

POLITICAL

ITEM 11 (Continued)

	Communist	6.4
	Others	2.2
	None	26.0
	Do not know	34.1
	No answer	1.2
(b)	What party do you think was the worst?	
	Democratic Liberal	12.8
	Democratic	5.0
	Socialist	4.7
	Peoples Co-operative	0.2
	Communist	21.7
	Others	1.7
	Every party	8.3
	None	15.1
	Do not know	31.3
	No answer	2.6
3.	Brawl Incident in Lower House:	
(a)	Do you know of the brawl incident?	
	Yes	82.7
	No	17.2
	No answer	0.1
(b)	Was the brawl case inevitable? (To those who knew of the case.)	
	Inevitable	12.5
	Could have been avoided	65.8
	Do not know	3.6
	Others	0.6
	No answer	0.2
(c)	What was deplorable regarding the case and the disposal thereof? (To those who knew)	
	Use of violence	21.7
	Ambiguous disposal	8.7
	Evidence of boss influence	6.3
	Criticism of KONISHI and TACHIBANA	3.6
	Disgrace to Japanese	2.4
	Lowered confidence in Dietmen	2.2
	Egoistic struggle of parties	2.1
	Bad attitudes of both parties	1.1
	Arbitrariness of Democratic Liberals and Democrats	0.6
	Others	3.3
	Nothing in particular	9.2
	Do not know	15.1
	No answer	9.4
(d)	Was the punishment of KONISHI and TACHIBANA too heavy? (To those who knew)	
	Too light for both	24.2
	Adequate for both	19.8
	Too heavy for both	2.0
	Do not know	19.2
	Others	4.2
	No answer	0.6

	Too light for KONISHI	9.3
	Adequate for KONISHI	2.2
	Heavy for KONISHI	0.3
	Too light for TACHIBANA	0.9
	Adequate for TACHIBANA	3.1
	Too heavy for TACHIBANA	8.4

POLITICALITEM 11 (Continued)

4. Obstruction of Proceedings in Upper House:
- (a) Do you know of the incident when proceedings were obstructed?
- | | |
|-----------|------|
| Yes | 50.3 |
| No | 49.6 |
| No answer | 0.1 |
- (b) Was that case inevitable? (To those who knew of the case)
- | | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Inevitable | 6.0 |
| Could have been avoided | 40.9 |
| Do not know | 3.2 |
| Others | 0.1 |
| No answer | 0.1 |
5. Of the laws passed by the Fifth Diet, what law were you most interested in?
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| Table of Personnel Organization Law | 16.5 |
| Birth Control Law | 11.4 |
| Law for Reopening of Restaurants | 4.8 |
| Laws pertaining to taxes | 4.3 |
| Revised labor laws | 4.3 |
| Laws pertaining to controls | 1.7 |
| Laws pertaining to education | 0.7 |
| Others | 8.0 |
| Nothing in particular | 56.2 |

ITEM 2 DIET MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE RECORD REVEALED

(Extracts)

403
 MAINICHI SHIMBUN, 2 Jun -- The Fifth Diet Session, which was extended four times, finally ended on 31 May after passing more than 200 bills. This Diet session was convened on 11 February following the January general election and immediately went into recess. After reconvening on 19 March, it ran for 74 days. How diligently did the Diet members of various prefectures work in this turbulent Diet session to meet voters' wishes? On 1 June, a Diet members' attendance-report was announced by the Lower House administrative office. The following is the attendance record of Diet members of 15 eastern prefectures for the 41 plenary sessions. (These reports are extracted from 15 local editions of the MAINICHI. --Editor)

(Note: Absences include those due to official trips)

Abbreviations: DLP-Democratic Liberal Party; DP-Democratic Party; SP-Socialist Party; CP-Communist Party; PCP-Peoples Co-operative Party; WFP-Worker-Farmer Party; SRP-Social Reform Party; Min-Minor parties; Ind-Independents.

IWATE Ken -- (DLP) YAMAMOTO Takeo, 36 days; NOHARA Masakatsu, 39; SUZUKI Zenko, 38; OZAWA Saeki, 41; ASARI Saburo, 40 and TAKADA Yaichi, 36.

(DP) SHIGA Kenjiro, 39.

(SP) ISHIKAWA Kinjiro, 31.

CHIBA Ken -- (DLP) SAKUMA Toru, 38 days; YANAGISAWA Yoshio, 34; TADA Isamu, 29; SHIBUYA Yutarō, 41; YAMAMURA Shinjiro, 41; TAKEO Hajime, 40; NAKUCHI Kenji, 41; MORI Akira, 38; KATAOKA Isaburo, 37; MIZUTA Mikio, 39 and KODAKI Yoshiro, 39.

(DP) TERAJIMA Ryutarō, 36 and TANAKA Yutaka, 28.

AOMORI Ken -- (DLP) OGASAWARA Yasomi, 39 days; NATSUBORI Gensaburo, 33 and NARA Haruji, 37.

POLITICALITEM 2 (Continued)

(DP) TOMABECHI Gizo, 37; YAMAZAKI Iwao, 38, and SEIDO Tadashi, 35.

(PCP) SASAMORI Junzo, 34.

GUMMA Ken -- (DLP) FUJIEDA Sensuke, 37 days; MATSUI Toyokichi, 36; KOMINE Ryuta, 38, and KOBUCHI Kohei, 38.

(DP) HASEGAWA Shiro, 40; MASUDA Renya, 39, and NAKASONE Yasuhiro, 40.

(SP) ISHII Shigemaru, 35, and MUTO Unjuro, 19.

(Ind) KANEKO Yojuro, 39.

SAITAMA Ken -- (DLP) FUKUNAGA Kenji, 41 days; OIZUMI Kanzo, 36; YAMAGUCHI Rokuroji, 28; HOSODA Eizo, 38; SHIMIZU Ipppei, 37; ASAMI Koji, 38; TAKAMA Matsukichi, 28; AOKI Masashi, 40; FURUSHIMA Giei, 32, and SASE Shozo, 39.

(SP) KAWASHIMA Kinji, 35.

(CP) WATANABE Yoshimichi, 23 and TAKADA Tomiyuki, 36.

AKITA Ken -- (DLP) ISHIDA Hirohide, 41 days; HIRASAWA Chokichi, 32; IIZUKA Sadasuke, 38; NEMOTO Ryutaro, 34, and MURAKAMI Seiji, 35.

(DP) MIYAKOSHI Kisuke, 41; HATAKEYAMA Juyu, 32, and SASAYAMA Shigetaro, 39.

NIIGATA Ken -- (DLP) KAZAMA Keikichi, 31 days; MATSUKI Hiroshi, 32; WATANABE Yoshio, 41; WATARI Shiro, 40; TANAKA Kakue, 34; MARUYAMA Naotomo, 41; TSUKADA Juichiro, 39, and TANAKA Shoji, 19.

(DP) INABA Osamu, 36.

(SP) MIYAKE Shoichi, 37; INAMURA Junzo, 32, and INOMATA Kozo, 33.

(CP) KAMIMURA Susumu, 35.

(WFP) TAMAI Yukichi, 36.

(SRP) KOBAYASHI Susumu, 37.

FUKUSHIMA Ken -- (DLP) OUCHI Ichiro, 33 days; MATSUMOTO Zenju, 37; IMAIZUMI Sadao, 39; EBANA Shizuka, 36; OWADA Yoshiei, 36; KANKE Kiroku, 32; TSUMURAYA Mitsue, 34; SEKIUCHI Shoichi, 38, and TAKAGI Matsukichi, 39.

(SP) YAOITA Tadashi, 26; SUZUKI Yoshio, 16, and MATSUI Masakichi, 40.

HOKKAIDO -- (DLP) TOMABECHI Hidetoshi, 41 days; UNO Hidejiro, 37; OGAWARA Masanobu, 41; TAMAKI Shinichi, 40; SASAKI Hideyo, 39; TANAKA Hajime, 39; TOMINAGA Kakugoro, 38; KAWAMURA Zenpachiro, 31; SHINODA Kosaku, 39; ITO Goichi, 31, and MATSUDA Tetsuzo, 40.

(DP) SHIKUMA Saburo, 38, and HAYASHI Koji, 41.

(WFP) OKADA Haruo, 19.

(CP) KARASAWA Toshiko, 40.

(Min) URAGUCHI Tetsuo, 38; KAWAGUCHI Yoichi, 33; MATSUMOTO Rokutaro, 25; KITA Jiro, 31; KODAIRA Tadashi, 33; TAKAKURA Teisuke, 37, and IIDA Yoshishige, 34.

IBARAGI Ken -- (DLP) HASHIMOTO Tomisaburo, 38 days; ONOSE Chubei, 39; HATAYA Senjiro, 18; YAMAZAKI Takeshi, 23; TSUKAHARA Toshio, 40; SUZUKI Akira, 39, and KITAZAWA Naokichi, 41.

(DP) HARA Takeshi, 38 and KANEZUKA Takashi, 14.

(CP) IKEDA Mineo, 37.

(Ind) YAMAGUCHI Takehide, 17.

(WFP) ISHINO Hisao, 31.

SHIZUOKA Ken -- (DLP) GOTO Hideji, 38 days; KANDA Hiroshi, 41; NISHIMURA Naomi, 40; ENDO Saburo, 31; HATAKEYAMA Tsurukichi, 39; MIYAHATA Yasushi, 38; NAKAMURA Kohachi, 41; KIMBARA Shunji, 34, and ADACHI Tokuro, 34.

(DP) KOMATSU Yuji, 38.

(SP) KATSUMATA Seiichi, 29.

(CP) SUNAMA Ichiro, 41.

(PCP) TAKEYAMA Yutaro, 32.

(Ind) MIZUNO Hikojiro, 23.

POLITICALITEM 2 (Continued)

KANAGAWA Ken -- (DLP) MIURA Toranosuke, 37 days; SHIRAI Sakichi, 31; OKAZAKI Katsuo, 37; IWAMOTO Nobuyuki, 41; KOGANE Yoshiteru, 37, and KONO Kenzo, 39.

