

In addition ¥ 7,500,000,000 will be expended in special accounts. Programs may be subject to reduction in view of the raw material shortages but projects selected are to consume a minimum of raw materials, utilize the abundant labor supply in Japan and increase the supply of food or essential raw materials within the next year.

SHIPBUILDING

16. From 10 February to 10 March shipyards completed repairs on 341 merchant vessels totaling 802,000 gross tons.

17. From 20 February to 20 March one railway ferry and two steel cargo vessels totaling 7,500 gross tons were launched and one steel cargo vessel of 650 gross tons was completed. During this period 21 steel fishing vessels totaling 2,295 gross tons were launched and 37 steel fishing vessels totaling 3,026 gross tons were completed. In addition two wooden tugs totaling 300 gross tons were launched and three wooden cargo vessels totaling 650 gross tons and six wooden tugboats totaling 900 gross tons were completed.

18. The Japanese Government was authorized to install a 1,000-horsepower diesel engine in a small passenger ferry.

CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES

19. Continued power and fuel shortages resulted in a sharp drop in February chemical production. Output of basic heavy chemicals was 23 percent of estimated minimum requirements of the economy, compared with 30 percent in January.

Fertilizer

20. February production of 44,754 metric tons of ammonium sulfate was 73 percent of planned output. The electric power shortage accounted for 80 percent of the production loss. Poor coal distribution to distant plants was responsible for the remainder of the loss although over-all delivery of coal to the industry was greater than allocations. Estimated production for March is 65,000 tons.

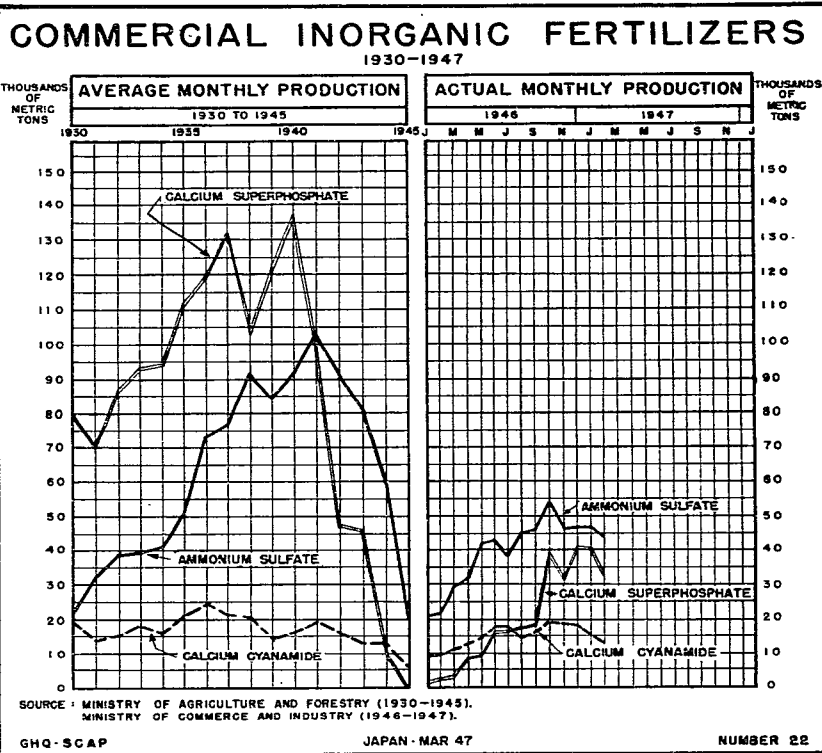
21. Low carbide production because of the power shortage resulted in a decrease in output of calcium cyanamide. Carbide stocks were heavily drawn upon to maintain cyanamide production.

Production of various inorganic fertilizers are shown on the chart, opposite page.

22. February imports of phosphate rock were 82 percent greater than for January. Because of a shortage of sulfuric acid at phosphate plants only 24 percent of the imports was processed. As a result of increased efforts to expedite delivery of finished fertilizer the stockpiles at plants on 31 January were reduced by 18 percent during February.

Sulfuric Acid

23. Poor distribution and delivery of pyrites caused a further drop in sulfuric acid output to 75,771 metric tons. Deliveries to plants in ammonium sulfate factories were 88 percent of allocations, to superphosphate factories 33 percent of allocations.



Sodium Products

24. Salt production remains low because of the fuel shortage but 53,758 tons of imported salt helped Japan meet minimum demands. March imports are expected to total 60,000 tons, 30,000 less than planned because unsettled political conditions in Formosa have delayed shipments.

25. February production of caustic soda decreased 12 percent because of the continued coal shortage.

Coal-tar Products

26. Benzene output in February dropped 20 percent to 354 metric tons although the coal allocation remained the same.

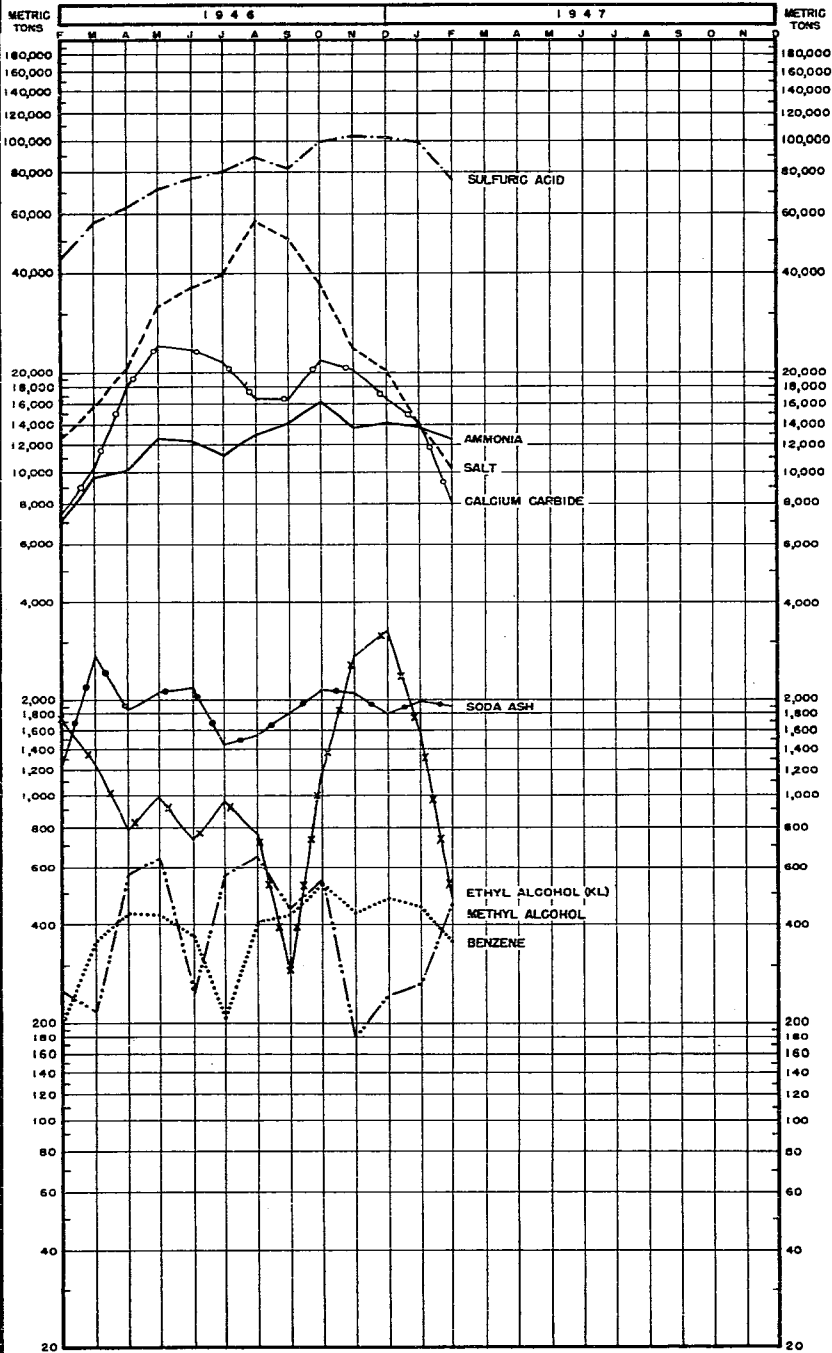
Dyes and Drugs

27. Production of intermediates for drugs and dyestuffs increased with nitrotoluene and aniline showing the greatest increases.

