

3. Our Party's Monthly Organ "Kyodo" Published
The first number of our party's organ "Kyodo (Cooperation)"
was recently published on Apr. 19. This monthly journal is
compiled as a special number for agricultural cooperations and
chief treatise in it is "Agricultural Cooperative Association
and future of Japanese agriculture by Dr. K. Funada." The
circulation of present edition is one thousand copy.

-END-

Apr. 16. 1948

Government Section

G.H.Q.

Weekly Report

People's Cooperative Party

1. ✓ Chairman Executive and Secretary-General went in Miyagi Prefecture.

In view of drawing near of the by-election day at the second electoral district in Miyagi Prefecture scheduled on May 15 Chairman Central Executive Miki and Deputy General-Secretary Takeyama went to Sendai City in Miyagi Prefecture to select candidate for the by-election as well as to make stumping tour in that district, on Apr. 15. They will return to Tokyo on Apr. 18 at latest.

2. Recommendation of our Party's Diet Members to the Post of Vice-Ministership and Chairman of Committees of the Diet. At the Diet members' meeting on Apr. 13, Chairman of Central Executive Miki revealed opinion for the recommendation of Diet members to the post of Vice-Minister as well as Chairman of Committee of the House of Representatives and he asked for approval of the meeting as follows;

(Post)	(Name)
Vice-Minister of Transportation Ministry	Sakae Kinoshita (Chairman of Diet members' Council of the Party)
Vice-Minister of Commercial and Industrial Ministry	Tohei Komai (Member of the House of Councillors)
Chairman of Committee on Communications	Toyomitsu Kawano (Member of Central Executive of the Party)
Chairman of Committee on Repatriates	

Chairman of Committee on Repatriates Kinsho Kono (Member of Central Executives of the Party)

Chairman of Committee on Settlement of Kazuhiko Matsubara (Chairman of Representatives' meeting of the Party)

of Accounts

3. Date of Our Party's National Convention Decided

It was decided at the Diet members' meeting, on Apr. 13, that our party's regular National Convention would be held on a convenient day from 15 to 20 of next month at Tokyo. So the Secretariate of the party has begun to prepare arrangements for it.

Apr. 15, 1948.

People's Cooperative Party

1. Statement of Secretary-General of Our Party.

Interpellation of Deputy Secretary-General Yutaro Takeyama made at the plenary session of House of Representatives on March 24 has represented our party's opinion and explained our party's attitude to the Ashida Cabinet as well. The digest of his statement is as follows:

A. On foreign policy.

The total amount of expenses for control of reparation factory compiled in the present financial year's budget reached to 4,000,000,000 yen. So if only these reparation factories were released it would be a great help to the present Japanese precarious financial situation.

B. On rural and agricultural problems.

1. We see appalling evidences in various districts that the cultivating farmers were compelled to deliver their rice crops which were preserved for their family consumption owing to unreasonable as well as inefficient delivery of rice quota.

In this way it is a real fact that a certain number of farmers are not able to eat rice which they produced. In view of this grievous fact we ask the Government for making out appropriate counter-measures. We deem it necessary as well as reasonable to supply staple food-stuff at the producer's prices in stead of the consumer's prices.

2. At present actual features of Agricultural-Forestry Ministry appears to be, as it were, a Ministry for collecting agricultural products. We demand that Agricultural-Forestry Ministry should return to its own proper stand, that is, to a Ministry for increased production of food.

3. Though organization activities of agricultural cooperative associations are now under way this organizations of farmers as well as individual farmers are now most keenly in need of capital. So we ask for establishment of a special financial institution, an agricultural development bank for facilitating long-term credit for rehabilitation of agriculture as well as fishery.

C. On taxation problem.

Recent Government measures for raising of tax payment have invariably done grave effect on agricultural people at large. It is true, that raised prices of agricultural product in the inflationary days had brought about a certain amount of increased income to farmers. But now recently farmer's economy has become in reality at stake owing to heavy burdens of tax in addition to high prices of necessities for agricultural production. So we ask for revision of taxation system as we deem it necessary in face of grave consequence of heavy taxation in rural districts which now become one of serious social problems of present day Japan.

D. On education.

We feel most unsatisfactory for tardiness of carrying out of policies concerning general renovation of educational system as well as so-called 6:3 educational system, as we believe that the renovation of educational system is most essential condition for democratization of Japan.

So we request for an increase of appropriations for this object to be compiled in the new financial year's budget.

II. Measures for Stabilization of People's Livelihood.

1.) To secure least amount of calories necessary for people's livelihood through amelioration of feed-stuff policy, above all, by increased production of agricultural as well as fishery products and through punctual as well as efficient delivery of ration feeds.

- 2.) To secure delivery of fishes in large cities through so-called called "linked supply" system of production materials for fishing industry, and as for other areas except large cities all control measures for fishes and other perishable food-stuffs shall be lifted.
 - 3.) To secure people's diet through bringing about a direct connection between producer's organizations in rural districts as well as fishing districts and consumer's cooperative associations in urban districts.
 - 4.) To appeal to the Allied Powers for securing least amount of food and textiles necessary for livelihood of people.
 - 5.) To make out a program for construction of people's residential houses and organization of builder's cooperative associations, and to speed up reconstruction of housing in war-devastated areas.
 - 6.) To make out a large-scale development program for rivers and water-ways (inclusive of irrigation, embankment, land clearing and hydro-electric generation) and to make use of unemployed for these works.
 - 7.) To combine productive powers of repatriated, demobilized and other war-victims into cooperative productive companies.
- III. Measures for Increased Production.
- 1.) To speed up of coal production in compliance with the spirit and principle of so-called state control of coal-mines.
 - 2.) To request the Allied Powers for importation of heavy oils to be used for steel manufacturing, and to realize a priority delivery of coal for production of seven hundred thousand tons of steel.
 - 3.) To expedite productivity through compiling all reserved production materials into the program of demand and supply of

