet will dissolve the Diet immediately without deliberating the National Public Service Law Revision Bill and other important bills. This step is possible because, barring unusual developments, the attitude of GHQ is that it will maintain a "hands-off" attitude toward the actions of the Japanese Government.

(b) A general election will be unavoidable even if a conservative coalition including the People's Cooperative Party should manage to get majority control of the Diet or if a national coalition cabinet under the leadership of YAMAZAKI should appear. This is because the Diet probe into various illegal property transaction cases will affect a number of Dietmen, with the result that the people's confidence will be lost. However if a coalition cabinet is formed, the dissolution is expected about April next year, after the budget and other important measures are disposed of.

Of the above two views, the former is more likely to materialize. If this happens, a Diet dissolution will take place early in November, and a general election will be held on or around 10 December. Therefore, we must immediately make preparations for the election in line with the above view.

Board of Education Elections

With the exeeption of TOKYO, we were unsuccessful in the board of education elections. It is imperative that the cause of this failure be investigated to overcome our faults. By this we mean that we should develop those activities which were helpful to our cause in order that we may supplement our deficiencies so that we can develop a well-balanced struggle.

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In the past whenever we tried to correct our faults, we denied all past activities and put our efforts only into subduing a particular fault. Consequently even activities that were good in themselves were negated. This results in the loss of balance in activities. This tendency must be corrected so that a balanced development of our activities will become possible. For this reason it is requested that particular attention be paid to the following points:

(a) The preparation for the election was too incomplete to attract the interest of the members.

(b) Though it is believed that in the next general election past faults will not be repeated, it is necessary that all members be advised of the importance of this point and that activity be started immediately.

It is true that during the election of board of education members most effort had to be concentrated on the intensified struggle of the Government Railway Workers Union, All-Japan Communication Workers Union, Electric Industry Workers Union, and others, which caused party members to neglect the election campaign.

However, this was a mistake. It was necessary that we relate the union struggle to the election struggle: that is, to mobilize the masses engaged in the former struggles into the latter. The reason we failed to do this is because we did not sufficiently interest the masses in the necessity of unifying economic and political struggles and instead permitted the two types of struggle to become separated.

Great Union Struggles Now Developing

At the present time, great struggles are being launched in all industrial fields, including those by the Government Railway Workers Union, All-Japan Communication Workers Union, Electric Industry Workers Union, etc. The taxation, struggle opposition to coercive demand for donations, farmers struggle, small industrialists struggle for funds and materials, and the various student struggles - all these will become increasingly intense and its momentum should not be allowed to die. Only in such great struggles can we make the people lose their faith in the reactionary influences, including the Socialist Party.

Consequently, confidence in our party should become part and parcel of this struggle, and we must so influence the masses that they will engage in election campaigns for the sake of our party. In other words, it is necessary to eliminate the inclination toward union struggles and engage in activities which will lead toward political development.

Need Help

Communists still carry out election campaign without seeking assistance from others. We must mobilize all supporters of the Communist Party for the next election campaign.

These campaigns should not be carried out in accordance with a rigid formula. They should be made flexible enough so that we can make use of the special qualities and abilities of our supporters. This is very important. We should endeavor to get votes through not only fellow-members but also through party fans.

Cells Show Selfishness

Various party organs, especially cells, are still not free from self-interest. That is strong cells concentrate their energies on their own localities and do not assist weak cells.

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Accordingly, there are many areas where our influence is nil. For this reason from now on propaganda and organizational activities in such localities will be immediately placed under the guidance of district committees. At that time it is necessary for strong cells to assist neighboring weak cells.

Particular attention should be given to the activities of cells whose activities center on management circles. These activities were formerly subordinate to faction activities in unions, and as such the cells gave much importance to union activities and neglected election campaigns. Consequently the number of votes our party can get from the working classes is unexpectedly small. Under present circumstances it is impossible for labor to attain their economic demands unless they take part in political activities and lead the general public.

Judging from the election platform advocated by the Democratic Liberal Party, it is clear that less pay will be given for more work if that party takes over the government. Accordingly, even young workers who cannot vote yet should pay particular attention to the importance of elections. It is, therefore, important that this should be propagandized within management circles and that cells carrying on activities in such circles become active in other fields as well.

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ITEM 5 Make Preparations for the General Election (Part 2) - Akahata - Translators: Y. Terasawa and K. Murakami. (DD)

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Full Translation:

(TN the "management" cell (KEIEI SAIBO) is a cell composed of Communists working in one firm or company. It is synonymous with a company or a factory cell, and quite like a union cell.)

Management cells show a lack of a balanced, integrated program. When warned that their activities are concentrated too much on work within the companies or firms where they are located, they will forget about activities within such companies or firms and devote themselves completely to outside activities. Then when cautioned that they are neglecting their own compounds, they will swing back again to the other extreme and neglect outside activities. This attitude is not a correct one. An integrated program embracing both internal and external activities with one complementing and supplementing the other is desirable.

Management cells are now in a position where they are unable to struggle effectively without extensive support from within their firms or companies and from farmers, fishermen, and citizens. This is especially true in their struggles against anti-Communist and Democratization League elements.

Therefore, all our energies must be brought to bear on unifying both internal and external activities for the next election and making both of them successful. Members of management cells, except those who are too busy to spare the time, should work together with residential area cells outside of their own compounds. It must be borne in mind that in certain strong management cells members are divided into teams and these teams take turns in stopping their activities within their companies and devoting all their efforts to outside activities.

At this juncture it is requested that leaders of the Communist factions in unions should endeavor to mobilize all Communists and supporters for political activities in order to carry out election activities. They should not be led astray by unionism.

Elementary Propaganda Activities

Cultural and young men's activities and activities extending into the women's and children's worlds are very important as elementary enlightening activities. We are apt to forget that these have an important effect on election activities. Communist organs which are carrying out effective activities are obtaining good results by giving much importance to this point.

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These activities have had important effects upon acquisition of funds. Movies, dramas, choruses, magic lanterns, doll plays and paper picture shows are good examples. Among these, magic lanterns have produced best results. There are many organs which do not make use of magic lanterns though they possess them. It is noteworthy that these shows have produced good results on children, housewives, farmers and fishermen. They are particularly effective because admission can be charged. Where party influence is low, they are useful for increasing strength.

We have not been able yet to effectively reactivate Communists who have suspended their activities. To do this we must not be too severe with them. Each idle Communist must be treated individually after his circumstances are investigated and encouraged to return to work in activities they like.

Particular attention should be given to payment of party expenses and campaigns for collecting various kinds of funds. In every case contributions in goods as well as in money should be taken into consideration. It is necessary to make all Communists active in some way or the other.

New party members should be given a three-day primary education immediately upon entry so that they can begin activity at once. More detailed instructions will be announced soon but the primary education policy already directed by us must be adopted. It is much to be regretted that the above two points were neglected in the recent election campaign for Board of Education members.

Campaign Rural Districts

Campaigning in rural districts and small hamlets is also necessary. Members of management cells, farm-village cells and residential area cells must make constant and continuous efforts to win over laborers, farmers and citizens one by one to our cause. During elections they must be particularly active to prevent abstentions. However, this mobilization of voters must not be made through house-to-house visits. In the recent elections for Boards of Education, there was a great difference in results between districts which did not make this last minute get-the-vote-out campaign.

In these elections, those districts which pushed their campaigns on the basis of racial independence and opposition to the influence of foreign capital showed good results. This is a reaction to the traitorous acts and spiritlessness of other parties. You must keep in mind that these movements against foreign capital and for racial independence are extraordinarily important as preparatory actions. In future elections, we must be prepared to be subjected to greater oppression and, despite any sacrifice, be prepared to fight on. This must not be forgotten for one moment.. We must struggle on with the fact in mind that the more forceful our attitude, the less we will be victimized.

Our greatest failure in the recent elections is that we did not provide necessary media for a campaign, especially means of communications such as automobiles, trucks and three-wheeled motorcycles. Providing these things in advance is essential. We advise that necessary arrangement should be made at once for the next election

Offensive against Democratic-Liberal Party

Since the recent political change, how to attack the Democratic-Liberal Party has become one of the most important questions. The offensive against the Socialist and Democratic Parties must be made

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secondary to that against the Democratic-Liberal Party. Our attack on the Socialist and Democratic Parties benefited us, but to our regret, it also benefited the Democratic-Liberal Party. Now, changing our past tactics, we must, in the first place, concentrate our fire on that party.

The method of attack has not only been made public in resolutions at the recent convention and central committee meeting, but is also pointed out in the AKAHATA every day. Your offensives will be based on these methods.

Another important thing is an all-out-struggle against local bosses, who are backed by the Democratic-Liberal Party. We must sweep away their foundation by showing the relations between the DLP and the bosses. On the other hand, we must not forget to continue to attack the Socialist and Democratic Parties. We must do this to maintain the advantage we have gained as a result of their resignation. The most important means of fighting, not only the Democratic-Liberals, but also the Democrats, Peoples Co-operatives and Socialists, is the detection of illegal activities.

The joint struggle with the Orthodox Socialist Party (Labor-Farmer Party) is a very delicate question. You must continue to read the AKAHATA and the decisions of the Political Bureau carefully and take part in this delicate milieu. A joint struggle must be made by any means, we admit. However, we must retain our critical faculties. As for a joint election campaign, there will probably be a directive issued.

In campaigning for election funds, we must move openly on the public, being careful that we do not break the Political Funds Regulation Law. We must act carefully, but at the same time fearlessly. Magic lantern shows are an effective fund raising means. We would like to see funds raised by the sale of publications. Quantity sale of low-cost publications can net a considerable fund. Because provincial papers can be of good service to us for publicity and organization of our party, we must be particularly careful to make good use of them.

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ITEM 9. Election Campaigns Are Already Active - Shin Yukan - 26 Oct 48. Translator: B. Ishibashi. (TK)

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Full Translation:

In anticipation of a possible Diet dissolution at the year's end, election campaigns have recently become active in various districts. These moves are particularly conspicuous in TOKYO. Those who failed in the last election and are anxious to get elected this time and those who will run for the first time are busily engaged in drawing up their policies.

In view of the people's unfavorable criticism of the present Diet members, campaigning by those who will stand for election for the first time are especially active. It is estimated that five or six such persons would run from TOKYO alone. The following is an inside story of the general election activites of these prospective candiates. Most of the new candidates are members of the Metropolitan Assembly.

The Democratic Liberal Party, encouraged by the formation of the Yoshida Cabinet and the increased people's support of the party, is planning to put two new candidates in the field. They are Assemblymen AKIBA Tamotsh from ITABASHI Ward and NOMURA Sentaro from SHINJUKU Ward. Because both of them were elected with the highest votes in each ward in last year's metropolitan assembly election they are regarded as strong candidates. However, it is questionable whether NOMURA's influence will prove strong enough to get himself elected to the Diet when the campaign is fought in the large first electoral district instead of in SHINJUKU Ward alone.

AKIBA, with strongholds in ITABASHI and NERIMA Wards, seems to have begun his campaign early with the intention of running from the fifth electoral district. It is reported that he has already spent much money for campaign. In this connection, rumor has it that because of campaign expenses he is considerably in arrears in the accounts of his business as a contractor.

As for the Democratic Party it is rumored that Assemblymen TAKAGI Soichi from KITA Ward and YAMAGUCHI Kyutaro from ARAKAWA Ward will run on the party ticket. It is said that although YOKOSE Seiichi and KITAJIMA Yoshihiko, both of whom are Democratic assemblymen from KITA Ward, were mentioned as possible candidates together with TAKAGI, the Democratic Party has decided to put up TAKAGI as a lone candidate from KITA Ward. However, from the fifth electoral district, in which KITA Ward is included, KATAGIRI Katsumasa of the Democratic Party, who was elected metropolitan assemblyman with the highest vote in TOSHIMA Ward but failed to get elected in the Lower House election, will run against AKIBA, an influential figure. Considering this fact, TAKAGI will have a hard fight.

YAMAGUCHI has many supporters in Adachi and Katsushika Districts in addition to Arakawa District where he lives. Moreover, as a result of the purge of former Democratic Dietmember HAYASHI Ren, who was returned in the last general election with the next highest vote, there is no influential Democratic leader to run from the sixth electoral district. If YAMAGUCHI is to gather the votes which would have gone to HAYASHI, YAMAGUCHI can expect a very favorable contest.

The Socialist Party does not seem to have determined yet the candidates it would support and those who would run from among members of the party. At any rate, the party seems to be planning to put on three candidates in the field. Furthermore, Chief IDE of the Minato Ward Office may run from the first district. IDE was returned in the election of chiefs of ward offices last year by beating the Communist Party candidates overwhelmingly.

After he became chief of the Minato Ward Office he exercised great political ability and now has a latent power in the ward. It is, therefore, expected that if IDE actually runs, the campaigns by new candidates will become all the more heated. However, since such big leaders in the Diet as ASANUMA, SAKURAUCHI, HARA, and NOZAKA are also expected to run from the same electoral district, some people hold that there is little hope for IDE's election.

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ITEM 20 New Attack — Demand General Election - Akahata - 29 Oct 48.
Translator: E. Okajima. (JJY)

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Full Translation:

The world situation is ever shifting. A new development has revealed that the Japanese workers are playing an important role in the world movement.

According to an AP dispatch of 25 October, three US government departments--State, Army, and Labor--will hold a special conference to study this issue which has been pending for the last three months. The dispatch also predicts that measures may be taken to ease the clause banning collective bargaining by government employees. The dispatch further states:

"The Japanese Cabinet has extended the scope of the MacArthur letter and temporarily denied collective bargaining to government workers. Sharp criticism on both sides of the Pacific followed this action.

"If the Yoshida Cabinet enacts the ban into a permanent labor law, the issue would become even bigger. Several countries besides the SOVIET UNION say that the ruling denying collective bargaining by government employees is going too far."

What is the significance of this? "Establishment of the right of collective bargaining right" is being protected by the heroic struggles of the government railway workers in HOKKAIDO and other workers. This is a very important matter.

The Democratization League avers that it has won a victory at the convention of the Government Railway Workers Union. In actuality, however, it has only made public its treacherous nature, the real victor being those workers who fought with job-desertion tactics.

What remains to be done? It is to win our demands concerning the adverse revision of the National Public Service Law. The GRWU and the All Japan Communications Workers Union should courageously take the initiative in demanding the right to strike. This is not impossible to attain. It should be remembered that JAPAN's democratization depends solely upon the heroic struggles of the working class as well as upon imbuing this spirit of struggle into the minds of the laboring masses.

We should be confident of the might and righteousness of the international democratic forces and launch a movement for securing the right to strike by uniting our strength.

What is the position of the Government? It will resort to every imaginable measure in an attempt to deprive us of the right to strike. It is conceivable that the Government will fix the wages at the 5,000—6,000-yen level and attempt to weaken the fighting power of the government workers by utilizing the Democratization League.

Caution must be exercised to avoid letting the Government deprive us of our right to strike in exchange for higher wages. The Government will make up for this later by mass dismissals. The Government will be driven to the wall if the government employees push their demand for the right to strike and the 7,300-yen wage base.

The Government's foundation is shaking. The four parties which came into office as a result of the April election have repeatedly revealed policy deadlocks and have become isolated from one another. The reactionary camp has split into various factions. It is increasingly clear that the political forces elected in the April election can no longer solve all our problems, including the aftermath of the Potsdam ordinance, which surprised the world.

The general masses should now demand a new election. Through another election we must send the growing democratic forces into power. Without doing so, no problem can be solved.

The vulture-like Yoshida Cabinet is fiercely looking down upon the people. The new election should make a complete transformation of this desolate situation.

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ITEM 4 Diet Dissolution and General Election - Mainichi - 2 Nov 48. Translator: R. Abe. (TY)

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Full Translation:

(TN: The following is a commentary by NISHIYAMA, a Mainichi reporter, on the possibility of a Diet dissolution and the resultant general election.)

A delicate thread of opposition is detected between the Democratic-Liberal Party, which includes some members who insisted on a Diet dissolution at the very outset of post-recess session, and the opposition parties, which want to avoid as much as possible an early dissolution and hope to delay it until the most favorable and opportune time.

Since the Diet can be dissolved at any time if the Government so decides, the opposition camp is closely watching the Government. At this juncture, the following can be considered regarding a Diet dissolution and general election:

(1) A Diet dissolution at the outset of the Diet session is not unconstitutional. But, if the Government dissolves the Diet on the grounds that it controls too few seats making it difficult to secure a favorable working arrangement in the Diet, it will raise the question of whether or not the people will accept this reason. It will also raise the question of how the deliberations on the National Public Service Law revision bill, a major objective of the extraordinary Diet session, are to be handled.

In the Democratic-Liberal Party, there are some who argue that the Diet should be dissolved immediately after the special session is resumed because the 213 blank votes cast in the designation of YOSHIDA for premier signifies in effect non-confidence in the Government. However, these blank votes were blank votes cast only for the premier designation and have no legal effect regarding confidence or non-confidence. Consequently, this would not justify a Diet dissolution.

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(2) It is also possible that should the Government seek a vote of confidence immediately after the session is resumed, the opposition parties may all cast blank votes which in effect would give the Government a unilateral vote of confidence. The intention of the opposition parties is to let the Government run the show for a while and when the Government fumbles its administrative policies, such as the new wage base, supplementary budget, and begins to lose popularity, to introduce a non-confidence vote.

However, it is strongly believed that the Government will not play the Oppsition's game and will not seek a vote of confidence.

(3) On the other hand, it is possible that the Government will first present to the post-recess session such urgent bills as the national public service law revision measure, a bill to revise the wage base revision, and counter-disaster measures, and thereafter call a Diet dissolution depending upon how these bills are accepted by the Diet.

Although Premier YOSHIDA is being very cautious as to the time of the dissolution, he is expected to immediately carry out a Diet dissolution, if it becomes clear that the Diet will drag out discussion or vote down these important bills. For this would mean the same as a vote of non-confidence.

(4) If a Diet dissolution is ordered immediately after the Premier's speech on administrative policies, it is necessary to hold a general election within 40 days from the date of the dissolution, and the date of the general election must be announced 25 days before it is held. So the election will be held on 19 December if the full 40 days are allowed. To force a Diet dissolution at the very outset of the session is regarded difficult at present, but the Diet must be dissolved around 15 November, which is a week after the special session is resumed, if the general election is to be held within this year. The screening of candidates must be conducted during the 15 days prior to the start of the election campaigns, because the official notification of the election date is made 25 days before.

Since screenings conducted subsequent to January 1947 are all still valid, all that persons thus screened have to do is to submit a copy of the screening papers and the premier's approval to the head of the election supervision committee. Prospective candidates who were screened prior to January 1947 must undergo re-screening together with new candidates who have never been screened.

If the Diet dissolution comes around 22 December after the Diet enters the next regular session, the general election will be held around February next year. Some protest that election campaigns for a January or February election will be difficult since many districts will be snow-bound. However, seeing that the Okada Cabinet (1936) and the Inukai Cabinet (1932) held general elections on 20 February, and the Matsukata Cabinet (1891) on 15 February, an election at such a time is not impossible.

(5) If a general election is held, the new Diet will be convened within thirty days. The Cabinet will then resign en bloc and the new premier will be designated by the new Diet.

(6) Although the House of Councillors will adjourn when the House of Representatives is dissolved, an emergency Upper House session can be called if the case is urgent. Deliberation on the supplementary budget can be handled by this emergency Upper House session.

Therefore, it is possible that the Government may, if so forced, take this step to tide over the crisis. However, the conclusions reached by the Upper House will become invalid unless endorsed by the House of Representatives within ten days after convocation of a new Diet session.

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ITEM 8 Nagasaki Lower House By-election Set for 26 Nov - Yomiuri - 2 Nov 48. Translator: S. Hirata. (JJY)

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Full Translation:

The by-election for the House of Representatives in the First District of NAGASAKI Ken (five seats) will be held on 26 November, it was learned yesterday. The Democratic Liberal Party has decided to nominate Prefectural Assemblyman TSUBOUCHI Hachiro and a company employee, OKANISHI Sadaaki, as its official candidates.

ITEM 6 Assembly Speakers Meet to Discuss Election Law Change - Tokyo Shimbun - 1 Nov 48. Translator: C Norton. (UG)

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Full Translation:

Actuated by the inevitability of a general election, enactment of the National Public Service Law, and establishment of the Local Administration Committee, prefectural assembly speakers from all over the country will meet at the Tokyo Assembly on 5 and 6 November.

Among proposals on the conference agenda are resolutions to abolish the transactions tax and to speed through the Third Diet a revision of current election statutes. The proposed revision would make it no longer necessary for prefectural assemblymen to resign their seats to run in a general election for the Diet.

If the conference approves these resolutions, pressure will immediately be brought to bear on the Government, government parties, and the Diet.

ITEM 2 Interest Low in Toyama Gubernatorial Election - Provincial Paper: Toyama Shimbun (Takaoka) - 27 Oct 48. Translator: A. Kido. (SS)

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Full Translation:

As of 26 October, five days after the notification on 21 October that the second public gubernatorial election would be held on 20 November, no application for candidacy had been filed.

The conservative political circles in the prefecture can be divided roughly into three factions, the Agrarian, Democratic and Democratic Liberal Parties, and the progressives can be divided into the Socialist and Communist factions. The latter two are supported by labor-farmer organs.

Three Conservative groups have their own views, the Democratic Libera attitude being represented by Democratic Liberal Upper House Member ISHIZAKA, Toyoichi. None of these factions have established a clear attitude. The two Reformist groups also, finding it difficult to collaborate with each other in selecting a joint candidate due to their ideological differences apparently will recommend separate candidates with the support of the labor-farmer organs backing them.

Moreover, Vice-governor TAKATSUJI Takekuni, who earlier had hinted that he would run in the hope that he would be selected through negotiations among the Assemblymen of the three conservative groups later pulled in his horns and is apparently watching developments. Thus he, too, has failed to come out positively.

Prefectural residents in general also are showing but little interest and show a definite inclination to leave the election in the hands of the political parties. The three-party negotiation committee which is deepening public interest has met twice and is scheduled to meet again on 27 October to decide its attitude.

However, the responsibility and authority to elect governors are not entrusted to political parties only. Therefore, it is incumbent upon prefectural residents to be aware that all voters have the right and obligation to have an interest in the moves of political parties and to elect better governors.

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ITEM 3 Gumma Parties Prepare for General Election - Jomo Shimbun (Maebashi) - 4 Nov 48. Translator: A. Kawamura. (TK)

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Full Translation:

With the anticipation of a Diet dissolution interest in election has risen among various political parties throughout GUMMA Ken. The Democratic Liberal, Socialist, and other parties are meeting to select official candidates. A survey of the parties are given to see what type of candidates they will select.

The Democratic Party, which controls prefectural administration, believing that there will be no Diet dissolution until next year, has not even considered this question. The Democratic-Liberal Party was the first to decide its candidates. It will run MATSUI from the second electoral district and KOMINE from the third.

The Socialist Party, which is deeply considering the practical situation, has decided that it will be to its advantage to run a limited number of candidates. In naming its candidates, moreover, its aim was to maintain the status quo. The candidates are ISHII in the first district, OSHIMA in the second, and MUTO in the third. The Communist Party, on the other hand, selected OKU from the first district and TSUTSUMI from the third.

Meanwhile, the Democratic Liberal Party nominated prefectural Secretary-general FUJII from the first district, HORIGOSHI from the second, and KOIKE and OBUCHI from the third. If Prefectural Chapter Chief MATSUURA personally resolves to run his candidacy will surely be recognized by the party with the result that party control will have been lost.

When the Democratic Party finally selects its candidates, those already picked by the other parties may be changed to some extent. This may be true of the Socialist and Communist Parties, which are both aiming primarily at selecting candidates that will win and thus may be influenced by future developments. However, no major changes are expected.

The conservative camps, Democrats and Democratic Liberals, still appear to be having difficulty in finding suitable candidates. But it is probable that this will be ironed out considerably if a conservative merger is effected early next year.

ITEM 11 Political Funds Should be Contributed Voluntarily - Shin Tokyo - 7 Nov 48. Translator: Seki. (RL)

Summary:

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Election and money always go hand in hand. Without money, one cannot even become a candidate, and without a great deal of money, a candidate cannot be elected. Therefore, once elected, Diet members fear a Diet dissolution more than anything else.