28. Total dyestuff output increased approximately 16 percent in February with 100-percent increases in direct and acid dyes. Chrome dyes necessary in the processing of export wool fabrics are being produced in increasing quantities. Shortages of nitric acid and sodium nitrate needed in the manufacture of chrome dyes are expected to be alleviated with an increase in the production of ammonium derivatives.

PRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL CHEMICALS

SINCE FEBRUARY 1946



NOTE: ON SEMI-LOGARITHMIC CHARTS EQUAL RISES OR FALLS INDICATE EQUAL PERCENTAGE CHANGES.
SOURCE: MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

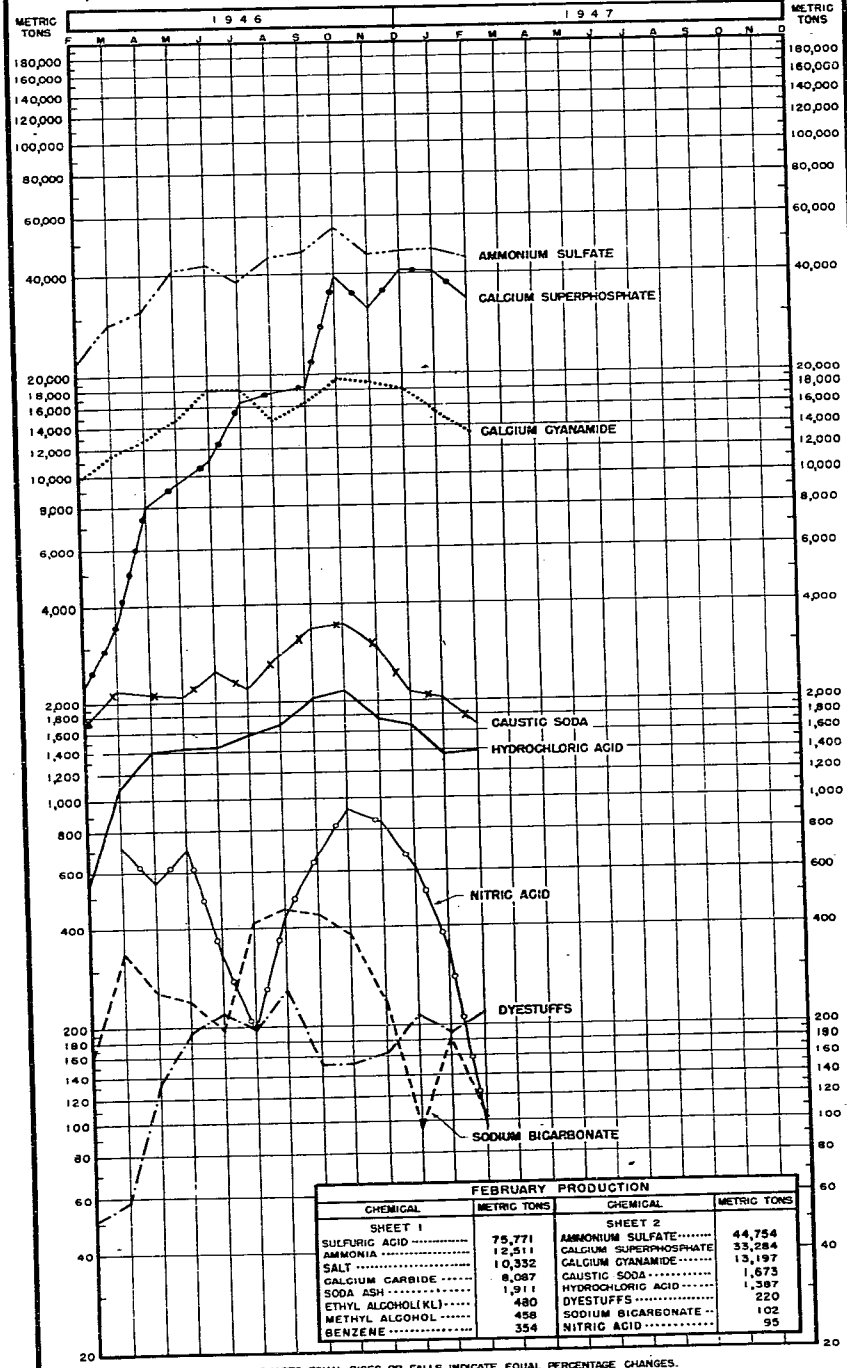
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PRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL CHEMICALS

SINCE FEBRUARY 1946



FEBRUARY PRODUCTION			
CHEMICAL	METRIC TONS	CHEMICAL	METRIC TONS
SHEET 1		SHEET 2	
SULFURIC ACID	75,771	AMMONIUM SULFATE	44,754
AMMONIA	12,511	CALCIUM SUPERPHOSPHATE	33,284
SALT	10,332	CALCIUM CYANAMIDE	13,197
CALCIUM CARBIDE	8,087	CAUSTIC SODA	1,573
SODA ASH	1,911	HYDROCHLORIC ACID	1,387
ETHYL ALCOHOL(KL)	480	DYESTUFFS	220
METHYL ALCOHOL	458	SODIUM BICARBONATE	102
BENZENE	354	NITRIC ACID	95

NOTE: ON SEMI-LOGARITHMIC CHARTS EQUAL RISES OR FALLS INDICATE EQUAL PERCENTAGE CHANGES.
SOURCE: MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

Oil and Paint

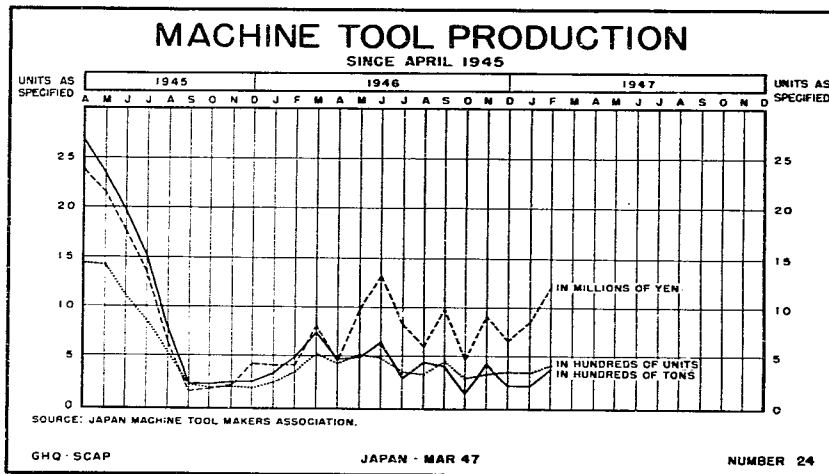
29. Hardening oil production dropped sharply to 114 tons, the lowest since January 1946 due to shortage of fats and oils. Stocks of soap and paint have dwindled to a new low and production is at a minimum.

