such as a Tourist Industry Committee, be instituted in the Cabinet. The desirability of realizing the adoption of these measures was strongly urged on the Government representatives who were present at the Committee meetings. The Government representatives appreciated the necessity of establishing a Committee of that kind, and promised to use their efforts for its realization.

2. Investigations Concerning the Means of Promoting a Healthy Development of the Tourist Industry.

From the explanations concerning the actual conditions of the tourist industry, made by the various agencies of the Government and the representatives of the private bodies concerned, as well as from the preliminary investigations made into the representations and petitions received, the Committee has arrived at the view that it is necessary to take steps for promoting a healthy development of the tourist industry, generally along the following lines:

(1) It is desirable that the central and local administrative authorities should, with special strictness, implement the existing laws and regulations relating to the protection of Preserved Forests and Scenic Forests; the maintenance of the agreeable appearance of urban centers and Scenic Beauty Areas; the maintenance of scenic beauty in National Park Zones; the control of advertisements in urban centers, in Scenic Beauty Areas and along railroads; the preservation and protection of National Treasures, Important Objects of Fine Art, Historic Spots, Scenic Spots and Natural Preserves; and other matters.

(2) It is desirable that adjustments should, from the standpoint of the tourist industry, be made by such means as exception-making or alleviative provisions in regard to the implementation or execution of the Farmland Law, the Program for the Rehabilitation of War-Damaged Houses, etc.

(3) It is desirable that increased appropriations on a priority basis should be made in the Budget to obtain the funds required for the preservation and protection of National Treasures, Important Objects of Fine Art, Historic Spots, Scenic Spots, Natural Preserves, etc.; for the purchase by the State of National Treasures, Important Objects of Fine Art, etc.; and that State-owned forests should be utilized to ensure the supply of materials needed for the repair of Special Buildings.

(4) It is desirable that the existing regulations for the control of interpreters, foreign-style hotels, Japanese hotels, hot spring resorts, etc. should be revised to the end that new regulations can be enacted, not only for the control of these services, but also for emphasizing their promotion.

(5) In actual practice, tourist industry facilities are, in regard to jurisdiction, scattered in various agencies of the Government: roads are under the Home Ministry; means of communication, under the Transportation Ministry; hotel accommodations, under the Transportation Ministry and the Welfare Ministry; the intra-park equipment of National Parks, under the Welfare Ministry; sanitary and medical facilities, under the Welfare Ministry; and physical culture and cultural facilities, under the Education Ministry, the Welfare Ministry, the War-Damage Rehabilitation Board, etc. Therefore, it is desirable that theer should be an overall adjustment of the business concerning tourist industry facilities, and that such businesses should be conducted on a priority basis. It is also desirable that an overall strong structure, for example, a Committee directly responsible to the Cabinet, should be instituted in Tokyo, for the purpose of effectively promoting the tourist industry.

(6) At present, tourist industry facilities are treated as Class B industry in regard to its equipment. and as Class C industry in respect of its working capital. Since equipment and funds are the fundamental needs of the tourist industry, it is desirable that their allocation should be made in a manner similar to that for important industries.

(7) It is desirable that hotels, a Central Banking Corporation, or other means should be taken up for consideration to obtain sources of funds for tourist industry facilities.

(8) It is desirable that, by school education, lessons, etc. for juveniles and by general social education, efforts should be made for such cultural knowledge and culture on the part of the people as are necessary for the execution of the tourist industry.

(9) While it is necessary to make Japanese culture, scenery, resources, equipment, etc. better known abroad in an attempt to induce foreign tourists to come to these shores, yet the necessity is recognized of re-making investigations and studies regarding such matters from a new postwar standpoint as different from those adopted before the war.

10) It is already clear, in the light of public opinion and of the actual conditions, that it is necessary to carry out a postwar reconstruction of the tourist industry and to take positive measures for its development, but the actual state of affairs is that, unless the State makes it definitely manifest that it really has an intention of taking up the tourist industry an important part of the national policy of the new Japan, both the Government and the people are unable to take concrete steps for proceeding with the promotion of this industry. Therefore, it is desirable that the Diet, with full recognition of this actual state of affairs, should manifest an intention to that effect.

The above points constitute the conclusion at which the present Committee has arrived with respect to the tourist industry of today. The Committee deliberated on the advisability of adopting a resolution and, after decision of the House, of making the resolution know to the Government and the people. In the meantime, however, a petition was received for the formulation of a national policy concrning the tourist industry, and also another for the establishment of a Tourist Industry Council, and the favorable intentions of the Government authorities became clear. Accordingly, it has been decided to wait and watch the situation for some time before considering the presentation of a resolution by decision of the House, and consequently to reserve the proposal for a resolution.

It is the agreed opinion of all the Committeemen that the Diet should still further make adequate investigations and studies with a view to healthy development of the tourist industry. The conclusion has been reached that, on the basis of such investigations and studies, efforts should be made for the promotion of the tourist industry as a part of nationl policy.

Signatures of the Committeemen Holding the Majority Opinion

Tsuyo Mishima
Katsuzo Wakaki
Raitei Tokugawa
Kinai Matsuno
Yobun Kaneko
Tondo Raima
Jiro Miki
Gesshu Iwamoto
Shinko Okuma
Hajime Miyoshi

Kan Takada

(Mr. KANEKO, Yobun takes the rostrum.)

Mr. KANEKO: I should like to report on an investigation of the laws relating to publication which has just been taken up for discussion. My Committee applied for the President's approval of an investigation on the subject on August 28. And as having obtained his approval, we appointed a Sub-Committee to proceed with the matter. Since it was over, my Committee sent in a Written Report on its findings to the President on December 4. This Report is divided, into the following parts—the Process of investigation, Readjustments of laws relating publication; what to do about the Copyright Law and the Presentation arrangement I would like to give the main points of it. Publication of Coarse and unsound printed matters whose authors mistake licence for liberty is still going on. From the viewpoint that we should prevent evil influences of such publications and protect good and sound ones, we have ascertained the views of competent authorities an opened Public Hearings for evidences of the civilians and Government officials concerned in order to make thorough researches on this subject. Consequently, we may recommend the following as some present urgent measures:

1. As people concerned with publication seem to be wanting in legal knowledge, the application of the existing laws shall be made complete.

2. As a tendency to self-control has appeared among the publishing world it should be as much encouraged as possible.

3. But as the Publication and the newspaper Laws have become void and the Copyright Law has defects without doubt, the ideal laws in conformity with the spirit of the new constitution should be enacted to take their place in the near future.

4. It is necessary to start an investigation concerning the present day copy arrangement at once in order to establish it as speedily as possible.

Secondly, I should like to report on Tourist Trade. Tourist Trade is bound to play an important role in Japanese economic and cultural rehabilitation. Our Committee in charge of this subject as the Cultural Affairs Committee has proceeded with its investigation by appointing a sub-committee with the approval of the President on August 21, 1947. When the enquiries had been finished our Committee sent in a Report to th President on December 4.

The Report is divided into the following 2 parts:

1. The investigation of Petitions and Representations concerning tourist business.

2. The policy for sound development of tourist trade.

The conclusion in the first part is that a powerful coordinative Institution, such as a Tourist Trade Commission, should be established in order to take up Tourist Trade as one of the national key-industries. In the second part it is proposed that from the legal and administrative angles, practical measures for protection, improvement and promotion shall be taken in various lines of Tourist Trade, such as scenic spots, national treasures, natural monuments, buildings, roads, traffic, interpreters, hotels, hot-springs, education and necessary materials. It is without doubt impossible to reach definitive conclusions during a single session of the National Diet, and so we deem it necessary to study this question further hereafter. But we deem that the Report submitted by the Sub-committee shall be not a small contribution to the Tourist Trade policy, and accordingly have approved it unanimously. For further particulars of the above-mentioned two matters, I should refer to the Reports addressed to the president. (Applause.)

The President: The order of the Day for today's sitting has come to an end. The Order of the Day for the next meeting will be notified through the Official Bulletin soon after it is fixed. Today's session is adjourned.

The meeting rose at 0:17 p.m.

The Members in attendance were as follows:

The President
Mr. MATSUDAIRA, Tsuneo
The Vice-President
Mr. MATSUMOTO, Jiichiro
The Members
Mr. ITANO, Katsuji and 161 others.
The Government Delegates
The Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Finance Mr. KOSAKA, Zentaro
The Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Transportation
Mr. TANAKA, Genzaburo
The Secretary of the Ministry of Transportation.
(The Director of the Land Transportation Control Bureau
Mr. GONO, Motohide.

THE HOUSE OF COUNCILLORS

The 1st Session of the National Diet

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE EXTRA

昭和二十一年十一月三十日　第三種郵便物認可

No. 64　　Monday, December 8, 1947　　Price ¥13.00

Minutes of the Proceedings in the House of Councillors

December 7 (Sunday) 1947 Meeting opened at 10:38 a.m.

The Order of the Day No. 63 To be opened at 10 a.m.

No. 1. Bill Concerning the Readjustment of the Related Laws Necessitated by the Revision of the Civil Code (Submitted by the Cabinet and forwarded from the House of Representatives). (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 2. Bill for exceptional cases to the Qualification of the Appointment of Vice-prosecutor (Submitted by the Cabinet and forwarded from the House of Representatives). (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 3. Bill for Partial Amendment of the Law-Court Art (Submitted by the Cabinet and forwarded from the House of Representatives). (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 4. Bill for Partial Amendment of the Postal Life Insurance Law, etc. (Submitted by the Cabinet and forwarded from the House of Representatives). (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 5. Bill for partial Amendment of the Special Account Law, etc. for Foodstuffs Control (Submitted by the Cabinet and forwarded from the House of Representatives). (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 6. Bill concerning the Sum to be transferred from the General Accounts to meet the Resources to bear the Expenditures for the Mutual Relief Instalment relating to the Mutual Aid of Flooded Paddy which shall be charged on the Special Account for Foodstuffs Control under the Agricultural Accident Compensation Law in the Fiscal Year 1947-48 (Submitted by the Cabinet and forwarded from the House of Representatives). (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 7. Bill concerning the Payment of the Special Allowance for Taxation Business to the Government Officials in the Finance Bureau and the Taxation Offices (Submitted by the Cabinet and forwarded from the House of Representatives). (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 8. Bill for partial Amendment of the Local Government Law (Submitted by the Cabinet and forwarded from the House of Representatives). (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 9. Petition concerning the Establishment of the Sendai High Court in Akita-shi. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 10. Petition concerning the establishment of the Establishment of the National Hereditary Laboratory. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 11. Petition concerning the Continuance of the Acupuncture and Moxa cautery of the Blind (2 Matters). (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 12. Petition concerning the Enactment of the Moxibustion-Acupuncturist Law. (3 Matters). (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 13. Petition concerning the Continuance of the Acupuncture and Moxa-cautery of the Blind School Boys. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 14. Petition concerning the Raise of the Regional Allowance in Kumamoto-shi. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 15. Petition concerning the Acceleration of the Railway Service between the Gojo and the Shingu Stations. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 16. Petition concerning the Speedy Electrification of the Tokaido Railway between the Numazu and the Hamamatsu Stations. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 17. Petition concerning the Speedy Electrification of the Joban Railway between the Matsudo and the Taira Stations. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 18. Petition concerning the Electrification Works for the Joban Railway between the Matsudo and the Abiko Stations. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 19. Petition concerning the Electrification Works for the Bisatsu Railway. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 20. Petition concerning the Restoration of the Dismantled Section on the Satsu-Numa Line. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 21. Petition concerning the Speedy Electrification of the Joban Railway betwen the Matsudo and the Abiko Stations. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 22. Petition concerning the Speedy Construction of the Railway between Tominai and Tokachi-Shimizu in Iburi-koku. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 23. Petition concerning the Restoration of the Omuda Station. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 24. Petition for making the Saigo Signal Station on the Tohoku Main Line the Goods and passenger Station. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 25. Petition concerning the Extension of the Government Electric Line to Odawara. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 26. Petition concerning the Construction of the Railway between the Nobetsu and the Muikamachi Stations. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 27. Petition concerning the Construction of the Railway between Futamata and Sakuma, Iwata-gun, Shizuoka-ken. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 28. Petition concerning the Construction of the Boat-train Railway of the Aburazu Port. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 29. Petition concerning the Speedy Electrification of the Tokaido Railway between the Numazu and the Hamamatsu Stations. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 30. Petiiton concerning the speedy Opening of the Oito through Line. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 31. Petition concerning the Construction of the Railway between the Hamahara and the Tokaichi Stations. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 32. Petition concerning the Construction of the Railway between Imaichi, Tochigi-ken and Tajima, Fukushima-ken. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 33. Petition concerning the Restoration of the Shirotana Railway. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 34. Petition concerning the Electrification of the Tosa Railway. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 35. Petition concerning the speedy Electrification of the Bisatsu Railway. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 36. Petition concerning the Issue of the Special Postagestamp "Promotion of Education." (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 37. Petition concerning the Raise of the Furano Special Post Office, Hokkaido to the Status of the Post Office. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 38. Petition concerning the Establishment of the Post Office in front of the Aizu-Takada Station. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 39. Petition concerning the Construction of the New Building and the Improvement of the Exchange Method of the Sano Post Office, Tochigi-ken. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 40. Petition concerning the Creation of the Toyozawa Post Office at Toyoda-mura, Katsuta-gun, Okayama-ken. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 41. Petition concerning the Commencement of the Telegraphic, Telephonic and Exchange Services of the Utagaki Post Office, Osaka-fu. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 42. Petition concerning the Establishment of the Post Office at Moto - Soja - mura, Gumma - gun, Gumma-ken. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 43. Representation concerning the Improvement of the Welfare Facilities for the Coal-Miners. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 44. Representation concerning the Increase of the Pension for School Teachers. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 45. Representation concerning the Better Conditions of the School Teachers . (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 46. Representation concerning the Measures against the Electric Power Famine for Wintertime. (Report of the Committee Chairman).

No. 47. Representation concerning the Electrification of the Railways between the Utsunomiya and the Omiya Stations on the Tohoku Main Line, between the Utsunomiya and the Nikko Stations, on the Nikko Line and between the Koyama and the Takasaki Stations, on the Ryomo Line. (Report of the Committee Chairman.)

No. 48. Representation concerning the Electrification Works for the Shinetsu Railway between the Takasaki and the Yokokawa Stations. (Report of the Committee Chairman.)

No. 49. Representation concerning the Speedy Electrification of the Tokaido Railway between the Numazu and the Hamamatsu Stations. (Report of the Committee Chairman.)

No. 50. Matter pertaining to an Investigation in respect of the Local Finance and Administration. (Report of the Committee Chariman.)

No. 51. Matter pertaining to the Surveys of the Flood-disaster Conditions in the Tohoku and the Hokuriku District. (Report of the Committee Chairman.)

No. 52. Matter pertaining to an Investigation in respect of the Measures against the Flood-disaster. (Report of the Committee Chairman.)

No. 53. Matter pertaining to an Investigation in respect of the Fresh Foodstuffs and the Fruits and Vegetables. (Report of the Committee Chairman.)

No. 54. Matter pertaining to an Investigation in respect of the Electric Power. (Report of the Committee Chairman.)

No. 55. Matter pertaining to an Investigation in respect of the Coordinative Fuel and the Measure against the Electric Power Famine. (Report of the Committee Chairman.)

The President (Mr. MATSUDAIRA, Tsuneo): If there is no objection, the reading of the various Reports will be omitted.

REPORT

On December 5, The President referred the following Cabinet Bills to the Commitees concerned for a preliminaly examination:—

The Bill concerning the Application of the Urban Buildings Law.

Referred to the National Land Planning Committee.

The Bill concerning the Grant to the Bank of Japan necessitated by paying the Part of the Sum which corresponds to the Non-Withdrawn Issue Amount of the Bank-notes issued by the Bank of Japan. The Bill for Exceptional cases to the Income Taxation on the premium of Hypothec Debenture, etc.

Referred to the Finance and Banking Committee.

The Bill concerning the Concession or Lending and collection of charges for use of Lands and Buildings necessitated for the Harbor Works connected with the Home Trade Facilities Provided by the Country.

Referred to the Transportation and Traffic Committee.

On December 6, the following Cabinet Bill was received from the Cabinet for a preliminary examination and forthwith referred to the Budget Committee by the President:

The Bill revising the general Accounts Budget for the Fiscal Year 1947-48 (No. 11).

On the same day, the following Bill was received from the Cabinet for a preliminary examination and forthwith referred to the Finance and Banking Committee by the President:—

The Bill for the Temporary Money Rates Adjustment Law.

On the same day, the following Bills received from the Cabinet for a preliminary examination were referred to the Finance and Banking Committee:—

The Bill Revising the Special Account Law for Trade Finds.

The Bill concerning the Gratis Lending and Concession of Articles.

The Bill concerning the Sum to be transfered from the General Accounts to Make up the Deficit of Annual Revenue for the Fiscal Year 1945-46 in the Special Account for the Deposits Division of the Finance Ministry, the National Railway Special Account, the Communications Enterprise Special Account, and the Insurance Account and the Pension Account under the Special Account Law for Postal Life Insurance and Postal Pension. The Bill concerning the Temporary Allowance to the Government Officials.

On the same day, the following Cabinet Bills were received from the Cabinet and forthwith referred to the Committees concerned:—

The Bill Revising the General Account Budget for the Fiscal Year 1947-48 (No. 10).

The Bill Revising the Special Account Budget for the Fiscal Year 1947-48 (Spec. No. 5).

Referred to the Budget Committee. The Bill for Partial Amendment of the Petroleum Distribution Public Corporation.

Referred to the Commerce Committee.

The Bill for the Temporary Measures Law for the Distribution of Profits from the Company. The Bill concerning the Allowance to the Non-Demobilized Persons.

Referred to the Finance and Banking Committee.

The Bill for the Establishment of the Construction Office.

Referred to the Audit Committee.

The Bill for the Police Law.

Referred to the Public Safety and Local Government Committee.

The Bill for the Foodstuffs Hygienic Law.

The Bill concerning the Profession of Massage, Acupuncture, Moxa-cantery and Judo Bone-setting, etc.

The Bill for the Dentist Law. The Bill for the Barbers and Beauty Artists Law.

Referred to the Welfare Committee.

The Bill for Partial Amendment of the Marine Insurance Law.

Referred to the Transportation and Traffic Committee.

The Bill for Partial Amendment of the Local Taxation Law.

Referred to the Public Safety and Local Government Committee.

The Bill for Partial Amendment of the Law No. 121 of 1947. (Law concerning the Appointments and Removal of the Government Officials until the National Public Services Law Become Effective)

Referred to the Audit Committee.

On the same day, the following Cabinet Bill was submitted by the House of Representatives and forthwith referred to the House Management Committee:—

On the same day, a notification was received from the House of Representatives to the effect that it had approved the following Cabinet Bill forward from this House:—

The Bill for the control of the Preparations other than Medicines.

On the same day, a notification was received from the President of the House of Representatives to the effect that the promulgation of the following Laws had been reported to the Throne:—

The Bill concerning the Revision of Law No. 39, 1939, concerning Reduction, Exemption and Postponement of collection of Taxes for Sufferers and The Bill concerning the Oath and Testimony of Witness in the Houses. Calamities, etc.

The Bill for the Law prohibiting the Forgery of Revenue Stamp, etc.

The Bill for the Road Traffic Law.

The Bill for the Control of the Preparations other than Medicines.

On the same day, the House decided to adopt the following Petitions and Representations and forthwith forwarded them to be Cabinet with the Statements of opinion:

The Bill concerning the Oath and Testimony of Witness in the Houses.

On the same day, the House notified the House of Representatives of the approval of the following Cabinet Bills received from the House of Representatives:—

The Bill for the Law concerning the Revision of Law No. 39, 1939 concerning Reduction, Exemption and Postponement of Collection of Taxes for Sufferers from Calamities, etc.

The Bill for the Law Prohibiting the Forgery of Revenue Stamps, etc.

The Bill for the Road Traffic Law.

The Bill for the Control of the Preparations other than Medicines.

On the same day, the following Petitions and Representations whose adoption was decided on, were forwarded forthwith to the Cabinet with Written Suggestions attached to them.

Petition concerning the Treatment of Buko County in Hyogo Prefecture as a City.

Petition concerning the Repairing Works of the Onahama Harbor.

Petition concerning the Urgent Execution of Sand Prevention Works in Hiroshima Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Measures against a Landship of the Chausu Mountain in Nagano Prefecture and the Improvement Works of the River Okada.

Petition concerning the Measures against Landships and the Execution of Sand Prevention Works in Both Prefectures of Niigata and Nagano.

Petition concerning the Continuation of Sand Prevention Works of the River Shohoji.

Petition concerning the Sand Prevention Works of the River Hase.

Petition concerning the Sand Prevention Works of the River Irasuke.

Petition concerning the Restoration from Disaster, the Opening of the Port and the Establishment of Safety Sea Base in the Sakata Port.

Petition concerning the Restoration Works from Disaster of Itsukushima Town in Hiroshima Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Sand Prevention Works of the River Umamigasaki.

Petition concerning the Unification of Sand Prevention Administration.

Petition concerning the Increase of Subsidy for the Sand Prevention Undertakings.

Petition concerning the Designation of the Iwakuni Port for an Open Port.

Petition concerning the Sand Prevention Works in Okayama Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Execution of Sand Prevention Works of Rivers in Kure City.

Petition concerning the Improvement Works of the Komatsujima Port in Tokushima Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Opening of the Kamatsujima Port in Tokushima Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Promotion of Sand Prevention Works on a Course of the River Sai.

Petition concerning the Measures against the Flood-damages in the Southern District of Iwate Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Increase of Budget Estimate for the Disaster Prevention Works on the Lower Course of the River Kanzaki and the Speedy Execution of Improvement Plan in the Amagasaki Port.

Petition concerning the Sand Prevention Works on the Lower Course of a Gliding Road of the Former Oitsu Air Field.

Petition concerning the Execution of Sand Prevention Equipment in the Neighborhood of Seto City.

Petition concerning the Increased Subsidy out of the National Treasary for the Sand Prevention Undertakings in Aichi Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Sand Prevention Works on the Upper Course of the River Ootsuma.

Petition concerning the Improvement Works of the Shibayama Port in Hyogo Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Sand Prevention Works of the River Zao.

Petition concerning the Sand Prevention Works on the River Ootani.

Petition concerning the Promotion of Sand Prevention Works on the River Mizunashi.

Petition concerning the Promotion of Sand Prevention Works in Tottori Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Repairing of the Shimizu Port.

Petition concerning the Speedy Execution of Landslide Prevention Works in Nechi Village, Nishikubiki County, Niigata Prefecture, on the Border of Nagano Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Designation of the Shimotsu Port for an Open Port.

Petition concerning the Sand Prevention Works on the River Takahashi and six other Rivers and at the Mouths of two Rivers.

Petition concerning the Sand Prevention Works on the Muramatsu Swamp and other Rivers.

Petition concerning the Execution of Sand Prevention Works in Chiba Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Sand Prevention Works on the River Kawachi.

Petition concerning the Sand Prevention Works on Rivers in Oita Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Execution of Sand Prevention Works on the River Noda.

Petition concerning the Promotion of Sand Prevention Works etc. in the Hakone District in Kanagawa Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Continuation of Repairing Works on the Outer Harbour of the Matsuyama Port.

Petition concerning the Sand Prevention Works on Rivers in Toyama Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Construction of International Tourist Port in Beppu City.

Petition concerning the Execution of Sand Prevention Works on the River Kooboo.

Petition concerning the Execution of Sand Prevention Works on the River Ikeuchi and two other Rivers.

Petition concerning the Promotion of Improvement Works on the River Naka.

Petition concerning the Restoration Works from Disaster and the Improvement Works of the Kochi Port.

Petition concerning the Execution of Sand Prevention Works on Rivers in Shimane Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Promotion of Sand Prevention Works on the River Uono.

Petition concerning the Execution of Improvement Works on the River Tenryu and the River and Mountain Works on its Course.

Petition concerning the Promotion of Improvement Works on the River Shoonai.

Petition concerning the Restoration Works from the Flood-damages in Tome County in Miyagi Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Flood-damages Restoration Works at Kanagasaki Town, Kimosawa County, Iwate Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Execution of Sand Prevention Works on the River Kawakami.

Petition concerning the Improvement Works on the Upper Course of the River Kinu.

Petition concerning the Improvement Works on the River Watarase.

Petition concerning the Extension of Embankment Works Section on the River Naso.

Petition concerning the Execution of Sand Revention Works in Tamano City.

Petition concerning the Restoration Works of a Lock on the Coast of Tamarigawa in Tamashima.

Petition concerning the Promotion of Embankment Strengthening Works on the River Tone on the Northern District of Oosato County in Saitama Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Promotion of Repairing Works and Flood Control Canal on the River Chiba.

Petition concerning the Sand Prevention Works on the River Shirakawa.

Petition concerning the Subsidy out of the National Treasury for the Disaster Restoration of every Village and Town in Kuka County in Yamaguchi Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Dredging Works on the River Tone and the Improvement Works of the Tonegawa Canal.

Petition concerning the Restoration from Flood-Damages in Gumma Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Promotion of Improvement Works on the River Irino.

Petition concerning the Subsidy out of the National Treasury for Expenses of Dredging the Fushiki Pert.

Petition concerning the Promotion Improvement Works on the River Yazukuri.

Petition concerning the Defrayment out of the National Treasury for Expenses of Restoration from Disaster on the Eastern Bank in the Lower Course of the River Fuji.

Petition concerning the Execution of Sand Prevention Works in Hyogo Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Enlargement of the Areas of the Ooyama National Park.

Petition concerning the Improvement Works on the River Arakawa.

Petition concerning the Repairing of the Harbor of Hamasaka.

Petition concerning the Construction of Ship Shelter on the Atsuta Port in Hokkaido.

Petition concerning the Designation of the Zozu Mountain by the Historic Site, Beauty Spot and Natural Souvenir Preservation Law.

Petition concerning the Addition of Japanese Letter (Sho) to the Government Exhibitions.

Petition concerning the Opening of the Government Bus Service between Uwajima Town and Yawatahama City in Higashi-Uwajima County, Ehime Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Extension of the Government Bus Service between Yamada and Ootochi to Okanouchi in Kami County, Kochi Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Opening of the Government Bus Service between two Towns of Nihonmatsu and Namie.

Petition concerning the Opening of the Government Bus Service between Matsumoto City and Nagano City and along other 4 Roads.

Petition concerning the Opening of the Government Truck Service between Joohana and Nishiakao in Higashitoba County, Toyama Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Opening of the Government Bus Service between the Kuji Station on the Hachinohe Railway Line and Iwaizumi Town.

Petition concerning the Opening of the Government Bus Service between the Anafuki Station on the Tokushima Railway Line and Shirochi.

Petition concerning the Opening of the Government Bus Service between two Stations of Kawatana and Arita.

Petition concerning the Opening of the Government Bus Service between two Stations of Shimoda and Iida.

Petition concerning the Extension of the Government Bus Service between Mogi and Omaeyama to Mito City.

Petition concerning the Opening of the Government Bus Service between Mito City and Namisaki Town and between Kashima Town and Sawara Town in Chiba Prefecture.

Petition concerning the Opening of the Government Bus Service between Gifu City and Neo Village.

Petition concerning the Abolition of the Official Price of the Second-hand Clothing.

Petition concerning the Enterprise Reconstruction and Adjustment Law and the Measures pursuant to that Law.

Petition concerning the Enactment of the Auditors Law.

Petition concerning the Continuation of the Self-sufficient Salt Manufacturing System.

Petition concerning the Raise of Exemption Point of the Commodities Tax.

Petition concerning the Loan of Business Capital.

Petition concerning the Establishment of the People Financing Structure.

Petition concerning the Public Levy of Public Taxes Paid in Kind on Agricultural Land.

Petition concerning the Revision of the Temporary Fund Adjustment Law and the Inheritance Tax Law for the Charitable Work Organizations.

Representation concerning the Establishment of Decentralization of Power. (2 representations).

Representation concerning the Pay of the Official of the Local Public Organizations. (2 representations).

Representation concerning the Subsidy out of the National Treasury to Temporary Increased Allowance of the Officials of the Local Public Organizations etc.

Representation concerning the Subsidy out of the National Treasury for Treatment Improvement Expenses of the Officials of the Local Government and Public Offices.

Representation concerning the Measures after the Abolition of Town and Village Assemblies.

Representation concerning the Increased Sum of Imported Taxes to the Local Government etc.

Representation concerning the Adjustment of the Principal Highways throughout the Country.

Representation concerning the Sand Prevention concerning the Sand Prevention Works on the Rivers of Oda and Arakane in Tottori Prefecture.

Representation concerning the Promotion of Sand Prevention Works in the Basin of the River Suzuka.

Representation concerning the Promotion of Improvement of the Sanyo National Highway. (2 representations)

Representation concerning the Restoration from the recent Flood-Damages in the Flooded Areas in Akita Prefecture. (3 representations)

Representation concerning the Increased Subsidy for the Farmland Restoration Works from the Flood-Damages in 1943 in Shimane Prefecture.

Representation concerning the Subsidy out of the National Treasury for Sand Prevention Works Expense on the River Miyatani.

Representation concerning the Execution of Sand Prevention Works on Rivers in Kure City.

Representation concerning the Sand Prevention Works on the River Chiyo.

Representation concerning the Sand Prevention Works on two Rivers of Omori and Shoko.

Representation concerning the Measures for Restoration from the recent Flood-Damages in Iwate Prefecture.

Representation concerning the Sand Prevention Works on the River Noshigahara.

Representation concerning the Improvement Works on National Highway in Takagi Town, Taga County, Ibaraki Prefecture.

Representation concerning the Measures for Mountain and River Works.

Representation concerning the Restoration of Areas Damaged by Earthquakes and Tidal Waves along the Sea-coast in Kumano District.

Representation concerning the Sand Prevention Works on the River Toguri.

Representation concerning the Measures against the Flood-Damages in Toohoku District.

Representation concerning the Enforcement of the Permanent Measures for the Sand Prevention Works.

Representation concerning the Restoration from Disaster in Ibaraki Prefecture.

Representation concerning the Measures against the recent Flood-Disaster in Yamagata Prefecture.

Representation concerning the Goods Preservation Notion Diffusion Movement.

Representation concerning Increased Allotment of the Newsprint.

Representation concerning the Promotion of the Commodity Prices Reduction Movement.

Representation concerning the Establishment of the Measures for Maintaining the Salt Manufacturing Enterprise.

Representation concerning the Abolition of Official Price System of the Second-hand Clothing.

Representation concerning the Promotion of establishment of the People Bank.

Representation concerning the Adjustment of Enterprise.

Representation concerning the Continuation of the Self-Sufficient Salt Manufacturing System (2 representations).

Representation concerning the Execution of Salt Manufacturing by Sun Light.

Representation concerning the Revision of the Enterprise Reorganization and Adjustment Law.

Representation concerning the Raise of Exemption Point of the Commodities Tax.

Representation concerning the Bamboo Processing Industry.

Matter concerning the Investigation of the Tourist Business.

Matter concerning the Laws and Regulations relating to the Publication.

The President (Mr. MATSUDAIRA, Tsuneo): If there is no objection, we shall omit the reading of reports on various matters.

The President: We shall now hold the meeting for today. The item No. 1 on the Agenda is the Bill for Revision of the Law No. 39, 1939, concerning the Reduction, Exemption and Postponement of Collection of Taxes for Sufferers from Disaster, and the Item No. 2, the Bill for Regulation of Imitation of Revenue Stamps etc. (Submitted by the Cabinet and forwarded from the House of Representatives). Is there any objection to taking up these two Bills for discussion together?

("No objection" is voiced:)

The President: I see there is no objection. First, I ask for the Committee Chairman's report. The Chairman of the Finance and Banking Committee, Mr. Hideo Kuroda.

On December 5, the following Reports were submitted by respective Committee Chairman in charge.

Report of Investigation concerning the Sightseeing business.

Report of Investigation for the Problem of the Electric Revinal.

Report of Investigation of Counter-plan of Synthetic Fuel and Electric Power.

Report No. 4 on the Culture Committee Deliberation of Petitions.

Special Report No. 4 on the Culture Committee Deliberation of Petitions.

Report No. 4 on the Culture Committee Deliberation of Representations.

Special Report No. 4 on the Culture Committee Deliberation of Representations.

On November 6, the following Reports were submitted by respective Committee Chairman in charge.

Approving Report on the Bill for Partial Amendment of the Local Self-Government Law.

Approving Report on the Bill for Revision of the Emergency Measures Ordinance Restricting the Residence in Urban Areas.

Amendment Report on the Bill concerning the Adjustment of Relative Laws in consequence of the revision of the Civil Code.

Amending Report on the Bill concerning the Bill for Partial Amendment of the Justice Court Laws.

Approving Report on the Food Hygienic Law Bill.

Approving Report on the Bill for the Professions of Massage, Acupuncture, Moxa-cantery and Judo bone-setting, etc.

Approving Report on the "Riyoshi" Law Bill. (the hair dressers and beauty artists)

Approving Report on the Nutritionist Law Bill.

Approving Report on the Bill for Partial Amendment of the Special Measures to the Establishment of the Landed Farmers.

Approving Report on the Bill for Partial Amendment of the Adjustment of the Agricultural Land Law.

Approving Report on the Bill for Partial Amendment of the Fishery Law.

Approving Report on the Bill for the Partial Amendment of Special Account of Foodstuffs Control Law and others.

Approving Report on the Bill for granting authorization to the Government to make transfer from the General Accounts to the Foodstuffs Special Account Sum Amounts of the Estimate for appropriating the Fund to cover the Share of Special Account of Mutual Aid Instalments for Rice Plant for the Fiscal year 1947-48 under the Law for Compensation against Agricultural Loss.

The Approving Report on the Bill for the Law for the Payment of Special Allowances to Tax Officials.

The Amending Report on the Bill for the Establishment of the Supreme Justice Office.

The Amending Report on the Bill for the Competence of the Attorney General in the Suits connected with the Interests of the State.

The Amending Report on the Bill for the Readjustment of Laws and Ordinances Necessitated by the Establishment of the Supreme Justice Office.

Approving Report on the Bill for the Abolition of the Imperial Ordinance, etc. concerning Home Ministry and its Organ.

Approving Report on the Bill concerning the Adjustments of the Ordinance in consequence of the Abolition of the Government Organization of Home Ministry.

Report of Investigation of the Conditions and the measures of the Flood-Damages.

The Report of Investigation concerning the Dwelling Houses Problems.

The Report of Investigation concerning the Promotion of the Social Business.

The Report of Investigation concerning the General Labor Problems.

The Report of Investigation concerning the Fresh Fishes and Shells, and Fruits and Vegetables.

The Report No. 5 on the Welfare Committee Deliberation of Representations.

The Special Report No. 5 on the Welfare Committee Deliberation of Representations.

The Report No. 3 on the Labor Committee Deliberation of Petitions.

The Special Report No. 3 on the Labor Committee Deliberation of Petitions.

The Report No. 3 on the Labor Committee Deliberation of Representations.

The Special Report No. 3 on the Labor Committee Deliberation of Representations.

The Report No. 3 on the Transportation and Traffic Committee Deliberation of Petitions.

The Special Report No. 3 on the Transportation and Traffic Committee Deliberation of Petitions.

The Report No. 3 on the Transportation and Traffic Committee Deliberation of Representations.

The Special Report No. 3 on the Transportation and Traffic Committee Deliberation of Representations.

On the same day, the following Bill was submitted by Mr. HATTORI, Kyoichi a Member of Welfare Committee.

Report of Minority Opinions on the Bill for the Professions of Massage, Acupuncture, Moxa-cautery and Judo bone-setting, etc.

On the same day, the following Report was submitted by Mr. ITANO, Katsuji a Member of Agriculture and Forestry Committee.

Report of Decimal Opinions on the Bill for Partial Amendment of the Special Measures to the Establishment of the Landed Farmers and Bill for Partial Amendment to the Adjustment of the Agricultural Land Law.

Report of Committee Investigation.

December 6, 1947.

Hon. Tsunewo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors.

Sir,

Re: Bill concerning the Adjustment of Relevant Laws pursuant to the Revision of the Civil Code.

I beg to report that the Committee has decided unanimously to recommend the above bill for passage by the House with a partial amendment as per the text hereto attached.

Accordingly I have the honor to submit herewith the summary report of the investigation, with the countersignatures of the members in favor thereof appended.

Yours respectfully,
SHU ITO,
Chairman of the Judicial Committee.

Signatures of other members:
(Hidejiro Onogi and 9 others)

Article 19 shall be deleted.

Article 20 shall read Article 19 and following articles as far as Article 31 shall be advanced by one article respectively.

Article 32 shall read Article 31, and "Article 20" therein shall be amended as "Article 19."

Article 33 shall read Article 32, and "Article 22" therein shall be amended as "Article 21."

The Summary Report

1. Reasons for Decision of the Committee.

Due to the revision of the Civil Code, the provisions relative to the family head, family members, house, succession to the headship of homes were deleated, those provisions which are contrary to the essential equality of both sexes were revised, and the family council was abolished. However, as in other laws there still exist many provisions which are based upon those of the former Civil Code, it is necessary that such provisions should be revised so that they may conform to the revised Civil Code. Such revisions, however, will be too trouble-some, if they were to be done by each law. On that score, the present bill is intended to make such revisions in the lump.

The laws which are to be revised partially in accordance with this bill number 64, the Prison Law, etc.; and those to be repealed number . These revisions or repeals must be made as necessary results of the revision of the Civil Code and are considered appropriate legislative steps.

Again, the contents thereof are considered adequate. However, the Bill for a Partial Amendment to the Exceptions Law to the Succession to the Agricultural Propertiy, which is referred to in the present bill, is now under deliberation at this House and accordingly is not yet a law. For this reason, the Committee decided to recommend the passage of this bill with the amendment that the part of this bill which regards the aforementioned bill should be deleted.

2. Merits of the Bill.

The enforcement of this Bill has an advantage of systematizing the whole laws of our country and facilitating the operation thereof.

3. Expenses.

No special expenses are necessary to put this Bill into effect.

Report on Committee Investigation.

December 5, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Sir,

I beg herewith to report to you that our Committee has decided unanimously that the following Bill be approved by the House. Signatures of majority supporters and the summary report are herewith attached.

The Bill concerning the Exceptional Case to the Qualification of the Appointment of Assistant Prosecutors.

Yours respectfully,
YASUTAKA SUZUKI,
Director of the Judicial Committee.

Signatures of Majority supporters:
Yoshinari Onimaru
Hidejiro Onogi
Tsune Okabe
Tenko Nishida
Hichirobei Ikeda
Shuichiro Oku
Junsaku Mizukubo
Takudo Kuruma
Masao Nakamura
Takeo Sai
Saijiro Atake

Summary Report

1. Reasons for the decision of the Committee:

The purport of the Bill is that assistant prosecutors are to be appointed among those persons who passed the high civil service examination or held an office of the second class official and the like in the trial, prosecution, judicial police or prison affairs over three years, and who have been selected by the Selection Committee (Article 18, paragraph 2, of the Prosecutor's Office Law); that those who fall under this category, however, are too small in number to fill the full staff, while those persons who have had long experience in the judicial matters but have not yet acquired that said qualification of holding a post of the second class official for three years as a result of an extremely slow promotion of officials serving in the judicial affairs, are large in number; that in view of this fact, assistant prosectors may also be appointed among those persons who have the knowledge and long experience necessary to perform the duty of the assistant prosecutor, and who have been selected by the Selection Committee, regardless of the said qualification, in order to fill the vacancies, but the tenure of their office should be limited to one year from now on.

The Committee considers this measure reasonable.

2. Merits of the matter:

The measure has an advantage in strengthening the prosecution force by speedy appointment of a large number of assistant prosecutors and thus maintaining public safety.

3. Expenses:

No special expenses are needed for the enforcement of the Bill.

Report on Committee Investigation.

December 6, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Sir,

Re: Bill for a Partial Amendment to the Court Law.

I have the honor to report that the Committee has decided unanimously to recommend the above bill for passage by the House with a partial amendment as per the text hereto attached. Accordingly I beg to submit herewith a summary report of the investigation, with the countersignatures of the members in favor of this bill appended.

Yours respectfully,
SHU ITO,
Chairman of the Judicial Committee.

Signatures of other members:
(Hidejiro Onogi and 9 others.)

In the Additional Provisions, the

following three clauses shall be added.

The tenure of office of a judge of Manchuria, who had been a judge or a public procurator prescribed in the Court Organization Law, shall be considered as that of a judge, in the application of the provisions of Articles 41 and 44; and as that of an assistant judge, in the application of the provisions of Article 42.

The tenure of office of a public procurator of Manchuria, who had been a judge or a public procurator prescribed in the Court Organization Law, shall be considered as that of a public procurator, in the application of the provisions of Articles 41, 42 and 44.

The tenure of office of a "Rijikan" or a "Sanjikan" of the Manchurian Judicial Department, who had been a judge or a public procurator prescribed in the Court Organization Law, shall be considered as that of a judicial secretary, in the application of the provisions of Articles 41, 42 and 44.

The Summary Report

1. Reasons for Decision of the Committee.

The present bill is intended to amend partially the Court Law, in the light of the results of its enforcement since May 3 of this year.

The proposed amendments are:

(1) The purview of the Summary Court relative to criminal cases shall be so extended that it may have jurisdiction over a case of larceny or that of attempted crime thereof, which are amenable to a penal servitude for a period not exing 3 years.

(2) In designating the Chief of the Supreme Court or appointing a judge thereof, the Cabinet shall not be required to consult with the Judge Appointment Advisory Committee, and may effect them on its own responsibility.

(3) The position of teacher of the Judicial Research and Training Institute, who had been a judge or a public procurator, shall be added among the qualification for appointment to a judge.

(4) The age-limit of a judge of the Summary Court shall be raised to the age of 70.

All these amendments are appropriate from the viewpoints of the appointment of judges and the management of court affairs.

The Committee decided to recommend the passage of this bill with an amendment, for the same reason with that of (3) in the preceding paragraph, that the tenure of office of a judge, a public procurator, a "Rijikan" or a "Sanjikan" of the Judicial Department, of Manchuria, shall be one of the items of qualifications for the appointment to a judge.

2. Merits of the Bill.

By the enforcement of this bill, the appointment of a judge will be made more appropriately, the court affairs will be disposed of more speedily and the jurisdiction will be exercised more rationally.

3. Expenses.

No special expenses are necessary to put this bill into effect.

The President: We shall now open today's meeting. The 1st Item on the Agenda, viz., Bill concerning the Readjustment of the Related Laws necessitated by the Revision of the Civil Code, the 2nd Item, viz., Bill for Exceptional cases to the Qualification of Appointment of the Vice-Procurators and the 3rd Item, viz., Bill for Partial Amendment of the Law Court Act, all submitted by the Cabinet and forwarded from the House of Representatives—is there any objection to taking up the above three Bills en bloc for discussion?

(Some Members say "no objection")

The President: I see there is no objection. I call on the Committee Chairman for the report, first. The Chairman of the Judicial Committee, Mr. Shu Ito, please!

(Mr. ITO, Shu ascends the rostrum.) (Applause)

Mr. ITO: I will report on the proceedings and results of delicerning the three Bills which are now taken up.

To begin with, I will explain briefly the Bill for Readjustment of the Relevant Laws in consequence of the Revision of the Civil Code.

In our Civil Code, in accordance with the basic principle of the new constitution, the provisions were deleted which governed the family-head, the family members, the succession to a house and other matters relative to the house; the provisions contrary to sex equality were revised; those pertaining to the family council were repealed. According to the Amended Civil Law majors need not obtain their parents consent to their matrimony; minors shall be deemed as if majors when married. However, there are some laws whose provisions are based upon the former Civil Code. So it has become necessary to revise and readjust them so that they may conform to the revised Civil Code. Again it is necessary to readjust those provisions in some other laws which concern the family system so that they may conform to the basic principle of the Constitution. The number of such laws is more than sixty, excepting those laws which have already undergone necessary changes in connection with the revision of other laws. Now, as it is an extremely trouble to make such revisions or readjustments in each law, the present Bill has been drafted with a view to effecting such changes by a single legislative Act. The laws which will undergo partial amendments under this Bill, are the Prison Law and 63 other laws, as are mentioned in the copies of the Bill distributed to you all. The laws which shall be repealed are two, namely, the Law concerning the Rights of a Person who has lost his Nationality, and the Law concerning the Confirmation of a Will in accordance with the provisions of Articles 79 and 181 of the Civil Code.

The principal revision are the deletion of the provisions governing the family-head and the family members, of the provisions which are based upon the right of succession to the house or upon the right of succession to the house or upon the restrictions of the wife's legal capacity. And those persons who have hitherto been selected by the family council shall be selected by the Court of Domestic Affairs; the minimum age of a person who may receive a eugenic treatment shall be lowered from 30 to 20. And other necessary readjustments of relevant articles are to be made, while transitional rules are also provided. As to the details of the questions and answers exchanged at the Committee meetings I beg to refer you to the stenographic records. In the course of debate, which followed the exchange of questions and answers, Mr. Matsumura proposed an amendment, demanding deletion of Article 19 of this Bill, which stipulates partial amendments to the Exceptional Law for the Succession of Agricultural Property, because this Exceptional Law is still under deliberation by the Committee and accordingly is not yet a law. According to his proposal, Article 19 should be deleted, the present article 20 should be made Article 19, and the following Articles as far as Article 31 should be advanced by one unit. Article 32 should be made Article 31 and "Article 20" therein should be amended as "Article 19", Article 33 should be amended as Article 32 and "Article 22" therein should be made "Article 21." To this motion, Mr. Sai expressed his view in favor thereof. As a result of voting, the amendment was approved unanimously. Following this, a vote was taken on the whole Bill excepting the aforementioned amended part, and the committee decided unanimously to recommend this Bill for passage by the House in the original form.

I should like to make a brief report on the findings of the Committee concerning the Bill for Special Exception to Qualifications of Assistant Procurators.

Assistant procuratorship has been instituted in accordance with the legislation of the Public Procurator's Office Law under the new Constitution. The assistant procurator is assigned to the district public procurator's office that corresponds to the summary court. This official is vested with a power to investigate all kinds of offences, but with regard to the matters on prosecution and presence in the court, his jurisdiction is confined to the cases in the summary court. Accordingly, the standard of qualifications for appointment is lower than that for the public procurator. The public procurators are appointed from among those officials who have passed the Higher Civil Service Examination and assumed service as Judicial Apprentices for two years. But the assistant procurators are appointed on the merits of official service. Their qualifications are prescribed as: those who have passed the Higher Civil Service Examination, or those who have been selected by the Assistant Procurator Selection Committee from among the second class judicial officers who have served longer than three years as clerks of the Public Procurator's Office or the Court, wardens of the Prison, or policemen. Under Article 18, Paragraph 2 of the Public Procurator's Office Law, the assistant procurators are qualified to be public procurators, when they have passed the examination after they have held the same positions for three years and longer.

At present, both judges and procurators are short in number. Corresponding to the summary courts, there are 555 District Public Procurator's Offices throughout the entire country. It is absolutely difficult to man public procurator to all of these offices. Therefore, it was planned to allocate at least one assistant procurator to all of them, and the appointment of 430 assistant procurators was announced. But the applicants are much fewer than expected. Since this business began on May 5 of this year, only 67 have been appointed. It is reported that 57 more persons are to be soon appointed. Still, the total number is only 104, which is one fourth of the scheduled number; 226 persons are still lacking.

Criminal cases are increasing day by day. The police system is going to be reformed. Under such a situation, however hard it is to increase the number of public procurators, something must be done to supply shortage of procurators right now.

There are a fairly large number of judicial officers and policemen who possess the knowledge and experience necessary for the performance of the duties of assistant procurators, having been in service in the judicature for many years. But the promotion of official status was very slow in the Ministry of Justice. It took many years for them to be promoted to second class officials. As a result, there are very few persons who have three years' history of service as second class judicial officers. Therefore, this Bill purports to lay down a special exception by which assistant procurators can be appointed, for one year from the date of enforcement of this Law, through selection by the Assistant Procurator Selection Committee from among persons who have the knowledge and experience required for the execution of the duties of assistant procurators, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 18, Paragraph 2 of the Public Procurator's Office Law. The Selection Committee was instituted by Cabinet Order No. 84 of 1947, and it consists of eight Committeemen including the Minister and Vice-Minister of Justice, the Director of the Criminal Affairs Bureau, the Assistant Director of the Supreme Public Procurator's Office and the Chief of the Tokyo High Court. As such is the organization of the Committee, a fair selection is expected from it. When these assistant procurators who are appointed by this Special Exception have held the positions for three years, they can be promoted to second class public procurators through a special examination, thus paving the way for their promotion. This is an outline of the Bill and the reason for its submission. When we entered on interpellation, Mr. Sai asked questions in detail. To this, a Government Delegate replied. For particulars, I want to refer you to the records of the proceedings. In the debate, no objection was made, and this Bill passed through the Committee as in the original form.

Next, I shall explain the Bill for Partial Amendments to the Court Law. This Law has been in force since May 3 this year, and taking into account the actual results of the enforcement of this Law, this Bill has been drafted and introduced to the House. It intends to extend the sphere of the jurisprudence of the Summary Court, to abolish the Consultative Committee for the Appointment of Judges, to broaden the qualifications for the judge and to raise the age limit for the judges of the Summary Court.

Now, let me speak about the particulars of the proposed amendments. First, according to Article 33 of the existing Law, the sphere of the jurisdiction of the Summary Court is limited, so far as criminal cases are concerned, to cases liable to a fine or lighter penalty and cases which admit of a fine as an optional penalty. Thus, the Summary Court can not impose imprisonment or severer penalty, and in case it deems it proper to impose imprisonment, as a penalty, the case must be transferred to the Local Court. According to this Bill, however, the jurisdiction of the said Court is to be so enlarged that even cases of larceny accomplished or attempted liable to imprisonment under three years, shall fall under its jurisdiction to but a case liable to a penalty of imprisonment for more than three years is to be transferred to the Local Court.

Second, according to Article 39, Paragraphs 4 and 5 of the existing Court Law, the Cabinet should consult the Consulative Committee for Appointment of Judges before it appoints the Chief Justice or Judges of the Supreme Court, but this Bill deletes the said Article 39, Paragraphs 4 and 5, enabling the Cabinet to make the designation or appointment freely on its own responsibility, not to add that the Cabinet need not appoint such a committee.

Third, at the time when the Court Bill was introduced, the establishment of the Judicial Service Training Institute was not yet decided on so that of course there were no instructors. For this reason, the existing Law has no provision concerning the qualifications of the instructor, at the institute who is ex-judge or ex-prosecutor for judgeship, and therefore, Articles 41, 42 and 43 of the Law are so amended as to recognize the said instructorship as the qualification for judgeship, likewise shall be secretaryship of the Justice Ministry.

Fourth, according to Article 50 of the existing Law, the age limit of the judge of the Summary Court is 65, but in order to secure the service of highly experienced retired judges and public procurators as judges of the Summary Court, the age limit is to be raised to 70.

As to the interpellations made in the Committee, I wish to refer you to the minutes of our Committee proceedings. When a debate was opened, Mr. Kuruma proposed the addition of the following three items to the supplementary rule of this Bill:

"If he, who had assumed the office of judge or public procurator specified in the Court Organization Law, held the post of judge in Manchuria, the tenure of this office shall, in the application of the provisions of Articles 41 and 44, be regarded as the tenure of Japanese judgeship, and in the application of the provisions of Article 42, the tenure of assistant-judgeship in Manchuria shall likewise be regarded as the tenure of Japanese assistant-judgeship."

"If he, who had assumed the office of judge or public procurator specified in the Court Organization Law, held the post of public procurator in Manchuria, the tenure of this office shall be regarded as the tenure of a public procurator concerning the application of the provisions of Articles 41, 42 and 43."

"If he, who assumed the office of judge or public procurator specified in the Court Organization Law, held the post of procurator or councillor of the Judiciary Department in Manchuria, the tenure of this office shall be regarded as that of a secretary of the Justice Ministry in the application of the provisions of Articles 41, 42 and 44. In sum, the reason for proposing these amendments is that if a person, who had been judge or public procurator in this country, later served as judge or public procurator in Manchuria or as procurator or councillor of the Judiciary Department of that country, the period of his service in Manchuria is to be added to the tenure of office, a Judge of the Supreme Court which is among the qualifications for Chief or Judge of the High Court and a Judge of the Summary Court.

Mr. Suzuki spoke in support of the amendments, but there being no one else to speak, the debate was brought to an end, and a vote was then taken with the result that the amendments were unanimously approved by us. As to other parts than the amended ones, they were also approved for passage by the House. (Applause)

The President: If no one wishes to make a new proposal, we shall now take a vote on three Bills. We may take up the Bill concerning the readjustment of the Related Laws necessitated by the Revision of the Civil Code and the Bill for Partial Amendment of the Law Court Act in its entirety. The Report of the Committee Chairman is for approval of both the Bills with the amendments. I ask the members supporting the approval of both Bills with the amendments as reported by the Committee Chairman please to stand up.

(All the members stand up.)

The President: I see all the members stand up. Accordingly, both Bills have been approved by this House unanimously as amended in the Committee concerned.

The President: Secondly, we may take up the Bill for Exceptional Cases to the Qualification of Appointments of the Vice-Prosecutors in its entirety. I ask the members supporting it please to stand up.

(All the members stand up)

The President: I see all the members stand up. Accordingly, it has been approved by this House.

The President: We shall now take up for discussion the Bill for Partial Amendment of the Postal Life Insurance Law, etc. and first I call on the Committee Chairman for the report. The Chairman of the Communication Committee, Mr. Rokuro Fukabemizu, please!

Report on Committee Examination

December 5, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Sir;

Re: Bill for Partial Amendment of the Post Office Life Insurance Law and Other Laws.

I have the honor of reporting that the Committee has unanimously decided to recommend the above Bill for passage by the House. Accordingly I beg to submit herewith a summary report of the examination, along with the signatures of the members in favor thereof.

Respectfully,
Rokuro Fukami
Chairman of the Communications Committee.

Signatures of Other Members.
Tosaku Mizuhashi
Makoto Chiba
Seiichi Suzuki
Masao Nakamura
Yoshio Fujita
Kentaro Yui
Yuzo Shigemune
Torasaburo Shintani
Takuro Yamauchi
Yukiteru Ozaki
Sadakichi Oshima

Summary Report

1. Reasons for Decision of the Committee.

While the maximum insurable amount under the current post office life insurance law is set at ¥5,000 for each contract, and the majority of present contracts are for sums under ¥1,000, the mounting inflation is having serious effects on the system as a whole. In view of the situation, the Bill proposes to advance the maximum of the insurable amount to ¥25,000, introducing a new minimum of ¥1,000, with a view to inviting many contracts of larger amounts, to improve thereby the financial conditions of the system, and to restore it to a sound condition, as well as to contribute to the stability of the nation's livelihood. In reference to the current postal annuity system, under which the maximum amount payable is fixed at ¥6,000, it is also proposed to raise this maximum to ¥24,000, with a newly established minimum of ¥240, as under the existing price conditions the current maximum does not suit the purpose of stabilizing the people's living and of accomplishing the original aims of this system, and besides it is expected by this means to reduce the costs of operation. The Committee considers these proposals as necessary amendments under the prevailing economic conditions.

2. Merits of the Bill.

The Bill, if enacted, will have the advantage of placing the systems in question on a sounder basis. and may contribute to the stabilization of the nation's living.

3. Expenses.

No extra expenses will be incurred by the introduction of the proposed amendments.

(Mr. Rokuro Fukamizu mounts the rostrum. Handclapping.)

Mr. Fukamizu Rokuro: I shall make a report on the progress and results of the committee deliberations on the Bill for Partial Revision of the Post-Office Life Insurance Law which is now under discussion. The present Bill comprises partial revision of the Post-Office Life Insurance Law and that of the Postal Pension Law. Following are the reasons why the present Bill has been introduced to the Diet. The Post-Office Life Insurance business was started in 1916 with the object of stabilizing the people's living. During 31 years that followed it has been making constant and steady progress and the result is that the contract amount has now reached 40,070,000,00 yen with 90,000,000 items, the reserve funds amounting to 6,610,000,000 yen inclusive of the surplus funds. When this business was inaugurated the maximum limit of insurance was 250 yen, but later the limit was raised six times in view of the nation's economic development, and it is fixed at 5,000 yen at present. The greater portion of the existing contracts represent contracts for small sums under 1.000 yen. This limitation has a serious effect upon the management of the business at this time of inflation. It has therefore been decided to raise the maximum to 25,000 yen and to fix the minimum at 1,000 yen in order to recover the balance between revenue and expenditure and render the management of the business sound and healthy by securing larger number of new contracts for big sums, while contributing to the stabilization of the people's living. As regards the text of the Law, Article 4 of the Post-Office Life Insurance Law will be revised to read "The amount of insurance in the present Post-Office Life Insurance shall be no more than 25,000 yen per insured person and no less than 1,000 yen per contract."

The postal pension business was started in 1926 with the same object as the Post-Office Life Insurance, showing excellent results during the subsequent 21 years. The contract amount reaches 397,000,000 yen with 1,900,000 items, the reserve funds amounting to 2,840,-000,000 yen inclusive of the surplus funds. At the time of the inauguration of the business the maximum limit was 2,400 yen, but later it was raised twice and it is now fixed at 6,000 yen. This is, however, not sufficient for guaranteeing the stabilization of a person's living under the aggravating inflation. Besides, there is a need of reducing the business expenses. The Government, therefore, desires to raise the maximum limit to 24,000 yen and to fix the minimum limit at 240 yen. As regards the text of the governing law, Article 3 of the current Postal Pension Law is to be revised to read "The amount of a pension shall be no more than 24,000 ven per annum per beneficiary and no less than 240 yen per contract." And the date of enforcement of these two laws is set for January 1 next year. The Committee carefully deliberated upon these Bills, the members asking lively questions of the Government delegates. Following are the main questions and suggestions: How are the reserve funds in the Postal Pension service operated? And how are they collected? What is the percentage of the Post-Office Life Insurance to life insurance in general? What is the proportion of the premiums to the business expenditure as compared with that in private insurances? At what ratio have contracts been increasing lately? What about employing civilians or private agencies, besides post-office workers, in inviting contracts in large numbers, as a means of saving business expenses as far as possible? Has the Government any intention of limiting the number of post-office insurance policies to be held by a single person? Under the current law the seizure of a postal pension of 600 yen or less is prohibited. Why not raise the amount in parallel with the proposed increase in the amount of pension? To these questions were given the following answers: Of the reserve funds amounting to 6,610,000,000 yen inclusive of the surplus funds, deposits of the Deposit Division represent 50%, national bonds 13.2%, debentures and bonds 10.3%, the others being loans to public organizations, local loan bonds and shares. The collection of loans is satisfactorily going on, a little over 4% interest being yielded. The reserve funds in the postal pensions business amount to 2,841,000,000 yen including the surplus funds, and they are operated, collected and are yielding interest in the same way as in the case of the post-office insurance.

The total of the post-office insurance corresponds to two thirds of the total of private insurance. As regards the percentage of premium to business expenses the following answer was given: In the case of the post-office insurance premiums of very small sums are paid, so that it requires larger business expenses than private insurance. In 1939 the percentage of business expenses to the premiums received was 10.3% as against 10.5% of private insurance. In the first part of 1946 the percentage was reversed, private insurance registering 20.1% and the post-office insurance 30.9%. The Government, it is claimed, is making great efforts to reduce the percentage by obtaining contracts for large sums, rationalizing the business and by economizing business expenses. As to the increase of contracts in number the following answer was given: During the war large numbers of new contracts were made thanks to the cooperation of so-called "neighborhood associations" and other outward assistance, the number averaging approximately 10,000,000 per year. This year the number has reached 5,000,000. The payment of premiums estimated at 100,000,000 yen for the first collection was completed as early as in October. It would be impossible to expect a larger increase of contracts next year, but the Government hopes that there will be an increase in the total sum to be paid.

Under the current law it is impossible to employ any persons other than post-office workers in canvassing for contracts. Although no need of it is being felt just at present, the question is reserved for future consideration.

Adjustment Restriction of the number of contracts is not only advisable for the interests of contractors but also necessary for the economy of business expenses. The Government desires to adopt such a measure, but it presupposes revision of the law, so that it will be realized when overall revision of the law is effected in the near future. The reason why no revision has been made in the amount of pension secure from seizure is that the revision contemplated at present is confined to the amount of a pension. The suggested revision will be found in a bill for general revision of the law, which will be presented to the next session of the Diet. Many more questions were asked by the committee members regarding minor details, and answers were duly given to each of them. For particulars let me refer you to the stenographic record. After the questions and answers the Committee went into a debate, but there were no discussions worth mentioning. Then the committee unanimously decided on the propriety of the Bill being passed as drafted. Here I conclude my report.

The President: If no one wishes to make a new proposal, we shall now take a vote on the Bill. We may take it up in its entirety. I ask the members supporting it to stand up.

(All the members stand up.)

The President: I see all the members standing up. Accordingly, it is approved by this House unanimously.

The President: Is there any objection to taking up the 8th Item on the Agenda now, deferring the 5th to the 7th Item.

("No objection.")

The President: I see there is no objection.

The President: We shall now take up for discussion the 8th Item on the Agenda, viz., Government Bill for Partial Amendment of the Local Government Law forwarded from the other House. I call on the Committee Chairman for the report. Chairman of the Public Safety and Local Government Committee, Mr. Suejiro Yoshikawa, please!

Report on Examination
Dec. 6, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of
Councillors,
Sir,

I have the honor to report that the Committee has unanimously passed the following Bill: Bill concerning the Partial Amendment of the Local Autonomy Law. Appended are a list of members constituting the majority and a summary statement.

Yours respectfully,
Suejiro Yoshikawa,
Chairman of the Committee
on Public Peace and
Local Institutions.

A List of Members Constituting the Majority.

Naondo Suzuki
Takeo Kurokawa
Shigeo Murao
Kikuji Okada
Yoshiudo Okamoto
Narisuke Okamoto
Seijiro Atake
Tohei Komai
Kenji Osumi
Sanhichi Habu
Shuichiro Oku
Tetsu Ono

SUMMARY STATEMENT

1. Reasons for the Committee's decision.—In response to the conditions following the enforcement of the Local Autonomy Law and the subsequent changes in circumstances, it is essential that the opportunity be seized to solidify the elements of self-initiative and self-discipline in local autonomous organizations and for further effectuation of the main purposes of local self-government on the basis of the spirit of the new Constitution. The Committee considers that the Bill is appropriate in attaining the above mentioned end.

2. The advantages of the measure.—It is to the advantage of local autonomous administration to facilitate appropriate coordination between national administration and local autonomous administration, at the same time, to attain their fair and smooth working by placing local finance on sound basis, to promote local autonomous powers, strengthen local legislative assemblies, and to hasten democratization of the nation.

3. Expenditure.—No special appropriation is necessary in the enforcement of this law.

(Mr. Suejiro Yoshikawa took the rostrum.) (Applause)

Mr. YOSHIKAWA: I am going to report on the results of the deliberations by the committee on the Bill for Revising a Part of the Local Self-Government Law which is the subject of discussion. First of all I should like to explain briefly the object and contents of this law. According to the situation after the enforcement of the Local Self-Government Law and its development a necessary revision is being proposed by this Bill to improve local self-government. The Government's explanation is roughly as follows:

In the first place, this Bill provides for readjustment of the authority to give permission to establishment of councils between local affairs offices and local public organizations, and for voluntary consultations to be held by the organizations concerned about the disposal of property at the time of amalgamation of a city, town or village. Besides, the Bill provides for the fundamental principle of freedom of floating loans by local organizations. But in view of the present situation, this principle will be continued according to the system now in force.

Secondly, there have recently been established various "branches of the central Government" called special local organizations, of the Central Government, and important offices of this kind established in the prefectures number about 90. It is not advisable to establish too many offices of this kind, and as it is necessary to stem this trend, this Bill provides for the approval of the National Diet in case such a local administrative organization is to be newly established. In addition, since the law of impeachment of the governor, the headman of a city, town and village has been revised, and is based on a new structure, measures have been prescribed to secure the execution of national administration governed by certified facts as in any judicial court.

Thirdly, this bill provides that the Government shall send the Official Gazette or other Government publications to assemblies of local public organizations, and the latter must establish libraries.

It also provides that if the right of initiation of bills on the part of the Governor or the headman of a city, town, or village is not encroached upon, the local assembly is authorized to increase or revise the budget.

The fourth provision in the present amendment Bill is about revision and adjustment of the provisions for local elections which were found necessary in view of

the results of past experiences. With a view to democratizing election, some amendments have been made in the drawing up of a list concerning bi-elections, the age and the calculation of the duration of residence of electors, and other relevant matters. Another amendment is this. In the decision vote for or election of the heads of provincial public bodies, that is Governnors of fu and ken, Mayors or Headmen of towns and villages, the case sometimes happens that only one candidate is left without rivalry, his competitors having been removed from the areas either by death or resignation. The amendment, however, provides for the postponement of the election time and for the recognition of the next highest in the number of votes as a candidate or a fresh candidate for supplementary purposes. It has also been provided that candidates from the same political party are prohibited from sending out more than two observers of various descriptions. These are amendments in the election procedures. What I have said so far are the salient points of the Bill as presented by the Government.

The Committee received its commission on Oct. 11 to make a preliminary examination of the Bill, and the Committee sat eight times and a careful consideration was given to the Bill. Especially noteworthy is the fact that in the Committee sitting of the 13th of last month, eight witnesses comprising representatives of provincial autonomous bodies and men of knowledge and experience were asked to attend the meetings and express their views. For details the members are referred to the record of the proceedings of the Committee sittings.

It was the day before yesterday, the fifth of this month, that information was received from the House of Representatives that the Government-presented Bill had been passed after amendment. The amendment refers to a number of items which have been decided by the Committee of the House of Councillors after repeated negotiations with the authorities concerned in the course of the preliminary consideration of the Bill. I feel it necessary that the principal points of amendment in the Bill sent round by the House of Representatives should now be set forth.

Point 1 is that the provincial public bodies have powers to dispose of administrative business of their respective jurisdiction not related to the affairs of the State.

Point 2 is that the abolition or retention, separation or amalgamation, or change in boundaries of a (city), (town), or (village) is to be decided upon by the Governor of the **to*** **do***, **fu***, or **ken*** with the approval of the local Assembly of Councillors in accordance with the proposal made by the **shi, cho,** or **son** concerned.

* Largest self-governing areas.

The third point of amendment is that the essential conditions for an ordinary local public body to become a City shall be made fixable by law, and those for such body to become a Town fixable by the regulations of the metropolis, the **do,** or the prefecture concerned.

The fourth point is that the metropolis, the **do,** or the prefecture shall be authorized to enforce necessary provisions by its regulations concerning the administrative affairs of a city, town or village, except in the case where such affairs are specially provided for by law, that any regulations of a city, town, or village, contrary to those of the metropolis, the **do,** or the prefecture, shall be invalidated, that an ordinary local public body shall be authorized, except in the case of special provisions being fixed by law, to prescribe penal provisions in the regulations of such local self-governing public body for imposing on offenders of those regulations a penal servitude or imprisonment for a period not exceeding two years, a penalty of not more than one hundred thousand year, detention, fine, or confiscation of property, and that the affairs concerning the judgment of crimes shall be placed under the jurisdiction of national courts of justice.

The fifth point is that an ordinary local public body shall be definitely authorized to enforce its own rules so long as they do not contravene any law or statutory ordinance, and that penal provisions, as in the case mentioned in the item No. 4, shall be prescribed in such rules for imposing a fine of not more than two thousand yen on offenders of those rules.

The sixth point, which concerns the **do** and prefectural administration, is that, in the governments of Hokkaido and all prefectures, there must be instituted the seven administrative departments in each of them, namely, the general affairs department, the popular welfare department, the education department, the economic department, the civil engineering department, the health department, and the farmer department that the six other department, including the agriculture and forestry department, the forestry affairs department, the commercial and industrial department, the aquatic product department, the labor department, and the public enterprise department, and, in the case of Hokkaido, the development department in addition, shall be made possible to be instituted, when specially necessary, by virture of provisions prescribed for such purpose in the respective local regulations, that an arbitrary execution of the new establishment, abolition or amalgamation of those departments or any change in the departmental assignment of affairs shall not be recognized, that the Account Division of the Tokyo Metropolis, provided for in the existing law, shall be changed to the Financial Affairs Division, and that, of the affairs under the jurisdiction of the popular welfare division of **do** and prefectures, the items concerning labor shall be transferred into the jurisdiction of the economic division.

The seventh point is that provisions shall be prescribed requiring the chief of an ordinary local public body to prepare the so-called "white book" explaining financial affairs, as in accordance with the provisions of the respective local regulations, not less than twice a year and publish it before the inhabitants belonging to such local public body. The preparing and publication of this white book of finance comes from the suggestion made by a witness and adopted by the Public Peace and Local Administration System Committee of the House of Councillors.

The eighth point concerns the designation of a Special City. It stipulates the fixing of provisions that the designation of such city must be determined not only by the voting in the city itself but by the general voting of all persons having the right to vote in the metropolis, **do,** or prefecture concerned. In the so-called five major cities of Yokohama, Nagoya, Kyoto, Osaka, Kobe, etc. vigorous movements as you know, have been under way for the institution of a special city administration system, leading to various debates concerning the interpretation of the

Constitution Article 95. In the present amendment bill as revised by the House of Representatives, the legislative procedure concerning this part of the Local Self-Government Law has been expressly stated to do away with all room for such ambiguity.

The ninth point is that the provisions of the Local Self-Government Law now in force concerning councils of local public bodies shall be abolished.

These are outlines of amendments contained in the Amendment Bill, as revised by the House of Representatives on considering the opinions of this Committee and consulting the views of the authorities concerned, and referred back to us.

On the part of the Committee, a discussion of the Bill together with the points of revision proposed by the House of Representatives was entered into. Mr. Suzuki, Naondo, Mr. Okamoto, Aisuke, and Mr. Okamoto, Yoshito, members of the Committee, who belong to the Ryokufukai party, each expressed his views in favor of the Bill, and, the present Bill, as revised by the House of Representatives, was unanimously adopted by the Committee. This is my report concerning the progress and result of discussion on the Bill by the Committee (Applause.)

The President: If no one wants to make a new proposal, we shall now take a vote on the Bill. We may take it up in its entirety. I ask the members supporting it please to stand up.

(All the members stand up.)

The President: I see all the members stand up. Accordingly, it has been unanimously approved by this House.

Mr. SUZUKI, Naoto: I propose to make an urgent interpellation on the actual railway transportation condition.

Mr. UCHIMURA, Seiji: I second Mr. Suzuki's motion.

The President: I ask the members seconding Mr. Suzuki's motion please to stand up.

(AI the members stand up.)

The President: I see all the members stand up.

Mr. Naoto Suzuki, please!

(Mr. Naoto Suzuki ascends the rostrum.) (Applause.)

Mr. SUZUKI: I have asked permission for making an utterance, as I want to ask an urgent question of the new Transportation Minister, Mr. Kitamura, regarding the recent transportation conditions of the State Railway.

To make the point of the problem clear, I beg to read aloud a paragraph from the Asahi of November 29. Under a high-sounding title, "Hand to Mouth Diagram; Everyday Passengers Left Behind; a New Tactics of the Aomori Chapter of the State Railway Labor Union," it reads as follows." The Aomori Chapter of the State Railway Labor Union, which has already formulated a strike diagram, is now keeping ominous silence. However, new tactics have been employed since the middle of this month, as a prelude to a strike. That is a safety operation. To wit, when, on the 12th of this month, 780 demobilized people and 900 ordinary passengers got aboard the 9.40 p.m. train from Aomori to Ueno, the staffs of the Aomori Car Examination Section Office did not allow the train to start because of a "critical condition of the springs," and tried to set down a part of those passengers. But they would not follow this advice. As a result of a confusion that followed, the train finally started at 1 a.m. of the following day. After this incident, the chapter put up posters reading 'Don't cram in by all means!' everywhere within the premises of Aomori Station. And everyday several hundreds of passengers were left behind on the platforms of the station.

Next is the problem of absence. On the 13th of this month, while three assistant engine-drivers were negotiating with Mr. Imai, chief of the Superintendance Dept., on the raise in their pay, they were so excited that they were not in time for the trains which they were to operate. To wit, the train for Osaka started 13 minutes later than schedule, the train for Sakata 20 minutes. Owing to the absence, since the 25th, or 70 engine drivers and their assistants, on the average per day, there were 9 unoperated freight-trains on 26 and 11 on 27. Thus the diagram had turned literally "from hand to mouth." As a result, large quantities of freight have come to be held up. Against the expected shipment of 209,770 tons for November, 30 per cent is being held up. More than 200 freight cars are gathered in the Aomori marshalling place. Further in the Sendai Railway Bureau, the supervising office of Aomori Station, the staffs have been divided into two camps, retarding the decision of the measures for the present case. The activities of the Aomori Chapter, which holds the key to coal transportation from Hokkaido to Tokyo, are attracting public attention." This is a statement which appeared in the Asahi. We can see similar statements in other papers, too. Further, it is reported that, here and there in Hokkaido District, the so-called wild-cat tactics have been progressing toward solution. But a report I obtained from a certain source concerned on the results of the recent freight tsansportation under the Sendai Railway Bureau, reveals that the average amount of freight transportation in this area is about 25,000 tons a day; however, on the 29th 18,000 tons; on December 1st 15,000 tons; on the 2nd 19,000 tons; on the 3rd 18,000 tons; on the 4th 17,000 tons.

I do not think that the problem is now taking a favorable turn.

Further, upon investigation of the congestion of important goods in the Tohoku and Hokkaido districts, I found considerable piles at producing centers, of coal, which is indispensable for the reconstruction of Japan. Besides, I have heard that fire-wood and charcoal, which we are ardently waiting for, are piled up at various places in large quantities, and they are now beginning to deteriorate. In regard to charcoal and lignite, there is a rumor that only one third of the quantities, which their shippers applied to the railways for transportation, has been transported, while fish is being disposed of as fertilizer, no freight cars being obtainable for it. Then, what is the present condition of Tokyo and Yokohama? Production is inactive there with inflation aggravating steadily. In this cold season, no household is allowed to use, electric heaters freely, while it can hardly obtain the necessary supply of fire-wood and charcoal. And shivering with hunger and cold day and night, the people are now going to meet the year end a critical time in our annual life.

It makes us frightened to see the Government railways in such a disorderly condition. Who can be indifferent to this? Can the leader of the Government railways say that they have real leadership? I have no intention of discussing here the responsibility of the Government authorities and workers. With the Government railways badly damaged by the war and with their transportation capacity greatly reduced, these men have been working hard day and night, and it is greatly to their credit that the reconstruction of Japan has been realized so far, and I am very grateful for this.

On the other hand, considering the important role the railway is playing in the reconstruction of Japan, we can not be indifferent to the state of the railway transportation.

Fortunately, Mr. Kitamura of the Democratic Party, noted for his ability, has been appointed the Minister. I believe that the present disorderly condition, in which the Government railways are, will be speedily remedied. Having great expectation in the new Minister, I wish to have his answers to the following four points:

1. What is the true state of the so-called wild-cat strikes in the Tohoku and Hokkaido areas, about which I spoke a little while ago?

2. What measure is being taken by the authorities against the wild cat strikes?

3. Please explain clearly how you intend to clear the congested shipments of coal, firewood and charcoal.

4. Is there no fear of the wildcat strikes spreading to other railway areas throughout the country?

I expect from the Minister answers, which are not merely explanatory but characterized by will power and confidence.

The President: Transportation Minister Kitamura, please.

(Mr. KITAMURA, Tokutaro, State Minister, takes the rostrum.

Mr. KITAMURA: Mr. Suzuki has put very earnest questions on the actual conditions of the State Railway. I am appointed the Transportation Minister and I have not yet a full knowledge about the actual condition of the State Railway. However, I am able to recognize at least that the present crisis in the management of the State Railway is considerably serious. I think, this crisis reveals roughly three phenomena. For instance, apart from the points in the questions just raised, there exists a financial disparity between revenue and expenditure and further the restoration and adjustment after the termination of the war are now in an extremely imperfect condition. This restoration of railways is not an easy task under the present circumstances. And finally, the labor situation is unfavorable to the management and especially the operation is extremely inefficient, as Mr. Suzuki has just pointed out. These three points constitute the present crisis of the State Railway. I find it absolutely necessary to take adequate steps for improving these conditions fundamentally and removing all defects. I think, however, that the causes of these bad conditions do not lie in the State Railway itself alone. Anyhow, it is needless to say that a maintenance of the transportation capacity in a efficient state is a basic condition for the economic activities of the Japanese industry, as you have just said. It is very regrettable that the State Railway as one of bases of our industry is now in such conditions as you have just told. I feel it my responsibility to overcome this crisis as early as possible by sweeping the causes of these irrational conditions and to restore the State Railway. For this purpose, however, I may ask you to have full recognition on the super-important industry character of the State Railway in order to get a cooperation of all circles, official and civil. Unquestionably, the State Railway itself must be determined to do its best in leading the collective power of its employees to a reasonable operation in order to meet its essental duty. On this point, my responsibility is very grave. The State Railway labor union, at the management council meeting held in September, this year, agreed on the State Railway reconstruction program proposed by the authorities concerned. On the ground of this, I want to bring the reconstruction program into realization after seeking cooperations of various circles and governmental offices concerned and getting a positive cooperation of the State Railway labor union. The central executive committee of the State Railway labor union renewed its members on the 1st in this month. This may be taken up as an important matter. By changing its members, the said executive committee is now becoming sound or moderate. If this sound spirit would penetrate into the lowest parts of the organization, we might find the labor union in a more or less different aspect from what has been seen heretofore. I may recognize that the union is now on their trend as a whole.

But what is most essential is the economic unrest of the railroad workers' living. And so, every possible effort must be made by us for improvement of their labor conditions, while official discipline is of course necessary to be enforced.

Besides, owing to the fact that the supply of various materials necessary to labor is not working smoothly so that there is fear of curbing their will to work anything unreasonable must be rectified in these respects. Now, allow me to take an example. In the coal mining districts such as Kyushu and Hokkaido, there are those who are assigned to work outside the pit doing somewhat similar work to that of clerks. Their labor is not so hard as the railroad workers, but they can enjoy better treatment than the latter on the ground that they belong to the coal mining industry. As such a discrimination of treatment is adversely affecting the labor situation. it is necessary to reform the present system of labor treatment from the very basis.

Now, in order to seek an understanding with you about the so-called wild cat strike which happened recently in the Aomori Locomotive Sector under the Sendai Railroad Bureau, I want to make a frank report on it.

On November 10, two sub-engineers of the Aomori Locomotive Sector missed the starting time of their assigned trains, because they had been meeting the chief of the Management Division together with a representative of their Labor Union. As a result, two trains were bound to start behind the scheduled time respectively by 13 minutes and 28 minutes. As soon as this affair was reported to the Ministry of Railroad, we regarded it serious, and dispatched an official to the spot. After investigation, it was known that they had no intention of going on strike, and they had been usually making a good record on their duty. Accordingly, punishment given to the two sub-engineers was so light that they were temporarily disqualified from driving the locomotive.

Up to November 27, about forty train workers had absented themselves from duty every day. The total number of the train crew is 350. In consequence, the operation of trains was impeded, and the traffic of two trains was suspended every day. This is a matter for regret, indeed. On November 27, the Chief of the Management Division ordered them to attend their office. Since then, the percentage of their attendance has

been raised so highly that normalcy has been restored. Some radical elements of the Aomori Locomotive Sector appealed to the Local Labor Committee in Aomori Chapter, and since that time they have been agitating railroad workers in this sector both day and night. We are taking every possible precaution in this respect. On December 4, in the Aomori Track Maintenance Sector, all the personnel except the assistant-chief and a few others did not attend the office. On that day, the chief of the sector was in the Sendai Railroad Bureau on an official trip, and so the Chief of the Management Division called upon the Chairman of the Union Strike Committee to make an explanation about it. The Chairman replied that he had not issued any order of strike and he could not do anything but stand by. Therefore, availing the prepared network of communication, the Division Chief issued an order to all the personnel to attend the office. In response to this order, 367 workers came to the office on the following day from among all the personnel totalling 406. Thus, normalcy has been restored.

At Ominato Motor-car Section, on December 4, a large number of operators having absented themselves a considerable hinderance happened to afternoon operation.

On December 5 also to the same Section due to non-attendance only two operations were made. But at Sendai branch section there is no absentee, so that the operation is continued as usual. This is the actual state of affairs.

And at the engine section of Hirosaki, during October, many trainmen absented themselves, in consequence of which, two freight-trains continued non-operation; but afterward attendance-rate turned for the better and operation became normal. The absence rate, to date on December 1, is 13% which may well be considered to be normal.

In the Sapporo section the case is nearly the same as the Sendai Section. In the former section hitherto the employees' attitude has been radical and bellicose and there is now no perceptible change in the state of affairs. Particularly, the rise in the cold zone, several problems and troubles have happened here and there in this section. Employees' desertion of their posts has occurred in several places; but fortunately it has not developed into a crisis. Through their negotiations with their respective superintendents they have come back to their posts. On October 28, the Hokkaido Local Labour Committee proposed a compromise as to special allowances in the cold district; and the Labour Union is insisting resolutely and stubbornly on its execution. In view of these circumstances, the payment of supplementary livelihood allowances must be made at an early possible date. The Government intends to solve this problem as soon as possible. To give a practical instance, about forty track-operators of Atsunai Track and three other tracks of the Ikeda track-maintenance section in Kushiro Supervision Division deserted their posts from about November 28; but through their negotiations with their respective superintendents, all of them went back to their posts on December 5. The branch association of the Kitami conductors' section held a mass meeting on November 24 and decided that they would demand a raise of travelling allowances and the payment of the prices of rationed commodities of trainmen and if this demand were not accepted they would go on a strike on the 28th; but the branch of the union restrained the resolution, and the problem was solved later and the threatened strike was postponed. In the Naeho Machinery section, on November 25, the Engine Operators' Union, setting at naught their promise with the machine section chief, held a mass meeting extending over an hour. This breach of the time limit being regarded as a dispute, the payment of their salaries was suspended.

Again on November 21, in Sapporo a mass meeting of Laborors for the realization of their demand was held, in which participated more employees than those arranged for by the section chief. Toward this breach of the arrangement, the same measure mentioned just now was taken, which was recognized as unavoidable by the union.

To speak briefly about the transport condition of Sendai and Sapporo, in winter even in the average year transportation in these districts is delayed in some measures, but the assurance of the transportation of Hokkaido and Aomori districts, which are the most important sources of coal and timber, as stated just now by some of you, is of primary importance. Realizing their heavy responsibility, the employees, enduring food shortage and the intense cold, are doing their best for its attainment.

Some time ago some confusion was seen on the transportation, with Aomori for its centre, due to the special transportation of the district, which affected the transportation of firewood and charcoal for winter use to be sent to Tokyo metropolis; but the transportation in these districts has gradually improved and is expected soon to recover.

I regret that the traffic of freight cars was obliged to be partly tied up because so many employees were absent from their works in the North-east. But, as the causes of disorder, we cannot overlook the facts such as bad weather, the wants of stevedores and defects of instruments, or bad quality of coal.

The railway operators, therefore, have not proceeded to assume a form of labor dispute as a means to carry out their requests. When the chiefs of the superintendent Sections or other superiors adviced those the absentees to come and take their duties, they were always obedient to them. So, perhaps, we can not say the labor circumstances are giving so much hindrance to the traffic. But, as it is regrettale for us to see those facts in existence, we must make every effort to do away with the evil effects and to develop their efficiency as high as possible, at present, we do not think that the chief cause of the transportation to make is found in the labor conditions. Accordingly, we must, of course, take expedient measures, as circumstances require, for the present stage. And, we have already ordered to the authorities concerned to take a step decidedly not to pay their wages to those who are disobedient, and the authorities, are, in fact, carrying it into effect. I shall be carefully watching the progress of the case, and then it has developed into the labor dispute we must take a strong attitude against them for the sake of the strict enforcement of official disciple.

I have alluded just now to the distribution of those materials necessary for the State railway management or for its operators. This matter was discussed in September this year at the Management Conference, and the preferential rationing of those materials to the operators was earnest-

ly requested by the Labor Unon. Especially, the gloves, the rubber soled socks or the fatigue blouses are absolutely necessary for the workers in the cold districts. But we are now in so narow circumstances that even the rationed amount of those materials can not be fully supplied to them. I wish, therefore, with your cooperation, to do my best to improve those hard circumstances.

I am endeavoring to strictly enforce official discipline in order to realize the transportation program of State railway. But we have now considerable red figures in our finance. Moreover, we must manage our finance by the independent accounts system, and the sum which was once transferred from the general accounts must be repaid as a debt. The transport capacity has been declined while the goods for transportation have greatly increased. All the while, we are taking pains to give full play to the function of State railway by supplementing the shortage of materials or repairing the broken equipments. As it must be pities for us if we fail in our efforts on account of labor troubles, we have some firm resolution that we will be strict when we ought to be strict, we will be tolerant when ought to be tolerant, and we will lose no time to better the employees treatments.

I don't know whether the above may exactly meet your interpellation or not, but, by this report of mine, I hope you will understand the reality of labor circumstances at Sendai and Hokkaido. (Applause).

The President: We shall now take up for discussion the Petition listed as the 9th Item on the Agenda. I call on the Committee Chairman for the report. Chairman of the Judical Committee, Mr. Shu Ito, please!

Report on Committee Investigation
Dec. 4, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House
of Councillors.

Sir;

Re: The Judicial Committee on Petitions: No. 3.

I have the honor to report that the Committee has decided your examination that the following Petition should be passed on to the House for deliberation:

Petition No. 597 concerning the establishment at Akita of a branch of the Sendai Higher Court.

Respectfully yours,
Yasutaka Suzuki,
Chairman of the Judicial
Committee.

Report on Committee Investigation
Dec. 4, 1947

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House
of Councillors.

Sir;

Re: Judicial Committee Special Report on Examination of Petitions: No. 3.

I have the honor to report with a draft statement of views attached that the Committee was decided after examination that the following Petition be forwarded to the Cabinet:

Petition No. 597 concerning the establishment at Akita of a branch of the Sendi Higher Court, presented by Akira Koyama, 3 Nishi Negoya Kamimachi, Akita.

Respectfully yours,
Chairman of the Judicial
Committee.
Yasutaka Suzuki,

A Draft Statement of Views.
1947.

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
Prime Minister.

Sir;

Petition concerning the Establishment at Akita of a Branch of the Sendai Higher Court, presented by Akira Koyama, 3 Nishi-Negoya Kami-machi, Akita.

The Petition above captioned is to the following effect: the rights of persons who undergo trial should be equally protected, and no advantage of the place of residence or of economic power should in any way be allowed to affect the exercise of these rights. This way of thinking was extended the powers of the higher court and has brought into closer relationship the court and the people. The distribution of courts of law as it is at present leaves much to be desired, and in this respect the six prefectures of North-East Japan are placed in a lamentable condition. It is desirable from this consideration that, in view of the proportion of area and the number of cases treated and the condition of traffic, a branch of the Sendai Higher Court be speedily opened at Akita. The House of Councillors is in substantial agreement with the purport of the Petition and hopes that the Cabinet will use its best endeavor for its realization. Herewith is forwarded the document in accordance with Article 81 of the National Diet Law.

Respectfully yours,

Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House
of Councillors.

(Mr. Shuh Ito ascends rostrum)
(Applause.)

Mr. Shuh Ito.

I would like to make a report on the proceedings and results of the examination by the Judiciary Committee of the petition now before you.

It is true that the six prefectures of North-Eastern District occupy a large area and available means of transportation is very poor. However, they are placed under the jurisdiction of the High Court in Sendai, a City situated in the south-eastern part of those six prefectures. In other words, the people of the three prefectures, Aomori, Akita and Yamagata, are obliged to make at least two overnight trip whenever they have something to do with the High Court.

Hitherto, a case examined by a Sub-District Court was referred to a District Court when appeal was filed against the decision of the former, in accordance with the revision of the Court Law. But the recent amendments to the Law opened no other way, as a matter of fact, than to place under the examination by the Sendai High Court all cases examined by the Sub-District Court. If so, it may be concluded that the provision of Article 32 of the Constitution "No person shall be denied the right of access to the courts" is actually denied to 1,200,000 inhabitants of Akita Prefecture and that they find themselves in a tremendously disadvantageous position. It is imperative, therefore, to establish a branch court of the High Court in Akita, Center of Japan Sea Coast, in case such a Court is to be established for the six prefectures in the future, because the people of Japan Sea Coast of North-Eastern District get great benefits therefrom. At any rate, the present situation is hardly understandable owing to geographical reasons.

On the part of the Government, it declared that full consideration would be given to the question and that efforts would be exerted for the realization of such an establishment. The Committee, after careful examination of the petition, has reached the conclusion that the purport of the petition is recommendable and that the petition is to be sent to the Cabinet with the memorandum of the Commit-

tee's views. (Applause.)

The President: If no one wants to make a new proposal, we shall now take a vote on the Petition. I ask the Members approving of adopting it as reported by the Committee Chairman and forwarding it to the House of Representatives please to stand up.

(All the Members stand up.)

The President: I see all the Members stand up. Accordingly, the House has decided to adopt it unanimously and forward it to the Cabinet.

The President: I now suggest that we change the order of the Day and take up for discussion the Petitions listed on the 10th to the 13th Items on the Agenda and the Representations listed on the 43rd and the 44th Items on the Agenda. Is there any objection to that?

(Some Members say "No objection.")

The President: I see there is no objection. I call on the Committee Chairman for the report, first. The Chairman of the Welfare Committee, Mr. Juzo Tsukamoto, please!

Report on Committee Investigation.

December 4, 1947

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Sir;

Re: Report No. 5 on Examination of Petitions of the Welfare Committee.

I have the honor to report that the Committee has decided that the following Petitions should be passed on to the National Diet for deliberation:

Yours respectfully,
Juzo Tsukamoto,
Chairman of the Welfare Committee.

Report No. 5 on Examination of Petitions of the Welfare Committee.

1. Petition No. 443 concerning the establishment of a National Institute for Research in Heredity.

2. Petition No. 582 concerning the preservation of the acupuncture and moxibustion practised by the blind.

3. Petitions Nos. 485, 503, 512 concerning the enactment of an acupuncturist and moxibustionist law.

4. Petition No. 579 concerning the preservation of acupuncture and moxibustion as subjects of instruction for the blind students.

Report on Committee Investigation.

December 4, 1947

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Sir;

Re: Special Report No. 5 on Examination of Petitions of the Welfare Committee.

I have the honor to report the Committee has decided after examination that the following Seven Petitions should be forwarded to the Cabinet:

Yours respectfully,
Juzo Tsukamoto,
Chairman of the Welfare Committee.

Special Report No. 5 on Examination of Petitions of the Welfare Committee.

1. Petitions for the preservation of acupuncture and moxibustion for practice by the blind.

a. Petition No. 470 presented by Hideo Imazeki, 129, 1-chome Totsukamachi, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo.

b. Petition 582 presented by Hajime Masaki, 422-2, Wakamiya, Hyogo-mura, Saga-gun, Saga-ken, and 440 others.

2. Petitions concerning the enactment of an acupuncturist and moxibustionist law.

a. Petition 485 presented by Yoshikatsu Komori, 527, 2-chome Kami-Kitazawa, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo, and another.

b. Petition 503 presented by Kenji Matsuno, 120, Zoshigaya, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo.

c. Petition 512 presented by Toraichi Goto, 2, Minami 9-chome Higashi-Ichijo, Obihiro-shi, Hokkaido.

3. Petition concerning the preservation of acupuncture and moxibustion as subject of instruction for blind students.

Petition No. 570 presented by Mikio Otake, 41, 1-chome Furusawamachi, Naka-ku, Nagoya, and 16, 744 others.

4. Petition concerning the establishment of a National Institute for Research in Heredity.

Petition No. 443 presented by Kiyoshi Masui, living with Bungo Wada, 6, Kamiyama-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo.

Appended is a statement of views.

A Draft Statement of Views

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
Prime Minister.

Sir;

1. Petition concerning the preservation of acupuncture and moxibustion for practice by the blind, presented by Hideo Imazeki, 129, 2-chome Totsuka-machi, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo.

2. Petitions concerning the enactment of a acupuncturist and moxibustionist law, presented by Yoshikatsu Komori, 527, 2-chome Kami-Kitazawa, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo and another; by Kenji Matsuno, 120, Zoshigaya, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo; and by Toraichi Goto.

3. Petition concerning the preservation of acupuncture and moxibustion as subject of instruction for blind students, presented by Mikio Otake, 41, 1-chome, Furusawa-machi, Naka-ku, Nagoya, and 16,744 others.

The current Regulations for Practice in acupuncture and moxibustion become effective on Dec. 31, 1947. Practitioners in these heating arts, shampooing and massage, who number some 100,000 in all Japan, have been asking the Government for giving legal recognition of their practice. The name of "amma" (shampoorer) be abolished and a law be enacted for practice of acupuncture, moxibustion, and massage (including amma). Licensing examinations for practice of these arts be conducted by other of the Welfare Minister, and for attainment of greater skill in the arts institutes be held when the authorities find it advisable. Regulations be framed for technical and sanitary improvement and the practice of acupuncture and moxibustion be licensed for the sighted as well as for the blind. These are the purports of the Petitions above captioned. The House of Councillors recognize the appropriateness of the desires expressed, and wish that the matter be taken up vigorously by the Cabinet so that their realization may be attained. A separate paper is forwarded herewith in accordance with Art. 81 of the National Diet Law.

A Draft Statement of Views.

1947.

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
Prime Minister.

Sir;

Petition concerning the establishment of a National Institute for Research in Heredity, presented by Kiyoshi Masui, living with Bungo Wada, 6, Kamiyama-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo.

The purport of the above captioned Petition is as follows: Natural sciences have a most important role to play in a satisfactory solution of the questions of population and the food problem and also in the building up of a cultural State. Especially the science of heredity is in close relationship with these subjects, and it serves a good purpose directly in connection with the settling of the food crisis and the population question confronting us in this country. Without application of the science of heredity these problems will never be solved, but satisfactory results cannot be expected from the research facilities we have here in Japan, which are lamentably inadequate at present. It is therefore essential that a State-managed research institute be established without delay. The House of Councillors is in substantial accord with the petitioners in their desires and hope that the Cabinet will use its best endeavor to their realization. An annexed paper is forwarded herewith in accordance with Art. 81 of the National Diet Law.

Respectfully yours,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors.

Report on Committee Investigation

December 4, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Sir;

Re: Report No. 5 on Examination of Petitions of the Welfare Committee.

I have the honor to report that the above decision has been made.

Yours respectfully,
Juzo Tsukamoto,
Chairman of the Welfare Committee.

Report No. 5 on Examination of Petitions of the Welfare Committee.

1. Petition to be presented for dismission at the Diet session.

P. No. 600. Petition concerning expansion of Welfare facilities for coal-mine workers.

P. No. 601. Petition concerning pension increase for teachers.

Report on Committee Investigation

December 4, 1947

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Sir;

Re: Report No. 5 on Special Examination of Petitions of the Welfare Committee.

I have the honor to report that decision has been made to send the above two petitions to the Cabinet. Accordingly, I beg to submit herewith a statement of views.

Yours respectfully,
Juzo Tsukamoto
Chairman of the Welfare Committee

Report No. 5 on Special Examination of Petitions of the Welfare Committee.

1. Petition concerning expansion of welfare facilities for coal-mine workers.

P. No. 600. Presented by Ushiro Ito, chief of the coal production increase cooperative association, care of the Coal Office, Sanneneho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo.

2. Petition concerning pension increase for teachers.

P. No. 601. Presented by Hotei Kakiki, No. 2080, Higashi-koen, Koencho, Kamiina-gun, Nagano Prefecture.

Draft Recommendation

Petition concerning expansion of welfare facilities for coal-mine workers.

Petitioners: Ushiro Ito, chief of the coal production increase cooperative association, c/o Coal Office, Sannencho, Chiyodaku, Tokyo.

1947.

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
Prime Minister.

Sir;

The purport of the petition is that improvement of work and living conditions of coal-mine workers cannot be made only by the Labor Standard Law, and that expansion of welfare facilities for these workers is desirable for increasing coal production.

The petition is considered reasonable, and I hope that the Cabinet will do its best to realize it. I beg to send an enclosure in accordance with Art. 81 of the National Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors.

Draft Recommendation

Petition concerning increase of pension for teachers.

Petitioner: Hotei Kakiki, No. 2080, Higashikoen, Koencho, Kamiinagun, Nagano Prefecture.

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
Prime Minister

Sir;

The purport of the above is that ex-teachers who are paid pensions can hardly make a living in these days of mounting commodity prices because they have neither savings nor income, and their pensions are as small as ever, and they hope that their pensions will be increased without delay. The petition is considered reasonable, and I hope that the Cabinet will do its utmost to realize it. I beg to send an enclosure herewith in accordance with Art. 81 of the National Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,

1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors.

TSUKAMOTO Shigezo takes the platform. (Applause).

Shigezo, TSUKAMOTO: I will report on the outcome of the examination at the Welfare Committee meeting in regard to the representations and petitions, which have been tabled just now.

To begin with, representation No. 443, on the proposed establishment of a national genetics research institute. The representation, in substance, stresses the importance of making every effort for the construction of a cultural nation on the one hand, while the food and population question is being solved on the other; points to the important role played by the natural sciences, in particular the study of heredity, which has close relations to the outstanding problems; expresses the belief that a state-operated research institute is urgently required. It also states that, while the study of heredity has its objective in the distant future, the application of the results of its recearches will have direct bearing upon the solution of the immediate questions of food and population, which Japan now faces; that, without exaggeration, the application of the results of the study of genetics is considered to be the only way to the solution of the questions. It is further stated that:

Firstly, the key to the solution of the food problem lies not only in the increased production by the improvement of technique and fertilizers but also in the application of the sciences of heredity, to raise such species as are better adapted to the particular climatic conditions of this country, with more yield and power of resistance to diseases. Either in respect of

cattle-breeding, species suited for the climate of this country, having higher utility and power of resistance, should be bred. Already certain progress has been made in the study of heredity, so that some of the results may be put into practice in various fields. Under the present critical conditions, the application of the results of the scientific researches is of the utmost importance.

Secondly, in reference to the problem of population, if the Japanese people are to contribute any thing to the cultural progress of the world at large, their qualitative improvement is quite important. For such purpose, scientific researches of heredity should form the basis of any action. The development of the study of heredity in this country is the result of the united efforts of those concerned in the physiological, agricultural and medical sciences. (The President retires, and the Vice-President takes the seat). However, the existing poor facilities are not sufficient to attain these aims. Therefore it is desired that a state-operated research institute will be established without loss of time, to enable large-scale synthetic researches to be carried on.

The representation was refered to the sub-committee and received its careful examination. As the necessity of establishing a state-operated genetics research institute was recognized, the Government was demanded to materialize the idea by all means to establish a research institute immediately as far as the funds are available, and to extend it by degrees. It was decided the representation would be referred to the plenary session and sent to the Cabinet.

Representations No. 470 and 582 deal with the desired continuance of the current system to license the blind to give acupuncture and moxibustion treatment. Proposition No. 579 deals with the same subject in reference to the blind students. In my report I will combine these representations together.

The representations may be summarized like this: Acupuncture, moxibustion, Amma (Japanese massage), massage and the like have been handed down from the old times in this country, and recognized in general as occupations best suited for the blind. It should be pointed out that the blind, with their special sense of touch and sensitiveness, have no equal in their method of practising. To deprive the blind of the opportunities of doing business in acupuncture, Amma, massage and the like, which are best suited for them, would be a question of life and death to the blind. Either for those who receive treatment, the step would mean the loss of the most suited practitioners. Such being the case, it is desired that the blind are allowed, as their established right to continue their business in these lines as in the past. It is also desired that in regard to the license for opening new business by the blind students, the most expedient measures will be taken. The Representation bears the signatures of hundred and several scores of thousand people.

In addition to these Representations, there were presented those Nos. 485, 503 and 512, in regard to introduction of a acupuncture and moxibustion practitioners law.

These Representations may be outlined like this: While the practitioners in acupuncture, moxibustion, Amma and massage throughout the country have been contributing in no small measure to the society in general, bearing their due share of responsibilities for the national health, the controlling regulations relative to acupuncture, moxibustion and Amma business are now scheduled to lapse at the end of this year as a result of the enforcement of the new Constitution, and accordingly the Government is now reported to be making preparations for a substitute legislation. The people in the acupuncture, moxibustions, Amma and massage business throughout the country, numbering more than hundred thousand, have been demanding for years the institution of these regulations. In the regulations to be newly introduced, it is desired, firstly, that the persons engaged on acupuncture, moxibustion, Amma and massage will be dealt with under single regulations, which may be called somewhat as "Law Governing Acupuncture, Moxibustion and Massage Practitioners, Including Those Engaged in Amma." It is desired, secondly, that acupuncture, moxibustion, Amma and massage business will be made subject to the license of the Welfare Minister, and, as a general rule, the examination will be made under the jurisdiction of the same Minister. It is desired, thirdly, that a set of proper regulations will be introduced for the purpose of ensuring satisfactory sanitation in the facilities to be employed in practising. It is desired, fourthly, that the practioners will be authorized to treat the insured under the social insurance law. These are the main points of the Representations.

In regard to these six Representations the Government made it clear that it would incorporate their substance in the bills now under preparation, as far as the circumstances would permit.

The committee meeting, in sympathy with the purport of these Representations, decided to refer the subject to the plenary Session and send it to the Cabinet.

Next comes the Petition No. 600, in reference to improved welfare facilities for the coal-miners. The contents of this Petition are the same as those of Petition No. 370, on the same subject, of which report was made on this floor on December 5. Petition No. 601, on the desired increase in the pensions of teachers, is in substance the same as Petition No. 298 and two others on similar subject, of which the plenary Session was reported on November 28. All these Petitions were decided upon at the committee meeting of December 4, to be refered to the plenary Session and sent to the Cabinet. Now I come to the end of my report. (Applause).

The Vice-President: Mr. MATSUMOTO, Jiichiro):

If no one wants to make a new proposal, we shall now take a vote on the Petitions and the Representations. I ask the Members approving of adopting these Petitions and Representations and forwarding them to the Cabinet to please stand up.

(All the Members stand up.)

The Vice-President: I see all the members stand up. Accordingly, the House has decided to adopt them as reported by the Committee Chairman and forward them to the Cabinet.

The Vice-President: I now suggest that we change the Order of the Day and take up for discussion the Petitions listed on the 14th Item on the Agenda and Representation listed on the 45th Item on the Agenda en bloc. Is there any objection to that?

(Some Members say "No objection.")

The Vice-President: I see there is no objection. I call on the Committee Chairman for the report, first. The Chairman of the Labor Committee, Mr. Toraich Hara, please!

Report on the Committee Investigation.

December 6, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Re: No. 3. of the Labor Committee, on Examination of Petitions.

To be referred to the House for deliberation Petition No. 618:

Petition on the Increase of the Area Allowance in Kumamoto City.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that the above subject has been examined and decided as above.

Respectfully yours,
TORAICHI HARA,
Chairman, Labor Committee.

December 6, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Re: Report No. 3, of the Labor Committee, on Examination of Petitions.

Subject: Petition on the Increase of the Area Allowance in Kumamoto City.

Petition No. 618: tendered by Namizo Inoue, No. 1 Tenjin-cho Kumamoto City.

Sir:

I have the honor to report to you accompanying herewith the draft observations in the appended paper, that the above petition has been examined and decided to be transmitted to the Cabinet.

Respectfully yours,
TORAICHI HARA,
Chairman, Labor Committee.

Draft Observations.

..... 1947.

Tetsu Katayama,
Prime Minister.

Subject: Petition on the Increase of the Area Allowance in Kumamoto City:

Tendered by Namizo Inoue, No. 1 Tenjin-cho, Kumamoto Shi.

Sirr

The purport of the above petition is:

Although Kumamoto City is in a food producing prefecture, there exists no direct connection between the intra-prefectural production and consumption because of the intensification of food control; on account of the rapid increase of population caused by the fact that repatriates from overseas, demobilized persons, and evacuees from other prefectures, have entered there counting upon its food production, the intra-prefectural consumption has increased and black-market brokers of staple foods and other people are coming into there to purchase foods, consequently the black-market prices of foods have remarkably increased; the residential quarters and the central and commercial districts of the city have been destroyed by bomb-fire, but reconstruction is making little or no progress, and there is an extreme shortage of dwelling houses; miscellaneous goods for daily use, which are shipped from the Kyoto-Osaka and north Kyushu districts, are extremely high priced in comparison with other cities; in spite of such circumstances, Kumamoto City has been classified as B Area in the classes of the extraordinary area allowance on the ground that Kumamoto is a food producing prefecture; however, the actual life of the personnel of the Government and public offices living in Kumamoto City is in the same, or rather a worse, condition than that of those who live in Fukuoka, Nagasaki, and other cities in north Kyushu, which have been classified as Special or A Area; therefore it is desired that the present area allowance in Kumamoto City be speedily raised.

The House of Councillors considers that the general idea of the petition is proper and hopes that the Cabinet will strenuously endeavor for its realization, by rectifying as much as possible the existing unfairness of the area allowances at various localities and taking prudent steps in the execution of the new pay scale. The appended paper is herewith transmitted in accordance with Article 81 of the National Diet Law.

Respectfully yours,
TSUNEO MATSUDAIRA,
President of the House of Councillors.

Report on the Committee Investigation.

December 6, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Re: Report No. 3, of the Labor Committee, on Examination of Representations.

Referred to the House for deliberation.

Representation No. 620:

Representation on the Improvement of the treatment of Teachers.

Sir:

I have the honor to report to you that the above subject has been examined and decided as above.

Respectfully yours,
TORAICHI HARA,
Chairman, Labor Committee.

December 6, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Special Report No. 3, of the Labor Committee, on Examination of Representations.

Representation on the Improvement of the treatment of Teachers:

Representation No. 621, tendered by Masami Hayashi, Principal of the Toba Primary School, Shima Gun, Mie Ken, and fifty-five others.

Sir;

I have the honor to report that it has been decided upon investigation by my Committee to forward to the Cabinet this Representation, accompanied with the statement of our views.

Respectfully yours,
Toraichi Hara,
Chairman, Labor Committee.

DRAFT OBSERVATIONS

1947

Tesu Katayama, Esq.,
Prime Minister.

Representation on the Improvement of the Treatment of Teachers:
Tendered by Masami Hayashi, Principal of the Toba Primary School, Shima Gun, Mie Ken.

Sir:

The purport of the above representation is:

The quality of teachers has showing a tendency to deteriorate rapidly since during the War and the condition of educational circles is such that it is impossible to select talented ones; not only, that, it is impossible now even to fill the fixed number of teachers; the administrative staff of each school and the Government offices concerned are taking pains in supplementing the shortage of teachers ;however, their pains are of no avail at the present time when the treatment of teachers is extremely poor and their income is far lower than that of those who are employed in other jobs; therefore it is demanded that their treatment be so improved as to enable them to earn a sufficient livelihood by devoting themselves to education, that is to say, the increase of pays, granting in kind of daily necessaries, reduction of

the income tax, payment of the actual amount of travelling expenses, and according of facilities in connection with the use of means of transportation on official duties, be practised.

The House of Councillors, recognizing the urgent necessity to improve the treatment of teachers who are devoting themselves to education, by keeping in mind the fact that the key to the construction of a new Japan lies in education, considers that the general idea of the representation is proper and hopes that the Cabinet will strenuously endeavor for its realization. The appended paper are herewith transmitted in accordance with Article 81 of the National Diet Law.

Respectfully yours,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House
of Councillors.

(Mr. HARA, Toraichi takes the rostrum. Cheers.)

Mr. HARA: I shall report on the deliberations done by the Labor Committee and the result thereof on the petition and memorial now before the House. These petition and memorial all refer to the pays of laborers, one respecting the question of local allowances of the Government and public workers and the other respecting the question of the improvement in treatment of school teachers. The Committee discreetly deliberated on the questions, when representing the Government, the parliamentary Vice-Minister of the Labor Ministry, the Director of the Female and Juvenile Bureau, the Director of the Pays Bureau, Ministry of Finance, and Deputy-Director of the School-Education Bureau, Ministry of Education, were present and gave explanations and answers in detail.

I shall briefly describe the progress of the deliberations. First is the petition No. 618 for the raising of area allowances in Kumamoto city. This petition asks for the raising adequately of the area allowances of the Government and public workers in Kumamoto city, stating in detail the actual circumstances under which they are suffering from very high commodity prices. From the conception that Kumamoto city is located in a production prefecture, that area has been designated as falling under the category of "B" areas, but since Kumamoto city is an outright consumption area, the Government and public workers in that area are having the same, or rather harder time for their livelihood as in such special or "A" areas as Fukuoka and Nagasaki cities and other towns in northern Kyushu, and therefore, it is petitioned for immediate raising of the amounts of area allowances.

Regarding the above, the Government delegates of the Ministry of Finance replied that as there is some doubt as to the appropriateness of area allowances in respect of all areas, studies are under way for their adjustment. It is, however, difficult to raise the area allowance in a certain particular area, as in the present case, without comparing it with other areas; so the Government is intending to fix the matter after due deliberation on all views collected from labor unions and prefectural governors of the areas affected. In the case of Kumamoto city, the commodity prices there cannot be said to be specialy high when they are viewed from the national point of view, said the Government members.

But, since the Government admits that the existing area allowances in places are not appropriate and that it is of urgent necessity to correct them as a whole, the Committee recognized that the tenor of the petition is justified in substance, for we cannot deny the faet that the Government and public workers in Kumamoto city are having a very hard time through recent advances in commodity prices. The Committee, however, agreed that this question should not be confined to a certain particular area, but taking up the question covering all areas and considering the real state of livelihood in every area, the Government should take immediate action in having the area allowances fixed most properly for each area when a new pay system is enforced shortly, and accordingly the Committee voted to transmit the petition to the Cabinet with such recommendations.

Next is memorial No. 621 introduced by the school teachers of Mie prefecture for improvement in their treament. Needless to say, the teachers who devote themselves to education—a foundation for rebuilding a new Japan—are imposed with grave responsibilities, but the qualities of teachers since the war time have steadily declined, and it is a stern fact in the educational circle that it is now wellnigh impossible to get able teachers. So long as the treatment of teachers are more unfavorable than other occupations, it is impossible for the teachers to devote themselves to the work of education. Hence the petition is made for immediate improvement of their treatment, and as material means of the improvement, the petition demands the raising of pay, supply of living articles, reduction of income tax, pay of actual amounts of travelling expenses, and offer of facilities of traffic for travel on their official duties.

Regarding the above matter, the Government delegates replied that the treatment of teachers, which had hitherto been lower than that of general Government officials, has recently been improved to the same level as general Government officials, but even when their pay in other things than the salary is taken into account, their treatment is still unfavorable. Especially in the direction of travelling expenses, dwelling houses, and supply of commodities there is much to be improved, and therefore study is now under way to appropriately improve their treatment, said the Government members.

Recognizing that in view of the very important mission the teachers have for the reconstruction of democratic Japan, it is an urgent necessity to better their treatment, the Committee have found the tenor of the position to be justified, and have unanimously voted that the petition be adopted by a plenary session of the House. The Committee have further unanimously voted that the petition be transmitted to the Cabinet to take immediate action thereon.

The above concludes my report on the deliberations by the Committee on the petition and memorial.

The Vice-President: If no one wishes to take a new proposal, we shall now take a vote on the Petitions and the Representations. I ask the Members for adopting them as reported by the Committee Chairman and forwarding them to the Cabinet to stand up.

(All the Members stand up.)

The Vice-President: I see all the Members standing up. Accordingly, the House decides to adopt them unanimously and forward them to the Cabinet.

The Vice-President: I now suggest that we change the Order of the Day, taking up for discussion the Petitions listed as the 15th to the 35th Items on the Agenda and the Representations Listed as the 47th to the 49th Items on the Agenda. Is there any objection to that?

("No objection.")

The Vice-President: I see there is no objection. I call on the Committee Chairman for the report, Chairman of the Transportation and Traffic Committee, Mr. Tetsu Ono!

Report No. 3 of the Transportation and Traffic Committee on Examination of Petitions.

December 6, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of
Councillors.

Sir,

I have the honor to report that the Committee, after examination, has decided that the following petitions be referred to the House for deliberation.

Yours respectfully,
JUNSUKE ITAYA,
Chairman of the
Transportation and
Traffic Committee.

Petition No. 108, for Accelerating the Inauguration of Railway Service between Gojo Station and Shingu-shi.

Petition No. 112, for Accelerating the Electrification of the Tokaido Line between the Numazu and the Hamamatsu Stations.

Petition No. 142, for Accelerating the Electrification of the Joban Line between Matsudo and Taira Stations.

Petition No. 164, concerning the Commencement of the Electrification Works on the Joban Line between Matsudo and Abiko Stations.

Petition No. 173, concerning the Electrification Works on the Bisatsu Line.

Petition No. 184, concerning the Restoration of the Withdrawn Section on the Satsunuma Line.

Petition No. 188, for Accelerating Electrification on the Joban Line between Matsudo and Abiko Stations.

Petition No. 189, for Accelerating the Inauguration of Railway Service between Tominai and Tokachishimizu in Iburi-koku.

Petition No. 206, concerning the Restoration of Omuda Station.

Petition No. 239, concerning the Conversion of the Iwakisaigo Signal Station on the Tohoku Main Line into a Goods and Passengers Station.

Petition No. 278, concerning the Extension of the Government Electric Line to Odawara.

Petition No. 296, concerning the Construction of a Railway between Naoetsu and Muikamachi Stations.

Petition No. 298, concerning the Construction of a Railway between Futamata-machi and Sakuma-mura in Iwata-gun, Shizuoka-ken.

Petition No. 301, concerning the Construction of the Aburazu Boat-train Line.

Petition No. 311, for Accelerating the Electrification of the Tokaido Line between Numazu and Hamamatsu Stations.

Petition No. 326, concerning the Prompt Opening of the Otto Through Traffic Service.

Petition No. 353, concerning the Construction of a Railway between Hamahara and Tokaichi Stations.

Petition No. 373, concerning the Construction of a Railway between Imaichi-machi, Tochigi-ken and Tajima-machi, Fukushima-ken.

Petition No. 383, concerning the Restoration of the Shirotana Line.

Petition No. 387, concerning the Electrification of the Tosan Line.

Petition No. 410, for Accelerating the Electrification of the Bisatsu Line.

Special Report No. 3 of the Transportation and Traffic Committee on Examination of Petitions.

December 6, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of
Councillors.

Sir,

I have the honor to report that the Committee, after examination, has decided that the following 21 petitions be forwarded to the Cabinet. Herewith is attached a draft recommendation under separate cover.

Yours respectfully,
JUNSUKE ITAYA,
Chairman of the
Transportation and
Traffic Committee.

Petition for Accelerating the Inauguration of Railway Service between Gojo Station and Shingu-shi.

Petition No. 108: Presented by Mr. Shugoro Nishio, Headman of Gojo-machi, Uchi-gun, Nara-ken.

Petition for Accelerating the Electrification of the Tokaido Line between Numazu and Hamatsu Stations.

Petition No. 112: Presented by Mr. Takeji Kobayashi, President of the Association for the Electrification of the Numazu-Hamamatsu Railway, No. 38, Oite-machi, Shizuoka-shi.

Petition for Accelerating the Electrification of the Joban Line between Matsudo and Taira Stations.

Petition No. 142: Presented by Mr. Kyutaro Morohashi, President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc.

Petition concerning the Commencement of the Electrification Works on the Joban Line between Matsudo and Abiko Stations.

Petition No. 164: Presented by Mr. Ryotaro Nakayama, Headman of Kashiwa-machi, Katsushika-gun, Chiba-ken and 21 others.

Petition concerning the Eectrification Works on the Bisatsu Line.

Petition No. 173: Presented by Mr. Masaki Koide, Mayor of Hitoyoshi.

Petition concerning the Restoration of the Withdrawn Section on the Satsunuma Line.

Petition No. 184: Presented by Mr. Matsutaro Seiyo, Headman of Numata-machi, Uryu-gun, Hokkaido and 4 others.

Petition for Accelerating the Electrification of the Joban Line between Matsudo and Abiko Stations.

Petition No. 188: Presented by Mr. Eikichi Yuge, No. 831, Toyoshiki, Kashiwa-machi, Chiba-ken.

Petition for Accelerating the Inauguration of Railway Service between Tominai and Tokachishimizu in Iburi-koku.

Petition No. 189: Presented by Mr. Shinsuke Matsudaira, Headman of Shimizu-machi, Kamikawa-gun, Hokkaido.

Petition concerning the Restoration of Omuda Station.

Petition No. 206: Presented by Mr. Chuzo Tanaka, Mayor of Omuda.

Petition concerning the Conversation of the Iwakisaigo Signal Station on the Tohoku Main Line Line into a Goods and Passengers Station.

Petition No. 239: Presented by Mr. Shizuo Nakame, Headman of Shirakawa-machi, Nishihirokawa-gun, Fukushima-ken and 6 others.

Petition concerning the Extension of the Government Electric Line to Odawara.

Petition No. 278: Presented by Mr. Kenkichi Sato, No. 138, Saiwai-1 chome, Odawara-shi, Kanagawa-ken and 3 others.

Petition concerning the Construc-

tion of a Railway between Naoetsu and Muikamachi Stations.

Petition No. 296: Presented by Mr. Soichiro Yanagi, Headman of Matsushiro-mura, Higashikubiki-gun, Niigata-ken and 22 others.

Petition concerning the Construction of a Railway between Futamata-machi and Sakuma-mura in Iwata-gun, Shizuoka-ken.

Petition No. 298: Presented by Mr. Keizo Sakata, Mayor of Hamamatsu and 3 others.

Petition concerning the Construction of the Aburazu Boat-train Line.

Petition No. 301: Presented by Mr. Yuhi Kumamto, Headman of Aburazu-machi, Minaminaka-gun, Miyazaki-ken and 3 others.

Petition for Acceerating the Electrification of the Tokaido Line between Numazu and Hamamatsu Stations.

Petition No. 311: Presented by Mr. Hitoshi Nakayama, President of the Shizuoka Tourist Industry Association, Inc., No. 38, Oite-machi, Shizuoka-ken.

Petition concerning the Prompt Opening of the Oito Through Traffic Service.

Petition No. 326: Presented by Mr. Shin Kamijo, Headman of Shin-mura, Higashichikuma-gun, Nagano-ken and 4 others.

Petition concerning the Construction of a Railway between Hamahara and Tokaichi Stations.

Petition No. 353: Presented by Mr. Tadashi Miura, Headman of Miyoshi-machi, Futami-gun, Hiroshima-ken and 19 others.

Petition concerning the Construction of a Railway between Imaichi-machi, Tochigi-ken and Tajima-machi, Fukushima-ken.

Petition No. 373: Presented by Mr. Yasumasa Kumagai, Headman of Imaichi-machi, Kamitsuga-gun, Tochigi-ken and 8 others.

Petition concerning the Restoration of the Shirotana Line.

Petition No. 383: Presented by Mr. Sanae Kikuchi, No. 8, Aza-Shoen, Tanakura-machi, Higashi Shirakawa-gun, Fukushima-ken and 70 others.

Petition concerning the Electrification of the Tosan Line.

Petition No. 387: Presented by Mr. Wakaji Kawamura, Governor of Kochi-ken and 14 others.

Petition for Accelerating the Electrification of the Bisatsu Line.

Petition No. 410: Presented by Mr. Saburo Sakurai, Governor of Kumamoto-ken and 78 others.

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
Prime Minister.

Sir:

Re. Petition for Accelerating the Inauguration of Railway Service between Gojo Station and Shingu-shi.

Petitioner: Mr. Shugoro Nishio, Headman of Gojo-machi, Uchigun, Nara-ken.

Petition concerning the Construction of a Railway between Naoetsu and Muikamachi Stations.

Petitioner: Mr. Soichiro Yanagi, Headman of Matsushiro-mura, Higashikubiki-gun, Niigata-ken and 22 others.

Petition concerning the Construction of a Railway between Futamata-machi and Sakuma-mura in Iwata-gun, Shizuoka-ken.

Petitioner: Mr. Keizo Sakata, Mayor of Hamamatsu and 3 others.

Petition concerning the Construction of the Aburazu Boat-train Line.

Petitioner: Mr. Yuhi Kumamoto, Headman of Aburazu-machi, Minaminaka-gun, Miyazaki-ken and 3 others.

Petition concerning the Prompt Opening of the Oito Through Traffic Service.

Petitioner: Mr. Shin Kamijo, Headman of Shin-mura, Higashichikuma-gun, Nagano-ken and 4 others.

Petition concerning the Construction of a Railway between Hamahara and Tokaichi Stations.

Petitioner: Mr. Tadashi Miura, Headman of Miyoshimachi, Futami-gun, Hiroshima-ken and 19 others.

Petition concerning the Construction of a Railway between Imaichi-machi, Tochigi-ken and Tajima-machi, Fukushima-ken.

Petitioner: Mr. Yasumasa Kumagai, Headman of Imaichi-machi, Kamitsuga-gun, Tochigi-ken and 8 others.

The above-mentioned Petitions embody a desire for prompt construction of railways in the respective districts where there is a great demand for transportation and traffic.

The House of Councillors considers all these petitions as proper and justifiable in substance and hopes that the Cabinet will use its utmost endeavors to comply with the request so far as the budget and materials permit. Herewith is forwarded a separate paper in accordance with Article 81 of the Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,
Tsuneo Matsuraira,
President of the House of Councillors.

Draft Recommendation

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
Prime Minister.

Sir:

Re. Petition for Accelerating the Electrification of the Joban Line between Matsudo and Taira Stations.

Petitioner: Mr. Kyutaro Morohashi, President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc.

Petition concerning the Commencement of the Electrification Works for the Joban Line between Matsudo and Abiko Stations.

Petitioners: Mr. Ryotaro Nakayama, Headman of Kashiwamachi, Katsushika-gun, Chiba-ken and 21 others.

Petition for Accelerating the Electrification of the Joban Line between Matsudo and Abiko Stations.

Petitioner: Mr. Eikichi Yuge, No. 831, Toyoshiki, Kashiwa-machi, Chiba-ken.

Petition concerning the Extension of the Government Electric Line to Odawara.

Petitioners: Mr. Kenkichi Sato, No. 138, Saiwai-1 chome, Odawara-shi, Kanagawa-ken and 3 others.

Draft Recommendation

Petition for Accelerating the Electrification of the Tokaido Line between Numazu and Hamamatsu Stations.

Petitioner: Mr. Takeji Kobayashi, President of the Association for the Electrification of the Numazu-Hamamatsu Railway, No. 38, Oite-machi, Shizuoka-shi.

Petition for Accelerating the Electrification of the Tokaido Line between Numazu and Hamamatsu Stations.

Petitioner: Mr. Hitoshi Nakayama, President of the Shizuoka Tourist Industry Association, Inc., No. 38, Oite-machi, Shizuoka-ken.

The above-mentioned Petitions embody a desire for railway electrification which is necessary for reinforcement of transport capacity. The House of Councillors considers these Petitions as reasonable in substance and hopes that the Government will concentrate its efforts on realizing the purposes of these Petitions. Hereby is forwarded a separate paper in accordance with Article 81 of the Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,
TSUNEO MATSUDAIRA,
President of the House of Councillors.

Draft Recommendation

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
Prime Minister.

Re: Petition concerning the Electrification Works on the Bisatsu Line.

Petitioners: Mr. Masaki Koide, Mayor of Hitoyoshi. Mr. Saburo Sakurai, Governor of Kumamoto-ken and 78 others.

Petition concerning the Electrification of the Tosanu Line.

Petitioners: Wakaji Kawamura, Governor of Kochi-ken and 14 others.

Sir,

The above-mentioned Petitions embody a desire for speedy electrification on the steep gradient lines so as to increase transport capacity and economize coal. The House of Councillors considers these Petitions as reasonable in substance hopes that the Government will concentrate its efforts on realizing the purposes of these Petitions. Hereby is forwarded a separate paper in accordance with Article 81 of the Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,
TSUNEO MATSUDAIRA,
President of the House of Councillors.

Draft Recommendation

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
Prime Minister.

Re: Petition concerning the Restoration of the Withdrawn Section on the Satsunuma Line.

Petitioners: Mr. Matsutaro Seiyo, Headman of Numata-machi, Uryu-gun, Hokkaido and 4 others.

Sir,

The above petition embodies a desire for prompt restoration of railways whose removal during the war has been causing great inconvenience. The House of Councillors considers this petition as reasonable in substance, and hopes the Government will concentrate its efforts on realizing the purpose of this petition. Hereby is forwarded a separate paper in accordance with Article 81 of the Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors.

Draft Recommendation

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
Prime Minister.

Re: Petition for Accelerating the Inauguration of Railway Service between Tominai and Tokachishimizu in Iburi-koku.

Petitioner: Mr. Shinsuke Matsudaira, Headman of Shimizu-machi, Kamikawa-gun, Hokkaido.

Sir;

The above petition embodies a desire for speedy construction of railway in the district where there is a great demand for transportation and traffic. The House of Councillors considers this petition as reasonable in substance and hopes that the Cabinet will make every possible efforts in this connection so far as the budget and materials permit. As regards the junction, however, decision must be made after careful consideration. Herewith is forwarded a separate paper in accordance with Article 81 of the Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors.

Re: Petition for Reconstruction of Omuda Railway Station, presented by Chugo Tanaka, Mayor of Omuda City.

Sir:

The above-mentioned petition embodies a desire for prompt reconstruction of Omuda station which, being temporarily built after its destruction by fire during the war, is now ratten and in danger of collapse which might cause serious casualties among the boarding and alighting passengers with which the station is usually crowded. The House of Councillors considers the petition as reasonable in substance and hopes that the Cabinet will make every effort in this connection. Herewith is forwarded a separate paper in accordance with Article 81 of the Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors.

Draft Recommendation

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
Prime Minister.

Re: Petition concerning the Raise of the Iwakisaigo Signal Station on the Tohoku Main Line to a Goods and Passengers Station Status.

Petitioners: Mr. Shizuo Nakame, Headman of Shirakawa-machi, Nishihirokawa-gun, Fukushima-ken and 6 others.

Sir;

The above-mentioned Petition embodies a desire for raising the Saigo Signal Station to the status of an ordinary station in view of a remarkable increase in the volume of transportation and traffic. This is likely to become an important junction when the Shirotana Line is restored, and the House of Councillors considers this Petition as reasonable in substance, and hopes the Government will concentrate its efforts on realizing the purpose of this Petition. Hereby is forwarded an annexed paper in accordance with Article 81 of the Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors.

Draft Recommendation

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
Prime Minister.

Re: Petition concerning the Restoration of the Shirotana Line.

Petitioners: Mr. Sanae Kikuchi, No. 8, Shoen, Tanakura-machi, Shirokawa-gun, Fukushima-ken and 70 others.

Sir;

The above-mentioned Petition embodies a desire for the revival of the Shirotana Line there is a great demand in this district for transportation and traffic connected with coal production of coal mines. The House of Councillors considers this Petition as reasonable in substance, and hopes the Government will concentrate its efforts on realizing the purpose of this Petition. Hereby is forwarded an annexed paper in accordance with Article 81 of the Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors.

Report No. 3 on Statements of Facts of the Committee on Transportation and Traffic.

Dec. 6, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the
House of Councillors.

Sir,

I have the honor to report that the Committee has decided after examination that the representations be passed on to the National Diet for deliberation.

1. Representation No. 99 concerning the electrification of the Utsunomiya-Omiya section of the Tohoku Main Line, the Utsunomiya-Nikko section of the Nikko Line, the Koyama-Takasaki sec-

tion of the Ryomo Line.

2. Representation No. 201 concerning the execution of electrification work on the Takasaki-Yokogawa section of the Shin-Etsu Line.

3. Representation No. 467 concerning the expedition of the electrification of the Numazu-Hamamatsu section of the Tokaido Line.

Respectfully yours,
Junsuke Itaya,
Chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Traffic.

Special Report No. 3 on Statement of Facts of the Committee on Transportation and Traffic.

Dec. 6, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the
House of Councillors.

Sir,

I have the honor to report with a Statement of Views attached that the Committee has decided after examination that the following representation should be forwarded to the Cabinet:

1. Representation No. 99 concerning the electrification of the Utsunomiya-Omiya section of the Tohoku Main Line, the Utsunomiya-Nikko section of the Nikko Line, the Koyama-Takasaki section of the Ryomo Line, presented by Tokuji Takagiwa, Chairman of the Tochigi Prefectural Assembly.

2. Representation No. 201 concerning the execution of electrification work on the Takasaki-Yokogawa section of the Shin-Etsu Line, presented by Koichi Kojima, representation of the League for the Realization of the Electrification of the Takasaki-Yokogawa section of the Shin-Etsu Line, and 19 others.

3. Representation No. 467 concerning the expediting of the electrification of the Numazu-Hamamatsu section of the Tokaido Line, presented by Tatsuzo Suzuki, Chairman of the Numazu Municipal Assembly, and six others.

Respectfully yours,
Junsuke Itaya,
Chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Traffic.

A Draft Statement of Views.

1947.

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
Prime Minister.

Sir,

1. Representations concerning the electrification of the Utsunomiya-Omiya section of the Tohoku Main Line, the Utsunomiya-Nikko section of the Nikko Line, and the Koyama-Takasaki section of the Ryomo Line, presented by Tokuji Takagiwa, Chairman of the Tochigi Prefectural Assembly.

2. Representation concerning the expediting of the electrification of the Numazu-Hamamatsu section of the Tokaido Line, presented by Tatsuzo Suzuki, Chairman of the Numazu Municipal Assembly, and six others.

The Representation above captioned concerning the electrification of railways for purposes of enhancing the power of transportation. The House is in substantial agreement with the presenters of the Statements and hopes that the Cabinet will strive for its realization if allowed by the Budget, and the supply of materials. Appended is a separate paper in accordance with Article 81 of the National Diet Law.

Respectfully yours,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors.

(Mr. ONO, Tetsu, takes the rostrum.) (Cheers.)

Mr. ONO, Tetsu: Taking together the Appeal No. 142 and eight other cases, and the Representation No. 201 and two other cases,—the petitions and representations concerning the electrification of railroads,—I am going to report on the progress and results of their deliberations at the Committee meeting.

On these petitions and representations, the Councilors through whose good offices they were brought forward have made earnest explanations, and detailed explanations have also been made by the Government authorities. For the particulars I refer you to the documents containing these petitions and representations and other related papers, and I shall confine myself to simple statements.

The Government was asked for an explanation of the fundamental principle underlying the electrification of railroads, and it replied to this effect: Since the railroad electrification has a great effect in the economization of coal consumption, in the reduction of running expenses, in the enlargement of transportation capacity, and in other respects, it is intended to carry it into effect as much as possible. In this electrification, priority will be given to lines where there is a especially large amount of traffic, to lines marked with many high gradients, or to such lines near big cities as are experiencing difficulties in the transportation of passengers. On the other hand, note should be taken on the fact that the railroad electrification requires considerable funds and materials. With full regard to these circumstances, the work of electrification will be carried into effect in progressive stages.

I may begin by dealing with the Petition No. 142, or the appeal concerning the acceleration of the electrification of the permanent way between Matsudo and Hiraoka Stations on the Joban Line, and the Petitions Nos. 164 and 188, or the Petitions concerning the putting into execution of the electrification of the permanent way between the Matsudo and Abiko Stations on the Joban Line. As a result of deliberation, it has been agreed that, since the said sections of the railroad are, of the lines near Tokyo, marked with special congestions in passenger traffic, it is necessary that they should be electrified as soon as possible, and the Committee has unanimously voted that the appeals require to be forwarded to the Cabinet.

Then, there are the Petitions Nos. 173 and 410, or the Petitions concerning the electrification of the Hi-Satsu Line. The deliberations has resulted in the decision that, since it is an important line containing many gradients, it is necessary that it should be electrified as soon as possible; and the Committee unanimously voted that the Appeals require to be forwarded to the Cabinet.

Next is the Petition No. 278, or the petition concerning the extension to Odawara of the Ministry-operated electric-train service; and then come the Appeals Nos. 112 and 311 and the Representation No. 467, which concern the acceleration of the electrification of the section between Numazu and Hamamatsu on the Tokaido Line. All these concern the electrification, or the switching off to the electriv-train service, of certain sections of the Tokaido Line. The result of deliberation has been that, since these sections carry the largest amount of traffic and are moreover marked with the utmost congestion, it is necessary that they should as soon as possible be electrified or switched off to the electric-train service; and the Committee has unanimously voted that the Appeals and the Representation require to be forwarded to the Cabinet.

Then comes the Appeal No. 387, or the appeal concerning the electrification of the Do-San Line. As a result of deliberation, it has been agreed that, since this is an important line and moreover is marked with very many gradients, it is necessary that the line should be electrified as soon as possible; and the Committee has unanimously voted that the Petition requires to be forwarded to the Cabinet.

Next is the Petition No. 201, or the appeal concerning the putting into execution of the electrification of the section between Takasaki and Yokogawa on the Shin-Etsu Line. This is an important section and contains extraordinarily many gradients, in addition. The result of deliberation has been the agreement that it is necessary to electrify the section as soon as possible. The Committee has unanimously voted that the Appeal requires to be forwarded to the Cabinet.

Next is the Petition No. 99, or the appeal concerning the realization of the electrification of the Utsunomiya-Omiya section on the Tohoku Line, of the Utsunomiya-Nikko section on the Nikko Line, and of the Oyama-Takasaki section on the Ryomo Line. The result of deliberation has been that since these sections in the neighborhood of Tokyo are marked with congestions in passenger traffic, it is necessary gradually to electrify them, with due regard to the considerations of budgetary appropriations and to the availability of materials. Thus, the Committee has unanimously voted that the Appeal requires to be forwarded to the Cabinet.

Then, I shall report on the Appeal No. 108 and 11 other cases, all concerning the construction of railroads, taken together. First of all, an explanation was made by the Government with respect to the fundamental policy governing the construction of railroads. The explanation was to this effect: The construction of railroads is subject to severe restraints due to the considerations of the Budget and of the availability of materials. Therefore, even in cases where the construction of a railroad has already been started, it is very difficult to complete the work with promptitude. The railroad authorities think that any projects for the construction of railroads in the future should also be planned by taking into due consideration the question of making both ends of the national-owned railroads meet.

I then come to the Petition No. 108 concerning the acceleration of the construction of a railroad between Gojo Station and Shingu City, No. 298 concerning the construction of a railroad between Futamata-cho and Sakuma, Iwata-gun, Shizuoka Prefecture, No. 326 concerning the acceleration of the completion of the Oito Line, No. 353 concerning the construction of a railroad between Hamahara and Tokaichi Stations, and No. 373 concerning the construction of a railroad between Imaichi, Tochigi Prefecture, and Tashima, Fukushima Prefecture. All these sections are of importance, and their construction was previously decided upon. They serve district rich both in population and resources. As a result of deliberation, the Committee has unanimously voted that the petition require to be forwarded to the Cabinet, in the sense that the desired railroads should be constructed as soon as budgetary appropriations and materials might permit.

Next is the Appeal No. 189, or the appeal concerning the acceleration of the construction of a railroad between Tominai, Iburi, and Tokachi-Shimizu. This is an important line whose construction was previously decided upon. However, the Government is carefully considering where to put the junction-point, and it cannot at present be decided that the junction point should be Tokachi-Shimizu. As a result of deliberation, therefore, it has been agreed, merely with regard to the previously-sanctioned line starting from Tominai, that the work of constructing it should be put into execution as soon as budgetary appropriations and materials might permit. In this sense, the Committee has unanimously voted that the petition requires to be forwarded to the Cabinet.

The petition No. 296 concerns the construction of a railroad between Naoetsu and Muikaichi Stations. Along this line is located the Kubiki oilfield, and moreover it would make an important pioneer line serving rice-producing centers. The petition No. 301 concerns the constructions of a harbor railroad line at Aburatsu. This is an important port, and constitutes an important center of lumber and aquatic products. The deliberation has taken note of the above-mentioned nature of the desired lines, and the Committee has unanimously voted that the Petitions require to be forwarded to the Cabinet, in the sense that the construction work should be carried into execution as soon as budgetary appropriations and materials might permit.

I now pass on to the petitions concerning the rehabilitation of railroad lines or station buildings. With regard to the Petition No. 184 concerning the restoration of the suspended section on the Sassho Line, the Petition No. 206 concerning the rehabilitation of Omurota Station, and the Petition No. 383 concerning the restoration of the Hakuho Railroad, the Government made explanations to the effect that all possible would be done to realize the desired restoration. As a result of deliberation, the Committee has unanimously voted that the Petitions require to be forwarded to the Cabinet.

Next is the Petition No. 239 concerning the conversion into a station for passenger and goods traffic of Iwaki-Nishigo Signal-Station on the Tohoku Line. When the restoration of the Hakuho Line is realized, the place mentioned in this appeal will possibly form an important junction-point. For this reason, the Committee, as a result of deliberation, has unanimously voted that the Petition requires to be forwarded to the Cabinet.

With this, I finish my report.

(Cheers.)

The Vice-President: If no one wishes to make a new proposal, we shall now take a vote on the Petitions and the Representations. I ask the Members approving of adopting them as reported by the Committee Chairman and forwarding them to the Cabinet, please to stand up.

(All the Members stand up.)

The Vice-President: I see all the Members stand up. Accordingly, the House has decided to adopt them unanimously and forward them to the Cabinet.

The Vice-President: Is there any objection to taking up for discussion the Petitions listed on the 36th to the 42 Items on the Agenda en bloc?

(Some Members say "No objection.")

The Vice-President: I see there is no objection. I call on the Committee Chairman for the report, first. The Chairman of the Communication Committee, Mr. Rokuro Fukamizu, please!

The Communications Committee's Petition Deliberation

Report.

No. 1

On Petition No. 240—Petition concerning the issue of special postage stamp marked "Educational Encouragement."

On Petition No. 388—Petition concerning the promotion of Furano Post Office, Hokkaido to an ordinary post office.

On Petition No. 428—Petition concerning the establishment of a post office in front of Takata Station, Aizu.

On Petition No. 466—Petition concerning the construction of a new building for Sano Post office, Tochigi-Ken and the improvement of the telephone exchange system employed by this post office.

On Petition No. 484—Petition concerning the establishment of Toyosawa Post Office at Toyota-mura, Katsuta-gun, Okayama-ken.

On Petition No. 539—Petition concerning the commencement of telegraph and telephone business and telephone exchange business at Utagaki Post Office, Osaka-fu.

On Petition No. 568—Petition concerning the establishment of a post office at Sosha-mura, Gumma-gun, Gumma-ken.

December 5, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that we have deliberated on the above petitions and decided that they have to be submitted to the House for discussion.

Yours respectfully,
Rokuro Fukamizu,
Chairman.

The Communications Committee's Petition Deliberation Special Report No. 1.

On Petition No. 240—Petition concerning the issue of a special postage stamp marked "Educational Encouragement," presented by Kyoyo Mitsui, 493, 2 chome, Kamiuma Setagaya-ku, Tokyo, and 32 others.

On Petition No. 388—Petition concerning the promotion of Furano Post office, Hokkaido to an ordinary Post office, presented by Munenobu Fujiwara, Furano, Hokkaido and 4 others.

On Petition No. 428—Petition concerning the establishment of a post office in front of Takata Station, Aizu presented by Ben Watanabe, 2332 Ko, Takatamachi, Inunuma-gun, Fukushima-ken and 3 others.

On Petition No. 466—Petition concerning the construction of a new building for the telephone office of Sano Post office, Tochigiken and the improvement of the telephone exchange system employed by this telephone office, presented by Koken Ito, Mayor of Sano City and 2 others.

On Petition No. 484—Petition concerning the establishment of Toyosawa Post office at Toyoda-mura, Katsuta-gun, Okayama-ken, presented by Genpei Suichi, headman of Toyoda-mura, Katsuta-gun, Okayama-ken and 2 others.

On Petition No. 539—Petition concerning the commencement of telegraph and telephone business as well as telephone exchange business at Utagaki Post office, Osaka-fu, presented by Kajuro Tani, headman of Utagakimura, Toyono-gun, Asaka-fu and 5 others.

On Petition No. 568—Petition concerning the establishment of a post office at Motososha-mura, Gumma-gun, Gumma-ken, presented by Tomoichi Kagawa, headman of Motososha-mura, Gumma-gun, Gumma-ken and one other.

December 5, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that we have deliberated on the above 7 petitions and decided that they have to be submitted to the Cabinet for discussion. So, I enclose herewith our draft recommendations on the petitions.

Yours respectfully,
Rokuro Fukamizu.
Chairman of the Communications Committee.

Draft Recommendations on the Petition concerning the Issue of a Special Postage Stamp marked "Educational Encouragement," presented by Koyo Mitsui, 493, 2 chome, Kamiuma, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo and 32 others.

....., 1947.

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
The Prime Minister

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the purport of the above petition is to request this House to issue a special postage stamp marked "Educational Encouragement" because the utilization of postage stamps is effective to have the entire nation fully understand the necessity of educational encouragement, this House considers the petition adequate in the main, and wishes that the Cabinet will do its best for the realization of what is petitioned. I enclose herewith a separate copy according to Article 81 of the Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors.

Draft Recommendation on the Petition concerning the Promotion of Furano Post office, Hokkaido to an ordinary Post office, presented by Munenobu Fujiwara, headman of Furano-machi, Sorachi-gun, Hokkaido and 4 others.

....., 1947.

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
The Prime Minister.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the purport of the above petition is to request this House to promotes Furano Post office to an ordinary Post office on the ground that the town of Furano, which lies in the centre of Hokkaido and at the crossing of the Nemura Line and Furano Line of the Government Railways, is a distributing centre of agricultural products, but due to the fact that Furano Post Office is a special one, it is difficult for this office to provide there a means of communications which suit the condition of this town, and this cause a disadvantage to the development of this town. This House considers the petition adequate in the main, and wishes that the Cabinet will strive for the realization of what is petitioned as soon as possible. I enclose herewith a separate copy according to Article 81 of the Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House Councillors.

Draft Recommendation on the Petition concerning the Establishment of a Post office in front of Takata Station, Aizu, presented by Ben Watanabe, 2332 Ko, Takatamachi, Onuma-gun, Fukushima-ken, and 3 others.

....., 1947.

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
The Prime Minister.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the purport of the above petition is to request this House to establish a post office in front of Takata Station at Takata-machi, Onuma-gun, Fukushima-ken for reason that the areas around this station have been developing year by year so that they now require economic communication to be speedily dealt with. This House considers the petition adequate in the main, and wishes that the Cabinet will make its best for the realization of what is petitioned. I enclose herewith a separate copy according to Article 81 of the Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors.

Draft Recommendation on the Petition concerning the Construction of a New Building for the Telephone office of Sano Post office, Tochigiken and the Improvement of the Telephone Exchange System Employed by this Telephone office, presented by Koken Ito, Mayor of Sano City and 2 others.

.....1947

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
The Prime Minister

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the purport of the above petition is to request this House to build a new house for Sano Post Office, to replace the single telephones of magnet type now in use there with those of Kyoden type and to improve the telephone exchange services by replacing the uniform charge system employed with the time charge system so as to realize the fairness of burden on the subscribers, afford increased convenience to the subscribers and help the development of industries. This House considers the petition adequate in the main, and wishes that the Cabinet will endeavor for a speedy realization of what is petitioned by taking into consideration the Budget and the supply of materials to be required. I enclose herewith a separate copy according to Article 81 of the Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors

Draft Recommendation on the Petition concerning the Establishment of Toyozawa Post Office at Toyota-mura, Katsuta-gun, Okayama-ken, presented by Genpei Suichi, headman of Toyota-mura and 2 others.

.....1947

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
The Prime Minister

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the purport of the above petition is to request this House to establish Toyozawa Post Office quickly because Toyozawa of Toyota-mura is an important place from the view point of communication and industries. This House considers the petition adequate in the main, and wishes that the Cabinet will make its best for the realization of what is petitioned. I enclose herewith a separate copy according to Article 81 of the Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors

Draft Recommendation on the Petition concerning the Commencement of Telegraph and Telephone Business as well as Telephone Exchange Business at Utagaki Post Office, Osaka-fu, presented by Kajuro Tani, headman of Utagaki-mura, Toyono-gun, Osaka-fu and 5 others.

.....1947

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
The Prime Minister

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the purport of the above petition is to request this House to open telegraph and telephone business as well as telephone exchange business at Utagaki Post Office on the ground that Utagakimura, which is situated on the extreme north of Osaka Prefecture and which has common frontier with Kuwata-gun, Kyoto Prefecture, has many factories within it, and although there is a telephone exchange office available by it, this stands 3,500 meters away from it and moreover there being a mountain pass midway, the villagers have to spend much time in getting there. Besides, this telephone exchange office is being administered by the two villages concerned, and this village has the raison d'etre as a satellitic city of Kyoto, Osaka and Kobe in the light of the enterprises being carried on therein. This House considers this petition adequate in the main, and wishes that the Cabinet will make its best for the realization of what is petitioned. I enclose herewith a separate copy according to Article 81 of the Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors

Draft Recommendation on the Petition concerning the Establishment of a Post Office at Motososha-mura, Gumma-gun, Gumma-ken, presented by Tomoichi Kagawa, headman of Motososha-mura, Gumma-gun, Gumma-ken and 1 other.

.....1947

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
The Prime Minister

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that the purport of the above petition is to request this House to establish a post office at the said village on the ground that this village, which has about 600 houses or about 3,500 population, is an eminently crowded one, and having schools, a village office and other public organs therein, it is on the way of further development, but having no post office therein, they desire to have one therein for the benefit of the peoples of this and neighboring villages. This House considers this petition adequate in the main and wishes that the Cabinet will make its best for the realization of what is petitioned after studying if the Budget can permit it enclose herewith a separate copy according to Article 81 of the Diet Law.

Yours respectfully,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors

(Mr. FUKAMI Rokuro ascends the rostrum) (Applause)

Mr. Rokuro Fukami: I will roughly report on the progress and results of examination by the Communications Committee of the Petitions now before you. I shall begin with a Petition for the issuance of special postage-stamps for educational advancement. What it pleads is that in order to achieve the improvement of education it is essential to bring home the importance of the matter into the minds of the whole nation, and as one of its means, the Petition recommends the utilization of Postage-stamps which are characterized by their incomparable comprehensiveness, diffusiveness, and internationalism. With this end in view, the Petition requests that

an excellent postage-stamp of elaborate design be issued. Seeing that the recommendation is highly pertinent in consideration of the times, our Committee has arrived at a decision with unanimity that the Petition should be adopted in the plenary session and then be sent to the Cabinet. Next is a Petition for the promotion of the Furano Post Office in Hokkaido to the grade of ordinary post-office. The Petition requests that communications facilities be improved so as to be adaptable to the important standing of the town and the recent development of the district thereby serving to the prosperity of the town. Then another Petition for the establishment of a post-office in front of Aizu Takata Station states that in view of the marked development of that locality, the establishment of a post-office has already been petitioned twice and adopted respectively, and that accordingly an early realization of the Petition is earnestly requested. Again here is a Petition for the new construction of the Sano Post Office in Tochigi Prefecture together with the improvement of its telephone exchange system and the like. It pleads for the new construction of the Sano Post Office on the ground that its building is extremely decayed and narrow with its history of forty years since the construction. It also requests that the old type of its telephone system be replaced by the automatic system and the call-frequency Charge system be adopted.

Then comes a Petition for the creation of a Toyosawa Post Office at Toyoda Village, Katsuta County, Okayama Prefecture. It says that Toyosawa Sub-Village at Toyoda Village is an important place from traffic and industrial viewpoint, and an early establishment of a post office there is entreated.

On Petition for the institution of telephone and telegraph service and of telephone exchange of the Utagaki Post Office, Osaka Urban Prefecture. The Petition urges the importance of opening tele-communications service between Utagaki Village and Kyoto, Osaka and Kobe in the light of the Village's position as a satellite of those major cities, and therefore the institution of telephone and telegraph service and of telephone exchange of the Utagaki Post Office is requested.

On Petition for establishment of a post office at Sosha Village, Gumma County, Gumma Prefecture.

The Petition, stating that Sosha Sub-Village at Sosha Village is one of the most densely-populated districts in the Prefecture and is an important place from industrial viewpoint with schools and other public facilities, pleads that a post office be established in this locality. The Committee, in recognition of the reasonableness of all these Petitions, has reached a decision with unanimity that the Petitions should be adopted in the Plenary Session, and then be sent to the Cabinet, with a recommendation that the Cabinet endeavor to materialize them taking financial and other circumstances into consideration.

Though brief, this concludes my report. (Applause)

The Vice-President: If no one wishes to make a new proposal, we shall now take vote on the Petitions. I ask the Members for adopting them and forwarding them to the Cabinet as recommended by the Committee Chairman to stand up.

(All the Members stand up.)

The Vice-President: I see all the Members standing up. Accordingly, the House decides to adopt them unanimously and forward them to the Cabinet.

The Vice-President: We shall now take up the Petition listed as the 46th Item on the Agenda. I call on the Committee Chairman for the report, first, Chairman of the Electric Industry Committee, Mr. Ryosaku Sasaki, please!

Report on Committee Investigation

Dec. 5, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the
House of Councillors.

Sir;

Re: The Electric Committee Report on a Representation: No. 4.

I have the honor to report the Committee has decided after examination that the following Representation should be passed on to the House for arbitration:

Representation No. 608 concerning the measures for electric power in winter.

Respectfully yours,
Ryosaku Sasaki,
Chairman of the Electricity Committee.

Report on Committee Investigation

Dec. 5, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the
House of Councillors.

Sir;

Re: The Electricity Committee Report on a Representation: No. 3.

I have the honor to report with a draft statement of views attached that the Committee has decided after examination that the following Petition should be forwarded to the Cabinet.

Representation No. 608 concerning measures for electric power in winter presented by Masaru Hirose, Chairman of the Osaka-fu Assembly, and six others.

Respectfully yours,
Ryosaku Sasaki,
Chairman of the Electricity Committee.

A Draft Recommendation.

Tetsu Katayama, Esq.,
Prime Minister.

Sir;

Representation concerning measures for Electric Power in Winter, presented by Masaru Hirose, Chairman of the Osaka-fu Assembly, and six others.

The Representation above captioned is to this effect: The electric power situation in the Kinki district is that the imbalance supply and of a demand which prevailed since last summer has further intensified recently, and industrial recovery, which is expected to be most conspicuous at the present time, has been deprived of its bright prospects owing to the austere restriction in the supply of electric energy to important factories. Moreover, a similar restriction is adding further privation to home life. In these circumstance, it is desirable that, with the season of water scarcity affroading, measures be adopted for the relief of the situation by strengthening the development of thermo-electricity and by other effective means calculated to improve the situation of the generation and distribution of electric power in general. The House of Councillors is in substantial accord with the purport of the Statement, and hopes that the Cabinet will use its best endeavor of its realization. Appended is the document in accordance with Article 81 of the National Diet Law.

Respectfully yours,
Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors.

(Mr. Sasaki Ryosaku takes the rostrum. (Applause)

Mr. Sasaki Ryosaku:

Regarding the Representation No. 608 which is now before you, I will make a brief report of the progress and result of the deliberation in the Committee. This is the "Representation concerning plans to be taken for electricity in winter," being presented by the Chairman of Osaka Prefectural Assembly and six other persons of the Electric plan Conference of Seven Prefectures in Kinki District. The discrepancy between demand and supply of electricity in that district since last summer has become much worse, indicating great crisis on all sides with a rainless season near at hand; and so this representation has been made through the decision of the above-mentioned Conference asking for a powerful supply of thermo electricity and six other urgent measures to be carried into effect. This committee of ours has made deliberations on this matter and asking for the opinion of the government regarding it, we have approved of this representation unanimously, as we have believed that the representation of the Conference is adequate in view of the present state of things and should be reported to the Diet and be sent to the government with necessary opinions.

As to the particulars, I hope you will please refer to the List of Petitions and Representations, and other papers. This is my brief report of the progress and result of the deliberation of the "Representation No. 608 concerning plans to be taken for electricity in winter," in the committee.

The Vice-President: If no one wishes to make a new proposal, we shall now take a vote on the Representation. I ask the Members approving of adopting it as reported by the Committee Chairman and forwarding it to the Cabinet, please to stand up.

(All the Members stand up.)

The Vice-President: I see all the Members stand up. Accordingly, the House has decided to adopt it unanimously and forward it to the Cabinet.

The Vice-President: I suggest that the 50th to the 52nd Items on the Agenda be postponed to the next meeting. Is there any objection to that?

(Some Members say "No objection.")

The Vice-President: I see there is no objection.

The Vice-President: The 53rd Item on the Agenda, viz., Matters pertaining to an Investigation in respect of the Fresh Foodstuffs, and Fruits and Vegetables! The Chairman of the Commerce Committee, Mr. Masaji Hitotsumatsu, please!

Report on the Committee Investigation Concerning fresh fish, vegetables and fruits.

December 6, 1947.

Mr. Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the
House of Councillors.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that this committee has finished investigating the above matter. Accordingly, I beg to submit herewith a report on the results of the investigation with signatures of members representing majority opinion appended.

Yours respectfully,
Masaji Hitotsumatsu,
Chairman of the Commerce Committee.

In view of the fact that control on perishable foodstuffs is exercising great influence over the national life, this committee started investigations on the collection and distribution of perishable foodstuffs with the President's approval on August 4. In order to facilitate the investigations six members were chosen to form a sub-committee, which was divided into two groups. One group went to the Kanto district from August 11 till August 22, and the other to the Kansai district from August 11 till August 21, and conferred with collectors, distributors, consumers and local government offices in their respective consuming areas about defects of the present system and about their improvement. The commerce committee also held a meeting where the results of the investigations were deliberately examined, and the committee has unanimously reached the following conclusion:

1. To abolish control on fish and shellfish and adopt a free-sale system in principle, but to deliver the fish and shellfish which are caught with the distributed materials, according to the limits of the materials, and to ship and distribute them through legal channels.

2. To abolish control on vegetables altogether.

Signatures of Members representing Majority Opinion.

Takeo Kurokawa
Tsunetaro Nakahira
Rinichi Hatano
Itsuro Kamada
Yonesaburo Kobayashi
Monjuro Onoki
Kentaro Aburai
Yasuji Yuki

Mr. Hitosumatsu Masaji ascends rostrum (Applause)

Mr. Masaji Hitotsumatsu:

I would like to make a report on the proceedings and results of the deliberation carried out by the Commerce Committee on the question relating to the collection and distribution of perishable food. The distribution control of such perishable food as fish, shells and vegetables has been discussed with enthusiasm. However, the control over these goods has resulted in success the Government has tried every conceivable method to keep it enforced. But the control proved to be unenforceable amid confusions and chaos entailed. Should the situation be left as it has been neither the producer nor the consumer could ever receive benefits, nor could the increase of production be expected at all. As the first step, therefore, the Sub-Committee concerning the Collection and Distribution of Perishable Food was established, with the consent of the House, to carry out research into actual conditions. The Sub-Committee, composed of six members, was divided into two groups: the First Group being formed by Messrs. Hitotsumatsu, Nakahira and Yui, and the Second Group by Messrs. Sahegi, Hirose and Satokawa. During the trip made to Kanto and Tohoku Districts from August 11th to 22nd by the First Group and the trip made to Kansai and Fukuoka Districts from August 11th to 21st by the Second Group the Sub-Committee members listened to opinions expressed by collectors, distributers and consumers of perishable foods as well as Local Government Offices in important consuming districts on the defects and the improvement of the present system and received valuable materials and reports from these sources.

The Commerce Committee gave careful consideration to the question on the basis of such materials and reports and has unanimously reached the following conclusion:

First, the controls on fishes and shells be abolished and the free sales systems be adopted in principle. However, such fishes and shells as captured with the help of materials distributed be allo-

cated within the limit of the distributed materials and they be collected and distributed through regular channels.

Second, An over-all abolishment of controls be enforced on vegetables. Brief though it is, I would like to finish here my report to the House. (Applause)

Vice-President (Mr. Jiichiro Matsumoto): The session is declared under recess until 13:30. The House enters recess at 13:42.

(The meeting was resumed at 2:7 p.m.)

The President (Mr. MATSUDAIRA, Tsuneo): We shall resume the meeting, which adjourned. The 5th Item on the Agenda, viz., Bill for Partial Amendment of the Foodstuffs Control Special Account Law, the 6th Item, viz., Bill concerning the Sum to be Transferred from the General Accounts to form the Resources to meet the Expenditures to pay the Mutual Relief Instalments for the Mutual Aid concerning Flooded Paddies which shall be charged on the Special Account for Foodstuffs Control under the Agricultural Disaster Compensation Law in the Fiscal Year 1947-48 and the 7th Item, viz., Bill concerning the Payment of Special Allowance for Taxation Business to the Government Officials in the Finance Bureau and the Taxation Offices. These are all Government bills received from the other House. Is there any objection of taking up these three Bills en bloc for discussion?

("No objection.")

The President: I see there is no objection. I call on the Committee Chairman for the report, first. Chairman of the Finance and Banking Committee, Mr. Hidéo Kuroda, please!

Report of Deliberation on the Bill for Partial Amendment to the Food Control Special Account.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House
of Councillors.

Sir;

We have unanimously approved the passage of the above Bill. So, we enclose herewith a list of the majority supporters with a summary report appended.

Yours respectfully,
Hideo Kuroda
Chairman of the Finance
and Banking Committee.

List of the counter-signatures of the majority supporters.

Jinkichi Watanabe
Masaichi Morishita
Jingoro Nishikawa
Masagoro Taguchi
Tamae Fukagawa
Hajime Hoshi
Saichi Yamada
Rokurobei Ogata
Ryutaro Takahashi
Kichinosuke Saigo
Monjuro Kuki
Yonesaburo Kobayashi
Kyohei Shimojo
Kisho Tamaya
Junkichi Ishikawa

SUMMARY REPORT

1. The reason why the Committee made the decision:

This measure aims at the raising of the maximum issue of the food bills from ¥20,000,000,000 to ¥40,000,000,000 and a partial amendment to the Food Control Special Account Law so as to conform with its provisions with the object of the Finance Law, for as the result of the raising of the production prices of rice and sweet potatoe produced in 1947, $20,000,000,000 being the maximum issue of the Food Bill is to become so insufficient that it will have difficulty in purchasing food smoothly. So, we cansider this an adequate amendment.

This Bill also aims at a partial amendment to the State Forestry Business Special Accqunt in order to enable it to make a loan, as a temporary measure, up to the sum equivalent to the amount of production of the goods on this account increased over their product on during the preceding year, for though the annual expenditures on this account are to increase, the revenue from business is not to increase so much as to cover the increase in the expenditures. We think, therefore that this amendment is proper.

2. Merits of this measure:

This amendment has the merit of facilitating the operation of the Food Control Special Account and the State Forestry Business Special Account.

3. Expense:

No special expense is to be required for this amendment.

Report of Committee Investigation
December 6, 1947.

Hon. Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House
of Councillors

Sir:

Re: Bill concerning the Appropriation to be Transferred from the General Account to the Foodstuffs Administration Special Account to be Appropriated for the Government's charge of the Rice-plant Mutual aid Instalment for the 1947 Fiscal year under the Agricultural Accidents Indemnification Law.

I have the honor to report that the Committee has unanimously decided to recommend the above bill for passage by the House. Accordingly I beg to submit herewith a summary report of the investigation, with the counter-signatures of the members in favor thereof appended.

Yours respectfully,
Hidco Kuroda,
Chairman of the Finance
and Banking Committee.

Signatures of other members:
(Tamae Fukagawa and 14 others)

The Summary Report

1. Reasons for Decision of the Committee under the Agricultural Accidents Indemnification Law, in the Foodstuff Administration Special Account, a part of the Rice-plan Mutual Aid instalment, which the Agricultural Mutual Aid members pay, is to be borne by the Government provisionally and it shall finally be borne by consumers in general. However, as it is difficult in the current fiscal year to make consumers bear the charge, it is to be borne by the Foodstuff Administration Special Account, under special provisions laid down in accordance with Article 150 of the Supplementary Provisions of the Agricultural Accidents Indemnification Law. However, in view of the present condition of the said Special Account, this bill purports to transfer necessary appropriation from the General Account to it, and such a measure is considered inevitable and necessary.

2. Merits of the Bill.

This bill has the advantage of alleviating the burden of consumers in general.

3. Expenses.

In effecting this bill, 601,000,000 yen shall be transferred from the General Account.

Report of Committee Investigation.
December 6, 1947.

Hon. Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of
Councillors.

Sir,

Re: Bill concerning the Payment of the Taxation Affairs Special Allowance to the Government Employees of the Finance Affairs Bureau and Tax Offices.

I have the honor to report that the Committee has decided unanimously to recommend the above bill for passage by the House. Accordingly I beg to submit herewith a summary report of the investigation, with the counter-signatures of the members in favor thereof appended.

Yours respectfully,
Hideo Kuroda,
Chairman of the Finance
and Banking Committee.

Signatures of other members:
(Tsumae Fukagawa and 11 others.)

The Summary Report

1. Reasons for Decision of the Committee. The purport of the present bill is to give the following allowances to the taxation affairs officials, in view of the importance of their duties and the difficulty of discharging them. To wit, when they take an official trip and engage in the examination business, they shall be given, for a working day, 40 per cent of 1/25 of the sum total of their regular salary, temporary allowance and special temporary allowance; when they engaged in the disposal of taxes in arrear, they shall be given 50 per cent of the above sum; and ¥50 shall be given to them in addition to the foregoing respective amount when it is considered that there is a fear of incurring a great danger to their body or life in the execution of those business.

This step shall be applied retroactive to November 1 of this year. The Committee considers this measure as appropriate and timely.

2. Merits of the Bill.

By the enforcement of this Bill, the tax collection capacity of the officials concerned will not only be maintained but also be promoted. Moreover, it has an advantage of assuring the tax revenue.

3. Expenses.

The expenses required for the enforcement of this Bill will be ¥82,000,000 for the current fiscal year, and ¥198,000,000 for a whole fiscal year.

(Mr. KURODA, Hideo, takes the rostrum. Applause.)

Mr. KURODA, Hideo: I shall report on the proceedings and results of the Committee meetings for the Bill of Partial Amendments to the Food Administration Special Account Law, etc., which has just been laid before this House. The bill contains two sets of amendments to the Food Administration Special Account Law and partial amendments to the State-Owned Forestry Enterprises Special Account Law.

Firstly, the partial amendments to the Food Administration Special Account Law are a measure accompanying the increase of the production prices of rice and Irish potatoes of the 1947 crop which has lately been decided upon. Namely, in consequence of a drastic raise of the purchasing prices of rice and Irish potatoes, the present ceiling of the issue of the food bounds, 20,000,000,000 yen, is not sufficient to enable smooth operation of the purchase of food; therefore the ceiling will be raised to ¥40,000,000,000. Moreover, taking this occasion, necessary amendments will now be made to the substance of the provisions of the Food Administration Special Account Law to make it conform with the purport of the provisions of the Public Finance Law, which has recently been enacted. Secondly, the partial amendments to the State-Owned Forestry Enterprises Special Account Law. In the light of the state of revenue and expenditure, an increase of annual expenditure has become necessary on account of the increase of the personnel and material expenditures following the revision of prices. On the other hand, the increase of business receipts is not sufficient to make up for it. Accordingly, from this special account transference of profits to the general account cannot be made but is in the red. It is intended, therefore, by way of temporary measure to make a loan or issue financing bonds on the security of the relative increase of the prices of the products in this special account over those of last year, so that expenditures required for felling, etc. can be defrayed to ensure the smooth operation of the account. And the maximum limits of loans and financing bonds must obtain approval by decision of the Diet in the form of the budget.

To the question what is the basis for calculation in making 20,000,000,000 yen to 40,000,000,000 yen, the reply was: in the light of the present plan for the purchase and sale of food, it is expected that the end of February will, probably become the date of issuing the food bonds, estimated at about 33,400,000,000 yen; however, the Government permits the Food Corporation an arrear of about two weeks in payment of prices, and a fund of about 4,000,000,000 yen will remain idle, estimating the monthly purchase of rice at 4,000,000 koku; then the above amount will become 37,400,000,000 yen; in addition, some cash in hand will be necessary, for instance, to promptly pay the farmers is cash; therefore, by raising the fractional sum, the amount was set at 40,000,000,000 yen. To the question what is the maximum amount of the loan and bond issue of the State-Owned Forestry Enterprises Special Account, the reply was; as I mentioned before, this account is in the red; it is doubtful, however, whether the red figures in this account should be treated as red figures in ordinary cases; therefore, it is purported to permit a loan to the extent of the prices of the stock of products, by computing the prices of the products in stock in the preceding year and in the current year; since the products of 1946 were worth 520,000,000 yen and those of 1947 892,000,000 yen, with the difference of 372,000,000 yen, a ceiling of 346,000,000 yen of the loan has been provided in the present supplementary and Revised Budget, Furthermore, there were questions in connection with the Food Corporation and other matters as to the margin of the Food Corporation or the fact that in some districts delivery was made in polished rice and other matters. With regard to these questions, permit me to refer you to the stenographic record. The debate was thus concluded and a vote was taken, whereupon it was decided unanimously to pass the Bill.

Now I shall report on the procedings and results of the Committee meetings for the Bill concerning the transfer from the general account to the Food Administration Special Account to provide the latter with the fund for its mutual assistance instalments for paddy rice-plants mutual assistance, which it bears in 1947 in accordance with the Agricultural Calamity Compensation Law.

I shall first refer to its contents. In accordance with the provisions of Article 12, paragraph 1, of the Agricultural Calamity Compensation Law, enacted in the present Session of the Diet, the Food Administration Special Account shall bear a part of the instalments of the paddy rice-plants mutual assistance to be paid in by members of the Agricultural Mutual Assistance Cooperatives. And the selling price of food must be fixed so that the amount to be borne

by this account may in turn be borne by the consumers of food. With regard to the amount to be borne in the current year, there are circumstances that make it difficult to impose it on the consumers. Therefore, special provisions have been made in Article 150 of the Supplementary Provisions of the above-mentioned Compensation Law, whereby no imposition shall be made on the consumers. Hence the imposition amounting to over 601,100,000 yen should in practice be borne by the Food Administration Special Account Law. However, in view of the state of revenue and expenditure of this account, it is inevitable that the fund for the imposition should be transferred from the general account. And it has become necessary to provide to that effect in the present law; the bill of amendments has thus been drafted. There were many questions in this connection, too, but permit me again to refer you to the stenographic record.

Then the debate was conducted and a vote was taken, and it was decided unanimously that the Bill should be adopted in its original form.

I shall now refer to the bill concerning the payment of taxation special allowances to the Government personnel who are in the service of the Finance Bureaus and Taxation Offices.

The reasons for proposing the Bill were explained as follows. The duties of the taxation personnel are very important and their performance is extremely difficult. Inquiry, inspection, or actions against arrear in payment, in connection with the national taxes—to conduct proper inquiries and levy taxes under the complicated circumstances of the present-day economic circles—not only require a great store of knowledge but often accompany monetary inducements and even dangers to life and person. On the other hand, it is not an easy task under our present financial condition to ensure the enormous amount of tax revenue and to settle the arrears exceeding 10,000,000,000 yen. Therefore an active compaign for the payment of taxes is about to be conducted throughout the country. At the same time, the discipline of the taxation personnel should be strengthened and their morale heightened so that proper and fair taxation may be thoroughly realized. Therefore the present bill has been proposed with a view to the maintenance and improvement of the business efficiency of the taxation personnel, by granting them special allowances to enable them to devote themselves to their duties.

The contents of the Bill are: When the taxation personnel make a trip to be engaged in the business of inquiry or inspection regarding the national taxes, they will receive daily 1/25, namely, 40 per cent of the monthly amounts of their basic salaries, provisional supplementary salaries and extraordinary additional salaries; when they take actions against arrears in payment, they will receive 50 per cent; when it is considered that there are likely to be dangers to their life and person when they execute these businesses, they will receive additional 50 yen per day; and all this will be put in practice retroactive to 1 November this year. The extent of dangers or other matter necessary for the procedure of payment of special allowances will be determined by the Minister of Finance. The necessary expenditure for these provisions is 82,000,000 yen for the current year and estimated at 198,000,000 yen for the normal year. The amount for the current year has been included in the Supplementary and Revised Budget. In connection with this Bill, too, there were questions such as why is it that the salaries of the taxation personnel are reportedly lower than those of other government personnel and why does not the same question arise with regard to the police personnel who are believed to be in a similar position, etc. For these questions, permit me to refer you to the stenographic record.

Thus a vote was taken and the Bill was unanimously passed in its original form as proposed by the Government. That concludes my report. (Applause).

The President: If no one wishes to make remarks we shall now take a vote on the three Bills. We may take them up together. I ask the Members supporting them to stand up.

(All the Members stand up.)

The President: I see all the Members stand up. Accordingly, they are approved by this House unanimously.

The President: I now suggest that we make an addition to the Agenda and take up for discussion the Bill for the Foodstuffs Sanitation Law, the Bill for the Professions of Massage, Acupuncture, Moxa-cantery and Judo Bone-Setting, etc., the Bill for the Barber and Beauty Artist Law and the Bill for the Dietist Law all submitted to the Diet by the Cabinet and forwarded from the other House, written on which bills Reports were presented yesterday, en bloc. Is there any objection to that?

("No objection.")

The President : I see there is no objection. I call on the Committee Chairman for the report, first. Chairman of the Welfare Committee, Mr. Juzo Tsukamoto, please!

Committee Report on Investigation

Dec. 6, 1947

Mr. Tsuneo Matsudaira,
President of the House of Councillors.

Sir;

Re: Bill for Foodstuffs Hygenic Law.

I have the honor to report that the committee has unanimously decided to pass the above bill. Accordingly, a summary is herewith submitted with signatures of members representing majority opinions.

Yours respectfully,
Juzo Tsukamoto
Chairman of the Welfare Committee.

Signatures of members representing majority opinions.
Isuke Himei
Katsuma Kobayashi
Shinji Fujimori
Ryuen Kusaba
Juhiko Nakayama
Yasaburo Taniguchi
Tsunetaro Nakahira
Natsu Kawasaki
Natsue Inoue
Ine Kosugi
Ryosuke Adachi
Sei Chida
Ryuya Yonekura
Kyoichi Hattori

Summary Report

1. Reasons for the decision made by the Committee meeting.

In accordance with Art. 1 of Law No. 72, 1947, (law concerning validity of provisions of orders in force at the time of enforcement of the Japanese Constitution) provisions on penalty concerning controls of foods will become null and void on Dec. 31, 1947, and this bill takes the place of the above law with provisions of the same purport, and it is deemed to be a proper measure.