Since the exposure of the Showa Denko scandal and the corruptness of political parties, political contributions can hardly be expected. The stringent money situation also makes conditions worse. Political parties as well as would-be candidates are now facing a difficult problem, viz how to acquire necessary funds for the general election.

Political funds hitherto were generally procured by some underhanded means. The fact that key positions in the party or even cabinet posts were offered for money illustrates the past relation between political parties and money. Henceforth, such underhanded means will not be permitted.

Some new rational means of obtaining political fund should be worked out. One measure now under consideration by political parties is to permit their representatives to launch a drive for political funds on their own responsibility. So far this system has proven a failure.

One representative is said to have inserted an advertisement for political funds in a newspaper, hoping to raise several hundred thousand yen, but the total sum obtained was only 200 yen! Another group planned to sell its party's badge to supporters and sympathizers for the purpose of raising funds. The people, however, are not so generous as to be satisfied with merely wearing badges.

Still another party is planning to operate an industry for the purpose of making profits. Under the present circumstances, this sounds like wishful thinking.

In the final analysis, there apparently is no other way to raise political funds than for the people to contribute money voluntarily to the party which they support. Political parties as well as the people should be awakened and trained to their responsibility in politics.

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ITEM 8 Miyagi Ken Parties Prepare for General Election - Mainichi (Miyagi) - 5 Nov 48. Translator: K. Yasutake. (DD)

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Full Translation:

Believing that a general election is hear due to the attitude of the Yoshida Cabinet to dissolve the Diet either late this year or early next year, leaders of the prefectural chapter of each political party are hurrying election preparations. Recognized candidates are being selected and preparations for the election campaign are being made. All prefectural political circles are showing animation.

In general the many candidates, including those who are pushing themselves have not received party nomination. All want to run as candidates but are suffering from want of election funds. This is their greatest hindrance and many candidates will make their final decision rest on their success on the fund front.

The present election measures of leading parties follow :

The Democratic Liberal Party - Diet members SHOJI, HOMMA, and ex-Diet member ABE Shungo have been nominated for the First Electoral District. If circumstances allow one more will be nominated. Three Diet members, UTSUMI, KAKUTA, and OISHI have been nominated for the Second Electoral District. The electoral front will be strictly regulated. Any candidate who runs without party recognition will be expelled from the party. The party wants to elect six members from these two districts.

The Democratic Party - The disturbance in the prefectural chapter of this party has been settled recently. The chapter members are confident they will be able to vigorously develop their campaign. Two official party candidates will run from each of the First and Second Electoral Districts. Diet members TAKAHASHI and MIURA Hideo will in all probability run from the Second Electoral District. Their candidacy will be finally decided when the attitude of HIRONO Tomokichi, who may or may not run, becomes clear. The chapter is having difficulty in finding suitable candidates in the First Electoral District. SASAKI Kozaburo (SENDAI) who is supported by repatriates and prefectural assemblymen SENGOKU Masanobu (WATARI Gun) and ODAIRA Ryoji (SHIBATA Gun) are powerful candidates. Support for YAMAGISHI Seibi, who was defeated last year, and Director WATANABE,, of the Sendai District Bureau of the Commerce and Industry Ministry, is voiced in some quarters.

The Socialist Party - A tough election race is expected. Two Diet members, TAKETANI and SASAKI, and ex-Chairman OKAWA Shuzo of the prefectural federation of the party will decidedly run from the First Electoral District. The problem is who will be the candidates in the Second Electoral District. As YONEKURA Tatsujiro who was defeated in a by-election has no intention to stand, the left-wingers have nominated TANAKA Seiitsu Chief Secretary of the prefectural federations of the Socialist Party and the Japan Farmers Union. The right-wingers have not yet decided their attitude. Director HASEGAWA Murajiro (MOMOU Gun) of the Motor Car Bureau in the Transportation Ministry is voiced in some quarters. Agreement is expected only after much complications.

The Peoples Co-operative Party - No chapter of this party has been organized in this prefecture yet; thus, an organized campaign cannot be expected. Former Diet member TANNO Minoru is certain to run in the First Electoral District, and SATO Toshio, (MOMOU Gun), who was nosed out in a by-election, will run in the Second Electoral District.

The Communist Party - Since committee-member KASUGA Shojiro of the Central Committee of the Communist Party has moved to TOKYO to enlarge the scope of party activity, either KAMIYA Rokuro or SATO Eizo has been informally selected for the First Electoral District candidate and ODAJIMA Moriyoshi for the Second Electoral District.

The Japanese Peoples Party (NIHON-JIMMIN To) - Elated with the success in the large scale extension of their party influence under their platform calling for a presidential system, Diet Member HYONO will run from the First Electoral District and his younger brother HYONO Naosuke, who was defeated at the by-election, will be the candidate for the Second Electoral District.

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ITEM 3 Union Leaders and Bureaucrats Plan on Election - Hochi - 8 Nov 48. Translator: S. Ono. (TK)

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Full Translation:

With the unavoidable revision of the NPSL prohibiting political activity of government and public workers unions, it is predicted that the unions will place more stress upon political strife at the National Assembly. Thus, the unions are making preparations to put up their own leaders as candidates in the coming general election and to support candidates who belong to political parties sympathetic to the unions.

Yet, the revised Election Law, which is to become effective from the next election, is expected to produce difficulties to the unions in carrying out their election campaigns in the following two points: (1) the new Election Law will ban the candidacy of state and public workers unless they first resign from government service; and (2) the law will prohibit the collection of fund for the political activity of labor unions.

Therefore, the unions are still unable to set up concrete plans including the selection of candidates and the decision on practical election campaign measures, though various union leaders have individually started their preparations for the coming election. For instance, II Yashiro, leader of the State Railroad Workers Union, will run on the Communist ticket from the second election district of KANAGAWA Ken, while SAKAGUCHI Koji of the union will run from the seventh election district of Tokyo Metropolice on the Socialist ticket. TERAYAMA Gensuke, member of the Democratization League of the same union is expected to run on the Socialist ticket from the first election district of SAITAMA Ken, if he succeeds in negotiations with KAWASHIMA Kinji, a Socialist, KATO Etsuo, chairman of the union, will run from the first election district of CHIBA Ken, it is rumored, with the

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ITEM 3 (Continued)

support of the CHIBA prefectural branch of the union. KATO, however, is not too enthusiastic over the prospect of running in the forthcoming election.

Meanwhile, other state and public workers unions including the All-Japan Government Workers Union and the All-Japan Communications Workers Union hesitate to announce their candidates because they lack support. On the other hand, the Japan Teachers Union, which is provided with powerful sphere of influences, is looking forward to the coming election, preparing to put up more than 50 candidates throughout the country. YOKOMICHI Setsu, vice-chairman of the union, is expected to run from the second election district of HOKKAIDO.

When various leaders of the state and public workers unions, who are minor officials, are provided with the opportunity to be sent to the Assembly and, if fortunate, to become state ministers, high officials in government service, who are at the same time members of these unions, will show some dissatisfaction. These high officials with college education will be obliged to work under their former suberdinate officials if they are elected. Their one-time dream of becoming a state minister was lost as a result of the come-back of political parties. Thus, their desire for power is forcing most able high officials to resign their office to become partymen.

Political Party Lineup

The party which most welcomed the entrance of former high officials is the Democratic Liberal Party; more than 20 former high officials joined it including SATO Eisaku, current chief cabinet secretary and former vice-minister of transportation, OKAZAKI Katsu, vice-minister of foreign affairs, IKEDA Isato, ex-vice-minister of finance, YOSHITAKE, Keiichi, ex-vice-minister of welfare, ABE Mikishi, ex-president of the Board of Construction, AIDA Iwao, ex-head of the Bank Bureau of the Finarce Ministry, and ENDO Saburo, head of the Breeding Industry Bureau of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Of the above, SATO will run from the second election district of YAMAGUCHI Ken, IKEDA from the second election district of HIROSHIMA Ken, OKAZAKI from the third election district of KANAGAWA Ken, and YOSHITAKE from the first election district of YAMAGUCHI Ken. Dreaming to become state ministers in the future, it is said they are preparing with every effort for the coming general election.

There are only a few career bureaucrats who newly joined the Democratic Party. They include ARITA Kiichi, vice-chief secretary of the Ashida Cabinet who plans to run from the fifth election district of HYOGO Ken, TOKONAMI Tokuji, ex-governor of TOKUSHIMA Ken from the first election district of KAGOSHIMA Ken, and SUZUKI Mikio, ex-vice-minister of home affairs, from the second election district of AICHI Ken.

SONE Masu, Vice-Chief Secretary of the KATAYAMA Cabinet, from the second election district of CHIBA Ken, is the only bureaucrat who newly joined the Socialist Party except WADA Hiroo, former president of ESB and a member of the House of Councillors, who is rumored to be planning to quit the Upper House and run on the Socialist ticket from the second election district of OKAYAMA Ken. It is also rumored that SATO Tadataka, ex-chief of the Finance Bureau of ESB may join the Socialist camp through the introduction of WADA to run on the party ticket from the second election district of KAGOSHIMA Ken.

From economic circles, OKANO Seigo, ex-president of the Sanwa Bank, and who was one of the strong candidates for finance minister of the Yoshida Cabinet, is most hopeful. The first election district of OSAKA, from which Banker OKANO is expected to run, is the stronghold of such veteran politicians as SHIGA Yoshio, HITOTSUMATSU Sadakichi, and OYA Shozo.

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ITEM 2 The General Election and People's Good Sense - Provincial Paper: Shimotsuke Shimbun (Utsunomiya) - 14 Nov 48. Translator: T. Horikawa (SS)

Summary:

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The Lower House was thrown into a turmoil because the Premier refused to present his administrative address, claiming that it would aid the opposition parties' time-gaining tactics in deliberating on the National Public Service Law revision bill which is the principal objective of the current session of the Diet. It must be remembered, however, that the opposition parties also realize that the NPSL revision is based on the MacArthur letter to the former premier, and therefore must be attended to before anything else.

Inasmuch as the civil service act revision and the new pay standard for Government and public employees constitute the basic administrative planks, and inasmuch as the administrative address was drafted by prominent scholars, it is proper that the premier should deliver his policy speech now, clarifying in the meantime his resolution to dissolve the Diet whenever necessary.

On the other hand, the opposition parties should understand that the political world today needs a thorough house cleaning and that it would avail them nought to maneuver to evade the inevitable dissolution.

Close on the heels of the detention of the son-in-law of a certain opposition party president, the eldest son of a top Government party leader was arrested in connection with the Textile Bureau scandal. This is a time when sons and secretaries of influential persons are arrested frequently. Formerly such people could hush up scandals. Since the Meiji Era political party coffers have been kept in secret and political parties have been supported by patrons behind a curtain. Consequently, bribery has become a common or almost routine practice. The only way to purify the corrupt political, bureaucratic and financial worlds is to dissolve the Diet which today has degenerated into a pandemonium.

But for the NPSL revision issue, we would have demanded an immediate dissolution of the Diet upon its reconvening.

Inasmuch as no more shady patronage of or hunt for dubious political donations to political parties are permissible hereafter, it is incumbent upon all political parties to reconsider their party finance policy. In this light the membership fee system and the general party management of the Communist Party provide good lessons. The undemocratic Communist objectives and strategy must be categorically rejected but good lessons should be learned whenever they are available. Our present tragedy originated from our traditional indifference toward knowing others as well as ourselves.

Without resorting to shallow political stratagem, the opposition parties should appeal to the electorate after attending to the urgent pending legislative functions in a business like manner. Meanwhile, the people should choose clean-handed first class legislators to be sent to the next Diet. In order to establish a proper political structure and end the present anomaly in which the Diet opens without even hearing the premier's policy speech, the people must lead political parties. JAPAN will not become a cultural state until elections are held in accordance with the people's good sense.

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ITEM 9 General Election and Economic Stabilization - Yukan Miyako - 9 Nov 48. Translator: W. Hayashi. (DD)

Summary:

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(By ARISAWA Hiromi, professor at Tokyo University).

There are at present two measures advocated for stabilizing Japanese economy. One is the so-called interim stabilization program, and the other is elimination of inflation by a currency reform. The problem of which measure to adopt will become a major issue at the coming general election. Since there is a wide difference between the procedures and methods of these two measures, political parties must clarify concrete programs and ask for the people's judgment through the general election.

If a political party gains the support of a majority of the people, the administration should go to that party. And if several political parties gain the people's support by advocating similar programs, a coalition government should be established by them. This is the most democratic way of stabilizing economy.

The interim economic stabilization program opposes drastic economic reforms and advocates the avoidance of currency reform as far as possible. It aims at the gradual adjustment and rationalization of enterprises and finance, and requires wage stabilization as a vital prerequisite. However, since there are no objective standards for gradual adjustment and rationalization of enterprises, the burbaucrats will be obliged to follow the views of financial circles. This may result in private deals and the subsequent rise of scandals. From this point of view, the interim stabilization program is advantageous to major industries and financial institutions and disadvantageous to wage earners and small and medium enterprisers.

The measure for banishing inflation by currency reform advocates economic rehabilitation by introducing "stabilization currency" based upon the gold standard and revaluating all economic activities by this stabilized currency. The merit of this measure is the existence of concrete objective standards whereby all economic relations will be clearly adjusted. By this measure increased production and improvement on the productivity of labor will be understood clearly and a foundation for economic rehabilitation will be laid. Since concerete prospects for JAPAN's economic rehabilitation will be made clear by this measure, it will encourage the people's efforts.

The measure is considered radical because the introduction of stabilization currency will necessarily bring about considerable confusion. However, if thorough preparations are made and adequate technical skill is applied, we need not fear the measure. In short, an unprecedented national crisis is predictable if JAPAN's economic situation is left as it is. A decisive resolution is necessary for economic stabilization. We have various obstacles to surmount. The people must understand the nation's economic stabilization policies through the general election and choose the best policy.

Whichever measure we may adopt, will necessitate considerable foreign assistance. If we adopt the interim stabilization measure, it will take a long time and foreign economic aid will be comparatively small. The measure for banishing inflation by currency reform cannot be carried out unless we can obtain far greater foreign assistance. However, once this foreign assistance is obtained, we will be able to carry out the measure autonomously by ourselves. Whether we can obtain foreign assistance depends upon whether the Japanese people have the enthusiasm for realizing the nation's economic rehabilitation by their own efforts.

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ITEM 23 Headache of Election Funds - Tokyo Times - 10 Nov 48. Translator: S. Katagiri. (JJY)

452

Summary:

Diet dissolution is inevitable, and a general election is unavoidable. It is beyond our imagination that party men should be worried about the raising of political funds, especially campaign funds In the past, those who had money or credit stood as candidates for elections. This practice still remains. However, it is rumored that backers are hesitating to make donations to political parties in view of the developments of the Showa Denko scandal. With a general election close at hand, every political party is pressed by the necessity of settling the problem of how and from whom political funds should be collected.

Zaibatsu and other financiers have become unable to offer funds to political parties by any method, legal or illegal. However, it is undeniable that politics, or an election, necessitates money. It is natural that political parties need a certain amount of funds in parliamentary politics. To disapprove this is to deny politics. If the people do not bear a certain amount of the expenses for political parties, political parties will be compelled to raise political funds from financial circles.

In order to make existing parties work for the benefit of the people, the people should offer political funds to them. It is certainly difficult to realize this ideal under the present circumstances. However, we must advance toward this goal. Now is a good opportunity to take this new course. The spread of political education is desirable in this sense.

One political party divides the work of raising political funds among its Diet members. However, the result is said to be very poor. It is natural that they cannot obtain a large sum of money from the masses, because they are not in daily contact with the masses.

Some men conversant with political affairs asserted at a discussion meeting that political parties should carry on publishing and other productive enterprises for the purpose of raising funds. However, this assertion is utopian, because money cannot be made easily in any enterprise.

The masses should offer funds to the political parties they support. However, for this purpose the people must be enlightened politically by statesmen and men of learning. At the same time, statesmen must attain their full growth to meet the expectations of the masses. As a practical measure for the coming general election, we must advance as far as possible toward the public management of elections.

ITEM 4 Ibaraki Parties Make Plans for Election - Mainichi (Ibaraki Ed.) - 10 Nov 48. Translator: A. Kido. (TK)

452

Full Translation:

In anticipation of a Diet dissolution, the respective prefectural Chapters of the various political parties here in IBARAKI Ken are busily working on election plans. The Prefectural Election Supervision Committee, instructed by the National Council of Election Supervision Committees, has already started printing the ballot forms and making other preparations.

According to Article 79 of the Constitution, the voters in the coming Diet members election must be given the chance to review the judges of the Supreme Court. Plans are under way to accommodate this. In the people's review of the judges, if the majority of the voters favor the dismissal of a certain judge, he will be dismissed. Therefore, special measures are expected to be taken to enlighten the voters.

Democratic Party--The Democratic chapter on 7 November held a leaders' meeting in MITO Shi and discussed the selection of candidates. On the 10th, a general meeting of Prefectural Assemblymen belonging to the chapter will be held to select the candidates for each district.

Democratic Liberal Party--Following instructions from the national headquarters, the local DLP will shortly hold a meeting of the prefectural assemblymen belonging to the chapter and other prominent party men to select candidates. Those selected by the chapter will be recognized by headquarters.

Socialist Party--Since a national conference of delegates from throughout the country and Diet members of the party is to be held at the national capital on 13 and 14 November, the local Socialists will wait until this is over and on some date after 14 November will hold a candidate selection meeting.

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ITEM 12 An Unfavorable Time for Election (Sub-Editorial) - Jiji - 10 Nov 48. Translator: E. Sato. (TY)

452

Summary:

Indications show that the Diet will be dissolved shortly unless some unforeseen event occurs. Both the Government and its parties are reportedly determined to hold a general election around 20 December. If it is held later, inconveniences will crop up one after another, for with the approach of the year-end, the people will generally become restless and, therefore, will be unable to cast their votes with presence of mind.

Moreover, the Opposition parties by resorting to various means succeed in deferring the general election for one or two weeks, the people of the Tohoku and Hokuetsu districts and the HOKKAIDO, will find it very difficult to go to the polls during the coldest and snowiest season. Accordingly, there is danger that public opinion may not be reflected in the election.

If a general election is held early in the New Year, the New Year's regular greetings and functions may be misconstrued by police authorities as breaches of the Election Law for it will be difficult to draw a line between every day events and cases contrary to the Election Law. All in all, in view of the complexity of matters, politics should not be discussed during the early part of the New Year.

In conclusion, politics cannot be independent of theory, nor is it possible to conduct state affairs by disregarding reality.

ITEM 1 Govt May Defer Dissolution to 20th, Election to 25 Dec - Asahi - 13 Nov 48. Translator: K. Higashikawa. (JJY)

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Summary:

With the Government now apparently deciding to dissolve the Diet on 20 November and to hold a general election on 25 December and the opposition making desperate efforts to prevent an early dissolution of the Diet, a climax in the turbulent political situation is now anticipated within the next week.

Leaders of the Government and the opposition visited GHQ yesterday. Opposition figures say that as a result of their visit to GHQ they have strengthened their conviction that an early dissolution of the Diet by the Government is impossible.

On the other hand, the Government, at an emergency cabinet session yesterday afternoon, decided to defer somewhat the deadline set for the completion of the debates of the NPSL Revision Bill, so that it may be passed by the Diet. The Government also reaffirmed its policy to carry out an early breakup of the Diet. It was further resolved that Premier YOSHIDA strongly manifest the policy of the Government when the opposition parties present today a resolution calling for the Premier's administrative speech.

Premier YOSHIDA called on GHQ at 1100 hours yesterday, while Chief Cabinet Secretary SATO conferred with Government Section Chief WHITNEY. Even after these visits, the Government decided not to alter its policy to effect an early dissolution of the Diet. At an emergency cabinet session held yesterday afternoon, it was agreed that the Government adopt the opinion of Dr MIYAZAWA Toshiyoshi that the right to dissolve the Diet rests with the Government.

The opposition parties decided yesterday to challenge the Government by putting through a resolution that the NPSL Revision Bill be debated by the free will of the Diet. It was further agreed that they demand the presentation of the new wage scale budget simultaneously with the NPSL Revision Bill, so that a breakup of the Diet within the year may be averted and so that they may be in a position to attack the Government on the budget. On the basis of this policy the opposition decided to present at today's plenary session of the Lower House a resolution calling for the Premier's administrative speech.

Undaunted by the strong stand taken by the opposition, Premier YOSHIDA is anticipated to demand strongly a quick passage of the NPSL Revision Bill and, at the same time, disclose at today's plenary session of the Lower House his firm determination to break up the Diet speedily. Present indications are that even if the resolution calling for the Premier's administrative speech is passed by majority, he will not deliver it but will defer it until the date of dissolution is definitely settled, when he is expected to throw the dissolution bombshell.

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ITEM 10 Study Made of Coming General Election - Yomiuri - 13 Nov 48. Translators: Y. Terasawa, R. Abe, Kawamura and Yasutake. (TK)

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Full Translation:

A Diet dissolution following the passage of the National Public Service Law revision bill is regarded as inevitable, and the third general election since the war's end will likely take place within this year.

The next election will have the important significance of the voters proving by their political and moral responsibility whether the

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clean up of political parties, which started with the Showa Denko case, is to be carried out. Moreover, the election will have at stake many problems such as whether the Diet shall begin anew to win back the people's confidence through revision of the Election Law and putting the Political Funds Regulation Law to test.

Besides there are questions which will shape the course of future domestic politics, such as sources for party funds, the advance of the radical left Communists, and the extent of support which the Democratic Liberal Party can win from the general public. In addition, what will be the attitudes of newcomers and women Diet members and how far will INUKAI, NARAHASHI, and other well-known former bureaucrats get in staging their comebacks? And, how will the snow and cold of a winter election affect the campaigns?

Effect of Revised Election Law on Election

First, let us take up how the general election will be affected by the revised Election Law? The important point revised by the previous Diet session is, of course, complete public management of elections.

Speech meetings, on which there were practically no restrictions previously, will be divided into three kinds: debates, individual speech meetings, and street speech meetings. They will be under the strict supervision of the election supervision committee. With the emphasis on debates, campaigns will be placed under public management.

However, the bond posted by candidates was increased to 30,000 yen in order to prevent a flood of bogus candidates. Moreover, candidates must put up an additional 20,000 yen as public management expenses. Therefore, it is difficult for new candidates to run in the next election as compared to previous elections when the candidacy bond was only 5,000 yen.

The debate, which is emphasized under the revised Election Law, is staged under public management. With all candidates of a district assembling in one hall and championing their respective beliefs and platforms before the assembled voters, this is a saving of time and money effected for both candidates and voters. It also enables the voters to listen and decide on their candidate.

However, since there is no candidate, with the exception of OZAKI Yukio, who is confident of success with just these debates alone, every candidate will avail himself of the use of one automobile permitted him and tour and stage the 30 individual speech meetings permitted him.

Those who are still not confident of winning will brave the weather and hold further speeches on street corners. The Socialist Party drummed up its votes chiefly through this manner in the previous general election. Further, it will be very difficult for new figures to make their names known, because the new restriction on campaign literature provides for mailing only 1,000 copies postage free.

Poor Candidates Unlikely to Win

It becomes gradually clear that poor candidates cannot run in the election. On the other hand, should a well-to-do candidate become ill, he can illegally hire professional campaigners to campaign secretly for him. In the light of these factors, it is clear that effective management of elections cannot be expected.

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In the next general election, which will be held under the new revised Election Law, money will be a prerequisite. Those who have little funds will have difficulty winning unless they are well known or are bosses with strong influence in the local constituencies. Consequently, this deplorable defect will not disappear from this country, until the political sense of the people develops or until the Election Law is thoroughly revised.

Recently, the expression "two, election; one, failure" is being used among Diet circles, meaning that candidates who can invest two million yen in his election campaign is well assured of being elected, but a candidate investing only one million yen is good as defeated before he starts. Thus, Diet members, facing a Diet dissolution, are no doubt discomfited at the prospects of such an expensive election, aggravated by inflationary costs and by its coming at the year's end when other special expenses must be met.