MACHINERY

30. Shortages of materials, power and fuel continued to hamper the machinery industries. Use of critical items where needed most resulted, despite a short month, in a slight recovery from the sharp slump of January.

Machine Tools

31. Machine tool output continued at a low level. Producers concentrated on light units which can be built quickly and delivered before inflation eats up the profits on the contract prices.



Precision Bearings

32. February production of precision bearings increased 21 percent in value over January while deliveries rose 33 percent. Material and power shortages continued to keep orders ahead of deliveries and by the end of February the backlog amounted to ¥ 83,000,000.

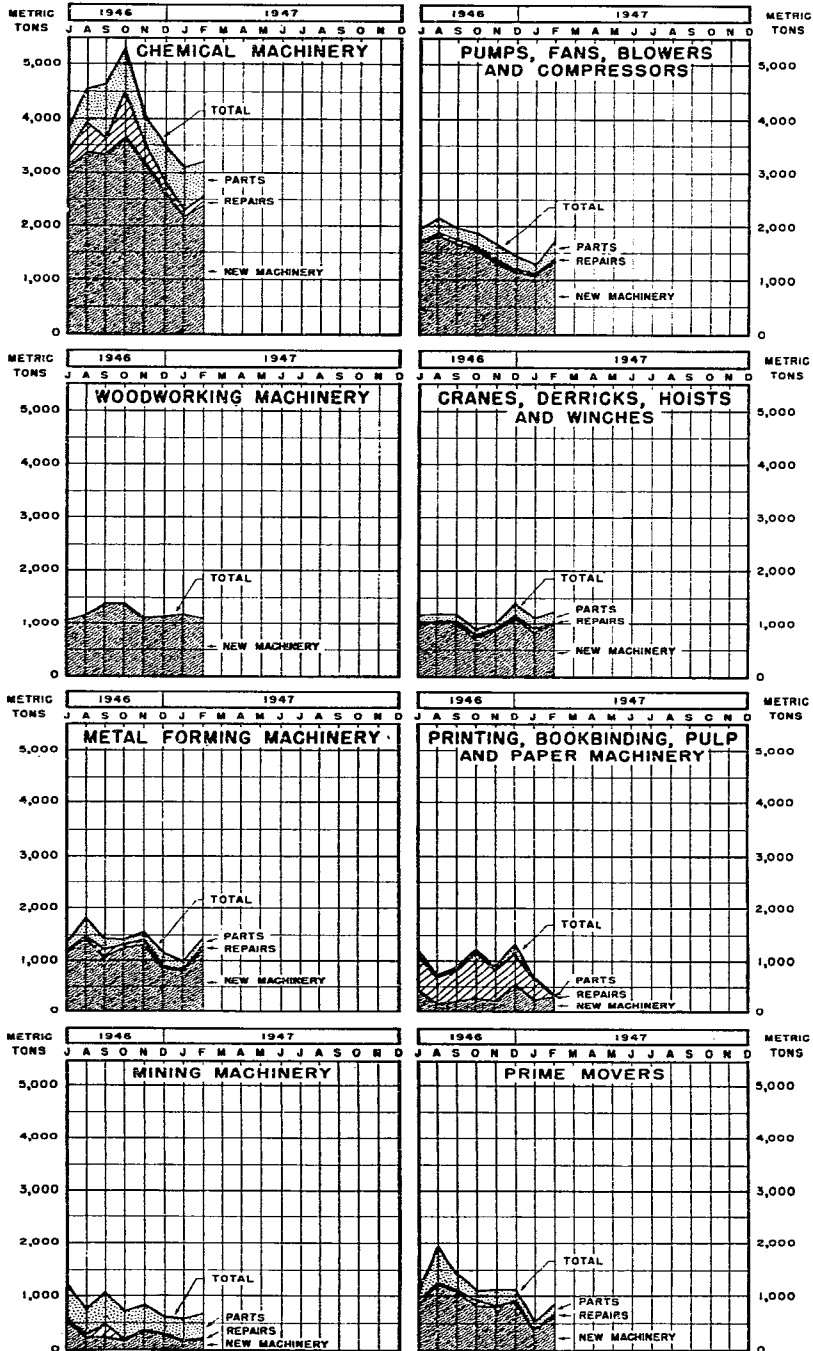
Industrial Machinery

33. Production and repair value of heavy industrial machinery and equipment totaled ¥ 297,000,000, a 17-percent increase over January.

34. Electric power and raw material shortages continued to prevent efficient plant operation.

INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY PRODUCTION

PRINCIPAL CATEGORIES SINCE JULY 1946



SOURCE: INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY ASSOCIATION, WOODWORKING MACHINERY ASSOCIATION AND PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING ASSOCIATION.

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RAW MATERIAL, FUEL AND POWER CONSUMPTION
(metric tons)

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Steel	9,679	8,737
Iron	8,472	8,090
Coal	5,887	5,588
Coke	5,885	5,095
Power <u>a/</u>	9,480	9,285

a/ Thousands of kilowatt hours.

SOURCE: Industrial Machinery Association.

35. Production and repair output increased 21.6 percent by weight, totaling 15,741 metric tons. Of this total, 75.4 percent was for new units, 20.5 percent for parts and accessories and 4.1 percent for repair work. New production increased 28 percent, grossing 11,865 tons.

36. Mining machinery output rose more than 20 percent in February as the coal mine rehabilitation program progressed. In February a loan of ¥ 1,500,000 for mine rehabilitation was approved, 86 key plants were designated to receive top priorities and government expeditors were appointed to assure maximum output for the mines. Machinery related to mining also showed production gains with a 29-percent increase in pumps and a 39-percent increase in blowers and compressors.

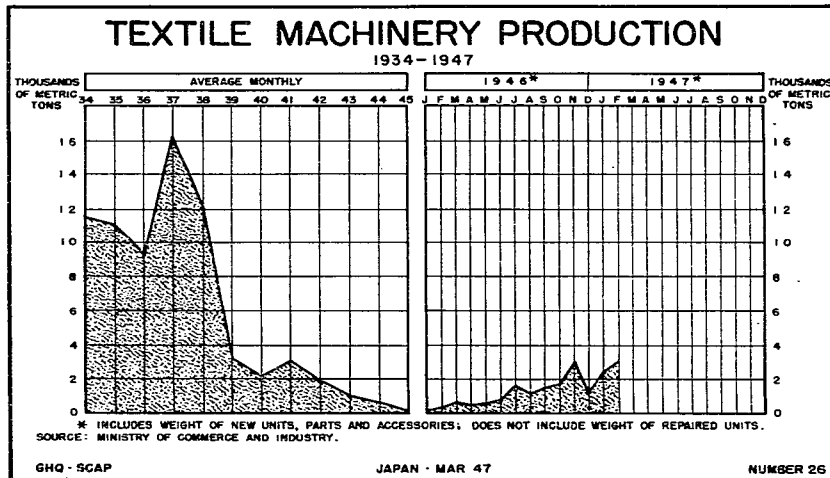
Textile Machinery

37. Despite raw material and power shortages over-all production and repair of textile machinery grossed 3,051 tons, valued at almost ¥ 85,000,000. This is an increase of 27 percent by weight and 11 percent in value over January figures. Significant of increasing prices in the industry is the 94-percent increase in the value of new production with only a 12-percent increase in weight. The value of repaired machinery decreased 45 percent while parts and accessory production increased 12 percent in value and 55 percent by weight.

