ECONOMY AND INDUSTRY

DEMOCRATIC

1. The rehabilitation of economy on a strict priority basis.

2. The strengthening of state control for the purpose of industrial reconstruction.

3. Preparation of plans for the early resumption of foreign trade and foreign exchange.

4. The adjustment of existing controls and the democratizing of the rationing system.

5. The full utilization of hydro-electric resources.

LIBERAL

1. Giving priority to key industries.

2. The development of specialty products enterprises with the accent on light industries.

3. The eradication of black marketing merchants and the luxury restaurants.

4. Reducing the number of government-controlled goods.

5. The participation in world trade relations.

6. The exploitation of water power resources of the country.

7. Realizing the goal of producing 2,000,000 tons of nitrogen fertilizer per year.

8. The advancement of agricultural technique.

9. Concentrate efforts of getting permission to fish in northern seas.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC

1. Concentrated effort on the increase in production of coal, iron and steel, and chemical fertilizer; and the exercise of state control over the key industries as a preliminary step toward their nationalization.

2. The enforcement of a rationing system for the supply of state-controlled materials, with the priority principle as its basis.

3. The establishment of the managing council in every industrial unit.

4. The encouragement of medium and small industrial enterprises and their modernization by means of co-operative organization.

5. The nationalization or popular management of public works.

6. The imposition of the second property tax.

7. The alleviation of the tax burden of the laboring classes.

PEOPLE'S CO-OPERATIVE

1. The development of medium and small industries by means of improving raw materials.

2. Increase of industrial efficiency by putting government enterprises; such as telephone, telegram and tobacco, into private hands.

3. Coal-mines to be given priority in the supply of materials and funds, with the goal of producing 30,000,000 tons a year to be attained by the enhancement of working spirit.

COMMUNIST

1. People's control over the Zaibatsu-owned enterprises and the key industries.

2. The abolition of the system which favors the big capitalists, and the full utilization of materials by uncovering hoarded goods and popular control of special commodities.

DIPLOMACY

DEMOCRATIC

1. The engineering of a reform movement in political, economic and cultural fields in preparation for the conclusion of the peace treaty.

2. Participation in the United Nations.

LIBERAL

1. The promotion of the concluding of the peace treaty.

2. The taking of appropriate steps for participation in the United Nations.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC

1. The promotion of the concluding of the peace treaty.

2. The establishment of a Social Democratic government to meet the peace conference.

3. The participation in the United Nations and the World Federation of Trade Unions.

PEOPLE'S CO-OPERATIVE

1. Hasten the conclusion of the peace treaty and the joining in the United Nations and the Bretton-Woods Agreement.

2. Encouragement of exchange of culture, sports and religion with other nations.

COMMUNIST

1. The opposition of diplomacy which is partial to one country and hostile to another or which seeks to exploit or stimulate disputes between other countries.

2. To prevent such diplomatic policy as tends to embroil Japan in an international strife.

3. To endeavor for speedy participation in the International Labor Union Conference and The United Nations.

FOODS

1. Balancing the price of rice with the price of necessary agricultural implements.

2. The industrialization of agricultural areas and the construction of new agricultural villages on the basis of the combination of agriculture and industry.

3. The distribution of state-owned forests and public management of forestry.

1. The rationalization of the system on quota and delivery.

2. Permission to farmers to dispose of their rice freely after the fulfillment of the quota.

3. The removal of official control over perishables.

4. The encouragement of powdered foods.

1. Decisions on the quota and execution of rice delivery to be entrusted to representatives of the farmers.

2. A thoroughgoing policy to establish the rationing system on foods and fuels.

3. Official control on perishables should be continued in the main.

4. The rationalization of the reward system for the farmer.

1. The establishment of methods for increasing the production of fertilizer by securing 2,000,000 tons of ammonium sulphate per year.

2. The eradication of delay in distribution by improving the food policy.

3. The abolition of official controls on perishables excepting in urban areas.

1. The determining of the quota by the farmers themselves.

2. People's control over staple foods.

3. The raising of the official price of rice to 1,500 yen per koku.

4. The distribution of fertilizer, farming implements and clothing at official prices.

FOODS (Continued)

DEMOCRATIC	LIBERAL	SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC	PEOPLE'S CO-OPERATIVE	COMMUNIST
4. The establishment of a national policy for agriculture.	5. The import of staple food.	5. The amalgamation of officers in charge of shipment and distribution of food.		5. The abolition of the bureaucrats control of food.
5. The development of the fishing and aquatic products industry.		6. Severe punishment for professional brokers of foods.		
6. The establishment of a national policy for the marine products industry.				
		LABOR		
1. Speeding up of industrial rehabilitation with emphasis on the workers.	1. The enhancement of the laboring spirit, together with realization of the right to work.	1. The enlargement and sound development of labor organizations.	1. The introduction of a producers' co-operative system into the labor unions which now stand on a class basis, and the joint responsibility of capital and labor for production.	1. The prevention of unemployment and the attainment of full employment.
2. Respect for the rights of management and labor.	2. The establishment of the minimum wage system.	2. The immediate establishment of the minimum wage system.	2. Guarantee of minimum standard of living for laborers.	2. The supplying of materials and funds to the middle and small enterprises.
3. The establishment and development of a council for labor and capital and the complete separation of capital and management.	3. The improvement of the position of laborers in an enterprise and their sharing in profit.	3. The increase of wages to meet the emergency situation.	3. The creation of a bonus for efficiency on the basis of turn-out, in addition to the livelihood bonus.	
4. A scientific system for wages.	4. Protection of women and juvenile laborers.	4. The encouragement of collective bargaining in every field of industry.	4. Raising of the exemption point of tax on workers' income.	
5. The enhancement of the laborers' culture.		5. The enhancement of the authority of the Central Labor Committee.		
		6. The establishment of the unemployment insurance system.		

SOCIAL POLICY

DEMOCRAT	LIBERAL	SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC	PEOPLE'S CO-OPERATIVE	COMMUNIST
1. The strengthening of the Livelihood Protection Law.	1. The enlargement and adjustment of the social insurance system.	1. The enforcement of the social insurance system.	1. The institution of a new life culture to enhance social education, social services and medical and welfare facilities by means of co-operative society.	1. The state ownership of tenant land and the recognition of the right to cultivate the state-owned lands.
2. Emergency measures to meet the housing shortage.	2. Popularization of the medical facilities.	2. The socialization of medical facilities.	2. The equality of opportunity of education.	2. The improvement of farmers' life through the co-operative method in farming.
3. The adoption of a far-reaching social policy.	3. Speed up repatriation and strengthen the welfare facilities for the repatriated.	3. The enactment of the children's welfare law.	3. The equality of opportunity for both sexes in labor and the protection of maternity.	3. The mansions which are in possession of war criminals, big capitalists and high officials, the disguised hotels, former military barracks, and the luxurious restaurants should be made available for the use of homeless people, and the building of houses for war-victims and repatriates at the expense of the state must be carried out.
4. The enforcement of social insurance for the unemployed and the disabled.	4. Immediate solution of the housing problem	4. The fundamental revision of the Livelihood Protection Law.	4. The improvement of material life and the introduction of co-operative method into home labor.	
	5. Equality of opportunity in education for both sexes.	5. The establishment of the Clothing Rationing Deliberation Council.		
	6. Revision of the system of laws on the basis of equal right of both sexes.	6. The mass construction of houses for laborers by an official corporation.		
	7. Increasing the political education of women.	7. The priority distribution of essentials to the war victims.		
		8. The promotion of a cultural movement with the young intellectuals as the leading influence.		
		9. The improvement of the social status of educators.		

THE LOCAL ELECTIONS

Election of Mayors of Cities, and Chiefs of Towns, Villages, and Wards

Election of Governors

Election of Local Assemblies

LOCAL ELECTIONS

Mayors of Cities; Chiefs of Towns, Villages and Tokyo Wards

On 5 April the Japanese electorate went to the polls to elect mayors of cities and chiefs of towns, villages, and Tokyo wards by direct popular vote. Hithertofore city, town, and village heads had been elected indirectly through the local assemblies with subsequent approval by the Ministry of Home Affairs, and chiefs of Tokyo wards had been appointed by the Governor of Tokyo.

The number of persons who filed questionnaires with intention to advance their candidacies for these offices reached a grand total of 47,594. However, as the day of election approached this number dwindled to 20,594 or less than half.

Among the 20,594 contestants for the 10,419 mayoralty positions were 14 women, of whom 3 were elected, the first women in Japanese history thus selected as local chief executives.

In 3,374 municipalities of Japan no elections took place because there was only one candidate in the field. This condition illustrates the fact of wide general agreement on the candidate before elections take place. It is further indicative of historic pattern in rural small communities.

The party affiliations of the new executives are as follows:

	Liberals	Democr.	Social. Democr.	Cooper.	Commun.	Minor Parties	Indepen-dents	Total
Mayors of Cities	19	23	11	1	--	9	146	20
Chiefs of Towns, Villages and Tokyo Wards	360	316	253	63	11	96	9111	1021
	379	339	264	64	11	105	9257	1041

The same as percentages of the total:

Liberals	Democr.	Social. Democr.	Cooper.	Commun.	Minor Parties	Indepen-dents	Total
3.6	3.3	2.5	0.6	0.1	1.0	88.9	100

Thus nearly ninety percent of the mayors are non-party men. Inference is not to be drawn, however, that all of these 9,257 mayors are "independent" because in many villages, towns and cities these independent candidates were either approved by the right or the left. Inference may be drawn that in Japan the questions of municipal government are less political in their character than are the all national issues. In one prefecture, Fukui, all the elected mayors were non-party men. Moreover, in all probability these newly elected mayors are more conservative than members of the Diet.

Governors of Prefectures

One of the most significant changes made by the Diet in the re-organization of local government was that of requiring the governor of the prefecture to be an elected official and no longer to be a career civil servant appointed (and moved about at will) by the Minister of Home Affairs. The decision to have popularly elected executives for prefectures was a sharp break from centralization in government.

The elections of the governors took place on the same day as that of mayors. Contesting for the 46 governorships, there were 207 candidates or approximately four persons per office. In most prefectures the campaigning was spirited and exciting. The 207 candidates were divided as follows:

	Liberals	Democr.	Social.	Cooper.	Commun.	Minor Parties	Independent	Total
Candidates	14	10	33	6	9	20	114	206
Elected	4	4	4	0	0	3	31	46
Pct. of Party Candidates who succeeded	28.6	40.0	12.1	0	0	15.0	27.2	22.3

Again, as was true in the case of mayors, the phrase "independent candidate" did not mean that the candidate was not given some support by parties. In almost all cases the independent candidate was supported by this or that political party. Again most of these groups were conservative.

Competition was so keen in eight prefectures, Chiba, Hokkaido, Ibaragi, Nara, Miyazaki, Kochi, Niigata and Wakayama in the first election that no candidate received the 37½ per cent required minimum vote and hence no governor was elected. Run-off elections were necessary as noted below.

Among the 207 candidates there were 32 former governors, of whom 26 were elected, including those who were victorious in the run-off elections; only six were defeated and of these two were defeated by other former governors. Six other candidates were high officials of the government.

Some segments of the press asserted that these particular elections were under bureaucratic influence. The facts remain nevertheless that all candidacies were open to anyone, that the elections were by universal suffrage and popular vote and that most successful candidates received large majorities; the governor of Saitama Prefecture received almost three times as many votes as his next rival, a Social Democrat.

As was mentioned above, competition in eight prefectures did not allow the leading candidates in the 5 April elections to obtain the required minimum 37½ per cent vote, as prescribed in the Law for the Organization of Urban and Rural Prefectures. However, in both Nara and Miyazaki prefectures one of the two candidates was purged just prior to the run-off elections. Because of the Imperial Ordinance concerning the purge which stated that if a candidate were purged the action was to be treated or considered as a withdrawal, the local government laws took effect; hence no election was needed and the other candidate automatically became governor.

As was anticipated, smaller numbers of voters participated in the run-off elections. Voting in these elections on 15 April compared with that of 5 April is given below:

	5 April	15 April	Decrease as per cent of 5 April
Chiba	667,166	536,186	19.5
Hokkaido	1,203,077	1,043,816	13.5
Ibaragi	753,406	671,617	10.6
Kochi	346,245	307,691	11.4
Niigata	874,643	817,665	6.5
Wakayama	375,465	347,085	7.5

This table shows that there were 6 to 20 per cent fewer voters at the run-off elections, as could be expected. Yet the purpose of the elections was achieved: in most cases the rivals received much larger percentages of the vote than in the first election, and thus the winning candidate was in a position to be able to command a much greater respect as governor than otherwise would be the case.

The vote received by the elected governors in the run-off elections is as follows:

Prefecture	Name	Party	Vote on 5 April	Vote on 15 April
Chiba	Kawaguchi	Liberal	198,399	284,321
Hokkaido	Tanaka	S. D.	384,830	555,862
Ibaragi	Tomosue	Ind.	207,765	352,399
Kochi	Kawamura	Ind.	89,159	171,876
Niigata	Kada	Ind.	312,945	515,394
Wakayama	Ona	Liberal	98,350	219,318

Moreover, the experience of conducting run-off elections was informative and beneficial. Again this was the first time in Japan that the practice was introduced.

All in all the fact that 32 of the 46 newly elected governors are experienced officials assures a smoother transition from the old to the new order than otherwise might have transpired.

Prefectural and Municipal Assembly Elections:

The prefectural and municipal assemblies under the new laws passed by the Diet have new and increased powers and responsibilities. In comparison with the rights and duties under the old laws, their position today is altered materially.

Because of the deep public interest in the local assemblies, a precedent was established for Japan as 32,824,953 voters turned out for the polling, actually 81.7 per cent of the registered voters. This figure crowned that of the approximate 80 per cent obtained under the Tojo elections in 1942, when the people were ordered to vote! In many prefectures the numbers of men and women exceeded ninety per cent. Women also established records. Voting for the second time in local elections, women turned out in unusually large numbers; 16,671,081 cast their ballots or 80% of registered women.

The Municipal assembly elections were mainly on a non-party basis and even for the prefectural assemblies independent candidates led in actual numbers. The party vote in prefectural elections was as follows:

	Indepen.	Liberal	Democratic	Social Democrat	Cooperative	Communist	Minor Parties	Total
Votes	9,686,347	5,733,280	6,092,169	5,482,627	1,187,627	556,473	2,520,428	31,258,646
% of Total	31.0	18.3	19.5	17.5	3.8	1.8	8.1	100.0

Votes for Independent candidates made 31 per cent of the total, and the vote for Liberals, Democrats, and Social Democrats was almost equally distributed. The vote for the Minor Parties amounted to only 8.1 per cent of the total.

The distribution of elected assemblymen by parties is as follows:

	Liberal	Democr.	S.Democr.	Cooper.	Commun.	Minor Parties	Indep.	Total
Prefectural	491	488	411	116	4	177	803	2,490
City Assemblies	656	647	672	32	36	312	4,917	7,272
Tokyo Ward Ass.	245	132	140	3	15	5	355	895
Village & Town Assemblies	3,956	4,124	4,701	577	365	1,577	167,924	183,224
Total	5,348	5,391	5,924	728	420	2,071	173,999	193,881

The same in percentages

Prefectures	19.7	19.6	16.5	4.7	0.1	7.1	32.3	100.0
Cities	9.0	8.9	9.2	0.4	0.5	4.3	67.7	100.0
Tokyo Wards	27.1	14.8	15.7	0.3	1.7	0.6	39.8	100.0
Village-Towns	2.2	2.2	2.6	0.3	0.2	0.9	91.6	100.0
Total	2.7	2.7	3.0	0.4	0.2	1.1	89.9	100.0

As may be observed from the table, the independent assemblymen obtained a total of 32.3 per cent in the prefectural assemblies, 67.7 per cent in the city assemblies, 39.8 per cent in the ward assemblies and 91.6 per cent in the village and town assemblies. In the small rural communities municipal matters are almost entirely of non-party complexion. Moreover, when a candidate in those localities uses the label "Independent", much significance can be attached to the declaration for in most situations he is standing on his own merits and asks that his neighbors vote on that basis.

THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS

House of Representatives Elections

House of Councillors Elections

THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS

The elections for the House of Councillors and House of Representatives which took place on 20 and 25 April, respectively, demonstrated an apparent paradox in the political thinking of the Japanese people. In the preceding elections for governors, mayors, and town and village chiefs a distinctly conservative trend misled some observers to predict a victory for either the Liberals or Democrats in the national elections as well. Such misconceptions arose from a lack of understanding of the superior importance in the eyes of the Japanese people of well-known personalities as opposed to political parties and principles. The average Japanese tends to vote for prominent men in a local community, even though their views may be diametrically opposed to his own. Usually these men are conservatives, owing to their past positions of power and prestige and, in many cases, their intimate connections with the bureaucracy and ruling castes. Often, they are former government officials themselves.

This tendency persisted to a certain extent in the elections to the House of Councillors, since it was assumed that the Upper House should preserve its traditional conservative character as opposed to the Lower House. This attitude accounts for the election of a large number of independents, most of whom are said to be conservatives. However, progressive influence did make a great deal more headway than in the local elections, and the Social Democrats emerged as the plurality party.

In the House of Representatives election the voters showed a surprising preference for parties as against personalities, and very few independents or minor party candidates were elected. Again, it was the Social Democrats who gained a plurality in the Lower House, with not quite a third of the seats, a complete contrast in the political picture as it appeared earlier in April after the first elections.

The House of Representatives Elections

Summary and Results - House of Representatives Election

	#No. of Valid Votes Cast	Percentage of total votes cast		*No. of candidates elected	Percentage of membership	**Membership in Old Diet	Loss or Gain
		1947	1946				
Social Democrats	7,168,888	26.2%	17.8%	144	30.9%	98	+46
Liberals	7,295,242	26.6%	24.4%	131	28.1%	140	- 9
Democrats	6,857,480	25.1%	18.7%	121	26.0%	145	-24
People's Coop.	1,862,753	6.8%	3.2%	29	6.2%	63	-34
Communists	1,002,889	3.7%	3.8%	4	.9%	6	- 2
Minor Parties	1,560,070	5.7%	11.7%	24	5.1%	4	+ 20
Independents	1,614,295	5.9%	20.4%	13	2.8%	9	+ 4
	27,361,611	100.0%	100.0%	466	100.0%	465	

Much greater interest was shown in the elections for the House of Representatives than for the House of Councillors. 67.9% of the registered voters participated in the elections for Representatives. Out of a total registration of 19,569,839 men and 21,326,483 women, 14,658,264 men and 13,137,620 women voted. 74.9% of the eligible men went to the polls, and 61.6% of the eligible women voters. The three largest cities, as in the House of Councillors elections, showed much higher abstention rates than the average, the rates being 34.2% in Osaka, 35.8% in Kyoto, and 39.6% in the city of

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* Of these there were purged as of 5 May: 2 Social Democrats, 2 Democrats, 1 Liberal.

** 1 vacancy.

\# Figures are official Home Ministry reports.

Tokyo. On the other hand, such industrial areas as Aichi (Nagoya), Fukuoka (Fukuoka), and Kanagawa (Yokohama) Prefectures were in the category of lowest abstention rates, with 22.6%, 29.7%, and 24.2% respectively. Lowest interest in the elections was shown by Hokkaido, with 58.7% participation.

A further indication of the greater interest shown in this election was the low percentage of invalid ballots, amounting to only 435,229, or 1.56% throughout the nation. Highest number of invalid votes in the prefectures were Kagoshima, with 2.94%, Shimane, with 2.40%, and Fukushima, with 2.30%. A factor which might also have had a bearing on the low number of wasted ballots is the fact that there were only 1,599 candidates, compared with nearly 1,200 more in last year's elections, thus making the situation less confusing to the voter. Yet it is still rather surprising that there were not considerably more spoiled ballots, since over 1,232 of the 1,600 candidates were "new faces" running for the Diet for the first time and taking the places of the relatively large number of purged old-line politicians.

The election was highlighted by the emergence of the Social Democrats as the leading party in the lower House, the party displacing the Liberals and showing a spectacular gain in strength, despite its failure to win even as much as one-third of the total number of seats. At the same time, a striking contrast was offered to the results of the House of Councillors elections, in that minor parties and independents were unable to win more than a combined total of 11.6% of the popular vote and only 37 out of the 466 seats in the House. Although voters tended to vote for personalities rather than parties in the Upper House elections, they showed a decided preference for the major parties in the Lower House elections, with "new faces" winning 220 seats.

Another noteworthy result was the conspicuous failure of women candidates to capture more than 15 seats, although the total number of candidates was nearly the same as for last year's elections, at which time 39 women were elected.

The Communists suffered a comparable setback electing less than 1% of the House membership, although their popular vote was 3.7% and their vote-getting strength showed little change from last year's election results.

It was at first thought that the change in the electoral law to provide for a medium constituency, single entry balloting system would definitely favor the Liberals and the Democrats, owing to their supposed possession of powerful local political machines and that the Social Democrats, along with minor parties and independents, would suffer a reduction in proportional representation. However, the Social Democrats were not in the least adversely affected. On the contrary, their election strategy was decidedly superior to that of both the Liberal and Democratic Parties, since they put up considerably less candidates but elected more, owing to split party votes within the other two major parties. At the time the Diet decision was made for adoption of changes in the size of electoral districts, which the party had vehemently opposed, the Social Democrats determined to restrict the number of "recognized candidates" to a figure within 200 and absolutely not to recognize candidates not already officially sanctioned. They even went so far as to expel unrecognized candidates. With this decision the party carried out its intentions to push the campaign with the objective of putting up one sure winner in each constituency. In spite of this policy, a number of "unrecognized" candidates appeared, which prompted campaign chairman Hirano to underestimate his party's chances. Before the election he remarked that "we have some 80 candidates too many. We shall probably secure 125 seats and become the second party (the first party honors going to the Liberals)." The Social Democrats ran only 18% of the total number of candidates, compared to 20% for the Liberals and 21% for the Democrats. Thus, although the Liberal Party received the largest popular vote, the Social Democrats elected 13 more members, or 30.9% of the House membership. The Liberals were not as

able to control the large number of unrecognized candidates who apparently fought for votes among themselves.

The People's Cooperatives fared less well than expected, with only 29 successful candidates, although party spokesmen had predicted 46 or 47 seats and 40 at worst. The party's campaign was hampered considerably by the absence of leaders in the Tokyo constituency and by the fact that the party had only been formed a few weeks before, just prior to the dissolution of the Diet. Most observers, nevertheless, had predicted 35 seats for them.

All prefectures except three, Aomori, Fukui, and Ishikawa, have Social Democrat representatives in the House of Representatives. No Liberals were elected in Fukui, Ishikawa, Kagawa, Shimane, and Miyazaki. Democrats failed to win seats in Nara, Wakayama, Tottori, Tokushima, and Miyazaki.

Personalities led the list of top vote-getters. All 11 members of the Yoshida Cabinet who ran for election to the House were elected, as was Chief Cabinet Secretary Hayashi Joji. Ozaki Yukio, who has served in every Diet since the establishment of the parliamentary system in Japan, was re-elected by a decisive margin. Yamazaki Takeshi, Liberal and ex-speaker of the House, was elected from the Second District of Ibaraki Prefecture. Tagawa Daikichiro, who lost to Yasui Seiichiro in the Tokyo-to gubernatorial election, won by a large margin. Fifty-seven year old Mrs. Nakayama Masa, Liberal candidate from the Second District of Osaka, is one of the women elected to the Lower House, although her husband, Kazuo, also a Liberal candidate from the same district, was defeated.

Prominent Social Democrats elected included the new Prime Minister Katayama Tetsu, Speaker of the House Matsuoka Komakichi, Mizutani Chosaburo, Nishio Suchiro, Kato Kanju, and his wife Shizue.

The four Communists elected are Nosaka Sanzo, Tokuda Kyuichi, Kimura Sakae, a 28-year old express company employee from Shimane, and Hayashi Hyakuro, a lawyer from Nagano. Failure of Shiga Yoshio to win election in Osaka is regarded as a severe blow to the Party, as was the defeat of Mrs. Nosaka.

In the key election areas, the Social Democrats captured 12 out of 27 seats in Tokyo Metropolitan District, compared to 8 for the Liberals, 4 for the Democrats, 2 for the Communists, and 1 for the People's Cooperatives. Nosaka and Tokuda placed last among the winners in their respective districts. In Osaka, the Social Democrats won 9 out of 19 seats, followed by 5 for the democrats, 4 for the Liberals, and 1 Independent. Two Communists placed as runner-up in the First and Third Districts of Osaka Prefecture. In Fukuoka, the Social Democrats secured 7 out of 19 seats, the Democrats 6, and the Liberals 3. In Hokkaido the Social Democrats also won a plurality, with 8 out of the 22 seats, followed by 7 for the Liberals, 3 for the Democrats, 1 for the People's Cooperatives, and 3 for minor parties. In Hyogo the Democrats captured half of the 20 seats, followed by 5 for the Social Democrats, 2 for the Liberals, and 1 for the People's Cooperatives. Of Aichi's 19 seats, 6 each went to the Democrats and Social Democrats, 4 to the Liberals, 2 to the People's Cooperatives, and 1 to a member of a minor party.

The Diet includes 220 "new faces," 237 former Diet members, and 9 one-time members, according to JIJI PRESS.

The new House contains the following vocational groupings: 14 members of agricultural associations, 16 teachers, 24 former government officials, 44 lawyers, 6 former Cabinet ministers, 19 labor leaders, 10 newspapermen, 6 religious workers, 23 writers, 3 doctors, and a large number of businessmen and industrialists.