Party Election Funds Limited

Interviewed as to their election funds, each political party, in view of the Political Funds Regulation Law, the controversial Showa Denko case, and the activities of the Illegal Property Transactions Investigation Committee, is claiming that it intends to effect a political clean up as if it were its own voluntary idea.

Political funds being regulated by law, the parties at present cannot raise such large sums as before, and so they are counting on raising contributions from the public. The Democratic Liberal, Socialist, Democratic, and People's Co-operative Parties, it is said, will shortly solicit public contributions on street corners on a large scale, following the example of the Communist Party.

The Democratic Liberal Party was contemplating at one time to launch a "white feather" fund raising drive, imitating the red feather Communisty Chest drive, but it appears to be cancelled. In this connection, Party Secretary-General HIROKAWA says his party will require money only for communication, publicity, and local party conventions and consequently will not need a large sum. This is also true of other parties. Further, since the payment of bonuses to official party candidate has been restricted, the worries of secretary-generals and election policy committee chairmen of each party have lessened. Instead, all parties are planning to charge candidates an endorsement fee--the DLP, 2,000 yen; the Democrats, 1,000 yen, and the PCP, 100 yen---- and have the local chapters finance their respective campaigns themselves.

However, the actual situation of each party is gloomy. For instance, Democratic members, large and small, it is said, often visit their leaders such as ASHIDA, INUKAI, and NARAHASHI to ask for financial aid. But stringent surveillance makes aid from the party or leaders hopeless. It is said that ambitious members have been busy trying to raise funds since this summer, and each has succeeded in collecting about 300,000 yen.

As one example of a clever use of money in an election campaign, a certain Diet member, now confined for involvement in the Showa Denko scandal, last spring distributed postal savings pass-books in which was entered a deposit of one yen to each of the 1,000,000 voters in his constituency in the name of a rehabilitation savings movement.

Election experts observe that although the aforementioned "two, election; one, failure" may be an exaggeration, it will still cost candidates anywhere from 500,000 to 1,000,000 yen. Since the Diet dissolution talks had been prevailing since the formation of the Ashida Cabinet, the majority of the Diet members are complaining that they have already spent the greater part of their funds.

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POLITICAL

ITEM 10 (Continued)

Party Election Predictions

What will be the results of the forthcoming general election run under such a condition? Let us study the predictions being made by each party.

Secretary-General HIROKAWA of the DLP predicts that his party members will succeed in occupying an overwhelming majority of from 250 to 270 Diet seats.

The Socialist Party on 12 November decided to endorse 200 official candidates and it broadcast that it was confident of winning at the very least 130 seats. However, one party leader expressed his worry of how to peg the losses so as to retain at least 70 seats.

The Democrats are in deep distress, and sometimes a demand comes in from local chapters to change the party name. Secretary-General TOMABECHI is positive of winning at least 90 seats.

The Peoples Co-operatives are also predicting that they will win new seats.

At this rate, the number of seats claimed by each party will far exceed the actual total of seats available. The following is an estimate computed upon the observations of rival parties:

DLP	200
Socialist Party	80
Democratic Party	60
Peoples Cooperative Party	30
Communist Party	10
Independents and others	70

Observers agree in predicting that a great many independents will be elected. Voters in all strata of society,, regarding one party no better than another, place no confidence in their avowed platforms. Thus, well-known neutrals or rich local bosses will run as independents.

Communists in Limelight

All quarters are watching the number to be elected from the Communist camp. Taking advantage of the prestige lost by the conservatives and the Socialist Party, the Communist Party, backed by organized labor, will develop a nation-wide offensive, aiming to win about 50 seats.

TOKUDA Kyuichi, it is rumored, may have trouble being re-elected from his present Tokyo Third Electoral District and will therefore shift his constituency to the coal mining district of HOKKAIDO. TOKUDA denies this. All the parties admit the strikes made by the Communist Party in various elections held during the past one year, but they still say that in the Diet election, it will only win about 10 seats despite great strides it may make.

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ITEM 27 Fight in the Science Council of Japan Election - Akahata - 11 Nov 48.
Translator: E. Okajima. (UG)

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Full Translation:

The first election of the Science Council of Japan is drawing near. However, this is not a matter which concerns scientists alone. The SCJ deliberates not only upon the amount and the method of distributing Government appropriations for scientific research purposes but also draws up practical policies for science.

Through this SCJ, the ruling class is planning to suppress the culture of the masses and, thereby, use science for the sole benefit of monopolistic capital.

The development of science and the application of scientific knowledge to the security of the people's livelihood are unnecessary for the comprador-like ruling class. Because of this, the Government intends to set up powerful scientific research machineries in government offices, such as the Industrial Technique Bureau in the Commerce-Industry Ministry, the Agricultural Improvement Bureau in the Agriculture-Forestry Ministry and the Telecommunications Ministry, independent from the Communications Ministry in an attempt to force non-governmental research institutions out of existence.

The Government Institute for the Scientific Study of Resources is to be closed within the year. Many non-governmental institutes including the Ikuta Institute of the Japan Electric have already been or are about to be closed.

The Government, on the other hand, has ordered the Telecommunications Institute of the Communications Ministry to study police communications and spent a large sum of money for that purpose. In order to force low labor conditions upon the employees in the name of science, the Government furtively plans to set up a large-scale institute for the study of labor problems within the Government Railways Workers Unions.

For this purpose, the ruling class intends to send as many as possible of the bosses, who are on their side, and technicians, who are company executives, to the SCJ. It has unreasonably limited the candidates to those who have graduated from an university at least two years ago and from a technical college four years ago; and if he is not a college graduate, the candidate must have had at least five years experience in the research field. By so diverting public attention from the election, the ruling class intends to realize its own policies. Protests against JAPAN's science policies can be filed until 15 November.

With the view of thwarting the government intention to utilize scientific researches not for the public interest but for the destruction of the people's livelihood, we have been demanding the registration of those who failed to register and the re-registration of those who were unreasonably disqualified for candidacy. Fearful of this, the Government appears to be ready to distribute election forms to the people as soon as the protest-filing period ends. We must courageously and immediately launch an "election struggle" in opposition to the Government.

The campaign for this election should be carried out systematically in view of the forthcoming general election. By using a combination of individual tactics and mass propaganda, we should expose the reactionary intentions of the ruling class by informing the people of the crisis facing JAPAN's science and of the fact that the nation's independence is being sold out in the field of science, too. At the same time, we must propagate the Communist Party's science policies.

Mobilizing as many intellectuals as possible, we must reveal our party's policies to the voters. Communist cells in enterprises and in residential areas should hold lecture-meetings and discussions in the presence of Communist-recommended candidates to publicize our party's policies.

We must make our victory certain by appealing to the masses that the election of the SCJ patterns the future course of JAPAN's science, that it determines the future of the scientists' livelihood and JAPAN's science and culture, and that its result will have a close bearing upon JAPAN's independence.

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ITEM 18 Struggle for Power and the General Election - Akahata - 17 Nov 48. Translator: E. Okajima. (UG)

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Full Translation:

Why is it that the existing government led by the Democratic Liberal Party—the ringleader of destruction—and the other three corrupt political parties still stands? Incidents during the past three years, and the Showa Electric scandal in particular, have clearly shown how unjust their politics are and the harm they do to the nation.

The general masses have come closer to the Communist Party. It was the pressure of the masses spearheaded by our party that forced the successive governments since the Shidehara Cabinet to relinquish the reins of power. However, we have given the helm of power to the four corrupt parties each time.

Why is the Cabinet still in the hands of these parties which are selling out the nation in betrayal of popular confidence?

It is the laissez-faire attitude of the masses that has allowed these four corrupt parties to remain in power. Their reasoning goes as follows: "Theoretically, what the Communist say is all right. But can we do as they say?"

This attitude is prevalent among the masses and has allowed those parties continue to hold the reins of government.

In other words, the power of the reactionary influences lies with laissez-faire atitude of the masses. The way to build the foundation for the "struggle for power" is for us to work closely with the masses to eliminate this attitude and train the masses into a strong revolutionary force.

Whether we can destroy the four parties in the forth-coming general election depends to what extent we can develop the peoples' confidence in our party and in revolution. The important thing in a political struggle is for the masses to support the Communist Party.

Labor unions have compiled a list of all political parties and Diet members with their merits and shortcomings. However, this alone is not enough to foster popular support for our party. When it is utilized at the time actual demands are made at every workshop and village, the reasoning that the "Communists are right" will develop into a movement"support of the Communists."

When World War I started, LENIN, while in exile in SWITZERLAND, talked the Socialists who appeared to be about to follow imperialism into opposing the war.

All members of our party should abide by the policy of the local organ to which he belongs and exert all-out efforts to win new members by appealing to the masses that the four parties are corrupt. It is also important to have non-Communists exert efforts for this same purpose.

The laissez-faire attitude of the masses cannot be eliminated merely by perfunctory speeches and with a list of the merits and shortcomings of the Diet members.

Daily demands and struggles are closely connected with the elections. The general election offers us the best opportunity to fight to win the demands of the people. Especially now when the foundation of the ruling class is shaking and parties are wavering between preserving their own interests and gaining popular favor. If we fight for the demands of the masses and against the four corrupt parties, the capitalists will be forced to meet the demands of the workers for higher wages even at the cost of resorting to deficit finance.

A political struggle with the view of clarifying the character of each party is the best way to realize daily demands. If we win in our struggle for the realization of what the masses think is "ri ht but not realizable", we should then work to convince the masses that they can take over the Government.

Under the present circumstances, the election campaign is the most important and decisive struggle for power. The Yoshida Cabinet, the Democrats, the Socialists and the Peoples Co-operatives are being driven to the wall. They have begun to lose confidence. This is the result of our political offensive which was launched through the strength of the working people.

All party members should immediately join the battle front of the coming election to win freedom, peace and independence by fighting with the masses, overcoming their opportunism and destroying the four corrupt parties.

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ITEM 6 Importance of Money in the Next General Election - Shin Tokyo - 18 Nov 48. Translator: Seki. (TK)

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Summary:

When will the Diet be dissolved? There are some who predict that it will be dissolved this year, while others maintain that it will be next year. However, whichever it may be they all agree that the dissolution is inevitable under the present circunstances.

Campaigning in the anticipated election will undergo a marked change because of the new laws pertaining to election campaigns which were enacted in the second session of the Diet. Under the new laws the use of posters are restricted to the locale where the campaign speech is being made, to lanterns, automobiles in the employ of campaign headquarters, and to megaphones. Other kind of posters are to be furnished and posted by the Election Committee in the respective Community.

The number of automobiles, megaphones and boats is also limited. Only one of each is permitted to a candidate for campaign purposes. No campaign letters signed by the candidate is admissible, and only 1,000 postcards purely for the routine business are allowed.

The campaign speeches by different party candidates in one rally is, as a rule, held by the community and the candidate himself must appear. The number of independent campaign speeches by the candidate is limited to 30.

Summing it up, it is obvious that the next general election will require less money than the previous ones. And only the personality of the candidate seems to be the deciding factor. But it will be a great mistake to think that a model campaign will be conducted and that such a campaigner will be successfully elected.

By the limitation of posters, candidates can probably save paper, but in order to mobilize the people for the campaign speech, he has to utilize automobiles and megaphones. For those candidates who cannot afford to hire automobiles it is a great drawback.

Under the new laws the candidate has to deposit 30,000 yen with which to pay 20,000 yen for the election expenses of the community, and his campaigning expenditure is authorized to the limit of 80,000 yen. Altogether a candidate needs at least 130,000 yen to run.

After all, money is the most important factor for victory at the general election. We must be on guard for candidates who employ the power of money at the coming election.

ITEM 6 Eastern Hiroshima Prepares for General Election - Osaka Asahi - 14 Nov 48. Translator: T. Fukizawa. (MTF)

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Full Translation:

Anticipating a not too distant dissolution of the Lower House the HIROSHIMA Ken 3rd Electoral District, headed by ONOMICHI Shi, is gradually growing active in preparation for the general election.

The Eastern Hiroshima Regional Committee of the Communist Party has already decided to endorse again NOMURA Hideo (MITSUGI Gun, MUKOJIMA-HIGASHI Mura) who was defeated in the by-election this spring. The committee is also preparing to hold a lecture meeting in ONOMICHI Shi on current questions. The Onomichi chapter of the Socialist Party, at its recent mass meeting, has brought its officers up to strength and decided on new plans of action in preparation for the general election as an opposition party.

Even the Democratic-Liberal Party, which does not have representativ in the Diet from these districts, is resolved to do or die in the next election.

However, since a flood of aspirants is expected to demand party endorsement and since the internal disputes which arose at the time of the by-election are not yet quite settled, considerable trouble in deciding on its candidate is expected.

Because ONOMICHI Shi is a commercial city, all the parties are eagerly soliciting the support of the small and medium businessmen. Since the businessmen are seeking the abolition of the transactions tax, the Democratic-Liberal Party's chapter is playing up the point that the transactions tax, adopted by the three-party coalition cabinet of the Democratic, Socialist and Peoples Co-operative parties, will be abolished by the Yoshida Cabinet. The Socialist Party chapter, not to be outdone, has established a business and industry department within the party to specialize in maneuvers to win the support of the business circles.

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ITEM 4 Public Collection of Political Funds - Provincial Paper: Kita Nippon (Toyama) - 18 Nov 48. Translator: E. Sato. (DD)

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Summary:

In view of the impending general election, the political parties are worrying over the matter of political funds. Since the coming general election aims to clean up political circles, it is proper that the funds of each political party should be made public.

Political activities require considerable funds. The conservative parties and the socialists are reportedly planning to conduct a large scale solicitation of campaign funds on the streets. It is questionable, however, as to how much they will be able to raise through such action.

It is unreasonable that political parties should solicit funds on the streets, and criticism is to be expected. If all the political parties simultaneously commence to solicit political funds on the street with the blare of musical instruments, there will be no room for the people to walk and they will naturally become aggravated.

Political funds must not be regarded in the same light with the Community Chest and other subscriptions. Recently, strike funds were solicited on the streets of TOYAMA City. Such action itself is not to be criticized. However, if funds collection campaigns are staged on the streets everytime strikes take place, the citizens will be greatly inconvenienced.

In short, since to raise political funds on the street is only a means for the political parties to clearly define their moral obligations, we cannot favor such action. The political parties should formally solicit membership and, thus, collect necessary funds with the view of exterminating political corruption.

ITEM 5 Time Restriction on Elections Revealed - Jiji - 24 Nov 48. Translator: R. Abe. (TY)

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Full Translation:

Premier YOSHIDA has clarified his intention of dissolving the Diet early enough to enable the staging of a general election by the end of the year. However, inasmuch as the election will coincide with the public review vote on Supreme Court justices, numerous complications are anticipated.

The policies of the Inspection Section of the Premier's Office and the National Election Supervision Committee on the review and general election follows:

General election--

(1) Screening of candidates: It is anticipated that among the 2,000 estimated candidates there will be 1,000 who have not been screened for public office qualifications. These persons will be screened. For this purpose the Premier will announce officially the date when applications for screening must be submitted; the candidates must forward to the Premier through the Prefectural Governor the application by this date. Minimum period from the date of the announcement to that of delivery of applications is estimated to be one week.

(2) Period of election campaigns: In case of a Diet dissolution general election will be held within 25 days from the date that the Premier announces the election. This announcement must be made within 40 days from the date of Diet dissolution. Therefore, if the Diet is dissolved on 30 November and the announcement is made simultaneously with the dissolution, the election can be held on 24 December. In this event, it will be necessary for candidates to campaign at the same time that their qualifications are being examined.

(3) After balloting: A three-day leeway will be required between election day and the public announcement of the results.

Review of Supreme Court justices: The review will be officially announced at least 25 days before the date of the election and this vote will be conducted simultaneously with the general election. If the example of the Upper House members election from the national constituency is taken, five days will be required before the election results can be known.

As stated above, it is possible that the general election can be held 25 days after a Diet dissolution. However, the fact is that an election is impossible during the period immediately before and after the New Year. So it is clear that a general election this year would be difficult, if dissolution is not ordered promptly this month.

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ITEM 1 Dissolution within Year Seen Difficult - Asahi, Yomiuri - 18 Nov 48. Translator: K. Higashikawa. (UG)

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Summary:

· ASAHI--Faced with a strong resistance of the opposition parties, possibilities of dissolving the current special Diet session and of holding a general election within the year, as planned by the Yoshida Cabinet, have now become slender, observers opine.

The opposition parties apparently strengthened the view yesterday that the Government is now driven to the necessity of striving for the passage of the supplementary budget to include the new wage scale in conjunction with the NPSL revision bill. In such an eventuality, they say, deliberations of the supplemehtary budget would necessarily be carried over to the fourth ordinary Diet session, which would preclude the possibility of an early Diet breakup.

On the other hand, the Government speculates that the NPSL revision bill will be passed on or about 24 November. On this assumption it plans to have Premier YOSHIDA throw the dissolution bombshell in the form of his administrative address on 25 or 26 November. In the event, however, circumstances do not permit the Government to drop the new wage scale budget from the current session, it is of the opinion that deliberation on the budget will not be completed in the present session, especially in view of the fact that the Government is now facing great difficulties in compiling a complete supplementary budget. The Government is now apparently cudgeling its brains on how to carry out an early breakup of the Diet.

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NEWS

ITEM 1 (Continued)

In the meantime, the DLP has not altered its policy to dissolve the Diet at the latter part of the month and to hold a general election within the year, taking a strong stand on both the constitutional and the new wage scale issues. On the other hand, the opposition parties in their offensive are gaining ground on every issue. Some of the cabinet ministers now hold the view that a general election within the year is difficult to realize because of the time required for screening and the period required for the publication of the names of the candidates.

Socialists Strengthen Their Viewpoint

The Socialists have been holding the view right along that the NPSL revision bill, the supplementary budget to include the new wage scale and the utilities corporation bill are inseparably related to each other, and that for this reason the NPSL revision bill should not be discussed entirely apart from the latter two bills. The Socialists convinced themselves yesterday that their view is decisive.

Accordingly, they opine that the Diet cannot be dissolved before these three bills have been disposed of, and even though the NPSL revision bill is passed in the current special Diet session, the deliberation of the other associated bills will run into the fourth ordinary session of the Diet. Therefore, if the Government wants to break up the Diet, it will have to do so in the forthcoming ordinary Diet session. Some of the Socialists are even of the opinion that the Government will not be able to dissolve the Diet this year, because the deliberation of the supplementary budget and the other associated bill cannot be so easily completed, especially in view of the fact that the opposition parties hold the majority.

Dissolution Will Be Delayed till Next Year,
Democrats Consider

While taking a cautious attitude towards the Government plan to break up the Diet as soon as the NPSL revision bill is passed, Democrats are now of the opinion that the deliberation of the NPSL revision bill and other associated bills will run into the fourth ordinary session of the Diet, and that, therefore, the Government will be able to dissolve the Diet in the ordinary session early next year. Like the Socialists, they consider the supplementary budget to include the new wage scale and the appropriation for the relief of calamity-stricken areas is inseparably related to the NPSL revision bill. They further consider that the Government will not be able to present the supplementary budget to the current session of the Diet and that as the duration of the present session is very short the discussion of the supplementary budget will not be completed in the current session.

In that eventuality, the passage of the NPSL revision bill in the current session will be difficult of realization and the possibilities are that it will be carried into the forthcoming ordinary session. These speculations have led to the belief that the Government will only be able to dissolve the Diet in the ordinary session early next year.

Peoples Co-operatives Consider Dissolution
Will Come End of December

Taking the view that the Government will not be able to present the supplementary budget before the convocation of the fourth ordinary session of the Diet and taking into consideration the time required to debate the budget, the Peoples Co-operatives consider that Diet dissolution will not come before the end of December. They think that

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ITEM 1 (Continued)

the Government is much belated in noticing that it will have to compile the supplementary budget so that it may be presented to the Diet in conjunction with the NPSL revision bill. As the party has proposed a new wage level of 6,300 yen it is expected to tackle the supplementary budget on this basis.

Furthermore, as the party has advocated the presentation of a resolution calling for an appropriation of over 10,000,000,000 yen for the relief of calamity-stricken areas, it is expected to press its demand for the appropriation.

Gov't Stumbles on Dissolution Issue

YOMIURI--With the final judgment on the interpretation of the Constitution on the dissolution issue still pending, the voice calling for the resignation en masse of the Yoshida Cabinet is gradually rising among cabinet ministers. They say that the Yoshida Cabinet has proclaimed dissolution of the Diet as its foremost administrative policy. Accordingly, if and when the right to break up the Diet is denied the Government, they would rather resign en bloc than be left "half-alive" in the public show-window.

Although the Government has begun to compile the supplementary budget in an effort to have the NPSL revision bill passed by the current session of the Diet, conditions surrounding the Government do not allow optimism. The Government is now driven to the necessity of choosing abandonment of Diet dissolution or an early breakup of the Diet. At yesterday's Lower House plenary session the opposition parties launched urgent interpellations on the administrative policy of the Government.

On the other hand, an influential opinion on the interpretation of the Constitution on the dissolution issue is still pending. In this situation Socialist Chairman KATAYAMA visited Gen MacARTHUR at SCAP. Present indications are that there are still snags in the way of Diet dissolution, even if the NPSL revision bill is passed.

Although the Government started to compile the supplementary budget yesterday, the basic policy for the compilation of the budget to include the new wage scale has not yet been decided upon. Accordingly, the Government is still unable to tell for certain when it will be able to present the budget to the Diet. Even granting that it can introduce the budget to the present session, judging from the stand taken by the opposition parties it is doubtful whether the budget will be passed by the present session.

Communists and Other Minority Parties Attempt to Present No-Confidence Motion

At yesterday's Lower House Steering Committee session the Communists, Farmers Party and Worker-Farmer Party demanded presentation of a no-confidence motion against the Government, but the demand was rejected by the opposition of the Democrats, Socialists, Peoples Co-operatives and the Social Reform Party. They said that while they agree with the objective of the no-confidence motion, the timing is not suitable as the House is deliberating upon important bills.

The three minority parties, however, decided to ask Speaker MATSUOKA to present the motion to the Lower House plenary session by securing over 20 supporters by virtue of Clause 3 of Article 50 of the Diet Law.

On the other hand, the Socialists, Democrats, Peoples Co-operatives have decided to delay presentation of the no-confidence motion as long as possible.

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ITEM 4 Diet Focuses Activity to Coming Election - Shin Tokyo - 20 Nov 43. Translator: K. Yasutake. (TK)

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Full Translation:

The NPSL revision bill has been laid before the Third National Assembly, but the National Assembly is instead arguing the Diet dissolution issue. The early Diet dissolution insisted by Premier YOSHIDA has been shelved for the time being and has temporarily prolonged the life of the present Diet. However, all the parties are prepared for the dissolution.

The Diet members' minds have flown to their respective local constituencies and they no longer can concentrate on Diet proceedings. On 17 November, Diet members of respective parties assembled in the inner court of the Commerce-Industry Ministry and discussed their party policy. At this juncture, when a strong dissolution atmosphere is thus enveloping the Diet, let us take a glimpse at each party's moves towards the anticipated election:

DLP--As this party is the prime advocate of the dissolution, it has everything fully prepared. Two veterans, SHIDEHARA and UEHARA, are serving as campaign committeemen, and they are working hard to give the DLP an absolute majority in the House. Plans for a nation-wide stumping tour are completed. According to this plan, nine stumping teams, each consisting of more than 10 members, are to be organized, headed by such veterans as Premier YOSHIDA, SHIDEHARA, and UEHARA. Further, all party members who have time are to hold speech or debate meetings at every convenient opportunity.

Socialist Party-- This party is at present the number two party in the Diet, but it is aiming at the number one spot through the next general election. ITO Ushiro has been named chairman of the campaign committee, and the party plans on endorsing 200 official party candidates. The party is going all out, placing stress on close liaison with the prefectural federations, and it is busy expanding party influence in the local districts.