TEXTILE MACHINERY PRODUCTION
(thousands of yen)

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
New units	22,183	42,982
Repairs	32,032	17,498
Parts	<u>21,974</u>	<u>24,507</u>
Total	76,189	84,987

SOURCE: Textile Machinery Association.



38. The production and repair of cotton machinery in February is shown below. Value of this production was ¥ 59,005,000 compared with ¥ 56,789,000 in January.

COTTON MACHINERY PRODUCTION February

	<u>New Sets</u>	<u>Repaired Sets</u>
Opener	5	4
Scutcher	35	9
Card	32	13
Drawing frame	8	4
Slubbing frame	2	4
Ring frame	34	56
Ring twister	19	20
Reeler	68	1
Winder	143	22
Loom	616	325
Other	800	105

SOURCE: Textile Machinery Association.

39. February production and repair of silk machinery, excluding raw-silk machinery, is shown below. Value of February production was ¥ 14,186,000 against ¥ 8,584,000 in January.

SILK MACHINERY PRODUCTION February

	<u>New Sets</u>	<u>Repaired Sets</u>
Winder	24	13
Twister	209	5
Double winder	49	14
Warper	426	632
Loom	429	152
Other	6,248	106

SOURCE: Textile Machinery Association.

Principal production in raw-silk machinery was the manufacture of 1,421 reeling basins, a decrease of six percent from January.

40. February production and repair of wool and worsted machinery valued at ¥ 8,947,000 are shown in the following table. January production was valued at ¥ 8,549,000.

WOOL AND WORSTED MACHINERY PRODUCTION
February

	<u>New Sets</u>	<u>Repaired Sets</u>
Opener	19	-
Card	52	54
Mule frame	3	-
Winder	4	11
Warper	1	40
Loom	86	63
Other	500	111 <u>a/</u>

a/ Includes 76 ring frames.

SOURCE: Textile Machinery Association.

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH

41. The Machine Industry Technique Committee was organized under the auspices of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to improve production techniques for Japan's peacetime machine and tool industry.

42. To encourage and promote Japan's peacetime chemical industry the Chemical Industrial Technique Committee was formed in March under the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The Committee plans to reconstruct the chemical industry and modernize its production technique.

SECTION 4
MANUFACTURING

C O N T E N T S

	Paragraph
Food Processing.	1
Pulp and Paper	4
Glass and Ceramics	5
Medical Supplies	14
Electrical Manufacturing	16
Transportation Equipment	17
Rubber Manufacturing	22
Leather Manufacturing.	23
Agricultural Equipment	26
Handicrafts.	27
Miscellaneous Manufacturing.	31

FOOD PROCESSING

1. Further production decreases occurred in February as the shortage of raw materials continued and lack of fuel prevented maximum use of materials available.

Export schedules of the packing industry were met by the increased canning of mandarin oranges. Small collections of seaweed hampered the agar-agar export program. See the chart on following page.

Brewing and Distilling

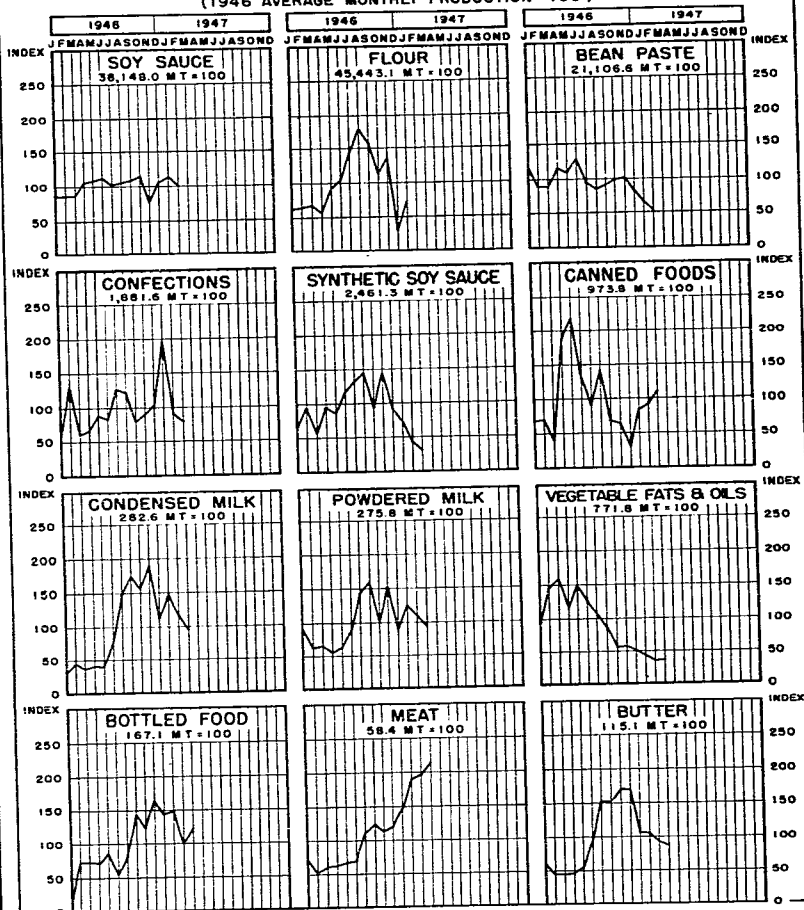
2. The seasonal increase in sake production accounted for the rise in alcoholic beverage output in February, as shown in chart at top of page 105.

Containers

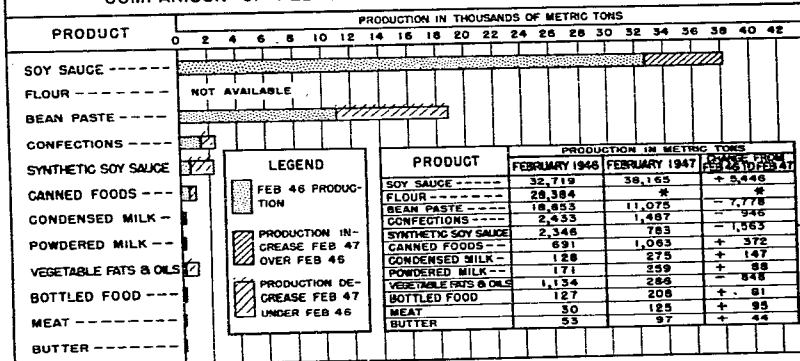
3. Shortages restricted production of all types of containers and covering materials. Tin plate consumed increased from 378 to 445 tons.

FOOD PROCESSING

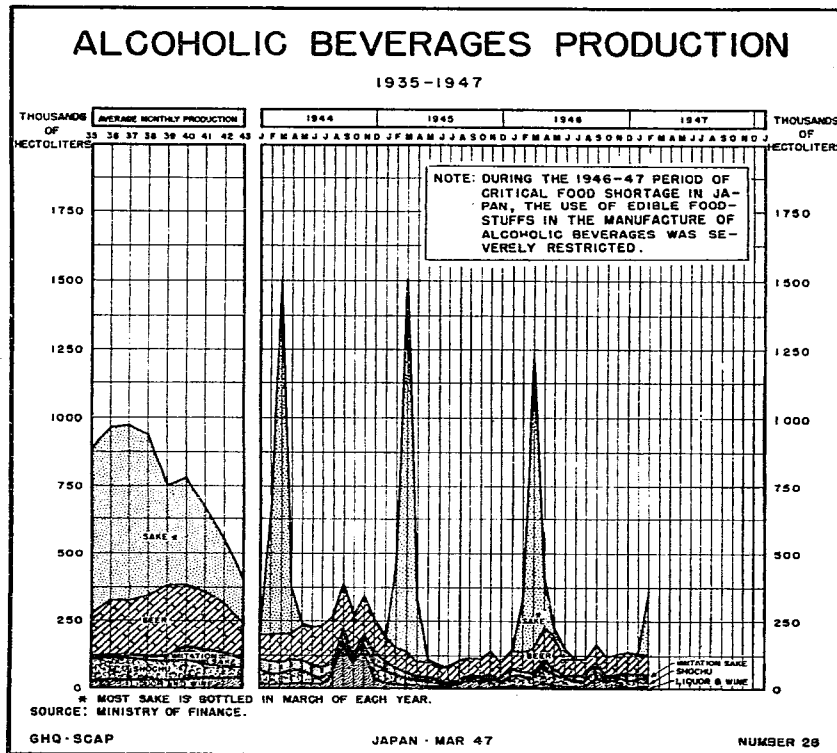
PRODUCTION INDEXES SINCE JANUARY 1946 (1946 AVERAGE MONTHLY PRODUCTION = 100)



COMPARISON OF FEBRUARY PRODUCTION IN 1946 AND 1947

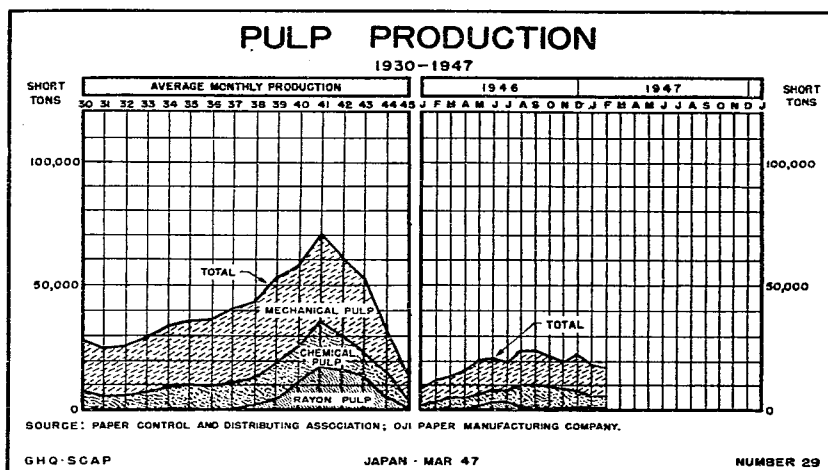


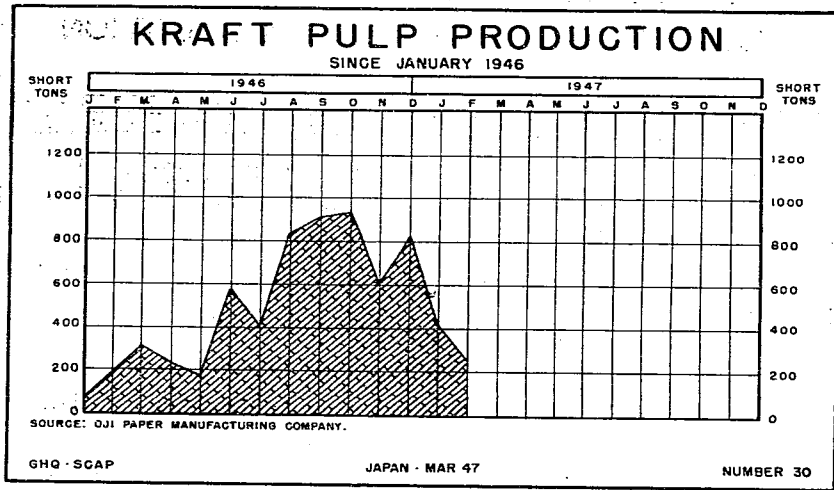
* NOT AVAILABLE.
SOURCE: MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY.



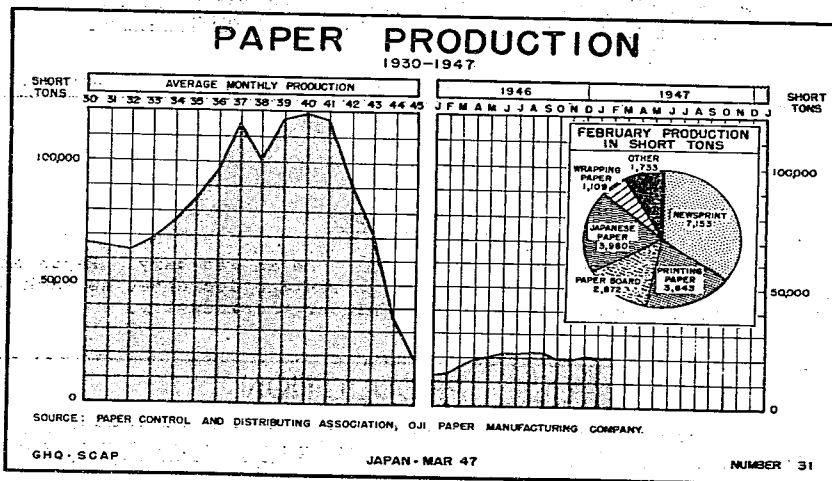
PULP AND PAPER

4. Pulp production dropped 1,651 tons in February. Rayon and unbleached kraft showed the largest percentage decreases as lack of coal and rising prices continued to hinder the industry.





Paper production in February was approximately the same as in January. Newsprint production fell 1,548 tons but was offset by increased production of Japanese-style papers.



GLASS AND CERAMICS

Glass

5. Sheet glass production in February decreased 20 percent while output of polished plate glass increased 11 percent.

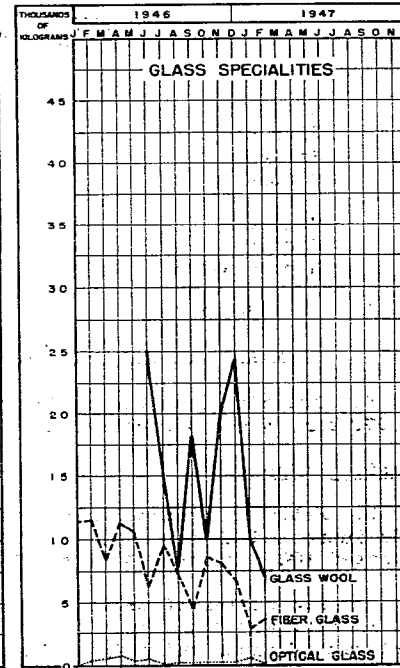
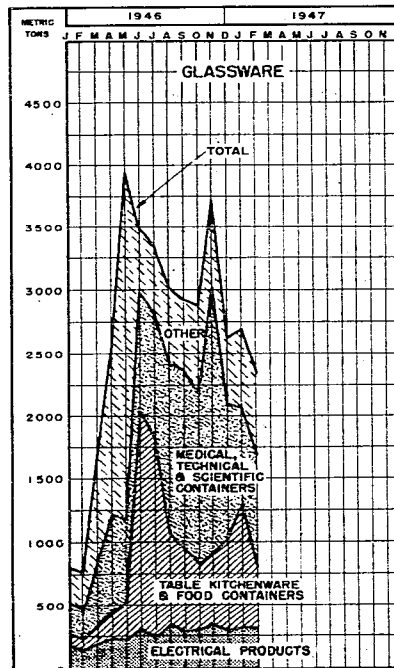
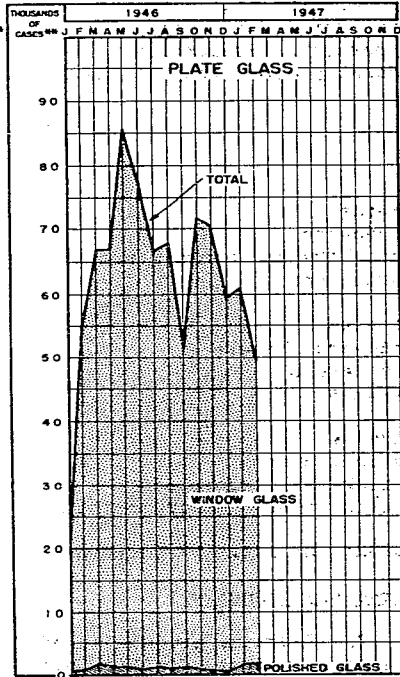
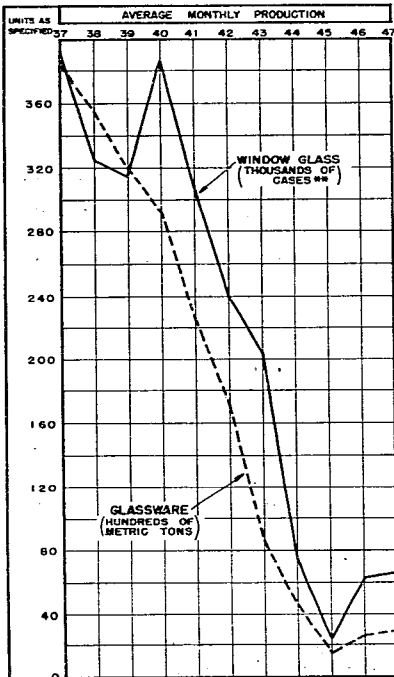
Fiber glass production increased 22 percent as output of glass wool dropped 30 percent.

No optical glass was manufactured in February.

Production of all types of glassware totaled 2,330 metric tons for February, a decrease of 14 percent from January.

GLASS PRODUCTION

1937-1947



* 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDING 28 FEBRUARY 1947.
 ** ONE CASE EQUALS 100 SQ FT OF 2 MM GLASS.
 SOURCE: MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.
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Optical Instruments

6. Production of cameras during February increased 200 per cent over January; output of binoculars and opera glasses decreased 10 percent. Production of scientific and engineering equipment was generally above that of the previous month.

INSTRUMENT PRODUCTION

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Cameras	1,269	3,807
Projectors	264	171
Binoculars and opera glasses	1,602	1,448
Microscopes	242	285
Transits	101	175
Engineers' levels	145	192
Hand levels	0	20
Sextants	50	65
Alidades	200	250
Gas indicators	126	152
Toolmakers' microscopes	1	0
Interferometer gas indicators	100	100

SOURCE: Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Refractory Industry

7. February production of fire-clay brick decreased 6.6 percent while output of silica brick increased 11 percent.

REFRACTORY BRICK PRODUCTION (metric tons)

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Fire clay	10,559	9,857
Silica	1,804	1,995
Chrome	445	379
Magnesia	62	19
Corhart	105	188
High alumina	<u>130</u>	<u>188</u>
Total	13,105	12,626

SOURCE: Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

8. Graphite crucible production dropped one percent to 773,692 ban (one ban equals capacity to melt one kilogram of metal).

Abrasive Industry

9. February production of grinding wheels with vitreous bonds increased 28 percent. Output of wheels with elastic bonds increased 100 percent but is still far below minimum requirements.

Production of ordinary abrasive paper increased nine percent in February but output of waterproof cloth dropped 35 percent. Shortages of paper and animal glue limit production. Factory stocks of glue are sufficient for two weeks' production.

February production of abrasive grains of all types increased 30 percent above January but remained at a low level.

ABRASIVE PRODUCTION
(metric tons)

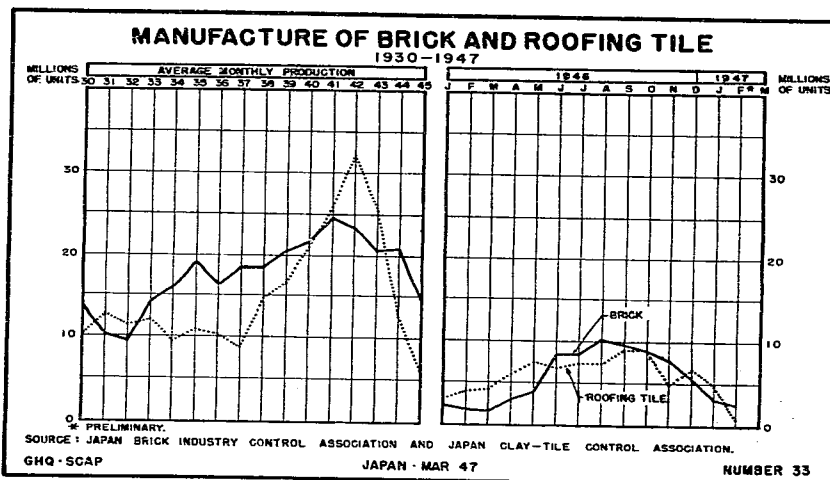
	January	February
Grinding wheels and stones		
Vitreous bond	298	383
Elastic bond	4	8
Abrasive paper and cloth (ren) a/		
Waterproof cloth (9x11 inches)	3,335	2,169
Ordinary paper (9x11 inches)	4,596	5,026
Waterproof paper (8½x10½ inches)	393	359
Abrasive grain		
Aluminum oxide		
Regular	68	85
White	2	20
Silicon carbide		
Regular	12	2

a/ One ren equals 480 sheets or their equivalent.

SOURCE: Grinding Wheel Manufacturers' Association, Japanese Abrasive Cloth and Paper Association and the Abrasive Materials Industry Association.

Structural Clay Products

10. Preliminary figures on the production of building brick in February show a decrease of 23 percent from January. This is a seasonal decrease due mainly to cold weather. February output of roofing tile decreased 19 percent, based on reports from 2,005 plants compared with 2,969 plants reporting in January.



Asbestos Cement Products

11. Output of high-pressure pipe in February decreased 85 percent from the January level. Corrugated sheet production decreased 15 percent.

ASBESTOS CEMENT PRODUCTS
February

	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Production</u>
Asbestos cement high-pressure pipe	metric ton	138
Concrete pipe	metric ton	3,248
Corrugated sheets	tsubo <u>a/</u>	47,309
Slates	tsubo	3,400
Wallboard	tsubo	45,500

a/ One tsubo equals 36 square feet.

SOURCE: Japan Asbestos Cement Production Association.

Vitreous Enamelware

12. February production of vitreous enamelware amounted to 338,458 pieces weighing 337.7 metric tons compared with 70,494 pieces weighing 93 tons produced in January. Twenty-nine plants were operating in February compared with 14 in January.

Pottery and Porcelain

13. February reports were received from 77 pottery and porcelain plants representing about 85 percent of production. Mosaic tile accounted for the large number of items reported under "industrial ware."

POTTERY AND PORCELAIN PRODUCTION
February

	<u>Pieces</u>	<u>Weight</u> <u>(kilograms)</u>
Electrical insulators	4,890,860	1,227,220
Industrial ware	7,379,406	2,884,360
Laboratory ware	238,695	34,208
Domestic potteries	2,495,979	1,751,416
Sanitary ware	3,760	42,831

SOURCE: Porcelain and Chinaware Control Association.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES

14. Medical supply production for February was valued at ¥ 6,471,892 compared with ¥ 4,451,854 for January. These figures do not include the value of X-ray and ultra-short-wave therapeutic apparatus.