House of Representatives Election Results - April 25, 1947

	Elect-orate	L	D	S. D.	P. C.	C	M	I	Total
Hokkaido	1	68,697	34,014	52,946	15,165	4,821	21,592	28,373	225,608
	2	66,867	9,903	21,537	23,241	5,271	56,753	3,012	186,584
	3	59,254	8,933	45,804	—	6,501	545	12,807	133,844
	4	23,059	1,461	110,016	30,909	11,759	71,085	23,047	271,336
	5	45,724	32,125	75,857	26,594	8,004	40,150	—	228,454
	Total	263,601	86,436	306,160	95,909	36,356	190,125	67,239	1,045,826
Aomori	1	75,792	77,061	18,336	16,927	2,859	—	11,666	202,641
	2	34,909	30,554	16,827	44,431	8,155	16,918	13,068	164,862
	Total	110,701	107,615	35,163	61,358	11,014	16,918	24,734	367,503
Iwate	1	62,135	34,041	71,810	6,034	4,951	32,548	2,257	213,776
	2	97,676	71,472	33,591	—	4,082	2,023	—	208,844
	Total	159,811	105,513	105,401	6,034	9,033	34,571	2,257	422,620
Miyagi	1	89,246	81,737	93,694	20,377	6,385	25,218	1,409	318,066
	2	95,173	44,594	39,351	—	3,419	6,096	352	188,975
	Total	184,419	126,331	133,045	20,377	9,794	31,314	1,761	507,041
Akita	1	43,823	—	57,540	9,246	10,261	72,498	8,100	202,068
	2	25,215	30,211	31,472	27,661	8,794	51,696	23,214	197,263
	Total	69,038	30,211	89,012	37,507	19,055	123,194	31,314	399,371
Yamagata	1	122,091	60,731	46,940	—	4,774	17,009	14,193	265,738
	2	66,574	72,362	50,579	5,691	4,520	—	12,636	212,362
	Total	188,665	133,093	97,519	5,691	9,294	17,009	26,829	478,100
Fukushima	1	69,680	29,835	93,539	—	4,206	—	7,318	204,578
	2	105,455	75,206	58,053	5,739	6,683	2,616	19,809	273,561
	3	55,279	46,340	32,943	—	3,244	32,796	7,062	177,664
	Total	230,414	151,381	184,535	5,739	14,133	35,412	34,189	655,803

	Elect-orate	L	D	S.D.	P.C.	C	M	I	Total
Ibaragi	1	107,624	63,409	30,238	5,221	2,553	28,049	357	237,451
	2	72,971	1,285	60,810	8,479	3,848	13,960	10,595	171,948
	3	58,128	93,736	39,747	40,565	6,546	--	19,945	258,667
	Total	238,723	158,430	130,795	54,265	12,947	42,009	30,897	668,066
Tochigi	1	30,751	91,608	81,861	29,702	4,822	—	33,955	272,699
	2	83,599	99,348	58,621	7,456	5,913	--	5,499	260,436
	Total	114,350	190,956	140,482	37,158	10,735	--	39,454	533,135
Gumma	1	8,879	115,673	64,889	--	4,874	—	1,972	196,287
	2	14,733	43,724	58,202	23,167	4,101	2,816	9,472	156,215
	3	88,699	86,859	53,753	--	9,549	--	15,682	254,542
	Total	112,311	246,256	176,844	23,167	18,524	2,816	27,126	607,044
Saitama	1	71,395	33,039	95,203	—	6,981	2,554	—	209,173
	2	94,084	33,968	31,026	4,024	7,493	208	6,752	177,554
	3	42,401	97,244	30,161	—	17,652	—	—	187,458
	4	118,000	18,890	40,655	4,773	5,559	993	2,711	191,581
	Total	325,886	183,141	197,045	8,797	37,685	3,755	9,463	765,766
Chiba	1	94,920	66,793	47,751	—	6,432	1,508	1,802	219,206
	2	95,079	60,532	18,481	--	3,259	525	4,811	182,687
	3	127,244	91,262	15,466	—	4,632	--	30,708	269,312
	Total	317,243	218,587	81,698	--	14,323	2,033	37,371	671,205
Tokyo	1	65,919	59,285	76,323	—	28,628	17,885	16,857	264,887
	2	66,554	15,450	78,794	2,767	15,150	3,849	1,550	183,514
	3	47,716	12,312	63,734	1,284	20,615	4,418	7,235	157,314
	4	64,768	18,794	60,647	—	20,525	3,666	8,618	177,018
	5	59,440	20,666	64,784	29,254	18,093	1,111	14,285	207,613
	6	107,595	59,656	122,959	3,148	16,769	9,894	9,709	329,730
	7	69,072	60,442	101,302	1,645	14,865	6,469	463	254,270
	Total	481,060	246,611	568,523	37,498	134,645	47,292	58,717	1,574,246

	Elect-orate	L	D	S.D.	P.C.	C	M	I	Total
Kanagawa	1	43,937	57,545	97,439	16,633	13,386	1,676	10,260	240,876
	2	59,086	14,296	76,364	7,562	16,158	15,843	18,282	208,091
	3	74,749	29,586	108,936	42,517	9,061	8,101	4,973	272,923
	Total	177,772	101,427	277,739	66,712	38,605	25,520	34,155	721,891
Niigata	1	68,453	33,147	26,942	4,491	4,117	11,889	14,773	163,813
	2	42,164	79,807	58,408	2,177	9,964	--	5,242	197,762
	3	62,009	88,393	97,120	—	8,282	11,721	8,052	275,577
	4	65,975	42,175	55,002	—	3,355	1,921	—	168,428
	Total	238,601	243,522	237,472	6,668	25,718	25,531	28,068	805,580
Toyama	1	37,481	63,385	62,866	30,852	3,201	--	1,816	205,707
	2	42,375	64,054	26,371	40,194	2,511	—	12,573	188,078
	Total	79,856	127,539	95,237	71,052	5,712	—	14,589	393,785
Ishikawa	1	8,354	68,599	63,650	—	19,452	--	33,672	193,727
	2	39,855	72,372	10,563	—	3,866	15,104	5,293	147,051
	Total	48,209	140,969	74,213	—	23,312	15,104	38,965	340,778
Fukui	1	31,492	148,592	76,195	—	4,325	30,777	6,995	298,376
Yamanashi	1	77,442	87,525	102,563	2,662	11,133	29,082	562	310,969
Nagano	1	80,251	50,929	44,365	13,396	13,023	2,159	690	204,813
	2	30,856	32,099	31,000	77,847	16,785	2,758	2,273	193,618
	3	10,356	43,421	58,656	34,404	25,934	27,033	14,316	214,120
	4	96,582	34,276	23,038	10,956	8,237	9,208	--	182,297
	Total	218,045	160,725	157,059	136,603	63,979	41,158	17,279	794,848
Gifu	1	118,957	56,148	75,192	3,115	5,910	18,969	15,009	293,300
	2	68,493	90,073	64,837	15,497	3,010	--	9,196	251,106
	Total	187,450	146,221	140,029	18,612	8,920	18,969	24,205	544,406

	Elect-orate	L	D	S.D.	P.C.	C	M	I	Total
Shizuoka	1	152,659	65,109	93,871	14,351	15,212	--	--	341,202
	2	133,641	42,429	67,773	--	6,902	--	21,758	272,503
	3	66,220	68,678	30,803	77,686	6,660	3,311	16,510	269,868
	Total	352,520	176,216	192,447	92,037	28,774	3,311	38,268	883,573
Aichi	1	32,311	101,257	83,480	13,847	16,212	11,388	5,951	264,446
	2	60,902	99,399	71,114	12,969	10,142	--	--	254,526
	3	60,722	64,718	36,342	47,625	5,323	--	--	214,730
	4	58,391	78,907	42,266	31,005	7,787	45,011	11,124	274,491
	5	86,182	45,682	40,317	--	7,131	27,187	--	206,499
	Total	298,508	389,963	273,519	105,446	46,595	83,586	17,075	1,214,692
Mie	1	55,646	130,200	54,828	--	14,010	41,941	26,641	323,266
	2	31,355	44,750	41,883	--	8,078	--	83,317	209,383
	Total	80,505	174,950	96,711	--	22,088	41,941	109,958	532,649
Shiga	1	129,627	38,104	102,827	53,195	6,653	9,615	4,505	344,526
Kyoto	1	35,878	69,607	119,703	9,180	10,427	10,151	6,277	261,223
	2	53,670	147,557	124,628	4,855	5,118	1,505	4,442	341,775
	Total	89,548	217,164	244,331	14,035	15,545	11,656	10,719	602,998
Osaka	1	67,716	45,985	69,802	13,842	27,762	44,169	6,521	273,797
	2	46,412	47,469	97,829	8,436	11,476	14,771	1,575	227,968
	3	29,723	69,788	85,300	11,377	12,409	--	11,125	220,022
	4	42,963	77,110	72,741	--	8,348	--	25,145	226,307
	5	63,376	17,981	48,568	--	10,025	17,164	58,690	215,804
	Total	248,190	258,333	374,540	33,655	70,020	76,104	103,056	1,163,898
Hyogo	1	26,538	58,292	76,196	--	7,830	9,202	1,647	179,705
	2	25,168	129,136	114,200	11,945	11,144	7,199	3,190	301,982
	3	32,482	74,042	62,515	32,319	4,888	--	--	706,240
	4	39,011	99,617	40,830	39,374	10,531	--	13,460	242,823
	5	27,194	110,370	26,122	9,058	3,382	--	2,075	178,201
	Total	150,393	471,457	319,863	92,696	37,775	16,401	20,372	1,108,957

	Elect-orate	I.	D	S.D.	P.C.	C	M	I	Total
Nara	1	81,183	37,427	51,948	—	12,992	34,990	110,088	328,628
Wakayama	1	75,046	6,161	54,193	—	3,339	4,744	29,139	172,622
	2	65,459	—	43,900	46,122	4,780	—	8,042	168,303
	Total	140,505	6,161	98,093	46,122	8,119	4,744	37,181	340,925
Tottori	1	66,576	—	72,343	13,596	11,751	60,279	—	224,545
Shimane	1	31,950	155,243	126,436	17,532	20,597	—	20,597	372,076
Okayama	1	99,810	68,048	63,408	33,145	13,549	—	3,452	381,412
	2	111,046	57,674	81,595	34,563	15,985	—	677	301,540
	Total	210,856	125,722	145,003	67,708	29,534	—	4,129	582,952
Hiroshima	1	—	23,151	77,158	66,135	4,592	37,534	7,374	215,944
	2	105,138	35,636	47,476	27,254	6,182	25,617	763	248,066
	3	82,075	76,991	110,616	—	8,655	—	25,883	304,220
	Total	187,213	135,778	235,250	93,389	19,429	63,151	340,020	768,230
Yamaguchi	1	106,461	28,525	70,794	15,872	8,370	1,091	14,199	245,318
	2	49,436	29,714	61,465	17,939	14,205	44,554	40,878	258,191
	Total	155,897	58,239	132,259	33,817	22,575	45,645	55,077	503,509
Tokushima	1	62,666	12,699	55,605	118,606	3,230	24,613	3,697	281,116
Kagawa	1	18,588	28,413	67,582	—	4,813	41,761	2,990	164,147
	2	25,521	78,270	46,926	38,587	3,760	—	2,923	195,987
	Total	44,109	106,683	114,508	38,587	8,573	41,761	5,913	360,134
Ehime	1	46,003	65,691	26,352	—	4,780	2,166	2,591	147,583
	2	24,174	90,457	71,997	—	4,830	—	472	191,930
	3	85,261	41,846	33,551	13,305	6,067	2,966	2,290	185,886
	Total	156,038	197,994	131,900	13,305	15,677	5,132	5,353	525,399
Kochi	1	148,102	46,055	64,235	—	8,721	26,729	40,172	334,014

	Electorate	I.	D	S.D.	P.C.	C	M	I	Total
Fukuoka	1	40,907	55,647	78,343	--	8,012	47,904	41,703	272,516
	2	36,497	85,446	145,441	19,920	18,742	--	--	306,046
	3	75,608	84,018	59,926	11,357	7,717	31,982	37,730	308,338
	4	32,900	54,514	123,384	--	6,768	--	21,247	238,813
	Total	185,912	279,625	407,094	31,277	41,239	79,886	100,680	1,125,713
Saga	1	122,564	85,784	27,746	52,444	10,889	—	65,617	365,044
Nagasaki	1	103,141	34,202	52,413	16,014	4,928	20,233	10,555	241,486
	2	50,123	76,341	64,144	--	6,311	31,422	--	228,341
	Total	153,264	110,543	116,557	16,014	11,239	51,655	10,555	469,827
Kumamoto	1	61,969	104,904	96,855	21,578	4,457	7,253	9,638	306,654
	2	107,780	111,259	59,030	19,421	2,652	7,581	20,655	328,378
	Total	169,749	216,163	155,885	40,999	9,109	14,834	30,293	635,032
Oita	1	56,742	77,013	28,610	15,612	7,895	8,771	62,417	257,060
	2	33,078	49,699	46,203	23,590	6,005	3,701	26,693	188,969
	Total	89,820	126,712	74,813	39,202	13,900	12,472	89,110	446,029
Miyazaki	1	31,071	30,001	28,553	41,620	4,338	—	62,234	197,817
	2	13,632	--	53,537	81,956	2,895	--	8,791	160,811
	Total	44,703	30,001	82,090	123,576	7,233	—	71,025	358,628
Kagoshima	1	51,466	97,170	20,963	18,222	1,496	8,099	19,319	216,735
	2	—	90,603	39,539	18,657	1,225	38,301	16,193	211,151
	3	42,878	47,143	12,705	46,021	677	2,563	2,272	154,259
	Total	94,344	241,549	73,207	82,900	3,398	48,963	37,784	582,145

The House of Councillors Election

Summary and Results - House of Councillors Election

	#National Constituency		No of Valid Votes Cast	Prefectural Constituency		No. of Valid Votes Cast	%	Total #		% of Total Membership
Social Democrats	17	(11)*	3,479,814	30	(16)	4,847,188	(22)	47	(27)	18
Liberals	8	(2)	1,360,456	29	(14)	3,822,767	(17)	37	(16)	15
Democrats	6	(5)	1,908,087	22	(12)	3,117,202	(14)	28	(17)	11
People's Cooperatives	3	(2)	549,916	6	(3)	1,038,271	(5)	9	(5)	4
Communists	3	(0)	610,948	1	(0)	809,177	(4)	4	(0)	2
Minor Parties	5	(1)	1,039,819	7	(2)	1,026,178	(5)	12	(3)	5
Independents	58	(29)	12,462,073	55	(28)	7,235,693	(33)	113	(57)	45
	100	(50)	21,411,113	150	(75)	21,896,476		250	(125)	100

The elections to the House of Councillors on 20 April resulted in an abnormally high abstention rate compared to the 1946 House of Representatives elections, this year's 5 April elections and the subsequent elections of 25 and 30 April. The average abstention rate throughout the nation was 39 per cent though on the whole it was much higher in the cities than in the rural areas, reaching 41 per cent in OSAKA, 43 per cent in KYOTO, 47 per cent in TOKYO. On the other hand, over 70 per cent voted in AICHI, NARA, SHIMANE, and over 80 per cent in SAGA. The only prefecture with an abstention rate higher than 50 per cent was CHIBA, with 67.6 per cent.

For the national constituency, official returns from the Home Ministry gave the total votes cast as 24,546,494. The figure includes 13,189,443 male voters and 11,357,051 women voters.

Independents captured 45 per cent of the seats in the House of Councillors, more than the total amount mustered by the Social Democrats, the Liberals and the Democrats, who constitute Japan's three major parties. The majority of the Independents are of conservative leanings.

In the prefectural electoral group also conservatives won an overwhelming majority over the "progressives" and are said to number as high as 64 per cent of the successful candidates, owing to the election of a large number of conservative independents.

The number of women candidates standing for election to the House of Councillors totaled 19. 8 out of 13 candidates in the national constituency and 2 out of 6 in the prefectural constituencies were elected. One of the latter is HIRANO Shigeko, wife of HIRANO Rikizo, who is a member of the House of Representatives and right-wing leader of the Social Democrats. The other is FUKAGAWA Tamae, elected from the TOKYO constituency.

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* Numbers in parentheses indicate number of representatives who will have 6 year terms. The rest will have 3 year terms.

\# Figures are official Home Ministry reports.

The House of Councillors averages more than 10 years younger than the former House of Peers. A JIJI Press analysis of the ages of the Councillors elected from the National Constituency follows:

	From 1st to 50th Place	From 51st to 100th Place
(1) Conservatives	56.0 years	54.0 years
Democrats	55.2	47.5
Liberals	65.0	55.3
Peoples Cooperatives	54.5	50.0
Minor Parties	75.0	46.2
Independents	55.1	54.0
(2) Progressives	48.9	47.9
Social Democrats	50.0	51.6
Communists		47.0
Independents	44.5	44.6

Most of the former members of the House of Peers who were candidates for election to the House of Councillors were successfully returned. The 33 elected include such descendents of feudal lords as Count MURAKAMI Giichi of SHIGA, Marquis TOKUGAWA Yorisada of WAKAYAMA, Count HISAMATSU Sadatake of EHIME, Baron DAN Ino of FUKUOKA and Marquis SAIGO Kichinosuke and Baron SHIMAZU Tadahiko, both of KAGOSHIMA.

Successful candidates for the prefectural electorate include 12 out of the 18 members of the House of Representatives who stood for election. In addition 20 former members of local legislatures and 12 former prefectural governors and mayors also won. Three career diplomats, SATO Naotake of AOMORI, former Ambassador to Russia, MATSUDAIRA Tsuneo of FUKUSHIMA, former Ambassador to England, and DEBUCHI Katsuji of IWATE, former Ambassador to the United States, were chosen in the prefectural constituencies.

Many representatives of economic groups, especially those backed by national organizations such as the agricultural, forestry, fishing associations, mining and other industrial associations, and nation-wide business enterprises made impressive showings. HOSHI Hajime, head of a large chain of drug stores centered in the FUKUSHIMA area, showed top vote-getting strength in the national electorate with 487,612 votes, while YANAGAWA Sozaemon, president of the National Agriculture Association, gained the number two spot with 480,927 votes. Third highest number of votes, 435,679 was received by HAYAKAWA, Shinichi, businessman, followed by MATSUMOTO Jiichiro influential left-wing leader of the Social Democratic Party with 415,494, TAKAHASHI, Ryutaro, president of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry and former member of the House of Peers who received 370,934 votes and Dr. TANAKA Kotaro, Democrat and former Minister of Education, with 361,904 votes.

Labor and farmers organizations succeeded in electing 8 out of a total of 21 candidates in the prefectural constituencies and 10 out of 24 labor-supported candidates in the national constituency. Elected by more than 330,000 votes was SASAKI Ryosaku, secretary-general of the Japan Power Generation and Transmission Company, who received the support of the 200,000 workers affiliated with the Electrical Workers Union, the All-Japan Coal Miners Union and the Housing Corporation. SUZUKI Seiichi, chairman of the National Federation of Government Railway Labor Unions, and NAKAMURA Masao, chairman of the Executive Committee of the OSAKA chapter of the Government Railway Workers Union, received a total of 227,210 and 148,819 votes respectively, owing to the support of the more than 530,000 members. Also elected with a high number of votes were MIZUHASHI Tosaku, member of the Central Executive Committee of the All Japan Communications Workers Union, which claims a total of 350,000 members; OKADA Soji, member of the Central Committee of the Japan Farmers Union, an organization consisting of more than 1,400,000 farmers, and IWAMA Masao, chairman of the National Council of Teachers Unions, which claims a membership of over 3,500,000.

KIKUNAMI Katsumi, executive chairman of the National Congress of Industrial Workers organizations, lagged far behind, ranging barely within the first 100 at first and then finally dropping out of the running to 104th place with only 65,000 votes despite the nation-wide organization he leads. Candidates backed by the rival National Federation of Labor, such as HIRA Toraichi and Mrs. AKIMOTSU Tsuneko, ranked far higher, receiving 200,000 and 252,000 votes respectively.

Vocational grouping of the 250 successful candidates is as follows: 52 industrialists were elected, 33 former members of the House of Peers, 24 Farmer's Assn. officials, and 22 teachers, 7 former cabinet ministers, three ambassadors, 15 held other government positions. Labor leaders totaled 20, newspapermen 5, religious workers 8, writers 8, doctors 5, social workers 6, lawyers 7, businessmen 25.

WOMEN AND THE ELECTIONS

Highlights

General Comments

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WOMEN AND THE ELECTIONS

The participation of women in political affairs as measured by the results of the April 1947 elections for national and local public offices, and by comparative analysis of the abstention rates for men and women in both the 1946 and 1947 general elections, is summarized in the following tables:

Participation of Women in April 1947 Election

	Soc. Dem.		Dem.		Lib.		People's Cooperat.		Comm.		Minor Part.		Ind.		Totals	
	C*	E*	C	E	C	E	C	E	C	E	C	E	C	E	C	E
House of Councillors	4	3	2	2	1	0	2	1	1	0	3	1	6	3	19	10
House of Represent.	15	9	22	3	9	3	4	0	8	0	4	0	22	0	84	15
Governor															2	0
Mayor															2	0
Chief, Town & Village															12	3
Member Pref. Assembly	(Official Party affiliation breakdown not available)														111	23
Member City Assembly															346	74
Member Ward Assembly															37	16
Member Town & Village Assembly															1784	707

Comparative Rates of Abstention for Men and Women

ELECTIONS 1946 and 1947

	Elected	Candidates	Registered Voters	Votes Cast	Abstention Rate
H Of R (1946)					
Women	38	79	20,557,564	13,780,369	33.9
Men	428	2770	16,278,926	12,778,242	21.5
H Of R (1947)					
Women	15	84	21,326,483	13,137,620	38.4
Men	451	1515	19,569,839	14,658,264	25.1
H Of C (1947)					
Women	10	20	21,340,621	11,526,474	46.0
Men	240	557	19,591,594	13,412,323	31.5
Gov.& Mayors & Chiefs (1947)					
Women	3 (1)	15	20,960,655	13,938,427 (2)	33.5
Men	10,462	20,790	19,185,911	14,905,756 (2)	22.3
Pref, City, Town & Vil Assm (1947)					
Women	820	2,278	20,820,636	16,671,081 (3)	20.0
Men	193,061	256,093	19,339,671	16,153,872 (3)	16.5

Average Rate of Abstention	1946	1947
Women	33.9	34.5
Men	21.5	23.8

* C - Candidates; E-Elected
(1) Village Chiefs only
(2) Vote cast for Governors
(3) Vote cast for Prefectural Assemblymen

Comparative Ratios of Women Candidates
To Total Number of Candidates, and Number of Women Elected
To Number of Women Candidates

Percentage of Women Candidates
to Total Number of Candidates

April 1947

House of Representatives	5.2
House of Councillors	3.5
Governors & Mayors	0.1
Pref., City, Town and Village Assemblies	0.9
Average of all 1947 Elections	2.4

April 1946

Election for House of Representatives	2.8

Percentage of Women Elected to
Total Number of Women Candidates

April 1947

House of Representatives	17.9
House of Councillors	50.0
Governors & Mayors	18.7
Pref., City, Town and Village Assemblies	36.0
Average of all 1947 Elections	30.5

April 1946

Election for House of Representatives	48.1

Percentage of Male Candidates
to Total Number of Candidates

April 1947

House of Representatives	94.8
House of Councillors	96.5
Governors & Mayors	99.9
Pref., City, Town and Village Assemblies	99.1
Average of all 1947 Elections	97.6

April 1946

Election for House of Representatives	97.2

Percentage of Males Elected to
Total Number of Male Candidates

April 1947

House of Representatives	29.8
House of Councillors	43.0
Governors & Mayors	50.5
Pref., City, Town and Village Assemblies	75.5
Average of all 1947 Elections	49.7

April 1946

Election for House of Representatives	15.4

Highlights

a. Women ran for and were elected to legislative posts at all levels of Government. No women were elected governor of a prefecture, mayor of a city, or chief of a town, but three women were elected as village chiefs.

b. More women registered and qualified to vote in 1947 than in 1946.

c. More men registered and qualified to vote in 1947 than in 1946.

d. More women than men registered and qualified to vote in 1946 and 1947.

e. More women voted in 1947 than in 1946.

f. More men voted in 1947 than in 1946.

g. More women than men voted in 1947.

h. Fewer women were elected to the House of Representatives in 1947 than in 1946.

i. Men demonstrated their greatest interest in the Diet and in the election of prefectural governors, where they outvoted the women.

j. Women demonstrated their greatest interest in the election of prefectural assemblymen, where they outvoted the men.

k. The absolute number and percentage of women candidates for public office in relation to the number of registered women voters and the number of votes cast by women is abnormally lower than that of men.

l. The percentage of men candidates was overwhelmingly greater than that of women: 97.6 to 2.4. The range for men varied from 94.8 for the House of Representatives to 99.9 for local governors and for women from 0.1 for prefectural chief executives to 5.2 for the House of Representatives.

m. The percentage of men elected in Proportion to the number of men candidates was greater than that of women elected in proportion to the number of women candidates: 49.7 to 30.5. The range for men varied from 29.8 for the House of Representatives to 75.5 for the local assemblies and for women from 17.9 for the House of Representatives to 50.0 for the House of Councillors.

n. The percentage of eligible women who failed to exercise their voting rights was higher than that of men - 34.5 to 23.8 in the 1947 elections for all public offices as compared to the 1946 ratio for the House of Representatives 33.9 for women to 21.5 for men. The range for women varied from 20.0 for the local assemblies to 46.0 for the House of Councillors and for men from 16.5 for the local assemblies to 31.5 for the House of Councillors.

o. The number of votes cast was higher and the rate of abstention was lower in the election for local assemblies for both men and women than for any other major category of public offices.

p. The rate of abstention for both men and women was higher in the election for the House of Councillors than for any other major category of public offices.

General Comments

The extension of suffrage rights to women before the general election for the House of Representatives last April inaugurated a year of unprecedented freedom which fostered the growth of political consciousness among Japanese women. Quantitative indices of political consciousness are the number of registered voters, the number of votes cast, the number of candidates for public office and the number elected. The 1946 election disclosed the existence of women's political interest and potentiality and the 1947 elections revealed increased political activity and acquisition of influence at all levels of government. Women took advantage of their first opportunity in history to participate as candidates and electors in the elections for the House of Councillors and for local legislative bodies and executive posts.

Specific Comments

House of Representatives 1946-1947

In the House of Representatives election of 1947, the only 1947 election directly comparable to the 1946 election, the number of women elected to the lower house showed a considerable decrease. In 1946, 39 out of 79 candidates were elected, but in 1947 only 15 out of 84 candidates were successful. 12 of these were former Diet members.

Two factors, election law revision and mediocre records, seem responsible for this drop.

The system of limited plural voting in effect in 1946, permitting electors to cast their votes for two or three candidates, made it more possible that a woman would be included in their choice.

Decrease in popularity was no doubt attributable to the feminine members' failure to create a favorable impression in the Diet. However, regardless of personal qualifications or ability, the feminine Diet members were handicapped by their inability to cope with old fashioned political bargaining as practiced by the veteran members and frozen out more completely than ordinary freshmen legislators. Furthermore, the general lack of insight and understanding of public affairs and of Diet procedures, coupled with the traditional over-valuation of the virtues of modesty and reticence are considered contributory causes

to their poor showing. No woman was assigned to the powerful budget committee, although women served on other House of Representative standing committees. A majority of the women members said there was no discrimination in the Diet and only a few declared that they lacked the opportunity to serve in important committees or to speak in the Diet.

House of Councillors - 1947

Thirteen feminine candidates from the national and six from the prefectural constituencies ran for the House of Councillors. Only one of these was a former member of the Diet and she failed to be elected. Ten newcomers, however, were elected to the House of Councillors. Seven of these will serve for six years.

The feminine candidate receiving the largest vote was AKAMATSU Tsune, who polled 252,369 votes, securing seventeenth place among the 100 successful candidates from the national constituency. Miss AKAMATSU is now director of the Women's Sections of the Social Democratic Party and the Japan Federation of Labor. As a factory worker she was a pioneer in Japan's labor movement in which she still retains an active role.

The top ranking feminine candidate from the prefectural constituency was HIRANO Shigeko with 90,366 votes. She is the wife of HIRANO Rikizo, prominent Social Democratic leader. While working with her husband, she became connected with Japan's Agrarian movement with which he has long been associated.

Local Assemblies

Women representatives were elected to town and village assemblies in all 46 prefectures, to city assemblies in 32 prefectures, and to prefectural assemblies in 17 prefectures. Only one woman was elected to the Tokyo metropolitan assembly and only 16 women were elected to ward assemblies (Tokyo), as against 879 men.

Executive Posts

No woman was elected governor, mayor of a city, or headman of a town. Only 3 women were elected village chief.

Summary of Factors Limiting the Election of Women

a. The small number of women candidates in comparison with the number of registered women voters and the number of men candidates.

b. Lack of prestige and publicity.

c. Lack of experience in public office or in responsible private enterprise.

d. Limited educational background.

e. Lack of organized political and financial support.

f. Prejudice against women in public office.

g. Voluntary observance by women candidates and elected and appointed officials of customs and manners which tend to subordinate them in their relations with men.

h. Preoccupation of women with domestic duties and obligations or unwillingness to participate in political affairs.

i. Mediocre record and general ineffectiveness of women elected to the House of Representatives in 1946.

Conclusion

The political potential of women as revealed by an analysis of the 1946 and 1947 elections is not only amazingly in excess of expectations, but in excess of reasonable hope and portends well for the future of Japan.

Granted that their interest far exceeds their present demonstrated capacity, it is nevertheless a warranted presumption that a continuation of their present interest in conjunction with further emancipation from stultifying social mores, extension of educational opportunities and exposure to theoretical and practical political considerations will undoubtedly facilitate the development of democracy in Japan.

CONCLUSION

Campaign Financing

Individual Campaigns

Party Campaigns

Election Law Violations

Other Problems

Neighborhood Associations

Abstentions

Spoiled Ballots

Remedial Action

Analysis of Elections

Fair and Democratic Elections

Improvement of Elections

Political Implications of Elections

Statement by the Supreme Commander

CONCLUSION

The record of pre-war elections in Japan was a notorious one: officials and police frequently abused their power in order to ensure that elections turned out as the government desired while competing political parties themselves were not above fraud, coercion, and bribery.

Tightening of election laws and election day surveillance succeeded in 1946 in wiping out fraudulent practices on election and ballot counting days and materially reduced the bribery and excessive expenditures which normally characterized campaign periods. As noted above, further improvements in election laws were made prior to the 1947 election.

Campaign Financing

Individual Campaigns

In sharp contrast with the pre-election period when certain sections of the press wrote unrestrainedly and often without regard to fact about the certainty that Diet candidates must, because of huge campaign expenditures, become subservient to new yen millionaires, black marketeers and party bosses, only four allegations have yet been filed of any violation of the limitations on campaign expenditures.

A typical cross section of financing is afforded by the reports of the first 88 candidates to file their returns for the national constituency of the House of Councillors.

Of those reporting, 43 paid all their campaign expenses (limited to ¥75,000) out of their own pockets. Only 45 reported having received contributions, while 28 acknowledged having contracted debts of more than the same amount. (These figures include 15 councillors who reported both loans and contributions.)

No candidate reported having exceeded the 75,000 yen ceiling. Fifty four of the 88 reports show expenditures of between 50,000 and 75,000 yen, while three spent less than 20,000 yen.

These latter were Ozaki Yukitaro, Independent, (son of veteran parliamentarian Ozaki Yukio) 10,304, Oyama Yasushi, Green Wind, 10,396, and Kosuge Ino, Independent, Pacifist, 16,464.

All 88 Councillors emerged from the campaign with a surplus. Sixteen showed a profit solely from contributions; Nishida Tenko, Independent, cleared 52,600 yen as a result of a subsidy from the Ito En, a Kyoto religious organization.

The top campaign fund was that of Kawano Masao, who had 151,000 yen, of which 46,500 yen was a gift from the Teachers Union. Hozumi Shinrokuro, Independent, repatriate, with 106,280, had the second richest fund. Both men spent less than the ceiling.

The reports show the following distribution:

Yen	Spent	Received
10,000-19,999	3	2
20,000-29,999	7	5
30,000-39,999	6	2
40,000-49,999	18	9
50,000-59,999	21	18
60,000-69,999	19	10
70,000-79,999	14	25
80,000-89,999		13
90,000-99,999		2
100,000		2
Total	88	88

DECLASSIFIED: E.O. 12356, SEC. 3.4(b)(1) AND 3.4(b)(2) OR (b)(3) NNCP # 779012

Because contributions are, for the most part, listed as coming from individuals rather than from corporations, it is somewhat difficult to identify the source of campaign funds.

Labor unions, especially teachers unions, gave their assistance chiefly in the form of loans:

General Teachers Union, 46,569 yen gift plus a loan of 18,800 yen to Kawano Masao, Independent. These sums enabled Kawano to emerge with a clear surplus of 80,000 yen.

Oita Teachers Union, 20,000 yen loan to Abe Sadamu, Green Wind, vice-chairman of the Union.

Finance Ministry Labor Union lent 30,000 yen to Kawakami Yoshi, Independent, Chairman of the Union.

General Federation of Railway Workers, 20,000 gift to Suzuki Seiichi, Social Dem., their national chairman.

Railway Mail Workers Union gave 5,500 yen to Mizuhashi Tosaku, Social Dem., who is NCIO representative of the National Council of Trade Unions General Struggle Committee and Comunication Union Chairman.

Hokkaido Press Workers Union lent 16,199 yen to Kimura Kihachiro, Social Dem., Chief editor of "Ronsetsu".

Kumamoto Trade Union contributed 62,000 yen to Uchimura Seiji, Social Dem., chairman of the Railway Workers.

Among business firms contributing was Japan Gas Technical Association, which lent 6,000 yen to Toyoshima Aimei, who lost. The Hashiki Tabi Company gave 20,000 and the Ikuta Tabi Company 3,000 to Arai Hachiro. Seibu Shoko Company lent 52,000 yen to Suzuki Naoto, Independent, former governor of Kumamoto. The Empire Automobile Company and the Union Transport Company gave 30,000 and 5,000 respectively to Hayakawa Shinichi, Green Wind, president of the Japan Express Company. The Niitsu Automobile Company gave 4,000 and the Aichi Automobile Company 1,000 to Matsumoto Jiichiro, Social Dem., Vice Speaker of the House.

Tokyo Headquarters Shrine gave 11,000 yen to Tanaka Kotaro, Green Wind, former Education Minister. The Ito En of Kyoto gave 76,000 yen to Nishida Tenko, Independent, a social service worker. The Seicho-no-Ke, a religious group, gave 7,000 yen to Yano Torio, Green Wind, head of their education department.

The Home Ministry Co-operative Society lent 50,000 yen to Kaneiwa Denichi Independent, director of the Democratic Technicians Society and a Home Ministry engineer.

The Japan Potato Management Company, gave 20,000, the Farm Village Co-operative Union 2,000 and the Japan Pickle Commission 20,000 yen to Higashiura Shoji, Green Wind, managing director of the All-Japan Agricultural Association.

Party Campaigns

As recorded by the Official Gazette, as well as by reports forwarded directly by party headquarters, the Social Democrats, during the period between 24 February and 3 May collected 110,800 yen. Nearly all this, excepting a loan of 21,000 yen from Hirano Rikizo, derived from "recognition fees" paid by candidates who ran on the Social Democratic ticket.

The party paid out 102,309 yen, of which 29,010 yen went for advertising, 26,420 to propaganda and advertising expense, 25,322 for expenses connected with students' campaign speakers' groups and 13,650 for printing and paper. No other expense group amounted to more than 5,000 yen each. No appropriations were made as aids to candidates.

Not included in the above figures sent by party headquarters as an authentic statement of expenses are certain other items listed in the Official Gazette as having been collected during the period 24 February to 3 April. These are three contributions totalling 48,838 yen, of which 5,138 came from the Tokyo Teachers' Youth Association and the rest from two Social Democratic Councilmen.

The Liberal Party listed income of 1,615,406 during March and 2,900,000 during April, a total of 4,515,406 yen during the campaign period.

The party spent, during the same period, 1,274,070 yen during March and 3,086,330 during April, as well as 163,677 yen in May. Of this a grand total of 3,800,000 yen was given as "Aids to Candidates." An additional 955,000 was paid to local branches, 121,000 yen for meetings and 92,500 yen as "social expenses for the Chief Secretary". The Liberal Party communications bill ran to 78,500 yen, travelling to 75,000 yen and printing to 33,000 yen.

In a report, submitted by party headquarters and covering the period 31 March to 30 April, the Democrats announced a total income of 2,362,198 yen, the bulk of which was derived from contributions. The party listed fourteen contributors who, it said, had subscribed this total.

The list was led by Chizaki Usaburo, former chief secretary of the party, who gave a million yen. Other major contributors were Tsubokawa Shinichi and Tochigi Yoshiro, each 200,000, Shidehara Kijuro, Tanaka Manitsu, Sato Shigekichi, Inagaki Heitaro and Arima Eiji, each 100,000 and Sujuki Akiro 50,000 yen.

Receipts and Expenditures of People's Co-operative and Communist Party, Respectively, were as Follows:

	Income	Expenditure
People's Co-operative	495,331.00	487,891.50
Communist Party	393,052.81	336,044.00

Gubernatorial Elections

Data from the first 17 prefectures to report indicate that in 7 cases the victorious candidate spent more money than his unsuccessful rival but that in 8 other cases the defeated man exceeded the winner's expenses. In the remaining 2 prefectures the expenditures were approximately equal.

No candidate even approached the ceiling which it would have been possible for him to spend. In Saitama and in Hyogo the candidates spent 35,000 yen, the largest expenditures made in any gubernatorial race, but this was 15,000 less than the legal maximum.

In only 6 of the 17 prefectures did candidates for the governorships receive campaign contributions of reportable amounts. The largest sum contributed was in Akita were Hasuike Kosaki received 30,000 yen, but his total campaign expenditure amounted to but 19,000 yen. In Fukuoka, the Social Democratic victor was given a 19,435 yen contribution and in Fukui prefecture Governor Obata Harukazu received 25,000 yen. Governor Uchiyama Iwataro of Kanagawa received 17,000 yen but no other sums contributed to any successful candidate passed the ¥10,000 mark. In Saitama the total contributions acknowledged by Governor Nishimura Jitsuzu were but 720 yen.

No successful gubernatorial candidate incurred any debt as part of his campaign fund; no candidate, whether successful or defeated reports having received a single sen in financial aid from any political party or from any of its branches.

House of Representatives

Expense accounts of 102 members of the House of Representatives have been received to date. These, referring to 14 prefectures, are somewhat less than one-quarter of the total membership of the Lower House.

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Unlike the national district Councillors, Lower House members whose reports were submitted relied little upon campaign contributions and even less upon loans. Only 13 reported having gone into debt to finance their campaigns, and only 26 reported receipt of campaign contributions. Of the latter number six received totals of less than 800 yen each.

A tabular view of campaign contributions and of loans follows. Party identifications are made by the initials of the party to which the representative belongs.

	Contributions	Loans
Less than 1,000 yen	3D, 2L, 1SD	1D, 1L, 1PC
1,000-9,999	1D, 1L, 2SD, 1Ind.	---------
10,000-19,999	1D, 3S, 2 Minor	---------
20,000-29,999	1L, 2S, 1Ind.	1L, 2SD, 1PC
30,000-39,999	1D, 2S	1D
40,000-49,999	---------	1D, 1PC
50,000-59,999	1D	1D, 1L
60,000-69,999	1 Minor	1SD

Ten Social Democrats, seven Democrats, four Liberals, three Minor Party men and two Independents received contributions. Four Democrats, three Peoples Co-Operatives, three Liberals and three Socialists borrowed money.

Only two Diet members, both Social Democrats included in the figures given above, both borrowed and received money. One of these borrowed 7,000 yen and received contributions of 2,000 yen. The other borrowed 20,000 and received 14,000 in contributions.

The largest receipts were loans of 67,615 yen to Tanaka Orinoshin, Wakayama Social Democrat, and 50,000 to Yamaguchi Kikuichiro, Wakayama Liberal. Hasegawa Masatomo, Fukui Democrat, was granted a 50,000 yen loan and Tsubokawa Shinzo, Fukui Democrat, received a 50,000 contribution. Tanaka Misao Miye Minor Party representative, benefitted by a 62,595 yen contribution.

Forty-three of the 102 reports indicated that the Diet members had balanced their accounts. One man received less than he spent; the balance had spent less than the total amounts at their disposal.

A tabular view of receipts and expenditures follows:

	Expended	Received
1,000-9,999 yen	(2) 1SD, 1 Minor	(2) 1L, 1SD
10,000-19,999	(15) 6L, 2D, 6SD, 1 Minor	(10) 3L, 1D, 4SD, 2 Minor
20,000-29,999	(26) 8L, 6D, 7SD, 1PC, 2PC, 2Ind., 2 Minor	(23) 8L, 5D, 5SD, 2PC, 2Ind., 1 Minor
30,000-39,999	(32) 9L, 14D, 6SD, 1PC, 2 Minor	(23) 5L, 8D, 9SD, 1PC
40,000-49,999	(24) 1L, 9D, 9SD, 4PC, 1 Ind.	(33) 5L, 14D, 8SD, 4PC 1Ind., 1 Minor
50,000-59,999	(3) 1L, 1D, 1SD	(9) 3L, 4D, 2SD
60,000-69,999		(2) 1SD, 1 Minor
	102	102

Election Law Violations

As of 20 June the Home Ministry reported that 3,091 cases involving 8,532 individuals were being investigated by Public Procurators' offices in connection with suspected election offenses. Of this number 2,997 persons had been indicted by 10 June while 2,246 were cleared.

The final report of the 1946 Diet election disclosed that 5,432 cases of violations had been referred to the Procurators' offices. This covered one election only whereas the 3,091 cases in 1947 included the results of all four April elections.

Of the 2,997 indicted as of 10 June, 50 received sentences of hard labor, 21 were given lighter jail sentences, 1,028 were fined, while 1,905 still awaited trial. One person only, in Fukushima, was acquitted while

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two were convicted but had their sentences remitted. In ten instances both fines and imprisonment were imposed.

In 1946, 128 received hard labor, 63 lighter sentences, 1,822 paid fines and seven were acquitted.

Alleged offenses occurred in the following 1947 elections:

	Violations
Councillors	399
House of Representatives	318
Governors	224
Mayors	88
Prefectural Assembly	427
Ward or town heads	800
Ward or town assembly	835
	3091

By far the greatest number of election offenses involved bribery, solicitation of bribes or the delivery of scarce articles in lieu of cash. These numbered 972, involving 5,461 individuals. The next greatest causes were house to house canvassing, which accounted for 755 cases and 1,061 people, and violation of poster regulations, 764 cases and 888 people.

In only two other instances did any one offense number more than 100 instances. These were campaigning before the official opening of a campaign, 165 cases with 325 individuals and interruption of campaign, 161 cases and 308 individuals.

Many more offenses had, of course, been alleged in the press and in accusations filed with election authorities. But even here, certain categories of offenses were almost entirely absent. Only four instances of supposed violation of campaign expense restrictions were reported by name and date. In Gumma alone was any charge made of excessive demonstration. Breach of authority was charged in five instances. In Miyazaki, where two members of the election committee were charged with having refused to list an applicant upon the roll of candidates, evidence seemed sufficient to warrant intensive investigation.

As late as 10 June, Fukushima with 487 cases and Yamagata with 442 topped the lists of prefectures. Tokyo, where many violations had been alleged, had but 99 indictments. Complete figures follow:

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Disposition of Cases of Alleged Election Law Violations
1947 Elections

Names of District Procurators Offices or District Court	Number of Persons Involved			June 10, 1947 Number of Persons Tried by Courts or Awaiting Trial						
	Indicted	Not Indicted	Total	Imprisonment at Hard Labor	Imprisonment	Fine	Not Guilty	Remission of sentence	Awaiting Trial	Total
Tokyo	99		99					1	98	99
Yokohama	9	1	10						9	9
Urawa	26	36	62			12			14	26
Chiba	16	12	28			10			6	16
Mito	208	90	298	5	2	94			107	208
Utsunomiya	45	106	151	5	1	17			22	45
Maebashi	111	137	248			59			52	111
Shizuoka	60	7	67						60	60
Kofu	52	43	95	2	1	13			36	52
Nagano	211	210	421			61			150	211
Niigata	17	46	63						17	17
Kyoto	99	127	226	9		24			66	99
Osaka	74	66	140						74	74
Kobe	61	9	70	2		25			34	61
Nara	30	13	43	1	1	9			19	30
Otsu	55	92	147			32			23	55
Wakayama	23	23	46			13			10	23
Nagoya	34	88	122						34	34
Tsu	13	5	18			8			5	13
Gifu	130	26	156	2		59			69	130
Fukui	22	40	62			19			3	22
Kanazawa	49	3	52			12			37	49
Toyama	103	130	233	2	3	14			84	103
Hiroshima	12	33	45	1		7			4	12
Yamaguchi	26	13	39			16			10	26
Okayama	64	28	92	1		41			22	64
Tottori	No Report									
Matsue	94		94						94	94
Nagasaki	3	9	12			3				3
Saga	1	54	55			1				1
Fukuoka	No Report									
Oita	65	42	107	9	2	31			23	65
Kumamoto	13	38	51			4			9	13
Kagoshima	24	15	39	1	1	2			20	24
Miyazaki	11		11			2			9	11
Sendai	239	49	288			138			101	239
Fukushima	307	180	487	2	1	83	1		220	307
Yamagata	337	105	442			137			200	337
Morioka	35	133	168			18			17	35
Akita	13	18	31	4		6			3	13
Aomori	64	16	80	4		49			11	64
Sapporo	33	2	35					1	32	33
Hakodate	58		58						58	58
Asahikawa	6	73	79		4				2	6
Kusiro		40	40							
Takamatsu	29	23	52		5				24	29
Tokushima	9	40	49						9	9
Kochi	7	25	32						7	7
Matuyama	No Report									
Total	2997	2246	5243	50	21	1028	1	2	1905	2997

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Types of Alleged Election Law Violations, 1947
(Indictments Returned)
June 10, 1947

Nature of Crime	Member House of Councillors	Member House of Representatives	Pref. Governor	Mayor	Member Pref. Assembly	Ward, Town or Village Head	Momber Ward, Town or Village Assembly	TOTAL
(A) By voter or canvasser								
(1) Buying votes	41	91	17	29	109	903	187	1377
(2) Other pre-election inducements	11					4	7	22
(3) Offering compensation after election day	9				2	21	1	33
(4) Demanding or accepting the above acts	2	68	49	67	70	514	155	925
(5) Delivering money or goods with the object of buying votes of others	23	3	1	2	6	175	26	236
(6) Others		1		1		1		3
(B) Habitual crime re (A) above							1	1
(C) By candidate or elected person								
(1) Buying votes					1	8		9
(2) Demanding or accepting the above act					2			2
(3) Persuading or mediating the above act					2			2
(D) Other acts								
(1) Violence, intimidation or abduction	1				3	10	2	16
(2) Obstructing communications, campaign meetings or speeches	1	3		3	4	17	3	31
(3) Discovering the name of person voted for						1		1
(4) Threatening election staff		1	1	2		2		6
(5) Opening a ballot-box or removing ballots			2					2
(6) Interfering with voting			1					1

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Nature of Crime	Member House of Councillors	Member House of Representatives	Pref. Governor	Mayor	Member Pref. Assembly	Ward, Town or Village Head	Member Ward, Town or Village Assembly	TOTAL
(7) Entering a place of election meeting or counting place carrying a weapon								
(E) Unfair voting						1		1
(1) By ineligible person								
(2) By fraudulent means		4				2		6
(3) Forging or manipulating votes to affect their number by a person mentioned in Art. VI of Election Law, witness or scrutinizer	1	4	3	1		9	3	21
(4) Campaign before filing candidacy		5						5
(5) Campaign using school boy, etc.	2				4	6	7	17
(6) House to house canvassing								2
(7) Violation of limits on posters	40	15	8	17	15	94	40	229
(8) Campaign by a person mentioned in Art. VI of Election Law	4			3			2	9
(9) Violating the law re special papers or election pictures		1					1	2
Art. 14	7	8	9	1		4	3	32
Art. 15	1		2	1			1	5
GRAND TOTAL	142	192	103	129	219	1772	440	2997

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Arranged by parties to which the 8532 suspected offenders were said to belong, statistics indicated that 804 Liberals were accused, 728 Democrats, 593 Social Democrats, 86 Co-Operatives and 75 Communists. A further 183 belonged to minor parties while 5031 were Independents. (See chart on next page.)

More than two-thirds of the offenses charged against Liberals, Democrats, Social Democrats and Co-Operatives, and a large proportion of those alleged against Communists, Independents and minor party members dealt with bribery in one form or another.

In this connection, it must be pointed out that Japanese laws are far more rigid than are those of most democratic nations and that many offenses which are subject to prosecution in Japan are for actions which might be regarded as wholly permissible in other countries.

This, for instance, included in some instances the payment for the services of legitimate campaign workers. Campaign managers who went from house to house asking electors to vote for specific candidates were also judged by the Japanese to have committed election "crimes" as were candidates who posted too many placards or whose posters were of other than standard size.

REPORTED PARTY AFFILIATIONS OF ALLEGED VIOLATORS OF ELECTION LAWS

10 June, 1947

Nature of Crime	No. of Persons Classified by Political Organizations By Which They Were Supported (Sent to or pending transfer to procurators office)							
	Liberal	Democrat	Social Democrat	Communist	Cooperative	Minor Parties	Independent	Unknown
Buying Votes	599	523	358	21	47	68	3022	823
Other inducements for votes	6	2	5			32	36	5
Habitual crime re the above 2 items		1					8	
Breach of the regulations of election office and resting place	1	1	2			2	7	1
Campaign before filing candidacy	27	46	29		10	11	132	70
Campaign through house to house canvassing	85	62	84	21	7	10	770	22
Obstruction of campaign	6	18	16	4		11	193	60
Neglect of official duty and abuse of authority							17	
Campaign of governor and public officials concerned with elections	2						13	4

Nature of Crime	Liberal	Democrat	Social Democrat	Communist	Cooperative	Minor Parties	Independent	Unknown
Breach of regulations re balloting	3	4	2			2	132	9
Wearing of weapons or excessive demonstrative acts							3	
Violation of limits on posters	53	70	84	27	20	46	565	23
Violation of regulation of campaign expenditures					1		1	2
Violation of limits on greeting acts after election day	16		3				3	
Others	7	3	5	2	1	1	129	13
Total	804	728	593	75	86	183	5031	1032

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Election offenses were reported from three sources. The Home Ministry, newspaper accounts and reports from Military Government teams in the field were all drawn upon for information that would tend to throw light upon the political situation.

Three incidents in the Hokkaido received special attention. The first of these involved an attack upon Miyake Masaru, a Communist campaign worker at Muroran, who was slashed with a knife by an alleged gangster. Careful investigation by CIC personnel, by the Military Government team, by local Japanese police and by a special agent sent from Tokyo failed to reveal either any political motive for the attack or to show any connection between the assailant, a serpent-selling pedlar, and any Anti-Communist organization.

A second Hokkaido incident concerned a night raid, 3 February, two months prior to the first election, upon Communist headquarters at Sapporo, capital of the prefecture.

Police investigation again with the aid of CIC, of Military Government and of a special agent from Tokyo, disclosed that the raid was committed at a time when a married couple with children living in the same premises were awake. Locked files were broken into and the records of the party were stolen but the residents of the house apparently remained unaware of what was happening. No evidence warranting prosecution has been revealed.

The third Hokkaido occurrence was a raid, 14 March, upon Communist headquarters at Hakodate. A group of five men, at least three of whom were armed with pistols, broke into the building, held up three Communist Party members, cut telephone wires and carried off the contents of files and lockers.

The police, notified within half an hour, undertook immediate investigation. Since the Communists were able to offer partial identification of two suspects the ferries and the railway station were watched but without avail. Despite intensive research the lack of detailed information made it impossible to discover evidence that would lead to fruitful results.

Other Anti-Communist activities were also reported. Two of these included attacks upon speakers or candidates. In Okayama, for instance, 11 April, Kumamoto Chikashi and three other persons were charged with having attacked two Communist agents and a Communist assembly candidate. Two arrests were made the following day. In Tochigi, 6 April Konuma Toranosuke, self-styled "Tiger of Iizuka", stabbed Matsumoto Soneki, Communist candidate for the Diet, in the shoulder. Konuma was immediately arrested, and upon trial was sentenced to 8 months imprisonment; an accomplice received a 5 months sentence.

Again in Okayama, a Communist candidate for the prefectural assembly was attacked, 11 April. His assailant was arrested.

In Gumma, Tsukakoshi Tsunaji and two others raided Communist headquarters, destroyed election notices and assaulted a canvasser. They were arrested 8 April

In connection with the above instances, officials of the Home Ministry representing the Police Bureau and Investigation Bureau were called to General Headquarters and specifically reminded that it was the desire of the Supreme Commander that full political freedom be guaranteed every recognized political party and that every possible step be taken to discover and bring to trial the perpetrators of such terroristic acts.

Communists also complained that in Tokyo, 22March, their sealed certificates permitting the use of 50,500 posters were lost in the mails, thus hampering their Councillor campaigns in 34 prefectures. New certificates, however, were authorized 3 April, in ample time for the election.

Specific types of violations other than the bribery and election methods infringements included several other varieties of offenses. The following summary gives a typical list of those reported, but the list is of accusations only and does not necessarily imply the truth of the statement:

1. In seven prefectures, Chiba, Gifu, Kochi, Nara, Shiga, Tochigi and Wakayama, political activities were alleged against those who had been or

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who it was alleged, should have been purged. These accusations were, for the most part, contained in anonymous letters filed, without proof, with the Military Government teams. In each instance the truth of the accusation was nevertheless investigated.

2. Police interference was alleged only in Fukuoka (where a roundsman was discovered within a polling place into which he had been invited by the chairman of the election board) and in Saitama where a police inspector was said to have been destroyed Communist campaign bills. The latter action, upon investigation, proved to have been taken because the inspector mis-construed the law forbidding election posters within a certain distance of the polling place.

3. False statements that SCAP officials favored certain election results were made in Tokyo and in Ibaragi. In the former instance Kasuya Isohei, candidate for ward assemblyman, was charged by a rival, Mrs. Hashimoto Hana, with having said that the Supreme Commander did not desire the election of women. In Ibaragi, Kawada Hisashi, candidate for Governor, was reported as having said over loud speakers that the Military Government endorsed his candidacy. This proved untrue, but leaflets were discovered stating that the Military Government approved his campaign. The perpetrator was arrested and the Military Government published in all local newspapers a denial that it had at any time endorsed any candidate for public office.

4. Ehime authorities reported that an unknown person telephoned the prefectural authorities, 11 April, announcing the withdrawal of Kazukumi Kajiwara from the Councillors campaign. The name was at first stricken from the official list of candidates but was restored and ample public notice given prior to the election.

A complete list of charges follows.

TYPES OF ALLEGED ELECTION LAW VIOLATIONS - 1947
(Grand Totals)

Classification	Buying Votes		Other Inducements for Votes		Habitual Crime re the above 2 items		Breach of Regulations re election office and posting place		Campaign Before Filing Candidacy		Campaign by House to House Canvassing		Obstruction of Campaign		Neglect of Official Duty and Abuse of Authority	
	No. of Cases	No. of Persons	No. of Cases	No. of Persons	No. of Cases	No. of Persons	No. of Cases	No. of Persons	No. of Cases	No. of Persons	No. of Cases	No. of Persons	No. of Cases	No. of Persons	No. of Cases	No. of Persons
Pref. Governor	17	194					2	2	2	2	37	54	9	13	1	7
Mayor & Ward Official	8	74	2	2			1	1	6	11	30	35	8	8		
Town & Village Head	302	2,221	15	58	2	6	6	6	49	132	179	295	44	130	2	2
M. of House of Councillors	58	195	3	4							122	162	10	11	1	4
M. of House of Representatives	88	430	2	3			3	5	8	13	63	74	23	44		
M. of Pref. Assembly	152	1,042	3	4	3	2			28	31	105	140	28	45	1	4
M. of Municipal (Ward) Assembly	138	359	5	5	1	1			28	40	93	110	20	26		
M. of Town & Village Assembly	209	946	5	10					44	96	126	191	19	31		
TOTAL:	972	5,461	35	86	6	9	12	14	165	325	755	1,061	161	308	5	17

Classification	Campaign of gov. & public officials concerned with election		Breach of Regulations re Balloting		Wearing Weapons & excessive Demonst. Act.		Violation of Limit on Posters		Violation of Regulation of Campaign Expend.		Violation of Restraints on Greeting Acts after Election Day		Others		Total of all Violations	
	No.of Cases	No.of Persons	No.of Cases	No. of Persons	No. of Cases	No.of Persons	No.of Cases	No.of Persons	No.of Cases	No.of Persons	No. of Cases	No.of Persons	No.of Cases	No. of Persons	No.of Cases	No.of Persons
Prof. Governor			21	42	1	1	125	158					9	17	224	490
Mayor & Ward Official			2	2			26	35	1	1	1	1	3	3	38	173
Town & Village Head	6	6	37	49	1	1	91	100			2	18	64	76	800	3,100
M. of House of Councillors	2	2	3	3			196	225					4	12	399	618
M. of House of Representatives	3	3	2	2			118	147	2	2	1	2	5	15	318	740
M. of Pref. Assembly	2	2	5	6	1	1	92	92					7	18	427	1,387
M. of Municipal (Ward) Assembly	1	1	3	6			94	108	1	1					384	657
M. of Town & Village Assembly	3	3	15	46			22	23			1	1	7	20	451	1,367
TOTAL:	17	17	88	156	3	3	764	888	4	4	5	22	99	161	3,091	8,532

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Other Problems

As campaigns and elections progressed, a series of new problems arose. While not in themselves violations of the election law, they nevertheless exercised an adverse influence on voting and were deemed to require prompt and effective remedial action. Turning to the problems first and discussing the remedial action next, they can be grouped under three headings: (1) improper use of the former neighborhood associations; (2) abstention from elections; and (3) incorrect marking of ballots.

Neighborhood Associations

As of 1 April, the hierarchy of neighborhood associations by which all families in Japan had been brought under the direct supervision of the Central Government was finally dissolved -- dissolution having been postponed until this date in order that a new system of rationing might be developed.

Despite the order which dissolved the associations, however, the peculiar and historical adaptability of these organizations to electioneering resulted in many reports of their use beyond 1 April. In particular, during the course of the 5 April elections, when many voters had not yet heard of the 1 April order, surveillance teams were advised that neighborhood associations were being utilized to solicit votes, "to get out the vote", to distribute tickets to polling places, and the like. It was also reported that former heads of these organizations were exercising undue influence in the elections particularly in the matter of persuading voters to cast ballots in favor of local candidates backed by the ex-neighborhood association leaders.

Abstentions

The abstention rate of voters in the April, 1946 elections had been 27.9 per cent; although actually only the House of Representatives election could be compared with the 1946 figures it had been hoped that each of the 1947 elections would see an abstention rate of less than the previous year. In actuality, however, only one election showed a lower rate than that of 1946:

Election	Date	Rate of Abstention
Local Executives	5 April	27.9
Councillors	20 April	40.8
Representatives	25 April	32.1
Local Assemblies	30 April	18.3

Both local and national elections were to a certain extent characterized by a relative dearth of candidates. For the total number of offices at stake in the April elections, for example, there was an average of something less than 1-1/3rd candidates per vacancy.

In the House of Representatives elections, 1599 candidates filed for 466 seats, or slightly over three and one-half candidates per vacancy. This figure, however, contrasted with 2,800 who filed for the same number of seats in the general election of April, 1946. Again, although an average of three and one-half candidates per seat in a final election would be reasonable in a country in which primaries had been employed, in which there were only two or three major parties, or in which qualifications for candidacy were stringent, the situation was somewhat different in Japan. Here there were no primaries, three major parties (Liberal, Democratic, and Social Democratic), two other well-organized parties (Peoples' Cooperative and Communist) and a strong independent tradition. In addition, election laws governing candidacy were as liberal as any in the world; age qualifications ranged from 20 to 30, depending on the office; any Japanese citizen was eligible to file candidacy, and no residence requirements were applied to candidacy for national or major local offices.

Had there been candidates from each of the established parties and even one independent in each electoral district, the total number of candidates would have been about 2,800, or roughly, the previous year's total. In actuality,

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however, no party nominated a candidate in each electoral district and even the number of independents who filed for the House of Representatives was only slightly more than half the number of seats at stake:

Party	Total Candidates
Democratic	350
Liberal	326
Social Democratic	289
Communist	120
Peoples Cooperative	108
Minor	155
Independents	251
	1599

The greatest single factor contributing to the dearth of candidates in anygiven election, of course, was the very number of elections held in April. The grand total of seats at stake in the only previous post-war election - that of the House of Representatives in April, 1946 - had been 466. In April, 1947, on the other hand, within 25 days a total of 205,062 positions were at stake. Not only was no party sufficiently well organized to nominate anywhere near this number of candidates, but even the practice of nominating the same individual for two or three different positions was made difficult by the fact that elections came so close to overlapping that a candidate defeated in one election frequently had no time left in which to file for the next.

Paradoxically, from a national standpoint, the problem was also linked with the growing strength of the major political parties. In the 1946 elections 1430, or 51, percent of the total candidates had either been independents or representad minor parties. In the comparable 1947 elections for the House of Representatives the number of minor party and independent candidates had dropped to 397 or 25 percent of the total number of candidates.

All in all, however, the elections for the House of Representatives showed the least dearth of candidates of any of the April elections. In the House of Councillors election, for example, only 584 candidates ran for 250 seats, or an average of about 2-1/3rd candidates per seat. Here, however, not only did all of the reasons mentioned above apply with equal emphasis to the House of Councillors election, but a whole additional set of contributing factors was evident.

Perhaps the most important of these was general lack of understanding of the functions of the new House coupled with a latent tendency to continue thinking of national elections only in the sense of elections for the House of Representatives. Even political parties were not free of this tendency, their major activities centering around the elections for Representatives.

In connection with the election of members of the House of Councillors special precautions were taken to see that candidacies were not thinned by delays in the application of the purge directive. When, for example, late in March it became apparent that the comparative number of candidates for the House of Councillors would be considerably less than that of the House of Representatives, the deadline for filing was extended for ten days. Only ten additional candidates took advantage of the extended period, however, thus indicating that the mechanics of screening had certainly not been a major factor in the dearth of candidates.

A very important factor, on the other hand, appears to have been the introduction of the national constituency for the House of Councillors; on the whole vocational, cultural, and intellectual qualities, and above all personal popularity, were apparently deemed more important than parties and platforms; candidates hesitated to file unless they felt in their own minds that they were

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well and favorably known nationally before the start of the campaign.

The election law forbade declaration of candidacy prior to 31 March, only 20 days before election, or until such time after that date and prior to 11 April as a candidate had received purge clearance from the Central Qualifications Examination Committee. Even during this abbreviated campaign period stringent limitations on publicity, stemming from the paper shortage, made campaigning extremely difficult for newcomers; to reach an electorate of approximately 30,000,00 for example, candidates were permitted to distribute only 30,000 postcards. Such curtailments naturally served to prevent political newcomers from challenging effectively the established position of old line politicians, former members of the House of Peers, or other nationally known figures.

In connection with local elections, the most striking point was not so much that the percentage of candidates to vacancies dipped to 2 to 1 in respect to local chief executives and about 1-1/4 to 1 in respect to local assemblies as it was the fact that of the 10,465 local chief executives elected during April a total of 3,374 were chosen in "non contest" elections in which only one candidate ran for office.

In a few instances the situation stemmed from the last minute purge of a rival candidate, but in most instances it may be attributed either to pre-election agreements among leading candidates or parties or to the dominance of old line political leaders who by one means or another managed to dissuade opposition candidates from running.

Spoiled Ballots

Wasted ballots in the 1947 election were of two general types: those in which confusion in respect to balloting led voters to write a candidate's name on the wrong ballot (as a gubernatorial candidate's name on a mayoralty ballot); and those in which uncertainty in respect to names led voters to forget the names of candidates and either leave ballots blank or add fictitious names.

As has been noted above, the April elections marked the first time in Japanese history when voters elected candidates for separate offices at the same time. In the past electors had voted only for candidates for the House of Representatives and for local assemblies - and such elections had always been held separately. The April elections thus not only presented a new problem but repeated it thrice; on April 5 voters selected both governors and local chief executives; on April 20 they selected Councillors from both prefectural and national constituencies; and on April 30 they chose members of both prefectural and local assemblies. Of especial interest in this connection is the fact that in many instances the writing of a candidate's name on the incorrect ballot actually appears to have been intentional. In several municipalities, for example, a very considerable number of voters, more interested in the results of the municipal election than in those of the gubernatorial, appear to have written the mayoralty candidate's name on both ballots in order to make absolutely certain of the validity of their votes for mayor.

The problem of failure to mark ballots legibly was no novelty in Japan, since a printed ballot, in the sense of one on which the names of candidates were merely checked, had never been used. Every past election, therefore, had produced thousands of ballots which were either blank or illegible; but even in the post-war revision of election laws the Diet had consistently favored the hand-written ballot---feeling that the advantage to be gained from such a simple literacy test far outweighed any which might accrue from assurance than everyone who could mark his "X" could cast a valid ballot. The following table compares spoiled ballots in the 1946 and 1947 elections:

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Date	Average No. Ballots Cast	Average No. Ballots Rejected	Average Pct. Rejected
April 10, '46	26,558,611	460,000	1.73
April 5, '47	28,722,464	2,080,107	6.73
April 20, '47	24,938,797	2,586,165	10.37
April 25, '47	27,795,884	435,229	1.56
April 30, '47	30,824,953	1,176,338	5.02

A typical example of types of invalid ballots is provided by the following table, which classifies invalid ballots cast in Tokyo in the 1947 gubernatorial election. 1946 figures refer to votes cast in Tokyo for the House of Representatives election.

	1947 election	1946 election
Total vote in Tokyo	1,615,534	1,341,359
Valid votes cast	1,463,710	1,300,595
Invalid votes cast	151,824	40,764
Percentage of votes declared invalid	9.39	3.03

The invalid ballots are classified as follows:

	1947 election
a. Ballots in which the name of a person not a candidate for governor was written in (e.g. General MacArthur; candidate for Ward Chief, etc.)	90,050
b. Blank ballots deposited	32,000
c. "Give us rice" ballots	10,801
d. Ballots on which only lines or dots were inscribed by the voter	8,692
e. Unidentifiable ballots	3,300
f. Unauthorized ballots (e.g. pieces of white paper; use of the voting ticket as a ballot; use of one's calling card as a ballot; use of mayor's ballot to cast a vote for governor; and destruction of part of a ballot)	3,239
g. Ballots on which elector wrote something in addition to a candidate's name . .	1,463
h. Ballots on the inside of which the elector's calling card was pasted	1,327
i. Ballots on which elector voted for more than one candidate for the same post . . .	388
j. Stamped or paster votes	362
k. Use of voter's han (seal) . . .	80
l. Invalid for miscellaneous reasons	122

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Remedial Action

Prompt remedial action was taken in respect to the neighborhood associations, the Home Ministry immediately reminding all election administration committees that former heads of neighborhood associations and neighborhood groups voluntarily organized to carry on any function of the dissolved tonarigumi were prohibited from any activity in elections and could not be utilized by election officials or candidates for any purpose whatsoever. Typical of these instructions were the following:

"TO : Local Governors and Chairmen of Election Administration Committees.

FROM : Vice-Minister of Home Affairs

The organizations of Chonaikai, Burakukai or Tonarigumi and others were abolished as of 1 April. It is considered that this has not subsequently been thoroughly understood, and your attention is drawn to the following items, particularly in relation to the present elections that you may effect a thorough dissemination thereof.

1. After the abolition of Chonaikai, Burakukai, Federations thereof and Tonarigumi for persons who had been the heads of the former Chonaikai, Burakukai, Rengokai or Tonarigumi to carry out election campaigns by utilizing their special former positions in regard to persons who composed the above organizations or to participate in a public capacity by using the former organizations constitutes violation of the instructions which stipulate the abolition of the organizations of the Chonaikai, Burakukai and the Tonarigumi and you will not only investigate the past cases but also take such steps to insure that situations such as the above will not occur. In addition, steps are being taken to bar such persons from exercising governmental authority in the future. Your special attention is further drawn to the fact that such acts will give the impression abroad of an obstruction of the free will of the people.

2. In view of the following examples concerning the elections of the heads of the various local public organizations, attention should be paid in consideration of the objective as in paragraph 1 above in the execution of election affairs, so that utilization of the positions of the heads of Chonaikai or Burakukai and others and the organizations thereof will not occur. In regard to any local public organizations which perpetrate such acts measures as enumerated in the following items will be taken immediately.

(a) It has been brought to my attention that there have been cases of not returning the entrance cards to the polling stations which are common to the various elections to the electors immediately after polling but of returning them to the electors through the former organizations of Chonaikai, Burakukai, Rengokai or Tonarigumi or the former officials thereof. Those entrance cards which are to be used for further elections should be returned to the electors immediately after each polling and in the future such acts are strictly forbidden. Further for those not returned at the elections on the fifth instant, they will be returned without delay to the electors either directly by mail by the election administration committee of the city, town or village or through the branches of the city, town or village.

(b) It has been brought to my attention that certain election administration committees have caused the heads of former Chonaikai, Burakukai, Rengokai or Tonarigumi to carry out investigations into reasons for abstentions. Such actions will be strictly prohibited.

3. Subsequent to the abolition of the Chonaikai, Burakukai, Rengokai, or Tonarigumi there are no objections to the free formation of the informal and purely voluntary bodies, but it is not permitted to form quasi-compulsory bodies or similar organizations thereto. If voluntary or-

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ganizations are to be established in the future it should be determined on the basis of a free expression of the people how such organizations are to be established. Further, in regard to such voluntary organizations in the case of election of the representatives thereof it should be clearly indicated in the ballot that participation or otherwise in such organization is entirely up to the volition of the individual and those not desiring to participate are not required to vote, and members can quit their groups any time they wish."

* * *

"TO : Chairman of the Metropolitan and Prefectural Election Control Committees

FROM : Director of the Local Affairs Bureau, the Home Ministry

It is desired that strict care be taken to avoid using offices of former town-block and village associations as well as residences of former heads of these associations as polling-places or counting offices. In case those buildings are already scheduled to be used for such purposes and changes are impracticable in view of the fixed period of announcement, all indications of offices of the said associations should at least be removed.

It is also desired that you will strictly refrain from allowing those who held the headship of the defunct associations to participate in the conduct of business concerning election."

* * *

Checks by surveillance teams during the latter part of April indicated that the above instructions had been carried out to the letter and that the mortmain of the neighborhood associations had been successfully lifted from the elections.

The problem of absenteeism was not one which could be readily solved by fiat. The causes were fundamental: the multiplicity of elections; the urge to spend election holidays in foraging for food; the relative lack of publicity, stemming from the paper shortage; and the stringent restrictions which were placed on campaigning. Nevertheless, SCAP and military government officials continued their efforts to publicize elections by means of press conferences and releases and the Japanese government was directed to ensure that all possible measures were taken to publicize the elections. From 59.2 in the election for Councillors, the percentage of voters to eligible electors rose to 67.9 in the Representatives election and to a high of 81.7 in the election of local assemblymen. As will be seen from the table on the next page this latter figure begins to approach the probable maximum which can be anticipated.

With respect to the dearth of candidates not a great deal could be done during the course of the election, although, as noted above, periods for filing purge questionnaires were extended in order to ensure that candidates were not kept from running by fear of delays in the screening process which would make it impossible to file candidacy in time.

Since one of the primary causes of dearth of candidates in any given election in April was the very number of elections involved, this one aspect, at least, will tend to be solved in the future as elections come to take place at different times. Introduction of a printed ballot will undoubtedly serve to increase the numbers of candidates, particularly in respect to the national constituency of the House of Councillors, where newcomers were chary of competing against individuals whose names were very well known and readily remembered.

The lack of more than one candidate for the office of chief in a third of Japan's towns and villages is essentially a social problem, one which can

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ABSTENTIONS FROM VOTING - 30 APRIL, 1947.

(Kumamoto Ken, Tama-gun, Sue-mura)

1. Ballots Cast:

Sex	No. of registered voters as of election date	No. of Voters	No. of Absentees	Percentage of Abstention	No. of Absentee Votes	Others
Male	507	446	61	12.2%	1	0
Female	532	474	58	11%	0	0
Total	1039	920	119	11.5%	1	0

2. Reasons for Abstention:

Sex	Employment away from home	Travel	Sickness	Illiteracy	Work on Farms or in Factories	Other	Total
Male	34	4	10	8	3	2	61
Female	6	23	7	20	1	1	58
Total	40	27	17	28	4	3	119

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not be legislated out of existence---the tendency of town and village populations, stemming from centuries of blind obedience, either to fear subtle economic pressures in case of an attempt to unseat established leadership or to accept the bland assurances of entrenched leaders that "it is best not to hold a contested election--for that would lead to unpleasant confusion and complexity and would indicate a lack of harmony and unity in our village."

This, of course, is a problem which will be solved only with the greater political education of the Japanese people; a single election will not alter the habits of a lifetime. Indeed, what is perhaps astonishing is that for all the elections there were as many candidates as there were: a grand total of over 281,344. This figure indicates that of the average number of roughly 28,000,000 Japanese who voted in each election, more than one out of every hundred was a candidate for some public office in the April elections. In any nation this would be unusual; certainly it is so in a Japan where until a few short months ago candidacy for public office had always been the privilege of a limited few.

With the exception of a certain minor percentage (approximately 1.50%) resulting from natural error, illiteracy, and the like, the problem of wasted ballots was believed to stem almost entirely from limitations on election publicity. These, in turn, arose from the paper shortage.

Early in March the Home Ministry and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry had estimated that over 11,000,000 pounds of paper would be required for the five elections. Such an amount simply was not available. In view of the shortage of stock piles and production any great amount of paper could not be used for election purposes without seriously affecting newspaper publications and the current program for printing new school books for use throughout the entire Japanese educational system. In fact, late in February the Japanese press carried stories to the effect that even by suspending the printing of text books and reducing newspaper publications to tabloid form, still only about 2,000,000 pounds of paper would be available for the elections.

It was subsequently estimated, however, by the Home Ministry that a saving of approximately 67% of the original requirement could be effected, and allocations for other uses not seriously disturbed, if only modified use were made of the voluminous paper consuming election Career Bulletins which contained biographical sketches of all major candidates. Therefore it was decided not to place Career Bulletins in each household in Japan as was customary in past elections but to post them instead in principal gathering spots and on public bulletin boards in all communities. Hence the total allocation for the 1947 elections, as finally authorized, was as follows:

Ballot Paper	820,370 lbs.
Election and Career Bulletins	504,489 "
Election Announcement Posters	161,085 "
Individual Candidate's Campaign Rations	885,885 "
Official Lists of Candidates	134,955 "
Voting Tickets	262,647 "
Instruction Booklets for Officials	366,885 "
Neighborhood Puppet Shows	4,400 "
Newspaper Publications of Campaign Expenditures	577,500 "
Publications of Election Laws and Ordinances	12,925 "
Total	3,731,141

Concurrent with the decision on the total allocation of paper, the Diet passed the previously discussed Posters Law, limiting to the above figure the total amount of paper which could be used in the election, whether on behalf

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of parties, candidates, or the government. This law, it was recognized, placed the most stringent of restrictions upon campaign publicity. Despite the entry of so many new faces into politics and despite the creation of the new national constituency of the House of Councillors, with its attendant problems of nation-wide publicity, the bill made available for 300,000 candidates less paper than had been available for 3,000 in 1946. It further limited candidates to use of only such paper as they received in the government allotment. By this denial the bill not only favored established parties and well known candidates but made but little provision for the educational programs so necessary for advising the electorate of the new techniques of voting, political issues at stake, and the importance of the franchise. The restrictions were drastic, but they were fair; every candidate was assured exactly as much paper as any other candidate for the same office. Any alternative would have favored the wealthier, for the only source of paper other than the meagre government allotment would have been the black market.

With paper thus limited, it was highly important to make the greatest possible use of what was at hand, particularly in the sense of concentrating more information in and around the polls on election day.

Previously Japanese election laws had been interpreted as maintaining a 3 cho (327 meters) neutral zone around polling places, with all campaign posters prohibited in these areas. To remind voters of candidates and parties, a more liberal construction was placed on the laws, and during the last three elections posters were permitted in the near vicinity of all polling places. In addition, provision was made to ensure that voters received but one ballot at a time (and deposited it in a ballot box before receiving a second)* and that names and affiliations of all candidates were placed in every polling booth. The following radios from SCAP to Commanding General Eighth Army summarize these remedial measures:

12 April 1947

FROM : SCAP

TO : CG 8th ARMY . . . . . PRIORITY

REQUEST FOLLOWING INFORMATION BE TRANSMITTED TO TEAMS CHARGED WITH SURVEILLANCE FORTHCOMING JAPANESE NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS PD THE FOLLOWING INTERPRETATIONS OF JAPANESE ELECTION LAWS HAVE BEEN MADE BY MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS HAVE BEEN DISSEMINATED TO ELECTION ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEES AND ARE FURNISHED HEREWITH FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE PD A PD CANDIDATES USE OF LOUD SPEAKERS IN VICINITY OF POLLS ON ELECTION DAY IS PERMITTED PD B PD CAMPAIGN POSTERS MAY BE POSED ON ELECTION DAY ANYWHERE OUTSIDE OF CONFINES OF POLLING PLACES PROVIDED OTHER PROVISIONS OF POSTERS LAW ARE MET PD LARGE NUMBER OF INVALID VOTES CAST IN LAST ELECTION HAS EMPHASIZED NECESSITY OF KEEPING CANDIDATES NAMES BEFORE VOTERS THROUGHOUT ELECTION DAY PD C PD NAMES AND POLITICAL AFFILIATION OF ALL CANDIDATES CONCERNED SHOULD BE POSTED AT EACH POLLING PLACE ON ELECTION DAY PD

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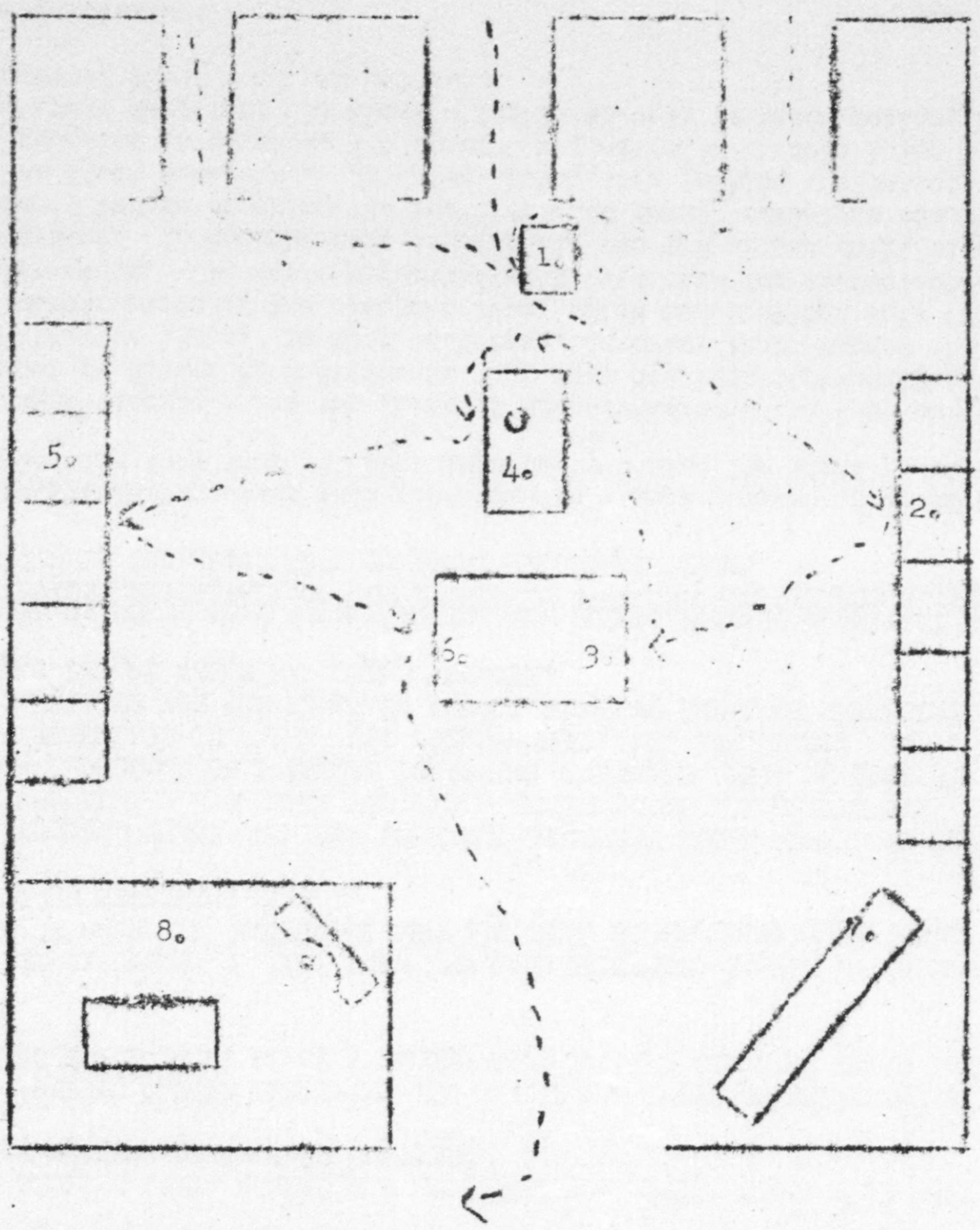
* See chart on next page.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 3(D) OR (E) NNDB # 773012

ARRANGEMENT OF TYPICAL POLLING PLACE

(House of Councillors Election - 1947)



1. First ballot issued at this point
2. First ballot marked here
3. First ballot deposited here
4. Second ballot issued here
5. Second ballot marked here
6. Second ballot deposited here
7. Election witnesses
8. Election officials

(Outline depicts room in which actual voting takes place. Registration books checked prior to entry into this room.)

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 3(D) OR (E) SNDG # 775012

15 April 1947

FROM : SCAP

TO : CG 8th ARMY

RECENT JAPANESE LOCAL ELECTIONS WERE CHARACTERIZED BY LARGE NUMBER INVALID BALLOTS APPARENTLY OCCASIONED VOTERS UNFAMILLARITY CANDIDATES NAMES AND ELECTION PROCEDURES. TO ENSURE GREATEST POSSIBLE FAMILLARITY ELECTORATE THESE POINTS FUTURE ELECTIONS HOME MINISTRY HAS RECOMMENDED LOCAL ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEES CARRY OUT FOLLOWING REMEDIAL MEASURES:

A. DISTRIBUTION ALL HOUSEHOLDS PRIOR EACH ELECTION LISTS CANDIDATES AND POLITICAL AFFILLATIONS.

B. POSTING LISTS CANDIDATES AND POLITICAL AFFILLATIONS AT LEAST FIVE PLACES EACH POLLING DISTRICT PRIOR EACH ELECTION.

C. POSTING LISTS CANDIDATES AND POLITICAL AFFILLATIONS EACH POLLING BOOTH EACH POLLING PLACE EACH ELECTION.

D. POSTING CAREER BULLETINS ALL CANDIDATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND HOUSE OF COUNCILLORS AT LEAST 5 PLACES EACH POLLING DISTRICT PRIOR EACH NATIONAL ELECTION.

E. INSTITUTION AT APRIL 20TH AND 30TH ELECTIONS SYSTEM BY WHICH VOTERS WILL RECEIVE ONLY ONE BALLOT AT TIME AND WILL BE REQUIRED PLACE FIRST BALLOT IN BOX BEFORE RECEIVING SECOND.

F. ENCOURAGEMENT GREATEST POSSIBLE PUBLICITY LOCAL PRESS AND RADIO ELECTION PROCEDURES AND NAMES POLITICAL AFFILLATIONS ALL CANDIDATES. IN THIS CONNECTION SPOKESMAN SCAP ISSUED FOLLOWING STATEMENT APRIL 15 QUOTE IT IS HOPED THAT EACH NEWSPAPER IN JAPAN WILL PUBLISH THE NAME, AGE, PARTY, AND OCCUPATION OF EACH CANDIDATE FOR THE HOUSE OF COUNCILLORS AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THESE ELECTIONS UNQUOTE.

DESIRE TEAMS CHARGED WITH SURVEILLANCE FUTURE ELECTIONS CONTACT AS MANY MAJOR ELECTION ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEES AS POSSIBLE AND ENCOURAGE GREATEST POSSIBLE COMPLIANCE ABOVE HOME MINISTRY RECOMMENDATIONS.

Of particular interest this year was the almost complete lack of individuals claiming that they had been improperly denied the right to vote.

The 1946 elections for the House of Representatives had been marred by a large number of claims by individuals that they had been improperly excluded from registration lists. In most instances, however, these turned out to stem from the construction of the election laws, which had provided only for annual fall registration, with ample opportunity at that time for correction of errors in the register. In consequence, individuals who had waited until elections were imminent before checking the registers and noting omissions had been unable to exercise their franchise. As noted above, this problem was anticipated this year and remedied in advance, two special registration periods being held in March and April to permit all those eligible to vote to check polling lists and register if their name was omitted.

Analysis of Elections

In the last analysis three questions seem paramount in any survey of the 1947 elections: (1) Were the elections fair and democratic? (2) How could election procedures be improved in future years? (3) What were the political implications of the results?

Fair and Democratic Elections

Two major concepts are necessarily involved in democratic elections: pre-election assurance of democratic rights such as broad franchise, ease of candidacy, freedom from fear of coercion, and the like; and election day and post

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election assurance of honesty in the counting and tabulating of votes.

Insofar as the first is concerned, as was pointed out in Chapter II, a wide variety of pre-election measures was taken to insure democratic elections: strengthening of the election laws, extension of the franchise, increase in the number of polls, application of the purge, assurance of non-interference by the police, surveillance by Occupation Forces, to name a few. Insofar as counting and tabulation were concerned, not only did every candidate have the right to have a witness present at every step in the voting and counting process at every polling place and ballot counting station in Japan---but every Japanese citizen had the further right to bring any protest which he might have to the attention of the Occupation Forces as well as his own Government.

With respect to the laws, therefore, every step in the electoral process, from the filing of candidacy and the registration of voters to the final tabulation of results was fully protected by laws and safeguards comparable to those of any democratic nation. Insofar as violations of these laws were concerned, not only were Japanese procedures of investigation, indictment and trial highly competent and satisfactory but once again full opportunity was afforded all citizens to bring any criticisms of methods to the attention of surveillance personnel. The especial fact that indictments for election law violations for all five 1947 elections totaled only 2997 as opposed to 2632 in the one election of 1946 might be taken either as an indication that political morality had been markedly improved or that the investigative powers of the government had gone into a sharp decline. The first reason is undoubtedly the correct one, for the figure of 2997 included all alleged violations from all sources, including those first reported to the Occupation Forces, and citizens were urged daily to report to the Occupation Forces violations of which they were aware which were not being properly investigated by Japanese officials.

In this connection, it is imperative to note that the vast majority of claims of election law violations involved such crimes as bribery of voters, house to house canvassing for votes, and violations of the poster law. For all the 42,000 polling places and 11,000 ballot counting stations in all Japan and for all the 200,000,000 ballots which were counted during five elections there were only a handful of charges made anywhere---by press, or public or candidates or parties---of improper casting of votes and no charges were made of miscounting of votes.

Improvement of Elections

In comparison with the 1947 elections, three basic avenues lie open for the improvement of future Japanese elections: decrease in the number of electors abstaining from voting; decrease in the number of wasted ballots; and increase in the number of candidates, particularly for the office of local chief executive.

In considering the average abstention rate of 30 percent for the 1947 elections, it must be recalled that essentially this represents a percentage of total eligible voters and not a percentage of a total of registered voters which in turn is only a percentage of the total of eligible voters. Japanese law provides basically for automatic registration; once each year all eligible voters are registered regardless of whether they have any interest in voting or not. In most Western countries, of course, the situation is reversed; registration is not automatic but requires that the voter take the initiative and register himself. From the standpoint of the percentage of all adults actually participating in an election, therefore, a 70 percent turnout in a Japanese election would be equivalent of about an 85 percent turnout in an average American election.

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The basic reasons for abstention this year were apparently the number of elections in rapid succession; the severe restraints placed on campaigning because of the lack of paper; and the novelty and complexity of such elections as required the casting of separate ballots.

All three, of course, will improve with time. In view of the varying terms of the offices included, such a series of elections as was held in 1947 could never again be held until 1959---and even juxtaposition in 1959 would require that during the next 12 years no general election for the Diet be held except at the end of a four year term.

The stringent limitations on the use of paper stemmed, of course, both from shortage of paper and from the tremendous demand in the early part of 1947. Such concentrated demand in the future will be eliminated by the general dispersal of elections over different years and the gradual improvement in Japan's economic position should result in greater availability of paper. Time also will serve to decrease the novelty of the elections, particularly in respect to the combination of two elections in one day.

The simplest solution to the problem of voided ballots, of course, would seem to be adoption of the printed ballot. Other solutions are relaxation of restrictions on campaign publicity and the practice, emphasized at the last election, of posting names of candidates in each polling booth and of ensuring that a voter receives only one ballot at a time and thus is required to mark only one at a time.

New local government legislation provides procedures for the recall of local chief executives in those instances where the majority of the electorate votes to remove them. Communities in which only one candidate ran for office are thus in a position to vote for a new mayor if they so desire and need not necessarily retain their present mayors from now until 1951. A continuing program of political education and the rapid development in towns and villages of competing political parties are greatly to be desired in order to counter any tendency to acquiesce in the agreements of local leaders as to candidates for local offices. Once such parties are developed it is imperative that party management, programs, and issues be determined by action of the entire membership of the party rather than by party leaders alone.

Political Implications

The following table summarizes party votes in the 1946 and 1947 elections. Since the method of voting adopted in the House of Representatives election in 1946 permitted voters to cast ballots for 2 or 3 candidates, dependent on the size of the electoral district concerned, direct comparison with the Representatives election in 1947 is not possible, since this year electors voted for but one candidate each. Table II, however, projects a basis for comparison, indicating an estimated division of votes in 1946 had electors cast ballots for but one candidate.

	Liberals	Democrats	Social Democrats	Cooperatives	Communist	Minor Parties	Independents	Total
1946, 10 April	13,505,746	10,350,530	9,858,408	1,799,764	2,135,757	6,473,272	11,352,402	55,448,879
The same reduced to common denom.	6,500,000	4,960,000	4,730,000	860,000	1,020,000	3,100,000	5,430,000	26,600,000
1947, 5 April Governors	2,111,906	1,605,540	6,047,059	392,847	258,044	1,590,487	14,734,584	26,740,467
20 April, Local	3,822,767	3,117,202	4,847,188	1,038,271	809,177	1,026,178	7,235,693	21,896,476
20 April, National	1,360,456	1,908,087	3,479,814	549,916	610,948	1,039,819	12,462,073	21,411,113
25 April	7,295,242	6,857,480	7,168,888	1,862,753	1,002,883	1,560,070	1,614,295	27,361,611
30 April, Municipal	1,980,001	2,073,491	2,049,494	149,453	252,409	652,571	23,481,019	30,638,438
Prefectural	5,733,280	6,092,169	5,482,627	1,187,322	556,473	2,520,428	9,686,347	31,258,646
1946, April 10	24.4	18.7	17.8	3.2	3.8	11.7	20.4	100.0
1947, April 5, Gov.	7.9	6.0	22.6	1.5	0.9	6.0	55.1	100.0
April 20, Local	17.0	14.3	22.2	4.5	3.2	5.0	33.8	100.0
April 20, Natl.	6.5	7.2	16.6	2.6	2.9	4.9	59.3	100.0
April 25	26.6	25.1	26.2	6.8	3.7	5.7	5.9	100.0
April 30, Pref.	18.3	19.5	17.5	3.8	1.8	8.1	31.0	100.0
April 30, Munic.	6.5	6.8	6.7	0.5	0.8	2.1	76.6	100.0

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Of the 205,000 offices at stake in the April elections, about 185,000 were won by "Independents." This single fact would make analyses of the political implications of the elections almost impossible were it not for the fact that the political implications of the word "Independent" are quite different in Japan from what they are in the West. As one political observer has pointed out, "An 'independent' in Japan is a candidate who does not indicate until after the election what party he proposes to support, whereas a 'neutral' is a candidate who proposes to remain independent."

Final results of all elections, tabulated by parties, were as follows:

Liberals	Demo.	Soc. D.	Peop. Coop.	Comm.	Minor Parties	Ind.	Total
5,899	5,883	6,382	831	439	2,204	183,424	205,06

From the standpoint of local entities, the elections represented a sweeping Conservative victory, since by far the greater number of elective candidates were of conservative leanings, whether classified as Liberals, Democrats, or Independents. In 4 prefectures, 11 cities, and 253 towns and villages there are Social Democratic chief executives and in 11 towns and villages there are Communist chief executives. In about 10,000 local entities of government, however, there are conservative chief executives, while the number of conservative assemblies probably approximates the total number of local assemblies in Japan.

The facts that the Social Democrats won a plurality among parties in each House of the Diet and have now established a Cabinet in coalition with the Democrats suggests that national election results were far less conservative than local. They were less conservative, it is true, but whether sufficiently so to set the government on a path markedly divergent from that of the past year is still a moot question.

The present membership of the two houses is as follows:

House of Councillors		House of Representatives
	Government Parties	
47	Social Democrats	144
42	Democrats	129
	Peoples Cooperative	31
89		304
	Non Government Parties	
43	Liberal	125
17	Independents	16
95	Ryokufukai	
	Japan Farmers	3
4	Communist	4
1	Neutrals	2
1	Vacancies	7
161		162

If it be remembered that passage of any legislation requires either approval of a bill by a majority of both Houses or repassage by the House of Representatives by a two thirds vote of legislation passed by the Representatives and voted down by the Councillors, the significance of the above figures is apparent. Half of the House of Representatives is 233; two thirds is 311; and half of the House of Councillors is 125. Technically speaking, the Government Parties have neither a majority in the House of Councillors nor the necessary two thirds majority in the House of Representatives by which they

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would override a Councillor's veto. Passage of legislation, therefore, will require bargaining with non-government and essentially conservative groups; when with this is coupled the fact that the Democratic Party itself is basically conservative it appears readily apparent that the Social Democratic plurality is unlikely to swing the Diet very far from a conservative course.

In particular, it should be noted that there is no possibility of dissolving a recalcitrant House of Councillors, as in the case of the House of Representatives; should the membership of the Councillors prove ultra conservative they could continue to block for the next three years all Social Democratic legislation which did not meet with their approval.

Comparison of figures for the House of Representatives elections in 1946 and 1947 raises three other points of interest.

Perhaps the most important was the loss of strength by both independents and minor parties in this year's election for the House of Representatives. In 1946 the two groups won 32.1 percent of the total vote; this year their total dropped to 11.6 percent. It would seem likely that insofar as the House of Representatives is concerned the Japanese people are gradually coming to appreciate the importance of major parties vis a vis minor parties or independents in a parliamentary system of government.

Of particular interest was the fact that the Social Democrats did not win their plurality by taking votes away from the Liberals and Democrats; rather, all three parties ran well above their 1946 totals, thanks primarily to votes which had previously been given to the minor parties and independents. This would indicate failure of the Social Democrats to make any decisive gains among individuals who traditionally have voted for Liberals or Democrats and would suggest that any gains the Social Democrats might make in elections in the near future will have to come primarily from the votes of new electors or those who still voted this year for independents or minor parties.

Unless this tendency be reversed by highly successful administration, this would make difficult the development of a Social Democratic absolute majority in the House of Representatives for some time to come. For such control the Social Democrats would need another 20 percent or so of the popular vote. Only 11.6 percent remains in the minor party and independent pool and the total accretion of new voters over the next five years, even with repatriates added, will probably not exceed ten percent of the present total. The Social Democrats could hardly expect to win all these potential votes. The most profitable field of operation for the Social Democrats therefore would seem to be among the 32 percent of the populace who abstained from voting in the last election.

In connection with the Communists, it should be pointed out that despite their failure to win as many seats in the House of Representatives as they had anticipated or as they did last year, their popular vote, on a comparative basis, was approximately that of last year: 1,002,883 in 1947 as opposed to 1,020,000 in 1946. Percentagewise this was a reduction, in that a grand total of 1,361,000 more votes were cast in this year's election than in last. Particularly striking, however, was the fact that many of last year's Communist votes were undoubtedly spare votes, cast by electors who were dividing their two or three votes among several parties. This year's Communist votes were all first choice.

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Statement by the Supreme Commandor

The democratic response of the people of Japan to the opportunities afforded them in April for an unprecedentedly full exercise of the franchise and for the establishment of both national and local governments according with the freely expressed will of the electorate was hailed by the Supreme Commander in a statement on 27 April. General MacArthur said:

"With the recently held series of elections, the last preparatory step necessary for the inauguration of the new Japanese Constitution has been accomplished. This Constitution is among the most liberal and progressive national charters in the world. It reflects one of the great spiritual reformations of mankind. Its effectuation marks a new era in the Far East which may well prove vital to the future of civilization. It gives the Japanese people another chance. It raises the masses of them from the totalitarianism of practical slavery to the dignity of free men. I have faith they will not fail their new obligation.

"That faith is justified by the elections just past. From factories and shops and homes, from villages and farms and mines, the Japanese people streamed by the millions throughout the land to the polling places to discharge their new responsibilities of citizenship. There they voted for the candidates of their choice, freely and fearlessly, without disorder and according to the rules as they understood them. In this atmosphere of freedom, marked by serious effort and honesty of purpose, no one can justly criticize their choice. This choice, for the first time in Japanese history, reflected the free will of the majority, as against the totalitarian dictates of a minority. This is democracy!

"The basic issue before the electorate was a selection between political philosophies. That of the totalitarian extreme right had already been discredited and rejected for its responsibility for war and defeat and long suppression of the rights and liberties of the masses. On the other hand, that of the extreme left, the communistic philosophy, was still in issue, with its leaders strongly bidding for the popular support. Since the inception of the occupation, when thousands of its adherents were freed from the stern suppression of prison cells, this philosophy and its leaders had been given the fullest liberty and freedom of political action in open and fair competition with democratic forces and beliefs. It thus had its full chance and on the merits has failed. The Japanese people have firmly and decisively rejected its leadership and overwhelmingly have chosen a moderate course, sufficiently centered from either extreme to insure the preservation of freedom and the enhancement of individual dignity."

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PLEASE RETURN TO CAPT. DIAMANTES

GOVERNMENT SECTION, ROOM 615, DAI ICHI BLDG.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS
Government Section

Syllabus - 402

LAWS RELATING TO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES' GENERAL ELECTION

January 1949

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Chief Procurator of a District Court

From May 31 to June 10 the following personnel are being screened:

Staff officer of Bank of Japan and other special bank
Staff officer of a Kinko (Cash Office) and an Eidan
Staff officer of a control association
Staff officer of a control company
Staff officer of any other company mentioned in Appendix II to cabinet and Home Ministry Ordinance No. 1

From June 10-20 the following personnel are being screened:

Director of a local bureau or office under the jurisdiction of a ministry
President, Dean and Principal of a university, college and school under the direct control of the Educational Ministry officials other than mentioned above

In short, screening of all holders of public office should be substantially finished by the end of June. In addition all those who have resigned from public office since the 4 January directive will be screened in order to determine whether they fall under the purge directive and consequently are ineligible under the directive for pensions or benefits. By the terms of this purge directive the exercise of any authority or influence of 185,386 persons over the people of Japan has already been prevented.

By this purge directive, timed and tempered to avoid unnecessary disruption in the normal processes of government, the Supreme Commander moved directly and inexorably to drive from their entrenched positions in government and society those groups and individuals who, while not so culpable as to be proceeded against as war criminals, wielded a profound and evil influence upon the people and contributed immeasurably toward the program which plunged Japan into a war of world aggression. If full compliance therewith be completed within the six months period heretofore planned, its purpose will have been most adequately and speedily achieved.

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I. INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

Information for Military Government Officers and Teams

Concerning the General Election

The forthcoming general election for members of the House of Representatives will again prove a highly significant phase in the development of Japanese political life. This is the third general election since the beginning of the Occupation, -- and the second to elect members for a Diet which, under the terms of the new Constitution, became "the highest organ of state power" and "the sole law-making organ of the state." As in the elections of April 1947, the pending election will be supervised by representatives of the people rather than by the government. And again, as in the previous election, there is a clear-cut distinction between the party in power and a recognized opposition.

In view of this historic importance and of the material influence which this election will exert on the development and strengthening of democratic tendencies, which is a fundamental requirement of the Potsdam Declaration, it is imperative that the forthcoming election be so conducted as to ensure a free and positive expression of the will of the Japanese people. Assurance of such an election thus becomes a major responsibility of the Occupation Forces.

The Japanese election laws and ordinances provide adequate machinery for fair and impartial elections. Though some provisions may seem inadequate by Western standards and others may appear to impose unnecessary restrictions, all have been carefully worked out and not only embrace but also regulate familiar Japanese customs and practices. If Japanese officials, therefore, faithfully execute the provisions of these laws, it is hoped that a fair and impartial election will be assured.

However, in the pre-Occupation period, despite efforts to ensure fair elections, local administrative officials, mostly in conjunction with the desires and wishes of the central government, frequently abused their authority. Prefectural governors and police under their control often intimidated opposition candidates, coerced voters, falsified returns, committed or failed to punish fraudulent and coercive practices, and by these and other devices used their positions to influence the outcome of elections.

The information contained in this booklet has been prepared for the purpose of providing Military Government Officers and Teams with a ready reference concerning appropriate Japanese legislation. Since in some cases, former laws and election procedures have been revised or amended in the light of experience, it is of particular importance to guard against the following coercive practices:

(1) Privileges granted to favored candidates.

(2) Unlawful exclusions from registration lists.

(3) Interference by police or government officials with legal campaigning.

(4) Efforts of either major or petty political machines to buy votes with bribes of scarce commodities or cash.

(5) Excessive campaign expenditures, in cash or kind, or failure to report campaign expenditures. Failure of officials to publicize campaign expenditures.

(6) Excessive contributions by individuals.

(7) Interference with access to the polls or with free and secret voting.

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(8) Denial of legitimate candidacy; illegal candidacy; evasion of the purge ordinances. Failure of proper officials to make purge questionnaires available for public inspection.

(9) Dishonest tabulation or reporting of results.

(10) Failure of authorities to prosecute violators.

(11) Use of violence, threats of violence, or other intimidation.

(12) Use of school teachers, school officials and members of educational associations of students below the age of twenty who are presently under the tutelage or influence of the aforementioned. (The purpose of such a prohibition is to prevent a candidate from taking advantage of his special relationship with school children and using them in a campaign.)

(13) Efforts of any individual or groups, -- landlords, labor union leaders, employers, etc., -- to utilize economic pressure to influence voters.

The forthcoming election will involve 466 seats in the House of Representatives. All members of the House of Representatives will be elected from sub-prefectural districts. The 46 prefectures are divided into a grand total of 117 election districts.

The laws reproduced in this booklet provide detailed information concerning the election of members to the House of Representatives. (See below, II - A & B: "The Law for Election of Members to the House of Representatives;" and the "Ordinance Relating to the Enforcement of the Law for the Election of Members of the House of Representatives"). Briefly summarized, these laws provide as follows:

1. VOTERS:

With a few exceptions all Japanese citizens 20 years or older, regardless of sex, are eligible to vote in the locality in which they have resided for at least six months.*/ In addition, all repatriates otherwise eligible to vote are released from the six months requirements. Exceptions in both instances include individuals who have been declared incompetent or quasi-incompetent or who are serving jail sentences.

Eligibility for voting, however, is not automatic but is contingent upon the appearance of an individual's name on the poll books of his voting district or upon his presentation, on election day, of a court certificate directing that his name be added to the list of voters.

Since polling districts are the same for all elections, national and local, and since voting requirements for all elections are substantially the same, the same poll books with minor exceptions, are used for all Japanese elections. Japanese law provides that the poll books must be completely checked once a year, commencing with September, with additional registration provided for prior to each election, to permit registration of individuals newly meeting such eligibility requirements as age, etc. Polling lists are available for inspection prior to each election to permit complaints and readjustments, and are therefore considered as final on election day. Other than by court order, therefore, no individual may vote on election day if his name does not appear in the polling list of his election district.

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*/ In certain instances individuals who have moved from their usual domiciles are recognized as having a residual right to vote in the place of their usual domicile. However, the individuals are permitted to vote in only one of the two districts in which they possess the right to vote and prior to the election must indicate their preference.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 5(D) OR (E) NNDG # 775012

2. CANDIDATES

In general, any Japanese citizen with the right to vote who meets age requirements and has been screened and passed under the provisions of the purge is eligible for candidacy for the Diet. However, judges, public procurators, government auditors, election and revenue officials, members of the National Police Force, members of the Public Safety Commission of a Metropolis, District, urban or rural prefecture, city, town, or village, and members of the Municipal Police Force must resign their posts before they are eligible for candidacy. Officials of national and local governments, as well as members of local assemblies, may not concurrently hold seats in the Diet.

Candidacies for the House of Representatives must be filed at least 10 days before election. In case of the death or withdrawal of candidates after this date, new nominations may be filed up to three days prior to the election.

Candidates for election to the House of Representatives must be 25 years of age. No residence requirements are imposed, permitting candidates to run from any electoral district they wish.

The term of office for all members of the House of Representatives is 4 years; the House, however, may be dissolved prior to that time and a new election required, as in the present instance.

3. ELECTION CAMPAIGN

As already noted, the Japanese election laws provide stringent regulation of election campaigns. The grave problem is not the substance of the law but its enforcement. (See below, III - A & B: "Law Concerning the Provisional Exceptions to Election Campaign and Others;" and "Cabinet Order Relating to the Enforcement of the Law concerning Temporary Exceptions Relating to Election Campaign, etc., No. 192").

Strict limitations are placed on the amount of money that may be spent and the ways in which such funds may be used, as well as contributions to candidates and political parties. A candidate for the House of Representatives is permitted, according to law, to spend an average of ¥87,000 (maximum approximately up to ¥150,000). This varies according to election districts. Article 102 of the Law for Election of Members of the House of Representatives specifies the maximum amount that a candidate may spend on his campaign as follows: "The amount obtained when the total number of electors registered on the final electoral list, divided by the number of members to be elected in the election district, is multiplied by the amount of money fixed by ordinance." The appropriate Prime Minister's Ordinance No. 65 of 18 November 1948 fixes this amount as one yen. For example, in a typical electoral district having to elect 3 candidates, the maximum amount authorized per candidate will be ¥83,333. This amount is arrived at by dividing 250,000 by 3 and multiplying the result by 1 yen.

Candidates may not carry on house to house canvassing for votes. Campaigns may not be opened until candidacies have been filed.

Limitations are placed on the use of campaign letters, posters, and the like.

Candidates must report at stated intervals during the campaign on their expenditures to date, -- this information then being made public.

However, candidates will be permitted to send post cards free of charge to electors in their constituencies and may also utilize public schools and other buildings for their campaign meetings.

Election bulletins, providing information about the candidates, are published by the prefectures and distributed. Names of all candidates will also be posted in a conspicuous place before the election, preferably at the entrance to a polling place. These provisions have been inserted in the laws at the insistence of the political parties themselves, on account of the paper shortage and the like. (Details regarding all these points will be found in the laws reproduced below).

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 11652 SEC. 3(E) AND 3(D) OR (E) NNDG # 779012

4. SUPERVISION OF ELECTION

Before the elections of April 1947, supervision over Japanese elections was exercised by local executives: governors, mayors, and headmen. For the first time in the history of Japanese political affairs, the elections of April 1947 were supervised by special committees, duly elected by local legislatures and responsible for all elections, national or local, which were held in their areas of responsibility.

On the basis of supervisory experience thus derived, the functions of these committees have been developed and strengthened by implementing legislation. An election administration committee is set up in each local entity. These committees are responsible to the public at large and charged with supervision of all elections conducted in their area of jurisdiction. Each city, town, village, and Tokyo ward thus has a committee which exercises, on its own account, immediate control over elections in its own locality, under the general supervision of prefectural committees. Affairs pertaining to the election of members of the House of Representatives are supervised by these local election administration committees. Prefectural committees have six members, including a chairman; others have four. The method of electing committees permits bipartisan membership. A committee must meet at the request of any member. All complaints regarding the conduct of the elections are normally made, in the first instance, to the committee.

An innovation since the elections of April 1947 was the establishment, in December of that year, of the National Election Management Commission, under the jurisdiction of the Prime Minister's Office. This Commission is composed of nine regular members and nine alternate members, nominated by the various parties. The Commission has assumed all the functions pertaining to elections once performed by the now defunct Home Ministry.

According th the law creating the National Election Management Commission, which was enacted by the Diet on 9 December 1947, the Commission is responsible for the administration of all popular elections. This includes elections for both national and local offices, as well as those held for the ratification of amendments to the Constitution or under the People's Examination of Supreme Court Judges Law. Among the specific duties of the Commission are the securing of necessary appropriations, assisting in the procurement of necessary paper, and other preparations concerning the elections.

All political parties and political associations must register with the Commission and file with it financial statements or any other data required.

Although the National Election Management Commission is placed under the jurisdiction of the Prime Minister, the Commission operates according to the decisions reached by its members.

5. ELECTION PROCEDURES

Election procedures on the vote casting and ballot counting levels are the same for all Diet elections, since the same voting and counting districts are used for all elections. It is only at the higher, or tabulating levels, that procedures vary somewhat, in view of the varying sizes of the electoral districts and of the numbers of individuals to be elected. In this connection, it might also be pointed out that procedures for Diet elections are substantially the same as for local elections, so that knowledge of procedures for one class of election will serve as basic knowledge for all.

Under the supervision of the respective election administrative committees and the general supervision of the National Election Management Commission, elections in each local entity are directed by a superintendent (or chairman) of elections, chosen by the committee. The superintendent, in turn, is assisted by superintendents of the polls and polling witnesses, superintendents of the counting of ballots and ballot counting witnesses, and election witnesses.*/

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*/ Alternates are also named for all positions other than witnesses.

In general, these officials are required to possess the right to vote in the particular election which they are supervising.

With minor exceptions, each city, town, village, or ward constitutes a voting district, which may include one or more polling places.

Each polling place has a superintendent of the poll, appointed by the chairman of election, minor officials, and a number of polling witnesses (watchers) appointed by the candidates.*/ Each candidate has the right to nominate one polling witness at each polling place. Whenever the number of witnesses nominated for any polling place exceeds ten, the witnesses select ten from among their own number. If the number falls below three, the superintendent may appoint a registered voter as witness.

The superintendent and the officials are neutral; the polling witnesses are the direct representatives of the candidates and enjoy the normal prerogatives of challenge, etc. All decisions are made by the superintendent of the poll, with the advice of the polling witnesses; challenged ballots, in respect to which no immediate decision is reached, are placed in envelopes with the voters' names marked thereon and later either counted or discarded.

Each superintendent or "overseer" of a poll is responsible for the proper conduct of the election machinery at his polling place. This includes maintenance of law and order, assurance of secrecy in voting, comparison of the names of prospective electors with polling lists, and the like. Procedure at the polls is relatively simple; names of prospective voters are checked against the polling list, voters receive ballot papers and designate their choice thereupon. Ballots of blind voters are marked by Braille points. Procedures for absentee voting are also established.

Except in cases in which the superintendent of the poll is also the superintendent of the counting of votes, at the close of the election the superintendent of the poll, accompanied by at least one witness, delivers the ballot box, the record of the polls, and the register of electors to a superintendent of the counting of the votes, at the nearest counting station.

The latter superintendent is appointed by the election administration committee and is assisted by a number of witnesses for the counting of the votes, appointed by the candidates in the same way as the witnesses at the polls. The superintendent and witnesses are responsible for counting the votes, the superintendent having the power to decide on the validity of ballots previously questioned or on the validity of ballots which are improperly marked. As with polling places, a given local entity may have one or more ballot counting stations, the number being determined according to population. All electors have the right to attend the counting of ballots in their respective districts. With a few exceptions, due to distances involved, ballots will be counted either on election day or on the day following.

The final step in election procedure is the election meeting. For the House of Representatives, meetings will be held in each prefecture. These meetings will be presided over by the superintendents of elections, assisted by election witnesses appointed by the candidates in the same manner as the witnesses at the polls and the witnesses at the counting of ballots.

The meetings are open to all electors.

Returns from the various ballot counting stations are received, tabulated according to the election districts involved, and the final returns then announced. For the House of Representatives this will involve determining

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*/ The term "superintendent of the poll" is also translated as "polling overseer"; and the term "superintendent of the counting of ballots" as "ballot counting overseer."

a single candidate as winner in each of the electoral districts into which the prefecture is divided.*/

6. VALIDITY OF ELECTIONS:

Complaints concerning the validity of elections are filed with the appropriate court. When the legal provisions governing elections are violated, elections may be voided either in whole or in part, if the violation is deemed likely to affect the returns.

A candidate who has failed of election, who questions the validity of the election of a person elected in the same election district, may institute a suit in the High Court against the winning candidate (or against the Chairman of the Committee for Overseeing the election, as the case may be), within thirty days from the date of publication of the name of the person elected.

7. RE-ELECTIONS:

In the past, Japanese laws were designed to avoid re-elections wherever possible. In consequence, in case of the death, purge disqualification, or resignation of an office holder, the normal practice was to recognize the runner-up in the last previous election as entitled to succeed to a position. Certain minimum standards were established; the runner-up, for example, needed to receive the minimum number of votes required for the elected candidate.

These regulations were changed at the time of the 1947 elections, and since then in general, the period during which the runner-up may succeed to a vacancy is ten days from the date of announcement of results, -- the period allowed the winning candidate to decide if he wishes to accept the position. In all other instances, new elections will eventually be held in the electoral districts concerned, -- normally when the number of vacancies, through death, purging, disqualification, or resignation, exceeds 25 percent of the members from that district with the same term of office. By-elections are then held. It is to be noticed, however, that individuals filling vacancies succeed only to the unexpired term of their predecessors.

8. VIOLATIONS OF ELECTIONS LAWS:

Stringent penalties are provided for all possible violations of Japanese election laws, with fines or penal sentences as punishment. Offenses include bribery, forgery, violence, intimidation, abduction, neglect of duty or abuse of authority by officials, and the like. In the event victorious candidates or their authorized representatives are found guilty of violations of the election law, elections are invalidated. Complaints may be filed with the appropriate court, which will have the power to invalidate an election. If such is done, criminal charges may then be preferred by the public procurator.

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*/ Meetings in each prefecture are also held to designate members of the House of Councillors from the prefectural constituencies. For the national constituency of the House of Councillors the election meeting is held in Tokyo; however, an "election sub-meeting" is held in each prefecture to to tabulate the prefectural vote for candidates from the national constituency. For the prefectural winners in the House of Councillors, since each prefecture is an electoral district in itself, this will require naming 2, 4, 6, or 8 victors for the prefecture as a whole. In respect to the national constituency of the House of Councillors, the committee in Tokyo will determine the 100 candidates from the whole of Japan who receive the largest number of votes. For election from this national constituency, a candidate must receive a minimum of 12½ percent of the valid votes cast for the office in question; for election from the other constituencies, 25 percent of the votes cast for any vacancy is required.

The Law Concerning the Regulation of Political Contributions and Expenditures (See below, IV), enacted by the Diet on 30 June 1948, increased the penalties for violations of the provisions of the Law for the Election of Members of the House of Representatives approximately threefold, and in some cases more. For example, violations calling for fines of ¥1,000 were increased to as high as ¥25,000; ¥20,000 fines were increased to ¥35,000; ¥30,000 increased to ¥75,000; etc.

The Law Concerning the Regulation of Political Contributions and Expenditures, also popularly called the "Corrupt Practices Law," was enacted with the aim of insuring fair and impartial elections, both national and local. This law, as its title describes, establishes regulations which require all political parties, political organizations, and candidates to report contributions and expenditures; requires that certain appropriate records and vouchers pertaining to contributions and expenditures be maintained within the political parties and organizations. It prohibits certain types of contributions; while it amends the existing election laws to effect increases in penalties for violations.

Following are the highlights of this law:

(1) Prohibits purgees from making contributions in any election.

(2) Prohibits holders of government contracts, both national and prefectural, from making political contributions.

(3) Prohibits candidates from making contributions within the area in which the candidate is running for office.

(4) Prohibits persons from making or receiving election contributions anonymously, or under any name other than his full legal name, together with his legal address.

(5) Prohibits foreign nationals or agencies from making election or campaign contributions.

(6) Prohibits contributions through a third person.

(7) Requires that political parties, political organizations, and individual candidates register the names and addresses of responsible officials with the National Election Management Commission or the Prefectural Electoral Administration Committee.

(8) Requires that a candidate report in writing all contributions made by him for the period of one year preceding the date of announcement of the election for which he is a candidate.

(9) Requires that political parties, political organizations, and individual candidates report to the National Election Management Commission or the Prefectural Electoral Administration Committee the names, addresses, dates of birth, and dates of appointment of responsible party officials, location of the political party or organization, within 7 days of its establishment.

(10) Requires that political parties, political organizations, and individual candidates keep account books, records, and other documents pertaining to all contributions, to include the names, addresses, and occupations of all persons making the contributions. (For organizations making contributions, their names, address of main office, and name and address of representative).

(11) Requires that political parties, political organizations, and individual candidates keep account books, records, and other documents indicating all payments made on behalf of the political party or association. Records must also indicate the name, address, and occupation of all persons to whom such payments have been made, together with the object, amount, and date of such payments.

(12) Requires that any person other that the treasurer of a political party or organization who accepts contributions or makes payments for or on behalf of said party, shall report the details of such payments or contributions to the treasurer within 7 days, or immediately upon request of the treasurer.

(13) Requires that vouchers for any payments exceeding ¥1,000 made by the political party, political organization, or other organization, be collected and maintained by the treasurer of the political party or organization.

(14) Requires that the treasurer of a political party, or political organization submit a report to the National Election Management Commission prior to the tenth day following each April 30, August 31, and December 31, which must include the following items:

a. All contributions and all other income received by a political party, or political organization, and all contributions and incomes received on their behalf.

b. Contributions received by a political party or political organization which exceed ¥1,000 (or aggregate amounts for identical contributions) must indicate name, address, and occupation of contributor, and amount and date of contribution.

c. Contributions received by other than a political party, political organization, or other organization which exceed ¥500 must indicate the name, address, and occupation of contributor, and amount and date of contribution.

d. All payments made by a political party, or political organization.

e. Payments made by a political party, or political organization which exceed ¥1,000 (¥500 for other than political parties) must indicate name, address, and occupation of the person to whom such payments were made and the object and date.

9. POPULAR REVIEW OF SUPREME COURT JUDGES

For the first time in the forthcoming election, the people of Japan will be responsible to review the appointments of the fifteen judges of the Supreme Court. The first appointments were made by the Cabinet on 4 August 1947. Although the appointments to the bench are made by the Cabinet, the Constitution (Article 79) and the Law of the People's Examination of Supreme Court Judges, which was enacted by the Diet on 20 November 1947, grants the people the right to make the final decision on whether or not they shall be retained in office.

In the usual case, a judge will have held office under his appointment for some time prior to the date of the examination by the people, for the popular vote is to be taken on each judge at the first general election of members of the House of Representatives following his appointment and every ten years thereafter.

Prior to the election, the law requires issuance and posting of an Official Examination Bulletin containing the name, date of birth, and personal history of the judge to be voted upon, the main cases in which he has participated and his expressed opinions in such cases. This information will afford the voters an opportunity to evaluate the quality of each judge, and to decide whether to vote for or against retention in office. If the majority of the voters indicate a desire to dismiss a judge from office he will be removed and cannot be again appointed to the Supreme Court until five years thereafter. On the other hand, a majority vote for retention will confirm an appointment.

In the process of discussing the form of ballot to be used, the Judicial Committee of the House of Representatives realized that because of the large number of judges to be voted upon (the number may be as high as fifteen), a requirement that each ballot have correctly written thereon the name of each judge in the voter's own handwriting would place an undue burden on the voter and very probably result in excessive invalid votes. Accordingly, after carefully considering the merits of several proposals, the Committee decided to adopt a simple form of printed ballot which will have a number of divided columns, one for each judge subject to review. (See ballot form below). Names of judges will be printed in the lower parts of the columns, and the voter will simply mark an "X" in the column over the name of any judge whose dismissal he considers desirable, and leave blank the column over the names of those judges he wishes to retain.

This procedure represents a form of voting entirely new to the people of Japan. Furthermore, it places upon them a very important responsibility. There is no gainsaying the fact that such a recall conferring the right to retain or dismiss the members of the Supreme Court puts in the hands of the people of Japan the power to determine the quality of the justice which will be meted out to them.

Following is a sample ballot form containing instructions for its use:

Note:

1. Enter the mark of X in the column over the name of a judge whose dismissal is considered desirable.

2. Leave in blank column over the name of a judge whose dismissal is not considered desirable.

3. Do not make any entry other than the mark of X.

X	The name of a judge
	The name of a judge
X	The name of a judge
	The name of a judge

Ballot of the People's Examination of the Supreme Court Judges.

THE LAW FOR ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Chapter I

The Election District

Article 1. The members of the House of Representatives shall be elected in each of the election districts. The election districts and the number of members to be elected in each district are set forth in the appendix to the present law.

Article 2. The voting districts shall be subject to the limits of cities, towns and villages.

When the Commissions for Overseeing the Election of the city, town, or village deem it necessary, there may be established several voting districts for one city, town or village.

In case voting districts are established according to the preceding clause, the Commissions for Overseeing the Election of the city, town or village must immediately announce the fact.

In case any provisions of the present law are not applicable to districts established according to the second clause of this article, special provisions may be enacted by imperial ordinance.

Article 3. The ballot-counting districts shall be subject to the limits of cities, towns and villages.

When the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture deem that there are special circumstances, there may be established several ballot-counting districts for one city or one ballot-counting district for several towns or villages.

When the ballot-counting districts are established according to the preceding clause, the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture must announce the fact immediately.

In case any provisions of the present law are not applicable to ballot-counting districts established according to the second clause of this article, special provisions may be enacted by imperial ordinance.

Article 4. When an alteration takes place in an election district in consequence of a change in administrative boundaries, the members actually sitting for such district shall retain their seats.

Chapter II

Voting Right and Eligibility

Article 5. Any Japanese national who is over twenty years of age shall have the right to vote.

Japanese national who is over twenty-five years of age shall be eligible for election.

Article 6. Any person who has been declared incompetent or quasi-incompetent, or who has been condemned to penal servitude or confinement and whose term of punishment has not been completed or is yet to be executed shall neither have the right to vote nor be eligible for election.

Article 7. Deleted.

Article 8. Members and clerks of the Commission for Overseeing the Election

of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture, these of the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the city, town or village, voting Overseers, Ballot-Counting Overseers, Chairman of election, and Government and public officials who are connected with election business shall not be eligible for election within the districts with which they are concerned in such capacities.

Article 9. Judges, public procurators, government auditors, revenue officials, a member of National Police Force, a member of Public Safety Commission of Metropolis, District, urban or rural Prefecture, city, town or village and a member of Municipal Police Force in active service shall not be eligible for election.

Articles 10 and 11. Deleted.

Chapter III

Electoral Lists

Article 12. The Commissions for Overseeing the Election of the city, town, or village shall investigate annually, as of the fifteenth of September, all qualified persons who have been domiciled for more than six months without interruption in their respective localities and prepare a list thereof by the thirty-first of October.

The age of an elector shall be counted as of the date when the electoral list is made final.

The persons disqualified under the residence requirements as provided in Paragraph 1 shall not be registered in the electoral list.

In the election list there shall be entered the name, residence, and date of birth of each elector.

The terms of residence provided in the first and third clauses of this article shall not be affected by alteration of theadministrative boundaries.

Article 13. Commissions for Overseeing the Election of the city, town, or village shall, at their respective offices or at places they designate, exhibit the electoral list for public insepotion for a period of fifteen days commencing on the fifth of November.

They shall announce the place of exhibition at least three days before inspection takes place.

Article 14. When an elector discovers an omission or wrong registration in the electoral list, he may demand that a correction be made by giving to the Commission for Election of the city, town, or village written corroborative evidence and the reason therefor.

Such a demand may not be made after expiration of the period of exhibition.

Article 15. Upon the receipt of a notice set forth in the preceding article, the Commission for Election of the city, town, or village shall examine the reasons alleged and evidence adduced and shall give its decision within twenty days from the receipt of such notice. If it finds that the notice is correct, it shall immediately correct the electoral list, notifying the person who has given the notice and other persons concerned and notify the public at the same time. When the notice is found to be incorrect, a communication to that effect shall be made to person who had given the notice.

Article 16. When either the person who has given the notice or other persons concerned are not satisfied with the decision of the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the city, town, or village made according to the foregoing, he may institute a suit against the commission for Overseeing the Election of the city, town, or village in a district court, within seven days after the receipt of such communication.

No appeal is allowed to appelate courts against the judgment of the district court mentioned in the preceding clause but it is permissible to bring an appeal to the Supreme Court for revision.

Article 17. The electoral list shall be considered final on the 20th of December.

The list shall be kept until the 19th of December of the following year. When, however, any correction is to be made in the list in pursuance of the judgment of a court of law, the Commissions for Overseeing the Election of the city, town, or village shall at once make the said correction and shall publish the fact.

A new electoral list shall be compiled whenever a natural calamity or any other unavoidable circumstance may require it.

The compilation of the electoral list according to the foregoing clause and the date thereof, and the date and duration of exhibition for public inspection and final determination of the list shall be determined by Ordinance.

Chapter IV

Election, Votes and Polling Places

Article 18. The date of a general election shall be the day following the expiration of a term of members of the House of Representatives. However, when there are peculiar circumstances, an election may be held within five days after a term has expired.

When a term expires while the National Diet is in session or within twenty-five days after the closing of the session, the general election shall take place not less than twenty-six nor more than thirty days after the close of the session.

The date of a general election shall be proclaimed at least twenty-five days beforehand.

Article 19. Election shall be by ballot. Each elector shall cast one ballot only.

Article 19-2. Affairs pertaining to the election of Members of the House of Representatives shall be taken charge of by the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture.

The Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture shall direct and supervise the commissions for overseeing the election of city, town, or village, with regard to affairs pertaining to the election of members of the House of Representatives.

Article 20. Voting Overseers shall be selected and appointed by the Commissions for Overseeing the Election of the city, town, or village from among those who have the right to vote for election.

Voting Overseers shall take charge of affairs pertaining to voting.

Article 21. The polling-place shall be the city, town, or village office or place designated by the voting overseer.

Article 22. The voting overseer shall announce the polling-place at least five days previous to the date of election.

When, on account of a natural calamity or other unavoidable circumstances, polling places notified in accordance with the provisions of the preceding paragraph have been altered, the Voting Overseer concerned may immediately notify it, in spite of the provisions of the preceding paragraph, except on the day of election.

Article 23. The polls shall be opened at 7 o'clock a.m. and be closed at 8 o'clock p.m.

Article 24. The Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Cities, Towns and Villages shall select and appoint three to five voting witnesses from among those registered on the electors' list of each voting district, with the consent of the persons in question, notifying it to the persons in question by the third day prior to the day of election.

When the number of the voting witnesses who attend at the polling place has not reached three by the time to open the polling place or the number has decreased to less than three after it has been opened, the voting overseers shall select and appoint voting witnesses to make their total number three, from among those registered on the electors' list of the voting district concerned and immediately notify it to those persons in question, to witness the voting.

A candidate cannot be selected and appointed as a voting witness.

More than three persons belonging to the same political party or any other organization shall not be selected and appointed as voting witnesses for each voting district.

Voting witnesses shall not resign their offices without proper reasons.

Article 25. On the day of election, electors shall come in person to the polling place and vote, after identifying themselves as the persons whose names are on the electoral list.

In case the voting overseer cannot identify a person who is about to vote, he shall require him to declare on oath his proper identity. Unless this declaration is made, such a person shall not be permitted to vote.

Article 26. The ballot shall be given to each elector at the polling place on the day of voting.

Article 27. Every elector shall enter by himself the full name of one candidate in a ballot at a polling place and cast it into a ballot box.

An elector shall not write his own name on the ballot.

Article 27-2. For a voter who cannot write by himself the name of a candidate on account of physical inability, the voting overseers, on his application, may, in spite of the provisions of Paragraph 2 of Article 30, Paragraph 1 of Article 52 and Paragraph 1 of the preceding Article, select and appoint a person, by inviting the opinions of the voting witnesses, and have him write the name of one candidate and put the ballot-paper into the ballot-box for the voter. Necessary matters in this case shall be determined by Cabinet Order.

Article 28. Writing upon the ballots with Braille as specified by Imperial Ordinance is permitted.

Article 29. No person other than those entered on the electoral list shall be capable of voting. Should, however, anyone come to the voting-place on the day of election bringing with him a writ of decision entitling him to have his name entered on the electoral list, the voting overseer shall allow him to vote.

Article 30. Whenever a person registered on the electoral list does not possess the qualifications for registration or the right to vote on the day of the election, such person may not vote.

The foregoing provision shall apply to those persons who cannot themselves write the names of the candidates they wish to vote for.

Article 31. The voting overseer, after consulting the voting witnesses, decides whether or not to allow a vote to be cast.

In case an elector is dissatisfied with the decision mentioned in the preceding clause, the voting overseer shall allow him to vote provisionally.

An elector shall place his ballot in an envelope and seal it and deposit it in the ballot box after writing his name on the envelope.

The provisions of the foregoing two clauses shall apply to an elector objected by any of the election witnesses.

Article 32. When the time for closing the polls arrives, the voting overseer shall declare the fact and close the entrance of the polling-places; he shall close the ballot-box as soon as electors present in the polling place have finished voting.

After the closing of the ballot-box no voting shall be allowed.

Article 33. For electors who certify the impossibility of personal attendance at a polling-place on the day of election owing to circumstances given in each of the following items, notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 25, 26, and the first clause of Article 27, the provisions of Article 29 and Article 31, there may be prepared special provisions by Cabinet Order.

1. It requires that the voter is performing his duties or ongaging in his business outside the limits of the municipality, wherein is located the voting district to which he belongs (or outside the limits of the voting district in the case of a person who is performing duties connected with election).

2. With the exception of the case given in the preceding item, it requires that a voter is travelling or staying outside the limits of the municipality, wherein is located the voting district to which he belongs, on inevitable business or on account of unavoidable circumstances.

3. With the exception of the case given in the preceding item, it requires that a voter is extremely difficult of walking on accout of an illness or an injury or pregnancy or disability or confinement in child-bed.

Article 34. The voting overseer shall keep minutes in which all matters relating to the voting shall be entered and which he and the witnesses shall sign.

Article 35. The voting overseer, except when he is also a ballot-counting overseer, shall, in company with one or more witnesses, send on the day of election the ballot-box, the minutes of the voting, and the electoral lists to the counting overseer.

Article 36. In the case of an island or other place where means of transportation do not permit sending the ballot-box within the time mentioned in the preceding article, the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture, fix a convenient date for voting and cause the ballot-box, minutes of the voting and the electoral lists to be sent by the time of counting the votes.

Article 37. When, owing to natural calamity or other unavoidable circumstances, it is found to be impossible to carry out the voting or it is necessary to take a fresh vote, the voting overseer shall give notice to that effect to the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture the chairman of election. In such a case the Commissions shall cause the voting to be carried out by fixing a new date which shall be proclaimed at least five days beforehand.

Article 38. In case elections are to be held according to Article 75 or 79 simultaneously, one combined election shall take place.

Article 39. No elector is under obligation to state to any person the name of the candidate for whom he voted.

Article 40. The voting overseer shall maintain order at the polling-place and may, in case of necessity, ask the assistance of the police or members of Municipal Police Force.

Article 41. With the exception of electors, persons attending to the business of the polling-place, officials who are authorized to oversee the polling-place, and members of National Police Force and members of Municipal Police Force, no person is allowed to enter the polling-place.

Article 42. When at the polling-place, any person makes a speech, engages in discussion, causes an uproar, holds a conference, or uses persuasion as to voting, or otherwise disturbs the order of the polling-place, the voting overseer shall caution him and if the caution is disregarded, shall cause him to leave the polling-place.

Article 43. A person who has been compelled to leave a polling-place in accordance with the foregoing article, may be allowed to vote either at the end of the voting or earlier if it is deemed by the voting overseer that there is no danger of the polling-place being disturbed thereby.

Chapter V

Counting of Ballots and Counting-Office

Article 44. Ballot-counting Overseers shall be selected and appointed by the Commissions for Overseeing the Election of the city, town, or village from among those who have the right to vote for election.

Ballot-counting Overseers shall take charge of affairs pertaining to the counting of ballots.

Article 45. The counting-office shall be established in the city, town or village or at the place appointed by the counting overseer.

Article 46. The counting overseer shall announce the date of the counting beforehand.

Article 47. A candidate may select one person to be appointed a ballot-counting witness from among those registered on the electors list of each ballot-counting district, with the consent of the person in question, and report it to the ballot counting overseer by the third day prior to the day of election.

However, the same person may be reported by different candidates.

When the person reported for ballot-counting witnesses in accordance with the provisions of the preceding paragraph (when the candidate dies or has declined candidacy or has come to fall under the provisions of Paragraph 8 of Article 67, the persons reported by such candidate are to be excluded, hereinafter the same) do not exceed ten in number, they shall be immediately appointed ballot-counting witnesses, but when the number exceeds ten, the persons reported shall mutually elect ten ballot-counting witnesses.

The mutual election in accordance with the provisions of the preceding paragraph shall be conducted by vote, and the persons gaining majority votes shall be appointed ballot-counting witnesses.

In case of a tie, the ballot-counting overseer shall make the decision by drawing.

Ballot-counting witnesses to be appointed from among the persons reported as such by candidates who belong to the same political party or any other organization shall not exceed three in number.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraphs 2 and 3, when there are more than three persons reported in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 1 by candidates belonging to the same political party or any other organization, none other than two persons, who, in case it is possible to immediately fix ballot-counting witnesses have been appointed as such from among them by the ballot- counting witnesses should be fixed by mutual election, have been appointed as such by majority vote (or the two persons who have been appointed as such by the ballot-counting overseer by drawing in case of a tie), shall be made ballot-counting witnesses.

When ballot-counting witnesses, who have been reported by candidates belonging to the same political party or any other organization, have exceeded three in number, after the appointment of ballot-counting witnesses in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 2, Paragraph 3 or the preceding Paragraph, those other than the two persons who have been appointed ballot-counting witnesses by the ballot-counting overseer by drawing, shall lose their offices.

The mutual election in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 2 or the drawing in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 5 shall be conducted two days prior to the day of election.

The place and date for conducting the mutual election in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 2 or the drawing in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 5 or Paragraph 6, shall be notified beforehand by the ballot-counting overseer.

When the candidate dies or has declined candidacy or has come to fall under the provisions of Paragraph 8 of Article 67, the ballot-counting witnesses reported by him shall lose their offices.

When the ballot-counting witnesses in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 2 do not reach three in number or have later fallen short of the number, or the ballot-counting witnesses attending the ballot-counting place do not reach three in number at the time for opening it or have later fallen short of the number, the ballot-counting overseer shall select and appoint ballot-counting witnesses until they reach three in number from among those registered on the electors' list of the ballot-counting district concerned and have them attend the ballot-counting by immediately notifying it to the persons in question. However, persons belonging to the same political party or any other organization to which belongs the candidate who has reported the ballot-counting witness in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 2, or the ballot-counting witness selected and appointed by the ballot-counting overseer, shall not be selected and appointed as to exceed including the ballot-counting witness reported by the candidate concerned or the ballot-counting overseer.

A candidate shall not become a ballot-counting witness.

A ballot-counting witness shall not resign his office without proper reason.

Article 48. The counting of ballots shall be effected on the day of voting or on the day immediately following (in case more than one voting district exist within one vote-counting district, on the day when all the ballot-boxes have been received or on the day immediately following).

Article 49. The counting overseer shall, in the presence of the counting witnesses, examine the votes coming under section 2 and 4 of Article 31 and shall decide as to their acceptability after consulting the counting witnesses.

The counting overseer, with the counting witnesses, shall examine the ballot for each polling district, as city, town and village or other polling districts by the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture.

As soon as the examination of the ballots has been finished, the counting overseer shall report the result immediately to the chairman of election.

Article 50. The electors are entitled to request permission to inspect the counting at the respective offices.

Article 51. The validity of ballots shall be decided by the counting overseer after consulting the counting witnesses.

Article 52. The votes mentioned below shall be invalid:

1. Those for which a regular ballot has not been used.

2. Those on which the name of a person other than a candidate is inscribed.

3. Those on which the names of two or more candidates are inscribed.

4. Those on which the name of a person disqualified for election is inscribed.

5. Those on which other matters in addition to the name of a candidate are inscribed. But this rule does not apply to those on which the profession, status, residence, or honorifics are entered.

6. Those on which the name of the candidate is not written by the voter himself.

7. Those by which it is impossible to ascertain which candidate is meant.

8. Those on which the name of a person who is a member of the House of Representatives is inscribed.

The preceding 8th item is applicable only to an election held in accordance with the provisions of Article 75 or 79 of the present law.

Article 53. Ballots shall be sorted into lots that are valid and those that are void and shall be preserved by the Commissions for Overseeing the Election of the city, town or village.

Article 54. The counting overseer shall make the counting minutes, in which all matters relating to the ballot-counting shall be recorded, and shall affix his signature thereto together with ballot-counting witnesses.

The counting minutes shall be preserved during the term of office of the members elected, by the Commissions for Overseeing the Election of the city, town or village.

Article 55. In the counting of ballots of a new election held in case a part of an election is declared invalid, the validity of ballots shall be ascertained.

Article 56. The provisions of Article 37 shall, with the exception of the proviso, be applied mutatis mutandis in the counting.

Article 57. For the control of counting-offices the provisions of Article 40 to 42 shall be applied mutatis mutandis.

Chapter VI

Election Meeting

Article 58. The Chairman of Election shall be selected and appointed by the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture.

The Chairman of Election shall take charge of affairs relating to the election meeting.

Article 59. The election meeting shall be held at the Metropolitan or prefectural office or at a city office or a place designated by the chairman of election.

Article 60. The chairman of election shall announce the place and date of the election meeting beforehand.

Article 61. The provisions of Article 47 shall be applied correspondingly to the election witnesses.

Article 62. The Chairman of election shall hold the election meeting in

the presence of the election witnesses on the day when or the next day after the reports provided for in the third paragraph of Article 49 are received from all counting overseers and shall examine the reports.

In case a part of an election was invalid and a new election has been held, the chairman of election, on receipt of the report under the third paragraph of Article 49, shall hold an election meeting and examine it together with other reports.

Article 63. The electors are entitled to request admission to the election meeting of their respective districts.

Article 64. The Chairman of election shall make the election minutes, in which all matters relating to the election meeting shall be recorded and shall affix his signature thereto together with election witnesses.

The election minutes, together with the documents relating to the reports made under Article 49, Paragraph 3, shall be preserved by the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture, during the term of office of the members elected.

Article 65. The provisions of Article 37 shall, with the exception of the proviso, be applied correspondingly to the election meeting.

Article 66. For the control of the election meeting the provisions of Articles 40 to 42 shall be applied correspondingly.

Chapter VII

Candidates & Persons Elected

Article 67. A person who desires to be a candidate shall so notify the chairman of election between the date when the date of election is proclaimed and the tenth day before the date of election.

When a person whose name is registered in the electoral list desires to name a candidate other than himself, he may make the recommendation with the consent of the candidate during the period set forth in the preceding clause.

In case the number of candidates named during the period stated in the two preceding clauses exceeds the number of members to be elected, when candidates die after the period stated or withdraw candidacy, notice or recommendation of candidates may be made according to the two preceding clauses by the third day previous to the date of election.

A person who has become a candidate in one election district shall not notify his candidacy or approve the notification recommending him as a candidate in another election district.

The notice specified by Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 concerning public officials of the State and local public entities who, in accordance with the provisions of law, are prohibited to concurrently hold the office of Member of the House of Representatives, shall not be filed unless after the person concerned has resigned the office of public officials.

When a public official of the State or a local public entity, who, in accordance with the provisions of law, is prohibited to hold concurrently the office of Member of the House of Representatives, has notified his intention to resign his office in order to be a candidate, he shall be deemed to have resigned his office on the tenth day after the notification, in spite of the provisions of the law and ordinance relative to the retirement of the public official concerned, in case he was not able to resign within ten days of the notification.

A candidate may not withdraw his candidacy without notification to the chairman of election.

In case the person who filed the notice specified in Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, has assumed the post of public official of the State or local public entities, which is prohibited to be held concurrently with the membership of the House of Representatives, he shall be regarded as having cancelled his candidacy for Diet membership.

On receipt of notice under Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, and 7 of this article or on the death of a candidate, or his coming under the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the chairman of election must immediately publish the facts.

Article 68. The person who desires to enter for candidacy or who desires to recommend a candidate shall deposit 30,000 yen in cash or national bonds of the same face value for each candidate.

The deposit made in accordance with the preceding clause shall belong to the Government in case the total votes for the candidate are less than one fifth of the number of the valid votes obtained by respective candidates divided by the number of members to be elected in that election district.

The provisions of the preceding clause shall be applied to candidates who withdraw within ten days of the date of election, unless such withdrawal is due to loss of eligibility, and coming under the provision of Paragraph 8 of the preceding Article.

Article 69. The candidate who has obtained the greatest number of valid votes shall be declared elected. However, the number of votes obtained shall not be less than one fourth of the total number of the votes obtained by respective candidates, divided by the number of members to be elected from the district.

In determining the person elected, in case the number of ballots obtained by the candidates is the same; and the choice is determined by lot, the chairman of election shall hold a drawing at the election meeting.

In case the person elected may be determined without holding a new election in consequence of a suit instituted under Article 81 or 83, the person elected shall be determined at an election meeting.

When a person elected either declines the election or dies or when his election has been invalidated according to the provisions of Article 70, the person elected shall be determined immediately at an election meeting from among those persons who have obtained the quota mentioned in the proviso of the first section of this article but have not been elected.

When any of the causes mentioned in Article 75, Paragraph 1, Items 5 and 6, occurred during the period stipulated in Article 73, Paragraph 1, and there are persons who have obtained such number of votes as mentioned in the proviso of Paragraph 1, or when such a case has occurred after the expiration of the period and, there are persons who have obtained votes and to whom the provisions of Paragraph 2 are applicable, an election meeting shall be held to determine the person elected from among the above mentioned persons.

In applying the foregoing three sections, a person voted for comes under the proviso of the first clause and was not elected shall not be declared elected in case he has been disqualified for election after the date of the election.

Article 70. An election shall be invalidated when the person elected is disqualified for election after the date thereof.

Article 71. In case the number of candidates notified according to the provisions of sections one to three of Article 67 does not exceed the number of members to be elected from a district, no election shall be held.

When it is unnecessary to hold an election according to the provisions of the preceding clause the chairman of election shall so notify the voting overseer, the Commission of Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture and the electors.

On receipt of such notice the voting overseer shall publish the fact immediately.

In the circumstances indicated in the first clause of this article, the chairman of election shall hold an election meeting within five days previous to the date of election and determine the candidates as elected.

In such cases the chairman of election shall determine the validity of the qualifications of the candidates after consulting the election witnesses.

Article 72. When the successful candidates have been decided the Chairman of Election shall immediately notify the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture of the name and address of the elected person, and the number of votes he has obtained, the total number of votes each candidate has obtained and other relevant matters.

When the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture concerned has received the report under the preceding Paragraph, it shall immediately notify the successful candidate of his election and give public notice of the name and address of the successful candidate.

When there is no successful candidate or the number of successful candidates does not reach the number of members to be returned in the election, the Chairman of Election shall immediately report the fact to the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture.

When the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture has received the report prescribed in the preceding Paragraph, it shall immediately give public notice of it.

Article 73. In case a successful candidate wishes to decline election, he shall report his wish to the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture within ten days from the day he received the notification of his election.

In case a successful candidate does not report his wish to decline his election within the period prescribed in the preceding Paragraph, he shall be deemed to have accepted his election.

Article 75. In any of the following circumstances the Commission for Overseeing the Election of Members of the Metropolitan Assembly or Commissions for Overseeing the Election of Members of the District or Prefectural Assemblies shall fix a date and hold a new election, announcing the date thereof at least twenty-five days before the date of election except when the persons elected can be determined without carrying out a new election. This provision is not applicable when the date of election is announced owing to circumstances other than the following or in accordance with the provisions of the eighth section of Article 79 concerning one and the same person.

1. In case there is no person elected or the number of persons elected is less than the number to be elected.

2. When the person elected declines the election or is dead.

3. When the person elected loses the election according to provisions of Article 70.

4. When there is no person elected or the number of persons elected does not come up to the required number in consequence of a suit instituted according to the provisions of Articles 81 or 83.

5. When an election is invalidated as the result of a suit instituted according to Article 84, or Article 45, Paragraph 2, of the Law concerning the Regulation of Political Contributions and Expenditures.

6. When an election is invalidated according to the provisions of

Article 136, or Article 44 of the Law concerning the Regulation of Political Contributions and Expenditures.

An election mentioned in the preceding clause may not be held during the period allowed for filing a suit under the provisions of Article 81 or 83, or until the settlement of judgment in a case in which a suit has been filed.

The date of election to be held in accordance with the first section of this article shall be within thirty (30) days after the final day of the period allowed for filing a suit under the provisions of Article 81 or 88; in case a suit has been brought, it shall be within twenty (20) days after the day on which the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture received the communication under the provision of Article 86, paragraph 1 from the Chief Judge of the Supreme Court to the effect that the suit is terminated or the communication made in conformity with the second clause of Article 86 or Article 143 of this Law or Article 46 of the Law concerning the Regulation of Political Contributions and Expenditures.

When any one of the circumstances mentioned in the first section of this article has arisen within six months prior to the end of the term of a representative, no election is held under the first section of this article.

Article 76. When the successful candidate has accepted his election, or when the period prescribed in Article 73, Paragraph 1 has elapsed, the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture shall immediately furnish him with a certificate of election and give public notice of his name and address and report it to the National Election Administration Commission through the Governor of the Prefecture.

Article 77. When an election has been invalidated owing to a suit instituted under Chapter 9 or to the application of Article 136, or Article 44 or 45 of the Law concerning the Regulation of Political Contributions and Expenditures, the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture shall publish the fact immediately.

Chapter VIII

Term of Membership and Substitutional Election

Article 78. The term of membership shall be from the date of a general election.

Article 79. A substitutional Election shall not be held even when a vacancy occurs among members until the number of vacancies comes up to two in the same election district. In the election district, however, in which the fixed number of members to be elected is two (2) the substitutional election shall be held when a vacancy has occurred.

In case a vacancy occurs among members the National Election Management Commission shall notify the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture concerned within five days from the date of his receipt of the notification thereon from the President of the House of Representatives.

On receipt of such notification the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture shall communicate it immediately to the chairman of election when a candidate who obtained the quota required under the proviso of the fist paragraph of Article 69 but was not elected is available, in the case of a vacancy which occurs during the period mentioned in Article 73, Paragraph 1, or when there is a candidate to whom the second paragraph of Article 69 has been applied but was not elected, in the case of a vacancy which takes place after the period has elapsed.

The chairman of election shall determine the person elected, applying the provisions of sections four to six of Article 69, within twenty (20) days from the date of notification under the preceding section.

On receipt of notification under section two of this article, the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture unless the third section herein of this article is applied or the date of the election has been published according to the provisions of Article 75, concerning one and the same person, shall wait until the number of vacancies reaches two in the election district concerned: it shall hold a substitutional election within thirty (30) days of receipt of the final notification under section two of this article.

In case an election prescribed in Article 75 is held in the election district in which the number of vacancies is less than two in the same election district a substitutional election shall, in spite of the provisions of the first and fifth clauses of this article, be held in parallel with the said election, unless the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture has received the notification under the second clause of this article after the date of election was announced in accordance with the provisions of Article 75.

The date of the substitutional election mentioned in the preceding clause shall be fixed in accordance with the rules of the date of election under Article 75.

The date of a substitutional election shall be announced at least twenty-five (25) days before the election by the Commissions for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture.

The provisions of sections two to four of Article 75 shall be applied to a substitutional election.

Article 80. A member elected by substitutional election shall serve out the term of his predecessor.

Chapter IX

Law Suits Arising out of Elections

Article 81. An elector or a candidate who entertains an objection to the validity of an election may institute a suit against the Chairman of the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture in the High Court within thirty days after the date of election.

Article 82. When the legal provisions governing elections are violated, the court shall declare the election void either in whole or in part if such violation is judged likely to affect the returns.

In a suit instituted under Article 83, when the election is adjudged to fall under the preceding section, the court shall declare the election void either in whole or in part.

Article 83. When a candidate who has failed of election questions the validity of the election of a person elected in the same election district, he may institute a suit in the High Court against the person elected within thirty days from the date of publication of the name of the person elected under sections 2 and 4 of Article 72. But a suit shall be instituted against the Chairman of the Commission for Overseeing the Election of Members of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture on the ground that the requirement imposed in the proviso of section one of Article 69 has been obtained or on the ground that the election does not abide by section six of Article 69 or by Article 70, or on the ground that the decision made under section five of Article 71 is illegal.

When a suit is instituted according to the preceding section and the person elected dies before the decision is made, such suit shall be reinstituted against the public procurators.

Article 84. An elector or a candidate who claims that an election is invalid under Article 110 may institute a suit against the person elected in the High Court within thirty days after notification under section 2 of Article 72.

When a public procurator deems an election to be invalid under the provisions of Article 136 on the ground of the person accused for the offences under Article 112 or 113 having been the election manager or the person who was not the election manager but actually managed election campaigns, he shall in parallel with the public action, bring a lawsuit against the person elected.

Article 85. In the trial of election cases instituted under the provisions of Articles 81, 83 or the fist section of the preceding article the court shall require the public procurator to attend the proceedings.

Article 86. When a suit is instituted under the provisions of Article 81 or 83, the Chief Judge of the High Court shall inform the National Election Management Commission and the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture concerned through the Governors concerned as well as when the suit is terminated.

When a litigation has come not to be attended to under the first clause of Article 84 or when a judgment passed comes into force of the suit instituted under the second clause of the same article, the president of the law court shall notify the fact to the National Election Management Commission and the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture concerned through the Governors concerned.

When a judgment is given to the suit instituted under Article 81 or 83 or the first section of Article 84 or when a judgment passed comes into effect of the suit instituted under the second clause of Article 84, the president of the law court shall send a certified copy of the judgment to the National Election Management Commission. In case the National Diet is in session, another copy shall be sent to the chairman of the House of Representatives.

Article 87. The plaintiff who instituted a suit under the provisions of Article 81 or 83 or the first section of Article 84 shall deposit as security in the court 300 yen in cash or national bonds of equal face value.

In case the judgment is given against the plaintiff and should he fail to pay the whole amount of the legal costs, within seven days from the day on which the judgment was settled, the security money shall be appropriated for the purpose and should there still remain any deficiency the required amount shall be charged to the plaintiff.

Chapter X

The Election Campaign

Article 88. Deleted.

Article 89. No election office may be established by persons other than a candidate or the persons who recommend a candidate (in case several persons recommend a person, their representative).

When the person mentioned in the preceding clause has established an election office, he shall immediately notify the fact to the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture, as well as when there is any change in the election office.

Article 90. Only one election office may be established for each candidate, but five or less election offices may be established in accordance with ordinance.

Article 91. The election offices shall not be established within three cho (about 360 yards) from voting places on the day of election.

Article 92. Resting-places or places of like character shall not be established for the purpose of an election campaign.

Article 93. Deleted.

Article 94. When election offices are found to be established contrary

to the provisions of section one of Article 89, the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture shall immediately order such offices to close: this regulation is applicable similarly when election offices are found to be established in excess of the number authorized under Article 90.

Article 95. No election campaign shall be conducted until the notice of candidacy under sections one to three of Article 67 has been made.

Article 96. No persons shall conduct the election campaign by making use of their positions specially related to children, pupils or students of schools under the age of twenty (20).

Article 97. Deleted.

Article 98. No person shall carry on house-to-house visiting for the purpose of obtaining votes or of aiding or preventing the obtaining of votes.

Article 99. None of those mentioned in Article 8 shall carry on an election campaign in the districts in which his office is located.

Article 100. The Prime Minister may establish limitation by ordinance upon letters and pictures to be distributed or posted in an election campaign.

No person shall be allowed to perform the deeds prescribed in the following items with a view to greeting the electors concerning success or failure in the election after the day of the election:

1. To make door-to-door visits to electors.

2. To distribute or display writings or pictures other than letters of one's own handwriting or letters written in reply to congratulation, consolation, etc., for success or failure in the election.

3. To utilize newspapers or magazines.

4. To hold a celebration or other meetings.

5. To make demonstration with a cavalcade of motor-cars or by parading many people on the streets in ranks.

6. To shout successively the name of the successful candidate or the name of a political party or any other organization with the purpose of replying to congratulations on the election.

Chapter XI

Election Expenses

Article 101. Deleted.

Article 102. The expenses of the election campaign for each candidate shall not exceed the amounts specified in the following items:

1. The amount obtained when the total number of elections registered on the final electoral list, divided by the number of members to be elected in the election district, is multiplied by the amount of money fixed by ordinance.

2. In case a part of an election is declared invalid and a new election is held, the amount obtained when the number of electors registered on the final electoral list of the district concerned, divided by the number of members to be elected in the election district concerned, is multiplied by the amount of money fixed by ordinance.

3. In case an election is held under Article 37, the amount shall be calculated in accordance with the preceding item; however, this amount may be reduced by the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture when they deem it necessary.

The Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture shall publish the amount determined upon under the preceding section as soon as the date of election is proclaimed or notified.

Article 103. In case material obligations for an election campaign have been recognized or material benefits from the use of buildings, ships, horses and vehicles, printed matter, food and drink, etc., other than cash, have been received, the obligations or benefits shall be considered expenses of election at their market values.

Article 104. Amount paid out for any of the following purposes shall not be considered expenses of election:

1. For ships, horses, and vehicles used by a candidate.

2. For the adjustment of the remaining business of an election campaign after the date of election.

3. Expenses other than those which are paid out by or with the understanding of the candidate for whom notice has been given under sections one to three of Article 67 or the responsible treasurer.

4. For the preparation of the candidate other than those paid out by or with the understanding of the person who has become the candidate or responsible treasurer.

5. Tax or fee imposed by the State or Local Public entity in connection with the election campaign.

Article 104-2. Receipts relating to the election campaign shall mean such money as has been received and accepted in order to meet the expenses for the election campaign.

In the case where property obligations have been exempted in order to meet the expenses for the election campaign or where buildings, ships, cars, printing matters, foodstuffs, or other property interests, except money have been obtained, the obligations or interests, being estimated in current prices, shall be regarded as receipts relating to the election campaign.

Article 105 to Article 109. Deleted.

Article 110. In case the expenses of the election paid out for a candidate exceed the amount specified in section two of Article 102, the election of the candidate shall be invalid except when the candidate and the person who has made the recommendation have paid due attention to the appointment and supervision of the responsible treasurer or the person who takes over the duties of the responsible and there can be found no fault in the expenditure of campaign funds on the part of the responsible treasurer or the person who takes over his duties.

Chapter XII

Punitive Rules

Article 111. Any person who has effected by fraudulent process the insertion of his name in the electoral list or who has made a false declaration under the second clause of Article 34 shall be liable to a fine of not more than 2,500 yen.

Article 112. Any person who has committed an act falling under any of the

following heads shall be liable to confinement or penal servitude for not more than three years or to pay a fine of not more than 50,000 yen.

1. When, with the object of being elected, causing a candidate to be elected, or preventing him from being elected, money, goods, or other presents or public or private employment has been given to an elector or to a canvasser or when such gifts have been proposed or promised or when entertainment has been provided.

2. When, with the object of being elected, causing a candidate to be elected, or preventing him from being elected, irrigation, tenancy, credit, contributions, or other matters of direct interest to an elector or canvasser or to a shrine, temple, school, company, guild, or civil corporation in which an elector or canvasser is interested have been taken advantage of in persuading an elector or canvasser.

3. When, in connection with an election, anything mentioned in the first head of this article has been carried to an elector or a canvasser for the purpose of compensation for voting or carrying on an election campaign or for declining to do either or for canvassing or persuading others.

4. When, in connection with an election, a voter has received or demanded offers, or accepted proposals of presents or entertainments mentioned in the first or the preceding clause of this article or yielded to persuasion.

5. When, with the object of inducing the acts mentioned in Items one to three, a person has made, proposed or promised offers of money or goods to election canvassers, or when an election canvasser has received, demanded or accepted such offers.

6. When, in connection with an election, a person has acted to persuade or mediate between others concerning the acts mentioned in the preceding items.

Such public officer or official as mentioned in Article 8 engaged in matters pertaining to an election who has committed a crime falling in one of the items of the preceding clause in connection with the election in question shall be liable to confinement or penal servitude for not more than four years or to pay a fine of not more than 75,000 yen. This rule shall apply tp a member of Public Safety Commission of Metropolis, District, urban or rural prefecture, city, town or village, or a member of National Police Force and Municipal Police Force who has committed similar crimes in connection with the election in the district concerned.

Article 112-2. A person who has committed one of the following acts shall be liable to confinement or penal servitude of not more than five years:

1. When, with the object of obtaining material benefits, a person has, on behalf of a candidate, committed against a large number of voters or election canvassers, or caused them to commitone of the acts mentioned in Items one to three, five or six of the first clause of the preceding article.

2. When, with the object of gaining material benefits, a person has, on behalf of a candidate, undertaken to commitagainst a large number of electors or election canvassers, caused them to undertake to commit or made proposals therefor, one of the acts mentioned in Item one to three, five or six of the first clause of the preceding article,

This rule shall apply in case a person, who has committed one of the offenses mentioned in Items one to three, five or six, is a habitual.

Article 113. Those who come under any of the following heads shall be liable to confinement or penal servitude for not more than four years or to pay a fine of not more than 75,000 yen.

1. Those who have offered the advantages mentioned in the first and second items of the first section of Article 112 to a candidate or to a person who contemplates becoming a candidate, for the purpose of dissuading him from candidacy; or to an elected person for the purpose of persuading him to decline the election.

2. Those who have acted as mentioned in the first item of the first section of Article 112 for the purpose of compensating a candidate for having withdrawn his candidacy or becoming a candidate or a person elected for having declined election; or for having mediated or persuaded with the same objects.

3. Those who have received or demanded offers or entertainments under the two preceding items or have accepted a proposal under the two preceding items or have agreed to or sought persuasion under the first section.

4. Those who have acted to mediate between or persuade others in relation to the acts mentioned in the preceding section.

An officer or official as mentioned in Article 8 in charge of matters pertaining to an election who has committed one of the crimes mentioned in the preceding clause in connection with the election in question is liable to confinement or penal servitude for not more than five years or to a fine of not more than 10,000 yen. The same rule shall apply to those members of Public Safety Commission of Metropolis, District, urban or rural prefecture, city, town or village or members of National Police Force and Municipal Police Force who have committed similar crimes in connection with the election in the Metropolis or prefecture concerned.

Article 114. Any articles or benefits received in consequence of actions enumerated in the three preceding articles shall be confiscated; if confiscation in whole or in part is impossible, supplementary compensation shall be collected.

Article 115. Those who fall under any of the following heads shall be liable to confinement or penal servitude for not more than four years or to pay a fine of not more than ¥5,000 yen:

1. Those who, in connection with an election, subject to an act of violence or to intimidation or abduct an elector, a candidate, a would-be candidate, a canvasser, or an elected person.

2. Those who obstruct freedom of movement, meetings or speeches or who by fraudulent or other unfair means obstruct the exercise of the right of election.

3. Those who, in connection with an election, take advantage of irrigation, tenancy, credit, contributions or other interests of an elector, candidate, would-be candidate, canvasser, or elected person; or of a shrine, temple, school, company, guild, or civic corporation in which such persons are interested, and threaten an elector, candidate, would-be candidate, canvasser, or elected person.

Article 116. When, in connection with an election, a government or public entity, official or those mentioned in Article 8 have willfully neglected to discharge their duty or have obstructed the exercise of the right of election by the abuse of their authority, tracing candidates or election canvassers, or intruding into their houses or election office without any justifiable reason, they shall be liable to confinement for not more than four years.

A government or public entity official or those mentioned in Article 8 who requests an elector to reveal the name of the candidate for whom he intends to vote shall be sentenced to minor confinement for not more than six months or to pay a fine of not more than 7,500 yen.

Article 117. When an officer or official as mentioned in Article 8,

witness or overseer connected with the election has revealed the name of candidates voted for by electors, he shall be liable to minor confinement for not more than two years or to pay a fine of not more than 25,000 yen. The same penalties shall apply in cases of false representation of votes cast.

Article 118. When, without any justifiable cause, any person has either at a polling-place or a counting-place, interfered with the voting of an elector or has put into practice any device to discover the name of a person voted for, he shall be liable to minor confinement for not more than one year, or to pay a fine of not more than 15,000 yen.

Any person who, contrary to law and regulations, has opened a ballot-box or has removed ballots therefrom shall be liable to minor confinement or penal servitude for not more than three years or to pay a fine of not more than 50,000 yen.

Article 119. Whoever has committed violence against or threatened a voting overseer, counting overseer, chairman of election, witness or election overseer, or has disturbed an election meeting, counting-place or voting-place, or has detained, damaged, or plundered ballots or ballot-boxes or election documents shall be liable to minor confinement or penal servitude for not more than four years.

Article 120. Whoever has committed an offense mentioned in the first items of Article 115 or in the preceding article by assembling a crowd shall be liable to be penalized as follows:

1. The principal leaders shall be liable to confinement or penal servitude for not less than one year and not more than seven years.

2. The leaders shall be liable to confinement or penal servitude for not less than six months and not more than five years.

3. Whoever has knowingly joined such a crowd to add to its influence shall be liable to pay a fine of not more than 2,500 yen.

Whoever has knowingly formed a crowd or joined it in offense against any provision of the first item of Article 115 or against the preceding article and has disobeyed more than three times the orders of the officers or officials of the election dispersing the crowd, shall be liable to pay a fine of not more than 2,500 yen and the leader shall be liable to minor confinement for not more than two years.

Article 121. When, in connection with an election, whoever uses a firearm, sword, dagger, bludgeon, or other weapon capable of causing death or injury, he shall be liable to minor confinement for not more than two years or to pay a fine of not more than 25,000 yen.

A member of National Police Force and Municipal Police Force concerned may, whenever it is judged necessary, seize any of the weapons mentioned in the preceding clause.

Article 122. Whoever enters a place of election meeting, counting-place, carrying any of the weapons mentioned in the preceding article shall be liable to minor confinement for not more than three years or to pay a fine of not more than 50,000 yen.

Article 123. In case any person has offended against the provisions mentioned in the two preceding articles, the weapons carried by him shall be confiscated.

Article 124. Whoever, in connection with an election, makes a display, such as assembling a crowd, conducting a procession or parade, making use of fireworks, bonfires or torchlights, beating bells or drums or sounding conches or bugles or raising flags, etc., and disregards the warning of a member of National Police Force or of Municipal Police Force to stop, shall be liable to minor confinement for not more than six months or to a fine of not more than 7,500 yen.

Article 125. Whoever, with the object of induging other persons to commit any of the acts mentioned in Articles 112, 113, 115, 118-122, or the preceding article, incites them by means of speeches, newspapers, magazines, circulars, placards, etc., shall be liable to minor confinement for not more than one year or to a fine of not more than 15,000 yen. Provided that in case a newspaper or magazine is found guilty of such acts, the person registered as the editor or who has taken the place of an editor shall be liable to the foresaid punishment.

Article 126. Whoever commits an offense under any of the following items by means of speeches, newspapers, magazines, circulars, placards, etc., shall be liable to minor confinement for not more than two years or to a fine of not more than 25,000 yen. In cases involving newspapers or magazines the proviso of the preceding article shall apply:

1. Whoever, with the object of being elected or causing a candidate to be elected has published false information about his rank, position, occupation, or career.

2. Whoever has published false information about a candidate with the object of preventing his election.

Article 127. Any person, not an elector, who has voted shall be liable to minor confinement for not more than one year or to a fine of not more than 15,000 yen.

Any person who has voted by fraudulently assuming the name of another person or by other unfair means shall be liable to minor confinement for not more than two years or to a fine of not more than 25,000 yen.

Any person who has forged votes or manipulated votes to affect their number shall be liable to minor confinement or penal servitude for not more than three years or to a fine of not more than 50,000 yen.

In case any officer, official as mentioned in Article 8, witness, or scrutineer has offended against the preceding section, he shall be liable to minor confinement or penal servitude for not more than five years or to a fine of not more than 50,000 yen.

Article 128. Should a witness fail to discharge any of the duties provided in the present law without any justifiable reason, he shall be liable to a fine of not more than 2,500 yen.

Article 129. Any person who has offended against the provisions of Articles 95, 96 and 98 or has disobeyed the orders made in accordance with the provisions of Article 94 is liable to minor confinement for not more than one year or to a fine of not more than 15,000 yen.

Article 130. Any person who has established election offices in excess of the number authorized in Article 90; or who has offended against the provisions of Article 91 or has established resting-places or places of like character, as described in Article 92, shall be liable to a fine of not more than 7,500 yen.

Article 131. A person who has offended against the provisions of the first clause of Article 89, or Article 99 shall be liable to minor confinement for not more than six months or to a fine of not more than 7,500 yen.

Article 132. A person who has neglected to make reports or to give notices in accordance with the second section of Article 89 shall be liable to a fine of not more than 2,500 yen.

Article 133. A person who has offended against the provisions of Article 100-2 shall be liable to a fine of not more than 10,000 yen.

Articles 134 and 135. Deleted.

Article 136. An election shall be invalid when, in connection therewith, a candidate has offended against the provisions of this chapter and been

punished, or the person who controlled and managed election campaigns has been punished for offending against the provisions of Article 112 or 113 except when the person elected has taken proper care in the selection and supervision of the person who controlled and managed the election campaigns, did not know the person as such, or the person in question, in spite of refusal by the elected, did control and manage the election campaign.

Article 137. Any person who has been punished for offending against any of the provisions of this chapter, except those of article 130, 132 and 133, shall be forbidden to exercise the right to vote and the right to be elected in an election to which the provisions of this Chapter apply mutatis mutandis, for a period of five years after the decision of the court, in case he was sentenced to pay a fine; or in case he was sentenced to confinement or more severe punishment, for the period from the time when the decision of the court was given until his term of punishment has expired, or until he has been exempted from execution of the sentence (except in case of a sentence extinguished by prescription) and another period of five years immediately following. This rule shall also apply for the period, from the time when the decision of the court was given until the time when he is no longer liable to execution of any sentence.

In the case of a person who has been punished for an offense against any of the provisions of Article 112 or 113, or any offense to which these provisions are correspondingly applied, and who is again to be punished for an offense under Article 112 or 113, the term of five years mentioned in the preceding section shall be extended to ten years.

The court of law, in extenuating circumstances, may, while giving sentence to a person whose offense falls under the provisions of the first clause of the article, declare that the provisions of the same clause disqualifying him for voting or eligibility for five years shall not be applied, or that the term be reduced, or, in the case of a person whose offense falls under the provisions of the preceding clause, that the term of ten years provided for in the same clause be reduced.

Article 138. For an offense punishable according to the third and fourth sections of Article 127, one year shall be considered as the term of prescription.

For an offense punishable according to the provisions of this chapter, other than those mentioned in the preceding section, six months shall be considered as the term of prescription, except when the offender has absconded, in which case one year shall be considered as the term.

Chapter XIII

Supplementary Rules

Article 138-2. When Voting Overseers, Ballot-Counting Overseers or Chairmen of Election have come to lose their right to vote, they shall not remain in such positions.

Article 139. Election expenditures shall be fixed by Ordinance.

Article 140. A candidate or the person who has recommended a candidate may send ten thousand (10,000) ordinary postcards for election campaign per candidate free of charge as provided by ordinance.

In accordance with ordinance, schools or other buildings which are designated by ordinance may be used for campaign speeches.

The caretaker of the buildings mentioned in the preceding section shall provide equipment necessary for meetings of speeches in accordance with ordinance.

The Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture shall, as provided for in Ordinance,

issue pamphlets in which names of candidates, their personal histories or other items are given.

The Commission For Overseeing the Election of the city, town; or village shall post up a notice of the names of the candidates in accordance with ordinance.

Article 140-2. The Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District or urban or rural prefecture, and of the Cities, Towns or Villages, shall widely inform the electors of the method of voting, election violations, and other matters which are deemed especially necessary regarding elections, and shall also provide adequate measures for the avoidance of abstention from voting.

Article 140-3. Public procurators, national police officials, committee members of the Public Safety Commission of the Metropolis, Hokkaido or urban or rural Prefectures and of the Cities, Towns or Villages, and municipal police officials shall strictly enforce the provisions regarding control of elections, and shall maintain the fairness of elections.

Article 141. In lawsuits under the provisions of Articles 16, 81 or 83, or the first section of Article 84, the example of civil cases shall be followed with the exceptions provided in this present law.

Article 141-2. With regard to the lawsuits under the provisions of the second clause of Article 84 of the present law, the provision of the Code of Criminal Procedure on the private lawsuits shall be applicable, excepting the provisions of Items two, three, five to eight and ten to thirteen of Article 572, Article 574, 582, 588, 589, 591, 605-610 and 612, provided that "the Code of Civil Procedure " and "the Civil Department" shall read "the Code of Criminal Procedure" and "the Criminal Department" respectively.

A judgment invalidating an election, which has been passed for a suit brought under the provisions of the second clause of Article 84, shall not come into force, unless a sentence of guiltiness has been declared for the public action on the same case.

Article 141-3. When a lawsuit has been instituted on an election, the court of law shall immediately sit in judgment notwithstanding order of lawsuits on hand.

Article 142. In respect of criminal cases enumerated in Chapter XII of the present law, the court of revision shall not be bound by the term provided in the first clause of Article 422 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Article 143. When, in connection with an election, an elected person has been punished for offenses enumerated in Chapter XII or the person who controlled and managed election campaigns has been punished for offending against the provisions of Article 112 or 113, the president of the court of Law shall notify the National Election Management Commission and the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the Metropolis, the District, or urban or rural prefecture concerned through the governor of the Metropolis, District or Prefecture concerned.

Article 144. Concerning the application of the present Law, the Whole Affairs Organization and Office Affairs Organization shall be regarded as a Town or Village, and the office of the organization concerned as a Town Office or Village Office.

Article 144-2. Even when an area of a country or area under the jurisdiction of a Local Government Branch Office shown as per attached list has been changed, so far as the electoral districts are concerned, they shall remain as they have been; however, this shall not be adhered to when a country limits has been affected due to the change of boundary of a City, Town or Village, or due to the promotion of a Town or Village to a City or the demotion of a City into a Town or Village.

Article 145. For the areas of the special wards and the cities enumerated in Article 155, Paragraph 2, of the Local Autonomy Law, the provisions concerning the cities, the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the city and the Commissioners for the same and city offices in the present Law are applied

to the special ward or wards, the Commission for Overseeing the Election of the special ward or the wards and the Commissioners for the same and ward offices respectively. However, in applying the provisions of Article 12, the "persons who have been domiciled for more than six months without interruption in these respective localities" shall be understood as in the area where the special wards exist or in the cities where wards exist, and who are domiciled in the wards on that day.

Article 146. When, in an island or other place where communications are very difficult, the provisions of the present law are hardly applicable, special provisions may be enacted by imperial ordinance.

Article 147. When the voting is conducted in accordance with Article 33, a person who takes charge of the voting is recognized as a voting overseer, the place where the votes are recorded as a polling-place and witnesses present at the voting as voting witnesses, and the provisions of Chapter XII shall be applied.

Article 143. Cabinet Orders concerning election shall be decided as drafted by the National Election Management Commission.

Article 149. The provisions of Section 9, IV, Part II of criminal law, No. 36 of 1880 shall not be applied to the election of members of the House of Representatives.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULES

Article 1. This law shall come into force so that the coming general election may be effected according thereto.

However, Articles 10 and 11 of supplementary provisions shall be applied to the coming election for members of assemblies of city, town and village, or chief executives of city, town and village.

When members of assemblies of public entities or chief executives thereof are elected, amended provisions for the law of election for the House of Representatives shall be considered enforced, in the case of these provisions being applied mutatis mutandis, if the amended provisions above mentioned are not yet enforced.

Article 2. The President of the Court of Administrative Litigation and judges of the same in active service shall not be eligible until the Japanese Constitution comes into force in spite of the provisions of this Law.

Article 3. In Article 10 of this revised Law for the Election of Members of the House of Representatives, "the director general of the cabinet secretariat" shall read "the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet", till the coming into force of the Japanese Constitution.

Article 4. In Article 16, Paragraph 2 of this revised Law for the Election of Members of the House of Representatives, "the supreme Court" and in Article 81, Article 83, Paragraph 1, and Article 84, Paragraph 1, "the High Court" shall read "The Supreme Court", that is "Daishinin", till the coming into force of the Japanese Constitution.

Article 5. Before the coming into force of the Japanese Constitution, the date of a general election shall be determined and proclaimed by an Imperial Ordinance in spite of the provisions of revised Article 18, Paragraph 4, of this revised Law for the Election of Members of the House of Representatives.

Article 6. In the coming general election, "within ten (10) days" in Article 74 of the Law for Election of Members of the House of Representatives shall be regarded as five (5) days.

Article 7. Partial amendments shall be made to the Law for election of Members of the House of Counsillors as follows:

Article 2 in Additional Rules shall be amended as follows:

Article 2. Deleted.

Articles 5 to 8 in Additional Rules shall be amended as follows:

Articles 5 to 8. Deleted.

Article 8. Partial amendment shall be made to the Law for the Tokyo Metropolis System as follows:

In Article 93-2 (of the said Law), the following shall be added:

"names, personal histories etc. in Article 140, Paragraph 4 of the said Law shall read political opinions."

Article 9. Partial amendment shall be made to the Law for the District and Prefectures System as follows:

In Article 74-20 (of the said Law), the following shall be added:

"; names, personal histories etc. in Article 140, Paragraph 4 of the said Law shall read political opinions."

Article 10. Following amendment shall be made to the Law concerning Organization of City:

In Article 39, proviso, "officials are commissioners for overseeing election, ward commissioners for overseeing election, secretaries of commission for overseeing election and of ward commission for overseeing election, chairman of election, chairman of sub-committees for voting and chairman of sub-committee for ballot-counting" shall read "those mentioned in Article 8 are chairman of sub-committee for voting and chairman for ballot-counting".

Article 40, proviso shall read as follows:

However, those mentioned in Article 8 which is quoted in Article 112, Paragraph 2, Article 113, Paragraph 2, Article 116, Article 117 and Article 127, Paragraph 4, the Law of Election for the House of Representatives, shall include chairman of sub-committee for voting and chairman of sub-committee for ballot-counting.

Article 11. Following amendment shall be made to Law concerning the Organization of Town or Village:

In Article 36 - 2 of the said law, "Article 96" shall be added next to "Article 95" and also Article 100-2 shall be deleted.

Article 36 proviso shall read as follows:

However those mentioned in Article 9 which is quoted in Article 99 of the said law shall include chairman of sub-committee for voting and chairman of sub-committee for ballot-counting.

Article 37 proviso shall read as follows:

However, those mentioned in Article 8 which is quoted in Article 112, Paragraph2, Article 113, Article 116, Article 117 and Article 127, Paragraph 4 of the law of election for the House of Representatives shall include chairman of sub-committee for voting and chairman of sub-committee for ballot-counting.

Supplementary Provisions

Article 1. The present Law shall come into force as from the next general election. However, the revised provisions of Article 75 and Article 77, as

well as Articles 2 and 3 of the Supplementary Rules, shall come into force as from the day of the enforcement of the Law Concerning the Regulation of Political Contributions and Expenditures.

Article 2. A part of the Law for the Election of Members of the House of Councillors shall be amended as follows:

In Article 56, Paragraph 6, "Items 5 and 6" shall be read as "Items 5 to 7."

In Article 62, Paragraph 1, Item 5 shall be carried down as Item 6 thereof, and "the successful candidate" mentioned in the same Item shall be read as "the successful candidate under the provisions of Article 45, Paragraph 1 of the Law Concerning the Regulation of Political Contributions and Expenditures"; while Item 6 shall be carried down as Item 7 and the following one item shall be inserted after Item 4:

5. When the election of a successful candidate has become invalid as a result of litigation under the provisions of Article 74, Paragraph 1..

In Paragraph 3 of the same Article, "or Article 46 of the Law Concerning the Regulation of Political Contributions and Expenditures" shall be inserted after the words "Article 75".

In Article 69, "Items 5 and 6" shall be read as "Items 5 to 7."

Article 3. The Local Autonomy Law shall be partially amended as follows:

In Article 62, Paragraph 1, Item 6, "the successful candidate" shall be read as "or the successful candidate under the provisions of Article 45, Paragraph 1 of the Law Concerning the Regulation of Political Contributions and Expenditures."

ANNEX

List of Election Districts with Quotas of Members

	Electoral District	Number of Members
Tokyo-To	No. 1 District Chiyoda-ku Chuo-ku Minato-ku Shinjuku-ku Bunkyo-ku Daito-ku	4
	No. 2 District Shinagawa-ku Ota-ku Area under jurisdiction of Oshima-Shicho Area under jurisdiction of Miyaki-Shicho Area under jurisdiction of Hachijojima-Shicho	3
	No. 3 District Meguro-ku Setagaya-ku	3
	No. 4 District Shibuya-ku, Nakano-ku Suginami-ku	4
	No. 5 District Toshima-ku Kita-ku Itabashi-ku	5
	No. 6 District Sumida-ku Koto-ku Arakawa-ku Adachi-ku Katsushika-ku Edogawa-ku	5
	No. 7 District Hachioji-shi Tachikawa-shi Nishitama-gun Minamitama-gun Kitatama-gun	5
Kyoto-fu	No. 1 District Kamikyo-ku Nakakyo-ku Sakyo-ku Higashiyama-ku Shimokyo-ku	5
	No. 2 District Ukyo-ku Fushimi-ku Fukuchiyama-shi Maizuru-shi Kadono-gun Otaki-gun Otokuni-gun Uji-gun Kuze-gun Tsuzuki-gun Soraku-gun Minamikuwata-gun Kitakuwata-gun Funai-gun Amada-gun Ikaruga-gun Kasa-gun Yosa-gun Naka-gun Takeno-gun	5

Electoral District			Number of Members
		Kumano-gun	
Osaka-Fu	No. 1	District	4
		Nishi-ku	
		Minato-ku	
		Taisho-ku	
		Tennoji-ku	
		Minami-ku	
		Naniwa-ku	
		Ikuno-ku	
		Abeno-ku	
		Sumiyoshi-ku	
		Higashisumiyoshi-Ku	
		Nishinari-ku	
	No. 2	District	
		Kita-ku	
		Miyakojima-ku	
		Fukushima-ku	
		Konohana-ku	
		Higashi-ku	
		Oyodo-ku	
		Nishiyodogawa-ku, Higashiyodogawa-ku	
		Higashinari-ku	
		Asahi-ku	
		Joto-ku	
	No. 3	District	
		District	
		Toyonaka-shi	
		Ikeda-shi	
		Suita-shi	
		Takatsuki-shi	
		Moriguchi-shi	
		Mishima-gun	
		Toyono-gun	
		Kitakawachi-gun	
	No. 4	District	4
		Fuse-shi	
		Minamikawachi-gun	
		Nakakawachi-gun	
	No. 5	District	3
		Sakai-shi	
		Kishiwada-shi	
		Izumiotsu-shi	
		Kaizuka-shi	
		Izukita-gun	
		Izunami-gun	
Kanagawa-Ken			
	No. 1	District	4
		Yokohama-shi	
	No. 2	District	4
		Yokosuka-shi	
		Kawasaki-shi	
		Kamakura-shi	
		Miura-gun	
		Kamakura-gun	
	No. 3	District	5
		Hiratsuka-shi	
		Fujisawa-shi	
		Odawara-shi	
		Koza-gun	
		Naka-gun	
		Ashigarakami-gun	
		Ashigarashimo-gun	
		Aiko-gun	
		Tsukui-gun	
Hyogo-Ken			
	No. 1	District	3
		Kobe-shi	
	No. 2	District	5
		Amagasaki-shi	
		Nishinomiya-shi	
		Sumoto-shi	
		Ashiya-shi	