Democratic Party-- The party has announced that plans for stumping tours will be drawn up on 15 November and that those interested contact the stumping tour manager by that date. It appears quite optimistic. However, it is planning to make yellow campaign buttons with the characters for "Democrat" inscribed over a pigeon. These will be distributed to party members, both central and local, to display the party influence.

Peoples Cooperative Party--Diet member OKADA Seiichi has been picked chairman of the election campaign committee. However, from Party Chairman MIKI on down, all members regard the realization of a Diet dissolution within the year as almost impossible; therefore, they have not yet established concrete election plans.

Communist Party--The party regards the election campaign under the present situation as the most important political struggle and a struggle for authority. It is stressing this significance to all its cells and is propagandizing it through its cells to laborers, farmers, citizens, and medium and small entrepreneurs. It is calling especially loudly to the medium and small businessmen who are facing a tight money situation by posting anti-transactions tax posters and establishing complaint bureaus. Further, the party is sending out culture teams composed of professional artists to the local districts to spread the policies of the Communist Party throughout the local districts. Also, the party is waging a campaign of criticisms and exposes through the party paper, "AKAHATA", and other organs against the DL, Democratic, Socialist, and Peoples Cooperative parties.

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ITEM 11 Election Preparations in Local Districts (Part I) - Asahi - 23 Nov 48.
Translators: J. Ide, M. Yasutake, & N. Miwa. (UG, WM)

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Full Translation:

Around the dissolution of the Diet, the Government and Opposition parties are competing with one another. In the face of this situation, the problem is whether the Diet will be dissolved during the present session or not. Meanwhile, election enthusiasm has gradually increased in local districts since the latter period of the Ashida Administration. Local chapters of various parties are preparing for the selection of candidates, the collection of election funds, and the opening of party assemblies.

Under these conditions, election campaigns have virtually been started. This paper conducted a nation-wide survey on the lineup of candidates who are to run in the next election and the situation of election campaigns.

TOKYO: All parties are striving to strengthen their constituencies. At this juncture, the probable advance of the Communists is being watched with keen interest. Beside TOKUDA and NOZAKA, it is said, the party will increase one or two Diet members in this district.

Meanwhile, the Socialist Party has still maintained its strong influence, although it has been somewhat checked. The most interesting problem is to what extent the Democratic Liberal Party, most popular party, will encroach upon other parties. Moreover, what attitude will the Democratic Party take, although it is rumored that its influence has gradually declined?

In the first electoral district, ASANUMA Inejiro, Socialist, is sure of electing while NOZAKA Sanzo, Communist, is practically certain. Next to these incumbent members stands WATANABE Tetsuzo, Democratic Liberal, but it is criticized that the Democratic Liberal Party will post too many party candidates. The remaining one seat will be fought between SAKURAUCHI Yoshio, Democrat, and HARA Hyonosuke, Socialist. Of these two, SAKURAUCHI has the better chance of being re-elected.

In the second electoral district, MATSUOKA Komakichi, Socialist, is certain, and KIKUCHI Yoshiro is practically certain. The problem is the position of KATO Shizuo, Socialist. If the Democratic Party should recommend ISHIMOTO Kei as the only party candidate, KATO will be placed in a disadvantageous position.

In the third electoral district, the three incumbent members, HIROKAWA Kozen, Democratic Liberal, SUZUKI Mosaburo, Socialist, and TOKUDA Kyuichi, Communist, will be re-elected.

In the fourth electoral district, HAMAOKA Shiro is certain. Whether ARAHATA Kanson, independent, will run in the next election has not been decided. If he should run, KIKUKAWA Tadao will have a better fight. If ARAHATA does not run, KAZAHAYA Yasoji, Communist, will be in a very advantageous position.

In the fifth electoral district, WATANABE Toshinosuke, Socialist, SUZUKI, Senpachi, Democratic Liberal, and ISHIDA Ichimatsu, Peoples Co-operative, are certain. The remaining one seat will be fought between KATO Ryutaro, Democratic Liberal, and KAMIYAMA Shigeo, Communist.

In the sixth electoral district, SHIMAMURA Ichiro, Democratic Liberal, and NAKAJIMA Moritoshi, Democratic Liberal, are certain. A close fight will be conducted among Socialists SHIMAGAMI Zengoro, YAMAGUCHI Shizue, and KUWAMOTO Torazo. In this district, the Socialist Party will suffer because of the party control issue. Taking this opportunity, KIKUNAMI Katsumi, Communist, will run.

In the seventh electoral district, the chances of MATSUTANI Tenkoko, Labor-Farmer Party, are small. The advance of fresh Democratic Liberal candidates, such as TANABE Tadao, former professor of Tokyo University, and FUKUDA Tokuyasu, is rumored. However, the strong

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influence of incumbent members, such as KURIYAMA Chojiro, Democratic Liberal, NAMIKI Yoshio, Democrat, YATSUNAMI Tatsuo, Democrat, and YAMAHANA Hideo, Socialist, cannot be ignored. Meanwhile, ITO Ritsu, Communist, is strongly supported by some circles. Under these conditions, the severest fight in the Tokyo area will take place in this district.

HOKKAIDO--HOKKAIDO is geographically distant from the capital and is not very sensitive to moves in central political circles, but election campaigns have begun there. The Peoples Co-operative Party and the Farmers Party, which are strongly tinged with vocational representation, wield strong influence. The election situation is favorable to the Democratic Liberal Party because: (1) a split in the Socialist Party and the birth of the Labor Farmer Party have made the situation complicated; and (2) the Shidehara group of the Democratic Party is making a move.

For the quorum of 22 members for five electoral districts, 16 Democratic Liberals, ten Socialists, nine Democrats, six Peoples Co-operatives, five Communists, nine from the Labor Farmer Party and the Farmer Party and about ten others are expected to run in the next general election.

The Democratic Liberal Party has now seven seats in the Diet, the Socialist Party six, the Democratic Party three, the Farmers Party three, the Labor Farmer Party two and the Peoples Co-operative Party one. The present situation indicates that seven or eight Democratic Liberals, six Socialists, three Democrats, three Peoples Co-operatives, three Farmers Party members, two Labor Farmer Party members and two or three Peoples Co-operatives will be elected in the next general election.

The Democratic Liberal Party is now having difficulty choosing its candidates because of its policy of giving preference to the present Diet members. Diet members TOMABECHI Hidetoshi and OGAWAHARA Masanobu and Hokkaido Assemblyman UNO will run in the first electoral district, representing the Democratic Liberal Party. Diet member SASAKI Hideyo and Hokkaido Assemblymen YAMAMOTO and TAKAHASHI will run in the second electoral district. Diet members TOMINAGA Kakugoro and KAWAMURA Zempachiro will run in the third electoral district. Diet members MATSUURA Sakae and SHINODA Hirosaku will run in the fourth district. Diet member ITO Goichi will run in the fifth district.

Ten candidates, including present Diet members and those recommended by the local chapters of unions will run on the Socialist tickets in the next general election. Diet members MASAKI Kiyoshi and SAKAI Kazuo will run in the first electoral district. Diet member WADA Toshiaki will run in the second district. It is not yet known who will represent the Socialist Party in the fourth electoral district. Diet member YAMANAKA Hiroshi and Hokkaido Assemblyman YOKOMICHI will run in the fourth district. The party will be represented by Diet members MORI Mikiji and NAGAI Katsujiro and the Vice-chairman OKABAYASHI of the All Japan Coal Miners Union in the fifth electoral district.

The Democratic Party is scheduled to choose nine official candidates, but the Party has thusfar decided to send Diet members SHIIKUMA Saburo and Hokkaido Assemblyman TANAKA to the first electoral district, Diet member BANDO Kotaro to the second district and Diet member MIYOSHI Takeo to the fourth district.

Besides these candidates, Diet member KAWAGUCHI Yoichi of the Farmers Party will run in the second district, KITA Jiro of the same party in the fourth district, TAKAKURA Sadasuke of the same in the fifth district, TATE Toshizo and OKADA Haruo of the Labor Farmer Party in the third and the fourth districts and Peoples Co-operative IIDA Yoshishige in the fifth. No other candidates have decided to run yet. The Communist Party intends to send one candidate to each electoral district and extend its influence with the support of the miners unions and the local chapter of the Government Railway Workers Union. However, it does

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not seem likely that the Communist Party will attain its objective.

AOMORI--There may be some changes in the present line-up, but present party influences in AOMORI Ken will not undergo much change. Two Democratic Liberals and the same number of Democrats will be elected in the first electoral district.

The Democratic Party may lose a battle in the second electoral district with the result that one candidate each from the Peoples Co-operative, the Democratic Liberal and the Socialist Parties or one Peoples Co-operative and two Democratic Liberals will be elected.

It is possible that Democratic Liberal FUJII Takuji will run in the first electoral district to defeat Democratic Liberal Diet member NATSUBORI by forming a united front with Democratic Diet member OGASAWARA. In that case, it is possible that both NATSUBORI and FUJII will fail. It seems that besides State Minister KUDO, NARA Haruji, KIMURA Fumio and NIO Katsuo will run in the first electoral district. KUDO will run into difficulty because of the counteroffensive of the Democrats. KIMURA and HARA have the strong support of apple dealers.

If both NATSUBORI and FUJII run on the Democratic ticket in the first electoral district, the Democratic Party will send not only Diet members TOMABECHI Gizo and YAMAZAKI Iwao but YOKOYAMA Minoru, mayor of AOMORI, to the district. TOMABECHI is sure of success for these candidates. MIWA Seiichi, MORITA Kiyo, ENDO Tadashichi and SOMA Goro will run on the Democratic ticket in the second electoral district to defeat KUDO. The party is having difficulty in choosing the right candidates.

It seems that Socialists YONEUCHIYAMA Giichiro and NISHIMURA Kikujiro will fight each other in the first electoral district. If influential former Diet member OSAWA Hisaaki of the Socialist Party and SHIMAGUCHI, prefectural assemblyman, run, it will give an advantage to Diet member SOTOZAKI Chiyokichi of the Social Reform Party.

The Peoples Co-operative Party will send EWATARI Seiichi to the first electoral district and former State Minister SASAMORI and ASARI Takashi to the second district. SASAMORI's success is sure. HAYASHI Tokuemon of the Communist Party will run in the first electoral district and Diet members SOTOZAKI Chiyokichi of the Social Reform Party and TSUGAWA Takeichi of the Communist Party in the second electoral district. SOTOZAKI has a big chance of success.

IWATE--The present line-up is five Democratic Liberals and one each from the Democratic, the Socialist and the Social Reform Parties. The present situation indicates that the Democratic Liberal Party or the Democratic Party will hold one additional seat and that the Socialist Party will keep its present seat.

Diet members NOHARA Masakatsu and YAMAMOTO Takeo will run on the Democratic Liberal tickets. The Democratic Liberal Party is maneuvering to put in SUZUKI Yoshiyuki, Diet member of the Social Reform Party, and influential Democratic OYA Hanjiro, a new face. The party will be represented by Transportation Minister OZAWA, Diet members TAKADA Yaichi and ASARI Saburo and ABE Mikishi in the second electoral district.

The Socialist Party will send Diet members ISHIKAWA Kinjiro and OGASAWARA Fumio to the first district, OIKAWA to the second electoral district. The Democratic Party will be represented by OYA Hanjiro in the first electoral district and by Diet members SHIGA Kenjiro and UENO Jiro in the second electoral district. SUZUKI Yoshiyuki of the Social Reform Party will run in the first electoral district and Communist SAITO Tatsuo and independent SUGAWARA Sono in the second electoral district. Of these candidates, YAMAMOTO and ISHIKAWA have the biggest chances of success in the first electoral district with NOHARA, OYA and SUZUKI coming behind them. In the second electoral district, OZAWA and SHIGA will succeed and TAKADA, ABE, ASARI and OIKAWA will compete for the remaining two seats.

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MIYAGI--The general situation is favorable for the Democratic Liberal Party. The party will be represented by Diet members SHOJI Ichiro and HOMMA Shunichi and former Diet member ABE Shunkichi in the first electoral district and by Diet members SUMIDA Kokichi, UTSUMI Yasukichi, OISHI Takeichi and TAKEISHI Tadashi in the second electoral district.

The Socialist Party intends to obtain three seats by sending HANZAWA Kenjiro and OKAWA Shuzo, besides Diet members SASAKI Kozo and TAKETANI Gentaro to the first electoral district and KAWAMURA Jiro and TANAKA Seiitsu to the second electoral district. The party is having difficulty because of opposition between the right and the left groups, which has increased in intensity since the party's failure in the education board election.

The Democratic Party will send WATANABE Danjiro, Director of the Commerce Bureau in SENDAI and SASAKI Kozaburo, nephew of the late UCHIGASAKI Sakusaburo to the first electoral district and Diet members TAKAHASHI Seijiro and MIURA Hideo to the second electoral district. One Democratic candidate in the first and the second electoral districts, respectively, will surely be elected.

The Peoples Co-operative Party will send TANNO Minoru to the first electoral district and SATO Toshio to the second electoral district. SATO seems likely to succeed. Diet member TADANO Naosaburo belonging to the Daiichi Diet members Club and former Tohoku University Professor KAMIYA Rokuro of the Communist Party will run in the first electoral district. There is the rumor that Governor CHIBA will run on the Democratic ticket. The present situation indicates that the Democratic and the Socialist Parties will retain their present five and two seats, respectively, and that the Democratic Party will add one seat to its present one.

AKITA--Of the quorum of eight seats, the Democratic and the Socialist Parties held three seats respectively and the Liberal Party one. The Democratic Party lost two seats to the Democratic Liberal Party and one to the New Liberal Party. It is regarded as difficult for the Democrats to regain their lost seats. The Socialist Party lost one seat to the Social Reform Party, but it is trying to hold three seats through the removal of KAWAMATA Kiyone from the purge list. The situation is most favorable to the Democratic Liberal Party. It has the chance of winning five seats.

The Democratic Liberal Party will send Diet members ISHIDA Hirohide and HIRASAWA Chokichi to the first electoral district and Diet members NEMOTO Ryutaro and MURAKAMI Kiyoharu and IIZUKA Sadasuke, runner-up in the last general election, to the second electoral district.

The Socialist Party will be represented by SHIMADA Shinsaku and HOSONO Michio in the first electoral district and by KAWAMATA Kiyone in the second electoral district. TANAKA Kenkichi, a Diet member belonging to the Social Renovation Party who was to run in the second electoral district, will run in the first electoral district. Besides these, WAZUKI Haru (Democrat), KAWADE Yujiro (independent) will run in the first electoral district and former Vice-Agriculture-Forestry Minister SASAYAMA (New Liberal) and SUZUKI Seisuke (Communist) in the second electoral district. Of prefectural assemblymen, three Socialists, two Democrats and one People's Co-operative Party are rumored to run.

Both the first and the second electoral districts have the quorum of four. Five Diet members--ISHIDA, HIRASAWA, SHIMADA, HOSONO and NANAKA--will run in the first electoral district and powerful new faces, SASAYAMA and KAWAMATA, will run in the second electoral district together with Diet members NEMOTO, MURAKAMI and SUZUKI. Close competition is expected in both districts. It is worth noting what maneuvers the Democratic and the Democratic Liberal Parties will make to win SASAYAMA over to their side.

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YAMAGATA--It seems that the Democratic Liberal Party will hold one additional seat each in the first and the second electoral districts, totaling four, that the Democratic Party will retain their present seats and that the Socialist Party will fail to hold three present seats.

The Democratic Liberal Party will send, besides Diet members MATSUURA Tosuke and MAKINO, KANO Hikokichi, NAITO Matsujiro and YOSHIIKE Keitaro to the first electoral district and Finance Minister IZUMIYAMA, MISAWA Gentaro and SHIDE Yoshinobu to the second district. The party intends to hold six seats. Of these candidates, MATSUURA, MAKINO, IZUMIYAMA and SHIDA will be elected.

The Democratic Party will be represented by Diet members ONO Takashi, FUNAKI Takeo and YANAGAWA Kiyoo in the first electoral district and by Diet member ZUSHI Yasumasa and IKEDA Kiyoji and TSUCHIDA Sakujiro in the second electoral district. The party is trying to secure four seats, but it seems that it will just keep its present seats.

The Socialist Party intends to hold four seats by sending Diet member UNNO Saburo and SAITO Hitoshi and TAKANASHI Yoshio to the first electoral district, Diet members KANENO Sadakichi and KAMBAYASHI Yoichiro and KOBAYASHI Kataji to the second electoral district. It seems difficult for the party to retain its present seats. Besides these candidates, Diet member OTAKI Kiyoji belonging to the New Liberal Party, NAGAOKA Tachio (Communist) and TAKEDA Myokichi (independent) will run in the first electoral district.

FUKUSHIMA--The secession of HARA Kokichi (Democratic Liberal), OZAWA Denshichiro (New Liberal), and other persons from the Democratic Party and the purge of former State Minister HAYASHI Heima has decreased the number of Democratic members of the Fukushima Prefectural Assembly from 38 to 31. Therefore, the Democratic Liberal Party has obtained numerical superiority. From this standpoint, the Democratic Liberal Party will occupy five or six seats; the Socialist Party, three; the Democratic Party, two; the New Liberal Party, one; and the RIKKEN-YOSEIKAI, one.

As candidates, the Democratic Liberal Party will have OUCHI Ichiro and HARA Kokichi in the first constituency, ENYA Mitsue in the second, SEKIUCHI Masakazu in the third. Moreover, the party will have three or four other new candidates.

On the other hand, the Socialist Party is expected to have YAO Itamasa and SAKAKIBARA Chiyo from the first constituency and SUZUKI Yoshio from the second. The party will have two more candidates from the second and third constituencies. Among these candidates, the party believes it certain that three candidates will win the general election race.

In the Democratic Party, YAMASHITA Harue will run from the second constituency. The party will have three new candidates. However, it is said that two of these candidates will run on the Democratic Liberal Party ticket.

Further, NAKANO Torakichi (New Liberal) and SAITO Akira (RIKKEN-YOSEIKAI) will run from the second and third constituencies, respectively. NAKANO is considered a strong candidate. The Communist Party will have one candidate from each constituency.

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ITEM 12 The General Election - Seinen No Hata - 21 Nov 48. Translator: T. Horikawa. (TK)

Summary:

452 The forthcoming general election will decide whether JAPAN will be enslaved by the reactionary fascists or become an independent democratic country. The general assembly and the central committee of our League have ascertained that "our League shall support the Communist Party in order to attain our ends, and endeavor to elect all Communist candidates to the National Diet."

The International Military Tribunal for the Far East, representing the democratic forces of the world, has sentenced the 25 class-A war criminals who threw the Asiatic peoples into the present plight. The next general election must pass the final judgment upon the numerous non-indicted war criminals who are pretending to be democrats. For this end, we must thoroughly execute our decisions at the third national convention. Strict self-criticism must be exercised so as to ascertain whether we are all fighting the agricultural adjustment committee elections as we should and whether we are utilizing our cultural operation units and other facilities to the maximum.

The Provisional Election Campaign Law which was promulgated after the general election in April last year have restricted candidacy and electioneering of candidates. Moreover, the recent boards of education and various by-elections results demand us to reconsider our past mechanical election strategies. We are not advocating to find loopholes but we urge each of our lower organizations to intensify preparatory campaigning before the public announcement of the general election, for the new regulations do not affect our activities prior to the election bulletin. Hence, our preparatory canvassing including the following will determine the election results:

1. Consolidation of fronts under the Communist Party leadership.
2. Concentrated struggles in key districts; and exhaustive stumping through virgin grass - root areas.
3. Strengthening of propaganda. Posters must deal with concrete problems, systematically and with fresh political sense. LENIN stressed the importance of posters, saying "sparks cause flames."
4. Energetic appealing to organized youths; formation of youth political action squads.
5. Organization of children's societies. We can then organize their brothers and parents.
6. Sales, especially in virgin districts, of our publications, such as "AOHATA" (The Blue Flag), "Our Companions", "Youths' Songs", etc.
7. Door-to-door campaigning to muster reliable supporters.
8. Formation of exposure units to lay bare violations of election laws by the reactionary conservative camp. By fighting state authorities on the lowest level we shall be able to overthrow the whole strength of the enemy.
9. Upholding of independent slogans by each of our lower organizations besides those from the center; the former must be practical and the latter political, both coinciding in spirit.

In short, all our present struggles, especially the metal workers' dispute for higher wages, etc, must be consolidated for the general election. It is the battle for the defense of the people's living rights as well as for national independence. It necessarily follows that we should exercise strict surveillance on the election administration committees not only while our candidates make campaign speeches jointly, independently, or on the street, but also while the voters ballot. It is also necessary for us to send trustworthy persons to tabulate the votes.

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ITEM 8 Election Preparations in Local Districts (Part 2) - Asahi - 24 Nov 48. Translators: K. Higashikawa, Y. Kurata, J. Ide. (UC)

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Full Translation:

KANAGAWA—With the third electoral district as the center of its activities, the DLP may make marked advances here. Present indications are that the sphere of influence of the Socialists may be invaded by Communists, Social Reformers, and Worker-Farmerites, while Democrats are likely to drop off due to intra-party friction. The present numerical strength of each party in this area is Socialists six, Democratic Liberals five, Democrats one and Peoples Co-operatives one. Presumably the table may be changed to read Democratic Liberals 7, Socialists 5 and Peoples Co-operatives 1.

The DLP is counting on five candidates in the first electoral district, namely, MIURA Toranosuke, WATANABE Jiko (incumbent), ISHIWATARI Seisaku, ex-Shipping Bureau director ITO Toshiyuki, and SUZUKI Mitsuo; four candidates in the second electoral district, namely, SHIRAI Sakichi, KOGURE Tozaburo (incumbent), SUZUKI Kakuzo, and KANEKO Kichizo; and on seven candidates in the third district, State Minister IWAMOTO, incumbent representative ISOZAKI, Foreign Vice Minister OKAZAKI Masao, KONO Kenzo, SOEDA Yoshinobu, ex-Fuel Bureau director KOGANEI Yoshiteru of the Commerce-Industry Ministry, and SATO Kenkichi. However, feud is rife among the incumbent representatives, bureaucrats and old-time partymen to get authorization from the party.

The Socialists are counting on two candidates in the first electoral district, namely, MOJI Ryo and MATSUO Toshi; in the second electoral district on two man, namely, DOI Naosaku and SASAGUCHI Akira; in the third electoral district on KATAYAMA Tetsu and SUZUKI Yuji. In addition to these incumbents, KURIHARA Noboru is sure to run in the election. In the first district the Socialists are liable to be defeated by ITOKAWA, Worker-Farmerite, and in the second district by OKIAYU, Social Reformist, both of whom were expelled from the party last year.

The Democrats are relying on three men in the first electoral district, TAKAHASHI Nagaharu, incumbent, AOKI Tatsumi and NISHIMURA Sadao; in the second electoral district on NAGAI Yozo; in the third district on KOBAYASHI Kekki and KANEKO Ichiro; however, there is at present a movement to transplant NISHIMURA to the third electoral district. If NISHIMURA stays in the first electroal district the chances are that the Democrats will be wiped out in the third district.

The Peoples Co-operatives are relying on UEMORI Kotetsu in the second electoral district and on HAGIWARA Toshio, incumbent, in the third district. HAGIWARA is a most likely candidate.

The Communists are counting on KASUGA Masaichi, II Yashiro, and NAKANISHI Inosuke.

Worker-Farmer Party ITOKAWA Niichiro, and neutral SHIMAYA Torao are expected to run from the second electoral district, while Social Reform Party OKIAYU Toshihiro is expected to run from the second electoral district.

IBARAGI—In the preceding general election the Democrats led the return, followed by Socialists and Liberals. However, owing to the entry of SUZUKI Meiryo into the DLP and to the split of the Socialists, the DLP is now stronger. In the envisioned general election the DLP is likely to let five candidates run by increasing the number by two. Present indications are that the Democrats and the Socialists will

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maintain the present number. The Worker-Farmer Party will have a hard time.

The DLP counts on four candidates in the first electoral district, namely, ONOSE Chubei, incumbent, HASHIMOTO Tomisaburo who will no doubt run from the constituency of purgee SASAMASHI, YAWATA Senichiro, and KAWARADA Iwao; in the second electoral district on YAMAZAKI Takeshi and TSUKAHARA Toshiro, secretary of Labor Minister MASUDA; in the third electoral district on SUZUKI Meiryo, incumbent, and KITAZAWA Naokichi.