MEDICAL SUPPLY PRODUCTION

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Ampoule cleaning apparatus	85	75
Basins, sterilizing	500	5,650
Basins, wash	163	200
Cotton wool carriers	3,920	34,307
Distilling apparatus	88	39
Dressing drums	1,005	555
Electric drying ovens	52	24
Electric incubators	72	71
Forceps	6,396	18,690
Gauze containers	14	1,518

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Ice pillow buckles	15,500	31,398
Illuminating lamps	35	82
Needles, suture	10,000	22,000
Operating tables	59	91
Percussion hammers	200	200
Pneumothorax apparatus	100	100
Spatulas	210	200
Speculums	1,813	679
Sphygomanometers	800	700
Steam inhalers	400	880
Sterilizers	1,161	1,491
Stethoscopes	1,300	500
Sun lamps	5	5
Surgical knives	3,263	3,143
Surgical needles	0	1,154,361
Surgical scissors	6,150	7,278
Tongue depressors	0	500
Ultra-short-wave therapeutic apparatus	166	100
Vaporizers	122	200
X-ray apparatus	126	112

SOURCE: Japan Medical Instrument Control Association.

Hypodermic Syringes

15. Output of hypodermic syringes in February increased 67 percent to 386,670.

ELECTRICAL MANUFACTURING

16. Of the industrially important categories only copper wire, motors and control apparatus showed a decline in production in February. Production of rectifiers, welding equipment, furnaces and most insulating materials increased.

MAJOR ELECTRICAL MANUFACTURES a/

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Motors (except railway)		
Fractional HP	3,422	3,631
Standard HP		
1-15 HP	8,393	6,471
16-100 HP	545	662
Over 100 HP	70	68
Portable tools	3,199	3,201
Other	1,837	1,785
Generators, converters, and M-G sets, except turbogenerators and welders		
DC generators	372	379
AC generators	32	7
Other	1,443	1,374
Transformers		
Distribution, 100 KVA and under	3,144	2,422
Power, over 100 KVA	94	98
Instrument	512	745
Other	107	386

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Rectifiers		
Hot cathode	37	45
Steel tank	3	4
Mercury vapor	65	47
Selenium and other	499	1,055
Power condensers	983	1,327
Furnaces		
Arc	1	1
Low-frequency induction	2	7
High-frequency induction	5	2
Resistance	127	107
Other	0	43
Welding apparatus		
AC arc	115	127
Resistance	3	12
Control apparatus		
Hand control		
Starters	299	184
Controllers	276	230
Other	539	546
Remote control		
Contactors	678	372
Contactor panels	45	23
Resistors	335	104
Lifting devices	32	65
Other	1,744	-
Switchboard apparatus		
For standard motors	2,772	2,390
3,300 volts and under	1,982	1,150
Over 3,300 volts	788	884
Meters		
Watt-hour	25,374	21,588
Pyrometers	2,350	2,400
Other	32,427	32,500
Railway equipment		
Main motors	145	161
M-G sets	25	27
Blower motors	2	4
Locomotives		
Railway	4	2
Mining and industrial	2	2
Control apparatus	-	43
Battery locomotives	8	8
Battery-operated vehicles	21	16
Railway signal equipment		
Signal mechanism	108	124
Electric levers	51	118
Switch machines	-	13
Electric locks	40	81
Line transformers	141	248
Signal transformers	609	355
Rectifiers	280	433
Approach indicators	110	70
Signal relays	431	1,375

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Insulation materials		
Mica (kilograms)		
Moulding plate	4,767	9,234
Commutator segment	3,276	3,538
Heat-resisting plate	96	96
Flexible plate	704	1,463
Paper	5,534	8,046
Paper (rolls)	1,710	2,056
Varnished cloth (square meters)	121,560	95,000
Varnished tubes (meters)	244,470	898,360
Black tape (rolls)	223,122	211,296
Rubber tape (rolls)	17,852	17,887
Varnished tape (rolls)	4,070	4,570
Light bulbs		
General use <u>b/</u>	2,935,354	4,229,960
Special <u>c/</u>	199,804	243,543
Flashlight <u>d/</u>	567,109	1,107,731
Wire and cable		
Bare copper (metric tons)	1,772	925
Rubber-insulated (kilometers)	16,148	15,562
Weatherproofed (kilometers)	5,877	5,768
Cotton and silk covered (metric tons)	439	449
Enameled (metric tons)	124	100
Other (kilometers)	1,321	1,112

- a/ All production stated in pieces unless otherwise specified.
b/ Includes bulbs of 15 to 300 candle power.
c/ Includes bulbs over 300 candle power and special applications for railroad.
d/ Motor vehicle, flashlight and Christmas tree lamps.

SOURCE: Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT

Automotive Equipment

17. Production of transportation equipment improved generally during February. Truck chassis and small-car production continued to decline due partly to labor trouble. See the chart on the following page.

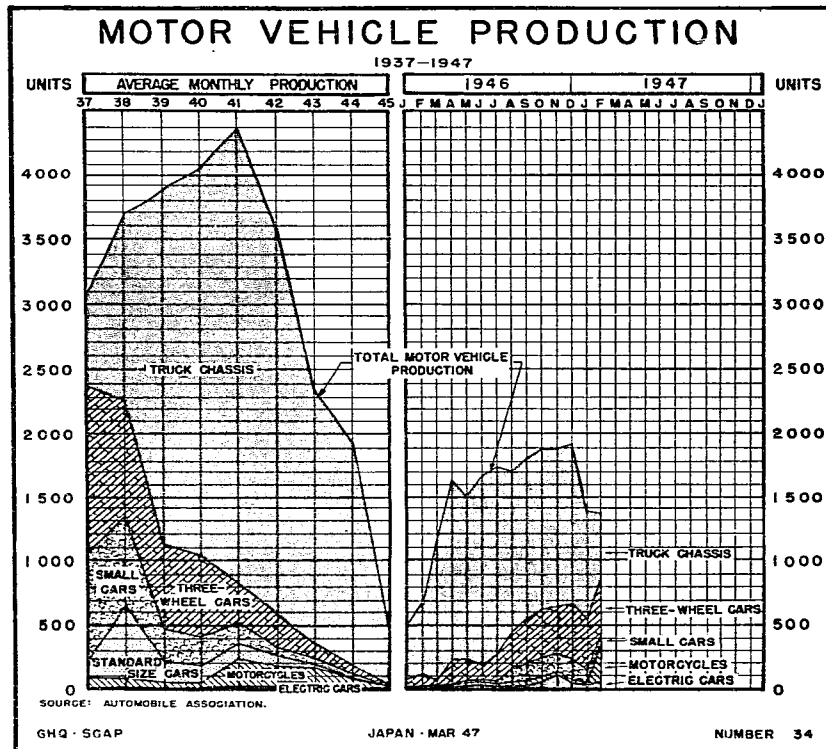
Truck Chassis

18. Output of truck chassis in February was the lowest since January 1946 as shortages of coal, electricity and raw materials continued.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF TRUCK CHASSIS

	Stock 31 January	February Production	Total Available	Total Distributed	Stock 28 February
Toyota	251	254	505	200	305
Nissan	519	226	745	454	291
Diesel	394	0	394	0	394
Mitsubishi					
Juko	<u>84</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>88</u>
Total	1,248	497	1,745	667	1,078

SOURCE: Japan Automobile Chamber of Commerce.