(SP) MATSUO Toshiko, 18; MOJI Ryo, 41, and DOI Naosaku, 33.

(DP) NAGAI Yozo, 33.

(CP) KASUGA Shoichi, 40; KONNO Takeo, 40; and NAKANISHI Inosuke, 31.

TOCHIGI Ken -- (DLP) OZEKI Giichi, 40 days; TAKASHIO Saburo, 37; YAMAGUCHI Koichi, 36; MORISHITA Ko, 37; KODAIRA Hisao, 41; OSAWA Kaheji, 38, and SATO Chikahiro, 39.

(DP) MORIYAMA Kinji, 36.

(SP) TOGANO Satoko, 36.

(PCP) FUNADA Kyoji, 36.

NAGANO Ken -- (DLP) TANAKA Shigeya, 33 days; KURAIISHI Tadao, 39; KUROSAWA Tomijiro, 33; OGAWA Heiji, 35; IMAMURA Chusuke, 36; FURUHATA Tokuya, 34; MASUDA Kaneshichi, 41, and UEHARA Etsujiro, 38.

(DP) KOSAKA Zentarō, 37, and KOBAYASHI Kazumi, 41.

(PCP) IDE Ichitaro, 35 and KITSUKAWA Kyu'e, 36.

(CP) HAYASHI Hyakuro, 39.

MIYAGI Ken -- (DLP) SHOJI Ichiro, 34; HOMMA Shunichi, 37; ABE Shungo, 35; OISHI Buichi, 34; UTSUMI Yasukichi, 33, and KAKUTA Kokichi, 37.

(DP) CHIBA Saburo, 38 and TAKAHASHI Seijiro, 40.

(SP) SASAKI Kozo, 25.

ITEM 1 FIFTH DIET ENDS WITH GOVT. OPPOSITION FEUD CONTINUING

403
(Summary)

MAINICHI SHIMBUN (7th Edition), 1 Jun -- After 110 days of deliberation including four extensions, the Fifth Diet ended late last night. The Diet passed more than 210 of the 245 bills introduced during the session, including almost all of the legislation deemed important by the Government.

Debate last night was centered on the measures for disciplining four Councillors in the Upper House and action to be taken on the Special Food Security Measures Bill in the Lower House. It was finally decided in the face of bitter opposition to continue deliberation on both measures after the adjournment of the Diet.

In the House of Representatives, the opposition parties presented a motion for withdrawal of the Special Food Security Measures Bill, but the Speaker forced through a vote on the motion to continue deliberations. Amidst utter confusion, continued deliberation on the bill was approved by a 201-1 vote, with the opposition parties abstaining. The Lower House session adjourned at 2328 hours.

In a statement protesting the action taken by the Government, the opposition parties stated, "We opposition parties intend to reply to the fascistic action of the Government in forcing continued deliberation of this measure by firmly fighting on behalf of farm villages to eradicate such principles of violence."

NEWSITEM 1 (Continued)

In reply, Democratic Liberal Party Chief Secretary HIROKAWA blamed the opposition parties for obstructing parliamentary debate by causing confusion in spite of a decisive vote in favor of continued deliberation of the bill.

In the House of Councillors, discussions followed a similar pattern. A motion to continue deliberations on measures for disciplining two Socialist and two Communist Dietmen was bitterly attacked by the opposition but was passed by a vote of 115 to 56. Then a bill for revision of the Diet Law and bill for revision of the Law for Impeachment of Judges were introduced. After a speech opposing these bills by ITANO Katsuji, a vote was taken. However, the session automatically ended at 2400 hours before the result could be ascertained.

The House of Representatives also approved by a majority vote the Agriculture-Forestry Ministry Establishment Bill and the Special Procurement Board Establishment Bill. The Government finally abandoned efforts to pass the parliamentary undersecretary bill and the bill for the sale of government railways because of Upper House opposition centering around the Ryokufukai.

Accepts Amended Establishment Bills

MAINICHI SHIMBUN (6th Edition), 1 Jun -- The Government and government parties yesterday, the last day of the session, sounded the opinion of each party in the House of Representatives in an effort to have the Agriculture-Forestry Ministry Establishment Bill and the Special Procurement Board Establishment Bill passed in the form of the original Lower House draft. Finding the necessary two-thirds majority unobtainable, the Government and government parties reluctantly had these two bills passed as amended by the House of Councillors.

DLP Discusses Food Security Bill

The Democratic Liberal Party held a directors' meeting at 1500 hours yesterday to deliberate upon the way of dealing with the Special Food Security Measures Bill. At this meeting, HOSHIJIMA reported on negotiations conducted so far with quarters concerned and Agriculture-Forestry Minister MORI explained the purport. It was temporarily agreed that deliberation on the bill should be continued by the Agriculture-Forestry Committee after the adjournment of the current Diet session since overquota delivery was a future problem to arise after the harvest of this year's crop and the problems of taxation and incentive goods were still unsettled.

General Affairs Director HOSHIJIMA and Party Chief Secretary HIROKAWA visited GHQ. At 1700 hours, the Government held a ministers' meeting in the Diet Building and studied the problem. At this meeting, opinion became strong that the bill should be passed immediately. There was an atmosphere indicating that the Government and government parties will attempt to have the bill passed during the night.

ASAHI SHIMBUN (6th Edition), 1 Jun -- The Government and the DLP laid their plans for closing the session on schedule earlier in the day. Their policy, worked out in executive consultations at 1030 hours yesterday, included these points:

- 1) The Democratic Liberal Party in the House of Councillors would ask all other parties for an immediate decision on all unfinished business of the upper chamber.
- 2) Although the House of Councillors would probably vote down the parliamentary undersecretary bill, the Lower House would override this decision by two-thirds majority even if the bill were referred back to it late yesterday evening.

NEWSITEM 1 (Continued)

3) The DLP would ask other Upper House factions to consider admonition a satisfactory solution to the disciplinary issue.

4) The DLP would be willing to accept the Upper House versions of the Agriculture-Forestry Ministry and the Special Procurement Board Establishment Bills, which the House of Representatives did not act upon Monday. The party would go into the Steering Committee meeting with this understanding.

5) The Special Food Security Measures Bill would be passed yesterday with a resolution appended in the form of a rider.

MASUDA represented the Government at the morning meeting, while HIROKAWA, HOSHIJIMA, UEHARA, and SUDO attended for the Lower House. ONOGI, ITAYA, and NAKAGAWA represented the Upper House.

ITEM 11 WHAT DID THE FIFTH DIET ACCOMPLISH?

403 (Summary)

ASAHI SHIMBUN, 2 Jun -- The Fifth Special Diet finally adjourned, after four extensions. The Diet was in session from mid-winter to the beginning of summer. The impression we received from the recent Diet session is that it was conducted for political struggles, rather than for some sound purpose.

It goes without saying that there were a multitude of problems which had to be solved by the supreme effort of the Diet as a whole. Nearly 250 bills were presented, including the budget, the Personnel Strength Bill and others which were of tremendous importance from the standpoint of the nine-point Economic Stabilization Program. Nevertheless, there were practically no deliberations or debates which particularly impressed us. Only one or two diplomatic debates made us feel that the Diet was earnestly tackling its task.

Was the Diet, despite its duty to the nine-point Economic Stabilization Program, unable to deliberate and debate earnestly because it confined itself only within the framework of the ESP? Needless to say, the Diet is in no position to go beyond this framework. However, it could have conducted deliberations independently so as to bring JAPAN's economy to self-sustenance.

Besides, the phraseology, "by request of SCAP," used by the Government in establishing the National Tax Board, testifies to the fact that the Government apparently adhered too much to the framework. At the same time, the Opposition also lacked the spirit of independence. In this respect, the recent Diet was not different from those of the past.

The only characteristic of the Fifth Diet session worth noting is that in the Government-against-Opposition struggles, as well as in Diet procedure, both the rightists and leftists began positive movements in both Houses of the Diet. This may be natural as a result of the recent election.

This tendency will be more clearly manifested with the enforcement of the budget and various other laws, and after their effects will begin to be felt in JAPAN's international relations. In view of the free-for-all which took place at the end of the Fifth Diet session, and the influence of the right and left outside the Diet, it appears that future Diet sessions must necessarily be stabilized, thereby stabilizing the nation's politics.

It is true that the Democratic Liberals and the Democrats hold a majority in the Lower House, and that they constitute a stabilizing influence in politics. The recent Diet session has also taught us that this stability is only assumed, that it is not stability in the strict sense of the term. The government parties, depending on their numerical superiority, tried to suppress the opposition parties by obstructing their full participation in deliberations. It was a malfeasance on the part of the majority. The "stability force" should be higher in quality and substance.

In the recent Diet session, the actions of the House of Councillors, as the secondary legislative organ, were brought into the limelight. It would not be proper to deny the raison d'etre of the Upper House merely because it has turned anti-Government. The trouble lies in the fact that the Upper House has become too much like a political party. This problem should be studied from this angle. The shelving of the Parliamentary Undersecretary Bill and of the Railways Sales Bill by the Upper House testifies to the fact that it plays an important role as a critical state organ.

At any rate, the recent Diet was entrusted with the important mission of paving the way for the realization of the ESP. We cannot assert, however, that it has sufficiently exhorted the nation to make a determined resolution in proportion to the seriousness of the issue.

ITEM 23 REVIEWING DIET SESSION

403 (Full Translation)

MAINICHI SHIMBUN, 1 Jun -- At first the Government intended to end the fifth Diet session after one month, from March to April. But the session was extended four times and summer was here before it adjourned. The fifth Diet gave us a very bad impression because brawls occurred in both Houses.