The Democrats rely in the first district on YOSHIDA Kan, TATENO Mitsumasa, and IIMURA Sen, incumbent, but the latter is still undecided; in the second district on SHIMAZU Saburo, and FUKUCHI Shuzo; in the third district on KIKUCHI Toyo, HARA Toranosuke, both incumbent, and KANEZUKA Takashi.

Possible Socialist candidates in the first electoral district are MORI Motojiro and NUMATA Masaji; in the second district are MANTA Goro, incumbent, and KATAYORI Tomishichi; in the third district are KIKUCHI Jusaku, incumbent, and HOSODA Tsunakichi.

The Worker-Farmer Party relies on YAMAGUCHI Takehide in the first electoral district; on ISHINO Hisao in the second district.

A rumor is afloat to the effect that TANIGUCHI Takeo, incumbent, will run on the Peoples Co-operatives' ticket from the third district. Keen competition is expected in the first electoral district, but ONOSE and YAMAGUCHI are expected to be returned without fail. HASHIMOTO, YAWATA, and YOSHIDA are expected to race for the two remaining posts. In the second district YAMAZAKI and MANDA will be strong candidates, and TSUKAHARA, SHIMAZU, FUKUCHI and ISHINO are expected to enter into keen competition to get the remaining post.

In the third district SUZUKI is considered a sure returnee, followed by KIKUCHI Toyo, and KIKUCHI Jusaku. HARA, KITAZAWA and KANEZUKA are also strong. It is generally considered that more intensive competition than that in the first district will be seen in the third district. Indications are that the DLP will get five candidates returned, the Democrats three, Socialists two, Worker-Farmer Party and the Peoples Co-operatives one each.

TOCHIGI—The DLP, which commands a majority of the Prefectural Assembly through a local conservative merger, is trying to make advances in the first electoral district after returning three incumbents in the second district. However, no change is expected to be made over the present ratio, namely, the DLP will probably get three or four returnees, Democrats and Socialists two each, Peoples Co-operatives and Daiichi Diet Club one each. It remains to be seen whether the Social Reform Party will be able to get one returned.

The DLP has no incumbent in the first electoral district, but in an effort to return two candidates the party counts on OTSUKA Kihei, OZEKI Giichi, ISHIMORI Kenshiro or NAKAJIMA Takeji in the first district. In the second district the DLP relies on YAMAGUCHI Koichi, KODAIRA Hisao, OSAWA Kaheiji, all incumbents, ATSUGI Gaku and MORISHITA Takashi.

The hopes of the Democrats in the first district are YANO Masao, incumbent, MORIKAWA Kinji, and TAKANAI Tetsuzo; in the second district is KURITA Hideo.

The Socialists count on TOGA Satoko, incumbent, and KUROSAWA Koichi in the first electoral district; on KANEKO Masutaro, incumbent, TAKAHISA Sozaburo, and TOGA Takeshi in the

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second district.

The Peoples Co-operatives have FUNADA Kyoji, incumbent, in the first electoral district; the Social Reform Party has TAKASE Den, also incumbent, and the Daiichi Diet Club has SOMA Sukeji in the first district. In addition, the Worker-Farmer Party has ONISHI Toshio in the first district and HAMANO Kiyoshi in the second district, while the Communists have MIYASHITA Shigetoshi in the first district and MATSUMOTO Mimasu in the second district. In the first district YANO, TOGA, FUNADA and SOMA are strong. They will no doubt be closely followed by TAKASE, TAKAMAI and OZEKI. In the second district YAMAGUCHI and KODAIRA are strong candidates. The probabilities are that they will be followed by KANEKO, OSAWA, and KURITA.

GUMMA—In the last general election the Democrats had five elected, the Socialists three, Liberals and Peoples Co-operatives one each. Later on Democratic UBUKATA resigned, while MATSUI walked into the DLP. Democratic Liberal KOMINE has been purged. No marked change has taken place in the spheres of influence of the various parties, and present indications are that the envisioned election will end in the Democrats securing four seats, Socialists three, DLP two and Peoples Co-operatives one. Chances are, however, that the Democrats will defeat the Peoples Co-operatives and get five seats.

Insofar as Democrats are concerned, with the exception of NAKASONE Yasuhiro, most of them are pro-conservative merger, and depending upon the situation in the capital they may effect a conservative merger locally at any time. Present indications are that the DLP will run six candidates which is considered too many, but MATSUI Toyokichi, incumbent, in the second district and KOMINE Ryuta, who has been released from purge, in the third district are considered sure returnees.

Democratic SUZUKI Kyohei, incumbent, will run from the first electoral district and NAKASONE Yasuhiro, also incumbent, is expected to run in the third electoral district. UBUKATA Daikichi, who will run in the first district and MOGAMI Hideko who is expected to run in the third district are expected to be elected. In addition, Democrats hope to be able to have another candidate elected in the second electoral district.

Socialists have ISHII Shigemaru in the first district, OSHIMA Yoshiharu in the second district, and MUTO Unjuro in the third district, all of whom are incumbents. The Socialists will have their hands full maintaining their present strength in this prefecture.

The Peoples Co-operatives hope to have representative NOMOTO Shinakichi re-elected in the second electoral district. The Communists are expected to have one candidate run in each electoral district. The Democrats will, it is said, have Prefectural Assembly Speaker MASUDA and Prefectural Assembly members HASEGAWA and KANEKO run in the election race in addition to those already mentioned. Democrats are now busy consolidating their local organization.

SAITAMA—Here the DLP, which enjoys an absolute majority in the Prefectural Assembly, continues to be the strongest. It is considered certain that the party will be able to increase the present strength of six seats. It is generally considered that the Socialists will find it very difficult to maintain their present strength of four in this area. Democrats are faced with a shortage of suitable candidates. However, they hope to squeeze in another representative in the third electoral district in

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addition to the present total strength of two in this prefecture.

The DLP will have practically the same candidates in all electoral districts as those in the last general election. However, for the first electoral district where Socialists are going strong, the DLP plans to have Deputy Governor FUKUNAGA run and in the third district to have local bureau subchief TAKAMA Matsukichi run for the election. In the fourth district the DLP plans to let AOKI Masa join the race. AOKI failed to return in the last general election. The DLP hopes to have all candidates returned. The party is trying hard to unify the local organization for the envisioned general election, for it has been split into two groups on the recent issue of the Speaker of the Prefectural Assembly.

The Socialists, according to present indications, will have the present representatives run for the election in all the electoral districts. Since the disclosure of the involvement of NISHIO in a scandal, leftists, including present representative MOROOKA, have gained strength. At a recent meeting of the Socialist Election Policy Committee the leftists decided to reject priority privilege for incumbents. It is generally considered that in deciding authorized candidates, a dispute will arise in authorizing rightist candidates, including IHORI Shigeo, former secretary to ex-State Minister NISHIO.

Democrats are expected to have TAJIMA Fusakuni, incumbent, run in the first electoral district, SEKINE Kyuzo, also incumbent, in the third electoral district, and ISHIKAWA Eiichi, local bureau chief, in place of AOYAGI who bolted the party in favor of the DLP. Democrats are finding it difficult to get a suitable candidate for the fourth district and are considering the matter of getting someone from another party to run for the party.

The Peoples Co-operatives will have ARIMA Junji for the first district, local bureau chief SUKIZUKA for the third district and someone for the second district. The Communists will have one candidate for each district. How TAKATA Tominosuke will fare in the third district is being closely watched.

CHIBA—The Democratic Liberal Party now holding eight out of 13 seats is regarded as a favorite son in this prefecture, and indications are that the present number of DLP seats will be retained although there may be some changes in the lineup of candidates.

Meanwhile, the Peoples Co-operative Party is going all-out to spread its wings, and now that Socialist-turned-Worker Farmer TOKORO Makoto has quit the National Teachers Union on whose ticket he was elected in the last election, chances for his re-election are very slim, the seat will go either to the Peoples Co-operative Party or to the Democratic Party. The Socialists will hold one seat intact.

The Democratic Liberal Party is expected to send the following candidates:

First district—TADA Isamu, SHIBUYA Yutaro (both incumbents), SAKUMA Tetsu, YOSHIHARA Tetsuji, SAITO Tokio, YANAGIZAWA Yoshio.

Second district—YAMAMURA Shinjiro, NAKAUCHI Kenji, TAKEO Shikizo (all of them incumbents).

Third district—MIZUTA Mikio, TOMITA Teru, KATAOKA Isaburo (all of them incumbents), FUKUI Junichi.

Thus, the DLP campaign is presenting a catch-all aspect with incumbents mixed up with new candidates, but no official recognition has been given them yet due to the intra-party split in connection with the horse-race scandal.

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Among most likely candidates of the Democratic Party are: first district—NARISHIMA Kenji (incumbent), WATANABE Nagamatsu and YAMAMOTO Tsutomu; second district—TERASHIMA Kentaro (incumbent) and SHIINA Takashi; third district—TANAKA Toyo (incumbent) and KATO Hanbei.

The Socialist Party, on the other hand, has no other likely candidate than YOSHIKAWA Kanemitsu (incumbent—first district).

The Peoples Co-operative Party's candidates are UEDA Shinzo (first district), IKIDA Kan, YAMAMOTO Chozo (third district).

The Communist Party will send HAGIWARA Naka in the first district and KAWASAKI Misaburo in the third district.

Among candidates other than those mentioned above are UMEDA Michiyuki (New Liberal Party—second district) and TOKORO Makoto (Labor Farmer Party—incumbent—third district).

YAMANASHI—Last year's general elections results were such that the Socialist Party gained two seats, the Democratic Liberal Party two seats, and the Democratic Party one. However, this lineup has been changed as a result of the purge of HIRANO Rikizo and the entry into the Social Reform Party of MATSUDA Hitoshi.

The Democratic Liberal Party is angling for three seats by adding one more candidate to two incumbents HIGAI Senzo and SUZUKI Masabumi, but it seems that the number of its candidates will be cut down to two in the long run.

The Socialist Party, in the meantime, is putting up its legal advisor FURUYA Sadao from the left wing. At the same time, ONO Nagao, who has been recently cleared from purge, has been reinstated as adviser for the party. ONO has expressed his intention of running in the election, and the right-wingers are supporting him as a good bet. Meanwhile, Chairman TANAKA Masanori of the Prefectural Federation of the Socialist Party Chapters (right-wing) and President FUKAZAWA Yoshinori of the Farmland Commission (left-wing) are being rumored as likely candidates. Therefore, the Prefectural Federation is now experiencing a very difficult time. However, by and large, it is generally observed that the number of Socialist candidates will eventually be cut down to two, and the Socialist Party is bound to face considerable difficulties in winning the election in this prefecture.

The Democratic Party is expected to send AKIYAMA Kenzo, IKENOYA Genichi and KASAI Juji in addition to incumbent AMANO Hisashi. This lineup indicates the possible recurrence of last election's free-for-all among the candidates.

In addition to these major party candidates, incumbent MATSUZAWA will run on the Social Reform Party ticket and also there will be one Communist candidate. MATSUZAWA is regarded as the most likely candidate in view of his affiliation with the Hirano faction.

NAGANO—The rapid enlargement of the Democratic Liberal and Communist power is being watched with keen interest. The Democratic Liberal Party, aiming at the election of eight members, will suffer because of too many candidates. Especially in the fourth district (three seats), UEHARA, MASUDA, and FURIHATA will closely compete with one another against TANAHASHI, Socialist. The Socialist Party is taken aback by the split of the labor-farmer front, while the Peoples Co-operative Party is placed in a disadvantageous position as a result of the collapse of the agricultural associations.

Under these conditions, the Communist Party is remarkably

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advancing in the hope of gaining three seats in this prefecture in close collaboration with the Worker-Farmer Party. The Democratic Party has assumed the prudent attitude of posting one candidate in each electoral district, but its chances are smaller. From the Democratic Liberal camp, two incumbent members, KURAISHI Tadao and TANAKA Shigeya, will run in the first electoral district, and MARUYAMA Kunio is also promising. In the second district, it is rumored that Vice Transportation Minister KITAMURA Sadaharu, KUROSAWA Tomijiro, and KATAOKA Tomotsugu will run. Two incumbent members, IMAMURA Tadasuke, and HIRASHIMA Yasuhisa will run in the third district, while former Home Minister UEHARA Etsujiro, Labor Minister MASUDA, and Communication Minister FURIHATA will run in the fourth district.

The Democratic Party will post KOSAKA Zentaro in the first district, KOBAYASHI Unmi in the second district, and KATAYAMA Hitoshi in the third district. The Democratic candidate in the fourth district has not yet been decided.

The Socialist candidate in the first district will be chosen from among KUROIWA Ichibei, KITAZAWA Tadazo, and KITAZAWA Teiichi. AOKI Keiichiro will run as an unrecognized candidate of the party. In the second district, MIYASHITA Manabu will run, while former State Minister NOMIZO Masaru and SHIRATORI Mitomo will run in the third district. However, some circles recommended IWAI Akira, ITO Tomio, and MAKINOUCHI Takehito. MAKINOUCHI was recently expelled from the party. TANABASHI Kotora will run in the fourth district.

The Peoples Co-operative Party will post NAKAZAWA Shigeichi in the first district, if the Diet is dissolved in the near future. If the dissolution of the Diet should be delayed, NAKAJIMA Kesaya will run in view of his strong drawing power. KARAKIDA Tagoro, and IDE Ichitaro will run in the second electoral district, while YOSHIKAWA Hisae and KURODA Hisaichiro will probably run in the third district. The party candidate in the fourth district has not yet been decided.

The Communist Party had decided to post KOYAMA Yokichi in the first district, TAKAKURA Teru in the second district, HAYASHI Hyakuro in the third district, and FUJISAWA Ryujiro in the fourth district. As the result of TAKAKURA's arrest, however, the candidate in the second district remains to be seen.

Besides, MOTOFUJI Tsunematsu, Social Reform Party, will run in the first district. Those battles will take place in all electoral districts and the present balance of power among the six parties will be greatly changed.

NIIGATA—Purge-cleared ISHIYAMA Kenkichi and MIYAKE Shoichi, in addition to TAMAI Sukeyoshi, Worker-Farmer Party, are leading the election race in this prefecture. As a result, the situation has fallen into turmoil. In the last election, six Socialists, five Democratic Liberals, and four Democrats were elected. The Socialist Party aims at the election of five members including MIYAKE. The Democratic Liberals will maintain their present positions. The Democratic Party aims at the election of five members including ISHIYAMA.

In the face of this tripartite balance, the advance of TAMAI is being watched with keen interest. The Democratic Liberals will post MATSUKI Hiroshi in the first district, WATANABE Sadao in the second district, WATARI Shiro and TANAKA Kakuei in the third district, and TSUKADA Juichiro in the fourth district. Beside these candidates, some members recommend Vice Welfare Minister KUZUNISHI to the party candidacy in the first electoral district.

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Beside five incumbent members, KASAHARA Teizo in the first district, II Seiich in the second district, KIYOSAWA Toshihide and INAMURA Junzo in the third district, and INOMATA Kozo in the fourth district, the Socialist Party will run MIYAKE Shoichi in the second or third district. In view of its failure in the recent election for the Board of Education, the Socialist Party will barely maintain its present number.

The Democratic Party aims at the re-election of four incumbent members, FUNAZAKI Yoshiyuki (first district), KATAOKA Tadahiro (second district), KAMIYAMA Eiichi (third district) and KABURAGI Kyuichi (fourth district). Besides, the party is striving for the success of ISHIYAMA Kenichi, who recently bolted the Democratic Liberal Party to join the Democratic Party. The change of his supporters will raise the interresting problem of what district he is going to run in for the next election.

Backed by the support of the Tamai faction of the Japan Farmers Union, TAMAI Yuichi will run in the first district, while his father, TAMAI Junjiro, will run in the second district.

SHIZUOKA—The Democratic Liberal Party aims at a mass advance by authorizing 11 candidates for the 15 allotted seats. The Socialist Party aims at maintaining its present power, by posting two candidates in each electoral district. The Democratic and Commnist parties have not yet fixed their candidates. The Peoples Co-operative Party is going to recognize one candidate in addition to its two incumbent members. Strong constituencies have prevented the advance of new candidates, but the Democratic Liberal Party can gain two or three new seats, if it succeeds in checking the overflow of party candidates.

The Democratic Liberal Party will post KANDA Hiroshi, SATO Torajiro, GOTO Hideji, HASEGAWA Masataka, NISHIMURA Naomi, and SUZUKI Heiichiro in the first electoral district, MIYABATA Yasushi, ENDO Saburo, HATAKEYAMA Tsurukichi, and YAMADA Yaichi in the second district, and SUZUKI Satoichiro, KINBARA Shunji, and NAKAMURA Koichi in the third district. It is reported that the Socialist Party will post KATO Shizuo and IKETANI Shinichi in the first district, KATSUMADA Seiichi, YAMAZAKI Michiko and YAMAZAKI Kenji in the second district, and KAWAI Akitake and KATO Chuhichiro in the third district.

The Democratic Liberal Party will post OKANO Shigezo and SUGIYAMA Toru in the first district, KOMATSU Yuji in the second district, and IWASAKI Toru in the third district. The Peoples Co-operative Party will post AOSHIMA Yasutaro in the first district, and TAKEYAMA Yutaro and TSUBOI Kamezo in the third district. The Communist Party is going to post one candidate in each electoral district, while ADACHI Atsuro, independent, will run in the third district.

AICHI—It is certain that 17 incumbent Diet members of various parties will run in the next election. Together with those who failed in the last election, the number of candidates will reach 20. Financial leaders such as OKUMA Takeo, president of the Okuma Steel Manufacturing Company, will emerge for the first time.

The Socialist Party is reportedly negotiating with TSURU Shigehito to be its candidate in the fifth district. This prefecture has long been a stronghold of the Democratic Party, but the Democratic Liberal Party has gradually gained popularity in urban districts such as NAGOYA. However, the Democrats still maintain their influence in rural districts. From the fear of

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internal split, the Prefectural Congress of Industrial Unions has refrained from posting its own candidates.

Under these conditions, the present balance of six Democratic Liberals, three Democrats, four Socialists, two Peoples Co-operatives, one Social Reform member, and one Farmers Party member, will be changed by an increase of one Democratic Liberal and one Democrat and the loss of one Socialist.

GIFU—It is reported that the Democratic Liberal Party will post ONO Banboku, KIMURA Kohei, MUTO Kaichi, TANAKA Sanetsuka, and incumbent Vice Governor TANAKA Keiichi in the first district, and OKAMURA Rizaemon, NIWA Hyokichi, and HIRANO Saburo in the second district. The Socialist Party will post YAMAMOTO Ko in the first district, and KATO Ryozo in the second district. The Democratic Party will recommend YANAGIHARA Saburo and ENDO Hideo in the first district, and ANDO Yoshiro in the second district. The Social Reform Party will recognize HIRAKU Kiichi as the party candidate in the first district, while the New Liberal Party will post HASEGAWA Shunichi in the second electoral district. The Communist Party will send UGAI Kenkichi (first district) and OZEKI Zenichi (second district) to the coming election campaign.

In the first electoral district, a considerable number of votes for HIRAKU, who joined the Social Reform Party from the Socialist Party, will go to the Socialist Party. If Vice Governor TANAKA should run, KIMURA will be greatly encroached upon. The present balance of three Democratic Liberals, one Socialist and one Social Reform Party member, will be changed to a ratio of two Democratic Liberals (ONO and MUTO), one Democrat (YANAGIHARA), one Social Reform member (HIRAKU), and one Socialist (YAMAMOTO).

In the second district, HIRANO and HIWA will encroach upon the strongholds of incumbent Diet members to no small extent. The present balance of one Democratic Liberal, two Democrats, and one New Liberal will be changed into a ratio of two Democratic Liberals (OKAMURA and HIRANO), one Democrat (ANDO) and one New Liberal (HASEGAWA).

MIE—The Democratic Liberal Party will post MIZUTANI Noboru, MATSUDA Soichi, and MATSUMOTO Ichiro in the first electoral district, and ISHIHARA Enkichi and NISHIKAWA Ichitaro, elder prefectural assembly member, in the second district. TABATA Shizué, who recently bolted the Democratic Party to join the Democratic Liberal Party, will run in the second district. From the Democratic camp, YAMATE Mitsuo and NISHIJIMA Yoshio, both runners-up in the last election, will run in the first and second district respectively, together with KAMASAKI Hideji and IKEZUMI Teijiro, two incumbent Diet members. Besides these members, the name of KIMURA Toshio, former chief of secretariat of the General Maritime Board, has come into the limelight in the first electoral district. Meanwhile, some Democratic circles anticipate that MORIOKA Sanpachi and FUJII Toshi will run in the second district.

The Socialist Party is suffering from the lack of competent candidates and is going to send only a few choice candidates into the forthcoming election race. Therefore, only ADACHI Umeji (second district) and INANO Uken (first district) will be recognized by the party. However, former Diet member SAWADA Hisa wants to run as another Socialist candidate. The Communist Party will post KAJITA Shigeho (first district) and ENDO Yonosuke (second district).

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Some circles hope for the retirement of OZAKI Yukio, independent, but he will probably be recommended by his more ardent supporters. From the independent camp and minor parties, TANAKA Hisao, incumbent Diet member (second district), and SUWA Sei, director of the Tsu Post Office (first district) will run. MIZUTANI Sakae, incumbent member of the prefectural assembly, will probably run as a Democratic Liberal candidate, although his party affiliation has not yet been decided.

At present, the Democratic Liberal Party holds four seats, the Democratic Party two, the Socialist Party one. There is also one independent and one minor party member. In the next election, KAWASAKI, YAMATE, MIZUTANI, and TANAKA are certain in the first district. MATSUDA, MATSUMOTO, MIZUTANI, and KIMURA will fight over the remaining seat. In the second electoral district, ISHIWARA, ADACHI, and OZAKI are certain. Two Democrats will fight over the remaining seat, IKEZUMI and NISHIJIMA, and two Democratic Liberals, NISHIKAWA and TABATA. In these two districts, three Democratic Liberals, three Democrats, one Socialist, one independent, and one from a minor party will probably be elected.

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ITEM 1 AJGWU Chairman Speaks on General Election - Tokyo Mimpo - 25 Nov 48. Translator: F. Mitsuhashi. (DD)

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Full Translation:

Regarding the anticipated general election, Chairman SATO Yasumasa of the All Japan Government Workers Union stated, "I will not run in the next general election, nor is the union at present thinking of sending its own representatives to the next National Assembly. Rather, our objective is to decide on and support persons who are labor's friends. The AJGWU is now fighting, placing the greatest importance upon this point. All labor union members feel that they should never again be deceived, as in having Diet members they elected pass laws to strangle labor.

Attesting to the existence of this feeling, the resolution passed by the AJGWU, maintaining "We will not vote for the Diet members who approve the National Public Service Law revision bill," is being supported by other unions who have also adopted similar resolutions.

"We have, heretofore, fought to safeguard the basic rights of laborers by exposing corrupt bureaucrats and opposing the anti-labor revisions of the NPSL. However, our struggle will hereafter be more directly connected with the general election. All kinds of struggles must be tied in with the general election. One concrete means is to hold people's rallies and bring pressure to bear on the present Government and the Diet.

"I hear that many high-ranking bureaucrats, who have connections with local bosses, will run in the coming election. I think that it is the special mission imposed upon the government workers' unions to make farmers and citizens familiar with the true character of such candidates.

"At present, there are innumerable scandals, such as the Showa Denko case, Coal Mine State Control bribery case, Honjo case, Fukushima case and the Commerce Industry Ministry Textile Bureau case. This political corruption means that the political parties occupying the majority of Diet seats at present and their members are corrupt. In order not to elect such parties and their members, and in order to elect the party and its members who fight for real interests of the people, we will fight with our utmost efforts, together with the 1,500,000 government workers.

"The fact that in the UNITED STATES, many of the Congressmen who voted for the Taft-Hartley Act failed to be re-elected is an example shown by a democratic nation which we should emulate."