- materials after thorough investigation of production materials hoarded in this country.
- 4.) To rehabilitate small and medium sized enterprises through importation of materials for manufactured goods to be reexported.
 - 5.) To set up a five-year plan for development of electricity by revision of laws concerning electricity.
 - 6.) To realize productivity and rationalization of industry as well as administration cooperation of industry through organization of cooperative association among small and medium sized enterprises and utilization of administrative committee among large-scale enterprises.
 - 7.) To set up an administrative committee inclusive of representatives of people in each Governmental industries for their socialization as well as rationalization of administration.
 - 8.) To transfer the monopolistic Governmental industries as well as enterprises such as telegraph, telephone, railways, tobacco manufacturing to private owned industries or enterprises with the object of socialization of enterprises as well as improving of their efficiency.
 - 9.) To bring about and rationalization of transportation through organization of cooperative association of small-scale transportation facilities and intensification of control of land and sea transportation.

To: War + Pol Div.

Apr. 9, 1948

Government Section
G. H. Q.

Weekly Report

People's Cooperative Party

1. Candidate of Our Party was Elected at the By-election in Hiroshima Prefecture.

At the by-election of the third electoral district in Hiroshima prefecture our candidate ex-Diet member Atsuo Hirakawa was successfully elected as a second winner, gathering more than fifty thousand votes. Thus total number of our party-member has become thirty in all.

2. Three Party Conference on the Suspension of Interest Payment of War Bond.

The third three party conference on the problem of suspension of interest payment of war bond was held on Apr. 8 at the Premier's residence. It was agreed on that occasion to form a small committee composed of five members for arrangement of pros and cons on the problem. The result of the meeting of this small committee will be presented to the fourth three-party conference scheduled on Apr. 10. And then result of this conference will be reported as it is to the Government. Each Government party as well as financial and labor circles are represented at this small committee. Mr. Y. Takeyama, Deputy Secretary-General, was nominated as a committee member. Our party holds as ever an opposite stand against suspension of interest payment as it considers such such measure will give an evil effect and confusion in the financial circle.

Apr. 9, 1948

Government Section
G. H. O.

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APR - 7 1948

I. Brief History of the Party.

The present People's Cooperative Party was formed through amalgamation of the Cooperative Democratic Party and the People's Party on March 8, 1947, and the former was the re-organized successor of the Japan Cooperative Party.

The Japan Cooperative Party was organized on December 18, 1945, the year of Japan's surrender, through assembling about thirty Diet members at that time who had been cherished an insistent feeling toward right-wing conservatives as well as left-wing class-conscious political party. They are almost all elected from rural community and had more or less intimate relations with agricultural associations. Prominent leaders of this party were Mr. Sanehiko Yamamoto, late Mr. Tadao Igawa and Ex-Agriculture-Forestry Minister Kotaro Sen-goku. The Japan Cooperative Party undertook to expand its party's influence after the general election in April, 1946. So with the intention of initiating a expansion movement there was held a consultative conference inviting neutral as well as independent members of the Diet on May 7, 8, 1946, and after the conference favourable opinion for merger was generally prevailed among all members. Then at last the Democratic Party was organized as a reorganized and enlarged party of the Japan Cooperative Party on May 25, 1946.

The People's Party, on the other hand, was started as a new minor party recruiting thirty-four Diet members who had been chiefly elected from educators' circles in various provinces in Japan on September 25, 1945. As there was an

apparent kinship in their programs and policies of both the Cooperative Democratic Party and the People's Party a move for amalgamation had been promoted by the executive officers of the two parties. Thus after reaching to an accorded agreement at each respective party's general meeting an amalgamated new party was formally organized at the inaugural meeting held on March 8, 1947. The newly organized party adopted the name of "People's Cooperative" party expressing clearly meaning of the merger of the two parties by fusing of former each respective party's name. At first the new party had recruited seventy-five members but as early as on 30th of the same month thirteen members headed by Mr. Heima Hayashi seceded from the party to affiliate to the Democratic Party, a newly organized conservative party. The number of Diet members affiliated to the People's Cooperative Party decreased since the second general election and numbered 45 on April 25, 1947. But our party headed by Chairman of Executive Takeo Miki made an effective contribution to the formation of the Katayama Cabinet on Jun 1, 1947 and became a partner of the coalition government. And our party sent two ministers to the new cabinet, that is, Mr. Takeo Miki as Communications Minister and Mr. Junzo Sasamori as a Minister without Portfolio.

Controversial problem about new political party movement made its appearance in the latter half of the year 1947. It had been at first originated as a conference of Diet members to study the way of new politics under the new Constitution adopting the name of the New Political Council, but in

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reality it was revealed later to be a new political movement sponsored by National Farmers' Union members with national socialistic trait of thinking. So as our party made public its dissident attitude toward this new party movement from the stand-point of our long cherished middle-of-the road policy three Diet members headed by Takashi Hayakawa who had been tangled into too intimate relations with the Hirano clique seceded from the party. And after the resignation of the Katayama Cabinet and subsequent formation of Democrat President Ashida headed Coalition Government our party again assisted for the formation of the new cabinet from the stand of middle-road policy as well as of consideration of the present international situation.

Thus as a partner of the new coalition cabinet our party recommended Secretary-General Seiichi Okada for the Transportation Minister and Chairman of Political Affairs Investigation Committee Kyoji Funada for a Minister without Portfolio.