In many respects, however, no Diet has achieved greater results than this one. First, the dispute over the interpretation of the Constitution occurred between the judiciary and the Diet in connection with the latter's right to inspect the government of the state. The judiciary holds that the Diet has gone too far, stating that the inquiry into national administration by the Lower House illegal Property Transactions Committee violated the Constitution with regard to the Urawa Mitsuko case. The fifth Diet has left a good by-product in offering the chance to re-examine the very important provision of the Constitution that pertains to the right to inspect the government of the State. The parties concerned should continue study and discussion of the problem ever after the adjournment of the Diet in order promptly to establish a unified interpretation over the provision.

Second, the problem of the functions of the Upper House has come to prominence in the fifth Diet. Different from the relationship between the House of Peers and the House of Representatives under the old system, the House of Councillors belongs essentially to the same category as the House of Representatives. It was its unavoidable destiny to follow the Lower House's example in brawling and in being divided by parties. It is, therefore, no wonder that the Speaker of the Upper House should have been prevented from taking of the rostrum by force.

The question is whether or not we may leave the Upper House as it is at present. The fifth Diet has given the chance to re-examine this problem. We think that the Upper House had better be formed on a supra-party basis. It is clear that the reason for the Upper House's existence will be almost lost if it is marked by the opposition between the same party groups as the Lower House. This is the problem to be considered by the general public.

Third, the Diet members have shown a marked lack of preparation. This needs examination from a new angle because the situation appears to show that mere sermons no longer offer any solution. It seems that some Diet members waste their time playing chess in the Diet building. It is also rumored that not a few Diet members use their positions in busy pursuit of personal gains, a preoccupation held responsible for their bad attendance records in the Diet. It is true that the treatment of the Diet members has been improved to a considerable extent, but there is still room for further improvement.

The Diet members do not settle down in the Diet building and this results in bad attendance at Diet member and committee meetings. This naturally delays the opening of plenary sessions. As a result, these sessions are often held at night and decisions reached at dawn. They are apt to be accompanied by interruptions and acts of violence. The observance of the opening hours for sessions has been improved as

EDITORIALSITEM 23 (Continued)

compared with the preceding session, but it is still far from satisfactory.

Fourth, it should be noted that "resolutions" which are easy to dispose of were given priority over bills and budget bills. Thirty two and 15 motions were introduced in the Lower House and Upper House respectively in the fifth Diet. Most of them were passed. It is only because they made resolutions on matters involving no element of dispute. Making resolutions may be better than not making them, but there are many other things which should be given more time for study.

We well understand that it is no easy matter to steer the sessions, but it must not be forgotten that explanations of resolutions and expressions of opinions regarding the resolutions take an enormous amount of time. If the time were used to study a subject fully and present it as a bill, the Diet would better fulfill its function as the legislative organ. It is easy merely to declare one's belief, but such method does not readily bear fruit. Resolutions are often soon forgotten, or, as the expressions go, "Preaching to the wind" or "Danger past, God forgotten". The making of many resolutions was an indication of insufficient preparation on the part of the Diet members.

Last, as the most important problem in connection with the future political situation, attention should be drawn to the attitude taken by the absolute majority party in the fifth Diet. The Democratic Liberal Party at first listened carefully to the opinions of the opposition parties, probably because it had confidence in its absolute numerical strength. But we have the impression that as time went on and extensions of the session were felt necessary, the DLP used its numeral strength too often to settle problems.

The party must be aware of its partial responsibility for the brawl. If it forget self-reflection in handling the problem of disciplinary action and disregards reasonable opinions--even if only a few--expressed by the opposition parties, the Government and the government parties will be doomed to failure. This is so especially under present conditions where difficulties are foreseen in realizing the second series of public pledges made in the Diet in connection with administrative adjustment, the banking policy, and the enforcement of budgets.

ITEM 4 COUNCILLOR DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE EXAMINES WITNESSES

(Full Translation)

40³
YUKAN CHUGAI, 2 Jun -- The Upper House Disciplinary Committee met at 1145 hours yesterday to continue deliberations on the incident involving four Councillors, including KANIE Kunihiko (Soc), DAI Ino (DLP), ATAKE Saijiro (Ryokufukai), and IKEDA Tsuneo (Ind Club) were summoned as witnesses to ascertain charges against the accused. The examination centered around whether the accused resorted to force to prevent the Speaker from ascending the rostrum and whether KANIE's interference was intentional or whether he accidentally pushed the Speaker.

The committee then proceeded to the plenary session floor to collect evidence through inspection. In this connection, Speaker MATSUDAIRA and Vice-Speaker MATSUSHIMA will be requested to appear as witnesses. The committee is scheduled to continue its session today to probe the incident carefully.

ITEM 8 DIET DELEGATES TO USA EXPRESS PURPOSES OF MISSION

(Full Translation)

403
YOMIURI SHIMBUN, 29 Jun -- Members of the Diet delegation to the United States were officially decided on 28 June. The mission will depart shortly by air, and the members are now busy preparing for their trip. This is the first time since the war that Diet members will visit the United States as representatives of the people. In this sense, the mission is drawing attention from various circles. The Yomiuri Head Office held a discussion meeting with all members of the mission on 28 June to hear their hopes. The participants were: YAMAZAKI Takeshi (delegation chief, Democratic Liberal); SAKURAUCHI Tatsuro (Upper House, Democrat); ASANUMA Inejiro (Socialist); TAKADA Kan (Upper House, RYOKUFUKAI); IIMURA Chusuke (Democratic Liberal); OIKE Shin (Lower House administrative office chief); SHIMA Seiichi (Lower House Public Information Section chief); Yomiuri President BABA; Political Department Chief FURUTA; and Vice-chief ICHIKAWA. Chairman: FURUTA.

Chairman: The people are deeply interested in your visit to the United States. Please tell us what you hope to see in particular in the United States, and relate to the Japanese people.

YAMAZAKI: Our purpose and mission in going to the United States is to investigate and study how American political parties and government work in Congress are carried on. Our true feeling is that since the new Diet under the new Constitution has been established, we would like to see as soon as possible how the United States is run by an able Congress, at the earliest possible date. I want to observe at first hand America's postwar Congress in particular. The Meiji Constitution took British and German forms, but the new Constitution has adopted much of the American style. Therefore, I wish to help run the Diet better in the future by studying American parliamentary politics. I have no intention, however, of imitating the American style in everything, for the United States has her own history, tradition, manners and customs. I want the best points of the United States to be added to the good traditions of Japan, so that the spirit of democracy common throughout the world will be disseminated here. Thus Japan will have her democratic politics which will pass freely throughout the world. As it is the mission of Diet members to adjust Japan to the postwar trend of world thought, I would like to learn something on this point also from the America's Congress. What we never forget is that Japan is under the restriction of the Potsdam Declaration. We will do our best within the limits.

SAKURAUCHI: I want to see what American political parties are doing. We are the first Diet members to visit the United States since the end of hostilities. I would like to tell the Americans that the Japanese people are penitent for the Pacific War, from the bottom of their hearts. At the same time I would like to express my thanks for their magnanimous attitude of aiding Japan in her rehabilitation. I will frankly tell the members of Congress that Japan is in extreme distress, and we hope for the Americans' good will. At this time, when there is

POLITICALITEM 8 (Continued)

a world-wide movement for moral elevation in progress, I want to study the level of American morality from the religious or cultural viewpoint.

ASANUMA: At the time of the Katayama Cabinet, I served as Steering Committee chairman in both the First and Second National Assemblies. At that time, I met with a variety of new questions which the former Diet had never experienced. Diet proceedings under the new Constitution differ from those under the Meiji Constitution. The Diet under the Meiji Constitution used to approve bills introduced by the Government. Under the new Constitution, which states that sovereignty lies with the people, the ideal is for the Government to be run by laws made by the legislative department. Although it cannot be said that throughout the First to the Fifth Diet, there was no single instance where Dietmembers presented legislative bills and had the Government enforce them, generally speaking, the Government presented the bills first and the Dietmembers then voted on them. In view of this, I want to study how Congress as a legislative body is being managed in the United States, where sovereignty truly rests with the people. During the time of the Ashida Cabinet, after the adjournment of the Second Diet, some members of the steering committees of both Houses invited Mr WILLIAM to a meeting at the Upper House President's official residence. At that meeting, we asked Mr WILLIAM if we would be afforded an opportunity to study how the United States Congress is run. WILLIAM at that time suggested that the authorities concerned be sounded on this in the name of both Houses. Now, through the earnest efforts of IMAMURA of the Steering Committee, and others, our wishes have been realized. We as Dietmen are delighted by the fact that we can go to the United States, where sovereignty truly rests with the people, in order to study how Congress and the political parties there are run. America's role in the present international picture is very important. I would be very happy, if I could grasp America's trends and views, and use this knowledge to help Japan's reconstruction.

TAKADA: My chief aim is to improve the operation of Japan's Diet by fully studying how the United States' Congress is run. In the US, bills are presented by the members of Congress as a rule; but in Japan they are mostly introduced by the Government. I will study this point. I will also investigate how the Congressional Library is being utilized, and what benefits are being subsequently derived by the people in general. I hope to grasp how democracy functions and is operated in the United States, the model democratic country. As for myself, personally, because I have long been engaged in the sightseeing and tourist business, I will study what steps are necessary to attract more American visitors to Japan in the future. Americans spent a total of 590 million dollars in travel abroad in 1948. Their visiting spots were mostly in Europe. I want to have their course directed toward the Far East and Japan in the future.

IMAMURA: From the standpoint of a member of the Diet Steering Committee, I want to make a detailed examination of the following points: first, how Congress is run. Second, how the Congressional Library is being utilized. Third, how political parties are run, and how they engage in activities in the US. Already sixty years have elapsed since the Diet was inaugurated in Japan, and we have had five Diet sessions under the new Constitution. However, although I feel it is time we had a Diet in which the people can have confidence, the Diet is in reality becoming increasingly unpopular among the people. With a view to improving the Diet in every respect, I will study the United States' Congress. I will study for instance, how party policies are translated to bills

POLITICALITEM 8 (Continued)

presented to Congress. Moreover, Congress has many standing committees where all bills are deliberated; I want to see how these committees actually operate. I want also to study how the members of Congress differ in behaviour from members of Japan's Diet. To this end, I would like to stay for about one week at the home of a certain member of Congress, in order that I can see at first hand the everyday life of national legislators.