ITEM 10 The General Election and the Utility of Money - Shin Yukan - 3 Dec 48. Translator: H. Furukawa. (SS)

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Summary:

Diet members are active in consolidating their spheres of influence in preparation for the Diet dissolution and the coming general election. We fail to see the reason why political parties and Diet members must consider election funds as being the foremost problem in a general election. Although money is indispensable in an election, it is absurd that the success of a candidate is determined solely by the amount of his election funds. In reality, however, those candidates who possess or can obtain sufficient funds are assured of success, while those who do not have sufficient funds are doomed to failure. As a consequence, the prerequisite for politicians is to possess sufficient election funds and the ability to talk vehemently.

It is, therefore, of no wonder that many of the Diet members are blackmarketeers or are connected with various scandals. Consequently, it is ridiculous to expect such members to act fairly and honestly. At the same time, however, the people are also responsible for the degeneration of the Diet. Although they desire at heart politicians who are able to carry out democratic revolution, they are dominated in practice by personal sentiments and connections, and cast their votes accordingly. Therefore, it is only natural that election funds become the foremost problem in an election and not the political experience, ability or the character of the persons to be elected.

It is, at this juncture, fervently requested of the people to exert their utmost to prevent such deplorable practices from being repeated in the coming general election.

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ITEM 21 General Election and the Democratic Front - Tokyo Mimpo - 25 Nov 48.
Translator: Y. Akabane. (WM)

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Summary:

Political mud-flinging is rampant in the Diet among the Government, the DLP and the opposition parties, centering around the dissolution issue. It has now become a matter of common knowledge that the Diet will sooner or later be dissolved and a general election held. This is proof that the nation has become disgusted with the existing political situation.

This feeling of the nation is very significant. If this opportunity is grasped, democratic revolution will make rapid progress through the general election. Otherwise the denial of party politics will result from the public distrust of political parties and lead to fascism. We are now standing at a crossroad. Viewed in this light, democratic political parties and all democratic influences should join hands in the forthcoming election. We think it is of prime importance to unite these democratic influences through election campaigns for the sake of their political development, by making the most of their undeveloped political power.

The combination of democratic influences and the unification of their fighting front have been a popular topic in the past elections, but they have never been realized effectively. Various reasons have been cited. Unsuccessful co-operation between the Socialist and Communist parties is thought to be the most vital one.

In the present case, however, the situation is somewhat different. The co-operation of higher ups may be viewed more pessimistically than last year but that of the lower ranks may not be considered necessarily pessimistic. Moreover, there is the new leftist Worker Farmer Party formed by deserters from the Socialist Party. The Worker Farmer Liaison Conference in the Diet and the Democracy Protection League outside the Diet have joined hands. These are quite new aspects in the picture. Such unification of democratic influences is still in the stage of germination, but is important in that it is provided with a growing factor which must be further consolidated and developed through elections.

What must be done for this purpose? We limit the question to elections. First, these democratic parties and influences should deliberate and decide on their platform and policy to tide over the impending crisis. Secondly, candidates should be nominated according to this joint plank and policy. In this manner, the Democratic Protection League must be substantially formed and strengthened. In this case, it will be necessary to select the candidates by placing stress on the possibility of their election.

The joint platform and policy thus decided must be strenuously propagated by these democratic bodies and efforts must be made to have their candidates elected. Even candidates of other parties must be supported if they side with the joint platform and policy and are ready to realize them. If they are successful, either the party or the group which was most positive in their support will naturally win the initiative. It is necessary for each democratic body to fight for these common candidates. They must propagate their own individual policies, not only the joint platform and policy.

By so doing, each democratic body may wage its election campaign on its own footing. This is an independent activity. Together with the joint platform and policy the democratic parties and bodies must wage their fight with their own respective independent activities. That is to say, the fusion of the joint fighting and independent activities will mean virtual unity of the fighting front.

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ITEM 19 Objective of General Election - Tokyo Shimbun - 25 Nov 48.
Translator: S. Katagiri. (UG)

Full Translation:

In Monday's press conference Premier YOSHIDA expressed his desire to hold a general election within this year. Whether or not he will attain his aim depends upon the future movements of the Diet. However, a general election atmosphere has already grown strong not only in the Diet but also among the people. Election forecasts have already appeared in some papers. Each candidate is now making secret efforts to carry out an election campaign. Therefore, it is not premature to think about the expected general election. We should start thinking about this problem now.

Why is a general election to be held? It is to be held because the present minority party Cabinet wants to dissolve the confidence of the people. However, there must be other reasons. For example, judging from the developments of politics from the resignation en bloc of the Ashida Cabinet to the formation of the Yoshida Cabinet, we can say that the current political corruption necessitates a general election. In this sense, it is right to think that the aim of the coming general election is to clean up political circles.

Another aim of the expected election is to create a stabilizing power in the Diet in view of the current situation within and without the country, under which the postwar coalition cabinets are being criticized. It is important for the people to grasp the objectives of the coming general election in full consideration of the past experiences and the present situation both at home and abroad.

In preparation for the coming election, each party is to make public its slogans and policies, and each candidate is to announce his political views. The people must then criticize them. The principle of voting for political parties rather than for individuals propounded in the past general elections still holds as the golden rule for the democratic form of government. However, we cannot utterly disregard the individual merits of candidates. Especially, in the coming general election, we should give full consideration to the characters of the individual candidates, because political corruption constitutes a major cause for the election. This is an important factor in the coming general election. Political parties, as well as the people must give careful consideration to the selection of candidates.

As stated above, the aims of the coming general election are variegated. Therefore, the people may waver in their choice. They should prepare themselves for the coming general election now, by thinking it over from an over-all viewpoint and in consideration of the past.

Of course, we cannot forecast the results of the election. However, in view of postwar politics, we hope the will of the people will be reflected in the coming general election. The coming general election must be made an opportunity to stamp out political corruption and poverty and to promote the reconstruction of JAPAN. Of course, the people are granted the freedom to support any party and to vote for any candidate. In the coming general election we would like to have the candidates elected by the will of the people as a whole, not because of influence in any one electoral district or because of claptrap speeches.

The results of the recent Presidential election in the UNITED STATES were contrary to our expectations. However, the fact that the American people manifested a form of consistency proves the broadness of the American people. If the Japanese people want to reach this level, they must carry out various reforms.

We hope JAPAN will take a step forward through the coming general election. The significance of the coming general election depends upon whether JAPAN is able to take this opportunity.

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ITEM 18 Have the Masses Rise Up and Fight - Tokuda - Akahata - 25 Nov 48. Translator: E. Okajima. (UG)

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Full Translation:

With the general election drawing near, our Akahata correspondent met with Secretary-general TOKUDA Tuesday and exchanged the following questions and answers:

Question: It seems that the general election will be held in the hear future. How can the Communists win?

Answer: The forthcoming general election has a vast political significance. Our party is making every possible preparation. When the fourth central committee meeting was held about 24 October, the Political Bureau and the Secretariat decided on the Communist party's election policies and published them in the AKAHATA. They are:

1. Significance of the Forthcoming General Election (14 October). Prepare for General Election (15, 16 October)
2. Policy for the education of directors. (17,18 October)
3. National Salvation Slogans (27 October)
4. Reports on the fourth central committee meeting (31 October)
5. Policy for the education of new members. (4, 5 and 6 Oct 48)
6. Policy for cultural activities in connection with general elections. (6 Nov 48)
7. Many others are include in articles which appeared in the AKAHATA. For example, "Surmount the Two Tendencies" (12 November), "Do Not Adhere to Essentialism" (18 November) "Weapons to Overthrow Reactionary Influences" (23 November), etc.
8. Similar articles will continue to appear. All articles and reports appearing in the AKAHATA should be utilized for the election, even though they may not be directly connected with it.

It is most important for party members and organs to adopt the central committee policies to their respective circumstances. Since the purpose of the AKAHATA is to inform party members of our policies, all party members, leaders in particular, should carefully read it.

Q: Are these policies and instructions being observed?

A: I regret to say that these policies and instructions are not being observed satisfactorily. The main reason is that party activities are still conducted on the organization first principle. They try to capture only a particular spot in the enemy's battle line and disregard all other places. They adhere to empiricism. This was quite useful at the time when the Communist Party began to expand, but is harmful now. It cuts us off from the general tendencies in the economic and political phases. The result is that we will lose the whole while winning a part.

From another point of view, it is like a thief's theory. They try to enhance the party's prestige by giving others what they have confiscated. They still adhere to the bourgeois viewpoint. These serve to lower the political and class consciousness of the masses instead of raising it.

This out-moded organization-first principle is hampering the activities of party organs. Party members are unable to act as a single body. It has weakened and disrupted the party organs. At the same time, it has hampered the sound development of the party as a whole. In other words, they cannot do anything without the existence of organizations. They lose public confidence because they are unable to meet the actual situation. Basic party policies are being disregarded.

In order to overcome this fundamental defect, I have issued strict instructions during the past several months. I have also inspected party organs in an attempt to eliminate this defect and foster the sound development of the party organs.

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However, I cannot say that all of them are acting in full cognizance of this policy. The central committee meetings as well as the general meetings have often taken up this problem.

The Secretary-general's report at the second central committee meeting on 30 and 31 May 1948 clearly pointed out this problem. (The Second Central Committee Meeting Decisions Report Page 2, C, Concrete advance of the popular struggle and concentration for the sake of a democratic racial front; the character of action policy of organizations). All party members and organs should study them again together with the various decisions reached at the sixth national convention and try to realize them.

Q: What are the defects in our election campaigns developed upon the old fashioned organization-first principle? How can we eliminate these defects?

A: 1. Party decisions sometimes do not reach the lowest party organs. This defect should be rectified.

2. To devote all our energies to election campaigns in the important areas hampers not only the sound development of the electorate and party organs but also the development of our party as a whole. As a result, the public loses confidence in our party. If campaigns are conducted on the basis of a group of organizations, it will mean our party's downfall. Therefore, party policies must be reexamined. Our activities must not be concentrated on important areas alone.

3. Activities in the important areas and the "blank zones" around them should be closely coordinated. It should be remembered that we might lose the important areas unless we cover the blank zones. To win in the election, it is most important for us to win over the blank zones. Victory in areas where our influences are strong does not mean much. It would mean twice as much if we win a vote in a place where the enemy's influence is strong. It stands to reason, therefore, that all Communist cells should take responsibility for their respective areas. The district committees should systematically divert the surplus power of our cells in advantageous areas over to campaigns in less advantageous areas.

4. It is a big job to connect daily struggles with election campaigns. In order to succeed in this line, political propaganda must be fully utilized. In other words, we should awaken the masses to the political significance and development of their daily struggles. At the same time, we should use the various scandals in our political propaganda. We must strive to teach the masses the method of launching their own political and class movements. (Refer to the reports on Communist activities in the Kiso district and the AKAHATA)

5. Our propaganda and instigation methods and our finances must be tied in with each other. To lack one of these three would hamper party activities and harm the party system as a whole.

6. Activities in enterprises and residential areas should be carried out jointly. By so doing, we can prevent party members from becoming one-sided in their activities. It will serve to develop the members, and, at the same time, our activities in both fields will grow.

7. To overburden Communist candidates by making them do their own campaigning will mean then defeat in the end. Election campaigns should be carried out by all party organs, including cells.

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8. To realize the foregoing points, the committees in large areas and prefectural committees should rise up from their present state of inactivity. It is incumbent upon all party organs to improve their political guidance and methods in their respective areas. They should not lose their political leadership because of adherence to techniques held over from the old fashioned organization-first principle. Party organs should be able to utilize party members to the best advantage.

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ITEM 17 Election Preparations in Local Districts (Part 3) - Asahi - 25 Nov 48. Translator: S. Higashi, Y. Bannai, J. Ide. (WM, UG)

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Full Translation:

TOYAMA--The Democratic Liberal, the Democratic, and the Peoples Co-operative parties will apparently reach some agreement on dividing up the territory into spheres of influence. The present Diet members, SAHAKU Muneyoshi (Dem), TANJI Ryosaku (DLP), AYGC Yoshizo (Soc), NAITO Tomoaki (Peoples Co-op) and TACHIBANA Naoji (Dem), are sure to run in the forthcoming elections, while the Socialist Party will reportedly ran EBINA Kazuo, MASUYAMA Naota, and OI Yoshiaki, who ran a close second to the winning candidate in the last elections. In connection with the reported agreement over spheres of influence, the dangers of a party split are not wholly absent. In addition to the above men, the Democratic Liberal, the Democratic, and the Peoples Co-operative parties will also have YAMAMORI Toshiichi, KIKUNO Hiroshi, and YAO Kikujiro in the running. In the final analysis, the conservatives are viewed as overwhelmingly strong, while the Socialist Party will probably manage to have their one incumbent returned.

ISHIKAWA--The Democratic Liberal Party, which was in the minority, is overhauling its ranks and is hurrying up the establishment of both county and municipal chapters. The Democratic Party, following its gravitation to the opposition, has been on the defensive. The Democratic Liberal Party will put up SAKATA Eiichi, President of the Foodstuffs Distribution Co-operative, DENDA Takaji, former Member of the House of Representatives, and HIGASHI Maihide, present Member of the House of Representatives in the first electoral district; and MASUDA Hideji, Minister of Construction; and MINAMI Yoshio, Chief of the Tokyo District Commodity Price General Affairs Bureau; as candidates in the second electoral district,-- a total of five men. The Democratic Party will put up IMURA Tokuji, Member of the House of Representatives and TAKEDA Giichi as candidates in the first electoral district and GOTSUBO Shigeo and OMORI Tamaki as candidates in the second electoral district-- a total of four men. The Socialist Party will have OKA Ryoichi running in the first electoral district and YAMAZAKI Hiroshi, former secretary to ex-Premier KATAYAMA in the second electoral district. The Communist Party will put up NASHIKI Sakujiro in the first electoral district and UMEDA Heiichi in the second electoral district. In contrast to the present standing of four Democrats and two Democratic Liberals, the coming elections are expected to put in three Democrats, two Democratic Liberals, and one Socialist.

FUKUI--It is considered certain that a new face, FUJII Kyusuke, Managing Director of the All Japan Lacquer Union, will run as team-mate to either HIJIMA Shigeru, NOMURA Eitaro or HIJIMA Kumi. Certain candidates of the Democratic Party are HASEGAWA Masatomo, and TSUBOKAWA Shinzo, Member of the House of Representatives, and OKUMURA Sojuro, who came over from the ranks of the Socialists. In view of the fact that these three Democratic members of the House of Representatives worked in connection with the restoration of flood stricken areas, the Democratic Party has a big following here. The Socialists have temporarily decided on running two men, DOMORI Yoshio, former member of the House of Representatives and SAIKI Shigeichi, who is affiliated with the Japan Farmers Union faction. But some in the party object that to put up two candidates is dangerous.

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The Prefectural Farmers Federation is now considering three likely candidates, INAZAWA Seikichi, who was defeated in the elections for the governorship, KATO Kitao, Member of the House of Representatives, and MIYAKE Yoshi, of the Farmers Co-operative Union, but there is also a movement to limit the candidates to one man. In that event, a keen struggle with the Socialist Party is expected with the fight limited as it will be to narrow spheres of influence dominated by single men. The present situation, overwhelmingly in favor of the Democratic Party of two Democrats and one Farmers, is expected to change to Democrats, two; and one apiece to the Democratic Liberal and the Socialist parties.

HYOGO--The Democratic Liberal Party publicly declares that the tide is in their favor and that it will gain 12 seats in place of the five which it holds at the present time. In addition to HARA Kensaburo (second district), OGAMI Tsukasa and YAMANA Yoshizo(fourth district) and SAITO Takao and SASAKI Morio (fifth district), all incumbents, the Democratic Liberal Party will have the following newcomers: SHUDO Shinhachi (first district), SHIODA Kashiro and YOSHIDA Yoshitaro, prefectural assemblyman (second district) NAKAYA Yoshijiro, former prefectural assemblyman, YOSHIDA Shozo, and NAGAOKA Tagoro, Chief of the Osaka Railway Bureau (third district). In addition, there are rumours that OZAKI Ichiro, prefectural assemblyman (first district), and YAGI Sataro, former assemblyman (fourth district) will also run, but of this there is no confirmation. The Socialist Party will adopt a policy of putting up their best men , but the loss of NAGAE, former Agriculture and Forestry Minister, is a big blow to the party, and they will try to maintain their present strength. In addition to MATSUZAWA Kenhachi (first district), YONEKUBO Mitsusuke (second district), YAMASHITA Eiji (second district) and KAWAI Giichi (third district), all incumbents, there is the rumour that Mrs KAWAKAMI Jotaro will run in place of NAGAE in the first district, while there is also talk that IMAZU Kikumatsu, secretary-general of the Prefectural Federation (second district), HAGIWARA Zen, secretary-general of the Farmers Prefectural Federation (fourth district), TABUCHI Yoshio, former Secretary to the Agriculture and Forestry Ministry (fifth district) will be nominated as candidates.

The Democratic Party will have TSUKUDA Ryoichi (first district), NAKAMURA Toshio and GOTO Ttsuji (second district) TANAKA Gensaburo (third district) HORIKAWA Kyohei (fourth district) and incumbent KOJIMA Totsuzo (fifth district) flying the party banner. In addition, the Party is planning to run NAKAYAMA Tama, former Diet member (second district) KAWAMOTO Toshio, President of the Sanko Steamship Company (fourth district) and ARITA, former Chief Cabinet Secretary (fifth district).

The Peoples Co-operative Party, in addition to incumbent KIMURA Sakae (fourth district), is likely to put up TSUJI Kinkichi (first district) and KAGITANI Minoru (second district).

Candidates predicted for the Communist Party are TACHIBANA Toshio (first district), INOGUCHI Masao (second district), KISHIMOTO Shigeo (third district), SHIMOZAKA Masahide (fourth district), and IZU Kimio (fifth district).

Of these men, MATSUZAWA and TSUKUDA for the first district, YONEKUBO, HARA, and NAKAMURA for the second district, KAWAI, and TANAKA for the third district, and incumbent KINOSHITA, YAMANA, HORIKAWA and OGAMI for the fourth district are considered strong, while in the fifth district SAITO, KOJIMA, and ARITA are favorites in that order. SASAKI is expected to be one of the winners.

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OSAKA--The Democratic Liberal Party candidates will be crowing each other with ARITA Jiro, incumbent, OKANO Seigo, former Executive Manager of the Sanwa Bank, NAKAYAMA Fukuzo, former Diet Member, and MATSUTANI Torakichi, also a former Diet Member, running in the first electoral district, NAKAYAMA Masa, incumbent, and OSHITANI Tomizo, runner up in the last elections, running in the second district; SHIDEHARA Kijuro, incumbent; HARADA Ken, incumbent; ASAGA Hideo, Assemblyman; and IKEGAMI Enpei for the third district: TANAKA Manitsu, incumbent, MATSUNAGA Bukkotsu, runner up in the last elections; and SUZUKI Ainosuke for the fourth district; and HIRASHIMA Ryoichi, incumbent; SAKURAI Yoshikuni, Chief of the Prefectural Youth Federation and HONDA Hanako for the fifth district.

The Socialist Party has not yet decided upon its election platform, but the following men are likely possibilities: OYA Shozo, incumbent, and KAWAI Eizo for the first district; MAEDE Taneo for the second district; INOGAMI Ryoji and MATSUBARA Kinoji for the third district; KUBOTA Tsurumatsu for the fourth district; and NISHIMURA Eiichi for the fifth district. The appearance of TANEDA Tetsuma, Secretary to NISHIO Suehiro or KAGETSU Tamotsu, former Editor-in-Chief of Asahi, as men to carry the party banner following the fall of NISHIO Suehiro in second district are rumoured. But the Japan Federation of Trade Unions only wants MAEDA running in the second district. Thus, nothing is definite regarding the two men. However, KAGETSU may be made to run either in the fourth or the fifth district. In addition, TAKIGAWA Sueichi, former Deputy Cabinet Secretary, has been nominated to run in the fourth district.

The Democratic Party will put up HITOTSUMATSU Sadakichi, incumbent in the first district, together with KURIMURA Eiichi, former Chapter Head of the Peoples Co-operative Party; HOSOKAWA Yasohachi, incumbent, in the second district; KITA Yujiro in the fourth district and in addition is looking around for new faces, but seems to be hard up for suitable men.

The Social Reform Party will have KANO Takashi running in the fourth district and the Communists will probably have SHIGA Yoshio, runner up in the last election running in the first district, and KAWAKAMI Kaniichi in the second district. Prediction of election results follow: In the first district, the Socialists expected to lose one of their two men, with OKANO (DLP) and SHIGA (Com) cutting into their votes. In the second district, Oshitani (DLP) is expected to win, with HOSOKAWA (Dem), and NAKAYAMA (DLP) likely to meet up with difficulties. In the third district, the Socialists are viewed as losing one of their two men, with the Democratic Liberal Party taking over some of their votes. In the fourth district, either KUBOTA (Soc) or KANO (SRP) will fall with the Democratic Liberal Party making definite gains. In the fifth district, the present incumbents continue to be strong.

SHIGA--The Democratic Liberal Party has only decided upon one candidate, State Minister MORI Kotaro, and will chose four out of the following six new men; OKAMOTO Miyoshi, vice prefectural governor; KAWABARA Isaburo, speaker of the prefectural assembly; TAKEUCHI Zenosuke, prefectural assemblyman; FUJII Rihei, former President of the Farming Industry Association; HORIE Kiichiro, Prefectural Assemblyman; and ITO Takeo, Chief of the Auditing Section of the Osaka Finance Bureau.

The Socialist Party is scheduled to recognize on a preferential basis incumbents YANO Kisaburo and KAGETSU Junsei, but has also made it known that OKUNO Chuan, runner up in the

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last elections, as well as UMEZAWA Jisaku, TERAMURA Kantaro and TSUTSUMI Tsuruyo might also be nominated.

The Democratic Party has already decided for incumbent YASHIGE Uemon and, if there is no fear of a divided vote ending in defeat for both men, will also nominate ASOKI Ryokan, Prefectural Assemblyman. The Peoples Co-operative Party will not have incumbent IMAI Saku in the running, reports state, but he might run depending on his opponents.

The Communist Party will have EZAKI Ichiji in the running.

The final count will probably be Socialists two; and one each for the Democrats, Democratic Liberals, and the Peoples Co-operative. However, the prefecture has always been strongly Democratic Liberal and depending upon the choice of suitable candidates, the Democratic Liberal Party might even get three men in.

KYOTO--No changes are expected from the present situation with the probable re-election of three Socialists, two Democrats, and two Democratic Liberals and one apiece for the Social Reform, the New Liberal and the Worker Farmer parties. But the fact that TANAKA Isaburo (Dem) has been cleared from the purge list and depending on the effects of the removal of ASHIDA from the presidency of the Democratic Party, considerable changes might take place for all the parties.

In the first district, MIZUTANI (Soc) and TANAKA (Dem) will probably be top men while the re-appearance of the anti-Ashida TANAKA might make the re-election of incumbent OGAWA Hanji (Dem) difficult.

In the second district, if ASHIDA is disqualified, the election of the last runner up IKEGAMI Son (Soc) is considered certain. For Kyoto as a whole, the Socialists will maintain their status quo, and the Democrats, if ASHIDA runs, will have a slight edge over the Democratic Liberals. In the final count, it is probable that the Socialists will secure three seats, the Democrats three or two, the Democratic Liberals two, and the other parties two, while the remaining one or two seats will either fall to the Socialists, the Democrats or the Democratic Liberals after a wild fight.

Incumbents assured of re-election are six including ASHIDA, two probables, while among new faces TANAKA is sure, and IKEGAMI, even if ASHIDA runs, will be among the probables. The popularity of OISHI Yoshie has not waned, while the Communist and the Peoples Co-operatives have slim chances.

WAKAYAMA--The Democratic Liberal Party will have as candidates, incumbents YAMAGUCHI Kiichiro and IMAMURA Chotaro for the first, second electoral districts, respectively, in addition to the runner up in the last election TABUCHI Mitsuichi, probably MACHIDA, TAMAI, and YAMASHITA.