11. Platforms and Policies

A) Platform of the Japan Cooperative Party

1. Our party defends the Imperial line and intends to establish a democratic political regime based on the principle of an emperor and people.

2. Our party looks forward to establish a democratized new Japan and realize her industrial, economic and cultural reconstruction following the principle of cooperative association which is based on labor, independence and mutual love of people.

B) Platform of the Cooperative Democratic Party

1. We defend Imperial line and look forward to establish a democratic political regime centering around the national assembly which reflects people's will.

2. We intend to establish a democratized peaceful Japan and to realize her industrial, economic and cultural reconstruction in conformity with the principle of cooperation based on labor, independence and mutual love.

C) Platform of the People's Party

1. Our party upholds neither materialism nor spiritualism but asserts humanistic view of the world through practical pursuance of human love.

2. Our party intends to develop a new principle of people which aims at progress of moralistic world peace and respect of fundamental human right by surmounting all feeling of supremacy about nationality as well as social class.

3. Our party denounces terroristic despotism as well as abuses of degenerated political parties and is resolved to establish an ideal parliamentary politics which has direct relations with will of whole nation.

4. ✓ Our party intends to reorganize Japanese economic set-up in conformity with the tendency of international economic cooperation, and at the same time intends to construct a new people's economic regime in which there is neither exploitation nor subjugation and aims at greatest happiness and well-being of the whole nation through bringing about of harmony between socialism and liberalism.

5. Our party asserts that the principle of political renovation should be based on education and it intends to realize a bright and cheerful cultural community through active promotion of cultural as well as welfare policy under the guidance of ideal of "all-learning, all-laboring and all-enjoyment" of whole nation.

6. Our party intends to construct a road to regeneration of Japan through solidarity of whole nation as well as rousing all young and adult people who cherish national conscience and political enthusiasm.

D) 1. Platform of The Peoples' Cooperative Party

1. Establishment of peoples' government by parliamentary activities.
2. Reconstruction of Japanese economy through cooperation
3. Contribution toward international peace and cultural development based on humanism.

2 Fundamental Policy of The People's Cooperative Party

1. We, in compliance with trend of the world history intend to establish a parliamentary government which will always reflect people's will through abolishing all traces of undemocratic legislation and denying recourse to a violent revolution as well.
2. We intend to realize prompt decentralization of all organs for administration, economy and culture, rectifying excessive centralization of power, and to bring about benefit of culture as well as perfect democracy in rural districts by excluding all bureaucratic administration.
3. We comprehend that an economic revolution in a country with scanty natural resources as in Japan should be a socialization of economy through cooperation of people based on humanism in compliance with her people's characteristic nature instead of resorting to so-called Marxian socialism based on class struggle.

4. We aspire after production in the first place by excluding labor unrest as well as class antagonism. So we intend to establish a co-operative production set-up inducing all laborers to the management of enterprise as we deem it necessary for industrial reconstruction that the central operating body of enterprise should be composed of mental and physical workers besides entrepreneurs.

5. We intend to remove all vestiges of feudalism as well as bureaucratic landowners' rule from rural and fishing districts through co-operative organizations and reform of agricultural land system as well as fishing system. We also attempt to utilize surplus labors for increasing productivity of dairy-farming, agricultural forestry, light industry etc. toward modernization of rural and fishing districts.

6. We are convinced of the electrification of hydraulic power is the resources of power supply which are driving factors of industry in this country. So we insist on drawing up of a national program of electrification for rehabilitation of industry as well as for electrification of urban and rural districts toward development of communication, production and culture.

7. We acknowledge the decisive importance of small and medium size commerce and industry after the disorganization of monopolistic capitalist set-up has been completed. So we propose organization of co-operative associations in place of bureaucratic control organizations for develop-

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ment of these strata of industry through rationalization of management.

8. We demand the preservation and development of the sound middle class strata as cores of a rising nation.

So we expect elimination of poverty and prevention of ruin of middle classes which would otherwise be sacrificed under the rule of monopolistic capitalists, unearned propertied classes, black-marketeering new riches.

9. We aim ^{at} rationalization of living condition of people through organization of democratic consumer's co-operative associations.

10. We affirm the significance of so-called cultural innovation through educational as well as religious activities which are prerequisites for rehabilitation of our country. So we aim to promote science through affording equal opportunity for democratic education which respects personality of people at the same time through diffusion of religion. And we intend to contribute to world cultural development by fostering a nation saturated with faith, love and wisdom.

11. We attempt to enlighten women's political consciousness and at the same time lay claim to equal opportunity in education for women and want to abolish all social, economic and legal discriminations against women.

12. We put into effect welfare work measures for the demobilized, sick and wounded, repatriates, beleaved families, war victims with the intention of equalizing injuries and suffering caused by the war.

13. We uphold international industrialism in stead of a militaristic isolated economy and attempt to reopen promptly foreign trade as well as promote shipping for international free intercourse of goods.

14. We uphold humanism denying all ideas imbued with racial as well as class supremacy and we promote a new peoples' movement which respects fundamental human right on the one hand and promotion of moralistic international peace on the other.

II.	Numbers of Diet-members of the Parties	
1.	Japan Cooperative Party (Dec. 1945)	30
2.	People's Party (Sep. 1945)	32
3.	Cooperative Democratic Party (May 1946)	47
4.	People's Cooperative Party (Mar. 1947)	62
	Present number of members	38.
	(Members of House of Representatives:	29.)
	(Members of House of Councillors:	9.)

