DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12065 SECTION 3-402 / NNDG NO. 775015

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## IN THE DIET 403

Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida declared Thursday that it was impossible to choose between revised capitalism and socialism as a basic principle to run future Japan, because of the many uncertain factors involved in the present social turmoil.

He also added that it was impossible to draft a long-range industrial or state-planning program, as suggested Tuesday by interpellater Zentaro Kozaka, Progressive, for the same reason.

Mr. Yoshida agreed, however, that the director-general of the Economic Stabilization Board should not be changed as long as the economic setup remained unstabilized.

With reference to the doubts cast by Haruki Satake, Social Democrat, on the ability of Finance Minister Tanzan Ishibashi to cope with inflation and other economic issues, the Prime Minister stated that he disagreed with Mr. Satake's contentions, adding that it was not proper to replace Mr. Ishibashi without sufficient reason.

When Mr. Satake again urged the Yoshida Cabinet to resign on the ground that it was incompetent in labor administration, Mr. Yoshida answered that he did not think so.

Meanwhile, the National Diet Law Bill will be presented in a few days. It will be approved by the Lower House immediately and sent to the Upper House.

The controversial Basic Labor Law Bill will not be submitted until the end of next week, while the 1947-8 fiscal year budget will not be completed until March 1.

It is feared that the presentation of other bills relative to the New Constitution will be delayed considerably.

Among the interpellations, Junzo Sasamori, of the People's Party, stressed: 1) that the Government should clarify plans for the formation of a national government; 2) no Government compensation is necessary for plants that come under reparations; 3) fundamental steps to check inflation and blackmarketeering should be announced clearly; 4) farmers who have delivered their quota of staple produce are entitled to a supply of various requisites as compensation; 5) unemployment and relief systems should be strengthened; 6) better treatment should be accorded teachers.

NIPPON TIMES
FEB 2 2 1947

# DIET IS DISSOLVED; ENDS LONG HISTORY UNDER OLD SYSTEM

### 46-Day Session Was Last Held Under Former Constitution; Bills Are Passed

The 92nd session of the Diet, the last to be held under the old Constitution, was dissolved late Monday afternoon ending a 46-day session (inclusive of a four-day extension) since it reconvened on February 14.

The occasion marked the end of the 58-year history of the Japanese legislature under the Emperor-granted Constitution of 1889.

Both the House of Peers and the House of Representatives moved quickly on the last day of the session. The Upper House, meeting in a plenary session at 10:20 a.m. took up the Election Law Amendment Bill sent over to it from the Lower House and referred it to a 19-man committee. Meeting again at 1 p.m., the House voted approval for the measure as reported back from the committee.

**Passes Anti-Trust Bill**

Later in the afternoon, it quickly processed the all-important Anti-Trust Bill and the Material Procurement Bill through committee hearings and passed them in the course of the third plenary session to be called during the day.

The Lower House, in the meantime, voted approval for the Anti-Trust and Material Procurement Bills without amendment in the course of its morning session.

One of the Election Law amendment bills, the one which is aimed at instituting a medium constituency, after passing the House of Peers was brought up at a plenary session of the Privy Council was adopted by this body Monday afternoon.

With all the procedures completed during the day, the notification of the House of Representatives elections was made and at once applications for candidacy began to be accepted.

The 92nd session of the Diet lasted 46 days, including four days extra for prolongation, during which the 1947-8 budget and important bills supplementary to the new Constitution were passed almost all in their original drafts.

Of the 98 bills originally scheduled for deliberations, the Diet acted upon 94, one having been withdrawn and three others left unintroduced. The measures included 71 submitted by the Government, six on budgets, eight seeking ex post facto approval, nine presented by House members, one resolution adopted in the Upper House and four by the Lower House.

The last session was marked for poor attendance of legislators due mainly to the imminence of the quadruple elections scheduled during April and to the lack of parliamentary experiences among many of the members.

**Rapid-Fire Session**

Twenty-one bills were passed in a rapid-fire session on Sunday by the House of Peers.

The plenary session opening at 10:10 a.m. approved six bills—all relating to the Diet under the new constitution.

They are:

1—Bill concerning annual allowances and traveling expense of Diet members.

2—Bill concerning traveling and daily allowances to witnesses ordered to appear before the Diet.

3—Bill concerning reserve funds for the National Diet.

4—Bill concerning the Diet secretariat.

5—Bill concerning the setting up of Diet library.

6—Bill concerning the employes of the National Diet.

Following action on the above bills, the session referred seven bills to their respective committees. They concerned various control corporations to be established as well as finance and accounting laws.

The afternoon session swiftly approved 15 bills—five concerning the establishment of lower courts, one on state property, six on various accounts law, one revising industrial reconstruction and adjustment law, one on workers accident insurance and another on health insurance.

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## Diet Recesses

The House plenary session was opened on December 28 at 11.40 a.m. A draft reply to the Imperial rescript was approved.

After the Speaker nominated Kotaro Bando, Liberal from Hokkaido, as chairman of the Whole House Committee, the House declared a winter recess until January 20, adjourning the session at 12.15 p.m.

The House of Peers held a plenary session on December 28 at 12.45 p.m. and approved a draft reply to the Imperial rescript.

After Marquis Tsuneyasu Nakamikado was named chairman of the Whole House Committee, the session broke up at 2.08 p.m.

MAINICHI DEC 30 1946

# Strong Move Decided For Absent Diet Men

### Truancy Without Reason Subject To Dismissal

Takeshi Yamazaki, Speaker of the House of Representatives, has decided in a sweeping move to strike off the names of Diet members who are absent from the legislative chamber without due notice.

Despite the Speaker's messages asking them to attend, 236 of the nation's law makers were absent from the Diet on March 10 and 210 on the following day.

With the nationwide election of members of the Lower House about a month ahead, they presumably have returned to their respective home constituencies to engage in election campaigns.

Article 99 of the House of Representatives Law rules that those Diet Members who do not attend the Diet without reason within a week after they receive a specific message of summons from the Speaker shall be dismissed.

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KYODO press service predicts that first session of new Diet following formal enactment of constitution will be on or about 25 May. It is predicted also that new government will have to be coalition and that 93rd Diet session will continue for about three months. 7 APR 1947

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SOCIAL SERIES: 1517 (Continued)

ITEM 2 Construction of Legislative Center Planned - Jiji - 30 Apr 47. Translator: H. Iuchi (MK)

Full Translation:

Under the new Constitution, the "Imperial Diet" (TEIKOKUGIKAI) will be renamed the "National Diet" (KOKKAI) and will be the highest organ and sole legislative body of the national political system. Land surrounding the Diet Building has been recently obtained by officials of the Diet Office through an agreement with the State Assets Department of the Finance Ministry (OKURASHO KOKUYUZAISAN BU) for use as a legislative center. Officials are now drawing up a ten-year plan for the construction of a suitable legislative center.

According to the regulations of the Diet Law (KOKKAI-HO), the construction of a Diet Members' Hall (GIINKAIKAN), a Diet Library, office buildings for the standing committees of both Houses and a Diet Office building are required. The first step, the enlargement of the Diet Building, will be started this year with an appropriation of 38,000,000 yen for the House of Representatives and 21,000,000 yen for the House of Councillors. This cost includes the construction within two years, of a two-storied, wooden Lower House Members Hall on the site of the former Greater Japan Political Association Building (NISSEIKAI) and an Upper House Members Hall on the site of the former official residence of the War Minister. They will be built so as not to hinder the future construction of the Diet Library. A two-storied wooden building for the Standing Committee of the House of Representatives will be completed this year with an appropriation of 2,800,000 yen. In addition to the above plan to be started this year, a permanent plan calling for the construction of buildings for the standing committees of both Houses on the sites of the temporary Members Halls, a Members Hall on the site of KASUMIGASEKI (TN: the former Foreign Office Building) and a Diet Library on the site of the War Ministry Building has been drawn up. In addition, official residences of reinforced concrete will be built for the Speakers of the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors to the left and right of the Assembly Hall, the former on the site of the Foreign Minister's official residence and latter on the site of the German Embassy. The Reporters Club (KISHA KAIKAN), which is at present nothing but a wooden shack will be newly built in the space near the speakers' residences and will be connected to the Diet Building by a subway.

The War Damage Reconstruction Board (SENSAI FUKKOIN), which is in charge of planning, is now considering widening and improving the streets in that area, and establishing green zones and a rotary in the vicinity of the Diet Building.

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POLITICAL SERIES: 1725 (Continued)

ITEM 5 Parliamentarianism - Magazine: Chuo Koron Monthly - Apr 47 Issue. Translator: M. Takagi.

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Summary:

When BENTHAM said "In Parliament many diverse ideas assemble, which give forth sparks on contact, but which in the end arrive at a clear conclusion," he expressed his simple faith in parliamentarianism. Although the principle of parliamentary government has become the high road for Japanese politics along with the surrender, and the Diet has come to wield absolute power in new JAPAN, who, I wonder, has some explicit faith in parliamentarianism and the Diet as Bentham had.

The following two reasons may explain why there is such a lack of faith.

First, there is no doubt that our past experiences in parliamentarianism and the numerous criticisms of it remains in our memory and prevents us from placing our whole-hearted confidence in it. The second reason is that powerful forces outside the Diet make BENTHAM's words appear ludicrous.

Now that the Japanese will have to resort to parliament in the future, it will be necessary for us to reconsider these two reasons and to clarify them.

Japanese parliamentary government has undergone many varied experiences and has met with many criticisms, and unless we consider these facts closely, our parliamentary system is doomed to fall at the slightest blow.

The past downfall of parliamentarianism with the subsequent domination by the fascists in JAPAN can be traced to the fact that we had a defective parliamentary system from the start and that the system had a weak point in assuming that human beings are rational.

If the premise that man is sufficiently enlightened so that he can reach a just conclusion through unprejudiced debate, then there is no doubt that the parliamentary system is the ideal form of government, for history shows that this principle is closely related to the theory which regards man as a rational being.

The moment human beings realized that man does not live in a real, but in an idealistic world, they began to entertain doubts concerning parliamentarianism.

As long as human beings are moved by propaganda rather than by self introspection, and as along as political parties are composed of irrational rather than rational people, this principle will be merely optimism and idealism conflicting with the real world. Therefore, in order to gain the confidence of the people, efforts should be concentrated upon education and activities which will show the difference between idealism and actuality.

It is essential to educate man to think and to act rationally. Under the pressing circumstances, the method of education may appear to be a devious one. Nonetheless, it is the unavoidable responsibility of those who advocate

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The question whether or not the will and life of the people can be set within the framework of a national assembly is the second problem. Parliamentarianism is founded upon the freely expressed will of the people, and an electior represent the people's will. But the constantly changing public opinion is difficult for the national assembly to consider. At present, there are two directions which the national assembly may take. One is that the national assembly to forget that the elections are the will of the nation, isolate itself from the people, and close its eyes to the continued changes taking place outside. The other is that the national assembly abandon altogether its attempt to serve the people with its artificially created machinery. If we don't wish to ignore the modern spirit and method, or if we deem that the new society for which we aim, must be infiltrated with a modern spirit, we should not bring about chaos by committing this error.

We should try to understand the national assembly as an organ functioning within the constantly changing life of the people and to observe to what degree it reflects, or is able to reflect, national life. It is essential that we take a stand between those who place complete faith in parliamentarianism and those who abandon their efforts for its cause.

Although the general elections will be completed by the end of April, it is, by no means, the end.

More than ever, our interests and emotions must be concentrated upon all phases of politics.

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ITEM 19 The 92nd Diet Session - Nihon Keizai - 1 Apr 47. Translator: K. Nagatani. (FST)

Summary:

The 92nd ordinary Diet session -- the last to sit under the present Constitution -- was adjourned by dissolution. This last session was re-opened on 14 February, more than twenty days later than schedule because of the unpreparedness of the Government.

Among the accomplishments of the session are the passing of the budget for the next fiscal year, the enactment of the Labor Standards Law, the Government Office Law and numerous others. Moreover, the Diet passed the resolution of the Lower House to thank General MacARTHUR and the resolution of the Upper House to enforce official dicipline.

The people had expected the 92nd Diet to reform civil law and pass other essential legislation supplementary to the new Constitution which is scheduled to become effective on 3 May and pass various laws pertaining to the rehabilitation

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ITEM 19 (Continued)

of post-war Japanese economy. However, these expectations did not materialize. Some important bills were not even introduced because of the failure of the Government to make necessary preparations in time. The budget and other bills submitted to the Diet were also not always fully discussed.

The distinguishing characteristic of the 92nd Diet session is the fact that it was scheduled to dissolve with the April general elections for the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors. The House of Peers was comparatively indifferent toward the coming elections, in contrast to the House of Representatives where political parties and the members naturally took deep interests in the general elections.

The people had expected the political parties to clarify their policies concerning the elections. To our regret, the Diet failed to meet this expectation and a majority of the legislators stampeded to their electoral districts to prepare for the elections. This resulted in the shamefully low rate of attendance at the Diet. Even the most heated discussions of the financial problem which occurred in the early part of the Diet session created an impression that the legislators debated on the matter merely to gain notes in the coming elections. Because the Election Law is directly related to the coming elections the parties should tremendous excitement in discussing the revision of the law. The legislators are asked to reflect on the fist fight which occurred over the revision of the Election Law.

A new party movement which materialized during the session and other political maneuvers must be interpreted as mones for the coming elections. Of course, credit should be given to the 92nd Diet for the passage of important laws, such as the Labor Standards Law and Anti-Trust Law. Even though these laws will seriously affect our national economy and society, the legislators were too much interested in the coming elections to discuss the laws thoroughly.

The people have much to learn from the 92 Diet session. They will be committing a serious mistake if they think that the legislators who stampeded to their electoral districts and neglected their duty are faithful to the constituents. It must be realized that a fist fight in the Diet is too grave an incident to be attributed to mere temporary excitement. It is of the utmost importance that the people do not elect representatives who scuffle in the Diet or neglect their great responsibility to enact laws. The fate of this nation depends upon the coming elections. The people are expected to take just cognizance of the present situation in this country and vote sincerely since the national Diet will function as the supreme authority under the new Constitution.

Recently, we have heard rumors of the coming peace treaty. We can talk peace with the Allied Powers only when

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EDITORIAL SERIES: 1618 (Continued)

ITEM 19 (Continued)

we are prepared for it. The coming elections offer the best opportunity for the Japanese people to show that they are ready for the conclusion of the peace treaty.

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# *Convocation of Diet Before May 15 Seen as Yoshida Presses for Speed*

The convocation of the National Diet before May 15 was seen by political observers in view of Prime Minister Yoshida's statement at Monday's cabinet meeting that the legislature should be convened as early as possible in order to enable the formal designation of the new Prime Minister.

"Now that the outcome of the election has been decided," the Prime Minister said, "the National Diet should be convoked as soon as feasible so that the political situation may be stabilized."

The convocation of the new legislature is a prerequisite to the resignation of the present Yoshida cabinet.

Prime Minister Yoshida is thus expected on May 5 to approach the Emperor for his sanction on calling the new National Diet and observers believe that the Imperial decree will probably designate the convocation date for about May 15.

According to informed sources, the work of forming a cabinet will take at least one week after the new Prime Minister is selected.

The main work of the National Diet will follow and is expected to last for at least two and possibly three months, in view of the tremendous amount of business carried over from the last Diet session.

NIPPON TIMES APR 30 1947

# DIET'S IMPORTANCE STRESSED BY SCAP

## Spokesman Holds Factors Which Are Favorable to Success Predominate

Stressing the importance of the new National Diet which will convene on May 20, a SCAP spokesman yesterday declared that the Constitution places the destiny of this nation squarely in the hands of the legislature and in order to counteract undemocratic influences the Diet will need the full support and encouragement of all citizens who honestly want representative government.

Speaking at a press conference, the spokesman said that factors favorable to the success of the First National Assembly as one of the world's truly representative bodies predominate.

"The tremendous grant of power to the Diet under the Constitution should have a most sobering effect on old members, who are unaccustomed to such a heavy burden of responsibility, and to newcomers, who may not be fully conscious of the deep obligations they have assumed to their constituents, he said. He continued: "Every act and action of the National Diet, no matter how routine or how important, will become a precedent. The deeds and utterances of the Speaker and the President of the respective Houses, the chairmen of the 21 standing

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NIPPON TIMES MAY 10 1947

# *Diet's Importance Stressed by SCAP*

(Continued from Page 1)

committees in each House, the all-important Diet Management (steering) Committee, and the rank and file members will be under the close and constant scrutiny of all branches of the government, the press, and the people, not to mention the other nations of the world, for evidences of legislative maturity.

"Like the national legislative body, the forty-six prefectural assemblies, too, are the recipients of considerable increments of power. Members of these assemblies, hopeful of establishing records that will one day send them to the National Diet, will naturally emulate the patterns of conduct set by the veteran legislators in the nation's capital. Statesmanlike behavior in Tokyo will be the surest incentive to statesmanlike behavier in Kochi-ken, Shimane-ken, and Tochigi-ken. Dignified practices in the National Diet will encourage similar practices in the prefectural assemblies. Members of the Diet are surely conscious of their obligation to guide and instruct the rising legislators in the prefectures.

"It would be helpful if the press would inform the people, over and over, that the Diet galleries are open to the public without reservation, and that Diet members appreciate evidences of interest in legislation by the public, whether by attendance at plenary sessions of the Houses, committees, and open hearings, or by writing letters of advice and encouragement to their elected representatives. Diet members are eager to have their constituents know and share the burdens and responsibilities of their high office, so as to convince them that the invisible, shadowy, and mysterious government of the past has been supplanted by a government which looks upon the people as equal shareholders from whom nothing is hidden. This is the kind of representation the people deserve, and it is the kind they have at last."

# New Diet Is Called Powerful Agent Of 70-Million People

Speaking on the Diet under the new Constitution and the new Diet Law, a SCAP spokesman clarified the difference of the Diet in the future from that of past and at the same time stressed the responsibility of the Japanese people thereof at the press conference held at Radio Tokyo Friday, May 9, at 11 a.m.

**He said that the Constitution of Japan places the destiny of this nation squarely in the hands of the Diet, which must answer to over 70-million people for the manner in which it exercises or fails to exercise its enormous responsibility.**

"The Diet is no longer a harmless debating club taking directions from the above," the spokesman declared.

"In it are centered those policy-making and supervisory powers which formerly resided in Japan's shadow government composed of such Crown Agencies as the Imperial Conference, Elder Statesmen, senior statesmen, Military Boards, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, Minister of the Imperial Household, the Cabinet, and the Privy Council," he said.

He declared that Representatives and Councillors occupy positions as high and dignified as any in the national government.

He said that the Diet will now function with the assurance that bureaucrats hold office for the sole purpose of executing the policies enacted into the law by the Diet.

**He emphasized that in order to counteract undemocratic influences, the Diet will desperately need the full support and encouragement of all citizens who honestly want representative government.**

He added that the National Diet will have at its command the benefits of 56 years of legislative experience.

MAINICHI MAY 10 1947

# Diet Camouflage Off

**Japan's most imposing edifice —the 12-year-old Diet Building —is now having its ugly camouflage paint removed in preparation for the first meeting of Japan's new constitutional assembly on May 20.**

**Twenty-five Japanese workers have been removing the black paint which was painted after General Doolittle's famous raid on Tokyo on April, 1942. Rain and lack of workers have slowed down the job which was scheduled to be completed by May 8.**

**A special chemical is being used to remove the black paint. Contrary to rumors, the building will not receive a new coat of paint, it was learned.**

STARS & STRIPES MAY 13 1947

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# EDITORIAL

## How To Deal With MP's Absence

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Previous to the convocation of the present Diet, the vigorous objection advanced against the dissolution of the Diet was that there were too much urgency in legislating bills to implement the enforcement of the new Constitution. It was also said that an economic crisis as grave as the one at present could not be evaded without immediate countermeasures, and that the new budget containing such astronomical figures as ¥114,500-million demanded a thoroughgoing investigation and analysis.

But what is happening now? Day after day, the quorum for the principal session or the committee conference is being filled only after earnest persuasion. Granting that the lease of the Representatives' Diet life is already numbered, the current rate of absence from the chamber is absolutely inexcusable. To be sure, the campaign for reelection is important, for that would decide the political fate of the Representatives, but such an overwhelming number of absence from deliberating urgent bills is a culpable dereliction of duty to the constituency and the people.

On the other hand, however, the part of the Government in this disgrace cannot be exonerated. Owing to the shortness of the present session of the Diet, a number of less urgent bills were taken off from the docket. But even the "must" bills were distressingly slow in coming around to the chamber. This certainly doused the enthusiasm of the Representatives.

But the more vicious feature of the issue is in the fact that political parties themselves feign to consider the matter seriously. They must have forgotten the role of a political party in parliamentary politics or they must be steeped in their selfish partisan considerations.

What should be done under such circumstances is to publish openly the names of those delinquent Representatives mercilessly with a view to informing their constituencies as to who are guilty in betraying public trust for the sake of personal benefit. This is probably the best approach, for reprimand alone will never remedy the situation.

Then, on the part of the voters, they must quickly learn how to pick the good Representative from the bad. In the coming election, most of the present incumbents are likely to run for reelection. This will give a golden opportunity for the voters to separate the wheat from the chaff. The best way to do this is to go by the process of elimination. Habitual staying away from the chamber is an unmistakable sign for lack of honor or undependability. Those candidates who have such record must be mercilessly eliminated, for they do not merit the position of public trust. Unless the voters learn to judge the calibre and character of the men who run for public offices, democratic politics can never be hoped to function satisfactorily or beneficially.

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MAINICHI MAR 14 1947

# 92nd Diet Session Brought To Close, Last Held Under Old Constitution; Lower House Dissolved On Monday

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## Lawmakers Approve Important Measures During 46-Day Term

The 92nd ordinary session of the Japanese Diet, the last held under the old Constitution, was formally brought to an end March 31 and the House of Representatives was dissolved simultaneously.

The 92nd session, which reopened February 14, this year, lasted 46 days including four days of postponement.

**During the period, the Labor Code, Anti-Monopoly Law, and various other measures necessary for the enforcement of the new Constitution, including the ¥114,500-million budget for the fiscal year 1947-48, were approved by the nation's lawmakers.**

In the latter part of the session, the Liberals and Progressives abruptly introduced an Election Law Amendment bill providing for a medium electorate single entry balloting system, bringing about furious wranglings with the Opposition.

This appeared to necessitate a drastic postponement of the Diet term and deferment of the general election, but the Government finally succeeded in concluding the Diet March 31 after a four-day prolongation.

After March 28, both Chambers speedily deliberated 20 to 30 bills per day.

The total number of draft legislation presented either by the Government or Diet Members aggregated 98 during the current Diet session. Of these, one bill was later withdrawn and three bills were tabled.

MAINICHI NIPPON TIMES MAINICHI APR 1 1947

## IN THE DIET

In a farewell address to an outgoing House of Representatives unprecedented in Diet annals, Speaker Takeshi Yamazaki stressed the significance of the dissolution of the 92nd session and appreciated the representatives' contribution toward democratization of Japan.

Mr. Yamazaki, quoting from General of the Army Douglas MacArthur's letter to Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida on February 7, declared that the dissolution of the current Diet session was particularly significant in that it was going to take place in order to hold a general election to demonstrate to the world the extent of democratization of the Japanese people.

The Speaker expressed hopes that the representatives would endeavor to make the coming general election a successful one in democratizing Japan.

Mr. Yamazaki declared that the Diet session now closing reaped satisfactory results, notably in the way of implementation of the new Constitution, through the representatives' efforts.

The 92nd session was brought to a close with Speaker Yamazaki reading the Imperial Rescript ordering dissolution of the House at 5:20 p.m.

Prince Iemasa Tokugawa, president of the outgoing House of Peers, declared, in a farewell address delivered before the last session of the Upper House that the House of Peers had contributed "a great deal to the progress of the nation during the past 58 years of its existence as the citadel of caution, experience and perseverance."

Time and again, he recalled, the Upper House served the cause of constitutional government and of strict official discipline.

Prince Tokugawa congratulated his colleagues on the successful conclusion of the last business session of the Upper House and also eulogized the efforts rendered by "our predecessors who served through the three eras of Meiji, Taisho and Showa."

# National Assembly To Be Called May 25

## 1st Session To Be Held Under New Constitution

The first session of the National Assembly following the enforcement of the new Japanese Constitution will be convened around May 25 at the latest, it is learned.

Although it will be the 92nd session of the legislature after the establishment of constitutional government in this country, authorities concerned are desirous of calling the forthcoming session the "first session of the National Assembly" inasmuch as it is the first one to take place under the new Constitution.

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ITEM 15 Personal Histories of New Representatives - Yomiuri Shimbun - 29 Apr 47. Translators: R. Aoki, S. Hirata, K. Morita, F. Noda, T. Okamura, M. Ota, S. Ota, S. Sawada, R. Shibata, N. Tachibana and K. Yasutake. (JJY, TK)

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Full Translation:

The following are personal histories of the new members of the House of Representatives:

Legend: SD - Social Democrat
L - Liberal
D - Democrat
PC - Peoples Co-operative
C - Communist
MP - Minority Party
I - Independent
Re - Re-elected Diet Member
New - New Diet Member

TOKYO (27 Seats)

First District:

ASANUMA, Inejiro (50), SD (Re); no vocation; grad of Political and Economic Dept of Nihon Univ; member of Municipal Assembly; member of Central Executive Committee of Social Democratic Party; two previous terms.

SAKURAUCHI, Yoshio (36), D (New); company employee; grad of Economics Dept of Keio Univ; director of Japan Electric Manufacturing Co and Kusakabe Industry Co;

HARA, Hyo (54), SD (Re); grad of Law Dept of Tokyo Imperial Univ; professor at Meiji Univ and Hosei Univ; member of Central Executive Committee of Social Democratic Party; one previous term.

NOSAKA, Sanzo (54), C (Re); grad of Keio Univ; member of British Communist Party; lecturer at Keio Univ; member of Central Committee of Communist Party; one previous term.

Second District:

MATSUOKA, Komakichi (60), SD (Re); chairman of JFLU;

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grad of higher primary school; member of Central Labor Committee; adviser of Social Democratic Party; one previous term.

KATO, Shizue (51), SD (Re); writer; grad of Peeresses School; studied in AMERICA; member of Broadcasting Committee; one previous term.

KIKUCHI, Yoshiro (58), L (New); farmer; grad of Political Dept of Nihon Univ; attached to Foreign Office; member of Metropolitan Assembly.

Third District:

SUZUKI, Mosaburo (46), SD (Re); writer; grad of special course of Waseda Univ; correspondent; member of Central Executive Committee of Social Democratic Party; chief of Political and Economic Research Institute; one previous term.

HIROKAWA, Kozen (47), L (Re); wine dealer; attended Komazawa Univ; member of Tokyo Prefectural Assembly; member of Tokyo Municipal Assembly; chairman of Federation of Bean Paste and Soy Dealers Unions; one previous term.

TOKUDA, Kyuichi (54), C (Re); member of Central Labor Committee; grad of Law Dept of Nihon Univ; lawyer; Secretary-general of Communist Party; one previous term.

Fourth District:

HANAMURA, Shiro (57), L (Re); director of Nihon Univ; grad of Law Dept of Nihon Univ; lawyer; member of municipal and prefectural assemblies; vice-chairman of Tokyo Barristers Association; manager of Liberal Party, two previous terms.

ARAHATA, Katsuzo (47), SD (Re); grad of higher elementary school; factory worker; salesman; correspondent; seven times arrested; social movement worker; one previous term.

KIKUKAWA, Tadao (47), SD (New); writer; grad of Economics Dept of Tokyo Imperial Univ; manager of Japan Miners Union.

Fifth District:

TAGAWA, Daikichiro (79), SD (Re); writer; grad of Tokyo College; former Vice-minister of Justice; former deputy mayor of TOKYO; seven previous terms.

SUZUKI, Sempachi (49), L (Re); showman; grad of Waseda Univ; motion picture announcer; member of ward assembly and metropolitan assembly; director of Liberal Party; chief secretary of Tokyo branch of Liberal Party; one previous term.

ISHIDA, Ichimatsu (46), PC (Re); stage artist; grad of Law Dept of Hosei Univ; attached to Yoshimoto Show Co; one previous term.

KATO, Ryutaro (61) L (New); printer; attended middle

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school; chairman of ward assembly; member of metropolitan assembly; vice-chairman of Metropolitan Arable Land Assn.

Sixth District:

SHIMAMURA, Ichiro (54), L (Re); company director; grad of special course of Chuo Univ; member of metropolitan assembly; secretary to Finance Minister; director of Yoshizawa Metal Industry Co; one previous term.

HAYASHI, Ren (67), D (Re); lawyer; grad of Meiji Univ; chapter head of party; vice-minister of Home Office; one previous term.

SHIMAGAMI, Zengoro (45), SD (New); secretary-general of labor union; attended higher elementary school; member of Central Labor Committee; secretary-general of League of Transportation Workers Unions;

YAMAGUCHI, Shizue (31), SD (Re); company employee; grad of Seventh Girls High School; chief of cooking section of Yamaguchi Bicycle Co; director of company; one previcus term.

NAKAJIMA, Moritoshi (71), L (Re); farmer; postmaster; head of SHINJUKU Machi; member of prefectural assembly; chairman of Liberal Diet members group; six previous terms.

