

GHQ/SCAP Records(RG 331)
Description of contents



- (1) Box no. 2143
- (2) Folder title/number: (14)
Civil Information Activities Report

(3) Date: Aug. 1951 - Sept. 1951

(4) Subject:

Classification	Type of record
020	d

(5) Item description and comment:

(6) Reproduction: Yes No

(7) Film no. _____ Sheet no. _____

RESTRICTED

KYUSHU REGIONAL INFORMATION OFFICE
CIE, GHQ SCAP
APO 1105

RVN/ei

5 September 1951

TO: Coordinator, Information
CIE, GHQ SCAP
APO 500

Field Activities Report

1-31 August 1951

Prepared by Robert V. Neary, DAC

1. GENERAL SUMMARY

a. A general discussion of the status and future of Prefectural Information Offices was on the agenda at the Fall meeting of the Kyushu Governors' Conference. The results were reflected in the changes which took place shortly after the meeting. In most cases these changes embodied a merger of personnel with those men formerly assigned to Ken Foreign Affairs Sections (Liaison Offices) but in Miyazaki the office was strengthened by consolidation with the Planning Section. The advantage here lies in the fact that the section will have advance information on proposed programs and will be able to accomplish better and more effective planning. In Oita the original organization was not changed to any great extent.

b. Special observances during the week of the Peace Treaty signing are planned in all the local prefectures. Most newspapers plan special editions. Local plans vary but in all cases are tied in with special programs, examples, yen savings, reforestation, public meetings, rallies, etc. In contrast to these constructive plans the General Council of Labor Unions plan demonstrations for the four point peace principle timed during the same week.

c. Editors locally find the almost complete cessation of Communist demonstrations and heckling to be suspicious and most believe that plans are being made to resume the regular tactics following the peace treaty. The past six weeks have been so quiet and free from Communist struggle tactics that the general attitude is that there is something phony involved or that a brand new set of tactics is going to be evolved.

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

Information Field Activities Report, 1-31 August 1951, Contd.

2. MAJOR PROGRAMS

a. United Nations

- (1) Preparations are underway for suitable observance of United Nations Day, October 24th. The United Nations Associations here have set that day for a general meeting of all chapters with the idea of federating for more effective action. They are determined that by that day there will be active chapters in those cities which at present have no standing organization. Up to the present time no official subsidies have been forthcoming from any of the prefectures and in view of the short budgets throughout the island indications are that these groups will have to find their own funds.
- (2) UNESCO teams which received instruction at the summer seminar last month seem to have stimulated interest in their localities. Most of this action is concentrated in the citizens public halls. Less than two weeks after the workshop was completed there were similar operations in Beppu and Saga. Greater activity can be expected when the university chapters resume for the winter.
- (3) The Nagasaki UNESCO Cooperative Association held its third anniversary celebration during August. Lectures by Mr. Chuhachi Kubo, association counsel, and Mr. Takeo Aoyama discussed the present and future of the association. Following a discussion of the National UNESCO convention CIE films were shown.

b. Human Rights Commissions

PIOs were requested to give closer cooperation to local Human Rights Commissioners. Newspapers have reported cases from time to time but find that the commissioners are more effective when publicity is not given. Lawyers who are members of the human rights commission state that they encounter resentment from police and court officials when pressing for adjustments or conducting investigations. Although women commissioners have proven skillful and sympathetic interviewers they are greatly handicapped during investigations. The preponderance of cases, however, involve women.

c. Local Autonomy

- (1) Better Government Associations: The results of an island wide survey of existing civic improvement

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

Information Field Activities Report, 1-31 August 1951, Contd.

groups shows that caution is necessary before moving into any specific area with plans to establish a better government association. The Communists have sponsored at least twelve similarly-titled groups and the average citizen is aware of the name. Danger lies in the fact that we may seem to be sponsoring these organizations or at least endorsing the same. A typical example of this is the Fukuoka City Administration Improvement Society (Shisei Sasshin Kai) similar to our CI indorsed Kokura Shisei Kai but which is a leftist dominated pressure group with all the trimmings. Currently this outfit has two members of its board of directors who are on a hunger strike in an effort to gain publicity and embarrass the city administration. They have put forward an eight point program in which all the routine Communist demands like "forbidding compulsory collection of delinquent taxes" and "investigation of irregularities in the last election" are quoted. Closer investigation of these organizations show that they are almost invariably composed of candidates who were defeated for reelection. This seems to be an old political dodge which the Communists are exploiting by recruiting defeated candidates who thus are able to keep their names before the public.

- (2) **Economic Stabilization:** Local businessmen kept a sharp eye on the Kaesong peace parley because of the business aspect of the war. Toward the end of the month when the talks looked deadlocked the market was strong and rising. The continued flow of special demands has reduced local unemployment and contributed to a minor boom in this area. Despite the boom in heavy industry hereabouts tax collection is lagging especially in small and medium size enterprises. Their costs are up and they complain of the lack of venture capital. Ken tax hearing sections have an unprecedented number of customers.

3. MEDIA

a. Audio-Visual Activities

- (1) The recent training course sponsored by the CIE Exhibit Branch was welcomed and highly appreciated here by the people concerned. With the exception of Oita, both an audio-visual officer and a film librarian of each prefecture participated in this nation-wide program. Oita was represented by the

3
RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

Information Field Activities Report, 1-31 August 1951, Contd.

film librarian alone for financial reason. Subsequent development is not observed throughout the region at present, but each prefecture is planning to hold the similar training course for the local audio-visual people, pending the arrival of the guide books from CIE.

- (2) As probably same in other regions, whether or not the RRDO should be retained after the occupation has been one of the main topics of the audio-visual people on the island. Up to date, no definite conclusion on the issue has been reached yet. It seems that they have no objection to keeping the regional center, if it is assured that the present supply (chiefly films) and free transportation of equipment will be maintained in one form or another. Aside from the rather wait-and-see attitude of the people concerned, the RRDO chief has started the various preparation for drafting the budget for the next fiscal year. The draft budget will be completed within the month of September and submitted to the regional audio-visual library committee meeting to be held immediately after the coming national conference.
- (3) The fifth regional preview of the educational films was held at Beppu from 28 through 30 August. As compared with the previous preview, no remarkable progress and changes were noticed both in the screened films and the opinions expressed by the attendants. Prior to this regional gathering, this office made a special survey and surprisingly found most of the prefectures had purchased very few of those films which had been brought up at the similar events in the past. A further investigation into the case revealed the following points as the prominent reasons for this region-wide trend.
 - (a) The educational films produced in Japan are generally low and only few of them are excellent.
 - (b) The CIE films cover almost all the subjects, and therefore, they do not find it wise to spend their limited funds on those Japanese films.
 - (c) Contact has been maintained between film dealers and film libraries, so the regional preview is not only chance for the audio-visual people to select films to be purchased.

4
RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

Information Field Activities Report, 1-31 August 1951, Contd.

- (d) Since the preview is held at the regional level, each prefecture is not fully represented chiefly for economic reasons.
- (4) Miyazaki film library, as a part of the audio-visual program, has been continuously conducting a campaign to encourage the prefectural people to have radio sets under the slogan of "One radio per household". Approximately 600 sets have been purchased throughout the prefecture since the campaign was started in March, it is reported.

4. RADIO STATIONS

Although permission was granted for two commercial stations to be located in Fukuoka and Kurume some high officials are urging the management of both stations to merge. This is regrettable because as originally planned the stations were of two distinct types, a big city radio and a small community radio and would both have been successful it is believed. Should the negotiations be successful we will have only the big city outlet on the Tokyo pattern.

5. PRESS

As may be expected the general approval of the text of the peace treaty draft was tempered here by sentiment for the return of the Ryukyus and more particularly Aoshima. Newspapers in both Miyazaki and Kagoshima mentioned this issue editorially. This angle was thoroughly aired during the recent elections and seemed to have been talked out. It seems from here that they are just trying to exploit a popular issue. Editors interviewed this month still complain of the high price of newsprint but seem to be able to get it in adequate quantity. At the September meeting of the Kyushu League of Local Newspapers the issue of banning the export of newsprint is on the agenda. Sentiment of the local press is in favor of abolishing local autonomous police in small communities not only because of the expense but also because of the tendency toward bossism displayed by these units. Saga Shimbun encouragingly reported that the number of cases brought before the human rights commissioners jumped from 58 in 1950 to 139 this year.

6. INFORMATION ADVISORY COUNCILS

With the reorganization of many of the information offices there seemed to be a falling off in attendance at meetings of the advisory councils. This office is urging that most councils be revised and streamlined and devote the major efforts to issues similar to the better government themes. In two prefectures it will be necessary to completely reorganize the council. In both cases this office will try to combine the functions of both this committee and the better government agency to get the best brains in both groups.

RESTRICTED

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

GHQ, SCAP
KINKI CI&E REGION
Information Office
APO 15

CI&E Reports
Field

1 September 1951

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES REPORT
for August 1951

Prepared by: Frederick T. Yates, DAC

General

The value of making regular contacts with Japanese official and unofficial agencies is already being reflected in the quantity and quality of their recent activities, which are already showing a marked improvement. Relatively little time can be spent with any single group in the course of the month, but this time is devoted to a practical discussion of the plans for the immediate future, a critical study of the work recently accomplished, suggestions for increasing the effectiveness of the agency and usually a recommendation to limit the planning and really get to work. Information sections, UN chapters, better government associations and other groups now brace themselves for two inevitable questions from this officer --- "What have you actually done?" and "What are your definite plans for next month?" Usually they can report some action on the suggestions previously left with them, and some of them are going ahead on their own initiative to achieve surprisingly good results. A more show of interest by the Information Officer at regular intervals is generally sufficient to revive most of these semolent groups and to stir up some semblance of productivity. Officials and civic leaders are already asking whether or not this office's guidance can be continued after the Occupation ends, and many private organizations are apprehensive for the future without the present moral support and encouragement.

United Nations

The newspapers' interest in the United Nations is confined mostly to the Korean War and the participation of member nations in the forthcoming peace treaty conference in San Francisco. This office has urged all the newspapers in the Kinki Region to tie in news stories, editorials and special articles on the UN with their reports on the peace treaty developments, inasmuch as Japan is expected to apply for membership in the UN shortly after the treaty goes into effect. Publishers and editors have been reminded that this is a good opportunity to inform the public about the UN, its organization, objectives and special agencies, about which the Japanese people still lack information. Local UN chapters are also being reminded of this opportunity to capitalize on this tie-in with the peace treaty and are being urged to put on an organized publicity drive, to culminate in big general meetings on United Nations Day in October. Several chapters have already held training courses for public speakers, who will address civic organizations, CPH meetings, schools, colleges, etc., using CI&E films, film strips and exhibits. Boards of education, social education sections and audio-visual libraries have been alerted to cooperate in this

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

region-wide campaign.