2. Merits of the bill.

The enactment of this law will be able to prevent the continuance of control of foods hygene from being obstructed.

3. Expenditure.

For the enactment of this law 5,200,000 yen must be supplemented for this fiscal year, but this is appropriated in the supplementary budget.

Committee Report

Bill Relative to Amma (Massage), Acupuncture, Moxibustion, Jujutsu Ventral Massage, etc. as Callings.

December 6, 1947

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Sir:

I have the honor of reporting that the Committee has decided by a majority to recommend the above Bill for passage by the House. Accordingly I beg to present this report signed by the members together with a summary report.

Yours respectfully,
Juzo Tsukamoto
Chairman of the Welware Committee.

Signature of Other Members.
Katsuma Kobayashi
Isuke Himei
Shinji Fujimori
Hisahiko Nakayama
Yasaburo Taniguchi
Tsunetaro Nakahira
Natsu Kawasaki
Tatsuya Yonekura
Natsue Inoue
Ryuen Kusaba
Ine Kosugi
Ryosuke Adachi
Tadashi Senda

1. Reasons for Decision of the Committee.

In accordance with the provision of Article 1 of Law No. 72 of 1947, Relative to the validity of the Ordinances, Actually in Force at the Time of Enforcement of the new Japanese Constitution, and Related Subjects, the following Regulations and Ordinances expire as of December 31, 1947.

Regulations concerning Amma (Massage) Business;

Regulations concerning Acupuncture and Mozibustion Business;

Regulations concerning Jujutsu Ventral Massage Business; Welfare Ministry Ordinance No. 11 of 1947, Relative to Persons Engaged in Callings Analogous with Medical Profession. The Bill is intended to take the place of these Regulations and Ordinances as a comprehensive law, and is considered by the Committee as an appropriate measure.

2. Merits of the Bill.

The proposed law, when enforced, is expected to facilitate the continued control of Amma (massage), acupuncture, moxibustion, Jujutsu ventral massage and the like, and may contribute to the nation's medical and sanitary benefit, by the quality of those engaged in these callings.

3. Expenses.

No extra expenses will be incurred by the introduction of the proposed law.

Welfare Ministry Ordinance No. 38, 1946, Relative to Exceptions to Regulations Amma (Massage) Business, and Regulations concerning Acupuncture and Moxibustion Business:

Report on Minority Opinion on the Bill for Massage, Acupancture, Moxa-cautery and Bone-setting Practice Law.

December 7, 1947

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Sir:

I beg to report to you that I am opposed to the above Bill for reason as set forth below:

1. I think that the reporting period of three months provided in Article 19, paragraph 1, of this Bill is too short, and that unless the said period is set at one year, it is impossible to bring the knowledge of the law home to the people, and as the result, there must be many persons who will not report within the said period.

2. Among the treatments similar to medical ones which are mentioned in Articles 12 and 19, paragraph 1, of this Bill, there are many which can be certified as medically effective methods of treatment. Therefore, it is found unreasonable to take such a measure as prohibiting these treatments for the provided period of eight years.

Yours respectfully,
Kyoichi Hattori,
Minority supporter of the Welfare Committee.

Committee Report on the "Riyoshi" (Barbers and Beauty-Artists) Bill.

December 6, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Sir;

I have the honor to report that we have unanimously decided that the above Bill be passed by the House. So, I present this report signed by the members together with a summary report appended.

Yours respectfully,
Juzo Sakamoto,
Chairman of the Welfare Committee.

List of the Counter-signatures of the Majority Supporters.
Isuke Himei
Ryuen Kusaba
Tsunetaro Nakahira
Ine Kosugi
Natsue Inoue
Katsuma Kobayashi
Toshihiko Nakayama
Natsu Kawasaki
Ryosuke Adachi
Kyoichi Hattori
Shinji Fujimori
Yasaburo Taniguchi
Ryuya Yonekura
Sei Senda

Summary Report

1. The Reason for the Committee's Decision:

The Police Ordinance, containing regulations concerning Hairdressing aimed at seeing that both hair-dressing and beauty-culture are carried on in sanitary lines, is to expire by the enforcement of the new Constitution. So, this Bill has been drafted to make the substance of the said regulations an independent law in order to develope public sanitation and culture. This is to meet the cherished desire of the trade, and we consider this an adequate measure.

2. Merits of the measure:

What the enactment of this law will bring about are that now that the entire nation ardently desires the construction of a cultural Japan, the present barbers and ladies room beauty-artists whose manner of doing the business improvement from the sanitary view-point are to be obligated by this law to be sanitarily satisfactory; and that training schools are to be established for the improvement of the qualification of barbers and beauty-artist: and that the examination system is to be instituted to test those who have finished the course of the training school and those who have been engaged in this trade so that they can contribute to the benefit of the people by better skill and knowledge.

3. Expenses:

With the enforcement of this legislation, registration fees which will be received by the national treasury are expected to amount to about ¥50,000,000, about 5 per cent of which is to be appropriated to all the prefectures as a government subsidy in order to let it

meet the expenses for the enforcement of the enactment of the law.

Committee Report on the Dietician Bill

December 6, 1947.

Tsuneo Matsudaira, Esq.,
President of the House of Councillors.

Sir,

I have the honor to report that we have unanimously decided that the above Bill be passed by the House. So, I present the report signed by the members together with a summary report.

Yours respectfully,
Juzo Tsukamoto,
Chairman of the
Welfare Committee

List of the Counter-signtures of the Majority Supporters.

Isuke Himei, Katsuma Kobayashi, Shinji Fujimori, Ryuen Kusaba, Toshihiko Nakayama, Yasaburo Taniguchi, Tsunetaro Nakahira, Natsu Kawasaki, Ryuya Yonekura, Ine Kosugi, Ryosuke Adachi, Sei Senda, Natsue Inoue, Kyoichi Hattori.

Summary Report

1. The Reason for the Committee's Decision:

The Dietician Regulations—Welfare Ministry Ordinance No. 14, 1946 is to expire on December 31 this year in accordance with the provisions of Article 1 of Law No. 72, 1947 (the law concerning the validity etc. of the ordinances which were valid at the time when the new Constitution of Japan was put into force), but in order to advance the knowledge and skill about dietetics so as to better and promote public health, there is need of keeping up the dietician system, This is the reason for drafting this Bill.

We consider this an adequate measure.

2. Merits of the measure:

By the enactment of this law the dietician system is to be kept on and as the guidance on matters concerning nutrition is to be conducted along the lines of science, the popular knowledge of the matter is expected to advance, contributing much toward public health and culture.

3. Expenses:

As regards the expense to be required for the enforcements of this enactment, an appropriation of about ¥292,000 requires to be included in the Budget for 1948.

(Mr. TSUKAMOTO, Juzo takes platform.) (Applause).

Mr. TSUKAMOTO: I will report on the progress and decisions of the meeting of Welfare Committee on "Foodstuffs Sanitation Bill," "Barber and Beauty Artist Bill," "Dietician Bill," and "Bill concerning Masseur, Acupuncturist, Moxa-bustionist and Bone-Setter etc" which have now brought into discussion. I will report first on the "Foodstuffs Sanitation Bill." At the meeting for preliminary deliberation on the bill held on December 4, the Committee heard Welfare Minister Hitotsumatsu to explain the reason for the submission as well as the plan of the bill. According to Welfare Minister's explanation, the said bill is the unified and adjusted regulations of the ten regulations controlling drinks and foodstuffs which were based upon the Law No. 15 "Concerning Control of Drinks and Foodstuffs and Other Dietary Articles" issued in 1900. As the provisions of the above-mentioned law are, in accordance with the provisions of the Law No. 72 of 1947, to be nullified under date of December 31 this year, the Bill has been submitted for substitution, it was explained.

Then the meeting was opened for discussion. I will report on a few important points. Interpellation was made by a Committee member that it is a matter of course to institute such law as this and enforce control on beaverages and foodstuffs. However, at the same time he believes that it is also necessary to endeavor for the popularization of the knowledge of sanitation of the nation. What plans are contemplated by the Government authorities now as regards the executive organ to deal with the enlightenment and promulgation of such idea as well as the organ to carry out the prospective control substituting the police, when current police system has been revised. To this the Governmental Delegate replied that it is planned that each local sanitary station will exert utmost efforts toward the popularization and the completion of the knowledge among the people, in close cooperation with the authorities of Metropolis, Do and Prefectures, as well as those of the Central Government. Further, the following interpellation was made: In spite of the present regulations for sanitary examination of foodstuffs, local institutions responsible for the examination are extremely inefficient; whether the Government has any concrete scheme for the adjustment and expansion of these institutions or not?

To this, the Government Delegate replied that he was quite agreed with the views. The authorities concerned have been negotiating with the Finance Ministry authorities about the matter, and have already obtained their approval for the reconstruction of such institutions as those damaged by war disaster etc. Therefore, the authorities will endeavour for the recovery of the above institutions as soon as possible, they will at the same time strive for the adjustment of local examination institutions at large. Then a few more interpellations followed.

Now, regarding the "Barber and Beauty Artist Bill," explanation on the reason for its submission was made by Parliamentary Vice-Minister Kanemitsu as follows: Business giving authorization and control to barbers and beauty shop hands has been hitherto conducted by the local authorities, in accordance with the Prefectural Government Ordinance. However, it would have been more proper had the matter been controlled under the law. As it has occasioned that the above Prefectural Ordinance become nullified at the end of this year, the Government has drafted a bill concerning the license for barbers and beauty parlor hands and the sanitary preparations indispensable to the business. Following the interpellation, the Government Delegate Miki made the following item-by-item explanation on the Bill: In drafting the Bill, special consideration and attention were paid to such points mentioned below; clear definition of the terms "beauty artist" and "Barber;" grant of certain qualifications in order to promote vocational level; further that in order to advance sanitary knowledge of barbers and "beauticians," they are subject to technical training to be received at the training institute and also must have pass the examination given by Prefectural Governors; they can open their shop simply submitting the report thereon, but busines practice has to be registered; sanitary preparations in the shop must be satisfactory. Following this there were more interpellations relative to the designation of "Beauty Artist" as well as the sanitation problems and so on; and the Committe ended the interpellations on the Bill.

I wish now to make a report on the Bill for Dietician. At the outset, the Vice-Welfare Minister explained that the existing system for Dietician was chiefly based on the Regulations for Dietician which had been enacted according to the Welfare Ministry Ordinance of April, 1945, but that these regulations would become null after December 31 this year according to Artiele 1 of "the Law concerning Provisions under Ordinances remaining Effective at the time of the Constitution of Japan taking Effect." For this reason, the vice minister further explained, the present Bill had been introduced in order to replace the old regulations. After this explanation, interpellations and answers took place, and during the interpellations, questions were put concerning the official title of the dietician, penalty regulations, and the training of experts. Finally, I wish further to make a report on the progress and result of discussions concerning the Bill for the practice of massage, acupuncture, moxa cautery, and bone-setting by Jujitsu-men. With regard to this Bill, a preliminary examination was made on December 4, but it was submitted to a formal examination immediately after the Bill was sent over this House by the Lower House subsequent to the approval thereof by that House on the 6th, and a careful consideration was made until late hours last night. At the beginning, Welfare Minister Hitotsumatsu explained the reasons for introducing the Bill and contents thereof. As regards the reasons for introduction of the Bill, the minister explained that the existing regulations for the control of the practice of massage, acupuncture, moxa cautery and bone-setting by Jujitsu-men as well as other healing practice would become null after the end of December this year according to the provisions under Article 1 of Law No. 72 of 1947, namely the "Law concerning the validity of provisions under the Ordinances remaining effective at the time of the Constitution of Japan taking effect", and that it had become necessary to enact the law concerning the practice of massage, acupuncture, moxa cautery and bone-setting by jujitsu-men which was to replade the existing Ministry Ordinance.

As to the contents of the Bill, it is there in made clear that those who desire to follow the said lines of business, should in the first place obtain the license from metropolitan or prefectural governors. No one other than those who have graduated from officially recognized schools or training institutions for practitioners in the said business and have passed the examination conducted by metropolitan or prefectural governors, can obtain the license. These provisions have been made, because it is absolutely necessary, from the health and hygienic points of view, to make it impossible for any one other than those who have obtained certain amount of scientific knowledge and necessary technique regarding their occupations which concern the treatment of diseases and maintenance of health. In the past, there has been a similar licensing system in force, but, under the present Bill the standard of qualifications for those who can be licensed have been considerably elevated compared with the past with the view to improving the quality of the practitioners.

Secondly, the license will not be issued to those who come under disqualifying conditions, such as those who are suffering from mental and contagious diseases and those have committed any crime or irregularity in connection with their occupations, and likewise the license will not be issued to those who are unfit for the occupations. These arrangements have been made in order to improve directly and indirectly the technique of treatment and the quality of practitioners.

Thirdly, as to the regulations concerning the business practice, those practitioners who are covered by the present Bill are not allowed to make surgical operations, administer medicines, or to give instructions as to medical prescription. In respect to massagists, and jujitsu-men engaged in bone-setting, restrictions have been made in regard to business advertisements. Furthermore metropolitan or prefectural governors may give instructions on the basis of hygienic requirements regarding the business practice, may demand the submission of necessary reports by practitioners and may also make their subordinates concerned inspect places of business practice. In these ways, efforts have been made to leave nothing to be desired in the matters of supervisions and guidance in respect to their business.

Fourthly, quasi-medical practices, as distinguished from massage, needle, and moxa treatments —practices for which there has hitherto been no national law specially enacted, and which used to be controlled under the National Medical Law or Prefectural Orders requiring reports for such practices—are to be prohibited, considering the evils the said practice involve from medical and hygienic points of view. There is now little reason for the existence of such practices, and therefore, no new opening of practiees of the kind will hereafter be permitted.

Fifthly, central and local advisory committees composed of persons directly concerned, physicians, scholars, experts, etc., are to be established. Concerning the recognition of schools and institutes as well as the guidance and supervision of other matters, these committees are to conduct inquiries and deliberations, in order that they may function in a democratic and proper manner.

Such are the main points of the Bill. In regard to the protection of what may be called vested rights of those hitherto in the profession, the Bill makes certain transitory provisions. These provisions recognize without formality the rights of persons who acquired licences under previous regulations. In favour of persons aqualified under previous regulations to acquire licenses and those repatriated after having been engaged in the profession, certain exceptions are provided. In regard to those who have been engaged in quasi-medical practices, the Bill also provides that if they file necessary reports after the Bill has taken effect, they are to be permitted to exercise their profession until December 31, 1955. With respect to their profession, however, advertisement may be restricted, hygienic instructions given, and inspections carried out. In addition to such supervision and guidance, suspension, prohibition, etc., of their profession may be ordered under certain conditions.

Two days were spent in questions and answers, some of which are here reported. In regard to the title of the Bill, it was asked if "massage" was not better than "amma". The answer was that "amma," the term hitherto in use, was retained, in order to avoid the impression that the change of the term meant a change in the matter itself. It was asked if symptomatology ought to be included among the subjects mentioned in Article 2. The answer was that excessive demands must be avoided, and that symptomatology might be

taught as part of pathology. It was asked if the transitory period of 8 years allowed to persons engaged in quasi-medical practices was not too long. The answer was that a short period would be cruel to those now engaged in such practices, and that economic conditions might get stabilized by December 31, 1955, so that they could themselves make a change-over.

It was asked what was the intention regarding the re-education of those possessed of so-called vested rights. The answer was that that was the question for persons directly concerned, but guidance might be given in certain circumstances under Article 8. It was asked if "judo" men were to be prohibited under articles--from practising bone-setting. The answer was that in that regard, there was no change from the existing situation, and that in case of dislocation, fracture, etc., first aid could be given, with understanding of physicians. It was asked if pointment was permitted under Article 4. The answer was that that was permitted within limits. It was asked what was to be the standard for establishments. The answer was that proper dimensions, proper light and ventilation, and proper arrangement for disinfection were to be prescribed. Regarding the treatment of blind students now at school or expected to be graduates in 1948, it was declared that the Government would find a suitable solution.

After exchange of these questions and answers, the four plans already referred to were submitted, as a whole, to debate in the Committee. Committeeman Hattori proposed the deletion of Article 19, arguing that prohibition of any new opening of quasi-medical practices might mean closing the door to inventions, discoveries, progress, in short, in Japanese medicine. To this, Committeeman Kusaba rereplied, saying that the Bill certainly contained provisions capable of improvement, but the whole question might be reviewed in no distant future. From that standpoint, he urged the adoption of the Bill as it stood. Committeeman Ezaki, who spoke next, expressed a wish in regard to the matter. As a consequence of the Bill, many blind men, he said, will have to enter schools, but there are few schools for such people. What is the Government's measure in that regard? It is necessary, in his opinion, to remove the cause of the trouble, so he expressed his views in connection with the Bill for the Prevention of Social Diseases. To this, Welfare Minister Hitotsumatsu replied, saying that the views expressed in Committee would receive due consideration. Then, the proposal of Committeeman Hattori, that is, deletion of Article 19, was put to vote and negatived, and the Bill, as it stood, was adopted by a majority.

This is my brief report on the Bill. As to other matters, which I have omitted on account of time limit, I beg to refer to members to the stenographic reports already published.

The President: If there is no further remark, we shall now take a vote on the four Blls.

First, I put to vote the Bill for Trade in Massage, Acupuncture, Moxibustion, Jujitsu and Bone-setting etc. in its entirety. Those in favor of the Bill, will please stand up.

(All members stand up.)

The President: I see all members are for the Bill. Accordingly, it has been passed unanimously.

Next, I put to vote the Bill for Foodstuff Sanitation Law, the Bill for Barber and Beauty Artist Law, and the Bill for the Nuturitionist Law, together.

(All members stand up.)

The President: I see all members are for the Bills. Accordingly, they have been passed unanmously. I have a secretary to report.

(Secretary Aoki reads.)

The President: Is there any objection to making an addition to the Agenda at this juncture and taking up for discussion the Bill for Revision of the General Account Budget for the 1947-48 Fisyear Year (No. 10) and the Bill for Revision of the Special Accounts Budget for the 1947-48 Fiscal Year (Special No. 5) together?

("No objection" is voiced.)

The President: I see there is no objection. I ask the Committee Chairman to report.

The Chairman of the Budget Committee, Mr. Tatsuro Sakurauchi!

Report on Examination
December 7, 1947.

Mr. Tsuneo Matsudaira
President of the House of Councillors.

Adjustment of General Account in 1947-1948 Budget (No. 10)

Adjustment of Special Account in 1947-1948 Budget (Spec. No. 5)

Sir:

I have the honor to state that the Committee has unanimously decided that the Bill should be passed by the House. Accordingly I beg to submit herewith a report with signatures of members in favor of the Bill together with a summary statement.

Respectfully yours,
Tatsuro Sakurauchi,
Chairman of the Budget Committee.

Signatures of those in favor of the Bill:

Koyo Ono
Kyoichi Hattori
Yutaka Takada
Rokuro Fukamizu
Shikazo Sasaki
Gengo Kinoshita
Giichi Murakami
Tetsuo Obata
Gisen Sato
Seitaro Iida
Isuke Himei
Kaichi Kawakami
Kihachiro Kimura
Shiro Kiuchi
Koichi Ono
Yoshio Fujita
Yasutaka Suzuki
Aisuke Okamoto
Toraichi Hara
Naondo Suzuki
Masagoro Taguchi
Shigeo Murase
Kichinosuke Saigo

Summary Statement

1. Reasons for decision.

The Bills for the adjustments of the General Account in the 1947-1948 Budget (No. 10) and the Special Accounts in the same Budget (Toku No. 5) are aimed at adjustments of the Budget which have become necessary as a result of the introduction of the Bill for the payment of a provisional allowance to the Government personnel, and therefore the Committee considers this measure to be reasonable in view of the present economic situation.

2. Merits and Demerits of the case.

The suggested adjustments will, if adopted, increase the appropriations in the General Account by ¥1,500,000,000 both for expenditure and revenue and those in the Special Accounts by ¥2,169,167,000 the revenue and ¥2,174,199,000 for the expenditure.

2. The suggested measure has the advantage of alleviating the present difficult living conditions of the Government personnel.

(Mr. SAKURAUCHI, Tatsuro takes the rostrum.) (Applause)

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Mr. SAKURAUCHI Tatsuro: Concerning the Bill for Supplementary and Revised Budget (No. 10) of General Account for 1947-1948 Fiscal Year and the Bill for Supplementary and Revised Budget (Special No. 5) of Special Accounts for 1947-1948. Fiscal year on the tapis, let me report the progress and results of deliberations in the Budget Committee. These bills aim at supplementing and revising the Budget concerning the necessary expenditures according to the Law governing the payment of temporary allowances to Government officials.

Firstly, to begin about the General Account: in the annual expenditure, as the necessary expenditure for payment of a special temporary allowance to Government officials, there are needed ¥594,660,000 for general government officials, ¥455,000,000 for personnel engaged in compulsory education and in local police, ¥1,-859,355,000 for transference to the Special Accounts such as the Railway, Communication enterprises etc, totaling ¥2,909,015,000, which becomes, however, ¥1,510,285,000 with the saving of ¥398,730,000 in the fixed personnel expenditure and the amended decrease of ¥1,-000,000,000 in the contingent fund. As the revenue source for the above mentioned expenditures, the estimated revenue increase of income tax ¥736,000,000, the miscellaneous revenues such as the money returned or shared in the public Entity Engineering Expenditures, the penalties for excess use of electricity and so on ¥765,-207,000, the surplus in the last Fiscal year ¥9,078,000, totaling ¥1,510,280,000 will be appropriated.

Next, a few words on the Special Account. In the annual expenditure, there are needed ¥1,-973,815,000 for payment of the temporary allowance to Government officials of the Special Account, ¥365,838,000 for transference to other accounts as financial resource for payment of the temporary allowance, totaling 2,338,-653,000, which will, however, be ¥2,174,199,000 with the amended decrease of ¥164,454,000 in the prefixed budgetary contingent fund. As the resources for the above mentioned expenditures, the money received from the Special Account will chiefly be appropriated, in the light of the present condition of the Special Account. Besides that, in the Special Accounts of the Railway and Communications enterprises, ¥102,-345,000 that is the bond revenue, will be appropriated as the resources necessary for payment of the temporary allowance to personnel of the building accounts.

Concerning the progress of deliberations on this matter, the reasons for introducing the Bills were explained by the government on December 6th, following which one or two members made some brief interpellations on them. As a result of putting them to the vote on 7th after discussion, the Committee decided unanimously to approve them as in the original Bill. The above is my report. (Applause)

The President: If there is no further speech, we shall now take a vote on both Bills. I put them to vote together. Those in favor of the Bills, will please stand up.

("All members stand up.)

The President: I see all members are in favor thereof. Accordingly, both Bills have been passed unanimously. I would like to propose that we shall now adjourn the sitting for to-day, Is there any objection to my proposal?

("No objection" is voiced.)

The President: I see there is no objection. The meeting for tomorrow will be called at 10 in the morning. The Order of the Day for the next meeting will be published in the Official Bulletin as soon as it is decided. We shall now adjourn the meeting for today.

(The House rose at 2:51 p.m.)

The Members in attendance were as follows:

The President Mr. MATSUDAIRA, Tsuneo.
The Vice-President Mr. MATSUMOTO, Jiichiro.
The Members Mr. ITANO, Katsuji and 159 others.
The State Minister.
The Minister of Finance
Mr. KURUSU, Takeo.
The Minister of Justice
Mr. SUZUKI, Yoshio.
The Minister of Welfare
Mr. HITOTSUMATSU, Sadayoshi.
The Government Delegates.
The Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Home Affairs
Mr. NAGANO, Nagahiro.
The Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs. (The Director of the Local Bureau)
Mr. HAYASHI, Keizo
The Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs. (The Director of the Police Bureau)
Mr. HISAYAMA, Hideo
The Secretary of the Ministry of Finance. (The Director of the Ist Division of the Accounts Bureau)
Mr. TOJO, Takei
The Vice-Minister of Justice.
Mr. SATO, Tosuke
The Secretary of the Ministry of Justice. (The Director of the Temporary Planning Division of the Secretariate)
Mr. OKAZAKI, Doichi
The Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Welfare.
Mr. KANAMITSU, Yoshikuni
The Technical officer of Welfare. (The Director of the Public Insurance Bureau)
Mr. MIKI, Yukiharu
The Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Forestry.
Mr. INOUE, Ryoji
The Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Transportation.
Mr. TANAKA, Genzaburo
The Secretary of the Ministry of Transportation. (The Director of the Personnel Bureau of General Railway Board)
Mr. USHIJIMA, Tatsuya

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