III. Executive Officers

1. Japan Cooperative Party;

Chairman of Central Executive Committee Sanehiko Yamamoto
 Secretary-General Tadao Igawa

Chairman of Political Affairs Investigation Committee
 Kyoji Funada

2. Cooperative Democratic Party: (May 1946)

Chairman of Central Executive Committee Sanehiko Yamamoto
 Secretary-General Tadao Igawa

Chairman of Political Affairs Investigation Committee
 Kyoji Funada

3. People's Party (Sep. 1945)

Members of Central Executive Committee Seiichi Okada
 Junzo Sasamori

Chairman of Dietmembers' meeting Kazuhiko Matsubara

Chairman of Political Affairs Investigation Committee
 Ryusuke Ikegami

4. People's Cooperative Party (Mar. 1947)

Secretary-General Takeo Miki

Chairman of Central Committee Seiichi Okada

Chairman of Political Affairs Investigation Committee
 Kyoji Funada

Chairman of Diet-members' Meeting Junzo Sasamori

(June 1947)

Chairman of Central Executive Committee Takeo Miki

Secretary General Seiichi Okada

Chairman of Political Affairs Investigation Committee
Kyoji Funada

Chairman of Members' Meeting of Both Houses Sakae Kinoshita

Chairman of Diet-members' Meeting Kazuhiko Matsubara

Deputy Secretary-General Yutaro Takeyama (Mar. 1948.)

V. Digest of Rules of the People's
Cooperative Party.

1. The People's Cooperative Party has its headquarters in Tokyo and its chapters in each prefecture.
2. The party aims at realization of its platform, policy, declaration and resolutions.
3. Members of the party are composed of those who approve of the platform of the party and observe the rules of the party.
4. The convention of the party is the supreme voting organ and it is composed of representatives of chapters as well as executive officers of the headquarters.
5. The convention shall be called by the chairman of central executive committee of the party once a year in spring. Extraordinary convention may be called on demand by prefectural chapters which numbers more than one-half of total chapters of the party. It may also be called on the occasion that the central executive committee deems it necessary.
6. Chairman and vice-chairman of the convention shall be elected at the convention.
7. Representatives of the convention shall be elected from representatives of prefectural chapters of the party.
8. The convention shall be formed more than one-half of its constituent members will be present. Proceedings shall be decided by the majority of the attendant.

9. The convention shall elect the chairman of central committee, members of central committee, secretary-general, accountant-supervisor.
10. Central committee is an executive organ of the party and shall conduct decisions of the convention.
11. Central committee is composed of members of the central committee and executive officers of the headquarters of the party.
12. Meeting of the central committee shall be called by the chairman of central committee. It may also be called on demand by committee members numbering more than one-half of total members of the committee.
13. Central committee may transfer its right to the control executive committee.
14. Central executive committee shall be formed with the object of conducting regular business of the party. Members of the central executive committee shall be elected mutually from among members of the central committee.
15. Central executive committee is composed of chairman of central committee, standing advisor of the party, secretary-general and other members of the central executive committee, chairman of political affairs investigation committee, chairman of Diet members' meeting, chairman of councillors' meeting.
16. Chairman of central executive committee shall represent the party and supervise business of the party.

17. Secretary-general shall assist the chairman of central executive committee and in case circumstances requires secretary-general shall carry on business of the party in place of the chairman of central executive committee.
18. Party expenditures are consist of headquarters expenditure and chapter expenditure, an amount of one share of headquarters expenditure is 5 yen for individual members and 1,000 yen for each chapter.
19. Amount of chapter expenditures shall be fixed by each respective chapter.
20. Diet members affiliated to the party are requested to contribute a certain amount of party's cost of maintenance in accordance with the decision of the central committee of the party.

Government Section
G H Q

Apr. 5, 1948

Weekly Report

People's Cooperative Party

1. Our Party's Demand for Post of Diet Committee Chairman
and Vice-Ministership

While our party represented two cabinet-members to the Ashida administration, Chairman of Central Executive Committee Takeo Miki requested the cabinet for ~~two~~ ^{three} posts of chairman of Diet committee as well as three Vice-Ministership (two from Lower House members and one from Upper House members). But until to this day our request has not yet been formally approved by the Government though the exact allocation of post will be revealed soon.

2. On the Problem of Agricultural Financial Institution.

Our party had already proposed a plan of establishment of a special agricultural financial institution, an agricultural development bank, on the occasion of formation of the so-called three-party-policy-agreement. But at the meeting of the Financial and Banking Committee of the Diet our party's demand has not been yet reached to complete approval but instead the Government financial authorities requested for our recognition about the Government proposal of establishment of a special agricultural credit section in the Rehabilitation Finance Bank to meet our demand. Although opinions of leading Diet members of our party are by no means favourable to this Government procedures that the measures

shall be acknowledged in the long run.

3. Our Party Reexamines its Agricultural Policy.

It is, to be sure, absolutely necessary for present Japan to increase staple food-stuff production for her self-sufficiency, but it is also necessary to make out counter-measures against agricultural crisis which will appear on heels of present inflation. So our party is now preparing for reexamination of its agricultural policy. So after completed our own agricultural program our party will propose it to the Government and at the same time it is expected to call to farmers at large about our program.

4. Chairman Executive Miki's Stumping Tour.

As our ex-Diet member Atsuo Hisakawa is slated to stand as a candidate for Diet member at the by-election of the third electoral district in Hiroshima Prefecture Mr. Miki, Chairman of Central Executive Committee, of our party has gone for a stumping tour to that district to assist the candidate on Apr. 2. He is expected to return to Tokyo on Apr. 5.

Pol. Office

Mar. 25 1948.

Government Section

G.H.C.