The Socialists will have incumbent TANAKA Sennoshin for the first district and SUZUKI, former Secretary to Katayama in the second district. In addition, FUJII will run in the first district and a member from the left-wing faction in the second district. The Democratic Party is trying to recognize OTA Tojiro, who was defeated in the last elections as candidate in the first electoral district, and MORIYAMA, son of the former Diet member, as candidate for the second district. The New Liberal Party will probably put up SEKO Koichi, former Diet member, the Social Reform Party will probably enter a new man, YAMANAKA, former secretary to the Agriculture-Forestry Minister, for the first district, and the Communist Party, YAMAGAMI Tameo for the second district in addition to another candidate, WADA (second district) who will run as an independent.

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Election results are predicted as follows: In district one, Democratic Liberal two men (YAMAGUCHI and INAMURA); and Socialists one (TANAKA) without any change in the status quo. In district two, HAYAKAWA and SEKO are favorites and if the Democratic Liberals, who boast of big support, have any luck, the results will probably be, Democratic Liberal three, Socialist one or two seats, Social Reform one and New Liberal one.

NARA--The Democratic Liberal Party is the only one which has been planning an election campaign and making preparations. It has already unofficially decided on MAEDA Masao, incumbent; TAKAKURA Masaji, lawyer; FUJII Heiji, former prefectural assemblyman; and MORIGAWA Juichi, former director of the National Hotel Association. In addition either MATSUMURA Asajiro or YOSHIKAWA Kyuichi, both prefectural assemblymen, will be chosen to bring the total number of candidates to five.

For the Democratic Party, KITAURA Keitaro, incumbent; TOI Miyoji, and OKUDA Nobuyoshi, runner up in the last elections, will run again, while the names of KURABAYASHI Nobuyoshi, Professor at the Medical University, OGAWA Saishi, company executive and HATTORI Yasuji, prefectural assemblyman are rumored as candidates.

The Socialist Party will limit its recognition of candidates to incumbent ISE Kotaro, but depending on a request from the labor unions will consider other candidates. FUJIE Akihide, younger brother of Councillor FUJIE, is expected to run for the Peoples Co-operative Party. The Communist Party will run TAKEMURA Naraichi, while independents will probably include NAKAMURA Motonobu, incumbent, MOTOBAYASHI Yoshiji, lawyer and ISOBE Kyohei, former reporter for the Kyodo News Service.

Among incumbents KITAURA and TOI of the Democratic Party are assured of re-election, with MAEDA (DLP) a probable. In the final analysis, the present standing of two Democrats and one Democratic Liberal will not change with the remaining two seats to be fought over by the Democratic Liberal, Socialists, Communists, and independents.

TOTTORI--The Democratic Liberal Party under the leadership of Prefectural Chapter leader INADA Naomichi, incumbent, seek to capture three out of four seats for the prefecture, with INADA and his running mates, KADOWAKI Katsutaro, and TEJIMA Yuji playing important parts in the forthcoming race.

In opposition to this, the Democratic Party which hoped to nominate NAIKAI Seion, advisor to the prefectural government, has been frustrated by NAIKAI's illness. The Socialists have already decided on having their incumbents, SHOJI Hiko and KAJIYAMA Shizuo, as candidates and will in all probability also nominate ASHIGA Gaku, Chairman of the Prefectural Federation. For the Peoples Co-operative Party, former Diet member TANAKA Tatsu is rumored as a likely candidate. Other candidates include HORIE Jitsuzo, incumbent, who according to rumor will leave in order to join the Worker Farmer Party. The appearance of IKEGAMI Goro as candidate for the Social Reform Party is deemed certain.

Observers believe that the Democratic Liberal Party will win two seats and the Socialist and other parties one each.

SHIMANE--The Socialist and Communists will put up as candidates their incumbents in an effort to get sure returns. The Democratic and the Democratic Liberal parties are also expected to have incumbents in the running, while the Peoples Co-operative will probably have the runner-up in the last elections, SHIRAKAWA

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Ichitoku, as candidate for the party. Among new faces rumored to appear in the election race are OHASHI Takeo (DLP), SAKUMAUCHI Mikio (Dem), HIDAKA Tadao (Dem), YAMAMOTO Riju (Dem), HIGUCHI Keitoku (Soc), and MURAKAMI Jun (Soc).

As for probable results, Democrat KIMURA Kosaemon will be a sure winner, while, in view of the fact that SAKUMAUCHI Mikio of the Democratic Party, OHASHI Takeo of the Democratic Liberal Party, the Socialist incumbent, MATSUMOTO Kyozo, and the DLP incumbent IKUGOSHI Saburo, will all be fighting in the same territory a bitter contest is likely to develop.

OKAYAMA--Unofficially picked as Democratic Liberal candidates are OMURA Seiichi, incumbent, WAKABAYASHI Yoko, and YASUI Gengo for the first electoral district; and HOSHIJIMA Jiro, incumbent, KONDO Tsuruyo, incumbent, KATO Takenori, former chief of the Commerce and Industry Section and HASHIMOTO Ryugo, vice cabinet secretary, all of whom are not officially confirmed, for the second electoral district.

The Democratic Party will have NISHIYAMA Fusata, incumbent; and AIZAWA Kan running in the first electoral district, and INUKAI Ken and OKUMURA Asakichi, secretary-general of the Prfectural Chapter running in the second district. The Peoples Co-operatives will put up KOEDA Kazuo, incumbent, as candidate for the first district and TAGA Yasuro, also an incumbent, as candidate for the second district. The WFP will have KURODA Yoshio, incumbent, as a candidate for the first district and NAKAHARA Kenji, incumbent, for the second district, while the New Liberal Party will have KASHIWARA Ryo (first district), the Communist Party KARIDA Asano (first district) and TOYODA Hideo (second district), and the Socialist Party will have EDA Saburo, secretary-general of the Prefectural Federation running to take the place of KURODA or KAGEYAMA Tetsuo, Executive Committeeman of the Prefectural Chapter in the first district and SHIGEI Kaji, incumbent, in the second district.

With INUKAI Ken appearing as running mate with OKUMURA Asakichi, TAGA (PCP), SHIGEI (Soc) and NAKAHARA (WFP) will be hard put. SHIGEI and NAKAHARA have no agreement regarding spheres of influence as a result of the party split and will have to fight it out.

For the first district, originally the Democratic Liberal Party was viewed expected to get two seats, the Democratic, the Peoples Co-operative and the Socialist one apiece when the first survey was made, but now the Democratic Liberal (OMURA), WFP (KURODA) and the Peoples Co-operative's (KOEDA) are expcted to be definite winners. For the second district, the original estimates of Democratic Liberal two seats, Socialist two and Peoples Co-operative one, have changed with the return of INUKAI and the split of the Socialist Party and as a result, two seats for the Democratic Liberal and one seat for the Democratic Party are considered certain.

The new faces will bear watching. How much will they be able to cut into the votes of the old-timers? YASUI Ken, younger brother of Governor YASUI of Tokyo Metropolis is a neutral and will run for the first district. Throughout the second electoral district, the party split and the return of INUKAI will place the Socialists at a disadvantage. The Socialists and the WFP as well as the Social Reform Party will have to put up a bitter fight.

HIROSHIMA--the re-election of the 11 incumbents (one seat vacant) is deemed assured with the exception of one or two seats.

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The Democratic Liberals have no incumbents in this prefecture and are busily building up a background for the coming elections. They will have five men running headed by IKEDA Isato, former vice-minister of Finance.

The Democratic Party will have incumbents TAKEDA Kiyo and TAKAHASHI Junichi in the running. They plan to add three more new faces but seem to be having trouble in finding the right people. The Party has started working on factories and companies and is trying to collect adequate donations for the elections.

The Socialists have five incumbents and are working on the labor unions. But the Japan Farmers Union has dropped the pro-Communist faction from its ranks and is opposed to the Communists. On the other hand, OBARA Hiroshi, who left the Socialist Party to join the Sicial Reform Party, took with him the National Farmers Union faction which is now opposed to the Socialists. Finally, the Farmers Alliance of the former Agricultural Association forms the backbone of support for HIRAKAWA Atsuo of the Peoples Co-operatives and the farming communities will see a wild fight between the JFU, the Farmers Alliance, and the NFU.

YAMAGUCHI --Informally decided candidates are:

Democratic Liberal Party: Chief Cabinet Secretary SATO Eisaku, Agriculture-Forestry Minister SUDO Hideo, ex-Labor Vice-minister YOSHITAKE Koiichi, former Yamaguchi Vice-governor AOYAGI Ichiro, Diet members SAKAMOTO Minoru, SHO Tadato, NAKAJIMA Katsuichi, SHIGETOMI Taku; Chief MIYOSHI Katsumi of the Shimonoseki Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Socialist: Diet members IMAZUMI Isamu, MORITA Michisuke, UKEDA Shinkichi.

Communist: TANAKA Gyohei, YAMAMOTO Rihei.

Democratic: AOKI Masao, KURUSU's Secretary.

New figures are scarce, and DLP influence is overwhelmingly predominant. Elected in last year's general election were three Democratic Liberals, two Democrats, two Socialists, one minor party member, and one independent, but the present Dietmen from this district are six Democratic Liberals, and three Socialists.

In the coming general election seven DLP, and two Socialists or seven DLP, one Socialist, and one Communist will be elected.

TOKUSHIMA--Probable candidates are:

Peoples Co-operative Party: MIKI Takeo, OKADA Seiichi, and Chief OGASA Kiminori of the Business Bureau of the Smaller Businesses Board.

Socialist: NARUSE Kigoro.

Democratic: AKITA Daisuke.

Democratic Liberal Party: KASHIWARA Yoshinori, KITAOKA Iwao, MANABE Katsu, AMO Bunkichi. KASHIWARA will exploit his strength in the defunct Seiyukai. Keen competition is expected among Socialist NARUSE, Democrat AKITA, and Democratic Liberals KITAOKA, MANABE, and AMO. The current political situation will remain unchanged

KAGAWA--Socialist: (first district) Dietman NARITA Chiki, who is almost sure of re-election, and MIZOFUCHI Matsutaro (second district); TAMAN Hirobumi, MIYAWAKI Tomo or Prefectural Assemblyman SASSA Eisaburo.

DLP: (first district) Chief Secretary AMANO Tomitaro, NAKACHI Shingo and MIZOFUCHI Shinji, both newcomers, and Chief TAMAOKI Minoru of the Prefectural Economic Department (second district); ex-Dietmen MATSUURA Kaoru, SHIRAKAWA Kazuo, Mayor KAMATA Masamitsu of SAKAIDE, WADA Masuhiko. None of these candidates has been officially recognized.

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PCP: (first district) Building Contractor HARADA Sakae, KAMADA Norihide; (second district) Dietman TOYOSAWA Toyoo (most likely)

Democratic: (first district) not yet decided but probable candidates are Governor MASUHARA Keikichi, and former Prefectural Assembly Speaker YAMAGUCHI Takeo; (second district) Dietmen FUKUDA Shigeyoshi and YANO Shotaro, and Doctor of Economics IZEKI Takao. Besides, the Middle-of-the-Road League will most likely nominate Prefectural Assemblyman MAEDA Keiji.

Communist: (first district) MIYAI Shinichi; (second district) KONISHI Masao. Generally speaking, the Socialists and Democrats have lost their former popularity.

On the contrary, the DLP will increase its political strength. Unless there are too many DLP candidates, one DLP will surely be elected in the first district, along with one Socialist, with the Socialists and Democrats fighting for the remaining seat.

In the Second District, election of one Democrat and one PCP is deemed sure, and the remaining one seat will be contested among the Socialists, Democrats, and DLP.

EHIME--The DLP campaign is most active, and Dietman TAKAHASHI Eikichi has succeeded in winning over the Ehime Democratic Party, which commands majority in the prefectural assembly. Consequently, an Ehime branch of the DLP will be created.

The Ehime Democratic Party was in the beginning controlled by the parent party. The Democrats are rather late in starting their election campaign, and INUKAI and NARAHASHI, surprised at the DLP's success, will soon arrive here to form a Democratic branch. The Socialists rely upon organized labor and the Japan Farmers Union. Disappointed by the Nishio case and Socialist blunders in the State coal control bill debate, some supporters do not trust party judgment, and are selecting their own men as candidates. Current Dietmen from this prefecture are three Democrats, three DLP, two Socialists, and one Social Reformer. The election prediction is four or five DLP, one or two Democrats, two Socialists, and one SRP. One Democratic Dietman is likely to join the DLP.

KOCHI--

DLP: YOSHIDA Shigeru, HAYASHI Joji (sure); HAMADA Mitsuori and Upper House member TERAO Yutaka are also rumored.

Democratic: Dietman NAGANO Nagahiro (most likely to run), ONISHI Masao, NISHIYAMA Shigeru.

Socialist: UJIHARA Ichiro (failed in preceding election), HAMADA Ichiro (chief of the party's Kochi Federation).

PCP: Dietman KUROIWA Shigeharu, YAMAZAKI Masatatsu.

Communist: KONISAWA Kumaji.

SRP: Dietman SATAKE Haruki.

Besides, 15 to 16 names, about three times the number of seats, are rumored. This prefecture has been a stronghold of the DLP since ITAGAKI's day. Current Diet members from this prefecture are two DLP, one Democrat, one SRP, and one PCP. The DLP is attempting to increase its strength by one. This will have grave repercussions upon other parties.

FUKUOKA--The DLP is trying to get eight elected. The Socialists expect to gain two new seats. The Democrats expect the election of two new members, including NARAHASHI Wataru in addition to their present three. The three SRP Dietmembers will again run for election. The Communists will put up candidates

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in each district. However, the DLP's expectation is impossible of realization. The number of Dietmen from the Socialist Party and SRP will decrease.

DLP: (first district) MORISHIMA Goro (informally decided) HARADA Heigoro (undecided), (second district) Dietman FUCHIGAMI Fusataro, ASO Tagakichi; (third district) KOGA Kitaro (informally decided), two candidates from among TSUTSUMI Hachiro, KOKI Tamotsu, TATSUNO Kiichiro, and TSUKAMOTO Yoshijiro; (fourth district) Diet members NAGAO Tatsuo, HIRAI Giichi.

Democratic: (first district) Diet members NAKAJIMA Shigeki (informally decided), AKASHI Motonaga (undecided); (second district) Dietmember NISHIDA Takao (informally decided); (third district) ARAKI Masuo, NARAHASHI Wataru; (fourth district) ISHIZAKI Chimatsu (undecided).

Socialist (first district) Diet member TANAKA Shogetsu (informally decided), FUKUDA Masako (undecided), SHIMAZAKI Takeo (undecided); (Second District) Dietmembers ITO Ushiro, and MATSUMOTO Shichiro, AONO Takeichi (undecided); (fourth district) TOMOEDA Munetatsu or IKEDA Teijiro.

Farmers League: (first district) Dietmember NAKAMURA Torata (decided) and NAKAMURA Ryusuke or OKUMURA Toshio; (third district) TERAZAKI Kakuji and another candidate.

SRP: (first district) Dietman OGAMI Zenkichi; (fourth district) NARISHIGE Koshin, SUDO Susumu.

Communist: HOSHINO Tsutomu, TASHIRO Fumihisa, HAYASHI Isao, SHIINO Etsuro.

Independent: Dietmember OKABE Tokuzo.

SAGA--

DLP: Dietmembers MORI Naoji and YANAI Junji; NAGAI Eishu, MITSUCHI Shin, KITAGAWA Teimu.

Democratic: Dietmember NAKAMURA Mataichi, HORI Shigeru, MIYACHI Hideo, KOGA Tatenori.

Socialist: Dietmember TSUNODA Tozaburo.

Communist: HATA Retsu, Chairman YANAGAWA Yoshimitsu of Teachers Union.

PCP: Dietmember OSHIMA Tazo Japan Farmers Party: KATO Giichi.

In all, some 20 candidates will run, but only DLP and Democratic Candidates will be elected. Whether candidates from the Socialist Party and labor unions will be elected or not is attracting much attention. Among the present Diet members, chances of re-election for DLP YANAGAWA and PCP OSHIMA are slim, but the re-election of DLP MORI Naoji, and Democrats HORI Shigeru and NAKAMURA is deemed certain.

KUMAMOTO--In the last election five Democrats, three DLP's and three Socialists were elected. But, as a result of changes in party affiliation, there are at present four Democrats, three DLP's one Socialist, one SRP, and one PCP.

Democratic (first district) Since TERAMOTO Hitoshi has seceded, the Democrats will replace him by FUJITA Yoshimitsu. Besides, Dietmembers UCHIDE Nobuyuki and SAKAGUCHI Chikara are being mentioned as possible candidates; (second district) Dietmembers YOSHIDA Yasushi and SONODA Tadashi and FUKUDA Torakame or MIYOSHI Shinichi.

DLP: (first district) Dietmember MATSUNO Raizo, KOSEKI Kazuichi, AYUKAWA Kunihiko; (second district) Dietmembers SAKATA Michita and FUKUNAGA Kazuomi, and HARA Riichi.

Socialist: (first district) SAKAMOTO Yasushi, YAMASHITA Yoshiko, YOSHIDA Yashichi. KAMIYAMA Seiki is being backed by the prefectural labor council; (second district) Dietmember HOSOKAWA Takamoto (certain).

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NEWS

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DRP: (first district) Dietmember MIYAMURA Matahachi, backed by National Famrers Union.

In the first District, a DLP victory is deemed certain. The DLP also considers certain the election of two candidates in the First District and three in the Second.

OITA--The Democratic Party has informally decided to recognize its three incumbent diet members, UMEBAYASHI Tokio, KANAMITSU Yoshikuni, and YASUDA Mikita, as party candidates. It is rumored that FUKUDA Kito, former Japanese official at the League of Nations in GENEVA, and NAGATA Takashi, merchant, will run from the Democratic Liberal Camp, together with incumbent Diet member MURAKAMI Isamu. Moreover, the candidacy of KODAMA Tomoharu is very probable.

The Socialist Party aims at the election of two members, NOGAMI Kenji, incumbent Diet member, and ETO Iori, chairman of its prefectural federation. The Peoples Co-operative Party will post incumbent MATSUBARA Kazuhiko and SATO Moriyoshi. Some circles are ready to recommend SASAYAMA Tadao, chairman of the Holding Company Liquidation Committee from this prefecture, as a super-party candidate. In the last election, the Democratic Party gained three seats, the Liberal Party one, the Socialist Party two, and the Peoples Co-operative Party one. In view of the strong probability that the predominance of the Democratic Party may be replaced by that of the Democratic Liberal Party, the next election will result in the ratio of three Democratic Liberals, one Democrat, one Socialist, one Peoples Co-operative, and one minor party member.

MIYAZAKI--The Democratic Liberal Party launched a maneuver to gain 10,000 party members in this prefecture. Incumbent Diet members are expected to run in the next election. Besides, the Democratic Liberal Party will post KAWAGOE Shigeru, former ambassador to CHINA, and SATO Shigeto, former Diet member, in the first electoral district, and TANAKA Fuhazo, former chief of the Moji Railway Bureau, OGATA Shigeru, engineer of the Agriculture-Forestry Ministry, and KOYAMA Naganori, former Peoples Co-operative Party member and employee of a bank, in the second district. The Democratic Party will post MIZOGUCHI Tokizo, forest owner, in the second district, while the Socialist Party is going to post NAGASAKA Atsushi, company president, KORO Mitsugu, director of an agricultural co-operative association, in the first district, and SETOYAMA Kiyokata, prosecutor, in the second district. The Peoples Co-operative Party will send ZUSHI Koji into the election race in the second electoral district.

At present, the Democratic Party holds one seat, the Peoples Co-operative Party two, the Socialist Party two, and the Daiichi Club one. However, the Democratic Party is in so disadvantageous a position that even the re-election of incumbent OSHIKAWA Sadaaki is doubted. Therefore, the party will be defeated in this prefecture, unless it should post a very notable person. The Democratic Party will be completely defeated if its candidates should closely compete with one another in the second electoral district. Meanwhile, the only promising Peoples Co-operative candidate is incumbent KAWANO Yoshimitsu, while the Socialist Party can maintain its present power if its control over candidates should succeed.

NAGASAKI--As the result of the disqualification of IMAMURA Hitoshi, Socialist, and the death of HONODA Eisaku, New Liberal,

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ITEM 17 (Continued)

a by-election will be conducted on Friday. Considering that this will prove a touchstone of its power, each party is ready to decide its attitude toward the forthcoming election.

The Democratic Party, aiming at gaining all seats in this prefecture (five in the first district, and four in the second district), will post two incumbent Diet members, HONDA Ichitaro and WAKAMATSU Torao, two new candidates, TSUBOUCHI Hashiro, member of the prefectural assembly, and OKANISHI Akisada, secretary general of the prefectural textile Products Price Fixing Committee, and a female candidate in the first district. The Socialist Party will post two new candidates, TSUDA Matakichi, secretary general of its prefectural federation, and MORITO Mamoru, central committee member. The Democratic Party will post two former Diet members, KOYANAGI Toyotaro and OTA Riichi, and one new candidate, IKKI Kihei, member of the prefectural assembly.

The Peoples Co-operative Party will post KUCHI Toyoaki, chairman of its prefectural chapter, while the Communist Party will send TSUKAMOTO Shuichi to the next election race. Moreover, MORI Tokuhisa, Farmers Party, HAYASHI Hideichiro, independent, MATSUO Toyoyoshi, independent, and MATSUO Tetsuo, Worker-Farmer Party will run. In the first electoral district, 16 or 17 candidates will run. Among them, two incumbent Democratic Liberals, HONDA and WAKAMATSU, are certain.

In the second electoral district, all Democratic candidates, other than those who are closely connected with KITAMURA Tokutaro, will probably join the Democratic Liberal camp. The Democratic Liberal Party will post two incumbent Diet members, NISHIMURA Hisayuki and TSUNASHIMA Masaoki, one new candidate, OKA Nobuemon, and one female candidate, while the Socialist Party will post incumbent FUJISAWA Shigetaro and TSUJI Fumio, a newcomer. The Democratic Party will post former Finance Minister KITAMURA Tokutaro, MIZUTO Kinichi, member of the prefectural assembly, and OSE Kyuichi. Candidates from the Peoples Co-operative front have not yet been fixed, while the Communist Party will post MIYAJIMA Yutaka. Among these, more than ten candidates, KITAMURA, Democrat, FUJIWARA, Socialist, and TSUNASHIMA, Democratic Liberal, are certain. The present balance of four Democratic Liberals, one Democrat, one Socialist, and one New Liberal, will be changed into a ratio of six Democratic Liberals, two Democrats, and one Socialist.

KAGOSHIMA--The Democratic Liberal Party will post State Minister INOUE Tomoharu, two incumbent Diet members, KAMBAYASHIYAMA Eikichi, and NAKAMURA Yshiki, and MITSUO Uryo, runner-up in the last election, in the first district; two incumbent members, ISHIWARA Noboru and OZAKI Suekichi, and CHUMA Tatsuo in the second district; while incumbent MAEDA Wataru, SATO Tsukichi, new IWATA Yosuke, and NIKAIDO Susumu will run in the third district. The Socialist Party will post MURAO Satsuo in the first district; TOMIYOSHI Eiji and SADA Tadataka, former chief of the Finance and Banking Section of the Economic Stabilization Board, in the second district; AKAJI Tomozo in the third district. The Democratic Party will post HARA Suteshi and TOKONAMI Tokuji in the first district, and MANADA Tokumi in the second district. The Peoples Co-operative Party will post MATOBA Kinemon in the third district, while the Communist Party will send SASAKI Shoji to the fight in the first electoral district.

In the first district, two Democratic Liberals, INOUE and KAMBAYASHIYAMA, are certain. In the second district, former Communications Minister TOMIYOSHI, Socialist, is practically certain, while the most promising candidate in the third district is MATOBA, Peoples Co-operative, followed by IWAKAWA, Democratic Liberal.

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ITEM 4 Two Leftists Give Election Campaign Plans - Tokyo Mimpo -
26 Nov 48. Translator: K. Murakami. (MJF)

Full Translation:

Representative MATSUTANI Tenkoko, member of the preparatory committee for the formation of the Labor-Farmer Party, and KIKUNAMI Katsumi commented on how they intended to campaign in the coming general election.