Seventh District:

MATSUTANI, Tenkoko (29), SD (Re); official of organization; grad of Law Dept of Waseda Univ; member of central committee of Starvation Prevention League; one previous term.

KURIYAMA, Chojiro (52), L (Re); president of Newspaper Transportation; grad of Harvard Graduate School; correspondent; one previous term.

NAMIKI, Yoshio (40), D (New); interpreter; grad of Law Dept of Tokyo Imperial Univ; employee of Osaka Merchant Shipping Co; vice-chairman of Small Farmers Relief Committee in Tama districts.

YAMAHANA, Hideo (44), SD (Re); official of JFLU; member of Central Executive Committee of SD Party; one previous term.

YATSUNAMI, Tatsuo (47), D (New); lawyer; grad of Law Dept of Tokyo Imperial Univ; former chief justice of Tokyo Court of Appeal.

KANAGAWA (13 Seats)

First District:

MATSUO, Toshi (41), SD (Re); director of Girl's English School; grad of Tokyo Women's Christian College; one previous term.

MOJI, Ryo (51), SD (New); member of municipal assembly, chief of Tsurumi branch of party; president of Nishitobe Shoe Salvage Industry Company.

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TAKAHASHI, Choji (51), D (New); no vocation; grad of Keio Commercial School; four times member of prefectural assembly; two times chairman of prefectural assembly; chairman of prefectural administration inspection committee.

Second District:

MIURA, Toranosuke (49), L (Re); lawyer; grad of Law Dept of Nihon Univ; two times member of municipal and prefectural assemblies; one previous term.

DOI, Naosaku (48), SD (Re); chairman of prefectural federation of the JFLU; grad of labor school; vice-chairman of organization section of party headquarters; one previous term.

SASAGUCHI, Ko (44), SD (New); director of All Japan Cotton Industries Co-operative Union; attended Chuo Univ; member of municipal assembly; director of chamber of commerce and industry.

SHIRAI, Sakichi (51), L (New); company president; grad of Jishu School; deputy mayor; head of NAKAHARA Machi; member of municipal and prefectural assembly; chairman of prefectural assembly.

KOGURE, Tozaburo (61), L (New); insurance agent; school teacher, representative of Yamato Gumi; member of municipal assembly; chairman of Central Executive Committee of Social Democratic Party; four previous terms.

Third District:

SUZUKI, Yuji (39), SD (New); company director; attended Sophia University; director of Sagami Fishermen's Union.

HAGIWARA, Hisao (52), PC (New); chairman of agrarian association; grad of practical course in Agricultural Dept of Tokyo Imperial University; standing director of All Japan Co-operative Union League.

IWAMOTO, Nobuyuki (53), L (Re); president of Sagamigahara Foodstuff Market Co; member of prefectural assembly, chairman of prefectural assembly; one previous term.

ISOZAKI, Teijo (58), L (Re); chairman of agrarian association; grad of agricultural college; member of prefectural assembly; director of Tezuka Teiyo Bank; one previous term.

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IBARAGI Ken (12 Seats)

First District:

HANASHI, Shingoro (47), L (Re); grad Kokushikan Col; correspondent; ex-secy to Kwantung gov-gen; three previous terms.

ONOSE, Chubei (48), D (Re); grad Keio Univ; managing director, Ibaragi Foodstuff Corp; one previous term.

YAMAGUCHI, Takehide (34), I (New); grad middle school; member of Lab for the Study of JAPAN's Economy; central committee-member, Japan Farmers Union; chief secy, prefectural federation of Japan Farmers' Union.

IIMURA, Izumi (40), D (New); director; grad Kyoto Univ; chief secy, Tokyo Oils and Fats Distribution Assn.

Second District:

YAMAZAKI, Takeshi (62), L (Re); grad First Higher School; ex-mayor of MITO Shi; parliamentary Vice-Minister of Agric and Forestry; ex-Speaker, House of Representatives; six previous terms.

MANDA, Goro (43), SD (New); grad Tokyo Imperial U; chief of Labor and General Affairs Sect, Japan Iron Co.

ISHINO, Hisao (37), SD (New); grad Waseda U; chairman, National Federation of Japan Iron Co's Employees Unions.

Third District:

SUZUKI, Akiyoshi (39), D (Re); grad middle school; chief of Business Sect, Iwasa Iron Work; pres, Asahi Shipping Co; one previous term.

TANIGUCHI, Takee (41), PC (New); grad Chuo Univ; Representative director, Showa Machine Co.

KIKUCHI, Yutaka (51), D (Re); director; grad English literature course in Peoples English School (KOKUMIN EIGAKUKO); ex-member of Town Assembly (elected thrice) and of Prefectural Assembly (twice); one previous term.

HARA, Takeshi (44), D (New); grad Tokyo Imperial U; director, Kasumigaseki Shipbuilding Co; ex-mayor of TSUCHIURA Shi.

KIKUCHI, Jusaku (51), SD (New); grad Sanami Agricultural School (SANAMI NO KAN); member of Town Assembly; chairman, Prefectural Federation of Japan Farmers Union; vice-chief, Ibaragi Chapter of SD Party.

TOCHIGI Ken (10 Seats)

First District:

SOMA, Sukeji (37), I (New); teacher at Imaichi Middle School; grad Ibaragi Normal School; passed secondary school teachers' exam; taught primary school, girls high school; served as clerk.

YANO, Masao (50), D (New); company director; grad Karasuyama Middle School; municipal assembly member; director of Central Commodities and Utsunomiya Ind.

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TOGANO, Satoko (40), D (Re); newspaper head; grad Doshisha Women's College; head of Children's Newspaper; once Diet member.

FUNADA, Kyoji (50), PC (Re); pres of Sakushin School; grad of Tokyo Imperial U Law School; Doctor of Laws; professor at Keijo Imperial U; once Diet member.

TAKASE, Den (50), SD (Re); group leader; grad Tokyo Imperial U Law School; first grade foreign service secy to THAILAND; once Diet member.

Second District:

YAMAGUCHI, Koichi (45), L (Re); lawyer; grad School of Law, Tokyo Imperial U; chief of Shimotsuga Branch of the Party; once Diet member.

KANEKO, Masutaro (51),SD (Re); engaged in iron industry; primary school grad; committee chairman of SD Party Prefectural Fed; consultant of Party; once Diet member.

KODAIRA, Hisao (38), D (New); company director; grad Tokyo Commercial Col; employee of Mitsui Mines; pres of Kodaira Co.

GUMMA Ken (10 Seats)

First District:

ISHII, Shigemaru (44),SD (New); lawyer, grad of Law Dept of Nihon U; secy-gen of prefectural federation of SD Party, leader of the farmers union movement.

IKUKATA, Daikichi (66), D (Re); farmer; grad middle school; pres of Tone Electric Co; chief of Tone Development Assn; four times Diet member.

SUZUKI, Kyohei (50), D (Re); fuel dealer; left Keio U before grad; chief of prefectural branch of party; executive director of Combined Fuel Federation; once Diet member.

Second District:

MATSUI, Toyokichi (53), D (New); contractor; grad higher primary school; chief of municipal agric society; director of Lumber Control Assn.

OSHIMA, Yoshiharu (54),SD (New); farmer; grad higher primary school; vice-chief of prefectural agric assn; chief of prefectural federation of Japan Farmers Union.

NOMOTO, Shinakichi (55), PC (Re); no occupation; grad normal school; prefectural school inspector; schoolmaster of primary school and youths school; once Diet member.

Third District:

NAKASONE, Yasuhiro (30), D (New); no occupation; grad Tokyo Imperial U; chief of Police Affairs Sect of Kagawa Prefectural Govt Office; inspector of Metropolitan Police Board.

KOYANAGI, Ryuta (38), L (Re); company employee; grad of special course dept of a commercial univ; director of Tokyo Iron Work; once Diet member.

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MUTO, Unjuro (46), SD (Re); lawyer; grad Waseda U; member of Free Bar Assn; director of the Japan Tenants Union; once Diet member.

MOGAMI, Eiko (46), D (Re); no occupation; attended Japan Women's U; head of the Women's Welfare Society; once Diet member.

HOKKAIDO (22 Seats)

First District:

TOMABECHI, Hidetoshi (64), L (Re); writer; grad Tokyo School of Foreign Languages and Harvard U; pres, Otaru Economic Col; once Diet member.

SHIIKUMA, Saburo (53), D (Re); staff of Otaru Shimbun; grad special course dept of Chuo U; non-official staff of the Railway Minister's secretariat and Education Ministry; once Diet member.

MASAKI, Kiyoshi (48), SD (Re); director of Hokkaido Land Transportation Business Unions; municipal assemblyman; Hokkaido prefectural assemblyman; two times Diet member.

SAKAI, Kazuo (48), SD (New); reporter of Hokumon Nippo; director of Otaru Commodities Co; chief of Otaru Branch Office of SD Party.

OGAWARA, Masanobu (66), L (Re); farmer; headmaster of primary school; director of the Hokkaido Educational Committee; chief of Shiriboshi Horse Raisers Union; once Diet member.

Second District:

KAWAGUCHI, Yoichi (42), MP (New); farmer; former director of the agric assn; member of Japan Farmers Party.

WADA, Toshiaki (43), SD (New); chief editor of Hokkai Nichinichi Shimbun; head of Surabaya and Saigon Branch Office of Mainichi Shimbun.

SASAKI, Hideyo (39), D (New); grocer; grad higher primary school; municipal assemblyman; director of North Japan Wood-working Co.

BANDO, Kotaro (67), L (Re); no occupation; grad Waseda U; principal of Tokura Girls' High School; executive member of Hokkaido branch office of L Party; eight times Diet member.

Third District:

TOMINAGA, Kakugoro (54), L (New); fisherman; member of Hokkaido prefectural assembly, chief of fishery guild; former director of HOKKAI SHOHOSHA.

TATE, Shunzo (52), SD (New); railway official, primary school teacher; assistant-station master of Hakodate Station; central executive member of Government Railway Workers Unions in HOKKAIDO.

KAWAMURA, Zempachiro (56); L (New); fisherman, grad primary school; town and prefectural assemblyman; chief of fishery guild; head of Research Institute for Drift-net Fishing in Bays Formed by Volcanic Action.

Fourth District:

OKADA, Haruo (34),SD (Re); timber merchant; grad Otaru Commercial Col; pres of Miuta Timber Ind Co; once Diet member.

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KITA, Jiro (30), MP (New); farmer; grad primary school.
MIYOSHI, Takeo (46), D (New); fisherman; commodities selling agent, grad pharmaceutical depart of Kanazawa Med Col; village headman of HICI.
YAMANAKA, Hiroshi (42), SD (New); lawyer; grad Law School of Chuo U; former municipal and prefectural assemblyman.
MATSUURA, Sakae (48), L (New); no occupation; grad Kyoto Imperial U; director of Ibaragi Shimbun.

Fifth District:
MORI, Mikiji (45), SD (Re); lawyer; grad Law School of Chuo U; once Diet member.
TAKAKURA, Teisuke (55), MP (New); farmer; left agric tech school without completing course; director of the Hokkaido Agric Assn; executive director of the Tokachi Branch of the Assn; now engaged in stock-farming.
ITO, Goichi (48), L (Re); fishing operator; grad Kyoto Imperial U; former middle school teacher; once Diet member.
NAGAI, Katsujiro (47), SD (Re); company director; left higher school before grad; reporter; pres of Kitami Lumbering and Wood Working Co; once Diet member.
IIDA, Yoshishige (66), PC (Re); farmer; pres of Kitami Coal Co; chief of the Abashiri Branch of the Hokkaido Agric Assn; once Diet member.

AOMORI Ken (7 Seats)

First District:
YAMAZAKI, Iwao (47), D (Re); attorney; grad Chuo U; professor of Aomori Commercial Col; headman of OMINATO Machi; twice Diet member.
OGASAWARA, Yasomi (60), L (Re); left middle school without completing course; company pres; pres Towada Railway Co; five times Diet member.
TOMABECHI, Yoshizo (68) D (Re) company pres; grad Tokyo Higher Polytechnic School; pres of Japan Artificial Fertilizer Manufacturing Co and the Nissan Chemical Ind; twice Diet member.
NATSUBORI, Genzaburo (61), L (Re); marine product industry operator; grad of middle school; pres of Mito Fishery Market and Tohoku Fishery Promotion Co; twice Diet member.

Second District:
SASAMORI, Junzo (62), PC (Re); grad Denver U; pres of Aoyama Christian College and TOO GIJUKU; twice Diet member.
KUDO, Tetsuo (73), D (Re); no occupation; grad Nihon U; lecturer at Nihon U; parliamentary Vice-minister of Welfare Ministry; six times Diet member.
TOZAKI, Chiyokichi (51), MP (New); left Nihon U without completing course, former pres of Aomori Nippo; leader of the Social Reform Party.

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IWATE Ken (8 Seats)

First District:

NOHARA, Masakatsu (42), L (New); government official; grad of Utsunomiya Higher Agric School; chief of the Morioka Forestry Bureau.

ISHIKAWA, Kinjiro (51), SD (Re); lawyer; grad of technical school; passed higher civil service exam; participated in ideological movements; once Diet member.

YAMAMOTO, Takeo (45), D (New); grad Nihon U; editorial staff of MAINICHI, JIJI and NICHINICHI; pres of Toyo Tool Co.

SUZUKI, Yoshiyuki (37), SD (New); organization staff; grad of Fisheries Institute.

Second District:

OZAWA, Saeki (50), L (Re); lawyer; grad of Law School of Nihon U; member of Tokyo municipal assembly; once Diet member.

SHIGA, Kenjiro (45), D (New) non-official staff of an organization; grad Waseda U; reporter for ASAHI; political adviser to the Japan Federation of Coal Mine Workers Union.

TAKADA, Yaichi (43), L (New); civil engineer; grad higher primary school; head of Takaya Gumi Contractors.

ASARI, Saburo (66), L (New); company pres; grad Tokyo Imperial U; former head of Governors' Bureau; director of Japan Paving Company.

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AKITA (3 seats)

First District:

HIRAZAWA, Chokichi (55), D (New); lumber industry; grad Agric Dept of Tokyo Imperial U; director of Timber Industry; chairman of Prefectural Assembly; chief director of Akita Prefectural Corp of Timber Ind.

ISHIDA, Hirohide (34), L (New); newspaperman; grad Waseda U; standing manager of Newspapermen's Assn.

SHIMADA, Shinsaku (47), SD (Re); author; grad of Tokyo Imperial U; editorial writer of Akita-Sakigake Newspaper; councillor to Akita Prefectural Branch of Japan Farmers' Union and that of SD Party; once Diet member.

HOSONO, Michio (51), SD (Re); counsel; grad Tokyo Imperial U; auditor of SD Party; member of Central Committee of Japan Farmers' Union; once Diet member.

Second District:

TANAKA, Kenkichi (39), SD (Re); director of Assn; grad of middle school; member of prefectural assembly; chief of Akita Prefectural Branch of SD Party and that of Japan Farmers' Union; once Diet member.

SUZUKI, Yagoro (46); D (Re); pres of company; grad of higher primary school; chief director of Hokuyo Fishery Assn; pres of Teikoku Agric Ind Co; once Diet member.

NEMOTO, Ryutaro (41), D (New); author; grad Kyoto Imperial U; official of Manchukuo govt; administrative official in Executive Dept of Administrative Board; repatriated after surrender.

MURAKAMI, Kiyoji (53), L (New); farmer; grad Agric Dept of Tohoku Imperial U; member of prefectural assembly; pres of Estate and Building Co; village headman.

YAMAGATA (8 seats)

First District:

ONO, Takashi (45), D (Re); without occupation; grad Law Dept of Tokyo Imperial U; reporter of Hochi Newspaper; managing director of Iron Crushing Co; once Diet member.

OTAKI, Kiyoshi (50), L (New); counsel; grad higher primary school; assitant teacher; passed qualifying exam for counsel.

MATSUURA, Tosuke (41), L (Re); councillor to company; grad of middle school; inspector of National Assn for Controlling the Distribution of Paper Umbrellas; once Diet member.

UMINO, Saburo (59), SD (Re); priest; grad Tohoku Imperial U; Doctor of Science; engineer of Yahata Iron Works Lab; once Diet member.

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Second District:
ZUSHI, Yasumasa (43), D (Re); author; grad of Special Course at Hosei U; chief director of Prefectural Assn of Carpenters; once Diet member.
IZUMIYAMA, Sanroku (52), L (New); bank employee; grad Tokyo Imperial U; chief of Secy Sect and Inspector of Teikoku Bank; councillor to Shonai Bank.
KANENO, Sadakichi (38), SD (New); director of a development co; grad of higher primary school; member of Central Committee of Japan Fishery Assn; vice-chief of Yamagata Prefectural Branch of Japan Farmers' Union.
KAMIBAYASHI, Yoichiro (36), SD (New); farmer; grad Chuo U; member of Central Committee of Japan Farmers' Union and Secy-gen of Yamagata Prefectural Branch.

MIYAGI (9 seats)

First District:
SHOJI, Ichiro (51), L (Re); pres of Tohoku Mimpo Publishing Co; left Tohoku Col without finishing whole course; town headman; member of prefectural assembly; three times Diet member.
HOMMA, Shunichi (36), D (Re); parliamentary councillor to Agric Ministry; grad of Waseda U; newspaperman of Yomiuri and Chugai-Shogyo Newspaper and town headman; once Diet member.
TAKEYA, Gentaro (47), SD (Re); no vocation; grad of Tokyo Imperial U; chief of police; chief of administrative dept; one previous term.
SASAKI, Kozo (40), SD (New); company employee; grad of Nihon U; head of Miyagi Branch of JFLU; chairman of Miyagi Branch of Japan Federation of Farmers' Unions; member of municipal assembly.
TADANO, Naosaburo (48), MP (New); no occupation; grad of Tohoku Imperial U; princpal of middle school and of agricultural school; military governor.

Second District:
HINO, Yoshio (46), SD (New); company employee; grad of Higher Teachers College of Nihon U; chief director of Miyagi Prefectural Boat Distribution Association; secretary-general of Miyagi Prefectural Branch of Japan Farmers Union; member of municipal assembly.
OISHI, Rinji (71), L (Re); chief of Horse Raising Corp; grad of Training School of Communications Ministry; former vice-minister of Agricultural and Forestry Ministry.
TSUNODA, Kokichi (52), L (New); grad of Hosei U; professor of Hosei U; attorney; Doctor of Laws.
UTSUMI, Yasukichi, (58), L (Re); company employee; grad of Nihon U; manager of party; president of Teikoku Shimpo Publishing Co; one previous term.

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FUKUSHIMA (12 seats)

First District:

YAOITA, Tadashi (43), SD (New); farmer; participant in social and farmer movements; member of Central Executive Committee of Social Democratic Party; chief of Fukushima Branch of Japan Farmers Union.

OUCHI, Ichiro (57), L (Re); author; manager of Fukushima Mimpo Publishing Co. president of Iwaki-Chuo Shimbun Publishing Co; member of prefectural assembly; one previous term.

HARA, Kokichi (64), D (New); mat maker; chairman of Koriyama Municipal Assembly; member of prefectural assembly; president of Tohoku Wood Working Co.

SAKAKIBARA, Chiyo (50), SD (Re); no occupation; grad of Aoyama Girls College; reporter; professor of Jiyu College; teacher at Fukushima Girls School; one previous term.

Second District:

NAKANO, Torakichi (69), L (Re); priest; grad of Waseda U; police sergeant of Hokkaido Government; administrative official of Nanyo Government; five previous terms.

SUZUKI, Yoshio (54), SD (Re); attorney; grad of Tokyo Imperial U; professor of Tohoku Imperial U; and Women's University; Central Executive Committeeman of Social Democratic Party; one previous term.

HAYASHI, Heima (65), D (Re); lumberman; councillor to Democratic Party; six previous terms.

YAMASHITA, Harue (47), D (Re); president of Tohoku Textile Manufacturing Co; grad of Women's Athletic College; teacher of girls high schools; reporter of MAINICHI SHIMBUN; one previous term.

MARUYA, Mitsue (59), L (Re); no occupation; ex-prefectural school inspector; chief of prefectural educational association; one previous term.

Third District:

SEKIUCHI, Shoichi (51), L (New); oil dealer; grad of Waseda U; member of Taira Municipal Assembly; chairman of municipal assembly; member of prefectural assembly; chief manager of Fukushima Branch of Social Democratic Party.

SAITO, Akira (46), MP (New); brewer; grad of middle school; member of Tamakawa Village Assembly.

OZAWA, Senshichiro (43), D (New); president of Company; president of Tokyo Welfare Association.

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OKAYAMA (10 Seats)

First District:

KURODA, Toshio (49), SD (Re); lawyer; grad of Law Dept of Tokyo Imperial Univ; member of Central Executive Committee of Social Democratic Party; chairman of Nippon Agricultural Committee; three previous terms.

OMURA, Seiichi (56), L (New); lawyer; grad of Law Dept of Tokyo Imperial Univ; former Home Minister.

KOEDA, Kazuo (47), PC(New); farmer; head of Okayama Branch of Peoples Co-operative Party; member of Central Standing Committee of All Japan Committee of Liberation of Community; member of prefectural assembly.

NISHIYAMA, Fusata (59), D (Re); chief of teachers union; grad of Okayama Normal School; former schoolmaster; one previous term.

KAMBARA, Toru (49), L (New); physician; grad of Medical Dept of Kyushu Imperial Univ; Doctor of Medicine; assistant professor at Okayama Medical College; present chief of Okayama Physicians Assembly.

HOSHIJIMA, Jiro (61), L (Re); lawyer; grad of Tokyo Imperial Univ; former State Minister and Commercial and Industry Minister; nine previous terms.

NAKAHARA, Kenji (52), SD (Re); legal adviser; member of Central Committee of Social Democratic Party; one previous term.

KONDO, Tsuruyo (47), L(Re); no vocation; grad of Home Economics Dept of Japan Women's Univ; teacher of middle school; one previous term.

SHIGEI, Shikaji (46), SD (Re); dyer; head clerk of prefectural league of Social Democratic Party; one previous term.

TAGA, Yasuo (43), PC (New); newspaper editor; grad of Law Dept of Waseda Univ; pressman of various newspapers; editor of SANYO MIMPOSHA.

HIROSHIMA (12 Seats)

First District;

MATSUMOTO, Takizo (47), PC (Re); professor of Japan Women's University; grad of Meiji University and Harvard Univ; chief of International Section of Peoples Co-operative Party; one previous term.

FUJITA, Sakae (34), SD (Re); head of Transportation and Labor Laboratory; grad of Tokyo Imperial Univ; director of MIYAKO SHIMBUN; member of Central Committee of Social Democratic Party; one previous term.

SATAKE, Shinichi (48), SD (New); chief of Nippon Agriculture Prefectural Federation, grad of middle school; member of Central Committee of JFL; member of Central Executive Committee of Social Democratic Party.

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Second District:

TANIKAWA, Noboru (52), L (New); no vocation; grad of Harvard Univ; director of police bureau; doyen of Hiroshima Branch of Liberal Party.

MAEDA, Einosuke (59), SD (Re); shopkeeper; attended Waseda Univ; director of Hiroshima Produce Co; one previous term.

TAKEDA, Kiyo (52), L (Re); director of Taisho Middle School; grad of Tokyo Girls Normal School; principal of girls high school; director of Liberal Party; one previous term.

OHARA, Hiroo (54), PC (Re); physician; grad of Jikei Medical College; five times member of prefectural assembly; one previous term.

Third District:

MORITO, Tatsuo (60), SD (Re); author; grad of Tokyo Imperial Univ; professor at the Tokyo Imperial Univ; member of Ohara Laboratory; one previous term.

HARA, Susumu (51), L (Re); president; grad of Higher Normal School attached to Nippon Univ; chief of Political Affairs Section of Liberal Party; one previous term.

OMIYA, Gosaburo (51), L (Re); president of Matsunaga Salt Manufacturing Co; grad of Law Dept of Meiji Univ; pressman of NAGOYA SHIMBUN; one previous term.

TAKATSU, Masamichi (55), SD (Re); author; attended Waseda Univ; member of standing committee of Japan Proletarian Party; member of Central Committee of Social Democratic; Party one previous term.

TABUCHI, Jitsuo (39), SD (New); teacher of girls high school; chief of organization section of Nara Branch of All Japan Farmers Union.

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YAMAGUCHI (9 Seats)

First District:

IMAZUMI, Isamu (35), SD (New); company employee; grad of Economics Dept of Kyoto Univ; chief of the factory dept in Mitsui Hikoshima Toyo High Pressure Mill.

SAKAMOTO, Minoru (44), L (Re); director of the Prefectural Aquatic Products Ass; grad Yamaguchi Commercial Col; pres of Shimonoseki Aquatic Products Co; one term in Diet.

SUDO, Hideo (50), L (New); no occupation; grad Law Col of Tokyo Imperial Univ; former official; vice-chief cabinet secy.

SHO, Tadato (49), D (New); mine operator; left Waseda Univ; before graduation; member of municipal assembly; owner of Matsushima and Sanyo Coal Mines.

Second District:

SHIGETOMI, Taku (48), MP (New); director of prefectural agric assn.

UKETA, Shinkichi (38), I (New); teacher; grad Yamaguchi Normal School; principal of youth's school in KUMAGE Gun.

TAMURA, Toraichi (54), L (New); lawyer; grad Chuo Col; member of prefectural assembly; deputy mayor of YAMAGUCHI Shi.

MORITA, Michisuke (54), SD (New); committee chairman of Executive Committee of the Prefectural Federation of Japan Farmers Unions; grad primary school; manager of the Mitsuichi Mitsui Farming Co.

NAKAJIMA, Katsuichi (56), D (New); owner of flour mill; grad Shimonoseki Commercial School; member of municipal assembly; pres of Shimonoseki Flour Mill.

TOTTORI (4 Seats)

Single Constituency:

INADA, Naomichi (59), L (Re); farmer; grad Law Col of Waseda U; Lawyer; director of company; director of the Japanese Manchurian Assn.

SHOJI, Hikoo, (52), SD (New); consultant to company; grad Commercial Col of Waseda U; member of the Central Executive Committee of the party; Consultant for Adachi Ind Co.

HORIE, Jitsuzo (45), MP (New); farmer; Japan Labor School; vice-president of prefectural fruit assn; member of central committee of the Farmers Unions.

KAJIKAWA, Shizuo (34), SD (New); company pres; grad Chuo Col; chief of general affairs dept of TAKARA Mining Co; chief clerk in the prefectural branch of the party; president of the Tottori Sericultural Implement Co.

SHIMANE (5 Seats)

Single Constituency:

KIMURA, Kozaemon (60), D (Re); Minister of Agriculture and

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Forestry; grad Waseda U; pres of Chemical Ind Co; director of Shochiku Co; elected four times.

NAKAZAKI, Satoshi (48), SD (Re); company pres; grad Tokyo Commercial Col; employee of Mitsui Bank; pres of Toho Chem Co; elected once.

MATSUMOTO, Junjo, (54), SD (Re); writer; left Keio U before graduation; once member of the Central Executive Committee of SD Party; now member of the Central Executive Committee of same party; elected once.

KIGOSHI, Saburo (51), D (New); chief director of school; grad Osaka Polytechnical Col; director of company.

KIMURA, Sakae, (38), C (New); small-scale trucker; left middle school before graduation; phonograph dealer; employee of freight shipping co.

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ITEM 15 (Continued)

CHUBU

SHIZUOKA Ken (14 Seats)

First District:

HARA, Eisaku (69), L (New); doctor; now, member of the Japan Doctors Assn.

KANDA, Hiroshi (45), (L (Re); grad, Hosei U; former sect chief of the Shizuoka Ken Local Govt; now pres, the Riken Electrification Industrial Co.

KATO, Shizuo (37), SD (New); grad, Kyoto U; now pres, the Toa Timber Co and the Gyotsu Marine Product Co.

IKETANI, Shinichi (49), SD (New); grad, Kyoto U; now lawyer.

OKANO, Shigezo (54), D (New); left Commercial English School halfway; formerly operator of dept store on JAVA Island; now without occupation.

Second District:

ISHIBASHI, Tanzan (64), L (New); grad, Waseda U; formerly reporter of Mainichi Newspaper, and pres, the Toyo Keizai Shimpo; now Finance Minister.

MIYAZAKI, Yasushi (48), L (New); grad, Meiji U; formerly accountant; now town chief, and pres, Nagoya Taxation Business Accountant Assn.

KOMATSU, Yuji (55), D (New); grad, Nirayama Middle School; director, Southern Marine Product Co and the Onishi Development Co.

YAMAZAKI, Michiko (48), SD (Re); left a primary school halfway and engaged in social movements; now member of the local relief committee; without occupation.

KATSUMATA, Seiichi (40), SD (New); grad, Kyoto U Agric Dept; formerly investigating official of Planning Board; now director of Ammonium Sulphate Fertilizer Manufacturers Assn.

Third District:

TAKEYAMA, Yutaro (47), PC (Re); grad, Tokyo U Agric Dept; formerly official for tenant affairs, and university professor; now chief of Development Sec of Japan Farmers Assn.