Weekly Report

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People's Cooperative Party

1. Our Party's Representation concerning Rice Price to the Government

In view of increased burdens fell on farmers' shoulders under the present spiral tendency of inflationary prices our party's Diet members meeting has decided to reexamine the rice price. on Mar. 24. So according to this decision our party's executive officers made representation about this problem to the Government as follows: Official prices of production materials which farmers purchase were exceedingly raised as compared with prices level in October last when the present rice price was decided by the Government. So at this juncture we deem it necessary to reexamine the rice price in accordance with the so-called parity counting. Difference between thus overall newly computed rice price and those of heretofore accepted rice price should be repaid to rice producer in accordance with his monthly delivery of rice quota.

2. Interpellation on the Prime Minister's Policy Address

At the plenary session of Mar. 24 Deputy Secretary General Takeyama of our party made an interpellation on the Premier's policy address, representing the People's Cooperative Party. Chief points which Mr. Takeyama has revealed in his interpellation are as follows:

a. What become of the position of Japan under the present critical development of international political situation?

b. Is it not an urgent necessity to promote economic

- inter-relationship between oriental nations?
- c. Recent situation of reparations problem and future view of recommendation of the Strike Report.
 - e. An educational problem and forecast on recommendations of American assistance program for Japanese Education.
 - f. Present situation of the allied aids for Japan as well as its forecast in the near future
 - g. Food problem: delivery quota, forecast of measures for food ration
 - h. Measures for increased production of food; 10 per cent production increase plan; land reclamation; measures for allocation of materials necessary for agricultural production, etc.
 - i. Financial measures, above all, measures against financial crises boomed to face with agriculture; establishment of special financial institution for agricultural development.
 - j. Taxation problem, above all, on rural taxation problems
 - k. Problems on cooperative association, as measures against small and medium sized industrialist and merchants; consumers' cooperative association; fishermen's as well as forestry cooperative associations. etc.

Politics
Mar. 19 1948.

Government Section
G.H.Q.

Weekly Report

People's Cooperative Party

1. Our Party's Attitude toward Labor Problem.

While the formation of new cabinet was hardly completed the Government is now confronted with a looming labor aggression through demand for an increased pay-roll by Government employees, above all, by the National federation of Communications Unions. On the other hand desperate demand proposed by electric industrial workers' organization is threatening critical occurrence of a nation-wide strike. In face of this labour's aggressive movement our party is now making overall investigation of the present labor situation though we, in principle, are always consistent to favour the legitimate demand of labor and we are well cognizant of the stand of the labor. But in view of present important moment of national as well as international circumstance it can not be allowed to suspend production activities even a day so we expect with all our heart cooperation of labor for production increase. As to the problem of proposed revision of labor law many labor organizations denounced the project as a "mal-revision", and now they are making a full dress attack against its procedure.

Our party is most cautious of tactics of labor which reveals without failure insinuation of communist fraction activities into labor movement. So we deem it necessary to prevent this undesirable tendency through lawful measures.

2. Conference of Executive members of Government Parties.

In view of grave political and economical circumstances of after the formation of new cabinet, it came to an agreement among three Government parties to establish most intimate relations for tiding various parliamentary problems over and it was decided to hold conference between chief officers of them. The first conference was held at the chief Secretary of Cabinet Chamber of the Diet Building on Mar. 17. On that occasion there discussed on the formation of the budget for the 1947-1949 fiscal year: labour counter-measures: problem of chairmen of various committees of Diet: inter-parties relations, etc. and they came to an accord.

3. Talks on Tax Policy

It is scheduled to hold talks and hearing about tax policy of the Government at our party room on Mar. 19.

p.m. 1. Chief of Revenue Bureau of Finance Ministry is expected present to the meeting.

Government Section
G H Q

Mar. 13, 1948

Weekly Report

People's Cooperative Party

1. Formation of The Ashida-headed Cabinet and Attitude of Our Party.

After the three-party-policy-agreement reached to an accord our party has revealed clearly its attitude as a Government-party of the new administration. But to realize our aims of cooperation with the cabinet formation, our party following the decision of our Diet members' general meeting, demanded to the Democrat leader for portfolios which shall be able to sat^{is}fy our party's policy into the new administration. While allocation of two minister's posts to our party was made clear on March 3 late afternoon, our party decided to demand Agriculture-Forestry post at its Diet members' meeting. So Chairman of Executives Miki requested to the Cabinet-formation headquarters to transfer Agriculture-Forestry post to the People's Cooperatives. Democrat President Ashida also agreed with our proposal as he deemed it proper for the People's Cooperatives at the present time when democratization of rural communities is most keenly demanded. But Mr. Ashida asked Social Democrat Chairman Katayama in vain to transfer the post as Socialist left-wingers strongly refused to deliver the post in accordance with its party's decision. So at the three top leaders' confab on Mar 9 the proposed cabinet formation came nearly to a dead-lock.

At last our party was compelled to concede our demand and submitted the problem for Mr. Ashida's decision, as we in principle deemed it necessary to form Ashida Coalition cabinet under the present national and international circumstances.

After having the last critical moment was thus overcome the cabinet-formation activities went smoothly and from our party members the following new ministers were appointed.

Secretary General Seiehi Okada to Transportation Minister
Chairman of Political Affairs Research Committee Kyoji Funada
to Minister-without-Portfolio, Director-General of the Cabinet

Administrative Affairs Research Section, concurrently.

On that occasion Chairman of Executive Committee Waki obtained a promise from Premier Ashida that our party's principle based on the-middle-of-the-road policy shall be pursued by the new administration.

2. Our Party's Representations for Execution of Education Budget.

In compliance with our party's decision on Mar 12, Deputy Secretary-General Takeyama and Messrs Matoba and Miyeshi, representing our Party made representations to Finance Minister Kitamura, Education Minister Morito and Agriculture-Forestry Minister Nagae about execution of the additional budget for 1947 inclusive of 1,300,000,000 yen for flood damage rehabilitation expenses and 650,000,000 yen for education expenses.

3. Nomination of the Deputy Secretary-General of Our Party
As Secretary-General Okada was appointed to the Transportation Minister Mr. Yutaro Takeyama was nominated to the Deputy Secretary General as his successor on Mar 10.

Rec'd 3/1/48

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Feb. 28, 1948

Government Section
G.H.Q.

Weekly Report

People's Cooperative Party

1. General Meeting of Diet members of our Party and Our Attitude toward Prime Minister-designate Ashida

Our party's Diet member's meeting decided to designate Democratic President Hitoshi Ashida to the prime ministership of the new cabinet, though some of the members had opposite opinion. As already reported in newspaper our party's Dietmen unanimously voted for Mr. Ashida at the balloting following the party's decision. Now the problem confronted with us is whether our party should become a partner-party of the new Ashida-headed administration or not.

But about this problem the general meeting of our Diet members decided to clarify our party's attitude after the three parties' policy conference came to a complete agreement. Most of our Diet members are inclined to support the Ashida-headed cabinet if the lines of our party's policy based on "the middle-of-the road" which excludes the extreme leftist's ideology, was taken.

2. On the Policy Agreement Committee

At the general meeting of Diet members of our party held on Feb. 25 it was decided to nominate three executive officers of our party as committee-men of the policy agreement committee proposed by the Democratic Party as follows:

Mr. Seiichi Okada, Secretary-General

Mr. Kyoji Funada, Chairman of the Political Affairs
research Committee.

Mr. Yutaro Takeyama, Member of the Central Executive
Committee.

The fundamental policy of our party was drawn up by the hand of the Political Affairs Research Committee. The important points of our policy are focused on increasing of production of key industries and food, curbing of inflation, democratic reorganization of the educational system. But in view of present devastated state of Japanese economy which necessitate importation of food, materials of production, credit from abroad, our party stressed on perfect reconstruction and prompt readjustment of our economic setup on the lines of democracy and cooperation of our people. The policy agreement committee meeting was already opened since Feb. 26. It is expected that it will reach to a perfect agreement in a day or two for early formation of a stable new cabinet.

Feb 19, 1948

Government Section,
G H Q

Weekly Report

People's Cooperative Party

1. National Farmers' Union Group and Our Party

Our party held a general meeting of Diet-members of both houses on Feb 17 1 p.m. to discuss about new party movement at the present precarious political situation. The National Farmers' Union Group made presentation to us for prompt formation of an arrangement committee for organization of a new political party through transformation of the present New Political Research Council but general opinion of our party was inclined to disapprove for acceptance of this proposal as we could not decide our attitude before the nomination of the prime minister was not yet decided. Against this party's decision three dissident Diet-members, Messrs Hayakawa, Akita, Ohara revealed openly their intention to bolt the party. And while our party's executive officers made every effort to induce them to return to the party fold, our party members have decided to proceed resolutely to consolidate themselves more firmly expelling the factional movement.

2. Presentation of Policy Agreement by the Democrats.

Our party held a Diet-members' meeting to confer on the ten-point policy proposed by the Democratic Party as well as nomination of the prime minister.

The proposed program is formulated within the framework of the Four-Party Policy-Arrangement which was made prior to the formation of the Katayama Cabinet, and our party decided to study it at the Political Affairs Research Committee.

As for the problem on the nomination of prime minister the meeting did not reach to a conclusion.

Rec'd 2/16/48

Peoples' Cooperative Party

1) General Meeting of Diet-members of Our Party

A general meeting of Diet-members of our party was held on Feb 12 1.30 p.m. at our party's room. At this meeting chairman of Executive Miki had spoke on the schedule for a conference of top leaders of four major parties and at the same time there was made an information about the New Political Research Council.

Top leaders' confab of four major parties was scheduled through Speaker Matsuoka's mediation. But Liberal President Yoshida had bluntly rejected Matsuoka's proposal revealing that unless nomination of the president of the Liberal party to the primeministership would not effected he would not present to the confab. So at last the scheduled four-parties conference had not been opened.

As to the problem on the New Political Research Council and a new party movement managers of the council demanded prompt organization of a arrangement committee for formation of newparty, but after heated discussions and debates this problem was transferred to a meeting of the following day, as it did not come to a conclusion.

So a second meeting of Diet-members was held on Feb 13 at 1.00 p.m. At first opinion of each Diet-member about the attitude of our party toward the new administration was revealed one after another. Most of them opined strong support for the formation of a liberal headed four-party coalition government, and at the same time powerful opinions were revealed by many Diet-members, if Liberal President Yoshida were nominated to the primeministership there should be made a policy agreement among four major parties. And if formation of a four-party coalition cabinet was doomed to fail at the present political situation of

Japan it would be envisaged to a formation of a three-party coalition government. But at this meeting there were strong opposite views against the coalition cabinet of Liberals, Democrats and Peoples' Cooperatives.

On the other hand many members approved generally if the coalition cabinet were composed of Democrats, right-wing Socialists and Peoples' Cooperatives. And a few members had revealed their opinion that they could not imagine formation of a coalition cabinet excluded the Social Democratic Party.

As to the problem concerning the New Political Research Council a few of Diet-members presented demanded prompt formation of an arrangement committee for formation of new political party.

But on the other hand there also powerful views were expressed apart from the new political party movement based on amalgamation of the National Farmers ^{they} asserted formation of a strong central party consolidating so-called third political powers, through cooperation of various political parties which would follow the "middle of the road" policy ranging from progressive Democrats to the right-wing Socialists.

And there were also opined by many members that the principles of cooperation should be held to the last as a fundamental ideas of the new party. In this way inspite of serious discussion, and heated debates they could not reach to an immediate conclusion, and in the long run it was entrusted to the executive officers to confer with the representatives of Diet-members of the National Farmers Union about postponement of decision on formation or not of an arrangement committee for new political party.

So at the present moment there are full of troubles in the way of the new political party movement for coming to a

complete agreement of all members.

2) Conference of the Secretaries-General of the Four Major Parties and our Party

A conference of the secretaries-general of the four major parties was held on Feb 12 to clarify the present chaotic political situation and to nominate a leading party to succeed the former Katayama cabinet.

Secretary-General Okada presented to the meeting representing our party. He stressed at this juncture, formation of a national coalition cabinet.

Secretary-General Tomabeji of the Democratic party revealed the same opinion. While, Liberal Secretary-General demanded nomination of Mr. Yoshida to the prime ministership in accordance with constitutional politics, but they did not reach to a satisfactory conclusion.

So conference was held on the following Feb 13 including representatives of minor factions but at this time also they reached to no conclusion. It is slated to continue the conference on the following day.

Recd 3/5/48

Feb 5, 1948

Government Section,
G HQ

Weekly Report

Peoples' Cooperative Party
1. New Political Party Movement and Our Party's Attitude.

Our party held a general meeting of the Diet-members at the parliamentary building on Feb 4, 2.00 p.m.

So called new party moves are now being initiated under the guidance of the Liberals and the Democrats respectively.

On the other hand the New Political Council sponsored by Diet-members of the People's Cooperative Party, Dai ichi Giin Club, Japan Farmers' Party including also so-called Hirano cliques, Diet-members of National Farmers Union, is now manoeuvring to form a new political party. Face with these political situation our party decided to call the Diet-members meeting for clarifying our attitude toward the new political party movement as well as our political stand point.

At this meeting Chairman of Executive Miki expressed his opinion on the remodelling of the setup and principles of the New Political Council which is so far chiefly guided by our party for taking a new start in the name of our party to call to all members of parties to join the council if they would agree to its policy of going-the middle of-the road.

But members of the council is composed of not only our party's Dietmembers but those of other party. So it was decided to propose to the secretariate of the council for presentation of our party's intention to all parties.

In the long run at this meeting it came to an agreement of our party to make efforts for strengthening of the principles of going- the middle-of-the way policy for future formation of a strong centrist political party in lines of the

New Political Council and to accept all members who consent with this cause and join us. At this occasion it was also decided to nominate five new secretaries of the Council from our party's Diet-members of secretaries ten in all representing our party.

2. Our Party Made Out A Consumers' Cooperative Association Bill

So-called livelihood cooperative society bill was discussed in vain among three Government parties' political affairs research committees during last session of the Diet to reach to an agreement. But our party now made out a bill concerning consumers' cooperative association bill through the initiative of a special committee of our party organized for this object and present to our party's co-partners, the Social Democrats and the Democrats for deliberations of it. And we are prepared to present to the Diet as a three-parties- accorded proposal if our bill would be accepted by our co-partner parties.

3. Nomination of Our Party's Executive Officers

Our party's Diet-members' meeting of Feb 4 following new executive officers were elected:

Chairman of the Council of the Members of

House of Representatives: Mr. K. Matsubara, Re-elected

Vice-chairman of ditto: Mr. T. Kawano, Re-elected

Chairman of General Council of Diet-members:

Mr. S. Kinoshita, Newly elected

Chairman of the Committee on Measures

for the National Diet: Mr. H. Ohara, Newly elected

Recd 1/31/48

Jan. 31, 1948

Government Section,
GHQ

People's Cooperative Party

Weekly Report

1. Meeting of the Executives of Our Party

A meeting of the executives of our party was held on Jan. 26 at our party's room to nominate a committee on measures for election campaign with the intention of strengthening our party's influences in each electoral districts.

It was decided to nominate one or two standing committee members among Dietmembers in each jurisdiction of our party's chapter which numbers eight in all. All Diet members of Upper and Lower Houses were also nominated as ordinary committee members to participate in the committee activities, and on that occasion Secretary General Okada was elected as the chairman of the committee.

2. Central Executive Committee Meeting of Our Party

Our party held the central executive committee meeting on Jan. 23, at noon. Objective of this meeting to decide our party's standpoint at the present delicate political situation where new party movements were promoted. But this meeting did not come to conclusion, so the problem was transferred to the Diet-members' meeting to be held on next day to deliberate orientation of party based on the accorded opinion of all Diet-members.

Opinion of our party expressed so far in the executive meeting was that it has nothing to do with the Democrats' new party movement except representation made by it for cooperation about policy adjustment. On the other hand as to the so called New Political Council it could not be accepted that this body would develop into a political party in near future as it is only a group of Diet-members

to investigate parliamentary politics. At any rate it came to an accorded understanding that our party should consolidate more firmly in view of present precarious political situation.

3. General Meeting of Diet- member held.

The general meeting of Diet- members of our party was held in Jan. 29 following the Central Executive Meeting of previous day. At this meeting it was discussed about the proposal made by the Democratic Party on the policy agreement as well as on the orientation of the New Political Council sponsored by our party. On that occasion it was also conferred on the importance of the political stage after the abrogation of the four-party-policy -agreement by the Social Democratic Party.

A few of Diet-members asserted to make clear our party's standpoint against left wingers of the Social Democratic Party. But after heated discussion and debates opinion of the meeting came to a complete understanding as follows:

a) To hold a top leaders' confab of the Government parties to deliberate on the fundamental principles for stabilization of the present grave state of affairs.

b) To make efforts for consolidation and development of a third political power on line with the New Political Council.

c) We approve the presentation of the Democratic Party on the readjustment of policy agreement. But conference on policies agreement should be held after the three-party-leaders-confab.

Recd 1/8/48

Jan. 8, 1948

Government Section

G.H.Q.

Weekly Report

People's Cooperative Party

Our Party's Attitude Toward The New Party Movement
Decided

Our party held an extraordinary Dietmembers' meeting on Jan. 5, a.m. 11 at the party's room of the parliamentary building. Issues on the relations between the New Political Council and the National Farmers' Union-members of the Social Democratic Party as well as so-called new political party movement were earnestly discussed at this meeting. And it was agreed on following points by all Dietmembers presented.

1. We insist on cooperatism to the last and are intended to act en bloc if occasion requires avoiding absolutely any fractioning movement.
2. We reject absolutely any activity which is contrary to the political morality.

In fact some members of our party took part in a new party movement through formation of the so-called New Political Council. But their activities are no less than efforts intended for enlargement as well as intensification of our

party's political power. It was also approved at the meeting that their movement was not fractioning activities and most of the informations reported in the leading papers in Tokyo were nothing but forged rumors which were at variance with the truth. At the same time the meeting came to an agreement that our party is to hold a righteous stand as a public party and will never join any new party movement which aims to overthrow the present Government.

0 Reel 1/2/48

Jan. 22, 1948

Government Section

G.H.Q.

Weekly Report

People's Cooperative Party

1. Dietmembers' Meeting of Our Party

Faced with the resumed session of the Diet our party held its Diet-members' meeting to discuss about the Parliamentary policy on Jan. 20 and 21 at our party's room. They debated actively on the current problems centered on the abrogation of the four-party policy agreement. Some of them insisted on to make an attack on the Social Democratic Party with grave determination and if necessary, decision to become an opposition party of the present administration because the Social Democrat, the leading party of the present coalition cabinet, abrogated the four-party accord on which present administration^{is} organized. This means raison d'être of the present Government is gone out, they stressed. On the contrary Chairman of Executives Miki as well as Secretary General Okada and other Dietmembers revealed their opinions that our party should wait watchfully developments of the political situation for the time being whether the actual execution of policy by the Katayama Cabinet is to be inconsistent with our party's policy. And in the long run after hot discussions among members the prudent opinion of the Executives overruled the meeting.

2. Committee Meeting for Advancement of Education of Our Party Held.

The Committee for Advancement of Education of our party held its meeting at our party's room on Jan. 21, p.m. 3.

Objectives of the meeting are speedy establishment of a new educational system centering around the so-called 6:3 educational system as the new educational set-up is fundamental conditions for the reconstruction of Japan on democratic lines. The meeting decided to ask the Government for a priority disbursement of the budget and disposal of former military establishments as well as building materials for this purpose.

Rec'd 4/16/48

Jan. 15. 1948

Government Section

G. H. Q.

Weekly Report

People's Cooperative Party

*Copy - Swape
Avery to
Kadilla*

1. Economic Emergency Measures made out by Our Party's Political Research Committee.

A meeting was held at our party's room on Jan. 14 to confer on the economic emergency measures proposed by the Political Affairs Research Committee of our party in connection with basic principles for compilation of the new fiscal year's budget. Chairman of Party and Communications Minister Miki, State Minister Sasamori, General Secretary Okada, Chairman of Political Affairs Research Committee Funada, Foreign Vice-Minister Matsumoto, Messrs, Akita, Ishida, Yaguchi, Dietmembers who are staying in Tokyo presented to the meeting.

Basic principles of the proposed measures are as follows:

1. Program for economic planning be carried out exclusively for foods and key industries in relation to their production, transportation, distribution and financing. But other economic activities be put to the free transaction through utilization of voluntary organizations such as co-operative associations with object of realizing production increase by giving impetuous to individual free initiatives.

2. Surplus of foods left at farmers' hand after

delivery of allotted rice quota is complete be bought by the Government at a special price, and these amount of food be pooled for planned distribution.

3. The present control system on perishable foods, wood and charcoal be reexamined with the object of removing bottle neck in transportation and at the same time their distributing route be rationalized through utilization of co-operative associations.

4. Though economic control for production and distribution should be applied to key industries and power generating establishment such as coal, iron and steel, chemical fertilizers and electricity, the economic control on other sphere activities be of economic abolished.

5. Producer's delivery price of staple foods, official price of controlled goods and wage standard be revised through all-around re-examination of present prices situation.

6. Establishment of a special central agricultural bank for development as well as improvement of farmland and forestry.

2. Basic Principles for Compiling New Budget.

The basic principles of our party for compiling the 1948-49 budget which are proposed to the Government are as follows:

1. The new National budget be compiled on a constructive basis in anticipation of an economic panic.
2. The release of financial funds be made, with priorities placed on the collection of quota foods and increase of productivity.
3. The estimates for the enforcement of the 6.3 educational system be given preference.
4. A long-range economic plan be worked out in order to maintain a "sound Finance".
5. The national budget be compiled on the basis of the current price setup.
6. A retrenchment be made in the new budget by taking into account the projected administrative reform and readjustment.
7. No suspension of payment of interest on war-time bonds and blocked deposits be made, to the contrary, interest rates be lowered and redemption term postponed.
8. Public works be started as an unemployment relief measure.
9. No high rate progressive taxation be enforced so as not impede increase production and curb the working desire of laborers.
10. A national salvation tax payment campaign be inaugurated.
11. Taxed on the new yen rich be imposed.