ITEM 19 DEMOCRATS TELL SOCIALISTS STAND ON SPECIAL DIET

(Full Translation)

403
JIJI SHE'PO, 5 Jul -- As a result of an emergency meeting of Democratic oppositionst executives, held yesterday afternoon, Dietmen ONO and SHIGA called at Socialist Party headquarters to formally inform the latter of the faction's stand on the question of early Diet convocation.

ITEM 2 THE POLITICAL SITUATION AFTER THE DIET SESSION by MIKI Ken

(Summary)

403
SAIKEN (Monthly magazine), Jun 49 -- The Government successfully brought the fifth Diet session to an end, despite the controversial labor law amendment and the administrative readjustment bills, thanks to its party's majority in the House of Representatives. Difficulties, however, were met with in the House of Councillors, where its party does not command an absolute majority.

The Ryokufu Kai, the leading party in the House of Councillors, has strong government party traits, and the second and third Yoshida Cabinets appointed some of its members to the rank of ministers and parliamentary councillors. This party is difficult to deal with, for though registered as a political association, it is not so in the strict sense of the term, and under the circumstances, the Government is obliged to exercise care in its relations with the House of Councillors. This House strongly opposed a coalition cabinet, formed in conjunction with the Democratic Party, when it was first proposed, the reason being that the coalition would enable the Government parties to gain the necessary two-thirds majority in the House of Representatives to override any rejected or amended measures approved by the House of Councillors, thereby rendering the latter's existence meaningless. If this critical spirit continues to exist, the triumph of the new Constitution would be certain, but such cannot be expected when the fact is considered that the desire for access to power is very strong among the Ryokufu Kai members, as well as among the Democratic-Liberal members.

The political situation assumed an air of tranquility with the end of the Diet session. Although unrest looms ahead for the Yoshida Cabinet, its existence will be guaranteed unless it commits some glaring blunder. The Democratic Liberal Party failed to fulfill all its public promises with the exception of the reopening of restaurants. It will be interesting to note what measures it will take from now on in order to maintain the confidence of the people. It is rumored that the party is biding its time, anticipating a huge foreign credit to be extended in the near future. This shows the great dependence of the Yoshida Cabinet on foreign aid, as was the case of the Katayama and the Ashida Cabinets.

POLITICALITEM 2 (Continued)

It is observed that the coalition of the Democratic Liberals and the Coalition Democrats will take place prior to the opening of the next special Diet session. This is an indication that the proposition has at last started in the right direction. Yoshida stated that the future of Inukai depends upon his ability, which can be measured by the number of men he wins over from his party to the government party, but this alone will not be sufficient to insure him a seat in the Cabinet. In order to become the vice-president of the Democratic Liberal Party or the future president of a new conservative party, he must first establish a new power in the Democratic Liberal Party, but the existence of a large number of meddlers in it will make this extremely difficult.

ONO Banboku was an extremely powerful figure as a Democratic Liberal. At the first trial of the Showa Denko scandal, he was adjudged guilty by the procurator, which proved a heavy blow to his political life. If he falls, some of the Opposition Democrats will also join hands with the Democratic Liberal Party. An any rate, the fact cannot be overlooked that the tendency to support the coalition with the Inukai faction has developed rapidly since ONO was adjudged guilty.

The long-standing internal dissension existing within the Socialist Party finally came to an end as SUZUKI and NAKAMURA, left-wingers, were elected secretary and member of the central executive committee, respectively, while bureau and department chiefs were elected from among the right-wingers after a heated debate lasting three days.

On the other hand, Katayama, leader of the party, appears to be more interested in his forthcoming visit to Geneva for the assembly of the Moral Rearmament Movement than in his party affairs, as, at a press conference, he stressed his intention to go to America to confer with President Truman. It seems that even the right-wingers in his party have become slightly impatient with him. No party renovation can take place as long as Katayama remains leader.

In the same sense, further development of the Communist Party is impossible as long as it allows TOKUDA to remain as its leader. The unexpected inactivity of the party in the last Diet session, with its 35 seats in both houses, appears to have been caused by its failure frankly to admit the switch of its struggle policy from Moscow to Yenan. To honestly admit the change would mean to admit TOKUDA's past blunders.

ITEM 3 OPPOSITION PARTIES DEMAND DIET CONVOCATION IN JULY

(Full Translation)

403

MAINICHI SHIMBUN, 1 Jul -- The opposition parties of the Lower House held a round-table conference at 1400 hours yesterday in the drawing room of the Lower House Speaker to discuss an early convocation of the next special Diet. Participants were Socialists MIYAKE, AKAMATSU, OKADA, SASAKI and DOI; Democratic Party oppositionists SHIRIKUMA, ONO, and SHIGA; TAKEYAMA, HIRAKAWA, and NAKAMURA of the New Political Council; Communists TOKUDA, KAZAHAYA, and SAKATA; Worker Farmerites KURODA and OKADA; and URAGUCHI of the Kosei Club.

All of them expressed opinions in favor of an early special Diet session. Immediately after the end of this conference, Socialist MIYAKE and others called on Chief Cabinet Secretary MASUDA at the Premier's official residence to ask that the Diet be convened in July. In this connection, MASUDA answered that he would consider the request. Furthermore, it was decided to seek a formal reply from MASUDA on the morning of 5 July.

On the other hand, the Government, at yesterday afternoon's special cabinet session, reached the conclusion that the demand of the opposition parties for the convocation of the Diet was not a formal demand based on the Diet Law. Therefore, it seems that the Government has no intention of holding the Diet session until this fall when prospects of the reform of the taxation system will become clear.

ITEM 5 NON-PARTISAN STAND OF SPEAKER NECESSARY

(Summary)

403
KOKUSAI SHIMBUN (Osaka), 6 Jun -- It has been reported that the Opposition parties requested House Speaker SHIDEHARA's secession from the Democratic Liberal Party and that he promised to carefully consider the matter. As simple as the matter may appear, we must recognize its significance. Since the Diet is the highest organ of State power and represents the people, it is the Dietmen's obligation to accord it proper dignity. Nevertheless, they often engage in disgraceful demonstrations. This may be partly due to the fact that back-bench members want to publicize their names. More fundamentally, however, it is because they lack the awareness that they represent the people. If they continue their party-first maneuvers, the people will eventually abandon the Diet.

If the Diet wants to maintain its dignity, it must debate and listen with calm and reserve. If the majority party continues to oppress the minor parties' dissenting views by taking advantage of its majority power and the latter raises a clamor, our goal to establish a rational government can never be attained. Calm debates and careful deliberations in the Diet are made possible by the important role played by the Speaker. If he grants advantageous opportunities to the Government party alone and places the Opposition parties, at a disadvantage, Diet deliberations will become unfair. The Diet will then be degraded into an organ of the majority party instead of being the highest organ of State power.

It is a customary practice in Great Britain for the House Speaker to secede from his party when he receives the appointment. It may be unreasonable to demand that a party member abandon his party spirit, but the Speaker must give equal opportunity to the Opposition parties as long as he understands the spirit of fair play and statesmanship. The vital requirement is the spirit of generosity to listen to the Opposition's views. Although it may be a formal procedure, the Speaker severs his relationship with his party in BRITAIN in recognition of the spirit of fair play.

Since the way of life befitting civilized man was granted to the Japanese from the outside after the surrender, it may be inappropriate to demand that they acquire the spirit of Western statesmanship. The speaker should at least follow the Western example, and should be respected more than State Ministers. The Dietmen attempted to hinder the Speaker's activities by force. This was nothing but self-debasement. If the Speaker is affiliated with a Government party, the Opposition parties will naturally harbor antipathy toward him. In order to symbolize the Speaker's political impartiality, his secession should be approved. It is erroneous to hope for the emergence of an ideal Diet through the Speaker's secession. The dignity of the Diet can be maintained only by the awareness of the Diet members.

ITEM 8 RALLY FOR EARLY CONVOCAATION OF DIET SESSION

(Full Translation)

403
MAINICHI SHIMBUN, 28 Jun -- The Socialist Party Central Executive Committee on 27 June proposed a joint conference to demand an early convocation of a special Diet session. The proposal was reported by Representatives MIYAKE and DOI to the Opposition Democrats, the Communist and the Worker-Farmer parties, and the New Political Council, which are also calling for an early convocation of a special Diet session and the overthrow of the Yoshida Cabinet. The Socialist Party intends to hold the projected conference on 30 June. No objection is expected from opposition parties to this proposal.

To counter Opposition Democrats' speaking tour in the Tokai District, President INUKAI, Chairman KOSAKA of the Political Affairs Investigation Committee, and Trade and Commerce Minister INAGAKI of the Coalition Democratic Faction will make a speaking tour in Aichi Ken and Mie Ken from 3 to 6 July. A party convention is scheduled to be held on 3 July in Nagoya Shi.

ITEM 8 OPPOSITION TO MULL PLANS FOR EARLY SPECIAL SESSION CALL

(Full Translation)

403
YOMIURI SHIMBUN, 29 Jun -- Availing themselves of the intensifying labor offensive, the opposition parties are ready to harass the Government by demanding an early convocation of the special Diet session. Administrative adjustment is creating a stir in the undercurrent of the nation's politics.

In response, the Government is drafting detailed plans for the rehabilitation of production and the absorption of the unemployed by utilizing the counterpart fund. At the same time, the Government is planning to push forward the creation of a stabilized force in the form of conservative amalgamation, from the viewpoint of its anti-Communist policy. Thus the formation of the anti-Communist front is being contemplated. It is noteworthy that some circles are planning an anti-Communist national rally for 15 August, the day the war ended.

The Government has come to the conclusion that the current labor unrest is mainly attributable to the political offensive of the Communist Party. The government authorities have laid stress on the fact that Communist tactics have overstepped the bounds of legality, with the recent state railways strike as a turning point.

In view of this, a broader interpretation of the Public Enterprise Labor Relations Law was adopted at the conference of the ministers concerned with public security on Monday, in the hope of preventing labor unions from being controlled by outside forces. HONDA, SUZUKI, IKEDA, and AOKI are deliberating on positive unemployment relief measures, the most pressing issue. To maintain law and order, State Minister HIGAI is preparing to reform the police system by laying great stress on the suppression of violent and illegal activities in strikes.

NEWSITEM 8 (Continued)

However, it is very doubtful whether the Government can surmount the forthcoming labor offensive, which is characterized by clear-cut political purposes, merely by resorting to administrative measures in the fields of economy and law and order. Moreover, it seems very difficult to complete the administrative adjustment of railway workers by the end of July, in view of the actual situation in railway workshops. Under these conditions, the Government, which has no close contacts with the labor front, will be obliged to resort to some drastic political measures.

As clarified in various statements of Chief Secretary HIROKAWA, some Democratic Liberal circles intend to form an anti-Communist front against the leftist advance as a step toward the two-party system of a conservative and a social democratic party. They maintain the view that the Democratic Liberal, Democratic (both coalition and opposition factions), and Socialist parties should form an anti-Communist front while preserving their present organizations for the purpose of establishing a strong coalition setup. As the premises for this attempt, they have entertained much hope for the split of the democratization league and the reform association in the State Railway Workers Union and the split of the Socialist Party into the leftist and rightist factions.

Opposition to Meet Tomorrow

The Government will make full preparations for this attempt before the special Diet session opens in September. Meanwhile, the representatives of the opposition parties will confer tomorrow and make it a principle to demand the convocation of the special Diet session by collecting the signatures of one-fourth of the entire Lower House membership. However, the opposition parties do not agree with one another completely..

The Socialist Party is going to establish a unified front of all the opposition parties, while the Worker-Farmer Party is ready to dissolve the Diet in the hope of establishing a leftist coalition government composed of the Socialist, Communist, and Worker-Farmer parties. Meanwhile, the Communist Party fears that the convocation of the Diet session will distort various activities outside the Diet, since the labor offensive has not reached its climax and only when it does can it be exploited in the Diet.

The Government maintains that it has the right to decide the date of the Diet convocation, even if the opposition parties should collect the signatures of one-fourth of the Lower House members. Prior to the convocation of the Diet session, the Government is planning to take effective measures in the fields of unemployment and labor policies and strengthen its power in the Diet, for the purpose of giving a final blow to the Communists in the forthcoming Special Diet session.

The Socialist Party, which proposed the early convocation of the Diet session to other opposition parties, decided to open a round-table conference of the opposition parties at the Speaker's reception room at 1300 hours tomorrow, for the purpose of deliberating on positive measures.

Worker-Farmer Party Makes Proposal

OKADA, OTA, and SUZUKI of the Worker-Farmer Party visited the headquarters of the Socialist Party to make the following proposals in compliance with the decision of the party.

NEWSITEM 8 (Continued)

1) For the purpose of defending the Constitution and overthrowing the incumbent Cabinet, all the opposition parties, in collaboration with all democratic organizations, are to form a Joint Struggle Committee for the Defense of the Constitution and the Overthrow of the Yoshida Cabinet (tentative name). The management of the committee is to be decided in deference to desires of all organizations affiliated with it.

2) The immediate objective of the joint action should be early convocation of the Diet.

The Socialist Party held a Central Executive Committee meeting to deliberate on the proposal of the Worker-Farmer Party for the creation of the committee for the defense of the Constitution and the Overthrow of the Yoshida Cabinet. As a result, it was unanimously agreed that this problem was to be discussed at the conference of the opposition parties to be held tomorrow. This answer was handed to the Worker-Farmer Party.

ITEM 1 NEXT DIET TO REVISE UPPER HOUSE ELECTION LAW--HIROKAWA

403

(Summary)

TOKYO SHIMBUN, 20 Jun -- A firm determination on the part of the Upper House Election Law and to see it through the next Diet by a majority vote, was revealed by party Chief Secretary HIROKAWA in a train interview yesterday.

HIROKAWA also disclosed that the DLP would put up a resolute fight in the next Upper House election to increase its Upper House numerical strength to 100, in order to combat the advance of the Communists.

A bill for revision of the Police System will also be submitted to the next Diet, the DLP Chief Secretary added. HIROKAWA, accompanied by Chairman HOSHIJIMA of the DLP Executive Board and others, left Osaka yesterday morning for Okayama on a campaign tour.

HIROKAWA stated, "A revision of the Upper House Election Law is being seriously studied by the party. Within the Lower House Election Law Revision Committee there also exists strong sentiment to abolish the present national electoral district system and convert it to the prefectural electoral unit system. An indirect election is also being considered. As soon as we complete a draft revision we will introduce it to the next Diet session, and even if the Upper House should reject it, we will have it passed by the Lower House by dint of the majority at our command. We also want to relax the various restrictions on election campaigns, in the light of our past experiences."

DLP Policy for Upper House Election

HIROKAWA continued, "What we are trying to do is to forestall the advance of the Communists, through the village and town farmland committee elections, to be held in August, and the prefectural farmland committee elections, to be held in September. The Communists are preparing for the forthcoming Upper House election battle by trying to have one candidate elected in each prefectural district."

ITEM 1 YAMAZAKI, UEHARA IN GROUP OF 5 DIETMEN TO VISIT US

(Full Translation)

403

JIJI SHIMPO, 26 Jun -- A formal decision was made Saturday afternoon on the membership of a Diet group which is to visit the United States to study that nation's Congressional operations.

Diet members representing the various parties met Saturday afternoon at the Lower House Speaker's reception chamber to discuss selection of the members. This action followed permission on Friday by Chief WILLIAMS of Parliamentary Division, GHQ for a US visit by three representatives, two councillors, and two attendants.

Because of the very delicate character of the problem, the selection was left to the speakers of both Houses after a representation of two Democratic Liberals and one Socialist for the Lower House and one Democrat and one Ryokufukai member for the Upper House had been decided. Both speakers took prompt action, taking the parties' sentiments into consideration. Discussions resulted in the nomination of five legislators: Lower House--YAMAZAKI Takeshi and UEHARA Etsujiro (Democratic Liberals) and ASANUMA Inejiro (Socialist); Upper House--SAKURAUCHI Tatsuro (Democrat) and TAKATA Hiroshi (Ryokufukai). Besides, OIKE Makoto, chief of the Lower House Secretariat, and SHIMA Seiichi, chief of the Lower House Public Relations Section, were chosen to accompany the group.

These choices were immediately communicated to GHQ. The nominees, after going through entry and other necessary procedures, will emplane in early July for an inspection visit scheduled to last about a month. Main subjects of study are expected to be the operations of the US Congress, its library, and the political parties.

Regarding the foregoing selection, it is noted that the originally scheduled IMAMURA Chusuke (DLP Representative) was replaced by UEHARA and ONOGI Hidejiro (DLP Councillor) by SAKURAUCHI. Reportedly UEHARA was recommended by ONO Bamboku, and SAKURAUCHI was named directly by Premier YOSHIDA. It is believed that these changes were the outcome of political considerations including intraparty circumstances and Upper House policies.

ITEM 3 PEOPLES CO-OPERATIVES ASK EARLY DIET CONVOCATION

(Full Translation)

403
YUKAN CHUGAI, 19 Jun -- Diet members IDE and ISHIDA of the Peoples Co-operative Party called on Chief Cabinet Secretary MASUDA at the Premier's official residence on Friday afternoon. There they handed him a request for early convocation of a special Diet session.

ITEM 2 HIROKAWA: DIET TO CONVENE IN OCTOBER AT EARLIEST

(Full Translation)

403
TOKYO SHIMBUN, 19 Jun -- A party of Democratic Liberal Diet members, including Chairman HOSHIJIMA of the Party's Board of Directors and Chief Secretary HIROKAWA, was present at a conference held Saturday at the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry to exchange opinions with Kansai financiers and others. Prior to the meeting, Chief Secretary HIROKAWA was interviewed by correspondents. He stated:
"The sixth special Diet session was expected to be opened in September upon the completion of investigations by Dr SHOUP but for various reasons it will probably be deferred until after October. Inasmuch as the election of the Upper House members, who are serving a three-year term, is slated for 20 April next year, the Diet session must be closed by 20 March at the latest or one month previous to the election, after concluding debate on all bills. As there are many important bills to be presented to the coming special session, including the taxation system reform bill and those relating to labor legislation, we contemplate settling all of them at the sixth special Diet session, so as to limit the deliberations of the seventh ordinary Diet session to a small number of bills centering on the budget bill. Thus, the regular session will be held immediately following the special session.

"What I stated at Otsu about the strengthening of the police organization seems to have left the impression that I intend to prevent the smooth operation of the local self-governing policy. What is meant by the intensification is my desire to set up over-all liaison between the national police and the local autonomous police, which are now functioning separately, so as to enable them to carry on police activities to the fullest extent. I am re-examining the existing police system from such an angle, and the Democratic Liberal Party is also studying the problem as a whole."

To combat the Communists, we are planning to have two candidates elected in each district, so that a total of 80 will be elected. This will increase the number of our Upper House seats to 100. In selecting our candidates we will pick men of high caliber, with an eye to the proposed conservative merger. We have already begun to select candidates by instructing our local chapters."

.....
..... Revision of Police System

"With our present system we cannot effect speedy liaison between the national and the local police forces, nor can we display police mobility. In order to remedy such evils, both the Government and the DLP have been deliberating upon a revision of the police system, but we could not complete preparations in time for the fifth Diet. The proposed revision is not intended to revive the old police system but, rather, to establish a democratic police system for the avowed purpose of maintaining public peace and order. Accordingly, a bill for revision of the police system will be presented to the sixth Diet. The DLP will also organize a special police system revision committee of ten. Mr YAMAZAKI seems to be the most suitable man for the chairmanship, and upon my return to the capital I will approach him on the subject," HIROKAWA concluded.

ITEM 10 SUZUKI URGES EARLY DIET SESSION TO END SOCIAL UNREST

(Full Translation)

403
TOKYO SHIMBUN, 17 Jun (Mito) -- SUZUKI Mosaburo, secretary-general of the Socialist Party, yesterday urged the Government to call an extraordinary session of the Diet earlier than scheduled, during his stumping tour of Ibaragi Ken. SUZUKI made the following points:

1) TOMABECHI Gizo predicted that the breakup into the coalition and anticoalition factions of the Democratic Party would lead to a major party system. The rivalry of two major parties, however, should be based upon the big capitalist class and the working class. The present political situation can be interpreted as the process of internal reorganization of the opposing two camps, namely the rightist, reactionary capitalist party as well as the slightly progressive capitalist party and the leftist Communist Party of force and destruction as well as the constructive, democratic Socialist Party of the working people.

2) The Socialist Party opposes the policy of the Democratic Liberal Party in calling for study by the Examination Committee of the un-Japanese policy of the Communist Party, which was behind the recent destructive strike. It is too bad if the Communist Party agrees with the policy of the Democratic Liberals as expressed in the words of ITO Ritsu, member of the Politburo, who said, "This is something we want." The anti-Communist campaign urged by HIROKAWA Kozen, secretary-general of the DLP, backed by violent police force and reactionary state power, show eloquently that he does not know his party's capabilities. His party should halt certain big capitalist policies and the deflation policy which is causing social unrest.

3) Our party calls for a) replacing the present deflation policy, which is causing economic confusion, by a real disinflation policy; b) carrying out active reconstruction plans for industry and culture in conformity with the progress of economic rehabilitation and the long-range economic reconstruction program; c) stringent supervision of the allocation of the US aid counterpart fund so as not to give relief to major financial capitalists and industrial capitalists alone; d) calling an extraordinary session of the Diet earlier than scheduled in order to take urgent steps to end the social unrest caused by the present economic dislocation.

4) Our party is determined to call together all democratic labor organizations into a joint struggle committee centered around the National Trade Unions Congress and thus to defend not only the economy and industry now on the way toward reconstruction but also the life of the working people against both the violent policy of the Communist Party characterized by force and destruction and the Democratic Liberals' deflation policy favoring some capitalist groups. For this purpose we are unifying the party and actively preparing for a showdown fight.

ITEM 20 GOVT DECIDES TO SEND SECOND DIET GROUP TO US

(Full Translation)

403
JIJI SHIMPO, 30 Jun -- The Diet has decided to dispatch a second parliamentary mission to the US following the return of the first group. The following men are strong candidates for the second US visit.

Lower House: Vice-Speaker IWAMOTO (Democratic Liberal), SHIIKUMA Saburo (Opposition Democrat), and MATSUMOTO Takizo (New Political Council).

Upper House: ONOGI Hidejiro (Democratic Liberal), HATANO Kanao (Socialist), Diet Secretariat: Chief Librarian KANAMORI of the Diet Library, Vice-chief secretary KONDO of the Lower House, and Chief INAGAWA of the Upper House Liaison Section.

ITEM 11 MIE KEN DIETMEN DISCUSS THE FIFTH DIET

403
(Summary)

YUKAN MIE (Yokkaichi), 11 Jun -- The YUKAN MIE invited Diet members elected from Mie Ken to a round-table discussion meeting on the Fifth National Assembly which ended on 31 May. Participants were Democratic Liberals NAKAMURA Kiyoshi, MATSUMOTO Ichiro, MIZUTANI Noboru, and ISHIHARA Enkichi; Shin Sei Club Members YAMATE Mitsuo and KIMURA Toshio; and Socialist ADACHI Umeichi. OZAKI and KAWASAKI were absent.

Chairman: Was the Democratic Liberal Party arbitrary?

NAKAMURA: The Democratic Liberal Party democratically sought the opinions of the minority factions both in the plenary sessions and in committee meetings.

MATSUMOTO: Nevertheless, the newspapers reported that the Democratic Liberals had monopolized the floor. Our party sought the approval of other factions on revision bills.

MIZUTANI: The long Diet session was due to the fact that there were many things which had to be revised under the new Constitution.

POLITICALITEM 11 (Continued)

ISHIHARA: The Fifth Diet gave the impression of having lasted an unusually long time. One reason, however, is that our party and the Government tried to adjust some of the inconsistent points between the Nine-Point Economic Stabilization Program and our public promises. Another reason lies in the opposition offensive.

YAMATE: It is not true that the Diet session was extended because the minority factions dragged out the proceeding. The delay in deliberations is due to the fact that the government parties took so much time in arriving at party decisions.

KIMURA: DLP members in the Steering Committee were high-handed, and they disturbed the atmosphere within the Diet.

ADACHI: The Fifth National Assembly is a milestone. After the end of the war, the Government willfully adopted an inflationary policy in order to re-establish Japanese capitalism. Now, the Government has begun taking a deflationary policy in order to return to the normal way of capitalism. Some small enterprises will be weeded out and absorbed into larger enterprises. Financial stringency will inevitably bring about personnel reduction. All bills introduced to the Fifth Diet were related to this. Viewing the Diet from this wide viewpoint, such a thing as the arbitrariness of the Democratic Liberal Party is an uninteresting topic to me.

Diet Scuffle

Chairman: Will you discuss the Konishi issue?

YAMATE: The issue was, indeed, a disgrace to the Diet. Although KONISHI was at first the victim, his later action was very improper.

MATSUMOTO: After being hit on the head from behind by Communist TACHIBANA, KONISHI went after TACHIBANA over to the Communist section. His action was improper. Moreover, it was regrettable that during the plenary session KONISHI swore that he would get revenge and aggravated the Diet confusion.

YAMATE: Differing from past Diet brawls, a gangsters' reconciliation ceremony was held, making the issue indeed one of a vicious nature.

Local Problems

Chairman: What were the problems concerning Mie Ken?

MIZUTANI: I expected to obtain a one billion-yen appropriation for repair works of the Kiso, Nagara and Ibi rivers. However, the appropriation was reduced to 250,000,000 yen. I am now negotiating with the authorities to obtain sufficient appropriations in the future.

N.KAMURA: The need to repair roads and bridges including TAKAMI TOGI and NAKAGAWA BASHI is being recognized. In regard to the government sale of State railway lines, both KITAMURO Gun and MINAMIMURO Gun are opposed to the suggested sale of the Hanwa Line. Some amendments were added to the bill concerned and sent to the Upper House.

POLITICALITEM 11 (Continued)

MATSUMOTO: I think that the proposed government sale of State railways will become virtually impossible through amendment of the bill concerned.

Chairman: What about the abolition of the State Railway's Matsusaka Subdivision?

MATSUMOTO: Regarding the administrative readjustment in State Railways, it is necessary to reduce the present four-level hierarchy of ministry, division, subdivision, and operative offices to at least three. I am insisting that subdivisions be established in each prefecture and abolish the divisions. I hope that the Matsuzaka Subdivision will not be abolished, regardless of the simplification of the ministry or division.

Fishery Law Revision Bill

Chairman: Next is the Fishery Law Revision Bill.

ISHIHARA: The Fishery Law Revision Bill, which was introduced in the last Diet session, is no less important than agricultural reform. The Diet will continue to deliberate on the bill by dispatching spot survey teams from 16 June to the Hokkaido, Pacific, Japan Sea and the Inland Sea coast areas. In any case, marine industries are suffering mostly from financial problems. The same also applies to marine products export industry. In view of this, I will exert efforts to ease the monetary shortage in fishing industry.

Future Politics

Chairman: What are the prospects for the political situation?

YAMATE: I think that a progressive, democratic party which does not place the sole emphasis on social class alone will emerge and in time, replace the Democratic Liberal Party.

ADACHI: The Yoshida Cabinet probably will not last until October. The majority of the people will inevitably begin to voice non-confidence in the Government over the questions of finance, administrative and enterprise readjustment, and taxes. The succeeding administration in form is expected to be a national cabinet including the wage-earning class: the so-called middle-road politics. The Socialists will at this time face a crisis, and developments will inevitably require a thorough reform of their party, which is criticized as being a third bourgeois party. Judging from the international trends, the question of uniting the revolutionary parties can be expected to arise inevitably. I think that the revolutionary parties will unite or merge about the time when the DLP Yoshida Cabinet is taken over by a middle-road administration.

NAKAMURA: The Yoshida Cabinet will continue for a long time. Although it is difficult to put Japan's economy on the right track of capitalism, some means may be devised. Difficulties may arise within the DLP but a party split cannot be expected.

ISHIHARA: I think the present cabinet will easily steer through two more regular Diet sessions. Although the Premier may be replaced for reasons of YOSHIDA's health or some other reason, a DLP-led cabinet will continue for some time.

ITEM 24 WHAT ABOUT REPEATED SCANDALS?

(Summary)

403
 NIHOI KEIZAI SHIMBUN, 10 Jun 49 -- Enforcement of official discipline has been one of the major policies of all postwar governments, and government officials have been repeatedly urged to live up to the public nature of their services. For all that, there is still widespread corruption among government and public officials throughout the nation.

It is true that such a shocking case as the Showa Denko scandal is seldom seen today. It is also true, however, that corruption cases involving officials of central and local government offices and public corporations, though comparatively small in their scope, are reported every day. In view of this, we cannot help but feel alarmed over the widespread slackness of official discipline.

The corruption of government and public officials is always ascribable to the privileges attached to their positions. To make matters worse, minor cases of bribery and graft are even justified by the general public. As long as there are people who fawn upon those in privileged positions, on the one hand, and, on the other, officials who take advantage of their influential positions for their own interests, there is no hope of building up a bright democratic society.

The best way to prevent official corruption is to uproot such a harmful trend as is now so widespread among the general public. At the same time, it is necessary for government and public officials

to discipline themselves so as to be free from the evil trend prevalent in the present society. Employees unions in government and public organizations must not be indifferent to the frequent occurrence of scandal cases involving officials, if they are to secure the autonomous independence of the unions themselves.

Ostensibly, government and public officials are a dignified lot. But the repeated occurrence of scandals of late have made the general public doubt whether they are as dignified as they appear to be. If government and public officials had been fair and impartial, there would not have been so many corruption cases.

The Yoshida Cabinet has decided to carry out the streamlining of the administrative machinery. It is one of the aims of the administrative adjustment to promote working efficiency by simplifying the administrative machinery. However, it is difficult to elevate the moral integrity of officials by mere slashing of personnel, and streamlining of administrative machinery. As long as various official controls empowering officials continue to exist, official corruption can never be eliminated.

The Government is urged to do its best to effectively enforce official discipline. The streamlining of administrative machinery will give the Government a good opportunity to carry out this important task.

ITEM 1 MASUDA DOUBTS DIET CONVOCATION BEFORE SEPTEMBER

(Full Translation)

403
 TOKYO NICHINICHI SHIMBUN, 19 Jun -- In view of the trend towards a labor offensive, the Government has called conferences of ministers concerned with public safety. It seems that Revision of the Police Law will have to be discussed during the next Diet session.

On the other hand, the Socialist, the Peoples Co-operative, and the Worker-Farmer parties recently launched an offensive against the Government's labor plan, urging the opening of a special Diet session in the very near future. Concerning this, Chief Cabinet Secretary MASUDA yesterday stated:

"The main subjects to be discussed during the next Diet session will be reform of the tax system, based upon the Shoup Mission's study and the formation of a supplementary budget. I think that it would be difficult to convene the Diet before September, as it will take some time to prepare various bills, including those for the tax reform.

"As to the police question, the unification of the nation's police, which Chief Secretary HIROKAWA advocates, may be difficult to achieve. However, under the present law, the Public Safety Committee has real power and the Government has no right to dictate. Since this results in serious trouble for the Government, the present law must be discussed thoroughly. Revision of the Police Law, therefore, will probably be presented to the next Diet session."

ITEM 5 TOKUSHIMA ASSEMBLYMEN SPEND TOO MUCH ON TRIPS

(Full Translation)

403
 OSAKA ASAHI SHIMBUN (Tokushima edition), 5 Jun -- Premier YOSHIDA complained that the Diet members are spending too much money on trips. The same may be said of the Prefectural Assembly men of Tokushima Ken. There is an increasing tendency of the none-too-plentiful prefectural funds being spent on trips which have nothing directly to do with prefectural administration but are awarded in recognition of the services rendered by the assemblymen. It is being loudly criticized in the Prefectural Office that such a practice is far from conforming with the March assembly session's decision to clamp down on travel and other allowances of prefectural employees during the new fiscal year. Assembly members usually obtain prefectural funds for trips through the standing committee to which they belong. Last March, when it was rumored that both the Forestry and Sanitation committees would be abolished, all the Assembly members concerned went on trips to petition their cause. However, criticism arose because they were staying away too long were spending too much money.

The Public Works Committee took a four-night-five-day trip through Kochi and Ehime Prefectures in the middle of May to make ostensible an on-the-spot study of the Yoshino River project and spent over 40,000 yen. The Farmland Committee travelled in prefecture-owned motor-car to inspect the Awa irrigation project and spent 7,400 yen. This same committee is planning to go to Tokyo soon to seek aid for the land subsidence problem. Cashier TANI has acknowledged that with the exception of the Welfare and Labor committees, which have a very

small budget, the travelling expenses of other committees for such petition trips have remarkably increased. For committees whose work does not call for trips, the committee members are invited to a discussion after the session to appease their grumbling.

The chairmen and vice-chairmen of the prefectural assemblies of the four prefectures of Shikoku are scheduled to go on an 11-night 12-day inspection tour of Kyushu. Since there will be other persons in the party, each prefecture will have to contribute over 60,000 yen. The budget is limited and whatever the prefectural assemblymen spend on these trips will mean that much less for actual projects and enterprises. These extravagant Prefectural Assembly men contrast cynically with the prefectural employees whose trips on official business are really necessary but which the assemblymen strongly oppose. This is still more cynical when we consider the Prefectural Assembly men's habitual assertions for the prefectural people's interests and the mitigation of their tax burden.

ITEM 19 IMAMURA STRONG CHOICE TO REPLACE UEHARA FOR US TOUR

(Full Translation)

403
 YOMIURI SHIMBUN, 28 Jun -- The meeting called for yesterday at 1100 hours to select a leader for the Dietmen groups which will tour the United States was postponed when a strong opinion gained ground that Dietmen for the projected tour should be chosen from among those unfamiliar with conditions in the US as well as from among members of the Steering Committee.

Under the situation, the speakers and vice-speakers of both Houses reexamined the qualifications of those who had already been chosen and agreed that Democratic Liberal UEHARA Etsujiro should voluntarily decline the offer. However, UEHARA refused to conform with the request, even after a several hours' talk with Lower House Speaker SHIDEHARA and DLP Political Investigation Committee Chairman SATO.

Speaker SHIDEHARA is now therefore, obliged to name a successor to UEHARA by 1000 hours today before the opening of the meeting. IMAMURA Chusuke of the DLP has already been informally decided for the spot.

A second inspection tour of the US is scheduled for this fall.

ITEM 9 THE FIFTH DIET AND ITS AFTERMATH

(Summary)

403
 CHUKYO SHIMBUN (Nagoya), 2 Jun -- The Fifth Extraordinary Diet came to an end at midnight 31 May following four extensions. The Government and its parties, relying on its absolute majority strength, pushed through the balanced budget, Labor Law revision and administrative reform bills.

Strong objections against these bills were raised by political parties representing the laboring classes. As a result, fistcuffs took place among the Diet members in both the Upper and Lower Houses. In other words, the ruling and laboring classes struggled against each other in the Diet. It is undesirable that measures for economic stabilization are going to be enforced without the co-operation of the laboring classes. The Government should give careful consideration to this point in executing its administrative policies.

The laboring classes stoutly opposed the administrative readjustment and Labor Law revision not at the instigation of the extreme left elements, but with a view to protecting their livelihood. With the mass dismissal of employees in government offices and private enterprises, the number of unemployed will show a marked increase in the next several months to come.

If the Government makes no promise to enforce positive steps to relieve them, it is a matter of course that social unrest will become intensified. To our regret, the Government is not taking steps to ease the minds of the laborers who are feeling uncertain about their future living. Thus, JAPAN's unemployment problem will come to assume a grave aspect unlike that found in the UNITED STATES or BRITAIN.

It is almost impossible to rehabilitate the nation's economy

without stabilizing the livelihood of the people. Needless to say, in order to reconstruct the nation's economy and stabilize the people's livelihood, it is necessary to implement the Nine-point Economic Stabilization Program. However, if the majority of the people find it hard to sustain their living in the course of such action, the program would serve no purpose. Since the people must bear an austere life to decline US aid and stand on their own feet as soon as possible, the Government should try all means to equalize the people's hardships. It should also consider appropriate measures to relieve the unemployed, the greatest victims of the nation's economic stabilization program. Nevertheless, far from studying such measures, it is enacting a series of laws which are favorable to the capitalists who are planning the mass discharge of laborers. It is only natural that the laboring classes are provoked.

The majority of the people are not revolutionists, nor do they choose to bring about social unrest. They only hope that their livelihood will be improved as soon as possible. Regrettably, however, the future of medium and small entrepreneurs, laborers, and farmers, that is the majority of the people, is very gloomy in view of the actions taken by the Government and its parties in the Fifth Extraordinary Diet.

ITEM 19 SOCIALISTS DEMAND DIET RE-OPENING IN LATE JULY

(Full Translation)

403
 YOMIURI SHIMBUN, 23 Jun -- To cope with the impending labor offensive, the Socialist have been getting ready to press for an early special Diet session. Secretary-general SUZUKI's visit to Chief WHITNEY of the Government Section Tuesday, seems to have increased Socialist confidence in an early reconvoation of the Diet.

At party headquarters yesterday morning, a conference was held between SUZUKI, ASANUMA, and AKIMATSU on concrete measures. As a result, they decided to make formal demand that the Government call a special Diet session as soon as possible after consulting the central executive committee on Monday and collecting signatures for the step from a quarter of the opposition party members. The latter part of July is strongly favored.

They are demanding that such matters be considered as those relating to over-all revision of the Personnel Strength and Public Enterprise Labor Relations laws, the counterpart fund issue, and the 30,000,000,000-yen tax reduction announced by Finance Minister IKEDA.

ITEM 7 POSTWAR POLITICIANS DISAPPOINT PUBLIC

(Full Translation)

403
SEIKI JOHO, 2 Jun -- After four extensions, the Fifth National Assembly finally ended on 3 May, 110 days after it was convened on 11 February. Displaying their doubtful honor, both Houses of the Diet, already not deserving the nation's confidence, have manifested their existence by free-for-all fights and have doubled the nation's lack of confidence in them. We can recall no other Diet, either under the old or new Constitutions, wherein a cabinet enjoying overwhelming majority support in the Lower House has suffered such crucial rejections or shelving of bills as questions the proximity of the government and its friendly parties. In short, this is a question of quality rather than quantity of the men of government and its parties. Whatever their boast of Diet majority, as long as they do not have the right persons, they cannot but escape the charge of mobocracy. Though this may sound tedious, the Government's failure to fully respect the Upper House or coddle the Ryokufukai regarding the bills on establishing parliamentary councillors and sale of government railways, resulted in their being shelved.

We definitely do not intend to encourage trickery or plots, but the Government lacks the ability to persuade the Upper House or the RYOKUFUKAI, which outwardly maintains an unbiased policy. Premier YOSHIDA is only said to be obstinate. His ability is insignificant, like the surface tension of a fluid which is so weak that it would break if touched. Since none of the men including Chief Cabinet Secretary MASUDA and Secretary General HIROKAWA, who surround Premier YOSHIDA, and posse as leaders, have any ability to understand what politics are, the Diet fiasco is only a natural consequence. In Japan, the fact that there is a lack of competent men has been a complaint for many years. In the present case, there are entirely too many incompetent men.

In former years, HARA Kei, who formulated the political philosophy, "politics are power" fully exhibited that power, and was assassinated. Political power is a combination of authority, wisdom, sincerity and money. This is unattainable until one has acquired full political experience. From a post-war figure who has risen to DLP Secretary-General, who in effect is the Diet policy maker, or to the Chief Cabinet Secretary, much in the manner of the proverb, "In the land of the blind the one-eyed is king," one cannot expect much. Through the "test" of the Fifth National Assembly session, the Democratic Liberal Party's postwar faction has flunked, and the rise of the old party members faction has become only a question of time.

ITEM 9 REPLACEMENT OF HOUSE SPEAKER MOOTED

(Full Translation)

403
SEIKI JOHO, 15 Jun - Speaker SHIDEHARA's handling of the Diet is regarded as one of the many weak points of the Democratic Liberal Party, the Government Party. Premier YOSHIDA originally appointed SHIDEHARA as the speaker as a means to mollify the latter's pride yet keep him on the political sidelines. This was because the Premier could not afford to alienate the veteran politician. However, after being assured of the speaker's post, SHIDEHARA arbitrarily appointed IWAMOTO Nobuyuki as the vice-speaker, in opposition to party wishes to install YAMAGUCHI Kikuichiro.

SHIDEHARA found his post more to his liking than he had expected. But, despite the confidence he has in himself with his long political experience, considering the fact that he is 78 years of age, it is only natural that he should be unable to keep under control the Lower House which is the most refractory body in the nation. It is held, however, that if SHIDEHARA were younger and more quick-witted during the recent Konishi-Tachibana brawl in the Diet, he could have restored order in the House by ordering TACHIBANA to leave the floor.

It is said that the Government Party leaders fearing the outbreak of another incident on the final day of the Fifth Diet, asked the Speaker to let IWAMOTO take over. This was done and the day passed uneventfully. It is reported that when some Opposition Dietmen who happened to find him resting in his chamber, asked him why he had not taken the chair, the Speaker covered up by saying that he was not feeling well physically.

Since opposition to the Speaker is becoming increasingly open lately, it is reported that Chief Secretary HIROKAWA of the DLP and others have been considering his replacement. IWAMOTO and UEHARA are being mentioned as possible successors.

Brawl in the Diet

403 The brawl in the Diet involving a Communist and a Democratic-Liberal evoked stern disapprobation from a considerable number of writers. A Matsue editorialist (q 1), for example, declared it was a "matter of utmost shame" that such barbarous free-for-all fights still exist among those representing the people in the Diet. Resorting to violence was the most flagrant denial of the right to deliberation, which is accorded the people's representatives in the Diet, said the commentator. The representatives must maintain their presence of mind and expedite proceedings normally even during heated discussions, the editorialist maintained. Such brawls were indicative of the low intellect of Diet members, but at the same time they were a reflection on the people "who so senselessly chose such representatives." Disgraceful behavior in the Diet would have harmful repercussions, cautioned the writer, for the "world was watching with keen interest to see how Japan is moving." It goes without saying, declared an Osaka editorialist (r 1), that the fracas in the Diet was a disgrace. Demanding that the Diet be called to account, the commentator asserted that the people will think twice before they put their trust in the Diet.

Another Osaka writer (s 1) said that such brawls were a serious set-back to the development of democracy. The people elected their representatives to legislate and not to indulge in fights, stressed the commentator. Political issues must be solved through discussion and not through violence. In a similar tone, a Yamagata writer (t 1) pointed out that violence "shakes the foundation of democratic politics." If solutions of problems could not be reached without resorting to fisticuffs, there was no need for parliamentary discussion. Ignoring open debate will do nothing but hold the Diet up to scorn, declared a Nagoya editorialist (u 1), adding that the people should be ashamed for having elected such members to the Diet.

7 JUN A Takaoka commentator (v 1) observed that it was an awkward situation when the Democratic-Liberals, who insist on fair play in politics, and the Communists, who denounce violent revolutionary tactics, resorted to brawls. The suggestion that any Diet member who engaged in fisticuffs be suspended for a period of one year was advanced by an Okayama writer (w 1). Other editorialists flaying the Diet for its conduct included five in Utsunomiya (x 1), Nagano (y 1), Kofu (z 1), Hakodate (a 2), and Kyoto (b 2).

403 ASAHI stressed that the Government accomplished very little during the fifth Diet session, but now that the Diet has adjourned, the Government has announced a 10-point administrative program and a 30,000,000,000-yen tax reduction. It wondered if the Diet does not feel that it has been deceived since it has no means of asking the Government about the details of these plans.

POLITICS

403 Government officials have reportedly agreed to open the next Diet session ahead of schedule. Their decision was understood to be in response to opposition demands for a speedily convoked session to enact economic measures and counteract the mounting labor offensive. (d)

403 YOMIURI's subeditorial used an announcement of the formation of a cabinet council on law and order to blast YOSHIDA and his ministers. "The people's honest impression is that the one-man Cabinet is hiding behind the machine guns of the Occupation, chanting 'resolute, resolute' like a Buddhist prayer," the daily said.

403 Diet leaders will meet today to select three representatives and two councilors as members of a parliamentary mission bound for the US to study political, economic, and cultural conditions. The survey group, whose visit was authorized by GHQ yesterday, is expected to be headed by Democratic Liberal YAMAZAKI Takeshi. (a)

POLITICS

403 Democratic Liberal Representative YAMAZAKI Takeshi yesterday was named head of the five-member Diet delegation to the US. In a press statement issued after the delegation met, Yamazaki declared that the group will study parliamentary politics in action with a view to making the national Diet the best possible parliamentary organ. (e)

28 JUN Meanwhile, opposition parties are making preparations to call for an early special Diet session. Representatives of the various opposition group will confer tomorrow on the issue and will set as a goal the collection of signatures from one-fourth of the entire Lower House membership. (a)

403 The Fifth Diet adjourned at 2350 hours 31 May after a 110-day session during which 226 of the 251 bills submitted were passed. The Government, though compelled to request extension of the session four times, secured enactment of all key bills pertaining to administrative reform. In the last day of the session, the House of Representatives approved the House of Councillors-amended bill reorganizing the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the bill concerning the scope and structure of the Special Procurement Board, the two remaining outstanding bills pertaining to the administrative reform. The Steering Committee of the House of Representatives 31 May also ruled that the 30-day suspension of Communist member Toshio Tachibana, who figured in the melee on the House floor 19 May, applies only to the Fifth Diet.

OUTGOING MESSAGES-SRS 2 JUN 1949

403 The Cabinet 3 June adopted a 10-point program for speeding economic recovery. The program, designed to execute Fifth Diet legislative measures, called for concentrated Government efforts to (1) enforce the nine-point Economic Stabilization Program; (2) revise the tax collection system and correct injustices; (3) set up a social security system supported by adequate unemployment relief; (4) conserve and develop natural resources; (5) consolidate food supplies; (6) reorganize government enterprises for transfer to private management; (7) expand educational facilities; (8) eliminate "undemocratic organizations and tendencies"; (9) simplify administrative routine and tighten discipline; and (10) control population growth.

OUTGOING MESSAGES-SRS 6 JUN 1949

403 Government officials believe that an extraordinary Diet session will not be scheduled until September unless one-third or more of the Diet members formally request an earlier convocation.

OUTGOING MESSAGES-SRS 20 JUN 1949

403 Representatives of the opposition Democrats, Social Democrats, Labor Farmers, Communists and the New Political Council are to confer 30 June on a proposal by the Social Democratic Party for a joint demand for early convocation of a special Diet session. The Social Democratic Party proposed that an attempt be made to obtain the signatures of one-fourth of the membership of the House of Representatives in support of their campaign.

OUTGOING MESSAGES-SRS 30 JUN 1949

403 Chief Cabinet Secretary Masuda told the press 19 July that the Government is preparing to convoke a special Diet session late in September, about 30 days after receipt of recommendations of the mission on taxation reform.

OUTGOING MESSAGES-SRS 21 JUL 1949

403 The special Diet (the Sixth session) was convened 25 October for a tentative 30-day session, ending 23 November as agreed by the Steering Committees of both houses.

OUTGOING MESSAGES-SRS 27 OCT 1949

403 Fourteen Diet members called on the Soviet Mission 1 November to urge acceleration in the repatriation of Japanese prisoners of war and a clarification of the actual number of Japanese nationals still held in Soviet territories. The Soviet adviser told the delegation that their request would be forwarded to the Soviet Government.

OUTGOING MESSAGES-SRS 3 NOV 1949

403 The Sixth Diet session was officially opened 1 November in the presence of the Emperor, Prime Minister Yoshida, Chief Justice Tadashi Mibuchi of the Supreme Court and cabinet members.

OUTGOING MESSAGES-SRS 3 NOV 1949

403 The Government announced 11 November that the Seventh (regular) session of the Diet would be convened 4 December. An Imperial edict to that effect was promulgated 12 November.

OUTGOING MESSAGES-SRS 14 NOV 1949

403 The Government submitted to the Diet 14 November three long-awaited supplementary budget bills for the current fiscal year, and submitted 15 November three tax measures.

OUTGOING MESSAGES-SRS 17 NOV 1949