Representative MATSUTANI: "I was ousted from the Socialist Party because I opposed the budget for 1948 which was unfavorable to the laboring masses. However, I am not ashamed of being read out of the party. I regard my expulsion as an honor because it was a graphic illustration of the fact that I could not remain in the same party with those spineless leaders who compromised with the conservative elements and sold labor short. To fight for the benefit of labor, farmers, and citizens is my one pledge and this will be true for the coming general elections, too.

"In more concrete terms, I intend to fulfill my duties as a member of the public welfare committee of the Lower House by seeking an increase in the welfare budget, thereby working towards the complete realization of a social insurance system and state health insurance. Moreover, I aim in this capacity to work to free the masses from the burden imposed on them as a result of the war. After all, these things add up to a guarantee of a minimum livelihood for the laboring masses, which is undoubtedly the most urgent, immediate problem.

"The National Diet today is like the anteroom of the KOSUGE Prison. The corrupt political parties and the Government based on them do not have the right to handle state affairs in behalf of the 80,000,000 Japanese. How can the various bills be deliberated under the guidance of a Government so imcompetent that it was unable to give an administration speech? The Yoshida Cabinet should seek the peoples' mandate by dissolving the Diet. It is most distressing that the major political parties are misusing dissolution to further their own interests. I hope that in the coming general election the people will vote for those parties and politicians who have truly struggled for the benefit of the laboring masses."

KIKUNAMI Katsumi said: "With a general election facing us, we must once again think about the significance of the International Military Tribunal for the Far East. TOJO and six other defendants were sentenced to death by hanging, while 18 war criminals, headed by KIDO Koichi, were given varying prison terms including life. There are some people among the Japanese who feel pity for them. Taking advantage of this feeling, others have stated that the trials were a victors' trial and that the losers are always wrong.

What a dangerous idea this is! If this were the case doesn't it follow, in order that their sacrifices shall not have been in vain and so the country can recover from devastation, that the Japanese people will have to wage another war and win it? Without question this idea is a revival and strengthening of militarism. This is a very dangerous movement which would lead to the Japanese people's becoming once again the slaves of a fascistic militarism and to another great war.

"The misery of the Japanese people today is caused by the fact that the ZAIBATSU (TN: big financial combines), the bureaucrats of the Emperor System, conservative parties which serve them, and pseudo-socialistic parties---all of which groups led us to war--still retain control of JAPAN's Government and industry. The fault which we, the people, were guilty of during the war was not daring to express our opposition to the war, and deliberately blinding our cowardly selves to criticisms.

"Now that we are no longer blinded, we must make ourselves completely aware of the enemies of mankind. We will struggle against any government which ruins the people, and this is the determination with which I will face the forthcoming general election."

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ITEM 2 Negligible Results from a General Election - Seiji - 26 Nov 48. Translator: W. Hayashi. (TK)

Summary:

The Yoshida Cabinet's attempt to stabilize itself by securing a majority in the Diet through a general election is a natural political course. The idea that the corrupt Diet should be purified through a general election is also understandable. However, if one expects the present political confusion to be solved and the purification of politics to be realized by a general election, he will be greatly disappointed. We must understand that there are limits to the effect of a general election under the present political situation.

Political stabilization will never be attained unless an absolute majority party emerges. By taking advantage of the present reactionary popularity, the Democratic Liberal Party is claiming that it is confident of gaining an absolute majority in the Diet at the coming general election. However, when we view the present local political situation, it is apparent that the Democratic Liberal will not be able to add as much as 80 seats to its present 151 after the election.

Furthermore, in view of the fact that the Democratic Liberal Party's policies are all stalemated under the Yoshida Cabinet, the party's popularity among the people is beginning to cool. From these facts we can easily deduce that the Democratic-Liberal Party will be unable to gain an absolute majority at the general election.

Although the Democratic Liberal Party may emerge as the first party, there is little possibility of YOSHIDA's nomination as the next premier, and the political situation will again be plunged into confusion.

The reorganization and merger of conservative parties will again be advocated prior to and after the general election. However, it is clear that no party will readily accept the proposal by sacrificing their own assertions. We can only predict the usual ugly maneuvers in such a case.

The Democratic Liberals are attempting to impress the people that the general election is the only means of stabilizing the political situation. However, the results will contrarily bring about only further confusion. The people must bear this fact in mind.

We also cannot expect that the Diet will be reformed by a general election. The campaign fund is limited by the Election Law, but this regulation has never been observed strictly. Legal campaign funds will be set at around 130,000 yen this time. However, it is rumored that one or two million yen will be necessary for a candidate to win the election. It is apparent that an ordinary citizen is unable to raise such a huge sum. Consequently, only those who are wealthy or can obtain loans from the wealthy will be elected.

The evil results of such expensive elections are evidenced by various scandals. Therefore, unless elections are reformed, political scandals will never disappear. We can readily predict that the new politics after the general election will be based upon the same rotten foundation, whichever political party or Cabinet may emerge as the result.

We regret that the nation's democratization is yet far and remote. However, modern politics is not, and should not be, doomed to such pessimism. The fact that the election of a candidate is dependent upon the free will of individual voters is the key to political rehabilitation. If the people are able to give proper judgment as to what party and which candidate should they choose, the problem will easily be solved. We hope that true democratic politics will be established through such ideal political training and consciousness of the people.

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ITEM 22 Candidacy Should Not Be Restricted - Mainichi - 27 Nov 48. Translator: T. Fukushima. (UG)

Full Translation:

The ministerial and opposition camps, which are pitted against each other over the dissolution of the Diet, do not hesitate to work together for common interests. They are jointly preparing a bill for restricting the candidacy of public officials for submission to the Diet.

It is reported that the bill prohibits public officials, except special officials, from running for office within one year after they have resigned their posts. The bill has not come up for final decision, and there is a milder measure proposed which allows them to run outside the areas in which they have served. However, it is clear that the intention of both ministerial and opposition parties is to check the advancement of government and other public officers into the political world. For these reasons, we cannot favor such a measure.

First, it will be an encroachment on the basic human rights guaranteed by the Constitution, if public officials are deprived of the right to participate in political activites during a certain period of time, even though temporarily, after resigning their positions. Even if they are allowed to run for election outside of areas they had served in, they will still be politically discriminated against. On this point, even the advocates of the measure do not disagree.

Nevertheless, they reason like this. In rural districts there still remains the custom of placing government officials above the people, and this gives an undue advantage to public officials in time of elections. In order to prevent this evil as well as corruption and pre-election campaigns by public officials, it is necessary to impose a certain restraint upon their running for office.

We admit that government officials had an advantage over other candidates at the various elections last year, but this does not justify any step to hamstring them in election activities. The Government's arbitrary appointment of its officials may need some check, but public elections should be free from any restriction. If there occur corruption cases, it will suffice to deal with them individually. It is desirable for a public official to win the favor of the community while in office, and even if this circumstance favors him in elections, it is unreasonable to bar him from elections.

Apart from this generality, it is suspected from a political standpoint that the real purport of the proposed bill is to check the political activities of government workers as members of labor unions. In this connection, however, it will be reasonable to give the individual public official an opportunity to enter politics after his resignation, if the political activities of the government workers unions are largely restricted by the revised NPSL.

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The unions cannot become "sound unions" if deprived of the opportunity to send their representatives to legislative assemblies through public elections. It is a legitimate procedure for the unions to realize their political demands through the Diet, so that they should be allowed to send their delegates there through national elections!

One of the greatest faults of present-day politicians is to institute unnecessary restrictions. However, as an old Chinese adage goes, too many rules make people unruly. Democracy should be based on the good judgment of the people! It is tantamount to political inability to institute a general prohibition against a minor evil. The proposed bill not only embodies this attempt but reveals a base intention to exclude government workers from the Diet because of their union activities. This fact renders the bill doubly objectionable. The political parties evidently seek to compensate for their political impotence by the bill. However, they should retrieve their political fortunes instead of trying to oppress public officials.

The bill was opposed at the last national gubernatorial conference and the many mayor, town and village head conferences throughout the country. There is little need to add that the government workers unions are unanimous in opposition.

In this connection, however, the attitude of the Socialist Party is quite inexplicable. The party participates in the preparation of the bill, while it calls for the abolition of limitations on the political activities of the government workers unions suggested in the NPSL revision bill. Such contradiction should be stopped right away. If it backs the bill because any attack on bureaucrats tends to win popularity, its intention is malicious.

In conclusion, this bill is designed to have a double-barreled effect--to hamper the political debut of highranking officials and to exclude representatives of the government workers unions from the Diet. We should discern the real purport of this bill, planned to take advantage of the general unpopularity of bureaucracy. It must be borne in mind that criticism of bureaucrats is one thing and oppression is another. Above all, public elections should be fair and free.

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ITEM 7 General Election and the Problem of Party Funds - Provincial Paper: Daily Tohoku (Hachinoe) - 27 Nov 48. Tranlator: H. Furukawa. (TK)

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Summary:

Closely on the heels of the Showa Denko scandal, which is still threatening leading politicians, the state coal control scandal has appeared involving many Diet members. With the disclosure of these two big scandals together with numerous lesser ones, the people have been made aware of the corruption in political circles. It needs no explanation that all of these scandals must be thoroughly investigated in order to set up a democratic government under the new Constitution, replacing timocracy.

Briefly, the Showa Denko scandal concerns the illegal political donations made at the time of the Diet designation of ASHIDA as Premier, and the state coal control scandal relates to the buying over of Diet members in matters concerning the State Coal Control Bill and the merger of the conservative parties.

While the problem of party funds is attracting public attention because of the disclosure of numerous scandals, Premier YOSHIDA has confirmed the government decision to hold a general election within the year. All the political parties must therefore raise election funds under strict public observation. It is widely known that the funds of political parties have been obtained chiefly through illegal solicitations, causing the political parties to be subordinate to the contributors.

Since such method can no longer be permitted, some other reasonable and rational method must be found. Some people opine that the party should depend on donations from individuals. This, however, will become the cause of shady transactions. The method of charging the Diet members of the party with the collection of party funds is difficult to practice under present inflationary conditions, and is also liable to the above-stated danger.

It has been argued that the political parties should raise funds by selling party badges on the streets. Most people, however, are not such ardent supporters of political parties as to wear party badges. Some people argue that the political parties should run enterprises to raise necessary funds. It is almost impossible, however, to even make the ends meet not to mention raising political funds. Such enterprises will only become the nests of blackmarketeers.

So long as the political parties are recognized under parliamentary government, the people must bear the expenses of the political parties in some form or other. If the people refuse to bear party expenses, the political parties will be forced to entreat a few of the wealthier persons for aid, and act only for the interests of these few. The people, therefore, must realize their duty to make contributions to the parties they support, if they dislike corrupt politics.

The political parties must find some method by which to economize election expenses, because the people make donations only because of their sympathy toward party platforms. The political parties must seriously reflect upon the isolation of their movements from the people. In view of the coming general election we stress the above points concerning the problem of party funds.

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ITEM 3 Election Campaign Fund (Sub-Editorial) - Chuka Nippo - 28 Nov 48. Translator: T. Horikawa. (TK)

452

Summary:

Elections are expensive everywhere. It is said that at least 60,000,000 dollars were spent in the recent US elections. At this rate more than 1,000 millionaires willing to donate 50,000 dollars each, as DUPONT did to the Republican Party, would have been needed. This was impossible even in AMERICA, and labor unions topped the list of contributors.

Here in JAPAN, where a general election is imminent, all political parties as well as individual candidates have been maneuvering desperately to raise campaign funds. It is generally believed that a 2,000,000-yen minimum would be needed to be successfully elected, while with 1,000,000 yen, failure would be a certainty. Even in the recent ward-chief election in SUGINAMI, TOKYO, a candidate was said to have spent 2,000,000 yen.

Not only are the Socialist and the Democratic Parties hard hit with the arrest of their shrewd money suppliers, namely, NISHIO and NAGAE of the former and KURUSU of the latter, but the Democratic-Liberal Party also has been lamenting its scant party coffer since the apprehension of Party Councillor ONO and the retirement of other racketeer donation-collectors. Even the purse of leftist Socialist SUZUKI Mosaburo, with his alleged connections with financiers since the days when he was an economic writer of the MAINICHI, does not appear big enough from the advanced stage of "election phobia" of his leftist Socialist henchmen.

Hence, indications are that political donations hereafter will come chiefly from labor unions as in the UNITED STATES. The richest political party will therefore be the Communist Party. Inasmuch as President TRUMAN and his Democratic Party owed their victory to the monetary support by labor unions, it behooves the conservative parties here to renovate their party finance policy which so far has depended exclusively upon building contractors, blackmarket profiteers, and similar rich groups.

ITEM 10 Next Election and the Democratic-Liberals (Sub-Editorial) - Kogyo - 1 Dec 48. Translator: M. Minato. (CS)

452

Full Translation:

It is generally believed that the Diet will be dissolved about the middle of December. Both the Government and opposition parties foresee this situation. What will be the results of the next general election?

According to a certain minister of the present Cabinet, the Democratic-Liberal Party will probably gain 249, but at least 200, Diet seats. The extent to which the Democratic-Liberal Party will enforce its policies, when in power again, is unknown.

The administration of a nation, as seen in past results, is not so simple and easy as to allow any certain political party to administer as it wishes. This is fully evidenced in the fact that deliberations on the supplementary budget were not complete during the 3rd extraordinary Diet session.

According to Commerce and Industry Minister OYA, if the Democratic-Liberal Party continues in power for two additional years, commerce and industry administration in JAPAN will be greatly improved, resulting in a better livelihood for the people. However, such rapid rehabilitation is doubtful, since the war damage inflicted upon our national economy was extremely severe.

We challenge the single-party cabinet, under the hegemony of the Democratic-Liberal Party, to display its political ability before attempting to destroy the Government in a second term.

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ITM #2 Parties Prepare for Election after Passage of NPSL Revision - Tokyo Shimbun, 1 Dec 48. Translator: R. Ishii. (JJY)

452

Full Translation:

The National Public Service Law Revision Bill was passed by the Diet yesterday after slight changes. It passed the Lower House in the afternoon. The revision bill was approved by the joint session of the Diet the same evening.

Lower House Approves Joint Revision Bill

The Lower House plenary session was opened yesterday at 0625 hours. Four bills related to the NPSL--Postal Administration Ministry Bill, Telecommunications Ministry Bill, Government Railways Bill, and Japan Monopoly Corporation Bill--were introduced. During the discussion held after reports on the development of deliberation on the bills by Committee Chiefs OGAWARA (Cabinet) SHIMAMURA (Finance) and ARITA (Transportation) SASAKI Kozo (Socialist) made a speech against the passage of the bills other than the Monopoly Corporation Bill. NAKASONE Yasuhiro (Democrat) supported the bills, while TAKASE Den (Social Reform), HORIE Jitsuzo (Worker-Farmer), and HAYASHI Hyakuro (Communist) opposed them. The bills were then put to vote and passed by a majority.

The NPSL Revision Bill was next introduced. After a report on the study made of the bill by Personnel Commission Chief KAKUDA, discussions took place. AKAMATSU Isamu (Socialist) made an objection to the draft plan and the revision bill proposed by the conservatives while NEMOTO Ryutaro (Democratic Liberal), IKEZUMI Teitaro (Democrat), OSHIMA Tazo (Peoples Co-operative), TERAMOTO Itsuki (New Liberal), and NAKAMURA Torata (Farmers) supported the bill, MIZUNO Jitsuro (Social Reform), TAMAI Yukichi (Worker-Farmer)and TOKUDA Kyuichi spoke against the bill. The revision bill was then put to vote and approved.

Socialists Oppose to Last

The Socialist Party decided to oppose the NPSL Revision Bill and introduce its own revision bill as it became clear on 29 November at 2000 hours that the party's desire expressed in the joint revision bill of the three opposition parties--Socialist, Democratic, and Peoples Co-operative--would be rejected. Against this attitude of the Socialist Party, the Democratic and Peoples Co-operative parties filed a protest that an objection at this stage is an act of insincerity. This threw the Lower House Steering Committee meeting into confusion.

Speaker MATSUOKA of the House of Representatives, reporting the details of the situation to GHQ, called upon Chief WILLIAMS of the Parliamentary and Political Division, GHQ, together with Administration Chief OIKE, KATAYAMA, ASANUMA, SASAGUCHI (Socialists), TOMABECHI, HITOTSUMATSU, KITAMURA (Democrats), and MIKI (Peoples Co-operative) at 2200 hours the same day to find a solution to the deadlocked situation. However, the attitudes of the three parties being stubborn, a plenary session was again opened at 1155 hours, and it was decided to hold another session on 30 November at 1205 hours.

At 1300 hours, the Socialist Party held a secret Representatives meeting and listened to a talk by Chief WILLIAMS of the Parliamentary and Political Division. During the course of the meeting, conferences were held among KATAYAMA, MIKI, and TOMABECHI: ASANUMA and MATSUOKA; and MATSUOKA, KATAYAMA, and ASANUMA.

A Steering Committee meeting was held at 1600 hours yesterday and Speaker MATSUOKA reported that it had become impossible for the Socialist Party to present its own revision bill. Therefore, the Democratic and Peoples Co-operative parties decided to present a joint

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revision bill together with the Democratic Liberal, New Liberal, and Farmers parties. Thus, the Socialists' stubborn opposition brought the opposition parties' co-operation to a rupture and the joint revision bill of the three conservative parties passed the Diet with a majority vote.

Government Deliberates on Policies against Socialists

The Government, at its cabinet meeting yesterday at 1300 hours, deliberated upon its policies toward the Diet and the attitude of the Socialist Party at the time of the passage of the NPSL Revision Bill. The Government contends that the Socialists' attitude was counter to its pledges made to Gen MacARTHUR and the political agreement, and should such an attitude be allowed, Diet deliberations will be exposed to danger in the future. Therefore, the Government declares that it must carefully examine the attitude taken by the Socialist Party.

If the Socialist Party is going to take the same attitude during the deliberation on the budget, the political agreement to discuss the bill for two weeks will be threatened. Therefore, the Government decided to ascertain the attitude of the Socialist Party and then work out its counter policies.

Government to Speedily
Re-examine Public Pledges

Chief Cabinet Secretary SATO, in a press interview at noon yesterday, said:

"The Socialists' attitude of opposing the passage of the NPSL Revision Bill is definitely a violation of the political agreement made between the Government and the opposition parties. It is also against the pledges made to Gen MacARTHUR. The Government cannot allow such an unfaithful attitude immediately after a political agreement was reached among the Government, the ministerial party, and opposition parties.

"The Government should closely watch the Socialist Party in the future. It is going to speedily decide whether to cancel its public pledges after first discussing it with the Democratic and the Peoples Co-operative parties, which have kept their word. It is not impossible to imagine that Diet dissolution will not be necessary if the situation turns favorable."

Lower House Presents Changes

The Lower House Personnel Commission meeting was opened at 0500 hours yesterday. The meeting took up the subject of the joint NPSL Revision Bill proposed by the Democratic, Democratic Liberal, and Peoples Co-operative parties. In spite of the opposition by the Socialist, Social Reform, Worker Farmer, and Communist parties, it was approved by a vote of 13 to 9. The draft was approved by a majority vote and was passed over immediately to the plenary session.

Points of revision were as follows:

1) To add to article 1 provisions concerning the welfare of employees and the protection of their intersts.

2) Advice concerning wages and working hours which the Personnel Commission is to decide according to the prevailing conditions (Article 28) should gain the approval of the commission. (Paragraph 6, Article 12).

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3) Results of the study made of the standing rules on wages (Article 63), compensation (Article 95), and pension systems (Article 108) must be presented to the Diet and the Cabinet.

4) The Personnel Commission must see to it that losses suffered by employees because of action taken by the commission are compensated (Article 92).

5) The Personnel Commission should stipulate with regulations which government offices employees are forbidden to enter after they have been discharged (Paragraph 2, Article 103).

6) Employees holding concurrent public posts will be allowed to hold them until 30 Jun 48, irrespective of Paragraph 2 of Article 102 (Article 2 of the Supplementary Rules according to the first revision).

Upper House Revises NPSL Bill

The Upper House Personnel Committee decided yesterday morning to revise five points of the NPSL Revision Bill sent from the Lower House. The revision bill was put to vote together with the government revision plan at the committee meeting held at 1130 hours yesterday.

The provision regarded the most difficult point to revise Article 5 of the current law, which stipulates the appointment of personnel officials. However, if the complicated situation among various factions of the Lower House should necessitate a conference with the committee, it would give up the revision of the said article and try to pass the bill within 30 November.

Points of revision by the Upper House were as follows:

1) To classify Occupation Forces workers as special workers.

2) To classify workers of corporations designated by the Personnel Commission as special workers until 31 Mar 49.

3) To prohibit Imperial Palace guards, who are government workers, from forming unions as in the case of policemen..

4) To omit Paragraph 2 of Article 5 of the current law (if the appointment of personnel officials meets the approval of the Lower House and the opposition of the Upper House, the Premier should give priority to the approval of the Lower House).

5) To omit Paragraph 1 of Article 109 (cabinet ministers shall be punishable with a prison term of two years or less if they appoint unqualified persons as personnel officials).

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ITEM 3 Election Measures of Various Parties (Part I) - Mainichi - 3 Dec 48. Translators: B. Ishibashi and K. Murakami. (SS)

Full Translation:

As the fourth Diet session started discussions on the supplementary budget, its prime purpose, the political agreement between the Government party and the opposition parties to enforce a Diet dissolution immediately following expiration of the two-week discussion period, has been confirmed by the two.

The opposition parties are prepared to introduce a non-confidence vote and are hoping to win, through the discussion on the supplementary budget, most favorable conditions for the general election. It is,

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ITEM 3 (Continued)

therefore, expected that a serious offensive and counteroffensive will be waged between the two groups, centering around the controversial new wage base.

However, the main concern of all parties is quite apparently the general election. Not only the Democratic-Liberal Party, which got off to a quick start, but the opposition parties have begun preparations. The Democratic Party on 1 December selected INUKAI to head its election policy headquarters. The Socialist Party will formally work on its election policy by holding, on about 10 December, a national meeting of representative of its prefectural federations. Other parties, including the People's Cooperative Party, are working on their own election policies. A party by party examination of election policies follows:

Democratic-Liberal Party--The party not only heads the government with its minority-party cabinet but has been advocating dissolution since the formation of the Ashida Cabinet. Accordingly, the party's election policy has been established earlier as compared with other parties. In August, a Special Election Committee was established with President YOSHIDA as chairman and HOSHIJIMA, ONO, TANAKA Manitsu and OYA as vice-chairmen. The party had earlier been reorganized into the present Democratic Liberal Party through a merger with the former DOSHI KAI (Comrades Club) members and, following the reorganization, had established local chapters and made stumping tours of the country for the purpose of expanding its influence. Thus, it can safely be said that the party, while it was the opposition, "concentrated on preparations for elections." Such being the case, the party is now riding high on the wings of recent public opinion and its organized lower organizations.

No Disadvantage to Party

The DLP was not put at a disadvantage when the opposition predicted an early fall of the DLP Government when it came into power. Rather the DLP, in entire disregard of criticism, began selection of official candidates, and it now seems that it has succeeded in setting the stage for a dissolution.

The DLP's prime objective in the election is to win a majority in the Diet. To this end the party is very careful not to put up too many candidates. It will limit the number of authorized candidates to 300 and will not support unauthorized candidates. A decision has been made that if party members run as unauthorized candidates they will be "expelled from the party immediately". Also selection of candidates has almost been completed after due consultation with various local chapters.

The campaign is now being drafted, with the Political Affairs Investigation Committee as the nucleus of the drafting committee. To counter anti-DLP propaganda, the party will bring out that:
(1) Advocacy of liberalism does not mean conservative reaction.
(2) The criticism of the DLP that it is an ultra-right party or a boss-dominated party is baseless. (3) False propaganda regarding the party's lack of international confidence is likewise groundless.
(4) The two-party system is the ideal.

Moreover, in the field of concrete objectives, the party will vigorously advocate realization of the following planks which it publicly pledged while it was the opposition: