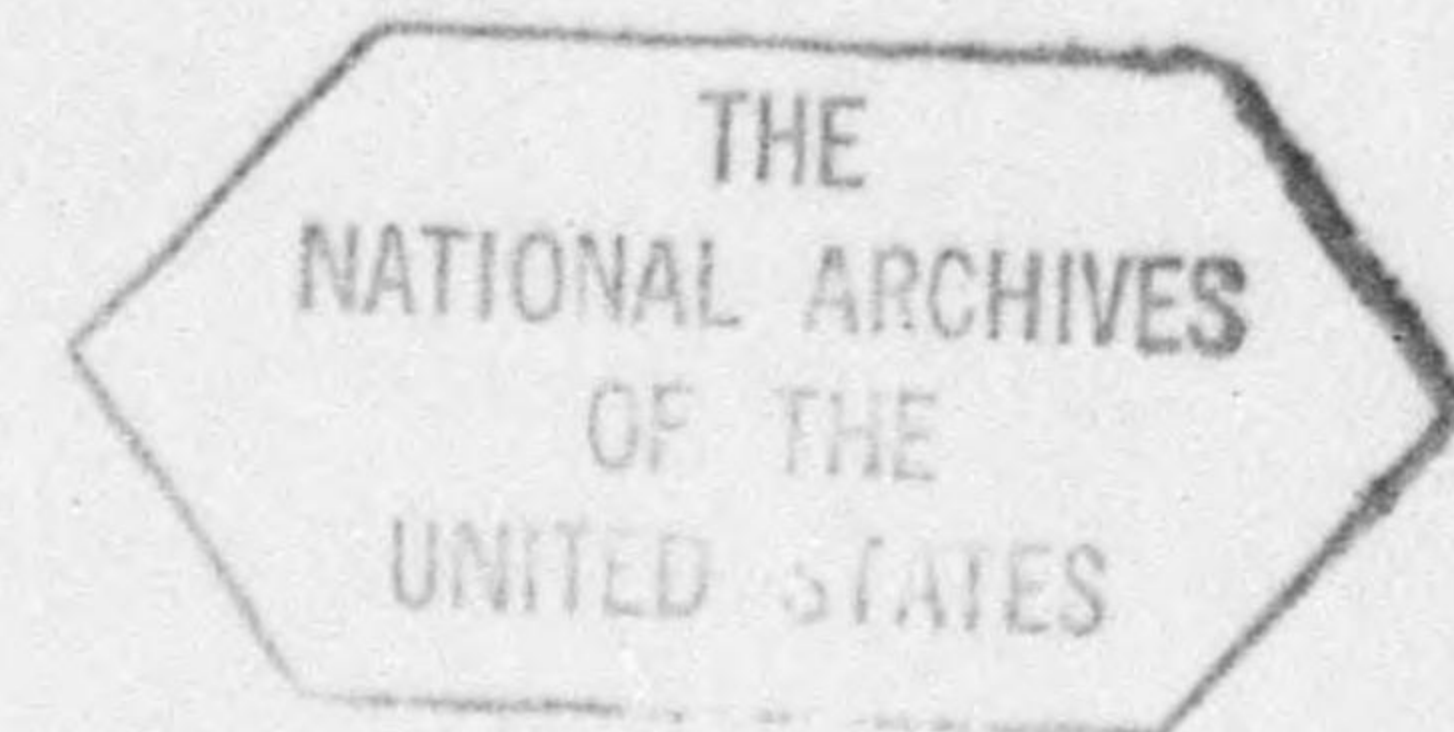


GHQ/SCAP Records(RG 331)
Description of contents



- (1) Box no. 3457
- (2) Folder title/number: (6)
541
- (3) Date: Sept. 1948

(4) Subject :

Classification	Type of record
540	S

(5) Item description and comment :

(6) Reproduction : Yes No

(7) Film no. _____ Sheet no. _____

ITEM 1 Public Management of Electricity - Provincial Paper: Hyuga
Nichinichi (Miyazaki) - 28 Sep '48. Translator: T. Horikawa. (RL)

541
Summary:

With compulsory mediation of the electric workers' dispute, and with the designation of the Japan Power Generation and Transmission Co. for deconcentration under the Anti-Economic Concentration Law, the reorganization of JAPAN's electric industry is now imminent.

Rumors are being circulated that the deconcentration designations of power distribution companies have been rescinded that the companies will be able to maintain their present set-up. According to Mr WELLS of GHQ and SASAYAMA, chairman of the Holding Company Liquidation Commission, however, power distribution companies must undergo reorganization.

Plans to reorganize the electric industry have been studied jointly by the Electric Industry Democratization Committee and the Holding Companies Liquidation Commission. Upon their recommendations, the Government will submit to the fourth Diet an electric bill, which is expected to arouse as much controversy as the State Coal Mine Control Bill.

We have formed the National League for the Prefectural Control of Electric Industry, a body of local autonomous governments, and have been advocating public control of electricity. First, management by prefectural governments and later by cities, towns, and villages should be realized.

Not only power distribution but medium and small scale power generation and transmission works as well must be taken over by prefectural governments. Our aim is to make the most of public utility of electricity for the encouragement and promotion of local medium and small enterprises and also to aid electrification of farming works. The purpose is to contribute to the stabilization of national life and elevation of culture, and further the reconstruction of a democratic JAPAN.

At the same time, we desire to eliminate the insincerity and indolence of existing electric companies. We also hope to correct such excesses of the Electric Workers Union as blackouts strikes, thus realizing truly democratic management of electric industry.

We have sent two governors and one Diet member to the Democratization Committee, and have been fighting to carry out the following measures:

EDITORIALITEM 1 (Continued)

1. Organizational reform of central and local electric power administration, in order to see that public will is directly reflected in the administration, that the public nature of the electric industry is enhanced, that management and supervision is democratized, and that authority now held by chiefs of the regional Commerce and Industry Bureau is transferred to prefectural governors.

2. Radical improvement of service by:

- (a) Reduction of the charge of each detached business office with a view toward speeding up repairs to administer to the consumers' interests.
- (b) Inexpensive and speedy repairs.
- (c) Encouragement of duty and service - consciousness of employees.
- (e) Stricter inspection on service.
- (f) Universalization of payment for electricity by meter rates.
- (g) Continuation of the lending system of electric light installation. The power distribution companies have recently been demanding that the consumers purchase the installations at 250 yen or so per light. Heavy burdens on the consumers at this time must be prevented.
- (h) Installation of electric lights in areas where electric service has yet to be extended; socialistic coloring of the graduation of rates, progressive rates for luxurious consumption, and reduced charges for necessary consumption.
- (j) Decisions on and popularization of charges other than electric rates to be shouldered by the consumers.
- (k) Elimination of blackouts and other accidents. Strict observance of Chapter V of the Regulations Relative to the Application of the Electric Enterprise Law, providing for the duties of enterprisers.
- (l) Rationalization of the employee discount.

3. Lifting of control on small-scale electric power generation for regional, joint, or isolated home consumption, and development and installation of plant and other facilities, with a view toward promoting the enterprising spirit ..