At the instance of Tokyo headquarters of Japan United Nations Association, prefectural chapters are being established in various prefectures to promote study of the UN but apparently no material is being furnished to help them achieve this purpose. For instance, Wakayama has obediently set up its prefectural chapter and is anxious to start a program to inform the public about the UN but admits that all it knows about the matter is what it reads in the newspapers. It would like to get some printed material on the subject or at least be notified what material is available in Japanese, where it can be bought or whether sample copies can be secured for re-printing and distribution.

Since this officer's conference with the Osaka chapter last month more activity has been reported. The office staff and various members of the chapter have been getting out into the field and holding lecture and discussion meetings. This chapter also came up with further information about the source of its funds, which are used to maintain a large office and extensive staff in Osaka. Apparently the chapter borrowed about one million yen from a local bank on the strength of pledges from leading firms to contribute to the organization. At the time it was believed that such contributions would be tax exempt, but when the tax office decided to the contrary these contributions were held up pending further negotiations in Tokyo. Negotiations are still under way, and no more money is in sight.

Political Re-orientation

Interest in local autonomy continues but is accompanied by some doubt as to its desirability unless greater control of local tax sources is guaranteed. Prefectures and cities alike complain that they cannot carry on their functions under existing circumstances unless more money is handed out from above. However, the problem appears to be one of collecting local taxes already due the prefectures and municipalities. Osaka Prefecture is currently ¥3.6 billion in arrears, and Osaka City ¥2.4 billion. Kobe City is desperately trying to collect one billion yen owed to it and is getting "tough" about collections in order to avoid bankruptcy. Other prefectures and cities likewise report difficulty in collecting taxes but hope that manna from the Tokyo heaven will obviate the need for drastic local action.

Voting in the recent prefectural land commission elections was more spirited than in the July local elections. The elections were well contested and heavy balloting was general.

Many communities are holding plebiscites on their police systems, with popular opinion favoring abolition of local autonomous police in order to reduce municipal taxes. Nobody inquires as to who pays for the national rural police protection that is to be substituted! In the first plebiscite in Osaka-fu the community vote was 1151 to 181 for the change-over. Of the eighteen towns in Nara seventeen are holding elections, with the local police expecting to be abolished forthwith.

Incidental to the question of police systems is the recent newspaper report that a "civil defense organization similar to that of the U.S." is being formed in Osaka to combat any possible communist outbreaks or civil disorders. This organization plans to have branches all over Japan and enroll some 8,000 volunteers.

Many of the better government associations in this region are still holding preparatory meetings or inaugural ceremonies, with the local officials still very much in evidence. It is increasingly obvious that the officials have been encouraging formation of these associations in order to use them for the distribution of printed matter or to support the local administrations in their policies - good or bad. Most of the associations are established on the ward or school district basis, each district sending one representative to the better government association. The work of the organization is left to the appointed officers and the appointed standing committee, a thoroughly un-democratic system. In very few cases has an effort been made to enlist the support and cooperation of other civic groups or to have representatives from such groups meet with the association. The majority of the associations look to the local government for guidance, subsidies and a free meeting place. Although they are vague about their future activities, they still seem to feel the need for an office, a paid staff and a large budget. However, in individual and district meetings, this office is helping these groups to ease the officials out of the picture and to stand on their own feet, financially and otherwise. The next step will be to induce them to enlarge their memberships, elect new officers, and become truly representative of the entire community. After some months of experience with these new organizations it is increasingly apparent that the formation of many groups without close supervision is a mistake; it is much better to form fewer groups, which can be carefully nurtured and later used as models for other communities to copy.

Food Production and Distribution

In spite of the July storms and floods in parts of the Kinki Region, the rice crop is expected to be fairly close to normal. Most of the damaged rice paddies have been repaired and many have already been replanted. The prefectural agricultural sections and the extension workers have been very active in helping the farmers and more recently have given out a lot of information on how to combat rice blast and other plant diseases prevalent at this season. The authorities finally announced the mugi (hard cereal) quotas and successfully urged the farmers to make prompt deliveries. A number of summer camps were held in various prefectures for the guidance of 4H Club members and to stimulate interest among farm youth in better farming and livestock raising. Agriculture officials have followed the suggestions of this office in distributing more information about loans to cooperatives, the new forestry laws, and the re-distribution of fishery rights. All prefectures have been holding training courses for managers of cooperatives, whose lack of experience or business training has been a major cause of recent financial difficulties and failures.

Economic Stabilization

The newspapers and the business men in this region realize the need for holding down prices in order to compete in the international market; but at the same time they seem resigned to another inflationary spiral as they note the increases in food prices, the salary increases of government and public utility workers and the rising costs of raw materials from abroad. Hyogo Kyoto and Nara prefectures are urging the farmers to plant more mulberry trees and raise more silk worms, but the silk mills are being hit so badly by violently fluctuating market quotations that they wonder how long they can stay in business without government or cartel control. Cotton mills and dealers report large stocks of finished goods on hand and a declining foreign market. In an attempt to combat business pessimism the authorities in the metropolitan areas have been distribut-

ing information material and holding meetings for business men to encourage requests for government loans to qualifying companies, to stimulate the formation of business cooperatives and to promote the use of experts in reducing costs and increasing production in industry.

Labor-Management Relations and Labor Education

Principal emphasis during the month has been on drawing business men and union leaders together to discuss management and labor problems for their mutual benefit. Institutes were held in a number of the larger cities, and prominent lecturers on economics and labor subjects addressed groups of several hundred representatives of both fields. Much attention was given to the need for written labor contracts which would protect both management and labor and provide a satisfactory working arrangement for extended periods. At the suggestion of this office, considerable use was made of CI&E films and other audio-visual materials as part of the training course. Labor education films have also been used successfully in outdoor evening showings in public parks, where it has been possible to reach many workers who could not otherwise be brought together for informational purposes.

Public Health

The major public health problem during August was that of combatting dysentery which had been increasing alarmingly throughout the summer in the greater part of the Kinki Region. The increase over last summer was 3.4 times in Osaka, 4.2 times in Kobe, and nearly seven times in Wakayama. Only Shiga Prefecture showed a favorable comparison with previous years, though the reasons therefor were generally in complete disagreement. This office called a conference of local prefectural and city information officials to determine whether there was a lack of health education or some other deficiency in the health program. It was found that greater use of posters, Kabeshimbun, sound trucks, radio broadcasts and other media had been made than ever before. However, the current information program was intensified, and the public health centers gave additional time and attention to movie showings and exhibits and disease prevention talks. At the end of the month the incidence of dysentery in many areas showed a marked decline. By contrast, there have been much fewer cases of Japanese B encephalitis than last year, with only 11 genuine and 5 suspected cases in Osaka-fu as against 177 cases in 1950.

Information Media

The Press

The newspaper publishers are looking forward with some apprehension to mid-September, when the price of newsprint is expected to take another substantial jump to a level close to the international price. They can see no alternative but to increase the subscription prices accordingly and hope that the public will accept the rise without too many cancellations. An additional number of the smaller and weaker papers may go to the wall, as several have done in recent months. The larger dailies talk about reducing the number of four-page issues per week and using more space for advertisements at the expense of news matter; but they will probably continue as before, merely raising their rates and hoping that the intense current interest in the peace treaty and Korean cease-fire discussions will hold up their readership until the subscribers have got used to the higher price.

Almost every metropolitan daily has sent at least one reporter to the San Francisco conference, and the larger newspapers have sent several special representatives. In an effort to promote the United Nations program, this office talked to a number of editors to suggest that the news stories be accompanied with editorials and special articles relating the peace treaty to the UN and future participation by Japan. Most of the editors agreed to play up this angle in their coverage of the treaty.

At the request of CI&E Press & Publications Branch this officer checked headlines and editorials in the Kokusai Shimbun of Osaka, which was thought to be turning more and more to the left in its editorial policies. A conference was held with the publishers and editors, all of whom are of Chinese nationality. These men disclaimed any sympathies for communism but, after being shown various news stories and special articles by leftist writers, they stated that their paper merely followed a middle-of-the-road policy and printed both sides of every controversy. It was pointed out to them that while their own editorials were not critical of the Occupation or the United Nations neither were they ever condemnatory of Red aggression or of the bloody massacres in China. When asked why the paper never printed any of the USIS releases revealing the repressive and violent methods of the communist regimes they replied that the releases were in English and there was no one to translate them into Japanese. Finally, this officer suggested that if the paper could not discover and print the truth about the international situation it would do better to confine itself to local news. Since the conference the Kokusai actually has placed more emphasis on local matters in its news and editorial columns, but there are still too many stories featuring communist statements and propaganda releases.

Public Information Offices

This office has worked very closely with the six prefectural and three major city information offices in the past two months and has made it a point not only to discuss future plans but also to analyze the work already done. In addition, each month it has met with the part-time information men of the various ken-cho or city departments to discuss various phases of information work. At these seminars recent posters, wall-newspapers and other printed materials are examined and discussed and the good and bad points of each piece are pointed out. Budgeting of information funds and planning of campaigns are also discussed in order to promote serious consideration of every phase of information work. Immediate results are evident in the printed materials now being released, many of which embody the suggestions given and occasionally show originality or effective humor.

During late August the Osaka fu-cho underwent one of the periodic re-shuffles that every prefectural government experiences from time to time when the departmental figureheads have messed up their various departments beyond the usual limits. It was learned that the chief and assistant chief of the information section were to be replaced by equally inept bureaucrats and that the real brains of the section, a minor branch chief, was to be passed over once more. This officer lodged a strong protest with the governor against playing politics to the detriment of the public interest. As a result, although the branch chief was not given the top post, he was made assistant chief with the understanding that he would direct his important information work without interference.

Audio-Visual Education

Special attention was given this past month to remedying one of the chief weaknesses of the audio-visual program, the lack of adequate publicity which is

general throughout Japan. This office invited prefectural and city information officers and the chief of the social education section to attend each meeting with the audio-visual officer and the film librarian at each prefectural film library in order to promote a close working relationship. This office suggested that these officials be invited to attend regular pre-views of new CI&E films once or twice a month and that when films of special interest to certain departments are to be shown the chiefs of such departments be invited to attend. The audio-visual officer was urged to send lists of new films to the newspapers and the local radio station as well as to the editors of prefectural and city kohos (official news organs), departmental bulletins, the board of education magazine and other media for free publicity purposes. It has impressed on the social education chief that his branch chiefs should publicize the a-v program more extensively in their communications and contacts with citizens' public halls, women's associations youth groups, and P.T.A.'s. At the monthly meetings with the departmental information men of the various Ken-chos this office recommended that any department directly concerned with a new special-interest educational film be given first chance to borrow the film and take it out into the field for a series of showings and discussion meetings.

As more and more Japanese projectors are purchased by municipalities and schools there is a growing tendency to ignore CI&E films and to buy or rent entertainment films, cartoons and news reels, which are shown either free or at a slight admission charge. Neither the commercial theaters nor the traveling film-showing companies appear to object very much to this competition, and higher educational authorities generally condone the practice because "the people and the children have a hard life and need some entertainment." The latest development is a growing demand that the regional repair center take over the maintenance of these publicly-owned Japanese projectors.

Radio

The Osaka and Kyoto radio stations include information programs in their schedules and allot regular periods each week to the individual prefectures in the Kinki Region. Much more of the local time available could be used effectively if the prefectural and city officials would take advantage of their opportunities, but neither the information officials nor the radio station staffs want to take the initiative in preparing special programs, which entail a little extra effort. At the same time these public officials report that they are being solicited by the new commercial radio stations to buy time on these stations (at one to two thousand yen per minute) and ask the advice of this office on the matter. The suggestion is promptly quashed inasmuch as there is plenty of local time available at no cost over the two NHK stations. This office has also questioned the Radio Branch of CI&E as to whether the new stations are expected to set aside a percentage of their time for free public service, as in the United States, but apparently there is no definite policy on the matter.

The new commercial radio station promoted by the Mainichi Shimbun in Osaka started its broadcasts on 1 September. The Asahi Shimbun has also completed an elaborate studio in Osaka but will probably not be ready for business until the end of the year. The president of the Kyoto Shimbun recently left for the United States to study commercial broadcasting and radio advertising in America in preparation for the opening of its station later in the year. Kobe is still fumbling around and looking for financial backing and may not have a station for a long time.

RESTRICTED

SCAP CIE GHQ
TOKAI-HOKURIKU REGIONAL OFFICE
APO 710

CIE Civil Information Activities
Report Period - August 1951

Author: Mr. Guy P. Webb, DAC

1. Major Programs

a. United Nations and UNESCO

The Mie-ken UNESCO headquarters, three and a half years after its founding, claims 330 members and eight branches in Kuwana, Yokkaichi, Tsu, Matsuzaka, Yamada, Shima, Kinomoto and Ueno. The success of Mie-ken UNESCO work appears to be the direct result of considerable enthusiasm and ability of the Matsuzaka CPH chief who is also chief of the UNESCO secretariat. Pamphlets entitled "Let's Visit UNESCO House" have been published and distributed to all schools in the cities, towns and villages in the Ken.

Mie UNAJ branch has been organized on the same plan as UNESCO and now has branches in Matsuzaka, Shima, Ueno, Yokkaichi, Tsu and Yamada.

Fukui branch UNAJ will be established soon, following its recently held preparatory meeting. This branch will be established in memory of the peace treaty and its leaders anticipate a membership of 1,000 persons.

Gifu UNESCO has been active and successful in holding an exhibit in Takayama. Two handbooks on UNESCO have been published and distributed, the first with a printing of 1,500 copies, the second 1,000 copies.

b. Local Autonomy

Introduction of the Better Government Association to community leaders continues to be the main objective of local autonomy promotion in this region. To avoid domination of small city BGA units by the prefectural capital BGA branch, organizational efforts have been mainly concentrated at first here in cities outside the Ken capital.

The objectives of the Fukui-ken Advisory Information Council are likely to be incorporated into the Fukui BGA unit when it becomes a reality.

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

One BGA conference in Seto City with community leaders and follow-up work by correspondence has resulted in a series of excellent newspaper articles and favorable editorial comment in the Seto newspaper.

c. Tax Collection

An excellent example of tax payment publicity methods is seen in Aichi-ken's PRO record for August:

To popularize the tax payment dead-line on private enterprise tax, special income tax and amusement tax for the 1951 fiscal year, the following media were used:

- (1) Advertisements were inserted in the August 15th issues of Nagoya Times and Nagoya Journal and August 21st issues of Chubu Nippon Shimbun, Asahi, Mainichi and Shintokai. Spot announcements over radio were also employed.
- (2) 3,000 copies of posters were prepared and distributed to country offices, cities and banks and some of them were hung in the coaches of Nagoya Electric Railway and street cars.

10 placards were made and were distributed, two each to five prefectural tax offices.

104,222 boxes of matches were distributed to restaurants in the prefecture.
- (3) Trip in Nagoya City by news-car "PRO" during the periods, 25 to 28 July and 21 to 27 August.
- (4) In Okazaki City, an article entitled "How to turn in inhabitant taxes of judicial persons" was inserted in Tokai Shimbun, Seisan (Nishimikawa District) Shimbun and Mikawa Times in an attempt thoroughly to popularize deadline of inhabitant tax payment and to elevate the will of tax payment of the general public.

Posters were also put up informing the citizens that letters urging payment of inhabitant tax have been sent to those who are in arrears.

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

- (5) In Handa City, articles concerning encouragement of tax-payment savings association and how to assess fixed assets were inserted in the city organ sheet, leaflets to the above effect were distributed and circulated to every house hold.

d. Human Rights

Several pitiable cases of imprisonment of human beings by families have been exposed by local branches of the legal affairs bureau. There was one case of imprisonment of an adult for 11 years and another of a child for 40 days.

Also a case of an Oyabun (gangster-boss) cutting off fingers of one of his Kobuns (follower, henchman) was exposed by police. Human traffic cases continue to come to light.

Scattered incidents like the above point to the need of continuous effort to teach the concept of human rights. Exposure of the above incidents does indicate a degree of progress in obtaining response to continuing publicity. Ken newspapers continue to aid in disseminating general publicity on definition of human rights.

e. Political Information and Education

The Ogaki City (Gifu-ken) Women's Political Club continues to stand as the best example of realistic political education for women in this region. There are three main objectives of the club:

- (1) To inform women concerning government and encourage their participation in democratic society; to teach the facts and techniques of public administration (government).
- (2) Promote women's social status.
- (3) Discuss present problems positively and offer constructive advice to local municipal officials.

This Seiji Club is a part of the local Fujin-kai.

f. Public Health and Welfare

Prefectural officials placed emphasis on prevention of summer communicable diseases in their August publicity. An Aichi lecture series drew an attendance of 5,000. Movies for communicable disease prevention were shown in Okazaki City at schools, plants and public halls between 4-10 August. There was an average attendance of 700 persons.

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

2. Audio Visual Activities

A Nagano-ken model high school recently bought a tape recorder for ¥84,000 to round out its A-V equipment and strengthen its program of A-V education. This school (Kawanakajima junior high school, Sarashina-gun) has already been equipped with 42 loud speakers, 2 slide projectors, 2 daylight screens and one 16 mm talkie projector.

The recorder will be used to record radio broadcasts and lectures and will be used in connection with studies of national language, English, music, etc.

Film councils have now been established in the following kens: Ishikawa, Mie, Gifu, Toyama and Aichi.

3. Editorials on "Police State"

Editorials in several TH newspapers warn of the possible reappearance of the "police state." Abolition of autonomous police came before there was a chance of their solid establishment, the editors believe. One editorial (Ise Shimbun, Tsu) states: "The future status of National Police Reserves and Maritime Safety Board will be watched closely by everyone for when rearming begins, these two safety structures could directly become foundations of an Army and a Navy. Accordingly, the Minister for Public Safety, who will have jurisdiction over these two agencies and also over the National Rural Police, the Investigation Bureau and the Migration Boards, will be very powerful..... This Public Safety Minister will be in fact Vice Prime Minister and the Prime Minister may become unable to do anything without consulting him."

4. Summary of Activities

- a. Conferred with 121 community leaders in eight cities to learn possibility of forming Better Government Association. 14 in Tsuruga, 20 in Komatsu (Fukui-ken); 6 in Kanazawa (Ishikawa-ken); 15 in Takayama and 16 in Ogaki, (Gifu-ken); 18 in Yokkaichi (Mie-ken); 15 in Seto (Aichi-ken) and 17 in Iida, (Nagano-ken).

The results were excellent in Tsuruga, Komatsu, Yokkaichi, Ogaki and Seto, fair results in Kanazawa and Iida, but the result was not good in Takayama where the chamber of commerce and Industry did not carefully select conferees.

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

- b. Discussed UNAJ branch activities with 13 leaders in 6 prefectures.
- c. Discussed UNESCO association branch activities with 7 leaders in 6 prefectures.
- d. Interviewed 6 representatives of Information Advisory Councils in the 7 prefectures.
- e. Interviewed Kencho PRO staffs in 7 prefectures and discussed PRO activities and local autonomy.
- f. Interviewed the representatives of Repair and Distribution Center and discussed the distribution of SCAP CIE Utilization materials, CIE Film TINS and CIE Study Discussion Guides.
- g. Discussed local autonomy and Better Government Association with 4 mayors - Komatsu, Ogaki, Yokkaichi and Takayama cities.

RESTRICTED

Restricted

CIVIL INFORMATION OFFICE
TOHOKU REGION
SCAP-CIE

Report for August 1951
Civil Information Summary
Mrs. Bernice S. MacFarland

1. PROGRAMS

a. United Nations:

The final plans for the correlated program among all schools in Tohoku Region have been initiated by Miyagi Social Education Section and PIO and projects started.

Meetings have been held with representatives of U.N.A.J. in all prefectures. All report a growing interest in U.N.A.J. but all face financial and publicity problems and experience little help from Tokyo headquarters. Most of the leaders are prefecture officials, making it seem that U.N.A.J. is a part of the government. In Akita all leaders of U.N.A.J. are most intelligent and out-standing with seeming understanding of U.N.A.J. aims but all are officials of the prefecture liaison section. Here, to encourage interest they started a special membership drive for young people and housewives at very reduced dues. The radio stations and commercial papers have been cooperative in publicizing programs and U.N. organizations are continually urged to use A.V. materials. News photo pictures of U.N. activities have been circulated to local publishers associations and have been used for exhibits.

b. Local Autonomy:

(1) Better Government Association

Interest in BGA continues to spread with articles appearing in all major papers and new organizations being formed. Initiative meetings have been held in eight places during this month. All material sent by CI has been widely publicized and those attending the initiative meetings were familiar with the content and ready to ask many questions. Dr. Kuboki, president of Aomori BGA, reported that two broadcasts had been made from Aomori radio station and broadcast to all prefectures in Tohoku. Broadcasts were: - "Explanation and Establishment of BGA" and "What Citizens Can Do For Bettering Aomori City."

At the meetings held in Niigata City and Kashiwazaki it was very evident that officials were reluctant to have an "all

Restricted

Restricted

citizen group as requested. In Kashiwazaki the mayor, and all high officials from his office, attended. Here the youth representative stated that such an association (BGA) would merely duplicate programs already promoted by the youth organizations. Representatives from other groups disagreed stating that the programs of youth association reached only a limited age group. An interesting discussion evolved when the official of CPH, siding with youth representative, said it would be a duplication of CPH programs also. It was brought to the public notice that the CPH has not had a single educational program during this first part of the fiscal year although there is a full time official in charge, a budget is allotted, and they have a splendid, large CP building. Such information proved the pertinent need of an organization. (Kashiwazaki has organized.)

At the meeting held in Niigata more than half of those attending were officials, including the mayor and his staff although definite plans had been made for a representative citizen's group only. During the discussion period the majority of speakers were adamant in their arguments against the formation. CI asked for a showing of hands of officials present and they were most surprised to learn that their "official identity" was realized and most reluctant to admit it. After the showing of hands of officials (more than 50%) the discussion became most active with members of PTA and local newspapers taking the affirmative side to form the association. Mayor Murata was disturbed and in closing reiterated that he agreed fundamentally with principles of the association which might be of value where the municipal administration is weak but such an association is not needed in Niigata which has "democratic municipal administration." It was most evident to those present that the mayor was making every effort to protect his municipal policy. After the meeting local editors expressed disapproval of the attitude of officials and their papers have carried factual reports of the discussions. It is quite evident that the city administration is all-powerful. Better government associations have been organized in five of the seven prefectures and planning groups are already active in the remaining two. Aomori City group is most active of the BGA and Iwate prefecture leads in organization of greatest number.

(2) Local Autonomy

Several prefectures report a noticeable increase in audience attendance of city, town and village assemblies and not only an interest in the problems of the assemblies, but an increased knowledge of them.

Miyagi Prefecture planned an extensive program to reach six distant areas. Section chiefs, traveling on the sound car,

Restricted

Restricted

discussed local autonomy problems and international developments to audiences numbering 20,000. CIE films were shown and exhibits displayed.

A study of Akita's information programs showed that no material sent out by CI was disseminated through their PI channels. A further study showed that the official in charge of planning was making arbitrary decisions by himself. As he was the senior official and had the backing of strong political leaders the chief encountered many problems and reported that this official blocked any information programs which were suggested. The official in charge of planning made such statements as - "Local Autonomy is just a dream" - "Themes and Techniques have no significant value to average citizens." - "The local people are interested in the prefecture problems and not world (U.N.) problems," etc. With him the meaning of "information" was entirely lost. The need for qualified, open minded people in key positions has been discussed. The PIO reports that said person was transferred during the current month.

(3) Human Rights

Conferences were held with human rights commissioners and representatives of lawyers association, and Womens and Minor's Bureau in nine places. There is a need for greater scope in programs planned and a recognition of the need for human rights education for the general public. Progress is slow and the talk continually turns to lack of budget. Effort is being made to develop the idea of "community service" among the commissioners. A conference of Tohoku HRC and PIOs was held during the month to develop a better understanding of aims of human rights commission and make specific plans for education program. Akita Sakigake Shinpo carried a series of articles on infringements of human rights with a brief explanation of each case made by proper official.

c. Labor Education:

The need of self-supporting economy in Japan is recognized and considerable publicity has been planned for labor groups. All prefectures carried information about Japan's membership in ILO. In Fukushima meetings were held with 97 groups at which aims and activities of ILO were discussed. Articles were printed in Labor Review (4,000 copies) and spot announcements given on PA systems as well as scheduled broadcasts from Koriyama radio station to give information concerning labor laws, protection of miners, etc. In Aomori 14 sessions were held for training labor union leaders. (attendance 560). Niigata held labor education conferences during the month for over 3,000 people and an industrial exhibition which attracted over 5,500 visitors.

Restricted

Restricted

discussed local autonomy problems and international developments to audiences numbering 20,000. CIE films were shown and exhibits displayed.

A study of Akita's information programs showed that no material sent out by CI was disseminated through their PI channels. A further study showed that the official in charge of planning was making arbitrary decisions by himself. As he was the senior official and had the backing of strong political leaders the chief encountered many problems and reported that this official blocked any information programs which were suggested. The official in charge of planning made such statements as - "Local Autonomy is just a dream" - "Themes and Techniques have no significant value to average citizens." - "The local people are interested in the prefecture problems and not world (U.N.) problems," etc. With him the meaning of "information" was entirely lost. The need for qualified, open minded people in key positions has been discussed. The PIO reports that said person was transferred during the current month.

(3) Human Rights

Conferences were held with human rights commissioners and representatives of lawyers association, and Womens and Minor's Bureau in nine places. There is a need for greater scope in programs planned and a recognition of the need for human rights education for the general public. Progress is slow and the talk continually turns to lack of budget. Effort is being made to develop the idea of "community service" among the commissioners. A conference of Tohoku HRC and PIOs was held during the month to develop a better understanding of aims of human rights commission and make specific plans for education program. Akita Sakigake Shinpo carried a series of articles on infringements of human rights with a brief explanation of each case made by proper official.

c. Labor Education:

The need of self-supporting economy in Japan is recognized and considerable publicity has been planned for labor groups. All prefectures carried information about Japan's membership in ILO. In Fukushima meetings were held with 97 groups at which aims and activities of ILO were discussed. Articles were printed in Labor Review (4,000 copies) and spot announcements given on PA systems as well as scheduled broadcasts from Koriyama radio station to give information concerning labor laws, protection of minors, etc. In Aomori 14 sessions were held for training labor union leaders. (attendance 560). Niigata held labor education conferences during the month for over 3,000 people and an industrial exhibition which attracted over 5,500 visitors.

Restricted

Restricted

d. Forestry Legislation and Cooperatives

The new forestry laws have been widely publicized through commercial and prefecture papers, meetings and sound cars in the districts where lumbering is an important industry. Iwate sent their sound truck into distant forest areas during Bon festival to insure getting information to maximum groups.

Niigata planned an extensive program to emphasize the importance of individual contribution to insure success of the cooperatives. The spheres of responsibilities of officers were clearly stated. Two radio broadcasts were made to discuss the reconstruction of coops and accounts of 19 cooperatives were audited and publicized. Workshops for officers were held in 17 guns with attendance of 1,186 persons. These summer programs, conducted over a two month period, have been highly successful.

2. MEDIA

a. Newspapers:

The activities and interest among local publishers have increased greatly. During the current report period CI representatives have talked with publishers and editors of 92 local papers and attended meetings of 4 Local Publishers Associations. The local publishers of Niigata (58 members) organized during August. A survey made during the last week of the month showed that the use of USIS releases had tripled. News photos (130 copies) have been circulated and used by LPAs for exhibit purposes. Many local publishers have requested more releases on the following topics: - U.N. activities (other than war releases), American daily life, human interest stories, progress in science and medicine, world economic problems, current prices in America, articles of interest to women and children...About 90% of the small papers interviewed gave their financial status as "red" or "on the edge."

Several reports have been made concerning the support given by Yamagata Prefecture office to Yamagata Shinbun (large daily). The entire prefecture budget for advertizing goes to this paper and a room in the prefecture office is designated exclusively for its use. It is very noticeable that no cooperation is given to local papers. With the organization of an association it is hoped this can be corrected.

The Yamagata Shinbun will celebrate its 75th anniversary and has asked each city office in the prefecture to contribute ¥50,000 to help finance the program.

b. Sound Cars:

Excellent programs have been planned in several prefectures to make maximum use of sound cars during the summer months. Many people

Restricted

Restricted

in Tohoku live in isolated areas and through these planned programs they have had contact with outside world. Miyagi planned trips to 6 distant areas and reached over 20,000 people. Talks were given on political reorientation, films were shown, a radio repair team (furnished by radio station) fixed radios, doctors and nurses from Japan Red Cross gave medical examinations and treatments. The villagers expressed great delight over these visits.

Iwate operated a library on wheels for rural areas during vacation time carrying 450 books for children, kamishibais, and exhibits. They stayed two days in each rural village. Three or four hundred children collected daily, "carrying lunch boxes." The only complaint offered was "Two days is not long enough." One girl in Katsunaki said, "I never dreamed of a happy day like this."

3. AUDIO-VISUAL ACTIVITIES

The report for July film showing indicates an increase of 5% on the number of showings and 2% increased attendance over June. The total number of showings was 11,790 with total attendance 3,582,887.

Since last May, AV officers and librarians have emphasized the use of exhibit materials as well as films. During July 162,434 persons visited exhibits. In Aomori 85,000 saw exhibits. Iwate was in second place with 35,600.

A work shop sponsored by Mombusho and Miyagi Prefecture Board of Education, to promote education for the handicapped was held in Tohoku. CIE films and other audio-visual materials were used.

Miyagi planned a special film program for remote villages during the summer season. Ten villages were visited and films shown to audiences numbering 30,000. In Fukushima 25 remote villages were visited and films shown to over 35,000. For many this was the first time to see films.

A survey made in Tohoku shows that 125 authorized projectionists are women. Miyagi leads with 32.

The premier of CIE film "New Eyes, New Ears" was held in Niigata 27 August and Shibata 23 August. Mr. Judson and Mr. Duke from SCAP attended.

Restricted

Shikoku Regional Civil Information Office
CIE, GHQ, SCAP
APO 1050

Civil Information Activities

Report for August 1951

1. Programs:

a. United Nations:

- (1) The PIO's of Kochi and Ehime plan lectures and other informational activity on present world events, offering commentaries and interpretations, with the peace treaty as the point of departure. This activity will, of course, also take up matters connected with the United Nations.
- (2) The United Nations Association Branch in Kagawa prefecture has been dormant, for the most part. Its membership consists of a number of prominent individuals and the organization has received some funds from the prefectural government. However, it appears that there is some interest in establishing more branches in some localities.
- (3) In Tokushima, the authorities have been talking for some time about the possibility of establishing a local branch but the lack of interest on the part of the public has been a deterrent. The authorities feel that if a branch is to be established, it would have to be run by the authorities, at least during the initial period.
- (4) A local chapter of the UNESCO Society had formerly been active but the organization died out through lack of popular interest.
- (5) In Kochi prefecture, also, the PIO is undertaking preliminary moves for the purpose of establishment of a prefectural chapter of the United Nations Association.
- (6) The United Nations Workshop in Ehime received very valuable guidance from Miss Ethel Weed, CIE, SCAP. The workshop was attended by representatives of all prefectures.

b. Human Rights:

- (1) The Legal Affairs Bureau in Tokushima has found the number of appointments of Human Rights Commissioners to be unsatisfactory. Accordingly it has initiated and circulated proposals for expediting the appointments of Human Rights Commissioners in village communities.
- (2) Human Rights Commissioners in Tokushima feel a lack of freedom of movement. They declare that they are obliged to wait for requests for cooperation from the Legal Affairs Bureau before they can commence an investigation.
- (3) In discussing publicity with Human Rights Commissioners, the complaint was offered that lack of funds was hampering them. CI always discusses publicity with all contacts and nearly always receives the same complaint. Its validity is often quite doubtful.
- (4) Ehime prefecture has had a number of cases of "Murahachibu", or organized ostracism. The Human Rights Commissioners were quite proud in telling of these rare and bizarre cases.
- (5) As usual, wide-spread, popular misinterpretation of the scope of human rights was manifested in complaints and petitions to the Human Rights Commissioners.

c. Local Autonomy:

- (1) In Ehime prefecture, emphasis is being placed upon the movement for consolidation of towns and villages. Chairmen of assemblies of towns and villages have been given information on the subject and are actively studying the problem. A town which recently absorbed a neighboring village was selected by the prefecture as a model, and a pamphlet concerning this amalgamation was composed and distributed.
- (2) A short course on local autonomy was given by the prefecture to local officials in Ehime. In Kochi, information was given by the prefecture to local officials concerning balloting on the question of abolition of local police forces. A number of public hearings were held on the same subject by local information committees.
- (3) Contacts with local information committees generally revealed no special developments.

d. Economic Stabilization:

- (1) The Economic Investigation Board has carried out investigations of complaints concerning exorbitant prices. On this basis, it has issued public appeals for overcoming the situation, particularly through self-control on the part of businessmen. The number of complaints to the EIB concerning hoarding and profiteering has diminished somewhat, lately. According to the EIB, this is due to a decrease in profiteering. The bureau has indicated its readiness to vigorously appeal again for self-control should the situation deteriorate.
- (2) Wide contacts were made with chambers of commerce on informational matters.

e. Crop Production and Collection

- (1) Tokushima is making efforts to complete mugi deliveries ahead of time. The authorities there state that the tardiness of the central government in announcing the quotas has adversely affected informational efforts to expedite deliveries. Nevertheless, various media are being utilized to press the campaign, and the cooperation of the press and radio has also been gained. So-called "encouragement parties" have also been organized locally and are endeavoring to spur deliveries, in cooperation with the prefectural officials.
- (2) Kochi is also making a vigorous effort to accelerate deliveries. The press, radio, and government publications are all joining in, and explanatory meetings are being held by prefectural officials. The public is being kept informed as to the current situation with respect to deliveries.

f. Labor Relations

- (1) A number of lectures on labor education topics were given by the prefectural authorities in Ehime, and a summer course for labor and management was held in Kagawa. CI also addressed representatives of management and labor.
- (2) The Women's and Minors Bureau in Ehime was found to be overburdened with work and handicapped in many ways.

d. Economic Stabilization:

- (1) The Economic Investigation Board has carried out investigations of complaints concerning exorbitant prices. On this basis, it has issued public appeals for overcoming the situation, particularly through self-control on the part of businessmen. The number of complaints to the EIB concerning hoarding and profiteering has diminished somewhat, lately. According to the EIB, this is due to a decrease in profiteering. The bureau has indicated its readiness to vigorously appeal again for self-control should the situation deteriorate.
- (2) Wide contacts were made with chambers of commerce on informational matters.

e. Crop Production and Collection

- (1) Tokushima is making efforts to complete sugi deliveries ahead of time. The authorities there state that the tardiness of the central government in announcing the quotas has adversely affected informational efforts to expedite deliveries. Nevertheless, various media are being utilized to press the campaign, and the cooperation of the press and radio has also been gained. So-called "encouragement parties" have also been organized locally and are endeavoring to spur deliveries, in cooperation with the prefectural officials.
- (2) Kochi is also making a vigorous effort to accelerate deliveries. The press, radio, and government publications are all joining in, and explanatory meetings are being held by prefectural officials. The public is being kept informed as to the current situation with respect to deliveries.

f. Labor Relations

- (1) A number of lectures on labor education topics were given by the prefectural authorities in Ehime, and a summer course for labor and management was held in Kagawa. CI also addressed representatives of management and labor.
- (2) The Women's and Minors Bureau in Ehime was found to be overburdened with work and handicapped in many ways.

g. Taxation:

Although great effort is usually put into the campaigns for tax collection, the past month has seen a slackening of this activity on the part of the prefectural authorities. The national tax authorities displayed greater activity than their prefectural counterparts but here, too, there was relatively less activity than usual.

h. Fishery Cooperatives:

An information campaign was held in Tokushima prefecture with respect to the recent developments in the fisheries reform program. Prefectural authorities used a variety of media in contacting members and management of fisheries cooperatives and informing them of the significance of the laws. The press and radio also cooperated in the campaign.

i. Communist Activity:

- (1) The Communists have been centering much of their activity upon the day-laborers. Many of the unions of day-laborers are solidly controlled by the Communists. One of the chief demands made is that summer allowances be paid. Another demand is that the wage base be raised. In Tokushima, the Communist-controlled day-laborers' union has vigorously employing a variety of media, including posters, leaflets, and open-air meetings.
- (2) Another point of communist concentration has been "peace" agitation. This has generally taken the form of scattering leaflets and collecting signatures. An attempt was made by the Communists to take over a round-table conference on the peace question, sponsored by the unions of Kagawa prefecture, but this attempt failed completely.

2. Media:

a. General:

- (1) All prefectural radio stations are faced with the problem of insufficient wave coverage of their areas of responsibility. In some cases, areas on the adjacent mainland are covered by Shikoku stations and Shikoku areas are being covered by Honshu stations. This situation is an obstacle in developing a local broadcasting program which will serve the needs of the local population. This complaint recurred repeatedly in conferences with the staffs of radio stations.

- (2) The local press is still worried over the newsprint situation. However, the national press is comparatively weak in Shikoku and does not offer much of a threat in the way of competition at the present time.
- (3) The Shikoku Shinbun is carrying out a vigorous campaign to solidify and increase its circulation. This newspaper is also taking the lead in forming a deliberative council of newspapers in Kagawa. The council is a rather loose type of organization, aiming at providing an opportunity for occasional exchanges of views by local information media representatives. The term, local, here includes local branches of national and regional newspapers as well as independent local papers. Only daily newspapers affiliated with Kyodo News Service are permitted to join. The local radio station is also a member of the council.
- (4) In addition to regular conferences with information officials and others, a number of prefecture-wide municipal information officials' conferences were participated in by CI. The officials feel that it is very necessary that explicit legal provisions be made with respect to their functions, in place of the general provisions of local autonomy under which they operate at present.

b. Audio-Visual Programs

- (1) Audio-visual officials in Tokushima prefecture cooperated with police authorities in arranging a series of film showings for the purpose of promoting cooperation of the citizenry with the police in combatting crime. The showings were widely held and were accompanied by talks from local police representatives.
- (2) An effort to reach isolated areas was made by the audio-visual officials in Kagawa prefecture. As part of this effort, eight small islands in the Inland Sea were visited.
- (3) Utilization of discussion guides appears to be meeting with some difficulty. Despite constant urging on the part of the Audio-Visual Officer, local reluctance to under take discussion activity often results in omission of this activity. The situation is better at showings under the sponsorship of school teachers and youth leaders.

- (4) The opinion is also voiced that utilization of film tie-ins is often impracticable. The reason given for this is that the long-established practise of circulating films prevents effective execution of the suggested tie-ins.
- (5) Films are much more popular in areas where entertainment facilities are scarce than in areas where such facilities are available. It is opined by Japanese that in the former case, the films are viewed by the audience solely on the basis of their entertainment value and the educational effect is not very strong. There is a feeling that the showing of Japanese entertainment films is necessary for popular attendance, although the quality of this popularity is questionable. The Kagawa Audio-Visual Officer is certain that this widely-practised procedure has the sole result of nullifying the effect of the less popular CIE films. Admission charges on a non-profit basis are usually involved.
- (6) Balopticon projectors are generally unpopular and not much use is made of them. The Japanese feel that Japanese-made slide-projectors are preferable.

Restricted

SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS
CIVIL INFORMATION AND EDUCATION
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
Regional Information Office
Chugoku APO 182

Monthly Activities Report

August 1951

Prepared by Mr. Dwight C. Johnson

1. GENERAL:

Field trips were made to 11 cities and all five of the prefectures of the Chugoku Region. Conferences were held with the Prefectural Information Sections, Social Education Chiefs, Audio-Visual Aid Officers and Film Librarians and the Directors and/or Standing Committee members of the Information Advisory Councils in all prefectures. Meetings were also held with 12 Human Rights Commissioners, the Directors of three UNESCO Associations, the officers of one Agricultural Cooperative Federation and the officers of two Civil Liberties Unions.

2. MAJOR PROGRAMS:

a. United Nations:

Except for extensive coverage by the Prefectural newspapers on United Nations activities and editorial comment on events leading up to the Peace Conference, there was a decrease in activities in the UN program during August. Prefectural PIO's, UN and UNESCO groups were mostly engaged in planning September activities.

Shimane PIO sponsored two speeches by Mr. Kanikawa of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on "The Peace Treaty and the United Nations," and three lectures by staff members of the Shimane Shimbun on UNESCO, ILO and the FUND.

Tottori PIO sponsored a speech in Tottori City by Seichi Yamagata, Director of the Japan UN Association, on his 4 months visit to UN headquarters. The Tottori UNESCO Cooperation Association held a summer lecture course on UNESCO on 27 August with two guest speakers from Kyoto University. Professor Shigejiro Takata spoke on "Legal Problems Involving a Peace Treaty," and Professor Takeo Kuwabara spoke on "Peace and Literature."

Yamaguchi Prefecture and the Yamaguchi Municipal UNESCO Assistance Associations sponsored a speech in Yamaguchi City on 16 August by Professor Acao Odaka of Tokyo University on "The World Situation and Japan's Position."

Restricted

Restricted

The Hiroshima PIO, Social Education Section and the newly organized Hiroshima Prefecture Peace Establishment Movement Council sponsored a series of speeches by Susumu Nakagawa from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on "The Peace Treaty and Japan's Future" in 7 localities during the period from 20-26 August. Exhibits on the UN and UNESCO were displayed at the lectures which were held in the afternoons. Evening showings of CIE films followed the lectures. This is a beginning of a series of lectures which will reach the five cities and the 16 guns of Hiroshima Prefecture. The next group of lectures from 7-13 September will have Niiseki Kinya of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as speaker.

The Hiroshima Peace Establishment Movement Council was organized on 4 August and is composed of representatives from the Prefectural Government, Governments of the five cities of the prefecture, the Prefectural School board, Town and Village Association, Prefectural Agriculture Cooperative Federation, Prefectural Women's Group, Prefectural Youth's Group and the Hiroshima Chapter of the UN Association. In addition to the UN program the Council is planning to sponsor showings of CIE Films and Exhibits, promotion of commerce and industry, support of the Peace Yen Savings Campaign and a Peace Treaty Commemoration Ceremony. The Council will furnish publicity support for the National Athletic Meet to be held in Hiroshima Prefecture in September and October.

b. human rights:

Recent contacts with Human Rights Commissioners show that they have a much better knowledge of their functions than they have had in the past, and that they are more active in holding consultations, handling cases and conducting educational programs. Most are receiving good support from the local press, local governments and civic organizations.

The Civil Liberties Union of Okayama City is corresponding regularly with the American Civil Liberties Union and is receiving monthly publications from that organization. Most of their educational work has been within the Union itself. Educational programs for the public and the handling of the majority of cases has been done by the Human Rights Commissioners in Okayama. The Union is planning to sponsor an oratorical contest on Human Rights, hold discussion meetings and establish consultation offices.

The Civil Liberties Union of Hiroshima City is in reality an organization in name only. They have practically no contact with other Civil Liberties Unions and carry on no activities either within the Union or for the public. The union at present has no active leadership since the original leaders were involved in local scandals and withdrew from the organization. Present plans to reorganize the Union seem to have little chance for success since they are unable to get more than a small number of members to attend any meetings.

Restricted

Restricted

c. Local Autonomy:

A majority of the towns and villages in the region are deciding to abolish the local autonomous police forces. According to a report from the Police brigade chiefs conference in Shimane on 29 August, 181 out of 204 local autonomous police forces in Chugoku and Shikoku regions will be abolished.

d. Labor Management Relations and Labor Education:

Prefectural Labor Sections have all been holding summer labor schools. Prefectural PIO's are using local newspapers, radio and their information bulletins to promote TMI training courses, the Labor Bank and the importance of written contracts. Yamaguchi Prefecture has a mobile library visiting labor unions throughout the Prefecture.

e. Taxation:

Prefectural PIO's and the local newspapers gave good coverage on the promotion of tax collection and information on the fixed assets tax. PIO's are also promoting the formation of tax savings Associations.

Yamaguchi PIO sponsored film showings in 56 localities in connection with round-table conferences on tax-payment problems.

f. Public Health:

PIO's in cooperation with health sections have given wide publicity to the health program with particular stress on summer sanitation. This has become a critical health problem on account of the great increase in cases of dysentery.

g. Agricultural Cooperatives:

The Agricultural Cooperative Association of Oda-mura in Tottori Prefecture reported a successful use of cooperative rice planting on a village-wide scale during July this year. The village reports that the cooperative planting proved profitable since no outside help was required, inspection of other farmer's planting methods helped toward technical improvements and the struggle over water for irrigation was eliminated. The Nippon Kai Press of Tottori Prefecture has been giving publicity to the success of the experiment.

h. Agricultural Extension:

To prevent a spread of rice insect pests (Imochi disease, rice leafhopper and rice borer) which were seriously damaging 600 chobu of rice fields in Aka-gun of Yamaguchi Prefecture, the PIO disseminated

Restricted

Restricted

warnings to the farmers by radio and in the Prefectural Information Bulletin. In addition the news-car with Agricultural Extension Workers and Officials from the Agricultural Affairs Section was sent to Abu-gun for four days, 8-11 August, to open a consultation office and give on-the-spot advice to farmers on the treatment of damaged plants.

3. MEDIA:

a. Newspapers:

The Prefectural Newspapers are anticipating further drops in circulation in September with the increase in newsprint price and the consequent increase in the price of newspapers. A hosted price competition is expected to follow the change from the conventional subscription fee system to free competition. As usual, the smaller newspapers are afraid to come out with a policy which might offend the big three and are holding back to see what the large national dailies will do.

b. Radio:

The Hiroshima Radio Station is carrying a local program on which the Prefectural Governor answers questions submitted by the public.

4. AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS:

The Ministry of Education sponsored preview of Japanese Educational films was held at Tottori City on 6, 7 and 8 August. Thirty-three films and twenty slides were shown. The Japanese A-V personnel who attended were not favorably impressed. Some of the reactions were as follows: The films were improved over past showings but are not satisfactory in acting, technique of film production or sound recording; there were not enough films suitable for adult education although several shown were good for school use; Japanese educational films tend to depict too much landscape and neglect educational value; a woman's voice should be used in narrations which should be given at a slower tempo; explanations in several films were insufficient; films should include more local color - most are produced in Tokyo and vicinity.

The Okayama Film Library has borrowed a generator from the NAF and is making GIE film showings in 17 remote farm and fishing villages in cooperation with the Prefectural Information Section.

Improvements in Film Library facilities are planned in three prefectures of the Region. The Yamaguchi Film Library has received a recent budget allocation of ¥1,965,000 for remodeling of the Prefectural Library to provide a better location. The Hiroshima Film Library was

Restricted

Restricted

allocated ¥700,000 in the July budget for expansion, with a promise of an increase of this amount to ¥1,000,000 in the September budget. The Tottori Prefectural Library is spending ¥1,900,000 on enlargement which will include new facilities for the Fila Library.

5. ANTI-TOTALITARIAN ACTIVITIES:

The Chugoku branch of the Special Examination Bureau conducted raids in Hiroshima, Shimane and Tottori Prefectures on 14 August. Two Communist organ papers in Hiroshima, one in Shimane and one in Tottori were seized and their publication suspended.

Restricted

CIE, SCAP
HOKKAIDO REGIONAL OFFICE
AFO 309

Civil Information Activities

Report for August, 1951

Prepared by: Mervin E. Haworth
GS-12 DAC

1. Programs

a. UNESCO:

- (1) Local UNESCO leaders are pleased with the outcome of the National UNESCO meeting held in Sapporo on the 14th and 15th of August. They report that the discussions were active and on practical topics. Another reason why local leaders are pleased is because they managed to obtain representation (Hokkaido has three) on the National UNESCO League. National League members, however, are still predominately from Tokyo, the reason being that wealthy and influential people are needed to help obtain funds.
- (2) The Hokkaido UNESCO Federation is in the red as a result of the National Meeting held in Sapporo. They report that about ¥1,400,000 was needed. About one half of this was furnished by the Prefectural and City Offices and the rest is to be furnished by local UNESCO groups. One large expenditure was for a "small" party costing approximately ¥200,000. Trips to Akan National Park and Noboribetsu Hot Spring had been planned but did not materialize because leaders hurried back to Tokyo.
- (3) A representative of the Foreign Office estimates that about 60 people came from other parts of Japan. If the seven representatives from Kanagawa are any indication of circles represented it was primarily a meeting of officials. The seven from Kanagawa were education officials.
- (4) UNESCO plans for the future in Hokkaido call for finding financial backers willing to contribute a sizable sum each month so that representatives can be sent to Tokyo and local activities can be carried out.
- (5) A representative of the Foreign Office says that UNESCO in Japan faces many problems and there is danger of people using the movement for personal gain. The press has already reported on a "Flower for Peace" movement which claims that UNESCO and the Japan Red Cross are cooperating groups. These groups have denied support. Officials say the movement is pushed by a Children's UNESCO organization that has no connection with the Japan UNESCO Association.

b. Human Rights:

- (1) Contacts with Human Rights Commissioners were made at every available opportunity. Greatest progress has been made in the area under the jurisdiction of the Asahigawa Legal Affairs Bureau. They have created their liaison organization even though only sufficient funds were available to purchase a third class railway ticket for each commissioner attending the meeting. This was particularly beneficial for the newly appointed HRC's in towns. HRC's in towns in other areas frequently received notice of their appointment, a copy of the monthly publication from the Attorney General's Office and no other instructions. Some were thoroughly at a loss as to where to begin. A definite need for bringing HRC's together to exchange ideas and experiences exists.
- (2) A lack of understanding of what constitutes an actual violation is still quite evident. In many cases HRC's are doing work that should be handled by the Family Court or Welfare officials. In some instances this is caused by a lack of knowledge among the people as to where they should go with such problems. Even though a high percentage of the complaints taken to HRC's do not constitute a violation the commissioners are providing a needed service by telling people where they can get help.

c. Local Autonomy:

- (1) Mr. Bernard Dekle, Information Division, CIE, SCAP, and this officer held preliminary discussions with representatives of citizens groups in Iwamizawa and Sapporo Cities in order to stimulate interest in local government and to discuss the desirability of forming Better Government Associations. Follow up conferences will be held in September. Mr. Dekle's release, personal contacts with the press, and extracts from theme sheets are resulting in many articles encouraging greater citizen interest in governmental affairs.
- (2) Mayors, and town and village headmen are striving for greater financial resources rather than trying to get rid of governmental functions.
- (3) Hakodate City, and apparently many cities throughout Japan are campaigning to have the next higher echelon of government be Tokyo. The present Prefectural Governments would become branch offices of Tokyo and only have jurisdiction over towns and villages. Local Affairs Section officials say this idea is strongest in cities near Tokyo.

d. Labor:

- (1) Labor Unions are taking a more active stand against revision of basic labor legislation. Union publications are carrying an increased quantity of material urging retention. Coal mines are carrying out a signature collection campaign. The undesirable aspect of this is the Peace Campaign that is being carried out simultaneously.

- (2) Unions continually complain that press reports do not cover labor's side of the picture. Part of this may be due to the desire among newspapers to have the Labor Standards Law revised. The National Newspaper Association has submitted proposed changes to Tokyo. Newspapers consider themselves a special group that needs special treatment.
- (3) A problem causing managers of small industries considerable difficulty in dealing with labor is the tremendous difference in wages being paid by their companies and larger companies such as the steel mills, paper companies, and coal mines.
- (4) Background information on labor legislation, based on the fact sheet provided by CIE, was translated and mailed to all newspapers and labor union councils. Copies were given to the PIO and the Labor Education Section.

e. Agricultural Commission Elections:

- (1) Personal contacts with three candidates that withdrew from the July Agricultural Commission election were made by an advisor from this office in order to determine whether any intimidation had been used to force candidates to withdraw (The press had previously reported that such was the case). One of the individuals who was not at home when the advisor called sent a letter to this office saying that he withdrew from the race as a result of "repeated requests". He also said that most of the committeemen, although called farmers, really are not.
- (2) The elections were not held on a community basis. The number of blocks in a community usually determined the number of candidates and the leaders in each block decided the candidate.

2. Media Development

a. Audio-Visual Education:

- (1) The supplemental budget provides an additional ¥1,900,000 for the program. This brings the total amount available up to ¥7,200,000 for the current fiscal year. This office let Social Education officials know that some doubt exists as to whether or not previous appropriations were all used for A.V. They say this year's budget will be.
- (2) In the past the A.V. Officer has been tied down with administrative details. He has had responsibility for his own work, the A.V. Library, and the repair center. During September he will move to a separate office and can begin concentrating on proper utilization of A.V. materials.

- (3) Spot checks to determine the use being made of study guides and informational tie-ins indicate that the main benefit derived from these materials to date is that they have caused officials and organizational leaders to think about proper utilization. Very few programs with the study guide actually being used have been held. Three courses will be held during September to train discussion leaders.
- (4) In smaller communities everyone from age six to sixty attend showings. Almost none are held for specialized groups. A shortage of equipment, the large number of requests, the lack of transportation, the difficulty in getting the proper film in the proper place at the proper time, the desire among the people to see any film no matter what the subject, and the lack of properly trained personnel make it necessary to continue the evil routing system.
- (5) CI feels that a more detailed explanation of the "Seven Steps for a Successful Meeting" (see inside front cover of study guide) would be helpful. Step four is particularly important. There is a tendency for leaders to explain the content of the film, which in many cases lessens audience interest, rather than ask some questions or make some statements that would cause the people to think about problems in their own locality or country.
- (6) An increase in the purchase of Japanese equipment in rural areas has been noted. CI and some Japanese officials fear this is caused more by a desire to show entertainment films than a desire to increase the usage of CIE or other educational films.
- (7) A fire in a bus that started as a result of someone carrying inflammable film resulted in a loss of life and caused bus companies to refuse to transport any films. In some rural areas this temporarily hurt the A. V. program. After contacting the Land Transportation Office and assuring them that CIE films are non-inflammable buses are again transporting CIE films.
- (8) Attendance figures for July were more than double those reported in June. July attendance was 1,149,434.

b. Press:

- (1) Mr. Horiguchi, staff editor for the Hokkai Times, began making speeches and writing articles immediately upon his return from the U.S. His target group is primarily labor unions and his major topic is the desirability of the free enterprise system.
- (2) The press gave an enormous amount of coverage to communist activity. Beneficial articles called the attention of the public to the activities of the University Cell and the

interest of communists in the peace campaigns. The Hokkai Times publicly asked the University to get rid of the C.P. cell and asked Governor Tanaka to take stronger measures against the Prefectural workers responsible for an incident in the Prefectural Assembly during August.

c. Prefectural Information Section:

A supplemental budget of ¥4,000,000 was obtained by the Information Section. This brings their total to ¥11,000,000. The PIO says the Assembly disapproved the purchase of an additional news car mainly because the Labor Education bus had been used in a peace campaign.

d. Commercial Radio:

The Prefectural Assembly passed a bill allowing the government to invest ¥3,000,000 in the Hokkaido Broadcasting Company. Total capitalization is ¥30,000,000. This bill was passed after the CIO had presented his objections to the Prefectural Government through the PIO.