SUZUKI, Riichiro (56), L (New); left Meiji U half-way; now pres of the SEIJUSHA, director general of Japan Picture Sellers Assn and pres of a magazine co.

TSUBOI, Kameze (48), PC (Re); grad, Hamamatsu Sericultural School; formerly primary school teacher; now official of Hamamatsu Shi Agric Ass

KAWAI, Akitake (42), SD (New); grad, Chuo U; formerly banker and mechanic; now director of Mechanical Industry Control Assn.

YAMANASHI Ken (5 Seats)

Single Constituency:

HIRANO, Rikizo (50), SD (Re); grad, Waseda U; now local committee chairman of Japan Farmers Reform League and permanent executive committee of the SD Party.

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ITEM 15 (Continued)

AMANO, Hisashi (56), D (Re); grad, primary school; formerly post-office chief; now local branch chief of the party; sake brewer.

MATSUZAWA, Hajime (52), SD (Re); grad, primary school; now prefectural assemblyman and assistant chairman of the Japan Farmers Reform League; farmer.

SUZUKI, Masafumi (49), L (New); grad, Waseda U; now commentator of Asahi Newspaper and director of the SOZANSHA.

HIGAI, Senzo (58), L (Re); grad, Kyoto U; formerly professor of Chuo U, director-general of Insurance Board and Lower House Speaker.

NAGONO Ken

First District (Three Seats):

KURAISHI, Tadao (48), L (New); grad, Hosei U; Liberals' local branch chief and chairman of the Tokyo Liberal Club.

KOSAKA, Zentaro (36), D (Re); grad, Tokyo Commercial U and Tokyo Industrial U; managing-director of the Shinetsu Chemical Industry Co.

HONDO, Tsunematsu (53), SD (New); grad, primary school; the party's local branch chief; pres, Takahata Development Co; prefectural assemblymen, brewer.

Second District (Three Seats):

IDE, Ichitaro (36), PC (Re); grad, Tokyo U Agric Dept; director of Japan Forestry Assn, pres of prefectural Forestry Assn; brewer.

KARAKIDA, Togoto (51), PC (New); grad, Ueda College of Sericulture; dealer in machines for agric and sericulture; company pres.

KOBAYASHI, Kazumi (43), D (New); grad, Ueda College of Sericulture, secy of Japan Sericultural Assn; chief of Foreign Relations Sect of same assn; pres of Federation of All Japan Sericulture Labor Unions.

Third District (Four Seats):

NOMIZO, Masaru (50), SD (2); grad, Morioka Agric High School; veterinarian; Party's Central Executive Committeeman; assistant chairman of the Executive Committee of the Japan Farmers Assn.

YOSHIKAWA, Hisae (43), PC (New); grad, Meiji U; formerly sect chief of Central Agric Assn and councillor of the Relief Society for Colonists; now official of Japan Farmers Assn.

IMAMURA, Chusuke (49), L (New); lecturer of Nippon U; director of the Foundation for the Education of Repatriated Students.

HAYASHI, Hyakuro (36), C (New); grad, Chuo U; director of Liberal Bar Assn; lawyer.

Fourth District (Three Seats):

UEHARA, Etsujiro (71), L (9); grad, Columbia U; Doctor of Laws; formerly Assistant Speaker of House of Representatives and Minister-without-portfolio; now Home Minister.

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ITEM 15 (Continued)

MASUDA, Kineshichi (50), L (New); grad, Tokyo U; formerly Home Ministry official, governor of HOKKAIDO, etc; now Transportation Minister.

FURIHATA, Tokuya (50), D (Re); grad, Waseda U; elected two times for the prefectural assembly; now a company employee.

NIIGATA Ken

First District (Three Seats):

KITA, Reikichi (63), L (Re); grad, Waseda U Literature Dept; formerly lecturer of Waseda U and principal of Imperial Art Academy; now a writer.

KASAHARA, Teizo (47), SD (New); grad, Waseda U Politics and Econ Dept; lawyer

ISHIYAMA, Kenkichi (66), L (New); grad, Keio Commercial Col; elected twice for Tokyo Municipal Assembly; now pres of Diamond (magazine co).

Second District (Four Seats):

TAKAOKA, Chu (49), D (New); grad, Tokyo U Law Dept; pres, Hokuetsu Timber Industry Co; village chief.

II, Seiichi (56), SD (Re); grad, Tokyo U Law Dept; elected three times for the prefectural assembly; now a lawyer.

WATANABE, Yoshio (43), L (New); grad, Osaka Commercial U; formerly reporter of Kokumin Newspaper and secy to State Minister, no occupation.

TAMAI, Yukichi (33), SD (New); grad, Tokyo U Law Dept; manager of Ehime Ken Higashikawa Coal Mine and chief of the youths dept of party's local branch.

Third District (Five Seats):

WATARI, Shiro (49), L (Re); grad, Latger U (USA); managing. director of the Hokkai Rubber Industry Co.

KAMIYAMA, Eiichi (54), D (New); grad, commercial school; director-general of Prefectural Foodstuff Corp and of the Prefectural Fertilizer Distribution Assn.

TANAKA, Kakuei (30), D (New); grad, Chuo Engineering School; pres, Tanaka Engineering Industrial Co.

KIYOSAWA, Toshihide (58), SD (Re); grad, middle school; inspector of Hokuetsu Industrial Co.

INAMURA, Junzo (48), SD (Re); left Tokyo U half-way; formerly in service of Imperial Agric Assn and the Central Agric Assn; now a writer.

Fourth District (Three Seats):

INOMATA, Kozo (54), SD (New); grad, Nippon U; director-general of Japan Educators Assn; lecturer of Saint Sophia U and Nippon U; . lawyer.

TSUKADA, Juichiro (44), L (Re); grad, Tokyo Commercial U; formerly assistant professor of Nagasaki Commercial High School; now manager of the KASHIMA GUMI.

IBARAGI, Kazuhisa (45), D (Re); grad, Keio U Economics Dept; returned twice for the prefectural assembly; now a lawyer.

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ITEM 15 (Continued)

TOYAMA Ken

First District (Three Seats):

SAHEKI, Muneyoshi (54), D (New); a local railroad company president.

KAJI, Ryosaku (53), L (New); grad, Meiji U Law Dept; director of Showa Womens College; member of Kanda Ward Assembly; secy to Finance Minister.

YAGO, Yoshizo (48), SD (New); grad, primary school; formerly a company employee; now advisor to party's local branch; without occupation.

Second District (Three Seats):

NAITO, Tomoaki (54), PC (New); grad, Tokyo U Agriculture Dept; former secy to Agric Minister and director of Farm-villages Revival Society; now manager of the Farmland Development Corp.

TACHIBANA, Naoji (40), D (Re); grad, Waseda U; pres, Fushigi Land and Marine Transportation Co.

WATANUKI, Samin (52), L (Re); grad, Keio U; prefectural assembly-man; pres, Prefectural Forestry Assn; director of the Kiso Development Co.

ISHIKAWA Ken

First District (Three Seats):

IMURA, Tokuji (49), D (New), grad, Waseda U Commerce Dept; managing-director of Japan Dept Stores Assn, operator of the Yamato Dept Store.

TAKEDA, Giichi (54), I (Re); grad, Kyoto U Law Dept; formerly secy to Overseas Affairs Ministry; now pres, the Daishoji Industrial Co.

AZUMA, Shunei (52), D (New); grad, Waseda U Politics and Economics Dept; formerly reporter of the Mancho, the Yomiuri and the Kokumin Newspaper and secy to Overseas Affairs Minister; now a company director.

Second District (Three Seats):

OMORI, Tamaki (62), D (New); grad, primary school; former member of prefectural assembly; now pres, TAMAKI GUMI -- a public engineering company.

MASUTANI, Hideji (59), L (Re), grad, Kyoto U Law Dept; formerly judge; now lawyer.

GOHEI, Shigeo (59), D (Re); grad, Shiga Normal School; formerly principal of Usa Middle School and several other schools; without occupation.

FUKUI Ken

Single Constituency (Four Seats):

HASEGAWA, Masatomo (38), D (New); grad, Nippon U Law and Literature Dept; formerly in service of Hokkaido Local Govt; now pres, Yamato Foodstuff Co.

TSUBOKAWA, Shinzo (39), D (Re); grad, Fukui Normal School; formerly secy to Home Minister; secy of party and councillor to Communications Ministry.

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ITEM 15 (Continued)

KATO, Kichidayu (53), MP (New); grad, Takeo Middle School; chief of Rice Fields Readjustment Assn; village chief; and assistant chairman of the Prefectural Farmers League.

AOKI, Seizaemon (49), D (Re); chief of HONJO Mura; party whip; occupation: agriculture.

AICHI Ken

First District (Five Seats):

HATTORI, Sakiichi (49), D (Re); grad of primary school; manager of Japan Swimmers Association; prefectural assemblyman; director-general of prefectural foodstuff corporation, two previous terms.

AKAMATSU, Isamu (38), SD (Re); iron worker; attended Sakai Middle School; head of party's local branch; member of Central Executive Committee.

KATO, Kanju (56), SD (Re); author; attended Nippon U; standing member of party's Central Executive Committee, two previous terms.

TSUJI, Kanichi (43), L (Re); Company director; grad of Nagoya Commercial High School; reporter; municipal and prefectural assemblyman, councillor to Transportation Ministry.

HASHIMOTO, Kinichi (58), D (Re); food dealer; grad of primary school; director-general of prefectural produce dealers association.

Second District (Four Seats):

WASEDA, Ryuemon (48), D (Re); stationer; grad of primary school; member of municipal assembly; director-general of Commodities and Textiles Control Association.

FUKATSU, Tamaichiro (46), L (Re); farm manager; grad of Waseda Univ; studied in USA and FRANCE; part-time employee of Education Ministry.

TANAKA, Hitoshi (51), SD (New); company director; grad of Meiji U Commerce Dept; studied in USA; reporter; professor of Meiji U; chief manager of TOKYO SHIMBUN.

MIZUNO, Jitsuro (50), SD (New); secretary-general of local chapter of Social Democratic Party; member of party Central Executive Committee.

Third District (Three Seats):

EZAKI, Masumi (33), L (Re); grad, Toho Commercial School; former teacher of commercial school; director of Nagoya Purchasing Association; one previous term.

KONO, Nanenobu (38), PC (Re); corporation adviser; grad, Waseda U; former director of Organizing and Publicity Section of TOHO-KAI; non-official commission in Cabinet; one previous term.

SATO, Kanjiro (47), SD (New); grad of Waseda Univ; chief editor of CHUO KORON Magazine; pres of SHAKAI KORON.

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Fourth District (Four Seats)

NAKAGAKI, Kunio (37), D (New); grad of Teyo U; managing director of Aichi Tomato Manufacturing Co.

NAKANO, Shiro (41), MP (Re); ex-chairman of Ushigome Ward Assembly; ex-member of Tokyo Municipal Assembly; one previous term.

SENGA, Yasuji (56), D (New); grad of middle school; director of Hanazono Stone Industrial Co; member of municipal and prefectural assemblies.

SAKAI, Toshio (50), PC (Re); lawyer; grad of Chuo U; member of social welfare commission; one previous term.

Fifth District (Three Seats):

AOKI, Takayoshi (51), L (Re); Vice-Education Minister; grad of Waseda U; chief of Political and Economic Dept of Nihon U; Doctor of Economics.

YAGI, Ichiro (47), D (New); public official; grad of Tokyo Col of Sericulture; engineer of Sericulture Bureau of Agric and Forestry Ministry; chief of Sericulture Section of All Japan Agricultural Association.

HAYASHI, Daisaku (43), SD (New); chief of general affairs section of Trade Corp; grad of Law Dept of Tokyo Imperial U; employee of Mitsui Production Co; official attached to Commerce and Industry Ministry.

GIFU Ken (Nine Seats)

First District:

HIRAKO, Kiichi (56), SD (New); farmer; attended elementary school; municipal assemblyman; chairman of executive committee of Gifu Chapter of Japan Farmers Union; Gifu Farmland Reform Committee member; Food Committee member.

ONO, Tomomutsu (58), L (Re); no vocation; grad of Political and Economics Dept of Meiji U; Vice-Minister of Home Ministry; chief secretary of Liberal Party; five previous terms.

MUTO, Kaiichi (51), D (Re); grad of Keio U; professor of Keio U; lecturer of Gifu Pharmaceutical Col; president of Wine Sales Co.

KIMURA, Kohei (43), L (Re); grad of Law Dept of Meiji U; municipal and prefectural assemblyman; director of Seibu Paper Manufacturing Co and Engineering Works Co.

YAMAMOTO, Koichi (38), SD (New); attended technical school; chief secretary of Gifu Chapter of Social Democratic Party; chief director of Chubu Fuel Production Assn.

Second District:

HASEGAWA, Shunichi (44), D (New); farmer; grad of Law Dept of Tohoku Imperial U; president of Japan Pottery Manufacturing Co; chairman of prefectural assembly; prefectural assemblyman.

ANDO, Yoshinaga (51), L (New); grad of Law Dept of Tokyo Imperial U; bureau head of Foreign Ministry; defense attorney in International Military Tribunal.

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ITEM 15 (Continued)

ITO, Kyoichi (60), D (Re); farmer; attended Gifu Normal School; schoolmaster; chief of Gifu Educational Commission.
OKAMURA, Riemon (40), L (New); farmer.

MIYE Ken (Nine Seats)

First District:

KAWASAKI, Hideji (37), D (Re); councillor of Min of Education; grad, Political and Economics Col, Waseda U; representative of Athletic Federation; one previous term.

MIZUTANI, Noboru (52), L (Re); foundryman; grad, Miye Normal School; member of prefectural assembly; acting Mayor, KUWANA Shi.

TANAKA, Hisao (43), MP (Re); farmer; grad of Kansai U; staff member of GIFU SHIMPO; superintendant of Akashi Plant, Kanebo Spinning Corp.

MATSUDA, Shoichi (64), D (Re), grad of Kyoto U; ex-Vice-Minister of Transportation; pres of Miye and Kyoyu mutual financing companies, six previous terms.

MATSUMOTO, Ichiro (48), D (New); farmer; attended Meiji U; village head; prefectural assemblyman.

Second District:

OZAKI, Yukio (89), I (Re); no occupation; grad of Keio U; former mayor of TOKYO Shi, Minister of Justice; 22 previous terms.

ADACHI, Umeichi (47), SD (New); lawyer; finished preparatory courses, Nihon U; chairman of prefectural mushroom dealers association.

ISHIHARA, Enkichi (71), L (Re); grad of primary school; pres of Ishihara Manganese and Miye Iodine companies; eight previous terms.

IKEZUMI, Teitaro (50), D (New); grad of Law College, Nihon U; director of Yonago Steel Works; president, Yonago Mining and Osaka Special Steel companies.

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ITEM 15 (Continued)

KINKI

OSAKA Fu (19 seats)

Single Constituency:

HITOTSUMATSU, Sadakichi (73), D (Re); grad, Meiji Judisprudence School; formerly, primary school instructor, judicial official, and defence attorney; now Communication Minister. Six previous terms.

OYA, Shozo (55), SD (Re); committeeman, former Social Masses Party (SHAKAI TAISHU-TO); committeeman, National Federation of Labor; director, FUKUOKA Pump Co; one previous term.

KAWAI, Eizo (58), SD (New); grad, Tokyo Imp U (Juris Faculty); executive committeeman, OSAKA Fu Federation of SD Party; director-general, Central Committee Union.

ARITA, Jiro (44), L (Re); grad Tokyo Imp U; consultant; secy to Foreign Minister; pres, Medicament Manufacturing Co; one previous term.

NISHIO, Suehiro (57), SD (Re); grad, primary school; vice-chairman, NFL; chairman, Kansai Branch of NFL; secretary-general, SD Party; four previous terms.

MAEDA, Taneo (46), SD (New); member of city assembly; member, Provincial Labor Committee; Employed, Engine Co.

HOSOKAWA, Yasohachi (46), D (Re); member of Japan War Sufferers' Assn; chief of Osaka Branch of D Party; director of companies; one previous term.

NAKAYAMA, Masa, (57), L (New); grad, Wesleyan U (US); formerly professor of a college; now without occupation.

SHIDEHARA, Kijuro (76), D (New); State Minister; grad, Tokyo Imp U (Jurisprudence Faculty); formerly diplomat, minister; now, supreme-consultant of the Democratic Party.

INOUE, Ryoji (50), SD (Re); member of Central Committee, and chief secy of Osaka Branch of this party; grad, C Labor School; manager of the same school; two previous terms.

MATSUBARA, Kinoji (53), SD (New); grad, Kyoto Imp U; formerly, teacher of a girl's high school; now, pres several companies and managing director, Osaka Meter Co.

HARADA, Ken (29), L (New); grad, Meiji College; printing business; pres, Hanshin Mainichi Newspaper Co.

TANAKA, Manitsu (66), D (Re); State Minister; grad, Waseda U; formerly, Communication Vice-minister and member of several committees under jurisdiction of the cabinet; four previous terms.

KANOU, Takashi (40), SD (Re); member of Central Committee of this party; grad, Waseda U; Central Committeeman of Japan Farmers Assn; one previous term.

KUBOTA, Tsurumatsu (48), SD (New); chief, Ikuno Branch of National Committee of this party; wine dealer; member of Osaka Fu Assembly.

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ITEM 15 (Continued)

KITA, Narajiro (49), D (Re); staff member of Wine and Bean Sauce Dealers' Union; pres of wine dealing company; one previous term.

KONISHI, Toramatsu (46), I (Re); pres of Civil Engineering Contracting Co (TORABAYASHI-GUMI); one previous term.

NISHIMURA, Eiichi (44), SD (Re); member of Central Committee of party; employed in Showa Life Insurance Co; director-general of Science and Economy Investigating Assn for the People's Welfare; one previous term.

HIRAJIMA, Ryoichi (57), L (New); grad, Meiji U (Juris Faculty); director of mining and agric companies.

KYOTO Fu (10 seats)

Single Constituency:

MIZUTANI, Chozaburo (51), SD (Re); Member of Central Committee of party; grad, Kyoto Imp U (Juris Faculty); defense attorney; five previous terms.

TAKEUCHI, Katsumi (58), SD (Re); grad, Ritsumeikan Col; formerly, editor, Asahi Newspaper, chief editor, Manshu Nichinichi Newspaper; defense attorney; one previous term.

OGAWA, Hanji (39), D (Re); secy to Welfare Minister; grad, Ritsumeikan Col; managing director, Kyoto Shokosha Co; one previous term.

TSUJII, Taminosuke (55), SD (Re); textile manufacturer; member of the Kyoto Fu and City Assemblies; one previous term.

KAWAHASHI, Toyojiro (65), L (Re); grad, Waseda U; director of Kotobuki Industrial Co; two previous terms.

ASHIDA, Hitoshi (61), D (Re); grad, Tokyo Imp U; Doctor of Law; formerly Welfare Minister; five previous terms.

OTA, Tenrei (48), SD (New); physicist; grad, Kyushu Imp U; Doctor of Medicine.

NAKANO, Takeo (47), L (Re); brewer; grad, Waseda U (Juris Faculty); member of city assembly; one previous term.

OISHI, Yoshie (51), SD (Re); grad, Shinai Girls High School; consultant, Mukden Mainichi Newspaper; pres, New Japan Women's Assn; one previous term.

OKUMURA, Takezo (52), L (New); farmer; grad, normal school; formerly, primary school instructor; later, schoolmaster of primary school.

HYOGO Ken (18 seats)

Single Constituency:

MATSUZAWA, Kaneto (50), SD (Re); grad, Tokyo Imp U (Law Faculty); chief, business office of the Kobe Harbor Welfare Society; member of prefectural assembly; professor of Kansai Col; one previous term.

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ITEM 15 (Continued)

TSUKUDA, Ryoichi (54), D (Re); grad, Waseda U (Law Faculty); member of prefectural assembly; inspecting manager, OHOSHA Co; one previous term.

NAGAE, Kazuo (46), SD (Re); owner of a clinic; grad, Kansai Col; chairman of the Kobe City Assembly; member of prefectural assembly; two previous terms.

HARA, Kenzaburo (41), D (Re); chief of Public Relation Branch of party; grad, Waseda U and Columbia U; consultant official of Foreign Ministry; one previous term.

YONEKUBO, Manryo (60), SD (Re); member of Central Committee of party; grad, Tokyo Seamen's Col; staff member of All-JAPAN Seamen's Union; writer; two previous terms.

NAKAMURA, Tosio (50), D (New); grad, Kyoto Imp U; defense attorney; managing director of Japan Refrigerator Co.

YAMASHITA, Eiji (47), SD (Re); chief of Amagasaki Branch of party; grad, Kansai Commercial and Industrial School; worker in an iron factory; member of prefectural assembly; one previous term.

GOTO, Etsuji (44), D (New); grad, practical course of a technical high school; member of prefectural assembly; pres, Showa Chemical Co; owner of Goto Glass Manufacturing Co.

KAAI, Giichi (66), SD (Re); formerly, farmer; grad, Tokyo Foreign Language Col; employee of Bank of Japan; one previous term.

HOSOTA, Chujiro (67), D (Re); grad, Waseda U; manager, Trade Union Central Commission; manager-general, Prefectural Textile Control Union; one previous term.

TANAKA, Genzaburo (53), D (Re); grad, Doshisha Col; inspector-manager of Miki Tramway Co; consultant to Prefectural Fishery Production Assn; two previous terms.

KINOSHITA, Sakae (65), PC (Re); grad, French-Japanese Law Col; pres of Kobe-Himeji Auto Co and Prefectural Charcoal Co; one previous term.

HORIKAWA, Kyohei (54), D (Re); grad, Waseda U; director of Harima-Akashi Transportation Co and Daiwa Civil Engineering Co; one previous term.

YAMANA, Giho (53), L (New); Buddist priest; grad, Otani Col; Youth Protection Official appointed by Justic Ministry.

OGAMI, Tsukasa (34), D (New); grad, Kansai Col; editor, Osaka Newspaper; managing director, Financial Affair Investigation Institute.

SAITO, Takao (78), D (Re); State Minister; grad, Waseda U and Yale U; defense attorney; 11 previous terms.

KOJIMA, Tetsuzo (49), D (Re); grad, Tokyo Imp U (Law Faculty); once to the UNITED STATES on trip; defense attorney; advisor to the Justice Ministry; one previous term.

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ITEM 15 (Continued)

SASAKI, Morio (40), L (New); grad, Tokyo Foreign Language Col; formerly, editor, Hochi Newspaper; now, member of Editorial Section of the Shin-Hochi Newspaper; managing editor of the Jiyu Newspaper.

NARA Ken (5 seats)

Single Constituency:

KITAURA, Keitaro (61), L (Re); grad, Kansai Col; defense attorney; formerly, procurator; pres of newspaper company, and Justice Vice-Minister; three previous terms.

ISE, Kotaro (54), SD (New); grad, primary school; formerly, clerk in provincial self-government; permanent member of Prefectural Federation of the Japan Farmers' Assn; chief of Organizing Sect of Prefectural Branch of the SD Party.

NAKAMURA, Motojiro (57), MP (New); grad, primary school; chief of the Shinno Assn; managing director of the National Makeshift Amusement House Union.

TOI, Miyoji (48), I (Re); grad, Tokyo Imp U; manager-general of the Tenrikyo Office; chief of Tokyo Detachment of same religious organization; one previous term.

MAEDA, Masao (35), MP (New); grad, Yamanashi Technical High School; manager of Industrial Assn; formerly, chief of Enterprising Sect of Mitsui-bussan Co Employees' Assn in northern CHINA.

SHIGA Ken (5 seats)

Single Constituency:

MORI, Kotaro (59), L (Re); grad, Nagahama Agric School; chief of Prefectural Fishery Production Assn and Fishers' Federation; three previous terms.

IMAI, Ko (52), PC (Re); grad, Nagahama Agric School; teacher of an agric school; technical staff of Prefectural Agric Assn; one previous term.

YAO, Kisaburo (47), SD (Re); grad, Ritsumeikan Col; member of prefectural and city assemblies; member of Prefectural Labor Committee; member of Central Executive Committee of SD Party; one previous term.

NAGANO, Juemon (50), L (Re); grad, primary school; manager-general of Prefectural Silk Cotton Control Union; one previous term.

KAGETSU, Junsei (51), L (Re); Buddist priest; grad, Kyoto Imp U Economic Faculty; member of prefectural assembly; newspaper editor; chief of General Affair Sect of Japan Buddist Society; one previous term.

WAKAYAMA Ken (6 seats)

Single Constituency:

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ITEM 15 (Continued)

TANAKA, Orinoshin (37), SD (New); grad, Kyusyu Imp U (Law Faculty); formerly, newspaper editor.

YAMAGUCHI, Kikuichiro (51), L (Re); left Waseda U half way; vice-head of Rehabilitation Board; owner of farms; two previous terms.

IMAMURA, Chotaro (48), L (New); grad, primary school; manager-general of Stockinet Control Union.

MATSUMOTO, Shinichi (56), SD (New); grad, Tokyo Imp U (Law Faculty); director of companies.

SEKO, Koichi (55), L (Re); grad, Science and Technique Col; deputy-president of same college; manager of Nihon U; Vice-Home Minister; three previous terms.

HAYAKAWA, Takashi (32), PC (Re); grad, Tokyo Imp U (Law Faculty); pres of newspaper company; formerly, business official of Home Ministry, and Administrator of Occupied District (SHISEI-KAN); one previous term.

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ITEM 15 (Continued)

KAGAWA Ken (6 Seats)

ODA, Masanobu (27), MP (New); grad of Univ of Science and Literature of Tokyo; editor of KOSEI SHIMBUN; pres of Kyukoku Seinen Domei.

NARITA, Tomomi (36), SD (New); grad of Tokyo Imp Univ; section chief, Mitsui Chemical Co; advisor, JFL prefectural branch.

MIZOBUCHI, Matsutaro (62), SD (New); grad of primary school; farmer; director of prefectural agricultural association.

TOYOSAWA, Toyoo (40), PC (Re); grad of Kagawa Normal School; instructor of Women's Normal School; one previous term.

FUKUDA, Shigeyoshi (43), D (Re); grad of Kansai Univ; pres of Denko Co, two previous term.

YANO, Shotaro (62), D (Re); no vocation; grad of Meiji Univ; chief of prefectural police board; Vice-Minister of Welfare; seven previous terms.

TOKUSHIMA Ken (5 Seats)

MIKI, Takeo (41), PC (3); grad of Meiji Univ; chief sec of party; director of Nippon Yakiii Co.

NARUSE, Kigoro (47), SD (New); grad of primary school; prefectural head of Japan Farmers Union; Central Agri Land Committee member.

KASHIWABARA, Yoshinori (48), L (Re); grad of Kyoto Imp Univ; pres of Middle school established by TENRI Sect, one previous term.

OKADA, Seiichi (56), PC (Re); grad, shipbuilding school; pres of Okada Merchant Marine Co, of Okada Group, and of Tokushima Industrial Co; one previous term.

AKITA, Daisuke (42), PC (Re); grad of Tokyo Imp Univ; director, Nankai Tan-atsuki Co and Kochi Shipbuilding Co; one previous term.

EHIME Ken (9 Seats)

OKAI, Tosniro (53), L (New); attorney; grad of Tokyo Imp Univ; judge of district courts.

YONEDA, Yoshimori (50), D (Re); grad of Chuo Univ; trustee, of Yokohama Specialty School; one previous term.

YASUHIRA, Shikaichi (46), SD (Re); grad of primary school; member of Central Executive Committee and of Kanto Metal Workers Union; one previous term.

AKAMATSU, Meicheku (36), SD (New); grad of Osaka Specialty School; pres, Kansai Chapter, National Book Binding Association.

MURASE, Norichika (46), D (New); attended Kobe Commercial College; section chief, Tsingtro Pier Co; village headman.

MAGOSHI; Akira (46), D (Re); grad, Yuge Merchant Marine School; pres, Imaharu Fisheries; one previous term.

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ITEM 15 (Continued)

ITANI, Shokichi (52), SD (New); grad, agricultural school; member, of Central Executive Committee, of NIPPON Farmers Union, and of Shakai Taishu Party.

TAKAHASHI, Eikichi (50), L (Re); grad, primary school; lawyer; pres, AICHI SHIMPO; one previous term.

MEIREI, Terusaburo (53), L (New); grad, Nippon Univ; lawyer; vice-pres, Tokyo Barristers Assn.

KOCHI Ken (5 Seats)

YOSHIDA, Shigeru (70), L (New); grad, Tokyo Imp Univ; diplomat; Prim Minister.

HAYASHI, Joji (59), L (Re); grad, Kyoto Imp Univ; member, prefectural assembly; sec to Minister of Education; Cabinet Chief Sec; five previous terms.

KUROIWA, Juji (52), I (New); grad, Kochi Normal School; prefec education inspector; principal of primary school; pres of prefectural teachers union.

SATAKE, Seiki (52), SD (Re); grad, Chuo Univ; lawyer; pres, prefec lawyers assn; member, Central Executive Committee (SD); three previous terms.

NAGANO, Nagahiro (56), D (Re); grad, agri school; pres, prefectural chapter of Democratic Party; Vice-Minister of Education; three previous terms.