3. Peace Campaigns

Peace campaigns by communists in support of the East German Peace Rally, by the Socialists in support of their peace proposals, and by groups who earnestly want peace or are pleased by the coming Peace Treaty have confused many people and are helping to build up sentiment in favor of neutrality and against the creation of a stronger security force in Japan.

The campaign in support of the East German rally was weak. The leading element was the cell in Hokkaido University. The press, although belatedly, helped by notifying the citizens it was a communist movement.

The other two movements were mainly sponsored by labor unions, the Socialists Party, and religious groups in some instances. The Prefectural Labor Education car was also found to be taking part in a peace campaign.

Restricted

CIVIL INFORMATION OFFICE
KANTO REGION
CIE, GHQ, SCAP

Report for August 1951

Civil Information Summary
Mr. William H. Giltner

1. Trends:

a. With the peace treaty about to be signed, it may be useful to attempt to estimate the Japanese state of mind as this office observes it in the populous Kanto Region. This office has informal discussions each month with between 250 and 400 Japanese--editors, reporters, officials, women, civic leaders, human rights commissioners--on a wide variety of matters that perhaps can be summed up in the words, "political reorientation." This estimate is based entirely upon field discussions and observations. There is no time to read Japanese press translations which, at any rate, are available to higher headquarters.

b. Of course it is not possible even to guess at the real results of the Occupation's guidance; this is a matter for the future to decide. This office during the last month has observed many encouraging signs among individuals and groups with which it has dealings.* But since most of these people have been given extended and close guidance it probably would not be wise to assume that these favorable signs are indicative necessarily of any general attitude. It is certainly true that the Japanese everywhere are

*Among these signs: The information chief of Kanagawa apologized to fishermen who had protested about certain public information; the information was not necessarily wrong but the fact of the apology would have been inconceivable in old Japan. Women in three cities of Saitama, without any Occupation prodding, are organizing a group which will interest itself in better government and schools. Several mayors this office met during the month reveal most hearteningly progressive views and good understanding of democratic processes. The local press in several places exhibits a fine understanding of its responsibilities in a democratic society. The prefectural information councils show progress every month in their inquisitive interest in and intelligent comment on government matters. In several prefectures a really splendid effort is being made to interest and educate children and youths on U.N. Many human rights commissioners are doing valiant work on their own, without pay or even thanks, to aid public understanding of human rights. Individual Japanese citizens in several places show a most intelligent and proprietary interest in the affairs of municipal government. The audio-visual people in virtually all prefectures (including people far down the line like the operators of the machines) deserve great credit and thanks for their faithful handling of a program most vital to the reorientation of the masses.

Restricted

Restricted

CIE, GHQ, Kanto Civil Information Monthly Activities Report for August 51

grateful to America and feel a friendship with her above all nations, though the vast extent of American aid is known by very few persons. U.N. publicity which seeks to prepare the Japanese for full and faithful collaboration on an equal basis with other democratic states has made excellent headway, with a strong impulse given Japanese interest in U.N. by the Korean war and the coming peace treaty. In all dealings which this office has had officially with the Japanese, they have been wonderfully co-operative. There are many intelligent and able people among them.

c. But there are also many strong indications of general Japanese desire to return to the old ways of doing things. Perhaps it may be said they regard the old ways as being "more effective." The public attitude toward the municipal police is to "get rid of them" as being less effective. The agricultural commissioners' election had only the slightest interest among farmers. In people's homes the old adage about their being only two masters--the crying baby and the policeman--has undiminished force. There appears to be a considerable bustling among officials, often in fields in which officials should play no part. In many places human rights commissioners fear that the end of the Occupation will also bring the end of the commissioner system, and, perhaps, of any attention to human rights as understood in the West. Women's associations are increasingly getting orders from government. The Japanese weakness, as one human rights commissioner said, still is quick subservience to the strong. It is certain that the term "democratization" is used to gloss over all sorts of activities which are rooted deep in Japanese life. The chief concern of the Japanese these days is economic--how the country will solve its population and natural resources problems if American aid is reduced or ended. This office has reportedly been asked to "assure" that such aid will be continued. The sad truth is that the Japanese want their cake and they want to eat it too; i.e., they want the old ways but they want American aid to continue. On a national scale perhaps there is what one Japanese has described as a typical individual attitude: "You look after me and I'll look after myself also."

d. It may be astonishing, but it is true, that at the hundreds of meetings held by this office in the last two years there has been only a handful of times that a Japanese has brought up for discussion the subject of Communism--its methods and dangers to Japan. It has almost always remained for this office to raise the subject and there has been very little response. In many places this office has noted a curious reluctance on the part of local Japanese to do anything themselves about combatting Communism or meeting the challenge of Communist efforts to play a leading role in local activities. But the Japanese attitude towards Communism may not be so hard to analyze. Surely it is not an intellectual understanding of the dangers inherent in it to a democratic way of life, to free speech, free press, individual dignity, popular sovereignty. It is simply an emotional response of fear and hatred of Soviet Russia growing out of old wars and intensified by the retention of prisoners of war by a U.S.S.R. which fought for only six days. The fact is that the Japanese have not reached anywhere near the plac

²
Restricted

Restricted

CIE, GHQ, Kanto Civil Information Monthly Activities Report for August 51

where they understand the importance of the individual in a democracy and the fundamental differences between democratic and Communist ideologies.

e. Japanese citizens have a long distance to travel before they learn the need for decisive action to be taken by themselves in the handling of community problems. Bossism, gangsterism, gorotsukiism are all matters which could be cleaned up overnight by an awakened citizenry. They allow themselves to be intimidated by bullies. But the long history of a citizenry subservient to a large bureaucracy and powerful police, moved by cupidity for the subsidy and governed by orders for virtually every act are most powerful factors which can be changed only over a very long period of time. The prefectural local press which, judged by itself, is the most encouraging thing about Japanese democracy, stands hypnotized like a rabbit before the cobra of the national dailies and the newspaper distribution agencies.

f. All of this is not to underrate the importance of much sincere and valuable work which has been done and which doubtless has planted seeds which in due course will bring forth fruit. Indeed, this office could not continue its work unless it was frequently given encouraging signs and unless it had a great desire to look for these signs. Yet these hopeful things must be measured against the tremendous scope and staying power of a strong national culture which, out of joint for a time, is now probably stronger than ever. It may be that in time this national culture will digest Western ideas and Japan will become a prototype for Oriental democracy. But in the future the Japanese should be made to pay for help given by making earnest and persistent efforts to help themselves and to develop democracy in fact.

2. Programs:

- a. United Nations: A supplementary report has been submitted.
- b. Human Rights: A supplementary report has been submitted.
- c. Local Autonomy-Political Information-Better Government

Associations:

(1) At the suggestion of this office, the information councils of the prefectures discussed local autonomy during August. The statements made during these meetings give a pretty good idea of the status of local autonomy attitudes and information. Three of the councils made special studies of the subject.

(2) In most places it was agreed that the tax matter is at the heart of the local autonomy problem. The assertions were repeatedly made that officials should study the tax regulations which they are paid to enforce, the public should be given more information on how tax money is spent, the public must be awakened to an interest in its own problems and elected officials should report to the people after as well as before elections.

³
Restricted

Restricted

CIE, GHQ, Kanto Civil Information Monthly Activities Report for August 51

(3) The tone of comments ranged from the optimistic (Shizuoka) to the pessimistic (Chiba). In Shizuoka it was asserted that the voting rate, the number of women elected to office and the generally improved quality of officials indicate the degree to which the citizenry has become interested in the government. Also, "much interference by the national government in prefectural affairs has been stopped and the prefecture similarly has stopped to a considerable degree its messing around in local affairs." It was said that the fact that communities are amalgamating (9 in Shizuoka) is also an indication of a desire for more efficient government and local control. But in Chiba a special study revealed that "according to an August meeting of headmen, some 70 per cent of the work being done by the local autonomous bodies is as a result of orders from national authorities." The report stated that people may understand local autonomy theoretically but not in matters concerning their daily life. "Hampering this understanding are financial difficulties and feudalism." It was said that town and village assemblies are responsible, and "these people always look for subsidies and never depend on their own abilities to solve problems." It was asserted that the people are not being well informed, that information from higher offices is piling up, undistributed, in lower offices, and that during the war the neighborhood associations served efficiently as media for this type of information.

(4) At a splendid discussion by the Yamanashi Information Council, a section chief was called in and made to understand that a recent action had violated the principle that the public must be informed what happens to its money, for "officials are public servants." Bitter criticism was made of the large number of officials in Japan--"it takes 7½ people just to support an official." "Why cannot education of the public be continuous instead of just before election time? It may be undesirable for the governor and other officials to advance such education since they may not be able to be re-elected if the people are too much informed," it was said.

(5) Tokyo-to and the wards forming the metropolis are engaged in a bitter fight which in part results from the Local Autonomy Law. These wards have a wider range of activities and authority than ordinary wards, electing their own mayors and assemblies, etc. However, they can't spend all the money they collect; they have to turn the money over to Tokyo-to which in turn gives them grants. Nor can they decide kinds and rates of taxes without permission from Tokyo-to assembly. The Tokyo-to wards do not like these restrictions and want full authority. Tokyo-to favors the restrictions. The result is a bitter contest. The Tokyo-to information council took up some aspects of this fight and recommended that the Information Division, without taking sides, give the public the various arguments which have been advanced. It was the council's feeling that the public is not being given sufficient facts, despite considerable press publicity on the matter.

(6) Other comments from information council meetings on the subject of local autonomy: "The public attitude about municipal police is

⁴
Restricted

Restricted

CIE, GHQ, Kanto Civil Information Monthly Activities Report for August 51

that "We got along without them in the past. They are only an extra burden." (Gumma). "The constant reports of graft and scandals, such as recently at Kawasaki, make the public delay tax payments" (Kanagawa). "It is necessary that the people know they are sovereign; then they may be willing to pay taxes" (Kanagawa). "Local autonomy has made progress as indicated by the fact that mayors now come to their offices" (Saitama). "Officials, like the public, are not well informed about local autonomy" (Tochigi). "The demands being made by communities for sensible changes in buraku borders are evidence of growing local autonomy" (Tochigi). "Public officials should make greater effort to tell the public how money is spent, after as well as before elections" (Tochigi).

(7) This office has made a broad distribution of materials prepared by the Policy and Programs Branch the last several months on Better Government Associations. These associations were mentioned in various council meetings as helpful to the strengthening of local autonomy. Considerable interest was expressed in Shizuoka. The Japanese are planning BGA in two cities in Saitama prefecture, two in Ibaraki and at least one in Chiba. They have asked this office for advice on numerous matters.

(8) The two BGA in which this office is taking a special interest were visited during August. They are being given personal attention in the hope that good organizations may be established which will serve as examples for others. As was to be expected, the Communists tried to get into the Kamakura Association, but this office strongly advised against it. The Kamakura group has about 50 members, all of them outstanding people. One of the first problems it will tackle is that of the greatly overcrowded railways which make a great hardship for Kamakura people (and which is intensified by American seamen from Yokosuka base occupying about half the space reserved for the Japanese.) The Tochigi information council was instrumental in forming the Utsunomiya BGA, which, similarly, is composed of many able people who express a deep concern for the improvement of local government. This office sat with a delegation of this council which called on officials of Utsunomiya. The latter put on pleasant faces but do not like the BGA idea at all.

(9) Prefectural information on local autonomy and political reorientation matters appeared to increase during August. One gets a definite impression of civic activity in progressive prefectures like Gumma and Shizuoka. Shizuoka (and certain other prefectures) are taken up with Sogo Kaihatsu, which allegedly is inspired by the TVA, and means conservation and planning on a broad scale. This office has had close dealings with the Tokyo-to administration for two years and always has had the impression that little is being done in the wards (where the millions of people live) to prosecute reorientation ideas. Tokyo-to denies this and even cites facts to the contrary. In Ohta ward, Tokyo Metropolis, administrative co-operative committees are organized under the ward headman. At each of the 18 ward office

5

Restricted

Restricted

CIE, GHQ, Kanto Civil Information Monthly Activities Report for August 51

branch offices such a committee is organized, its members chosen at a ratio of one person per 1,000 citizens, in all 440 committees in the whole ward. These committees are nominated by the ward headman to save "unnecessary friction" between citizens. "The committees convey voices of the citizens to the headman," say the Japanese. And probably vice-versa.* In Ibaraki there is a new "Living-Scientification Movement." The Governor, having in mind Ibaraki's general backwardness, has set up a committee of 32 civic leaders with a prefectural-supplied budget of 200,000 yen. The committee will seek to get rid of useless traditions, simplify wedding and funeral ceremonies and festivals, "stress punctuality" and "rationalize clothing, food and residence," whatever that means. A model village is to be established and intensified work done there. Gumma has in mind the establishment of model villages also. Model towns and villages are being selected and an effort is being made to stress local autonomy and democratization in general. An exhibit of pictures showing the structure and functions of the prefectural government, the board of education and other agencies is being shown in each place, and all viewers get copies of a leaflet guide to the administration. One would feel encouraged about the activity in Saitama having to do with better government except that mostly it is the officials who are involved in the activity.

(10) Several prefectures featured juvenile delinquency and the Children's Charter in August publicity. Tokyo paid a little attention to the Prosecution Inquest Committee. Women's democratization activities were reported in Chiba, Tochigi, Saitama. Tax publicity was noted in all prefectures. Labor-management programs are reported in Ibaraki (minor), Shizuoka (large program), Yamanashi (large program), Saitama and Kanagawa.

d. Juvenile Delinquency and Youth Guidance:

(1) This office suggested to all prefectural information councils that they should discuss juvenile delinquency during August and advised them to invite the various prefectural CIE youth specialists to make reports. This proposal was made to give the youth specialists publicity and to bring their work to the attention of outstanding citizens. This was done by 6 of 9 councils, which, however, also invited numerous officials connected with child affairs to give their views. In most cases there were representatives from the prefectural Child Welfare Sections, the Crime Prevention

*At a recent meeting in Fujinomiya, Shizuoka, this office was examining the city koho, which contained an excellent article on human rights. The last page of the paper had the usual string of boxes for the han imprint of the 15 households among which it would be passed. This office, familiar with the purpose of these boxes, nonetheless asked the editor, what they were for. He replied, frankly, "Why, that's for the tonari-gumi."

Restricted

CIE, GHQ, Kanto Civil Information Monthly Activities Report for August 51

Sections, Women's & Minors' Bureau, local offices, Statistics Sections and police. There appears to be a very large number of agencies dealing with youths and children and it is said they do not co-ordinate. The Education Ministry, it is said, is involved in the problem with a CCC--Community Co-ordination Council--in the prefectures. In addition to agencies already listed, the Social Education Sections are involved, and in Kanagawa there is a Youths and Minors Counterplanning Council (Seishonen Mondai Taisaku Kyogikai). Certain private agencies also deal with the youth problem or are making plans to do so. In Yamanashi there are 161 "Youth Problem Conferences" composed of representatives of associations and officials. Shizuoka has 24 "protection districts."

(2) The tenor of all discussions at the August information councils was concern for child delinquency and interest in what is being done to combat it. This office, as it listened to the reports, could not help feeling in most cases, however, that the officials who reported to the councils would achieve much more if their concern were real and personal and not theoretical and bureaucratic. The youthful CIE people were a refreshing change and seemed really interested in this work. But, as one council member in Shizuoka said, "We Japanese are great for talking, but no matter how serious the subject, that's all we do--talk." It is a just appraisal.

e. Public Health: Extensive publicity everywhere.

f. Other Programs: Saitama reported some activity on fisheries reform information. Ibaraki, Shizuoka and Kanagawa paid attention to forestry. Most prefectures gave considerable publicity to the agricultural commissioners' election, but farmers showed little interest. Yamanashi and Saitama reflected some information activity on agricultural co-operatives and agricultural extension.

3. Information Councils:

a. During August this office attended the monthly meetings of all nine prefectural information councils. This office had suggested an agenda for each council but there were many subjects discussed in addition to local autonomy and child delinquency (see above.) The office is very encouraged by the development of these councils, the more so because the Japanese themselves are developing pride in them and attend faithfully--something rare for Japanese organizations. The councils provide, too, a non-official channel through which attention may be drawn to the priority programs.

4. Press:

a. Newspaper Week: After a discussion with the Chief, Press and Publications Branch, CIE, in July, this office wrote to prefectural dailies

Restricted

Restricted

CIE, GHQ, Kanto Civil Information Monthly Activities Report for August 51

and local (weekly) newspaper associations urging them to start their planning for local celebrations of Newspaper Week. During August this office followed up with suggestions of speakers (newspapermen who went to America under SCAP auspices) who might be invited to give public addresses. The leading dailies and local newspapers of Shizuoka requested help in securing speakers for fairly large public programs they are planning in Hamamatsu and Shizuoka City. They want reporters who have covered the Korean war or will cover the peace conference. With the help of the Chief, Press and Publications Branch, names were sent to them. Slogan and essay contests on the role of the local newspaper in democratic society were suggested by this office and will be held in some places.

b. Prefectural Dailies: Shizuoka Shimbun continues to report no circulation loss despite the pressure of the national papers' circulation drive. Hamamatsu Minpo reports no loss but is convinced the national dailies are conspiring to destroy the local press. (Asked what he was going to do, the editor replied, "Despite the pressure I must stick it out.") Jomo Shimbun (Gumma) is an excellent prefectural daily that is having a hard time. It is losing circulation and fears it will lose more. Distribution agencies virtually use extortion methods on the Jomo. The national dailies use money and parties to win agency co-operation, and the Jomo cannot financially meet this competition. The distribution agencies keep the subscription lists a secret--so the Jomo doesn't even know who its readers are or what pressures are being used to get them to drop the paper. The editor of the Sungyo Keizai Shimbun (Tokyo Metropolis) is a brave exception to the rule. He is resisting the pressure of the distribution agencies by setting up his own. His initial circulation loss was about 20,000. All papers, of whatever size, find little newsprint remaining after the big take of the national dailies.

c. Local Newspaper Associations: During August this office met with the local newspaper associations in Western Shizuoka, Central Shizuoka and Tokyo Metropolis. In addition, as noted in supplementary report on human rights, it met many other newspapermen at human rights gatherings. In Shizuoka, this office everywhere was impressed with the newspapermen's grasp of press responsibility, if one bears in mind certain Japanese attitudes that sound out of Alice-in-Wonderland. It is to be much regretted that they will be snuffed out whenever the national dailies feel free to do so. The Tokyo (Metropolis) Newspaper Association has made progress in the last year in its professional approach to newspaper problems. But, like most Japanese newspapermen, the members need a fighting conviction about the important job of the local press.

d. Virtually all Kanto prefectures devoted wall-paper and koho attention in August to the evils of gorotsukiism. Now is the season, it is said, when the gorotsukis are at their busiest, printing name advertisements without permission or permission secured through duress. Gorotsukiism has not ended; but good has been done the last few years in bringing the

Restricted

CIE, GHQ, Kanto Civil Information Monthly Activities Report for August 51
public information about defense against it.

e. The national premiere of the "Takasaki Story" is to be held on 11 September in Takasaki and Maebashi (Gumma). Various Japanese bigwigs are to take part, as well as CIE representatives.

5. Audio-Visual Education:

a. Kanto Regional Repair and Distribution Office during August held a training course for the chief mechanics of the 11 prefectures for which it is responsible. The 3-day course appeared satisfactory. While the purpose of the KRRDO was to give training that would lighten its own repair work, it also looked forward to the time when RTO transportation aid would be ended. This office was represented at the session.

b. All prefectures are much concerned about the future of the audio-visual program. This office has given such reassurances as it could, based upon remarks made at the June CI conference and other more recent information. The Regional Repair Office is pessimistic. However, audio-visual officers' plans for 1952-53 add up to a considerable sum of money--if they can get it from the assemblies.

c. During August this office visited the film libraries at Chiba, Tochigi, Gumma, Saitama and Shizuoka. The office was also represented at the bloc meeting of the audio-visual officers from the 11 Kanto A-V prefectures. Everything appears to be going along fine.

d. This office in January, 1951, reported the establishment of a Kamishibai Supervisory Committee, with headquarters in T kyo. The committee is made up of representatives of the Japan Kamishibai Association (producers, writers, artists and operators of Tokyo) and certain educational organizations. The work of the committee is important because Tokyo kamishibai are shown all over the country. A report from the committee indicates that during the period 1 February to 30 June the committee examined about 5,000 sets of kamishibai. The committee hopes to persuade kamishibai producers to let it examine all sets produced--the present percentage runs from but 14 per cent of the sets produced by Gageki Bunkakai to 99 per cent of those made by Zonyusha. The committee forced total revision of sets in several cases, partial revision in many more, and sent warnings to stop certain types of stories and pictures in other cases. It is interesting that of all the new sets examined, cartoons and children's stories formed only 20 per cent. The rest were tragedies and other dramas, modern stories favored about 4 to 1 over stories of the old days. There were no reports of any Communist propaganda in any sets.

Restricted