SAGA Ken (Five Seats)

NAKAMURA, Mataichi (58), D (Re); grad, Meiji Univ; lawyer; member, municipal assembly; Asst-Vice-Minister of Justice; two previous terms.

MORI, Naoji (49), L (New); attended, Waseda Univ; sec-gen, Kiilin Municipal Board (MANCHURIA); sec to Home Minister.

OSHIMA, Tazo (45), PC (Re); grad, Kyushu Imp Univ; former instructor, middle school; no occupation; one previous term.

YANAI, Junji (51), L (New); grad, Tokyo Imp Univ; served in Home Ministry and Government of TAIWAN; Governor, TAIHOKU (TAIWAN).

TSUNODA, Tosaburo (51), SD (New); grad, primary school; manager, Notomi Iron Works; section chief, SAGA Heiji Co; adviser, prefectural chapter (SD).

FUKUOKA Ken (19 Seats)

TANAKA, Shogetsu (48), SD (Re); grad, middle school; Buddhist priest; member, Central Executive Com (SD); one previous term.

NAKAMURA, Torata (46), MP (New); grad, Itojima Agri School; secretary of agricultural association; sec-gen, Fukuoka Young Farmers.

NAKAJIMA, Shigeki (39), D (Re); farmer, grad, Tokyo Imp Univ; village headman; prefec assemblyman; one previous term.

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ITEM 15 (Continued)

OKAMI, Zenkichi (52), I (New); grad, Chuo Univ; civil sugineer; headman, KASUGAHARA Mura.

FUKUDA, Akiko (36), SD (New); grad, Tokyo Women's Med Col; worked in hospitals; now district medical officer.

NISHIDA, Takao (47), D (New); grad, Waseda Univ; owner of coal mines; director, National Coal Mining Assn.

OKABE, Tokuzo, D (Re); grad, Tokyo Higher Industrial School; director, OKABE Gumi.

MATSUMOTO, Shichiro (37), SD (Re); grad, Keio Univ; reporter of JIJI SHIMPO; lecturer of Keio Univ; pres, local chapter (SD); one previous term.

ITO, Ushiro (54), SD (Re); grad, primary school; no occupation; formerly pres, JFL Kyushu Fed and Fed of Kyushu Miners Unions; one previous term.

FUCHIGAMI, Fusataro (55), L (New); grad, Tokyo Imp Univ; ex-Governor, OKINAWA Ken; no occupation.

ARAKI, Masuo (47), D (New); grad, Kyoto Imp Univ; director, Power Board; now Mayor, OMUDA Shi.

ISHII, Mitsujiro (59), L (Re); grad, Tokyo Commercial Col; director, ASAHI SHIMBUN; Now Minister of Commerce; one previous term.

TERASAKI, Kaku (54), MP (New); grad, primary school; director, prefectural agri assn.

KOGA, Kitaro (58), D (Re); grad, commercial school; agri and lumber business; one previous term.

TANAKA, Toshio (46), SD (New); grad, Tokyo Imp Univ; sec, JFL Western Chapter.

ETO, Hayashi (54), SD (New); grad, primary school, coal mining business.

NAGAO, Tatsuo (56), D (Re); grad, primary school; mining and theatre business; pres, prefec chapter (D); one previous term.

NARISHIGE, Mitsusane (50), SD (New); grad, technical school; pres, Kyushu Torin Co; prefec assemblyman; chief, local chapter (SD).

HIRAI, Giichi (35), L (New); grad, Meiji Univ; member, Meiji Univ Council.

NAGASAKI Ken Nine Seats)

HONDA, Ichiro (53), L (Re); grad, Chuo Univ; writer; Formerly member, municipal and prefectural assemblies of TOKYO; two previous terms.

IMAMURA, Hitoshi (56), SD (Re); grad, primary school; pres, Kyushu Chapter, JFL; one previous term.

HONDA, Eisaku (63), L (Re); grad, Tokyo Imp Univ; lawyer; Vice-Minister (Foreign Office); four previous terms.

WAKAMATSU, Torao (58), L (New); grad, Tokyo Imp Univ; diplomat chief sec, Central Liaison Office.

KUBO, Takeo (48), D (Re); grad, normal school; principal, primary schools; prefectural education inspector; advisor, newspaper company; one previous term.

KITAMURA, Tokutaro (62), D (Re); grad, KANSAI Univ; Vice-Minister of Finance; pres of chamber of commerce; president of

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ITEM 15 (Continued)

bank; one previous term.

TSUNAJIMA, Masaoki (58), MP. (New); grad, Tokyo Imp U; lawyer; pres, KOZAN Rodo Domei-kai.

FUJIWARA, Shigetaro (51), SD (New); grad, WASEDA U; reporter of "Dentsu"; Director Ko-a Sangyo Co; vice-pres, Prefec Fed (SD).

NISHIMURA, Hisayuki (55), L (Re); grad, Waseda U; chairman, prefec assembly; one previous term; now without occupation.

KUMAMOTO Ken (10 Seats)

MATSUNO, Raizo (31), L (New); grad, Keio U; pres, Johoku Brewery Co; Secy to premier.

UCHIDE, Nobuyuki (53), D (New); grad, Tokyo Imp U; lawyer; member of municipal and prefec assemblies.

SAKAGUCHI, Chikara (49), D (New); grad, Tokyo Imp U; pres, Taiwan Shimpo; chief director, Prefec Repatriates Gen Fed.

MIYAMURA, Matahachi (60), SD (Re); grad, primary school; member, municipal assembly; advisor, Civil Engineering Workers' Union; pres, Prefec Chapter (SD); one previous term.

TERAMOTO, Sai (47), D (New); grad, Chuo U; Served at Communications Ministry; Secy to Minister of Communications; Sect chief, Fed of Food Corp.

YOSHIDA, An (58), D (Re); Lawyer; member, municipal and prefec assemblies one previous term.

HOSOKAWA, Takamoto (48), SD (New); grad, Tokyo Imp U; Reporter, Asahi Shimbun; vice-pres, Japan Intern'l Newspaper Assn; now without occupation.

SAKATA, Michita (32), L (Re); grad, Tokyo Imp U; secy to Minister of Commerce; one previous term.

FUKUNAGA, Kazuomi (41) L (New); grad, Tokyo Imp U; pres, Asahi Shoji Co.

KAGOSHIMA Ken (10 Seats)

INOUE, Tomoharu (62), D (Re); grad, TOKYO Imp Univ; Formerly Vice-speaker (HR); two previous terms.

KAMBAYASHIYAMA, Eikichi (45), L (Re); grad, Nippon U; Pres, Kagoshima Fishery Products Control Assn; one previous term.

NAKAMURA, Kaju (68), D (Re); grad, New York U; pres publishing co.

MURAO, Satsuo (46), SD (New); attended Tokyo Imp U; Pres, shipbuilding co.

TOMIYOSHI, Fiji (49), SD (Re); grad, Tokyo Sugaku-Kan; Instructor, middle schools; three previous term.

ISHIHARA, Noboru (35) MP (Re); grad, Chuo U; Sect chief, Ko-a Steel pipe Co; one previous term.

OZAKI, Suekichi (54), D (New); grad, Nippon U; Director, Tokyo Tochi Umetate Co and Omori Bus Co.

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ITEM 15 (Continued)

MAEDA, Iku (59), I (New); grad, Waseda U; pres; Tokyo Sightseeing Bus Co and Tokyo Watch Co.

MATOBA, Kinemon (56), PC (Re); grad, agric school; sect chief, Prefec Agric Assn; one previous term.

SATO, Michiyoshi (45), D (New); grad, Chuo U; primary school teacher; policeman; now lawyer.

OITA Ken (7 Seats)

UMEBAYASHI, Tokio (42), D (New); grad, Meiji U; pres, Umebayashi Construction Co and OITA Liquid Fuel Co.

MURAKAMI, Isamu (45), L (1); grad, Waseda U; pres, MURAKAMI-Gumi; Auditor, TOBISHIMA-Gumi.

KANAMITSU, Yoshikuni (39), D (Re); grad Chuo U; pres, Taisho Life Insurance Co; one previous term.

NOGAMI, Kenji (40) SD (New); grad, primary school; exiled in CHINA; member, Central Executive Committee (SD).

YASUDA, Mikita (48), SD (New); grad, Tokyo Imp U; judge; prof, Keijo Imp U; now lawyer.

MATSUBARA, Kazuhiko (67), PC (Re); grad, normal school; secy, National Fed, Youngmens Assn; pres, Prefec Chapter, Educational Assn; now without occupation; one previous term.

UTSUNOMIYA, Noritsuna (59), D (New); grad, primary school; crocodile raiser; member, municipal and prefec assemblies; now without occupation.

MIYAZAKI Ken (6 Seats)

KATAJIMA, Minato (38), SD (New); grad, Training School of Communication Ministry; sect chief of Communications Ministry; member, Executive Committee, National Communication Workers Union.

OSHIKAWA, Sadaaki (58), I (New); grad, Meiji U; Lawyer; member, Tokyo Municipal Assembly.

KAWANO, Yoshimitsu (50), PC (Re); grad, Keio U; brewer; pres, Prefectural Brewery Co; one previous term.

KAWAGOE, Hiroshi (37), PC (Re); grad, Aoyama Gakuin; Formerly reporter, Hochi Shimbun and secy, Ko-a Domei; now corporation director, one previous term.

ISHIGAMI, Keigo (41), SD (New); attended Seventh Prep School (KAGOSHIMA); Town headman; member, prefec assembly; chairman, prefectural committee (SD).

MORIYAMA, Takehiko (50), SD (New); grad, Hosei U; primary school teacher; newspaper reporter; chairman, Prefec Fed, Nippon Farmers Union; Lumber tusiness.

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ITEM 4 The National Diet and the People (A Private Contributor) - Shin Hochi - 17 Apr 47. Translator: Y. Ebiike.

Summary:

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Sovereignty resting in the people is proclaimed in the new Constitution which will take effect on 3 May. Hereafter the administration of our country will be conducted by the people for their own benefit. The Constitution prescribes in its preamble that the Japanese people will act through their duly elected representatives in the National Diet, that the Government is a sacred trust, the powers of which are exercised by the representatives of the people. The new Constitution gives the National Diet characteristics which are fundamentally different from that under the old Constitution.

Hitherto the legislative power belonged to the Emperor, and the Diet was allowed to participate in it only to the extent of giving approval. The Diet under the new Constitution has a perfect right to enforce laws autonomously, by means of its own decision, and no one has the power to veto its decision. With the public election of the House of Councillors and the House of Representatives, the National Diet becomes an organ which represents the people in name and actuality. It appoints the prime minister, makes treaties, drafts the budget, and performs all national affairs as the supreme organ of the nation, thus exercising a direct influence on the welfare of the people. Therefore, I wish to draw the people's attention to the necessity of understanding and respecting the new Diet, the supreme organ based upon the new Constitution, established on the universal principle of humanity.

Success or failure of democracy in JAPAN is entirely dependent upon the activities of the Diet. We believe that the Diet realizes its mission as the supreme organ of the people, that it reflects their will correctly and clearly, promotes their welfare, and tries to attain democracy in this country.

Although the administrative organ of the Government, that is, the Cabinet, the Diet in the past, hereafter the Diet must take precedence over the other. By means of its own authority it must lead the cabinet toward administration based upon the will of the people. For this purpose, all Diet members must refrain from confining themselves to the interest of their own parties or constituencies. Rather, they must attach prime importance to national interest and act as the true representatives of the people. However, since we choose the Diet members, everyone of us must improve our political knowledge and increase our interest in politics if we want to achieve an ideal political setup through our representatives.

Unlike the old Diet, the new one is closely connected to the people with petitions, public hearings, and the summoning of witnesses. The people must make use of this new Diet system and make efforts to realize democracy and to reconstruct JAPAN into a cultural nation.

(Signed by OIKE, Makoto, chief secretary of the House of Representatives.)

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ITEM 4 Diet to Convene about 24 May - Tokyo Shimbun - 26 Apr 47.
Translator: K. Hirata (JJY)

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Full Translation:

The first session of the National Diet will be convened on about 24 May in accordance with Article 54 of the new Constitution since both Houses will be established in accordance with the new Constitution when the Lower House election is completed on 25 April.

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ITEM 4 (Continued)

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to be presented to the Diet immediately. If we consider these circumstances, the special session of the Diet will be very short. It is believed that the next Cabinet will convene an extraordinary Diet session at a proper time after the special Diet session is over and will submit to it many important problems based on new administrative policies.

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403 In the coming session various important matters such as the nomination of a Premier and of the chief of the Supreme Court will be decided, and the new constitutional government will commence to function.

The following may be concluded from the new Constitution, the National Diet Law, and the Provisional Lower House Regulation in regard to matters concerning the date for convening the National Diet, the resignation of the Yoshida Cabinet and the formation of a new Cabinet.

(1) The convocation date of the Diet: The final results of the Lower House election will be clarified within five days after the election. The National Diet must be established some time before 3 May when the new Constitution will become effective. In accordance with Article I of the National Diet Law, the Imperial rescript on the convocation of the National Diet must be promulgated 20 days before the Diet is convened. If a special Diet session is to be held, it must be promulgated on 4 May at the latest. Hence, the National Diet will be convened on about 24 May.

(2) The resignation en bloc of the Yoshida Cabinet: In accordance with Article 70 of the new Constitution, the Yoshida Cabinet must resign en bloc on the day the National Diet is convened. However, in actuality this total resignation will take place after the Diet is convened; in other words, it will take two or three days to elect the Speaker, the Vice-speaker, an acting committee chairman, and a secretary-general in the Diet.

If the Diet is convened on 24 May the en bloc resignation will take place presumably during the latter part of May. However, nobody can predict this date with assurance, since this is our first experience.

(3) The formation of the next Cabinet: The Premier of the next administration will be nominated by both Houses after the Yoshida Cabinet resigns. Then, he will be formally appointed by the Emperor. These procedures will require several days. Furthermore, it is presently surmised that the next administration will be formed on a three-party-coalition basis. If so, this will take a week or 10 days. If a majority party does not emerge, the formation of the next Cabinet will take about two weeks after the Diet is convened.

(4) The special Diet session: It is stipulated in Article 11 of the National Diet Law that the holding of a special session of the Diet will be decided by both Houses. The possible ministerial change will call for a change in governmental policies. The next Cabinet will find it difficult to convene the Diet without deciding its own attitude toward the Diet. The Government may therefore call a recess of the Diet to make the necessary preparations.

The bylaws of the new Constitution passed the last Diet session as tentative measures which will be effective until the end of this year. For this reason, it is the Regulation for Enactment of the Imperial Household Law alone which needs

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ITEM 4 (Continued)

to be presented to the Diet immediately. If we consider these circumstances, the special session of the Diet will be very short. It is believed that the next Cabinet will convene an extraordinary Diet session at a proper time after the special Diet session is over and will submit to it many important problems based on new administrative policies.

ITEM 5 National District Results as of 1900 Yesterday - Yomiuri Shimbun - 26 Apr 47. Translator: J. Ide. (JJY)

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Full Translation:

The line-up of the House of Councillors will be determined today when the counting of votes in IIDA Shi is completed. However, it was disclosed yesterday that nearly 20,000 votes had been left uncounted in NIIGATA Ken, and the number of votes tallied by the candidates as of 1900 hours 24 April have been somewhat changed. Nevertheless, the order from the first down to the 80th position has not been changed, since the 20,000 votes have been widely dispersed among all the candidates.

The results disclosed up to the present are as follows:

Seats Occupied by Various Parties

| Party | National District | | | Local Districts | | | Grand Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 6 yr Term | 3 yr Term | Total | 6 yr Term | 3 yr Term | Total | |
| Conservatives | | | | | | | |
| Liberals | 2 | 5 | 7 | 14 | 20 | 34 | 41 |
| Democrats | 5 | 2 | 7 | 13 | 14 | 27 | 34 |
| Peoples Co-operatives | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 8 |
| Minor parties | 1 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 10 |
| Independents | 23 | 19 | 42 | 27 | 16 | 43 | 85 |
| Total | 33 | 30 | 63 | 60 | 55 | 115 | 178 |
| Progressives | | | | | | | |
| Social Democrats | 11 | 6 | 17 | 15 | 14 | 29 | 46 |
| Communists | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Independents | 6 | 6 | 12 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 17 |
| Total | 17 | 14 | 31 | 15 | 20 | 35 | 66 |
| Grand Total | 50 | 44 | 94 | 75 | 75 | 150 | 244 |

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ITEM 20 Convocation of New Diet Expected before 25 May - Yukan Miyako - 8 Apr 47. Translator: M. Yasutake. (RBH)

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Summary:

The new National Assembly will come into existence with the enforcement of the new Constitution which is scheduled for 3 May. The new Constitution stipulates that the National Assembly shall be convened within 30 days after the holding of the general election. The special session of the new National Assembly will be held before 25 May. The procedures necessary for the convocation of the National Assembly will be taken by the Yoshida Cabinet around 5 May.

The problem regarding the change of the Cabinet will come to the fore in connection with the results of the general election. There are some ambiguous points regarding the time of the resignation of the Cabinet and some other matters, but the Government holds the view that the Cabinet may resign after the new National Assembly has been formed and the speaker of the House of Representatives has been appointed. The speaker and the vice-speaker of the House of Representatives and the director of the General Affairs Board of the Diet will be appointed on the day of the convocation of the National Assembly and a new premier will be designated by the House of Representatives immediately after the formation of the Assembly. The speaker of the Lower House will report the result of the designation to the Emperor through the cabinet, and the premier will be formally appointed. It will take at least a week from the time of the convocation of the National Assembly to the formation of a new cabinet, and it will take much longer if the results of the election necessitate the formation of a coalition cabinet of two or three parties.

According to the tentative rules of the House of Representatives, the length of the special session of the National Assembly will be decided upon after a conference between the speakers of both Houses, and the House of Councillors and the Government will be notified of the result. The new Diet will have many important bills to handle and it is predicted in the government and the Diet circles that the coming session will last nearly three months. The House of Councillors will be conducted in accordance with the tentative rules of the House of Representatives until the rules of procedure of the House of Councillors are decided upon in the new session of the National Assembly.

ITEM 20 Co-ordinators Needed to Organize House of Councillors - Shin Yukan - 30 Apr 47. Translator: K. Murakami. (JJY).

403

Full Translation:

With former Chief Secretary KOBAYASHI of the House of Peers as the chairman, the House of Councillors Preparatory Committee is now hastening preparations to organize the new House of Councillors. To begin with, before the special session of the National Assembly is held, the committee will hold an election for a speaker, vice-speaker, standing committee members, chairman of the standing committee, and a chief secretary.

In order to carry the elections out smoothly, it is necessary first to establish contact between each political party. The committee has decided to ask within a day or two the Social Democrats, the Liberals, the Democrats, the Peoples Co-operatives, the Communists and the independents to select their liaison representatives.

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ITEM 3 Dissolution of the Imperial Diet - Provincial Newspaper Kumamoto Mainichi Shimbun (Kumamoto) - 1 Apr 47. Translators: T. Unayama and E. Sato. (DD)

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Summary:

The Imperial Diet at last came to an end on 31 March, with the dissolution of the House of Representatives and the termination of the House of Peers. This dissolution of the Imperial Diet has an epochal significance in relation with the new Diet, which will become the supreme organ of national power through the promulgation of the new Constitution on 3 May and the general election for the House of Representatives on 25 April.

The 92nd Session of the Imperial Diet under the Meiji Constitution has actually come to an end. When our people look back upon the past 57 years since the Imperial Diet was established in 1890, they will probably be overcome by deep emotion. By the grim reality of defeat, JAPAN was forced to make sweeping changes in every field to proceed towards a new historical stage. The most conspicuous change is the establishment of the new Constitution, whose basic principle is the sovereignty of the people. We should, therefore, regard the dissolution of the Imperial Diet as JAPAN's re-embarkation toward the construction of a new State or the creation of a new history.

The final day of the 57 years of the Imperial Diet should have been closed with solemnity. Although the budget for the next fiscal year and some other important bills were passed, we saw an unpleasant and disgusting scene which was unworthy of the final session of the Diet. The melee which took place between members of the government and opposition parties over the election law amendment bill is an indelible stain on the last page of the history of the Imperial Diet.

The members who violated the sanctity of the Diet should be called to account. Violence must not be carried over into the new Diet. The coming general elections will offer the best chance to expel such violent members from the new Diet. The people's free-will will be reflected in the Diet, and the sover sovereignty which rests in the people will lead the Government along a democratic course.

In the above sense, we deeply regret that a bill for the medium constituency single entry ballot system was forced through the Diet by the government parties. The people will not forget this case but will remember it as an indelible stain on the last page of the history of the Imperial Diet. Moreover, in the coming elections it will become the object of public criticism. In short, the coming elections will not bring desired results unless the people's political sense advances to the stage that they are able to make correct decisions on political and economic problems.

ITEM 14 Privy Council to Hold Last Session on 30 April - Asahi Shimbun - 29 Apr 47. Translator: Kawamura. (TK)

Full Translation:

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Just 60 years have elapsed since the debut of the Privy Council, which was established on 28 April in 1888 in place of the Senate House and prior to the promulgation of the Meiji Constitution. Since it is to be abolished on 3 May with the enforcement of the new Constitution, it is slated to hold its last session on 30 April in order to approve (1) the Imperial ordinance concerning abolition of the administrative organization of the Privy Council, (2) the abolition of the Imperial House Law and its supplementary legislation, (3) the abolition of the Imperial House Finance Law and its supplementary legislations.

The Emperor as well as Princes TAKAMATSU and MIKASA will attend the meeting. The closing ceremony is slated to be held after the meeting has adjourned.

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ITEM 1 Cabinet Postpones Labor Ministry Formation - Asahi Shimbun - 29 Apr 47. Translator: T. Okamura. (JJY)

Full Translation:

The task of establishing a Labor Ministry will be assigned to the new cabinet, it was formally decided at a Cabinet meeting held on 28 April. The Government announced its decision as follows:

In order not to disrupt the operation of the new cabinet, which will be formed as a result of the general election, and in the spirit of the new Constitution, the Government has decided not to establish the Ministry of Labor immediately. The Cabinet has decided to submit a bill regarding the establishment of the Ministry to the new National Diet.

The proposed Ministry will handle labor administration, stabilization of occupations, fixing of labor standards, compilation of labor statistics, researches on labor, and such special problems as woman and juvenile working hours. The Ministry will comprise several bureaus, since the Government feels it necessary to provide the Ministry with ample power and facilities.

Although the Cabinet considers it extremely important to establish the Ministry as soon as possible, it still believes it more agreeable to the spirit of the new Constitution to do so by law instead of by Imperial ordinance.

ITEM 15 Journalists and the House of Councillors (Sub-editorial) - Tokyo Shimbun - 16 Apr 47. Translators: W. Hayashi & S. Hamada. (DD)

Summary:

The general attention of the public is being focused from various angles on the election of Councillors which will be held within several days. This is the first attempt in JAPAN to hold a public election for the Upper House. It is difficult for anyone to predict the results of the nation-wide election. One can hardly select suitable candidates by hastily looking over the brief election gazette. Considering the character of the House of Councillors, it is desired that specialists in respective lines be elected. We can clearly recall the striking activities of a group of scholars including NAMBARA, president of the Tokyo Imperial University, deliberating on the Constitution in the House of Peers. Because they were experts on legislation problems, they were able to fully exercise their ability. Only by being staffed by such experts, can the Upper House maintain its special position in comparison with the Lower House. This is why the bicameral system has been adopted in the new Constitution.

There are only a few expert journalists running for councillors from the national electorate. Although a considerable number of writers, critics, and scholars have announced their candidacy, only SATO, Shinei, NAKANISHI, Ko, YAMANE, Shinjiro, SASSA, Hiroo, and KIMURA, Kihachiro are noted journalists. However, NAKANISHI, though an editor of the Mimpo, is more widely known as a commentator on Chinese problems and, therefore, cannot be regarded as a professional journalists. KIMURA was on the staff of the Jiji Shimpo and is now chief editor of the Hokkaido Shimbun, but is more famous as an expert on the inflation problem. SASSA was chief manager of the Asahi, but is more widely known as a professor at the Kyushu Imperial University. SATO and YAMANE alone can be classified as professional journalists. However, when we take into consideration the fact that SATO is in charge of management, only YAMANE remains as a pressman. Since TOKUTOMI, Soho, OGATA, and FURUNO are gone, the House of Councillors will have a poor staff of journalists.

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ITEM 9 Importance of the House of Councillors - Provincial Newspaper: Godo Shimbun (Okayama) - 11 Apr 47. Translators: W. Hayashi & S. Hamada. (DD)

Summary:

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Since the new Diet will be based upon the bicameral system, the role of the House of Councillors will be just as important as that of the House of Representatives. Especially, at this time, when the present political parties are anything but ideal, and the political activities of the House of Representatives are being looked upon with great anxiety, the function of the Upper House will become more significant. The Upper House must positively check headlong actions of the Lower House and supervise the despotic administration of the Government backed by the majority parties.

to the expectations of the people. Good results cannot be obtained in an election conducted in a hit-or-miss fashion.

The people have the responsibility of sending trustworthy persons to the Upper House. Nevertheless, public interest and campaign activities of the candidates for the 20 April election so far have been very low. The public is not trying to fully understand the personalities and policies of the candidates, while the candidates themselves have not commenced upon any active election campaigns.

Although it is only reasonable that the first requisite for a successful election is to urge the people to go to the polls, this is not enough. If the voters are not acquainted with the candidates, they may cast blank or absurd ballots, and this would only increase the number of invalid ballots. A more practical method is needed to enlighten the people for the election. However, the people should be ashamed of the fact that they are in need of political enlightenment. The election of the Councillors must be freely conducted, with the people fully understanding the importance of this election.

ITEM 12 Men of the House of Councillors - Mainichi - 24 Apr 47. Translators: Arai and Naruse. (GS)

Summary:

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Among the newly-elected councillors there are a number whose names are well-known, but the election of many men of real ability from every field compels our attention. Though many pro-Labor men are quite new in State administration, we may expect much of them. The appearance of a new type statesman is very necessary today.

Among the new councillors these are those who may be called authorities on agricultural problems. WADA, Hiroo, former minister of Agriculture and Forestry, KUSUMI, Yoshio, former vice-minister of Agriculture and Forestry, YANAGAWA, Sozaemon, chief of the National Agricultural Association (ZENKOKU NOGYO KAI), TOURA, Shoji, director of the NAA, OKADA, Soji and ONISHI, Toshio, both leaders of the Japan Farmers' Union (NIPPON NOMIN KUMIAI), and KOGURE, Sanshiro, who up to the age of 80 devoted himself to the solution of agricultural problems, come under this category.

A considerable number of the new councillors are famous as politicians or economists; however, lawyers are very few. TANAKA, Kotaro, former Minister of Education, may be considered as a representative of this field. KIMURA, Kihachiro, authority on the problem of inflation, will make a good opponent for Finance Minister ISHIBASHI; also there are ZEN, Keinosuke, and TAKASE, Shotaro and HATANO, Kanae, professors at Kyushu Imperial University. Verbal warfare between such famous literary men as YAMAMOTO, Yuzo, KANEKO, Yoban, and NAKANO, Shigeharu, will be interesting to watch.

We believe one of the vital requisites for a Diet member is not deep knowledge but common sense. In short, politics means common sense. The duty of the new statesmen is to elevate the level of common sense.

DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12065 SECTION 3-402 / NNDG NO. 775015

EDITORIAL SERIES: 1643 (Continued)

ITEM 9 (Continued)

Since the people are to select their own representatives, there should be no difference in the attitude of the people towards the general election of the Councillors and that of the members of the Lower House. If the people place importance only on the Lower House election and neglect the Upper House election, the new-born House of Councillors can never live up to the expectations of the people. Good results cannot be obtained in an election conducted in a hit-or-miss fashion.

The people have the responsibility of sending trustworthy persons to the Upper House. Nevertheless, public interest and campaign activities of the candidates for the 20 April election so far have been very low. The public is not trying to fully understand the personalities and policies of the candidates, while the candidates themselves have not commenced upon any active election campaigns.

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DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12065 SECTION 3-402 / NNDG NO. 775015

ITEM 6 Premier Stresses Earliest Convocation of the Diet - Asahi Shimbun - 29 Apr 47. Translator: R. Shibata. (TK)

Full Translation:

As a result of the general election, the Social Democratic Party has won a leading position. However, the government parties still hold a majority of the Diet membership. Thus, along with the moves of the Liberals and Democrats, the Government's attitude toward the settlement of the political situation just after the general election has become the object of public attention.

In a cabinet meeting held yesterday following a conference with State Minister SHIDEHARA, Premier YOSHIDA, however, did not make clear the Government's attitude in this regard, but simply manifested his desire for the earliest possible convocation of the new Diet for the sake of political stabilization. It is believed, however, that the Premier intends to effect a general resignation of the Cabinet as soon as the procedures necessary for the convocation of the Diet are finished, and the problem of the next political regime comes to assume more concreteness to a certain degree through the initiative of the Social Democratic Party. As far as this problem is concerned, the moves of the Government for the present are passive. Also, as president of the Liberal Party, YOSHIDA does not favor active party moves which might go against the spirit of the new Constitution. He is of the opinion that the party should decide on its attitude only after some move by the Social Democrats.

A cabinet minister from the Liberals, however, after that cabinet meeting, stated that, even though the resignation en bloc may be inevitable in the near future, it is a responsibility of the Government, which is now in charge of state affairs, to refrain from this final step until the moves toward the next political regime take a definite shape.

ITEM 10 Status of the House of Councillors (Letter to the Editor) - Mainichi Shimbun - 2 Apr 47. Translators: Hayashi & Hamada. (FST)

Summary:

The first election for the House of Councillors will be held on 20 April. Judging from the line-up of candidates, we greatly doubt whether the new-born House of Councillors can fulfill its mission satisfactorily. Since the House of Councillors is a controlling organ of the House of Representatives, a conservative character is expected of it. Moreover, well-learned and experienced persons are also desirable because the Upper House should be a special legislative organ.

Nevertheless, the candidates for the Upper House are of the same character as those for the Lower House and only a few learned persons are among them. It is also said that the candidates for the Upper House are even more radical than those for the Lower chamber. If the House of Representatives becomes more conservative in character than the House of Councillors, the merit of the bicameral system will be nullified.

In order to differentiate the Upper House from the Lower one, the House of Councillors Election Law stipulated the adoption of the national electorate system and raised the minimum age limit. However, to clearly mark the House of Councillors something similar to the Imperial Nomination System of the House of Peers should have also been adopted. When we recall the fine deliberations by the nominated scholars of the House of Peers during the Diet session on the Constitution, we feel the need for such men more deeply. We must endeavor to select the most suitable candidates as our first Councillors. (ABE, Kaoru; TOKYO)

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ITEM 7 A Reporter Visits Party Headquarters A Day After Diet Dissolves - Tokyo Shimbun - 2 Apr 47. Translator: H. Iuchi. (GBS)

Full Translation:

With the dissolution of the current session of the Diet on 31 March, the curtain on the election campaign has been raised. Every party is now concerned over its own campaign tactics. Not one of the party leaders could be found when a reporter called at the headquarters of each party on the morning of 1 April, nor on the following day after the dissolution of the Diet. This is presumably because they had spent the previous night discussing campaign measures.

The Liberals:

Only a few office-boys were seen idly dusting. Members of the Liberal Club (JIYU KURABU) and the Youth Section were nowhere to be seen. They had probably gone out to canvass the city. In the empty office, a roster containing the list of candidates for the Lower House and a pile of handbills lent an air of expectation. From the restaurant situated below the office, an appetizing aroma filled the air. A man, who may have been a demobilized soldier, and a student came in to ask for application blanks, but not being able to get satisfactory results, left.

The Democrats:

The new party is currently the object of public attention. However, here also, office workers are doing things in a leisurely manner. They are making preparations with microphones, etc, to stage the all-important propaganda campaign.

The Social Democrats:

A student was found arranging handbills under a poster which read, "A new supply of megaphones, received; 25 yen per piece. Supply limited; make your purchases early. Sold at half the market price." A certain candidate, complaining as to the whereabouts of the leaders, stood gazing at the megaphones, and his expression clearly showed that he was considering one as an instrument for his own campaign purpose.

The Communists:

Labor parties lack money and money means everything in the election for those who have little backing of influential parties. When the reporter called at the headquarters, office girls were counting money contributed in the 10,000,000 yen election fund box which was placed on the porch at headquarters. Only 800 yen was received during the past 15 days. However, officials in charge spoke confidently that the fund will show a favorable increase as the climax of the election campaign is reached.

ITEM 8 Diet May Be Dissolved on 25 March - Jiji Shimpo - 14 Mar 47. Translator: H. Miyoshi.

Full Translation:

The Government is planning to dissolve the current Diet session on 30 March. However, in the House of Representatives, there are many who favor 25 March as the closing date.

At 1730 hours on Thursday, Speaker YAMAZAKI, YAMAGUCHI(Liberal), SHIIGUMA (Progressive), NISHIO (Social Democrat), MIKI (People's Co-operative Democrat), ITO (Independent) and SHIGA (Communist) met in the speaker's room. The speaker expressed the intention of the House of Representatives by submitting a resolution concerning the discussion of bills, and presented the draft of the resolution. The gist of the draft:

1 -- To complete the deliberation of important bills relative to the Constitution.

2 -- To discuss the important bills pertaining to the stabilization of the people's livelihood during the current Diet session and formally in the next session.

The Social Democratic Party rejected the second point. A proposal was made to discuss the matter again on Friday and to introduce a resolution as soon as possible.

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ITEM 13 Diet Members Restricted in Concurrent Holding of Public Office - Asahi - 25 Apr 47. Translator: S. Sano. (GS).

Full Translation:

With the announcement of the results of the various elections, the election of the same person as a municipal head and a member of the House of Councillors has become a subject of discussion. The following is the explanation given by the Home Ministry in regard to this issue.

According to election laws concerning the members of the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors, it is recognized that members of the national assembly may concurrently hold the post of municipal head or local assemblyman, while governors may concurrently hold the post of municipal head. However, these provisions are to be revised after 3 May. Hereafter, the regulation will prohibit the concurrent holding of public office by the same person, except in the following cases, for the local autonomous body:

namely, CHINA and RUSSIA.

TAVENNER: Why did you refer to the possibility of the Chinese war becoming a long drawn-out struggle?

TANAKA: I did not say there was such a possibility. What I said was that this was feared as an eventuality.

TAVENNER: Do you know that on 12 July 37 the head of the Chinese Foreign Office proposed a compromise solution and that negotiations were carried on by the Japanese and Chinese governments?

TANAKA: I heard that such negotiations took place on 18 and 19 July, but I did not conceive that JAPAN had stipulated the recognition of MANCHUKUO and the conclusion of a Sino-Japanese military agreement.

Later, the former Vice-chief of Staff, KAWANABE, stepped into the witness box for the third time. He denied that the Kwantung army had schemed for the establishment of an anti-CHIANG autonomous regimes in NORTH CHINA and Inner MONGOLIA. According to this witness, General DOIHARA was contemptuously referred to as "General Bandit" by the Chinese, but an affidavit to this effect was not accepted by the Court.

Subsequently, Mr ISHIKAWA, a one time "Mainichi" representative in PEIPING and TIENTSIN, testified:

General UMEZU assumed command in NORTH CHINA in April, 1933, when the waters of Northern Chinese politics first became turbulent. He was considered a fair middle-of-the-roader endowed with common sense and his appointment was generally acclaimed. He was in favor of doing away with Japan's superiority complex towards CHINA and stressed that to bring pressure to bear on CHINA while negotiating with her was out of the question. He also respected the rights acquired by foreigners in NORTH CHINA and emphasized that interference in Chinese internal administration could not be tolerated.

This witness was not cross-examined by the prosecution.

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ITEM 13 (Continued)

Mr TAVENNER: There was an anti-communist agreement with GERMANY as far back as 1935. Was there no secret military alliance attached to it? And were no preparations under way for attacking the SOVIET UNION?

TANAKA: I am not aware of a military agreement existing as far back as 1935. The conflict with CHINA was sufficiently dangerous in itself, notably since it was fought out under the very eyes of the SOVIET UNION; hence there was no thought of a war to be waged against two strong opponents simultaneously; namely, CHINA and RUSSIA.

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POLITICAL SERIES: 1708 (Continued)

ITEM 13 (Continued)

Governorship and membership in the assemblies of cities, wards, towns, and villages. Prefectural assembly membership, mayoralty, and headship of wards, towns, and villages; prefectural assembly membership and membership in assemblies of cities, wards, towns and villages.

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ITEM 4 The House of Peers and the House of Councillors - Provincial Newspaper: Kyoto Shimbun (Kyoto) - 2 Apr 47. Translators: T. Unayama & E. Sato. (RBH)

103

Summary:

The activity of the House of Peers covering 58 years since its inauguration in 1890 came to an end on the last day of March. This is not an occasion for cheap sentimentality, but it might not be in vain to concern ourselves with the merits and demerits of the House of Peers and to desire that the House of Councillors be established as a competent organ. The House of Peers sometimes had a serene attitude while on other occasions it adopted a violent attitude in conjunction with the majority party in the House of Representatives to ingratiate itself with the party. However, it managed to fulfill its duty within the scope regulated by the House of Peers law.

By nature, it was unreasonable to expect the House of Peers to be worthy of the name, because it embraced those who were not peers. Apart from the Princes of the Blood, there were many unworthy persons among the "highest tax" members and the nominated members, to say nothing of the members elected from the counts, viscounts and barons.

The KENKYU-KAI (TN: House of Peers Research Group) considered itself to be similar to a political party in the House of Representatives, and its staff arbitrarily took public and private affairs into its own hands. On the other hand, some members paid due recognition to the social situation and set themselves to work against the resolutions of the Lower House which disregarded the will of the people and in this manner saved the masses of the people from shouldering unnecessary burdens to a slight degree.

Whatever the results of the election might be, the House of Councillors, should not be the same in character as the House of Peers. It should not be composed of members who are so selfish as to escape the difficulties in the House of Representatives and content themselves with enjoying a dead calm for six years.

We should be fully conscious of our responsibility in the election for members of the House of Councillors as well as the House of Representatives. It is a matter of deep concern that the election campaigns of the candidates for the House of Councillors are underemphasized throughout the country.

ITEM 7 Inattentiveness of the Diet Members (Sub-Editorial) - Jiji Shimpo - 4 March 47. Translators: Hotta & Ebiike.

103

Summary:

Despite the name, "democratic Diet", the Diet members have often been blamed for their inattentiveness to their duty. This has become a serious matter for it was found that about half of the members were absent from the Diet. They must, of course, have been busy in preparation for the coming election. But it proves that they consider their success in the election more important than their duties to the people. Such an irresponsible attitude is quite inexcusable as Speaker YAMAZAKI said. However, the voters, too, are more or less responsible for having chosen such irresponsible persons.

Even in ENGLAND, all the Parliament members do not always attend a session, especially in cases when the bills presented are not so important. The same tendency is found also in FRANCE. We have heard that on one occasion in the past an opposition party gained an unexpected victory by making an important motion taking advantage of the small number of the members of the government party attending. We also hear of a system of voting by power of attorney.

However, both ENGLAND and FRANCE are long established democratic nations. Their representatives do not miss important sessions and seem to know when to be absent. At universities the class roll is not called. If the Diet members attend so irregularly that the Diet roll must be called, then, they are quite beyond hope.

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ITEM 9 New Diet Expected to Convene around 10 May - Yomiuri Shimbun - 23 Apr 47. Translator: H. Miyoshi (JJY)

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Full Translation:

A new National Assembly based on the new Constitution and a new administration, bearing a heavy responsibility in the establishment of peaceful JAPAN, will be born shortly after the series of April elections are completed.

Prime Minister YOSHIDA, with the intention of launching maneuvers to form a new cabinet immediately after the final returns of the general election are ascertained, appears to be preparing for the resignation of his present Cabinet by convening the new Diet at the earliest possible date.

It is anticipated that the new Diet will be convened around 10 May and the present Cabinet will then resign en bloc. Since Section 4, Article 54 of the new Constitution stipulates that in case the House of Representatives is dissolved, a new Diet should be convened within 30 days after the general election, the current Cabinet need not call the Diet until 25 May.

In this connection, some quarters insist upon the resignation of the present cabinet before 3 May, when the new Constitution is to go into effect, so that a new cabinet based on the new Constitution may be inaugurated. However, Premier YOSHIDA is trying to remain in power even after 3 May in order to assist in organizing a new Cabinet, in the conviction that, judging from the present conditions of JAPAN, it is anything but permissible to idle away the period between the total resignation of the Cabinet and the functioning of a new regime.

ITEM 3 Additional Construction and Remodelling Buildings Planned for New Diet - Asahi - 4 Apr 47. Translator: Y. Sakaue. (DD)

Summary:

The Meiji Constituion has passed into the annals of history with the close of the 92nd session of the Diet. The construction of additional facilities and various alterations are planned by the Diet office in preparation for the re-opening of the Diet session under the new Constituion.

The construction of a Diet members' hall and a standing committee office building will commence in April, under a two-year plan. The House of Representatives will appropriate 38,000,000 yen and the House of Councillors 21,000,000 yen as building and repair funds. A new library, larger than the present Diet building is planned on the site of the former War Ministry in MIYAKEZAKA. The new library will receive large collections of books formerly belonging to the Political and Economic Research Institute and the Manchurian Railway Company and collections donated by the Japan Publishing Association. The main Diet hall will be remodelled under this plan also. The seats for the Diet members will be elevated to the same position as those for ministers. The guards will be called EISHI instead of SHUEI, and will change their impressive uniforms for ordinary sack suits.

The second plan of construction includes a legislative center surrounding the Diet building. All legislative buildings will be concentrated here. Official residences for the chairmen of the House of Councillors and the House of Representatives will also be built in the vicinity.

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ITEM 4 Unfulfilled Promises of Diet Members Flayed by Women - Mainichi- 10 Apr 47. Translator: Y. Sakaue. (PAK)

Summary:

The first year of woman suffrage in JAPAN has heightened the interest of women toward politics. The participation of 39 women members in the Diet could not but arouse women's interest. The following opinions regarding the forthcoming election for Diet members reveal that women have acquired a more concrete knowledge of politics during the past year.

MIYASHIGE, Kazuko, 22: "Not many new faces are seen among the women candidates for the coming election. This is disappointing because the majority of the veterans have failed in their public promises."

IMAMURA, Masako, 37: "I think my expectations toward women members last year were too high."

MATSUMOTO, Chiyo, 29: "We were promised increased rice rations, but they were delayed and distribution suspended. Many housewives know very little about the candidates."

YOSHIDA, Sachiko, 35, nurse: "I will vote for the best candidate, regardless of sex. My request is the solution of the food problem."

KAWAKAMI, Kumiko,22, dancer: "The women Diet members have thought more of themselves than of the feminine sex as a whole."

YAMAMOTO, Hideko, 25, high school teacher: "Women are as yet unprepared for suffrage. Candidates usually make too many irresponsible promises."

MATSUMURA, Sada, 28, open-air stallkeeper: "Economic control should be less stringent."

MORIYA, Shizue, 36, insurance office worker: "Under the present government, it is the honest people who suffer and the black-marketeers who live in luxury."

INOUYE, Kayo, 22,Kyodo News: "We need women parliamentarians of good quality. We want action rather than words."

MAEDA, Mitsu, 44: "Please facilitate the distribution of daily necessities."

ITEM 10 First National Assembly or 93rd Diet Session? - Nihon Keizai - 22 Apr 47. Translator: Y. Inoue. (WM)

Full Translation:

With the enforcement of the new constitution, JAPAN takes her first step as a peaceful nation. But what should the national assembly, tentatively scheduled to convene not later than 25 May, be called? Ordinarily, the coming special session would be called the 93rd session of the Diet, but it seems to have been unanimously decided among Diet authorities that it should be termed "the First Session of the National Assembly", as it is the first one to be held under the new constitution.

"The decision rests with the Diet itself and not with the Government. However, it is our opinion that the coming session should be called 'the First National Assembly' in keeping with the spirit of the new constitution," said State Minister KANAMORI and President IRIE of the Legislative Bureau.

DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12065 SECTION 3-402 / NNDG NO. 775015

## TIMES BOOK SHELF

"KOKKAI-RON"
(ESSAY ON THE NATIONAL DIET)
By Tokujiro Kanamori
Published by Bunjudo Publishing Company
4, Ginza Nishi 5-chome, Chuo Ward, Tokyo
Price: ¥25

The new Constitution undoubtedly marked a giant stride toward the democratization of Japan but although it is ultimately based on the aspirations of the entire Japanese people and was passed by a Diet representing the general will of the people after due deliberations, it cannot be claimed to be fully understood by the people at large. In spite of the fact that it was adopted in accordance with the will of the people, it is not adequately comprehended. That is the reason for what at first sight is a strange phenomenon, the existence of a Constitution Proselytizing Society or a movement to that end.

The democratization of a people is not to be accomplished in a day. In the introductory chapter of this book: "Essay on the National Diet," Mr. Kanamori says: "The Constitution is thought to be a supreme product of human thinking, based on the most advanced theory of the state in the world and this conviction is felt to be absolutely immutable." If the Constitution were a supreme product of human thinking, must it not be far removed from the popular masses that have not yet been completely democratized? Thus arises the need of proselytizing it among the people in spite of its being based on the general will of the people.

In this sense, Mr. Kanamori's "Essay on the National Diet" is to be recommended as a popular exposition of the National Diet which is the most important provision in the new Constitution. That such popularizing works should be published in large numbers and widely read is a most important factor for the democratization of the nation. If we are to be exacting, the book would have been better for a little more effort at popularization, an easier reading. But perhaps this is asking too much on a subject which is not popular in the sense of a story about murders, blackmarket operations or love. It would also have been desirable to price the book lower or even to circulate it free of charge if possible. Perhaps not all citizens, who are suffering from delayed rations and are compelled to buy foodstuffs on the blackmarket, can afford to pay ¥25 for a book on the Constitution. This is another aspect of the issue calling for the elimination of delayed food distribution.

Under the new Constitution, the National Diet is the supreme organ of the state. Even under the old Constitution, when party government was in flower, the Diet was in a way the supreme organ of the state. Although the Emperor supervised the whole range of government, actual government was in the hands of a Government that wielded the majority in the Diet and the Emperor was understood to accept the decisions of the Diet as binding at all times. In those days the Diet was the supreme organ of the state. But under the old Constitution its position was rather precarious, as it could be, or not, the supreme organ of the state depending on the mood of those in power. The new Constitution has eliminated the ambiguity, so that it is now indisputable that government will now be good or bad according as the National Diet is operated poorly or well. Party Cabinets under the old Constitution could not be said to have functioned ideally. The political parties placed party interests above national interests and were condemned for corrupt practices. How, then, should the National Diet be operated under the new Constitution? This problem is one that merits the deepest concern of the people and Mr. Tokujiro Kanamori, Minister of State without Portfolio, one of the authors of the new Constitution, is most qualified to speak on the subject. "Should the Diet function erroneously," he says, "the nation will suffer irreparable damage and the people visited by severe disasters."

The "Essay on the National Diet" offers a basic survey of the functions, organization and operation of the National Diet and treats of the important problem: how should it function?

Firstly, consideration is given to the question how the evils of party politics are to be eleminated. How is the rewarding of members by parties with Government positions to be prevented? How graft, such as in building contracts, is to be prevented? Is there no fear that the principle of public announcement of party expenses being reduced to a dead letter? These are some of the germane subjects covered in this section.

Secondly, there are raised such questions as: how are erroneous operations of the National Diet to be corrected? and how are arbitrary actions on the part of the Diet to be remedied? In some countries, the people possess the right to demand dissolution of the lower chamber or dismiss Representatives but in the new Japanese Constitution this method has not been adopted. Mr. Kanamori says in this connection: "So long as the National Legislature is given the supreme position in a strong and well-ordered country, it seems the soundest and most appropriate method to leave a room for suitable settlement by the political intelligence of the people without recourse to legal force." Nevertheless, the political intelligence of the people is a thing that is to be reared hereafter and Mr. Kanamori himself admits the "need of a thorough and careful political education." There is not totally absent the danger that the National Diet might run away in extremist directions before this political intelligence has been developed among the people and the masses might be swayed by shallow demagogy.

The foregoing has to do with the negative side of the question, that of preventing mismanagement of the Diet. A more important matter is the positive side of seeing to it that the Diet fulfils its functions as the supreme organ of the state. It is essential that the Diet should fix the supreme policies of state, frame bills and legislate them. Ideas as to how this should be done are not fully treated in this book but Mr. Kanamori suggests that members of the Diet should be better treated financially, in respect of equipment in the Diet and in the matter of time at their disposal. He proposes that means of research and legal counsel should be provided members of the Diet.

—TOKUJI AMAGI

MAINICHI APR 28 1947

DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12065 SECTION 3-402 / NNDG NO. 775015

ITEM 1 Diet will Meet on 20 May - Cabinet Resignation Postponed - Yomiuri, Mainichi and Asahi - 7 May 47. Translator: K. Higashikawa. (FST).

Summary:

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(YOMIURI) An Imperial Edict for the convocation of the new Diet on 20 May was promulgated at 1500 hours yesterday following its approval at yesterday's session of the Cabinet Council. The Imperial Edict follows:

"I, hereby, in accordance with Articles 7 and 54 of the Japanese Constitution and Article 1 of the National Diet Law, do convoke the special session of the National Diet in TOKYO on 20 May, 1947.

May 6, 1947 Sealed by His Majesty the Emperor Countersigned: Prime Minister"

The resignations of all the Cabinet Ministers were submitted yesterday afternoon to Premier YOSHIDA through Chief Cabinet Secretary HAYASHI who said: "We have decided to resign en bloc by gathering the resignations of all Cabinet Ministers. However, considering the fact that the Cabinet resignation is to take place in the wake of the enforcement of the new Constitution, the Cabinet will resign as speedily as possible and at the most opportune time after meticulously studying technical points."

At yesterday's Cabinet meeting it was decided that the time for the actual resignation of the Cabinet should be left entirely to the discretion of the Premier, although a strong opinion was voiced that the Cabinet should resign on 20 May. At the Cabinet Council which sat on 2 May, Premier YOSHIDA disclosed his intention to carry out the resignation of the Cabinet as soon as possible following the promulgation of the Imperial Edict on 6 May for the convocation of the new Diet. In accordance with the Premier's wishes, Chief Cabinet Secretary HAYASHI made necessary preparations for the impending Cabinet resignation. In fact, he prepared a Cabinet statement on the resignation. However, following the conference between the Premier and State Minister

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SHIDEHARA on the evening of 5 May, YOSHIDA told Chief Cabinet Secretary HAYASHI that the Cabinet resignation would be carried out at a proper time later on. Observers opine that the postponement of the Cabinet resignation is closely related with the delicate movements within the Democratic Party centering on its presidential issue.

(ASAHI) Diverse opinions were expressed as to the exact time the Cabinet should resign at yesterday's Cabinet council. Some of the Cabinet Ministers advocated a speedy resignation in order to expedite the work of organizing the next Cabinet under the leadership of the Social Democratic Party. Some others favored the resignation of the Cabinet on 20 May, the date of convocation of the new Diet, while others stressed the responsibility of the Cabinet to remain in the saddle until the work of organizing the next Cabinet makes tangible progress. The last argument was based on the grounds that a hasty Cabinet resignation might hinder administrative work. However, the opinion for the Cabinet to resign on 20 May gained influence. For this reason it is generally believed that the Cabinet will resign en bloc on 20 May.

In the meantime, to avoid any misunderstanding, the Government had the Chief Cabinet Secretary release a statement announcing that the Cabinet Ministers had already tendered their resignations and that the Cabinet would resign at an early date.

KATAYAMA To See Premier Tomorrow

(YOMIURI) Attaching great importance to the time when the Yoshida Cabinet actually resigns, KATAYAMA, Tetsu, president of the Social Democratic Party, decided to call on Premier YOSHIDA tomorrow at the latter's official residence to sound out his opinion on the formation of the next Cabinet. This decision was taken at the party's Central Executive Committee meeting held yesterday afternoon.

It is generally thought that a meeting of the four party heads will be held on 9 May. However, this meeting will depend on the outcome of the interview between KATAYAMA and Premier YOSHIDA. It was also decided that a thorough exchange of views will be made on the formation of the next Cabinet at the party's Central Committee meeting to be held today, and to leave everything to the discretion of the Central Committee. Some of the members of the party are of the opinion that if the Central Committee is allowed to fix certain conditions for the formation of the envisaged coalition cabinet, they may hinder the smooth progress of the coalition negotiations. Accordingly, leaders of the party are attaching great importance to what transpires at the Central Committee meeting today.

(MAINICHI) Following the Central Executive Committee meeting by the Social Democratic Party yesterday in the Diet building, MIZUTANI, Chosaburo, spokesman of the party, stated to the press as follows: "KATAYAMA will probably see Premier YOSHIDA to consult on a meeting of the "Big Four". If Premier YOSHIDA intends to

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403 take the initiative in calling the proposed meeting, KATAYAMA will probably leave it to him but if he asks KATAYAMA to call the meeting, the latter is ready to send invitations to the four party heads the same day."

(YOMIURI) On the basis of the decision reached at its Central Committee meeting held yesterday, the Federation of Tokyo To Workers Unions decided to make the following representation to the Central Committee meeting of the Social Democratic Party scheduled for today:

"In conformity with the wishes of the working class, it is hereby urged that the Social Democratic Party shall proceed with the work of organizing a coalition cabinet under the leadership of the Social Democratic Party and to exclude the Liberal Party with the ultimate objective of fulfilling the party's public promises."

It was also decided that all the unions under the wing of the Federation will make similar representations to the Social Democratic Party.

The Democratic Party

(YOMIURI) The Democratic Party is now confronted with an internal dissension centering around its presidency with one faction supporting State Minister SHIDEHARA and the other factions supporting SAITO and ASHIDA. Some 62 new Lower House members of the party met in conference yesterday and agreed to support ASHIDA for the party's president. On the other hand, former Diet members of the party affiliated with the SHIN SHIN Kai of the now defunct Progressive Party met in conference on the night of 5 May and reached an agreement to oppose the plan to nominate State Minister SHIDEHARA as the party's president. However, they seem to be inclined to support State Minister SAITO for the post on the grounds that the time is not yet fully ripe for the nomination of ASHIDA as the head of the party. State Ministers HITOTSUMATSU, TANAKA and KIMURA are still staunchly supporting State Minister SHIDEHARA for the job.

State Minister TANAKA is keeping in close touch with the Liberal Party with a view to having SHIDEHARA as the premier of the next Cabinet through the merger of the Liberal and the Democratic Parties. However, it is generally believed that the assumption of the presidency of the Democratic Party by SHIDEHARA is hopeless.

At a meeting of the managers of the party held yesterday, a resolution aagainst Premier YOSHIDA pointing out the "unfair play" of the Screening Committee was passed in the presence of State Ministers SHIDEHARA, HITOTSUMATSU and TANAKA. This move is interpreted as a silent protest against the State Ministers, including SHIDEHARA, affiliated with the party.

Some 43 new Lower House members of the party met in conference yesterday at the party's headquarters to discuss the issue of the president of the party, and the following agreement was reached: (1) The president of the party shall be speedily decided, (2) the president of the party shall be

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chosen from among those who are capable of powerfully translating the spirit and principle of the organization of the party and (3) the president shall be chosen from among the party members.

ONO, Bamboku, director-general of the Liberal Party, visited Premier YOSHIDA at the Foreign Minister's official residence in SHIBA Ku and talked for 40 minutes on the political situation. Following the interview ONO conferred with Chief Cabinet Secretary HAYASHI at the Premier's official residence.

(MAINICHI) What is considered most disadvantageous to the Shidehara group on the controversial issue of the presidency of the Democratic Party is the fact that the Saito and the Ashida factions have reached a complete agreement of views to oust the former. In this connection it is interesting to note that some 40 former Diet members of the party met in conference on the night of 5 May at Koya Restaurant at NINGYOCHO, and passed the following resolution: (1) every effort shall be made for the establishment of a national regime, (2) not a single one of the three major parties shall be left out of the coalition cabinet and (3) the position of the Social Democratic Party as the leading party shall be fully respected.

The participants in this meeting included members of the three groups -- the Shidehara, Saito and the Ashida factions -- but the majority of them were of the latter two factions. Although the Saito and Ashida factions are acting as one against SHIDEHARA the two groups are divided in the question of whether ASHIDA or SAITO shall be president. Leaders of the Ashida group belong to the SHIN SHIN KAI of the now defunct Progressive Party and are attempting to ostracise SHIDEHARA due to ideological differences. Although this group respects SAITO, it is of the opinion that in order for the Democratic Party to make progress they must have as party president a man like ASHIDA who has youthfulness. The Saito faction thinks that SAITO knows politics and has his hand on the pulse of the nation; that ASHIDA joined the party only recently, and it is unreasonable for him to become the president in complete disregard of SAITO.

Both the Saito and Ashida groups are of the opinion that the Shidehara group may walk out of the party if it pleases but they agree that they will not split because they feel that only a few members will act jointly with the Shidehara group. However, the influence of the Shidehara group cannot be slighted. It still remains to be seen how many of the new Lower House members of the party will align themselves with the latter group and the views of the Upper House members of the party on the question are not quite clear. Moreover, the satelites of SHIDEHARA are veteran statesmen and know the ins and outs of party politics. Accordingly, developments that may be made in the course of the next few days are awaited with much interest.

Two resolutions calling for fair play and justice in the decisions of the Central Screening Committee were passed by a meeting of the managers of the Democratic Party yesterday and submitted on the same day to the Premier and Education Minister TANAKA by TOMAMEJI, FUKUDA, OGAWA, YONEDA and NISHIYAMA. The

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ITEM 1 (Continued)

resolution handed to the Premier reads: (1) The Central Screening Committee shall be composed of fair and just judges, (2) purge suspects shall be given an opportunity to defend themselves on the cases involved, (3) the same applies to the Appeal Committee, (4) the relations between the Central Screening Committee and the Appeal Committee shall be clarified and (5) the decisions of the Appeal Committee shall be retroactive. The resolution handed to Education Minister TANAKA contained the following clause in addition to those embodied in the resolution handed to the Premier: justice shall be sought in the functioning of the Teachers Screening Committee.

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H03 House of Representatives and House of Councillors voted to hold 50-day session terminating 8 July. 23 MAY 1947

Daily Radio Ct

H03 Press reported Prime Minister Yoshida is urging House of Representatives secretariat to convene Diet prior to 20 May. Chief cabinet secretary Joji Hayashi told press that it may be possible to advance convocation date by curtailing procedures involved. Hayashi said cabinet has not yet decided whether to resign when Imperial Rescript ordering Diet convocation is issued or to wait until after legislature has assembled. 2 MAY 1947

Daily Radio Ct

H03 Emperor yesterday issued following edict convoking National Diet on 20 May: 7 MAY 1947

"I, hereby, in accordance with Articles 7 and 54 of the Japanese Constitution and Article 1 of the National Diet Law, do convoke the special session of the National Diet in Tokyo on May 20 1947."

Daily Radio Ct

403 First National Diet under new Constitution convened 20 May.

Following organization of Diet first order of business will be the election of speakers and vice-speakers of two houses after which legislators will receive nominations for premiership. 20 MAY 1947

Daily Radio Ct

403 First session of National Diet, which will be convened 20 May, will recess ~~after~~ nominating next prime minister, for ten or fifteen days until new cabinet is designated. 13 MAY 1947

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ITEM 1 The Diet and the Masses by Hosoya, Shota - Magazine: Hyoron (Monthly) - Mar 47 Issue. Translator: K. Sugasawa. (UG)

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Summary:

In postwar JAPAN, labor movements have been identified with mass strife stimulated by slogans demanding the overthrow of the conservative and reactionary Government. This has caused conservative critics and even some of the old-line labor leaders to censure the movements for manifesting a tendency toward totalitarianism. However, if we study the actual state of the political world which compelled the workers to resort to such movements, it can readily be shown that the above-mentioned opinion is erroneous.

Oddly enough, political power is still in the hands of the former ruling classes despite their responsibility for the defeat. The Diet seems to have been democratized, but most of the political parties consist of representatives from the remaining militarists, ZAIBATSU, bureaucrats and other feudalistic factions. There are many anti-democratic politicians in the right wing of the Social Democratic Party. These bureaucrats are attempting to burden the working people with all the costs of the defeat in order to maintain their own positions.

In the midst of the advancing revolution, the people are forced to cope with violent changes in their living conditions, but the parliamentary government, which is now handled by the ruling classes, does very little to assist the working people in protecting their livelihood. I believe the workers' offensive outside the Diet is filling this gap left by existing parliamentary rule. In order to secure the right to live, it was absolutely necessary for the working people to start this form of struggle.

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At present when the Diet has not yet been completely democratized, it is reactionary to deny the significance of such a fight by the masses and to assert that the democratization of JAPAN should be carried out only through parliamentary government. As a matter of fact, the present reactionary Cabinet is undoubtedly backed by a conservative Diet. Since it is a prerequisite to the true democratization of our country that the working people should understand the spirit of democracy, we must attach importance to this struggle of the masses.

For the establishment of a democratic Government and the peaceful conclusion of the present revolution, the laboring classes should conduct a mass struggle as well as continue their political effort in the Diet. Inasmuch as they lack the support of any powerful parties, I believe that this form of offensive outside the Diet is an effective means of protecting their interests within its walls.

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ITEM 2 Diet Members in Dilemma between Parties and Unions - Nihon Keizai - 7 May 47. Translator: T. Ono. (FST).

Full Translation:

With regard to their Diet activities, 21 members of the House of Councillors and 13 members of the House of Representatives who were elected under labor unions' recommendation, are now in a dilemma. These men are faced with the problem of whether to follow the policies of their affiliated parties -- or those of labor unions. Particularly, members who are affiliated with the Social Democratic and the Communist Parties are in a precarious position. These parties insist that Diet activities be determined by the policies of the parties while labor unions asserts that they should act according to resolutions of labor unions or of the National Federation of Labor Unions.

As a result, the Committee for Overthrowing the Yoshida Cabinet is expected to call a conference of those members of both Houses and representatives of labor unions before the convocation of the National Diet to deliberate on concrete plans relative to Diet activities and liaison with outside groups.

ITEM 3 Independent Councillors Begin to Organize - Asahi - 8 May 47. Translator: B. Ishibashi. (TK).

Full Translation:

With the convocation of the first national Diet drawing near, moves of the 118 independent councillors in the Upper House, including those who are affiliated with minor parties, are attracting public interest since their action will be a decisive factor in shaping the character of the House.

Among the independent councillors, SASAKI, Ryosaku, vice-chairman of the Struggle Committee of the Electric Workers Union, and 14 to 15 other persons can be grouped with the Social Democratic and Communist Parties, and some others are considered as being affiliated with the Liberal and the Democratic Parties. Roughly 80 persons, the rest of the independent councillors, are assuming a purely independent stand, and their moves for formation of a bargaining group have gradually come to the surface.

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ITEM 3 (Continued)

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More than 20 councillors, who were formerly members of the House of Peers, including TOKUGAWA, Munetaka, met for the first time at the Speaker's official residence Tuesday evening. Some stressed that party influence should be avoided in the Upper House in view of that body's mission and that independent councillors should unite to form an influential bargaining group. However, others favored forming of small factions similar to those in the old House of Peers. Therefore, no final decision could be made at the meeting.

The Social Democrats formed their councillors group in the Upper House on 5 May, and the other parties including the Liberal and the Democratic Parties are following this pattern by selecting managers and bargaining committeemen for the purpose of effecting connection with the Lower House and factions other than their own in the Upper House. Thus, moves of the Upper House have gradually become active, centering around the election of the speaker and vice-speaker of the House and the nomination of the next premier by the Diet.

ITEM 3 Diet To Recess Briefly after Naming of Premier - Yomiuri Shimbun - 12 May 47. Translator: F. Hagiwara. (FST)

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Full Translation:

The Imperial edict of 6 May ordered the convocation of the first Diet session under the new Constitution on 20 May. Preparations for the convocation of the Diet are now in progress.

However, in many respects, the National Diet will not follow the precedents of the old Diet since it will function under a new system and set of prodecures. Many questions have arisen and individuals concerned are carefully studying the matter since action taken now will set predecents for the future.

In the Lower House, representatives of all parties will hold a joint cancus in the Speaker's reception chamber at 1030 hours today, OIKE, interim chief official of the House of Representatives, will present a tentative plan for National Diet procedure. Indications are that the Diet will recess after the designation of the Premier and reconvene during the last ten days of June.

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ITEM 3 Party Coloring of the House of Councillors Deepens - Yomiuri - 6 May 47. Translator: B. Ishibashi. (FST).

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Full Translation:

Whether the House of Councillors will, in the face of the approaching convocation of the national Diet, be organized along distinct party lines or formed into semi-club factions similar to those in the old House of Peers is attracting public interest. As a partial answer to this question, it is reported that the Social Democrats have formed a Social Democratic Councillors group at their meeting held yesterday at the Diet building. MATSUMOTO, Jiichiro; OKADA, Soshi; YOSHIKAWA, Saejiro and ONO, Koichi were appointed managers. The group decided to use the third caucus room as their headquarters. Similar faction-forming trend is also noted among councillors of the Liberal, the Democratic, the Peoples Co-operative and the Communist Parties.

Among the 104 independent councillors, it is felt that those whose connections with parties are deep-rooted will probably join such moves of their respective interests. Prior to this, however, a formation of a unified, bargaining group was attempted by 36 members of the old House of Peers. However, this move failed in view of the afore-mentioned trend of all parties in which councillors of the old DOSEI KAI and KOYU KAI will go over to the Democratic and the Liberal Parties respectively. Thus, the party coloring of the House of Councillors is expected to become deeper as the convocation day of the national Diet draws nearer.

Some of the independent councillors are actively moving toward the formation of a farmers party headed by former Agricultural Minister WADA, while others, including MATSUDAIRA, Tsuneo, who is reported to be one of the most powerful candidates for speaker of the House, are expected to assume purely independent position with the result that a few super-party factions will also come into existence.

ITEM 6 Newly-Elected Diet Members Must Sever Ties With Union - Mimpo - 30 Apr 47. Translator: T. Ito.

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Summary:

Government officials newly-elected to the Diet are confronted with the problem of resigning from office in their respective labor unions in order to assure their new Diet posts as specified in Article 39 of the Parliamentary Law. The National Federation of Government Railway Workers Union with a membership of 530,000, succeeded in getting chairman SUZUKI, Vice-chairman UCHIMURA, and NAKAMURA, Masao, chairman of the Osaka Executive Committee elected to the councillorship, but now is aggrieved over regulations which demand immediate resignation of these men from their present offices. Countermeasures to solve this perplexing situation are under discussion by both the railway administration and the labor organization. The labor leaders discussed the following two possibilities at a committee meeting on 28 April: either to retain contact with the labor organization as advisors, or to initiate a movement for the exemption of operative branches of the government, such as railways and communications, from the restrictions of Article 39.

Director INO of the Railway Bureau has ordered that the three officials in question immediately tender their resignations, but KONISHI, Tokuji, chief of the Railway Labor Union's Election Section stressed the fact that although the administration demands immediate resignation of the three newly elected Diet members, they must, in some way, maintain their relations with the labor organization in order to represent the labor class. Chief ONO of the Government Railways Personnel Section asserted that government officials of the third rank and above must resign in order to assume their government posts, and that only non-official positions without pay are permissible for those of high rank.

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ITEM 3 Have the Duds All Been Fired? - Seiji - 25 May 47. Translator: J. Woda. (FST)

Summary:

The Diet has finally designated Mr KATAYAMA as the next premier. However, the decision on KATAYAMA's premiership does not necessarily insure the immediate formation of a Katayama Cabinet.

It is reported that the Liberals and the Democrats are reluctant to offer ready co-operation in the formation of such a cabinet. It cannot be that the Socialists are unfamiliar with the complicated intra-party difficulties of the parties concerned. Have they been over-confident of success in demanding the premiership, then?

It seems that the political situation has been made even more complicated by the designation of Katayama as premier. It is not impossible that all negotiations must start anew with new ideas.

It is gratifying that the latest declaration by General MacARTHUR in favor of Premier KATAYAMA has thrown light upon the future of cabinet formation, and eliminating hitherto prevailing unfounded rumors. Are the Liberals still willing to remain the opposition? How will the Democrats settle their internal strife? The political situation is far from settled.

The attitude of the Diet toward this problem, also, has revealed a lack of responsibility. "The designation of a premier falls under the responsibility of the Diet, but the settlement of the political situation is not our business", has been the Diet's manner of conduct. The first Diet session under the new Constitution is close to being degraded by dishonorable conspiracy. It is fortunate that the conspiracy has been dud.

EDITORIAL SERIES: 1717

ITEM 1 Elevate the Authority of the National Diet - Tokyo Shimbun - 26 May 47. Translator: K. Onishi. (FST)

Summary:

The first session of the National Diet under the new Constitution made a very clumsy beginning. The people must have been disappointed to see that the new Diet is an arena of wiles and tactics just as the old one was. Even the importance of naming the premier and the complication resulting from the approximate parity of power among the three parties cannot justify the clumsy proceedings we have so far witnessed. This is no doubt prejudicial to the prestige of the new National Diet. The Diet is not only the supreme organ of state power but it is also the sole legislature. It will be of grave importance if the Diet creates doubts of its authority and power to execute its functions.

The WEIMAR Constitution, established after the World War I, was a most progressive one at that time. However, since political parties were addicted to mere collaboration, the Parliament lost its authority, and the German people were disillusioned. This was one of the main reasons NAZISM gained power.

The National Diet under the new Constitution must be perfect in its authority. All political parties and individual members are responsible for assuming this. A discussion of problem by men of different political views should be conducted in such a manner that decisions of the Diet are always authoritative. Wiles, tactics or mere debates will do nothing but spoil the prestige of the National Diet.

Moreover, since the Diet is the sole legislature, it is necessary that the members have sufficient knowledge as specialists. Every member should be studious in order that the new Diet may fulfillits proper functions. Whether the National Diet can be truly authoritative or not depends upon the questions of how it executes its power, how it makes its resolution authoritative and how it democratizes its operation.

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ITEM 13 Problem of Speaker of Lower House - Mainichi - 22 May 47. Translator: F. Noda. (GBS)

Full Translation:

The question concerning the choice of speaker and vice-speaker of the Lower House was brought up at the four-party conference on 20 May and at the Inter-party Negotiating Conference on 21 May. However, since the problem is linked with the settlement of the premiership and the formation of a coalition Cabinet, the matter remained unsolved despite heated controversies.

Accordingly, the Democratic Party has decided to suggest to the Socialist and Liberal Parties that the problem of the speaker be settled immediately and separately from other matters. The party mapped out a tentative plan, proposing that the speaker be chosen from the Socialist Party and the vice-speaker from the Democratic Party. When SHIDEHARA brought this proposal to Premier YOSHIDA, the latter said that he would first refer it to a committee meeting and try to solve it at once.

Meanwhile ASHIDA reported this proposal to the Socialist Party, which decided to accept it following discussion at a Central Executive Committee meeting. As candidate for speaker, the party will first recommened MATSUOKA, Komakichi and secondly, YONEKUBO, Mitsusuke. The names of the nominees will be immediately forwarded to MATSUOKA, who is now away, to get his consent. The Socialists feel that the problem of the vice-speaker should be settled by the Liberal and Democratic Parties.

The Liberal Party held a committee meeting at 1850 hours to remind its members that the Socialist Party had promised the Liberals the speaker's post provided the Liberals recognize KATAYAMA's assumption of the premier-ship. It was decided that the Liberal Party will continue to demand the speaker's post and will recommend YAMAZAKI, Takeo. If the Socialists should break their promise, the party may have to reject KATAYAMA's nomination, although it hates to break its word. ONO, Liberal Secretary-general reported this agreement to the Socialist Party.

The Socialist Party immediately held another Central Executive Committee meeting. It was decided that the party would counter-propose that instead of having the Liberal Party assume the speaker's post, the election of the speaker and the premier should be held simultaneously on 21 May. At 2030 hours, Secretary-general NISHIO made this known to Secretary-general ONO. On the other hand, President ASHIDA, of the Democratic Party made another proposal to the Socialists. Thus the problem of the speaker is nearing solution, although it is becoming more involved with the premiership issue.

ITEM 7 Ex-Secretary-General Kobayashi Elected Chief Secretary of Upper House - Mainichi - 22 May 47. Translator: K. Morita. (DD)

Full Translation:

On 21 May, at 1550 hours, plenary session of the House of Councillors was opened. Revising the order of the day by leaving the problem of the number of standing committee members to the chairman, the members began the election for the chief secretary of the House. When AMADA, Katsumasa, Social Democrat, made a motion to renew the chief secretary he was opposed by OGAWA, Tomozo, member of the Green-Wind Society (RYOKUFU-KAI), who claimed that the post should not be changed. Rejecting the motion for a recess, they completed the election with the following results: Total votes cast: 225; KOBAYASHI, Jiro 159 votes; KONDO, Hideoki, six; SUZUKI, Yasuzo, one. The remaining votes were declared invalid.

Accordingly, KOBAYASHI, Jiro, ex-Secretary-general of the House of Peers was appointed the chief-secretary. The session was closed at 1625 hours.

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ITEM 14 Provisional Rules for House of Representatives - Tokyo Times - 12 May 47. Translator: Paasche. (UG)

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Summary:

In preparation for its first session under the new Constitution, the House of Representatives, at its 92nd session, drew up provisional rules for the operation of the Lower House, completely reforming its procedure. These rules are, however, of a temporary nature and will be subject to renewed discussion by the House after the special session. Along with the new rules for the House of Councillors they will complete the rules of procedure for the new Diet.

Provisional rules have been adopted for the special session to be convened on 20 May for the election of the speaker and vice-speaker, governing the length of the session, the election of committee members and the important tasks of designating the Premier and opening the session. Old rules which are not at variance with the new Constitution, the Diet Law and the said provisional rules, will remain valid until permanent rules for the House of Representatives are drawn up.

According to Art 17 of the Provisional Rules for the House of Representatives, the Premier is to be elected by a single ballot system, with a majority required for election. If nobody obtains more than 50 percent of the votes, a new vote is taken on the two persons who have gathered the greatest number of votes. The person then drawing the greatest number of ballots will be designated as Premier. In the event of a tie, lots will be drawn. Apart from the casting of ballots, the Premier can also be designated by other means, eg, by the introduction of a motion.

ITEM 3 First National Diet to Open Tomorrow - Mainichi - 19 May 47. Translator: U. Futonaka. (TK)

Full Translation:

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On the eve of the convocation of the First National Diet, basic activities for the formation of a coalition cabinet are expected to be brought to a temporary conclusion today, thus adjusting the current political situation for the opening of the new Diet.

Prior to the convocation of the Diet, Premier YOSHIDA will proceed to the Imperial Palace and offer his resignation to the Emperor. All members of both the Upper and the Lower Houses are to assemble at the Diet building by 1000 hours and commence proceedings for the day of convocation. To begin with, the speaker and vice-speakers are decided by election. The elected speaker and vice-speakers will then make inaugural addresses. Which are expected to be delivered by TAGAWA, Daikichiro in the House of Representatives and by KISO, Sanshiro in the House of Councillors.

After the designation of seats, the sessions will be recessed. In the course of this recess the speakers of both Houses will confer on the term of the present session, which will be decided at subsequent sessions. Decision will follow on the number of the standing committee members, who will be nominated by the speakers, and whose chairmen will be decided by election. The election of secretaries-general will come next. As a final procedure, the premiership will be decided by open single ballots. In addition, the opening ceremony is scheduled to be held immediately after the resumption of the next session.

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ITEM 6 Diet Members Discontented with Movements of Leaders - Mimpo - 23 May 47. Translator: M. Ota. (JJY)

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Summary:

The National Assembly was convened but did not go into session due to the complicated problem of selecting a speaker and vice-speaker of the Lower House. This is because the Liberal Party, which had been advocating the formation of a coalition cabinet as the best measure to tide over the present crisis, changed its attitude just before the opening of the National Assembly by stating that the party will not join a Socialist-headed coalition cabinet unless the left-wing elements are eliminated from the party. Liberal, Democratic, Socialist, and Peoples Co-operative Diet members put the blame for this gloomy and ambiguous political situation on their leaders who are conducting maneuvers among themselves without notifying these Diet members of the progress of negotiations.

The Liberal Party held a secret Diet members meeting on 21 May. Its Diet members demanded that Premier YOSHIDA inform them of his true intention in regard to the recent demand presented to the Socialist Party and his view on the relationship between the left-wing elements and the Communist Party.

President YOSHIDA asked for their approval on the attitude taken by himself and other leaders by explaining the internal and external conditions. Though some of the Diet members rebuked their leaders for their dictatorial attitude, they finally decided to remain as an opposition.

The Democratic Diet members are dissatisfied with the attitude of the Liberal Party. SHIIKUMA, Saburo, a member of the negotiation committee, criticized the Liberal Party for their lack of sincerity on the issue of selecting the speaker.

TANAKA, Sumio, member from NIIGATA, stated: "It is difficult to understand the true intention of the Liberal Party, which had once signified agreement with the other parties on the formation of a coalition cabinet. The details of the negotiations are kept from us. We should not leave the problem in the hands of the leaders alone. All the members should collectively make efforts to tide over the critical situation."

The Socialist Diet members are also excited at the attitude of their leaders as well as the action taken by the Liberal Party. On 20 May KAMATSU and other younger Diet members demanded that DOI, Naosaku, parliamentary official, fully inform them of the progress of negotiations. DOI promised to hold a Diet members meeting to make a report on the negotiations.

According to the Peoples Co-operative Party, a cause for the chaotic situation is found in the Democratic Party's false propaganda that many of the members are leaving the Democratic Party.

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ITEM 5 Control of National Diet by the People Urged - Sekai Nippo - 30 May 47. Translator: M. Ohno. (DD)

Summary:

The people are responsible for the behaviour of the present political parties and politicians in the Diet since the people voted for them. However, none of the people voted approval of political blackmarketing and precedence of party interests over the people's welfare.

Although the sovereignty rests in the people, they must always obey the national Diet because it is the highest organ of national power and the only legislature of the State. Even if a Diet member bolts from his party and joins another party, the voters cannot take any action against him because they do not have any legal rights except to express their opinion through elections. We, of course, approve of the Diet as the highest organ of national power and the only legislature of the State, and welcome party politics. However, we have been afraid from the first that we would have to control the political parties and politicians at the initial stage. Unfortunately, our fears have already been realized.

In an interview with newspaper correspondents on 26 May, a SCAP representative from the Government Section emphasized the necessity of the abolition of the bureaucratic system. The people who are all thoroughly disgusted with the present corrupt government officials will heartily agree with him. However, as long as the Diet, political parties, and politicians, who are responsible for the politics of new JAPAN in place of the old bureaucrats, remain in the present state, the abolition of the bureaucratic system will end in failure.

If the Constitution is revised in view of the actual results within this year, of new system with which the people can check the misconducts of the Diet, political parties, and politicians must be established.

ITEM 6 Diet Scheduled to Reconvene - Yomiuri - 3 Jun 47. Translator: K. Hirata (FST)

Full Translation:

A plenary session of the Labor House is scheduled to be opened at 1500 hours today. A recess will be called after the nomination of standing committee members and the election of committee heads.

It has been decided that the House will adjourn until 22 June and hold its opening ceremony on 23 June. This decision was made in compliance with the Government's wish at the negotiation conference of parties held yesterday.

ITEM 6 House of Councillors Must Maintain Dignity - Jiji - 28 May 47. Translator: K. Onishi. (JJY)

Summary:

The structure and authority of the House of Councillors are different from those of the former House of Peers. But this does not mean that it may dispense with the graceful gravity of the old Upper House. On the contrary, it must enhance the old graces. Its principal function is to check the excesses and despotism of the House of Representatives. In regard to authority, however, it can never stand on an equal footing with the other. This is why the House of Councillors should be noble in character and thoughtful in judgment. If it should prove to be inferior to the old House of Peers on these vital points the people would be disillusioned.

The upper house is called the senate in foreign countries and its literal meaning suggests that its members should be elderly men, matured in experience and steady and prudent in judgment, so that they can check the precipitancy and imprudence of the lower house. The members of the House of Councillors must be aware of the true purport of setting up the bicameral system under the new Constitution.

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ITEM 3 How Will the New Diet Function? - Tokyo Shimbun - 6 May 47
Translator: S. Hirata (GBS)

Full Translation:

Based upon the new constitution providing for the sovereignty of the people, the National Diet - now the highest unit of state power - is scheduled to start its life anew around 20 May as the sole organ for legislation in JAPAN. Under the old constitution, the Imperial Diet was no more than a council to assist Imperial rule. The Legislative power was vested in the Emperor. The Government, too, was only allowed to legislate Imperial emergency decrees, ordinances and governmental regulations in the name of the Emperor. As a result, the Diet was by no means the sole legislative organ, and the supreme power of the state resided in the Emperor. In addition, the government enforced the budget for the preceding fiscal year in an arbitrary way, and it was allowed to make extraordinary disbursements or emergency disposals of the reserve funds.

Under the new Constitution, however, all these types of legislative and administrative powers on the part of the government have been denied, with the result that the Diet alone has become the legislative organ. The power to conclude treaties, that has heretofore belonged to the prerogatives of the Emperor, is impossible without the consent of the Diet. Furthermore, the Diet has the power to designate the premier or to impeach judges, and the sovereignty of the people is centered around the Diet as the representative organ of the people. Thus, the status of the Diet has been affirmed as the highest organ of the state, superior to both the administrative and the judicial powers, in fact as well as in name. The budget for the cost of the Diet amounting to 140,000,000 yen has also been newly compiled. Then, let us see how the new Diet with such extensive powers will function.

Convocation

The first Diet session under the new constitution is to be a special session for the purpose of designating the succeeding premier. Under the new charter, "the cabinet must resign en bloc when the Diet is convoked for the first time after the general elections;" the cabinet should convoke the Diet within 30 days from the date of the general elections; and "the Premier is to be designated from among the members of the Diet by the Diet." The Yoshida cabinet is accordingly

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ITEM 3 (Continued)

expected to resign en bloc soon after it proclaims, on 6 March, the Imperial Decree on the opening of the Diet,

The Social Democratic Party, which has become the first party as a result of the general elections, will immediately set about the business of forming the next cabinet based upon a coalition of various political parties. It is expected that everything will be made ready for the nomination of the succeeding premier in order that the Diet may be convened around 20 May. In conformity with the advice and attestation of the cabinet, the convocation of the Diet is to be conducted by the Emperor, for the sake of formality, on behalf of the people.

The Opening of the Session

It was formerly considered that the convocation of the Diet was one thing and the opening of the session was another. That is to say, the so-called procedures for organizing the Diet were considered necessary as preparations for the opening of the session following the convocation of the Diet, e.g. designation of the presidents and vice presidents and the allocation of Diet seats and sections. After these steps were taken the Emperor attended the opening ceremony in person in order to command the opening of the session. As a result the Diet was prohibited from operating before the opening ceremony, which alone could make its business legal.

Under the new constitution, however, the Emperor is merely to convoke the Diet and not order the opening of the session. Moreover, since it is provided for by the National Diet Law that "the length of the Diet session shall be counted from the date of convocation," the convocation is construed at once as the opening of the session.

Election of the President and the Vice-president

Members of both Houses are to assemble at 1000 hours on convocation day at the Diet to have their certificates for membership checked and also to select the president and the vice-president by secret ballot. In this election, the chief secretary of the Diet during the preceding Diet session is to act as president by proxy. In case the candidates from the various political parties fail to win a majority of the votes, a run-off election will be held in the Houses.

Widely talked of as promising candidates for the first speakership in the House of Representatives are ASANUMA and TAGAWA, Social Democrats; former Speaker YAMAZAKI, and Home Minister UEHARA, Liberals. In the event that

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ITEM 3 (Continued)

an agreement is reached by the various political parties, this election will be omitted.

Decision Upon the Length of Session

Following the election of the president and vice-president, the length of the session will be decided on. Under the new Diet Law, the ordinary session covers a period of 350 days and "the length of an extraordinary or special session shall be determined by an agreement reached jointly by the two Houses". Consequently, when the two Houses fail to reach an agreement, the Lower House decision is to be final. The forthcoming session of the Diet is expected to cover a considerably long period.

Chairmen of the Standing Committees

Next, at the designation of the president, the election of various standing committeemen will be held. There were, heretofore, only five standing committees: budget, accounts, petition, discipline and proposal (screening in the House of Peers). The National Diet Law, however, provides for the institution of 21 standing committees: foreign affairs, peace, local system, land planning, justice, education, culture, welfare, labor, agriculture and forestry, marine products, commerce, mining and industry, electricity, transportation, traffic, communications, finance, budget, accounts, Diet operation, library operation and discipline. Each and every member "shall be appointed a member of at least one standing committee" and he is to remain in office during his tenure of office; and "shall deliberate on each bill, petition, etc, within his jurisdiction."

In addition to these standing committees each House has the power to institute special commissions" in order to probe into special affairs outside the jurisdiction of the standing committees." Since the standing committees have been organized as permanent organs for permanent investigation according to various departments, there is no longer the need of organizing a special committee for each bill as in the past. Each committee is also newly vested with power to reject a bill submitted to it. The number of committeemen "shall be fixed in proportion to that of members of various political parties."

OIKE and KOBAYASHI, former chief secretaries of the Administrative Offices of the Lower and Upper Houses, respectively, will probably be selected as new chiefs again, in the elections of the administrative office chiefs to be held.

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ITEM 3 (Continued)

Designation of the Premier

Thus, with the completion of the internal organization, both Houses are to set about the business of designating the premier. The issue of who will be designated, a Social Democrat or a conservative, depends upon the development of the coalition scheme following the general resignation of the Yoshida Government. Since in all events, the premier is to be designated from among the Diet members by a joint vote of the two Houses, the spirit of the new cabinet system, with the people's representatives choosing the premier, is represented most directly in this designation.

The premier may well be selected from among the Upper House members as far as the new constitution is concerned. Nevertheless, it is but right and proper from a logical standpoint that he should be elected from among the Lower House members. The superiority of the House of Representatives is recognized by the new charter, which provides, "If the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors disagree and if no agreement can be reached even through a joint committee of both Houses, the decision of the House of Representatives shall be the decision of the Diet." A single, open ballot will be adopted as the method of designation. When nobody succeeds in polling a majority, the decision will be made by a run-off election between the two men in the first and second places. The Lower House speaker will then report to the Emperor through the cabinet and an investiture of the premier is to be conducted by the Emperor "in accordance with the designation of the Diet."

The Opening Ceremony

Thus, for the first time, at the request of the presidents of the two Houses, the opening ceremony will be held in the presence of the Emperor. Because of better facilities, the ceremony will be held at the House of Councillors building. The chairmanship at the opening ceremony will be filled by the speaker of the Lower House. This program is expected to be finished in a few days after the convocation if nothing unforeseen occurs. After this the Diet takes a spontaneous recess, so to speak, for a short while. The premier, during this recess, is to hurry the formation of the cabinet, appoint state ministers to be attested by the Emperor and hold cabinet conferences to study administrative policies or bills to be introduced before the Diet in preparations for the Diet session. As a consequence it will be June before the Diet settles down to business in earnest. There will be no closing ceremony.

(By S.Y., reporter)

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ITEM 12 Matsuoka, Komakichi, New Lower House Speaker - Asahi, Nihon Keizai, Jiji - 23 May 47. Translator: H. Furukawa. (GBS)

Summary:

MATSUOKA, Komakichi, a Socialist who was elected speaker of the Lower House in the first session of the Diet, is an old man of 60, but as healthy and energetic as a youth. He became an apprentice in the naval arsenal at MAIZURU when 16, and at 30, assumed the post of chief of the OSAKA Branch of the Friendship Society (YUAI KAI) which later developed into the present JAPAN Federation of Labor. As his career indicates, he was a laborer himself, having operated a lathe in several factories, and has devoted his life to the labor movement.

On Thursday morning, the new Speaker made this statement "The National Diet under the new Constitution is the supreme and sole law-making organ of the state, and accordingly, it is vested with a power and responsibility incomparably greater than that of the Diet in former days. Whether it is successful or not will determine the future of the nation and the people. The success of a perfect democratic government, which is the goal of the entire Japanese population at present, depends solely on the functioning of the new Diet. At the beginning of the first session of the new Diet, I am firmly determined, as Speaker of the Lower House, to do my utmost toward the realization of the ideal of democracy under the spirit of the new Constitution. It is my earnest desire that all the members of the House and the people co-operate wish me in attaining this goal".

While the new Speaker was chatting with visitors, ARABATA, Kanson, a prominent leader of the left-wing Socialists, was asked by the editor to say something about the new Speaker. He complied by saying, "Mr MATSUOKA is a very cautious man, and will not undertake any drastic steps. He is also a stannch opponent of communism, and whether it may be good or not, a typical conservative in this regard. Personally, I think it is better for him to be the Speaker than a state minister."

ITEM 4 Liberal Diet Members Censure Leadership - Yomiuri Shimbun - 9 May 47. Translation: K. Sasaki. (TK)

Full Translation:

Liberal Party Diet members held a meeting at 1300 hours yesterday at their party headquarters to discuss problems concerning the present political situation. KIMURA, Kohei, SEKO, Koichi and TAKAHASHI, Eikichi expressed their opinions. The meeting seemed to assume the attitude initiated by Secretary-general ONO that the "general situation will work out favorable for our party if we watch developments quietly from the sidelines."

However, SEKO pointed out the fact that party executives had not yet formally called a general meeting while they were facing such an important question as the organization of a new regime. He clearly expressed dissatisfaction toward the party leadership, and this was considered significant as it reflected the general atmosphere within the party.

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ITEM 11 Trend in Newly-Formed House of Councillors - Mainichi - 13 May 47. Translator: J. Weiller. (GBS)

Full Translation:

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Attention is being paid to the new House of Councillors in relation to its possible characteristics and method of

ITEM 11 (Continued)

have liberal political ideas, the proposed organization will be hard to realize.

As a result of the above meeting the members of the Liberal and Democratic Parties have decided to adopt party organizations. The independents have had to turn their attention to club organizations, culminating in the movement to form an Independent Club (tentative) under the sponsorship of such eminent members as TANAKA, Kotaro, WADA, Hiroo, MATSUDAIRA, Hideo, SATO, Naotake, KAWAI, Yahachi, and YAMAMOTO, Yuzo. If it is materialized it will become the central group of independents, in view of the reputations of the components.

Serve as Balance

Because many independents were not under obligations to political parties when they ran in the election and in view of their capacity as delegates of various bodies, they will take a non-party stand. They are expected to examine the actual merits of each political question. Therefore, although their proposed society will appear to be much like a social gathering, it will concentrate its force on political issues and serve as a balance in deciding the political course of the House. In any case, since organizations based on party colors are to come into existence, inter-party negotiation meetings will be held in the House of Councillors. By this means the method of operation will be determined.

Furthermore, no anticipated upper-house-like feature is discernible except that many national members are men of learning and experience, most of whom are independents. Due to their six year tenure of office, a sense of permanency may be expected. It is observed that to expect the House to be an instrument to rectify the extreme measures of the House of Representatives from the very beginning will be asking too much.

One more important point which determines the House of Councillors' nature is the election of the President and Vice-president. However, making a prediction as to who will occupy these posts is too risky as long as an agreement is not reached among the Social Democratic, Liberal, and Democratic Parties, and also as the Lower House's movement and the question of a new government head must be taken into consideration. Those who are talked of as possible candidates, however, are NODA, Shunsaku, MATSUDAIRA, Tsuneo, DEBUCHI, Katsuji, SATO, Naotake, and TOKUGAWA, Munetaka, among the independents, while the reformists are in favor of MATSUMOTO, Jiichiro.

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operation. With the convention of the Diet near at hand, the various political parties are showing marked activities in this respect. The old House of Peers was operated on the clubs system, but the new House of Councillors, in spite of the predominance of independents, is more distinctly divided into political groups, and the two forces conservatives and reformists, will, in all probability, struggle for supremacy. With such possibilities in view, it will be of interest to speculate on how the House will be operated.

The Social Democratic Party has secured a plurality here with 47 members. It has already formed a House negotiations' body with MATSUMOTO, Jiichiro and three others as sponsors, and is making every effort to enlist likely sympathizers. Stimulated by this movement of the Social Democrats, 24 Democrats, 41 Liberals and 14 People's Co-operatives have decided to make their own respective party House negotiations organizations. And it is supposed that the four Communists and six minor party men will follow this example.

Independents Plan to Merge

No political party, however, can hope to settle the House's future course if it ignores the 108 independents. Reformist members among them who were returned on the strength of labor unions and the like appear to be inclined to form a negotiations body along the lines of a "democratic front club". But the important question is the movement of the conservatists who constitute the majority. Certain members conceived the idea of organizing a members' league of the independents. On the other hand, with KAWAI's followers as the nucleus, plans have been made to form a members league of a conservative color, made up of Upper House members of the Liberal, Democratic and People's Co-operative Parties as well as the independents. On the night of the 6th the ex-members of the House of Peers met at the Speaker's official residence to exchange opinions on this subject, but the project fell through because of an expression of the following views:

(1) Because of the existence of influential political parties, such as the Social Democrats, Liberals and Democrats, it is desirable for the members to engage in pure party activities.

(2) It is also desired that any activity which tends to be associated with the former House of Peers be entirely avoided.

(3) As many of the new members are non-affiliated and

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ITEM 2 Administrative Officials System Likely in Coalition - Maneuvers For Office Begin - Seikai Joho - 9 May 47. Translator: F. Noda. (UG)

Full Translation:

903

The Democratic Party predicts that even though a four party coalition Cabinet may prove difficult to realize, a three party coalition Cabinet, comprising of the Social Democratic Party, the Democratic Party and the Peoples Co-operative Party, will be certain of success. It is believed that even if a three party coalition Cabinet is formed, the administrative officials system will remain in effect.

The following persons are the most likely candidates for the posts of administrative official:

Candidates for the posts of parliamentary vice-ministers -- KANEMITSU, Yoshikuni; NAKAMURA, Mataichi; HOSOKAWA, Yasohachi.

Candidates for the posts of parliamentary councillors -- YATSUNAMI, Tatsuo; KOSAKA, Zentaro; SHIIKUMA, Saburo.

The word is going around that some Democrat members are already campaigning for office.

ITEM 4 Lower House Party Distribution Shifts Since Election - Mainichi - 16 May 47. Translator: F. Hagiwara. (TK)

Full Translation:

403

Since immediately after the general elections the strengths of all parties in the House of Representatives have changed due to alteration in party affiliations among Diet members. Further change it expected before the opening of the National Diet, since none of the purged group, HAYASHI, Ren (Democrat), IMUMURA, Hitoshi (Social Democrat), HARA, Eisaku (Liberal), HINO, Yoshio (Social Democrat), has yet formally tendered his resignation. No change, however, is anticipated in the general situation.

The following is a list of party strength as of 15 May:

| | |
|---|---|
| Social Democrats | 143 |
| Liberals | 131 |
| Democrats | 127 |
| Peoples Co-operatives | 31 |
| Communists | 4 |
| Independents | 30 |

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ITEM 6 Anticipations of the First National Diet - Asahi - 20 May 47.
Translator: S. Yokoyama (IIC)

Summary:

The new National Diet under the new Constitution will begin to function on the 20th as the supreme organ of the nation. The policy agreement of the four major parties has been reached; the question of the premiership of the new cabinet which was expected to meet many difficulties was finally settled on the 19th when it was agreed to name Mr KATAYAMA head of the coalition cabinet. It is congratulatory that the president of the top-ranking party is also premier. This is most democratic.

A03

The new National Diet is entirely different from any previous Diet in its powers and functions. Under the old Constitution, the Imperial Diet was an organ to approve the legislative power of the Emperor, where as now only the National Diet is vested with law-making authority. The will of the people is reflected in the Diet, which makes laws according to their wishes.

The cabinet and the court function according to the laws made by the Diet. Under the old Constitution ministers were responsible only to the Emperor, and not the cabinet which had greater authority than the Diet enforced imperial ordinances and directives disregarding the Diet. Now the premier is elected by the Diet from among its members. In most cases, the president of the leading political party is elected premier, the majority of the ministers are also appointed from among the members of the Diet. A cabinet which is formed in this way, bears the utmost responsibility to the Diet.

Not only laws, but the budget and treaties must be approved by the Diet, which is vested with absolute administrative authority. The Diet can introduce and approve bills without restraint; it is the supreme legal and political power.

Endowed with this great power and authority, the members of the new National Diet bear a tremendous responsibility. They are given much freedom in investigating state affairs and we hope that they will make wise use of it. They learn from the mistakes of their predecessors. In order that the new National Diet can become truly the supreme organ of the nation, the representatives of the people must be vested with dignity equal to their position. Otherwise, they will again become dupes of the bureaucrats.

If the members of the Diet and the political parties really desire the wholesome development of parliamentarianism in our country, they will cope valiantly with the present crisis and strive to overcome it.

The new cabinet headed by KATAYAMA will introduce to the Diet bills which conform both with its policy and with the agreement of the four big parties. Since the four big parties approved the coalition as the only possible means to meet the present difficulty, they should co-operate with the cabinet as long as its policy conforms to their agreement. As the three leading parties hold almost the same number of seats in the House of Representatives, if the Liberals and the Democrats co-operate, they will be able to control the Diet. Therefore, political negotiations may not be smooth as we wish. In the House of Councillors, also, independents stand against the party representatives who outnumber them. Party power will have much influence in the House of Councillors, too.

As the organization of the new cabinet is complicated, management of both Houses will require much tact. The relationship of the two Houses is also a matter that cannot be overlooked.

We would like to see the new National Diet perform its function as the supreme organ of the nation in a fair and democratic way in the spirit of the new Constitution.

ITEM 16 New Session to be Called "First National Diet" - Jiji - 20 May 47.
Translator: K. Yasutake (UG)

A03

Full Translation:

A joint conference of all the political parties in the House of Representatives was held in the Chairman's reception room in the Diet Building, at 1115 hours on 19 May. Together with discussion on various topics concerning the opening session of the Diet under the new Constitution, it was decided to call this first session the "First National Diet."

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POLITICAL SERIES: 1751 (Continued)

ITEM 17 Occupations of Councillors - Jiji - 20 May 47. Translator: K. Yasutake. (UG)

Full Translation:

| Occupation | Indep | Soc | Lib | Dem | Peo Co-op | Minor | Comm | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Finance and Tax System | 1 | | 2 | 1 | | | | 4 |
| Banking and Economics | 2 | 3 | 3 | | | | | 8 |
| Agriculture and Foodstuffs | 24 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 8 | | 1 | 47 |
| Brewery | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 5 |
| Forestry | 5 | | 1 | 3 | | | | 9 |
| Firewood and Charcoal distribution | 1 | | | 1 | | | | 2 |
| Aquatic Products | 3 | 1 | | 2 | | | | 6 |
| Technical industry | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 2 |
| Engineering and Construction | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | | | | 5 |
| Land Transportation | 7 | | 1 | 2 | | | | 10 |
| Marine Transportation | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | | | 4 |
| Communications | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 2 |
| Newspaper | 1 | | | | | 1 | | 2 |
| Coal | | 1 | 1 | | | | | 2 |
| Electricity (gas) | 2 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 4 |
| Steel | 2 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 4 |
| Fiber | 3 | | 2 | 2 | | | | 7 |
| Pottery | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | | | 3 |
| Company President and Director | 3 | 1 | 10 | 6 | | | | 20 |
| President of Chamber of Commerce and Industry | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | | | | 9 |
| Repatriate relief | 3 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | | | 7 |
| Labor union | 8 | 13 | | | | | | 21 |
| Social welfare (women) | 2 | 3 | | 3 | 1 | | | 9 |
| Religion | 6 | | 1 | | | | | 7 |
| Education and culture | 11 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 22 |
| Professors | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | | | | 8 |
| Critics | 3 | 2 | | | | | 1 | 6 |
| Social studies | 1 | | | | | | | 1 |
| Constitutional politics | 1 | 2 | | | | | | 3 |
| Medical profession | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | | 5 |
| Drugs and toilet goods | | 1 | 2 | | 1 | | | 4 |
| Judicature | 3 | 4 | 2 | | | | | 9 |
| Diplomacy | 3 | | | 1 | | | | 4 |
| Local Administration | 7 | 5 | 2 | 6 | | | | 20 |
| Former Member of the House of Representatives | 5 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 1 | | | 19 |
| Former Member of the House of Peers | 23 | | 10 | 3 | 1 | | | 37 |
| Others | 4 | 3 | | 4 | | 2 | | 13 |
| Total | 147 | 61 | 63 | 56 | 14 | 4 | 4 | 349 |

(Note: The total exceeds the quorum of 250 because some persons are engaged in more than one occupations)

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ITEM 15 Management of Diet Decided - Seiji - 20 May 47. Translator: F. Ota. (WM)

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Full Translation:

The basic policy for the management of the Diet was decided at a Faction-Managers' Meeting held on 18 May in the House of Councillors. The decision concerned the changing of the House of Peers' accepted way of management by the speaker, vice-speaker and the Chief Secretary into a democratic management by clubs and societies based on the political parties. It was also decided that in the future all questions brought up in the Diet will be managed by the Standing Committee which was divided into the House-Managing Committee and an All-Party Liaison Committee. At the convocation of the first National Diet, the spokesmen of various factions expressed their wishes.

Green Wind Society Will Freshen Diet Atmosphere

YAMAMOTO, Yuzo of the Green Wind Society (RYOKUFU KAI) states that the members of this society have gathered for the purpose of introducing a fresher atmosphere into the Diet for the sake of more harmonious management. The liberal ideas of each individual shall be respected. We shall not make resolutions, restrictions etc, as a political party would do. We want to show that we are the real representatives of the people.

Socialist Criticizes Non-partisan Nature of Green Wind Society

YOSHIKAWA, Suejiro of the Socialist Party asserts that, "In spite of the fact that such a great society as the Green Wind Society (RYOKUFU KAI) has been organized, I got the impression at the Faction Managers' Meeting on the 18th that it was improbable that a non-partisan society would exercise a democratic management of the Diet in the true sense of the word. We believe that the Diet should be managed on the principle of political parties. In a non-partisan society whose members are of different opinions, nothing will be decided without conflict. Consequently, the House of Councillors should be managed on the principle of political parties. We hope this so-called non-partisan club will be united into a political body with members of the same opinion."

New Political Club Advocates Partisan Principle

ASAOKA, Nobuo of the New Political Club (SHINSEI) said that, "The Diet should be managed mainly by the House-Managing Committee which is a standing committee. Problems which are not managed by this Committee will be handed to the All-Party Liaison Committee, which represents the will of their fellow members' groups, conduct debates and co-operate with each other. A society of non-partisans in which each member can act as he pleases will contribute little to the smooth management of the Diet."

Democrats Share Partisan Opinion

KIUCHI, Shiro of the Democratic Party stated as follows: "There is a powerful body of non-partisans, but we think that the best way to manage the Diet is on the basis of political parties which have distinct aims. This opinion was expressed at the Faction Managers' Meeting on the 18th. If the nature of the House of Councillors is taken into consideration, the knowledge, experience, and opinion of an individual must be reflected in the Liaison Committee and in the Diet, but it must be done within the limit of the decision of the party to which one belongs."

ITEM 13 Number of Liberal Diet Members Drops to 128 - Tokyo Times - 18 May 47. Translator: M. Ota. (DD)

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Full Translation:

The total number of the Liberal Diet members has decreased to 128 since Finance Minister ISHIBASHI, Minister of Commerce and Industry ISHII, and WATANUKI, Samin, have been purged from public office.

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ITEM 11 Metropolitan Assembly Opens with Serious Discussions - Mainichi - 21 May 47. Translator: Y. Sato. (WM).

Full Translation:

The Metropolitan Assembly, which convened a day earlier than the National Assembly, did not have any difficult problem to tackle like voting for the premiership as in the case of the National Assembly. The discussions immediately centered upon the food problem which was taken up in earnest.

The quorum was increased from 100 to 120. Some assemblymen sat in the wrong seats, because the positions were marked with numbers instead of with names, unlike the National Assembly. The gallery was unusually crowded, for IWATA, Eiichi, Communist member who is noted for his leading role in the "Give us Rice" campaign in SETAGAYA Ku last year, was elected to the Assembly.

The Assembly Office took the trouble to provide him with a room in the lobby and furnished it with a desk and two chairs, only to find that on the opening day not only did Mr IWATA himself fail to appear, but none of his visitors were seen in the room.

MOTOJIMA, Yuriko and NAKATA, Koshun, women Socialist members of the Metropolitan Assembly, remarked while looking up towards the gallery, "We are very disappointed to find so few women interested in the Metropolitan Assembly, which has a direct influence on household economy." They added that they were searching for public address system which will enable them to inform the people on the streets as to what is going on in the Assembly.

ITEM 13 Nagano Ken Diet Representative Tsunajima Joins Japan Farmers' Party - Mainichi - 21 May 47. Translator: H. Naoji. (DD)

Full Translation:

TSUNAJIMA, Masaoki, an independent member of the House of Representatives elected from the second electoral district of NAGANO Ken, joined the Japan Farmers' Party (NIHON NOMIN TO) on 20 May. As a result, the House of Representatives members belonging to this party now totals eight.

The Japan Farmers' Party was formed by KITA, Katsutaro and KITA, Masakaru, together with NAKANO, Shiro and others when the former two left the Peoples Co-operative Party at the time it was formed because they were dissatisfied with the party. Since then, the KITA brothers have been purged.

DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12065 SECTION 3-402 / NNDG NO. 775015

ITEM 4 Diet Session to Last 50 Days - Yomiuri - 23 May 47. Translator: U. Futonaka. (TK)

Full Translation:

MATSUOKA and MATSUDAIRA, speaker and president respectively of the Lower and the Upper Houses, met at the Diet building yesterday afternoon to decide the duration of the First Diet Session. It was decided that the term will cover 50 days from 20 May to 8 July. This agreement was submitted by both Houses for formal decision to their plenary sessions on that day.

The Houses will automatically adjourn their session immediately after the nomination of the premier has been completed. The adjournment is broadly estimated to last 20 days. Indications are that the resumption of the session will be in the middle of June.

ITEM 10 Ozaki Criticizes Parties' Lack of Interest - Tokyo Shimbun - 21 May 47. Translator: H. Furukawa. (DD)

Summary:

The plenary session of the House of Representatives, which had been scheduled for 1000 hours, 20 May, was postponed until 1430 hours. Each party used this spare time to hold meetings of their members of the House. Even at the scheduled time of 1430 hours, however, there was no signs of opening the plenary session. Seeing this idleness, Mr OZAKI, Yukio, 90 year old veteran parliamentarian, who came to TOKYO from his villa in ATAMI to attend the meeting, stood up in the Independents' room and said furiously: "What is the meaning of this delay on the first day of the new Diet? Think of our nation! Not one of our political parties is thinking of our nation!" Walking slowly toward the door, he added, "The only thing necessary is for each and everyone to think of our country." The room became quiet, and the aged veteran left the House, accompanied by his attendants. He seemed to be

ITEM 11 full of sadness and anger.

DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12065 SECTION 3-402 / NNDG NO. 775015

ITEM 7 Local Autonomy Law Goes into Effect with New Constitution - Asahi - 2 May 47. Translator: H. Furukawa (UG)

Full Translation:

The Local Autonomy Law goes into effect with the enforcement of the new Constitution, and all existing laws relative to the local systems are to be abolished. The necessary procedures for the enforcement of the Local Autonomy Law are provided for in the Autonomy Law Enforcement Ordinances and the Local Autonomy Law Enforcement Regulations, which will be promulgated and go into effect on 3 May. The ordinances, which contains 221 articles, provide for absentee voting, voting by mail, and other matters concerning local elections.

The necessary procedures for the dismissal of the prefectural governors and local heads by means of impeachment, and matters concerning the treatment of local officials and the police and fire-brigade are entrusted to a reparate law which is scheduled to be submitted to the next session of the Diet. The Regulations provide the provisional procedure in the enforcement of the new law for the purpose of preventing confusion arising from the replacement of the old law by the new. The gist of the regulations follows:

1 - The local officials are automatically given the status corresponding to their present ones under the new statute. These officials cannot be relieved from office unless the approval of the Limitation Commission (BUNGEN IINKAI) is obtained. The members of the staff of police schools, correction institutions for boys, labor offices and social insurance branch offices are given the temporary status of government officials.

2 - The vice-governor of prefectures and the chief accounting official and his assistant are permitted to continue their functions until successors are appointed.

3 - The minor local offices and the subordinate local official departments should continue their functions for the time being on the existing basis under the old laws and regulations. Affairs concerning the care of former military personnel, then dependents, and the bereaved families of the war dead, which have been entrusted to separate local institutions, are transferred to the Civil Livelihood Section (in TOKYO Metropolis, it is given the status of a board) of each prefectural government, and the expenditures necessary for the execution of the affairs are to be shouldered by the Government.

DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12065 SECTION 3-402 / NNDG NO. 775015

# FIRST NATIONAL DIET UNDER NEW CHARTER TO BE OPENED TODAY

## Speakers and Vice-Speakers Will Be Elected; Party Line-Up Altered

The historic first session of the National Diet under the new Constitution will be convoked today at 10 a.m. when the 250 members of the Upper House and the 458 members of the Lower House will take their seats in their respective chambers.

The party line-up in the House of Representatives has been altered due to the extensive purge and the present set-up is as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Social Dems. | 142 |
| Liberals | 127 |
| Democrats | 126 |
| People's Coop. | 31 |
| Communists | 4 |
| Japan Farmer's | 7 |
| Independents | 21 |
| Vacancies (due to purge) | 8 |
| Total | 466 |

The House of Councillors is grouped as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Ryokuhu-kai (Ex-Peers) | 71 |
| Social Dems | 47 |
| Liberals | 42 |
| Democrats | 40 |
| People's Coop. | 14 |
| Communists | 4 |
| Independents | 32 |
| Total | 250 |

The first order of business immediately following the organization of the National Diet will be the election of the speakers and vice-speakers of the two houses. The smoothness with which this election will be carried out in the Lower House will depend in a large measure upon the settlement of the question of which party will garner the prime minister's post.

Following the election of the chief officers of the Diet, the legislators will take up the nomination of the prime minister. The prime minister designated by the Diet will be invested immediately by the Emperor with Mr. Yoshida, as the outgoing prime minister, in attendance. The new prime minister will then select his cabinet ministers.

Together with the convocation of the Diet, Prime Minister Yoshida is expected this morning to submit his resignation to the Emperor.

NIPPON TIMES MAY 2 0 1947

### Into Automatic Recess

TOKYO, May 24.—Following its designation of the next Prime Minister, the National Assembly automatically entered into recess today.

MAINICHI MAY 2 5 1947

## The Start of the New Diet

The opening of the first session of the new National Diet today is an event whose significance deserves to be thoroughly realized. So many precedent-breaking innovations have taken place during the past year-and-a-half period of revolutionary reforms that there is danger of the public callously coming to accept even a most momentous historic change as just another common event. The start of the first National Diet to be held under the new Constitution must not be allowed to pass so perfunctorily.

For the opening of the new Diet means the actual beginning of a government which for the first time in Japanese history will be fully a government "of the people, by the people, and for the people." Now that the new Constitution clearly vests the sovereign power in the people, the new Diet has come to be the supreme organ of the nation as the official representative of the sovereign people. As the new Diet begins to function today, the representatives of the people will be exercising their sovereign power for the first time. Surely such a momentous occasion calls for more than passing notice.

Something of the power of the new Diet is most obviously to be seen in its function of electing the Prime Minister, a function which it will be performing within the next few days. Whether or not an understanding regarding the choice has been previously arrived at among the parties is not of fundamental importance. The important thing is that the final and official selection is completely in the hands of the Diet. In consequence the Prime Minister and the Cabinet which he appoints are responsible and accountable only to the people through the Diet and to no other authority. Every act of the Government will henceforth be the act of the people as authorized by the Diet, their representative. Every failure and every success of the Government will be nothing other than the failure or success of the people.

Endowed with this great power and authority, the representatives of the people in the Diet have come to bear a responsibility never borne by members of any previous Diet. Whether the members of the new Diet will prove worthy of their trust is the question which will be at stake from today.

It must be admitted that the new Diet can hardly be expected to be perfect. Not only must allowance be made for its inexperience, but the whole weight of historical tradition is against it. For the past Diets have been little more than debating societies possessing meager power and forced to act as mere rubber stamps for authorities they could not control. Under such conditions the Diet commanded little respect and the Diet members themselves felt little pride in their position. In consequence, despite notable exceptions, the legislative career attracted all too few men of the highest caliber.

Although the new Diet is entirely different in its powers and functions, it may be too much to expect that it will be able immediately to rid itself completely from all the unfortunate associations of the past. Too few of its members are still of such a quality as to command the unreserved confidence of the public. But the last election has wrought a most hopeful improvement, and still further improvement is to be expected with the passage of time.

In the meantime, however, in full consciousness of the handicaps of its traditions and of its present shortcomings, the new Diet must strive to the utmost to live up to its new responsibilities. In the final analysis, it is the people who are responsible for electing the right kind of representatives to the Diet, of course; and the ultimate success of a democratic government in Japan depends upon the increase in the maturity, experience, and wisdom of the Japanese people. But for the time being, now that the present Diet has been elected to represent the people, the immediate and practical task is up to the Diet to perform.

The hopes of the nation are thus pinned on the performance of this first National Diet. For the success of the new democratic Japan, the Diet must successfully meet the test which starts today. It is a test which should hold the undivided attention of every citizen, for it is a test whose outcome will decide the fate of the nation.

NIPPON TIMES MAY 2 0 1947

DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12065 SECTION 3-402 / NNDG NO. 775015

# EDITORIAL

## Breach Of Faith And Present Politics

The people elected the members of the National Assembly under the new Constitution in order to have them serve the best interests of the nation through stabilizing the political situation. It was not for them to play politics for the sake of politics.

Despite the fact that nearly a month has already elapsed since the elections, the political situation still remains unstable. To be sure the 4-party policy agreement was reached but how about the Prime Minister, the Cabinet?

There may be reasons for the attitude of the Liberal Party in the present stalemated negotiations for the formation of the next Cabinet, but the masses are at a loss in understanding why the Cabinet-building is requiring so much time. It may be politics for the Liberals to promise suppert to Katayama as the Prime Minister and then turn around and insist on the "freezing" of the Socialist left members, but the public is bewildered.

From the broader plane of politics today and tomorrow under the Allied occupation, it is best for the Liberals to refrain from whatever maneuvers inconsistent with true democratic politics.

Be that as it may, it is difficult for the public to understand the bona fide motives of the Liberals in apparently blocking the efforts of Katayama to form the next Government.

Closely linked with the Cabinet-formation issue is the recent emergence of a number of mercenary political opportunists. As the pendulum of the Prime Ministership swings to and fro, four members of the House of Representatives have deserted the Liberals and joined forces with the Democrats. If their action is not a glaring breach of faith toward their constituencies, what else can it be?

Whether it is due to the habit of countenancing political "black-marketing" or the mere lethargy of the voters, little indignation and criticism have been as yet voiced by the public, though the Liberal Party has taken up the issue.

Such political breach of faith should be drastically dealt with by adequate measures through proper channels. It would not be too much to deprive the deserters of their seats in the National Assembly. They must be penalized for their infidelity.

At the same time, the attitude of President Ashida of the Democrats is disappointing. We hope he will clarify his position to remove all misunderstanding.

What the nation hopes for is the early stabilization of the political situation. We know it is a very difficult task but the sooner it is accomplished the better it will be for the Japanese people.

MAINICHI MAY 22 1947

### Politicians Can't Agree On Premier

# Diet Opening Delayed As Leaders Begin To Maneuver

## Liberal In Opposition to Government

By RUSSELL BRINES
Chief of Bureau, The Associated Press

TOKYO, May 21 (AP)—Backstage political maneuvering failed to reach a clear cut decision on Japan's Premiership this morning, and further delayed what was to have been a triumphal opening of the first session of the Diet under the new Constitution.

Shigeru Uyehara, spokesman for the Social Democratic Party said Tetsu Katayama, the Party's leader, had been assured of the Premiership in conversations with other political leaders during the past few days. But "other considerations," he added, are delaying an official formation of a new Cabinet.

**Liberals Opposed**

One of these, it was understood, was a last-minute swing of the Liberal party toward the position to the new Government. Premier Shigeru Yoshida, who remains in office until a successor is named, has hinted in these conversations that the Liberals might remain outside of the Government entirely or, even if it joins the Cabinet, might constitute an opposition in the Diet.

Yoshida, as President of the Liberal Party, yesterday first demanded that the Socialists deny cabinet positions to their leftwing members, then softened his demands to state that the leftists should "not inteffere with Cabinet policies," reliable Japanese sources reported. A Liberal party spokesman claimed some Socialist Leftists were known to have attended Communist party meetings, and if they held Cabinet posts "the leakage of Government secrets" was possible.

Spokesmen for the Socialist rightwing indicated they might freeze out the party leftists but expressed resentment at being told to do so by representatives of another party.

The complicated fight delayed selection of a House of Representatives speaker and therefore nullified business meetings of the lower Chamber. Political leaders had decided that, if a Socialist is named Premier, the Speakership would go to the Liberal Party and the Vice Speakership to the Democrats.

**Democrats Want Speaker**

However, the Democrats have become the second ranking, with 132 seats, by absorbing some independent representatives and three former Liberals.

Uyehara said some consideration was being given to the formation of a three-party coalition, if the Liberals choose to remain outside of the Government.

A Headquarters spokesman,

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 1)

## Diet Opening

(Continued from Page 1)

meanwhile, denied persistent Japanese rumors that SCAP officials opposed a Premier who does not speak English, or one whose party contained leftwing elements. This would apply only to Katayama.

"There is no basis for these rumors," the spokesman said. The Headquarters position is that selection of the Premier is a Japanese responsibility, he added.

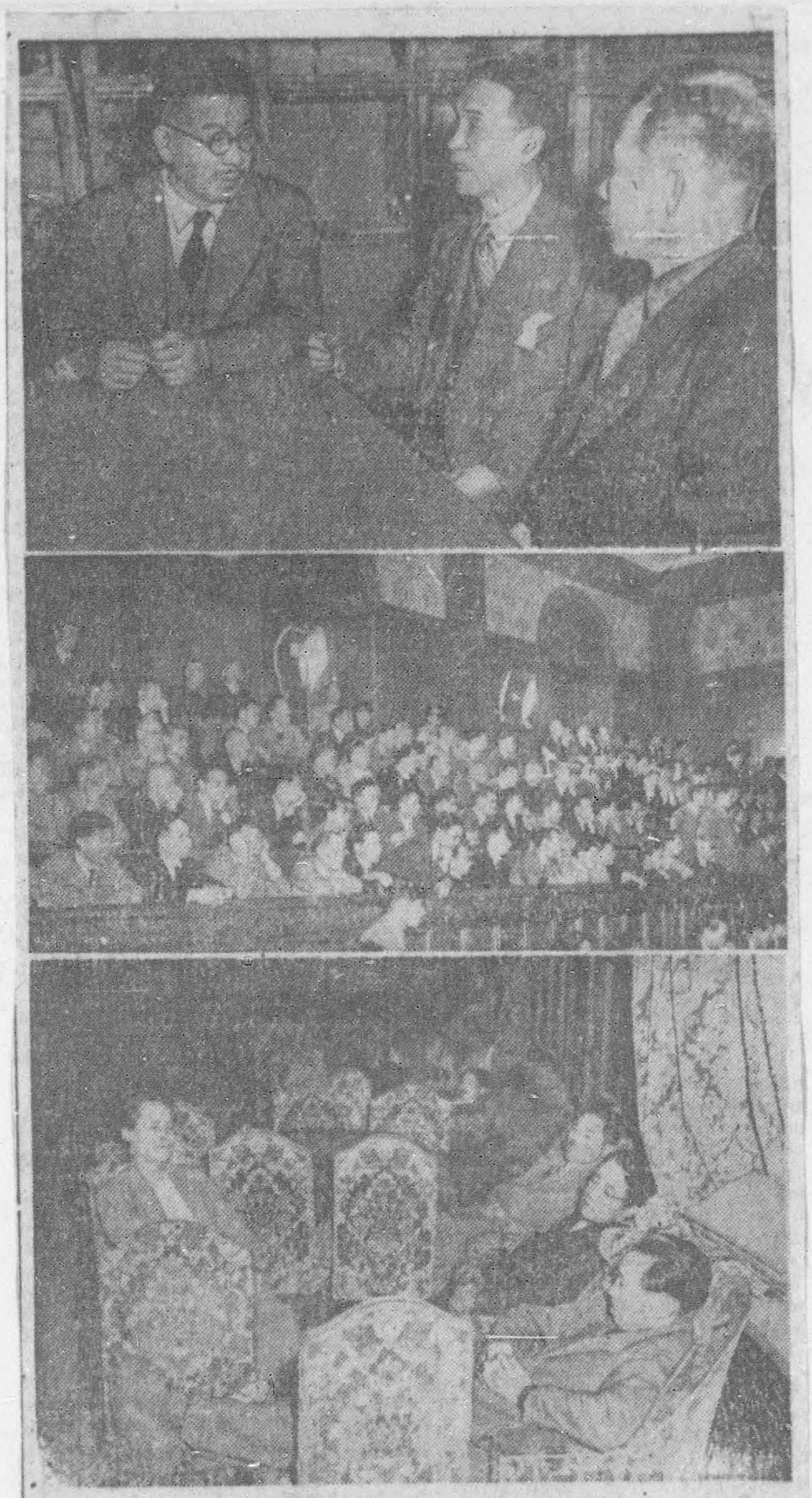
"What we want is a good fight by all factions, so that the final accomplishment will be the result of a good fight rather than default."

Meanwhile, the House of Councillors elected as its first President Tsuneo Matsudaira, former Ambassador to the United States and a Japanese delegate to most of the International Conferences during the past 20 years. Matsudaira resigned as Imperial Household Minister after the destruction of part of the Imperial Palace by wind-borne flames in the May 25, 1945 bombing attack.

He is a member of the "Green Wind Society," in the Upper Chamber, a group of 71 Independent Councillors who form the largest bloc.

STARS & STRIPES MAY 21 1947

DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12065 SECTION 3-402 / NNDG NO. 775015



## *News Photos Of National Assembly*

Sun-Acme

TOKYO—These are photos of the National Assembly, here and there on May 21.

Upper: At the Socialist ante-room, President Hitoshi Ashida of the Democrats (center) is clarifying his party's position to Tetsu Katayama (left) and Suehiro Nishio (right), Socialist leaders.

Middle: Members of the House of Representatives pack the visitors' gallery of the House of Councillors as the president and the vice-president are elected.

Lower: In the Speaker's room, members of the National Assembly are getting their much needed sleep after their long vigil waiting for the House to come out of recess.

MAINICHI MAY 23 1947

## Back to a Righteous World

The choice of officers in the first National Diet under the new Constitution is in the best of democratic traditions and speaks well of the future prospects of democracy in this country. It reveals also the giant steps which have been taken in bringing the government closer to the people.

In pre-surrender days, the election of a combination of such officers as artistocratic Tsuneo Matsudaira and plebeian Jiichiro Matsumoto for the high posts of President and Vice-President, respectively, of the Upper House would have been impossible. Or, even the selection of a labor leader with only an elementary school education to head the House of Representatives. And Speaker Kiomakichi Matsuoka is just that—for he started his early career as a machinist's apprentice in a naval arsenal.

It is an encouraging sign that democracy has taken roots so early in a nation which in some ways has appeared to change so little since the feudal Tokugawa era. The new Vice-President of the Upper House is of the "Eta" class—a class which in the past was socially ostracized—and except for the significant democratic changes which have taken place in the last year and a half, he would never have assumed such an exalted position and much less have shared a position with an exnobleman who is the father-in-law of Prince Chichibu.

In decided contrast to Mr. Matsumoto, President Matsudaira is a son of a former feudal lord and bears a family name which has figured prominently over the long course of Japanese history. It is a healthy sign of the times that the barriers which have stood for centuries between the outcasts, common men and nobility are now crumbling before the pressure of democratic ideals.

Despite the unpleasant behind-the-scenes maneuverings which made the Speaker's post a political football, it is nonetheless significant that Mr. Matsuoka, a self-made man, has been elected Speaker of the nation's first truly democratic Lower Chamber. In a country where educational background has meant too much for political or social success, the emergence of a blunt-spoken representative of the laboring class must be considered an important step forward in the nation's democratization and in making this a government of the people.

Contrary to the beliefs of these who would belittle the progress of democracy in this country, the election of such officers in the Diet offers promise for a bright future for the democratic principles of equality and freedom and points to the final downfall of feudalistic notions of class distinction.

In the words of Mr. Matsumoto, "we have come back to a righteous world."

NIPPON TIMES MAY 29 1947

DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12065 SECTION 3-402 / NNDG NO. 775015

## PRESS COMMENTS

**Tuesday, May 20**

**NEW DIET IS LAUNCHED**

MAINICHI—The first National Diet under the new Constitution will be convened today. It will mark the launching of parliamentary government under a people's sovereignty system. The Imperial Diet came to an end with the 92nd session in March which was dissolved and the National Diet now meets in its first session. This is not merely a matter of change of name but an essential transformation.

The new Constitution stipulates that the National Diet is the supreme organ of state. This is not to deny the provisions that the Supreme Court can pronounce all such laws as violate the Constitution as null and void and that the Diet is convened by the Emperor. But hereafter the Emperor will have no right to approve or veto any legislative measure of the Diet and the Diet can make laws entirely on its own judgment.

That the new Diet is supreme can be seen from the fact that it is the Diet that will choose the Prime Minister from among its members and that more than half of the State Ministers must be chosen from among Diet members. Some members of the House Councillors have suggested that the Diet should take oath before the people at the beginning of every session. Whatever the form adopted, each member should go about his Diet tasks in this spirit.

The new Constitution lays down how democratic government should be operated in this country and does not depict what exists. The rules for the operation of the new Constitution are yet to be made. Various old usages may exist from the days of the Meiji Constitution but these should be ruthlessly cast overboard so that our democratic government may keep abreast of the world trends. The old tendency among Diet members to consider State Ministers and Parliamentary Vice-Ministers and Councillors as people exalted above the ordinary members should be eradicated once and for all. An atmosphere should be created such that members take pride in having served in the Diet over long years and to be elected Speaker or Deputy Speaker is one of the aspirations of a member.

Parliamentary politics is party politics but the struggle among parties should consistently be marked by fair play. Any struggle merely for party interests must be condemned. We hope that the spirit of toleration will be observed by the Government party toward the Opposition or the minor parties. By mutual trials and training the parties should seek to perfect parliamentary government.

NIPPON TIMES MAY 2 1 1947

# First National Assembly Convenes; Elections Of Key Figures Postponed

TOKYO, May 20.—Drawing the unusual attention of the entire Japanese people, the historic first session of the National Assembly under the new Constitution was officially convoked this morning.

Determined to fulfill their responsibilities as the representatives of the people, the members of the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors assembled at the National Assembly building at 10 a.m.

**Recess In 2 Minutes**

The House of Councillors sat in plenary session at 10.10 a.m., but immediately took a recess at 10.12 a.m., after Acting Secretary-General Kobayashi announcing the formation of the House, took the seat of President by virtue of Article 7 of the National Assembly Law.

**House Sits At 2.35 p.m.**

On the other hand, the House of Representatives was convened at 2.35 p.m., and a recess was taken immediately.

Although the formation of the National Assembly was scheduled to be completed today, the election of the House Speaker and the Vice-Speaker was postponed because of the deadlock in the political situation. Accordingly, the National Assembly failed to function.

It is believed that the House of Councillors will continue the present status until the President and the Vice-President are elected.

**To Adjourn 3 Weeks**

The National Assembly will adjourn for about three weeks, after the election of the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of both the Houses and the completion of other routine.

Following the completion of the Government's preparations for the National Assembly, it is scheduled to be resumed with a formal opening ceremony in mid-June.

Liberals, 130; People's Cooperatives, 31; Unattached, 19; Agrarian, seven; and Communists, four. Total 466.

The House of Councillors is classified as follows according to the group and party affiliation as of May 19:

Ryokuhu-kai 91, Socialists 47, Shinsei Club 44, Democrats 42, Independents 19, Unattached 3, Communists 4.

MAINICHI MAY 2 1 1947

DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12065 SECTION 3-402 / NNDG NO. 775015

POLITICAL SERIES: 1738 (Continued)

ITEM 6 Upper House By-Elections Seen in Nine Kens - Jiji Shimpo - 14 May 47. Translator: F. Hagiwara. (JJY)

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Full Translation:

As a result of the extension of the public officials purge to include local leaders of Imperial Rule Assistance Political Councils, nominative bodies for candidates sponsored by the defunct Imperial Rule Assistance Association, more than 10 members of the House of Councillors are expected to be ousted.

Since the election acceptance period is over, runner-ups will not automatically succeed to the vacancies thus created, and by-elections will be held. By-elections, however, will be held only when the number of vacancies exceeds one-fourth the allotted seats of the electoral district. Therefore, vacancies of 13 or more in the national constituency and one or more in the local constituencies, except TOKYO and HOKKAIDO, will necessitate by-elections.

Although a by-election for the national constituency is not probable, such elections will be necessary in nine prefectures: TOCHIGI, GUNMA, NIIGATA, GIFU, SHIGA, TOKUSHIMA, KOCHI, TOTTORI, and KAGOSHIMA. The special National Diet session and the qualification examinations of candidates, will delay the date of by-elections till the last ten days of June or early July, even if the purgees are announced next week.

The following is the procedure for the by-elections:

(1) A Councillor who is disqualified under the purge directive will tender his resignation to the Speaker of the House of Councillors or to the chief official in case the Speaker has not yet been elected.

(2) When a vacancy occurs through resignation or for other reasons, the Speaker will report this matter to the Home Minister.

(3) The Home Minister will notify the election control committee concerned through the prefectural governor within five days after receiving the report from the Speaker.

(4) The election control committee will conduct a by-election within 35 days (possibly 55 days on account of the qualification examination) after the date it receives notification from the Home Minister.

(5) The election control committee will announce the date of a by-election at least 30 days prior to the voting day.

(6) A member elected in a by-election will complete the term left vacant.

DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12065 SECTION 3-402 / NNDG NO. 775015

## What Will Be Composition Of New Lower House?

By Shusaburo Hironaga, Staff Writer

Speculation is rife as to the initial composition of the House of Representatives under the new Constitution.

The strength of different parties on the day of the Diet dissolution was: Democrats 145, Liberals 140, Socialists 98, Cooperatives 63, Communists 6, Minor parties 4, Unattached 9.

**Extension of Progressive Party**

The Democratic Party founded on the very day of Diet dissolution is nothing but an extension of the Progressive Party which repainted its signboard in order to absorb malcontents in other parties and unattached Diet members without causing them to lose face.

The Progressive Party once declared that it places itself to the left of the Liberal Party and to the right of the Socialist Party, but all the world knew that the Liberal and the Progressive Parties had nothing to distinguish one from the other except that they were formed by different members.

Inasmuch as the Democratic Party is a mere extension of the Progressive Party, it can be said with impunity that the Democrats and the Liberals are selling the same ware called "conservatism" with different labels.

In their efforts to maintain, or rather extend their influence, the conservative parties had the Diet pass, on the strength of their numerical superiority, a revision of the Election Law providing for the adoption of a medium electorate and single-entry system in the coming election.

Whether the revision will cause more conservative chickens to be hatched, however, remains to be seen, for the public disappointment with the Yoshida Cabinet is so deep-rooted that a mere technicality in the election system will not easily make up for its unpopularity.

**Socialists And Communists**

The general dissatisfaction with the conservative parties, however, does not necessarily mean that the public opinion is in favor of the appearance of a Socialist Cabinet.

The fact that the Socialist Party exposed its internal disunity whenever it was confronted with a crucial decision gives the impression that it has not grown up enough to bear the brunt of the state single-handed, although the necessity of adopting socialistic policies to tide over the current economic crisis is a foregone conclusion.

The Communist Party has enthusiastic, almost fanatic, supporters among organized labor, but the party has many opponents as well, who are no less vehement in their dislike of its radical ideology. It may not be amiss to predict that the Communists will occupy more seats in the Diet than before, but no remarkable increase seems likely.

**Unattached And Minor Parties**

No less than 116 unattached candidates have thrown their hats in the ring (as of April 2). There are, moreover, 74 candidates belonging to minor parties who, after all, are not

(Continued on Page 2)

## Election Digest

(Continued From Page 1)

much different from those of no party affiliation.

A SCAP spokesman recently declared that the voting for independents who have not clearly committed themselves to some definite policy or promised to join a certain party is as foolish as boarding a train without finding out its destination.

The fact that considerable number of unattached and minor party candidates have run for the election in spite of this warning shows that they are taking advantage of the psychology of the majority of voters who are fully satisfied with none of the existing major parties, all of which have one defect or another.

Chances are slim, of course, for these candidates to be returned, but the existence of so many unattached and minor party candidates is a medicine for the existing major parties which fail to win the confidence of the people.

APR 10 1947
NIPPON TIMES

## DIET TO RECESS FOLLOWING VOTE ON PRIME MINISTER

**Inter-Party Conference Decides Procedures for Convocation**

The first special session of the National Diet which will be convened on May 20 is expected to go into recess until the early part of June after completing its initial task of nominating the next prime minister.

Concrete details on the operations of the new Diet were discussed at an inter-party conference held yesterday on the basis of a draft drawn up by the Diet secretariat.

The first order of business will be the election of the speaker and the vice-speaker followed by the determination of the term of the session. After deciding upon the standing committees, the National Diet will vote for the prime minister. This is expected to take about four days.

Upon the nomination of the prime minister, the Diet will go into recess from 10 to 15 days to await the appointment of the cabinet ministers and the preparations of bills to be introduced to the new legislature.

NIPPON TIMES MAY 13 1947

## Cleaning Diet Building

The Diet Building is now receiving its first general cleaning after 12 years since it was completed. During the war, it was smeared with black paint. The whitewashing work will be completed by May 20 when the first national Diet opens.

NIPPON TIMES MAY 13 1947

## *Diet Will Convene About May 20; To Be Called National Assembly*

The new legislature whose Lower House was elected yesterday is expected to be convened on or about May 20 and it will probably be called the First National Assembly.

The new Constitution provides for the convocation of the National Assembly within 30 days after the general elections.

Since the new Diet will be the first to be assembled following the effectivation of the new Constitution, it has been suggested by various sources to name it the First National Assembly, instead of the 93rd National Assembly. In a recent discussion of the question, the secretariat of the House of Representatives and the Legislative Bureau of the Cabinet unanimously agreed that the new legislature should be called the First National Assembly.

Government sources, however, have revealed that this is a matter which will be decided by the legislators themselves following the convocation of the National Assembly.

The chief business of the National Assembly in its opening session however, will be election of the Prime Minister. This will follow the selection of the Speaker and the Vice-Speaker of the House.

The members of both Houses will cast single ballots for the new Prime Minister who will be decided by majority vote. If no one secures a majority, a run-off election will be held between the two highest candidates. A tie vote will be settled by drawing lots.

In case of differences of choice between the two Houses, the matter will be decided in a conference between the Lower and Upper Houses. In the event of a further deadlock, the decision of the House of Representatives will prevail.

In all probability, the president of the leading party in the Lower House will be elected and appointed Prime Minister.

Political observers believe that the new Prime Minister will be chosen from among the following party leaders: Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida and Finance Minister Tanzan Ishibashi of the Liberal Party; State Ministers Kijuro Shidehara and Takao Saito and Secretary-General Hitoshi Ashida of the Democratic Party and CEC Chairman Tetsu Katayama of the Social Democratic Party.

NIPPON TIMES APR 26 1947

DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12065 SECTION 3-402 / NNDG NO. 775015

# DIET GIVEN WARNING BY SCAP SPOKESMAN

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## Legislature, Which Convenes On May 20, Told To Stick To Its Proper Sphere

The new First National Diet which is to convene on May 20, was warned yesterday by a SCAP spokesman to restrict itself to its proper sphere, to make laws, and to leave the execution thereof to the Prime Minister and the Cabinet.

Speaking at a press conference, the Spokesman pointed out that the Diet should be informed fully on the operation of the executive branch. It should check and scrutinize the Cabinet's activities carefully but it should not attempt to operate its functions.

The Spokesman declared that Japan's Government is now out in the open. No longer will its members be forced to accept responsibility for their actions but lack the power to direct those actions in the interest of all the people, he said. "Now they can be guided," he said, "by their conscience and can formulate their policies in accordance therewith. This is at once a challenge and an opportunity. In the past most public servants in Japan were trained to conform to the bureaucratic mold. Bureaucracy the world over tends, by its very nature, to become narrow and insensitive to public needs and desires. On the contrary elected officials, just as naturally, maintain a high degree of sensitivity to public opinion. This is one of the innumerable checks and balances which characterize a form of government erected by and for the people.

When the new Diet convenes, within a week, it will select a Prime Minister. The ability of the Prime Minister to retain the support of the Diet will be a test of his leadership, as he will have been the choice of the majority at the outset. In the United States of America the President receives his mandate through direct election by the people. Thus he might be expected to have the privilege of selecting his official Cabinet. This is almost completely true as it has worked out in actual practice. However, the makers of the American Constitution, recognizing the interdependence between the sepa-

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# Newsmen Informed Diet Has Teeth To Enforce Laws

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By SGT. LAURENCE STERN, Staff Writer

The Diet is no longer a "harmless debating club" taking directions from above, a SCAP Government Section spokesman told Japanese newsmen yesterday.

Under the revised governmental structure laid down in the new Constitution, and destiny of the nation lays squarely in the hands of the Diet, he said in a press conference.

**Responsible To People**

It must now answer to over 70,000,000 people for the manner in which it exercises or fails to exercise its enormous responsibility.

The First National Diet, unlike any previous Diet, will have available all those parliamentary devices and legislative aids, as provided in the Diet Law of 1947, needed to exercise fully its authority under the Constitution, he continued.

The spokesman emphasized the newly-enacted Diet Law which provides safeguards for minority representation and "thus reduces the dangers of the tyranny of the majority."

**Law Enacted By Diet**

"Of tremendous psychological importance, aside from more practical considerations, is the fact that the Diet Law of 1947 was drafted and enacted entirely and completely by Diet members, and not handed down from above in a neat and inflexible package, as in the case of the Meiji Diet Law," he asserted.

The spokesman further pointed out that the fundamental purposes of the "Diet-made Diet Law" are to provide the procedures and the flexibility required of a full-statured representative body.

Particularly significant, he said, is the provision for standing committees—unlike the previous ineffectual committees. In these committees lie the power to formulate the policies of the nation.

With a system of strong standing committees, aided by permanent staffs of qualified experts, the spokesman reiterated, the Diet may control or oust entrenched bureaucrats.

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# *Diet Given Warning By SCAP Spokesman*

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rate coordinate branches of the government, provided that his selections shall be made subject to the confirmation of the United States Senate.

"In Japan, there is no reason to be apprehensive about the ability of the Cabinet to conduct the executive business of the government in a strong and fearless manner just because the Prime Minister is selected by the Diet. Under the Constitution the Diet may, of course, register its non-confidence in the Cabinet but in such an instance the House of Representatives may be dissolved and a new election ordered. Thus there is really a double-check between the Diet and the Cabinet. It may be safe to assume that these powers will not be exercised lightly. There could, of course, be a considerable breakdown of government should a serious struggle take place between these two branches. Nevertheless, such a situation can be resolved by a dissolution of the House of Representatives and an appeal to the people in an election."

# Many Invited To Attend May 20 Fireworks Display

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Persons invited to attend the fireworks display on the night of May 20 in front of the Imperial Palace in celebration of the convocation of the First National Diet, are requested to bring their invitations. The display starts at 6 p.m. weather permitting.

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# Fireworks On Plaza

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**A display of fireworks in observance of the new Diet Convocation Day has been authorized for tomorrow on the Imperial Palace Plaza, G-I, GHQ, revealed yesterday.**

**The plans call for the firing of 83 skyrockets beginning at 3 P.M., and five set pieces beginning at 7 P.M. in a display which was previously postponed on Constitution Inauguration Day, May 3, due to wet weather.**

STARS & STRIPES

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DECLASSIFIED E. O. 12065 SECTION 3-402 / NNDG NO. 775015

# First Japanese National Assembly Under New Charter Convenes Today; Prime Minister Choice Tomorrow?

## Historic Tokyo Meeting Commences At 10 a.m.; Will Name Speaker Of House Of Representatives, Also Select President Of House Of Councillors

TOKYO, May 19.—The first National Assembly under the new Japanese Constitution will be convoked tomorrow with the basic understanding for a coalition Cabinet having been completed.

Before the historic convocation, Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida will proceed to the Imperial Palace and tender to the Throne his resignation.

The nomination of the new Prime Minister will be delayed until May 21, it is believed.

### Greetings By Senior Members Scheduled

Members of the House of Councillors and House of Representatives will assemble at the National Assembly Building at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

The election of the Speaker and the Vice-Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President and the Vice-President of the House of Councillors will then take place.

This will be followed by greetings by the newly-elected heads of both Houses and congratulatory messages by senior Assembly members.

Recess will then be taken, in the course of which the Speaker and the President will confer on the term of the Assembly session.

Then the Assembly will be again called to order and the term of the National Assembly will be decided. The day's program will end with the election of the secretary-general of the Assembly.

MAINICHI MAY 20 1947

### Official Name Decided

TOKYO, May 20.—The N[illegible] Assembly which was convoked today will be known as the First National Assembly Session, it was formally decided at an inter-party consultation meeting of the House of Representatives held at the Speaker's room yesterday.

MAINICHI MAY 21 1947

# PRESENT DIET SESSION TO CONTINUE TILL JULY 8

The Inter-party negotiation committee Thursday decided that the first session of the National Diet will continue for 50 days until July 8. It opened on May 20.

House Speaker Komakichi Matsuoka conferred with Councillors President Tsuneo Matsudaira to determine the length of the present session.

Meanwhile, Makoto Oike, Acting Chief Secretary of the House of Representatives, was formally nominated Chief Secretary of the House Thursday evening when the House of Representatives met in a five-minute plenary session.

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In the event of a Socialist-headed cabinet, political circles believe that either ex-Speaker Takeshi Yamazaki, Home Minister Etsujiro Uehara, or Transportation Minister Kaneshichi Masuda, all of the Liberal Party will assume the speaker's post while the Socialists will put up either Daikichiro Tagawa, Komakichi Matsuoka, or Tatsuo Morito for the vice-speakership. If the con-

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# *First National Diet To Open Tomorrow; Final Parley Today*

(Continued from Page 1)

servatives should head the government, some observers believe that Mr. Katayama will become the new speaker.

In any event the speakership will be closely connected with the question of the prime ministership and unless a decision is made today on the latter post, the Diet opening tomorrow may find a free-for-all fight for the right to head the Lower House.

In the independent-dominated Upper House, a non-partisan is the likeliest choice. The Social Democrats, however, will nominate Jiichiro Matsumoto and the Liberals will probably run Shunsaku Noda. Tsuneo Matsudaira, former Imeprial Household Minister and ambassador to Britain and the United States, may be elected.

# FIRST NATIONAL DIET TO OPEN TOMORROW; FINAL PARLEY TODAY

## Question of Prime Minister May Be Settled at Yoshida-Katayama Meeting

On the eve of the opening of the First National Diet tomorrow, Prime Minister Yoshida and Tetsu Katayama, head of the Social Democrat Party will meet today to thrash out the question of who will be the next Prime Minister in the proposed coalition cabinet.

Political observers yesterday were disinclined to make any predictions as to the outcome of the final meeting before the Diet convenes of Mr. Yoshida and Mr. Katayama.

The Socialist leader is also expected to confer with representatives of the Democratic and the People's Cooperative parties following his confab with Liberal President Yoshida.

The possibility of the nation's first Socialist-led cabinet took a sudden optimistic turn late Saturday when the executive officers of the Liberal Party reaffirmed its former decision to support Mr. Katayama for the prime ministership. The negotiations for the prime ministership, however, will be left up to the discretion of Mr. Yoshida.

**Situation Is Complicated**

The nomination of Secretary-General Hitoshi Ashida for the Democratic Party presidency yesterday morning by a special nine-man committee further complicates the political picture, for the "Ashida for Prime Minister" sentiment is strong within Democratic ranks. But the attitude of the Liberal Party toward Dr. Ashida is split, for he is not overly popular among some Liberal members for having bolted the party when the Democratic Party was formed. Other Liberals, however, would prefer Mr. Ashida to Socialist Katayama.

The individual talks between Mr. Katayama and the Liberal and Democratic leaders today is expected to take up not only the question of the prime ministership but also of cabinet post allocations. Concerning the latter point, both the Liberal and Democratic parties have expressed their antagonism to the inclusion of left-wing Socialists in the new coalition cabinet.

Meanwhile, speculation is rife over the election of the National Diet's speaker and vice-speaker which takes place tomorrow. In the Lower House, the speaker's post is of such importance under the new Constitution that it ranks second in importance to the prime ministership.

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