Automotive and Tractor Spare Parts

19. Manufacture of replacement parts showed some improvement in February as output of truck parts increased. Production of parts for small cars declined.

AUTOMOTIVE AND TRACTOR SPARE PARTS PRODUCTION ^{a/}

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Truck	247	367
Tractor	18	12
Electric car	14	13
Small and three-wheel cars	<u>169</u>	<u>119</u>
Total	448	511

^{a/} Parts equivalent to a vehicle in labor and material value.

SOURCE: Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Auto Section.

Tractors

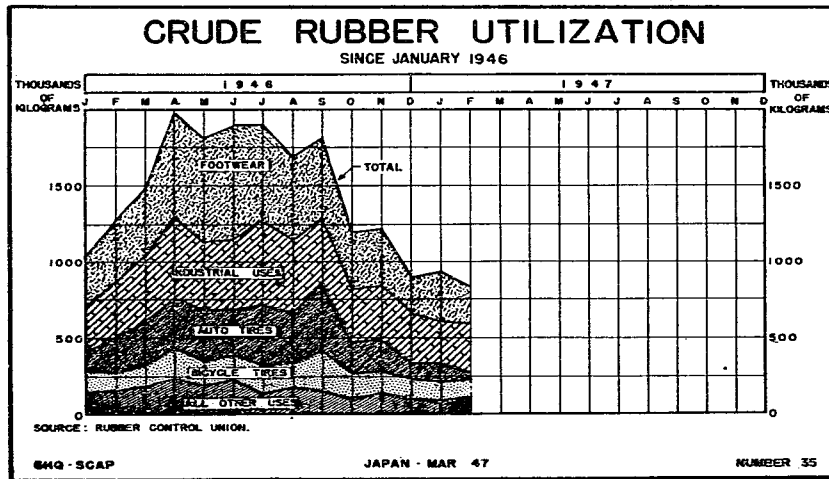
20. Tractor output in February showed little change as 11 operating plants produced 88 tractors and 30 trailers. One new concern, Ogura Seiko, commenced operation.

Bicycles

21. The Bicycle Association reported a total output of 11,353 bicycles in February compared with 10,953 in January. Rear cars totaled 2,710.

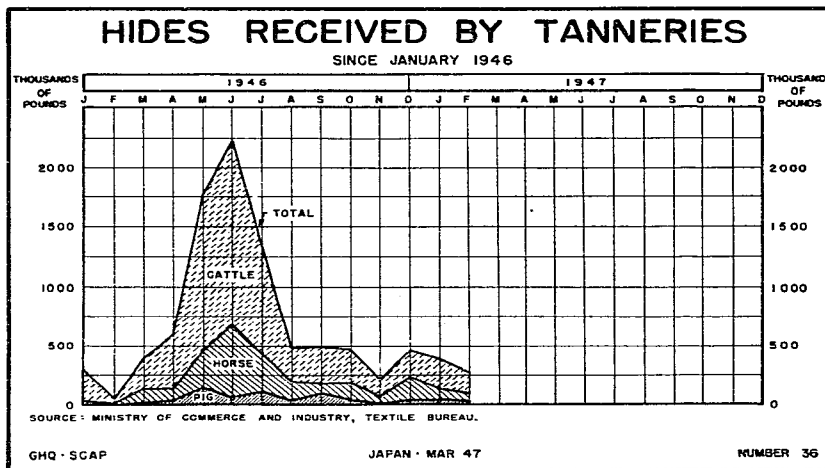
RUBBER MANUFACTURING

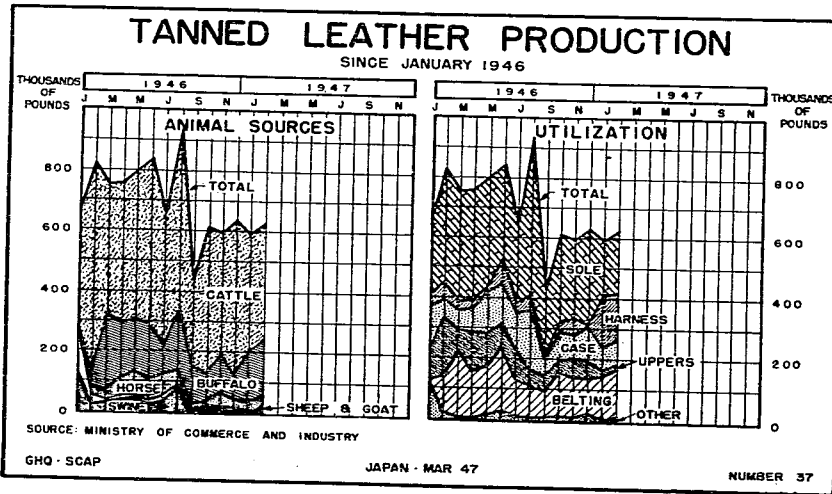
22. Output of rubber manufactured goods in terms of crude rubber consumption during February totaled 832.3 metric tons.



LEATHER MANUFACTURING

23. Production of tanned leather increased approximately 35,000 pounds in February. Stocks of tanned leather held by tanneries dropped a little below January figures.

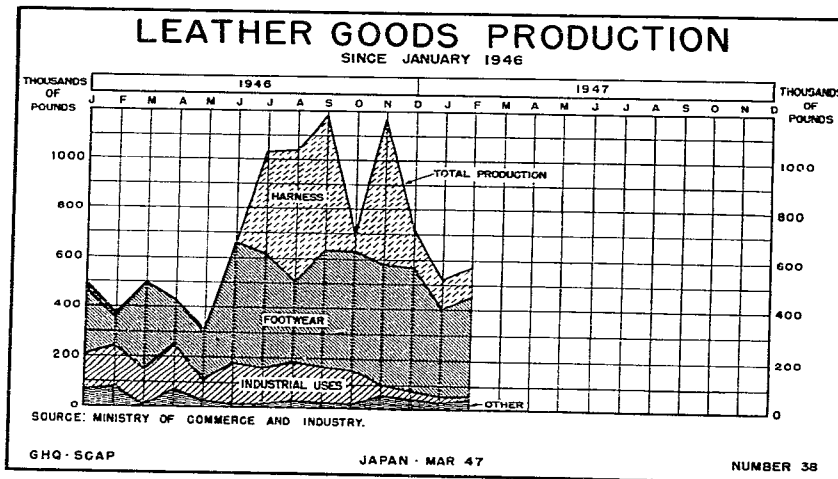




During February the industry began operating under the Government's new allocation system. An educational program to familiarize the industry with the new allocation procedure was continued.

Reported production of leather goods increased 44,000 pounds over January. Some manufacturers withheld production reports on certain items pending a price increase which went into effect on 28 February.

24. Manufacturers reported that 516,167 pounds of leather, principally sole and harness leather, 37,581 inch-feet of machinery belting and 165,760 pairs of cut soles were produced in February from former military stocks.



25. On 28 February an additional 1,500 tons of the original 20,000 tons of frozen military stocks of hides and leather were released for processing into industrial leather products and leather goods for export. Of the original stocks 3,500 tons remain frozen.

AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT

26. In an effort to develop a democratic organization of manufacturers of agricultural equipment the former Japan Agricultural Implement Control Union became the Japan Agricultural Implement Industry Cooperative Union. Membership is being expanded to include former munitions plants which are now producing agricultural equipment.

Production in February continued at about the January level. Coke, electric power and thin steel sheet are reported as the most critical shortages.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT PRODUCTION

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>Stock on Hand 28 February</u>
Flow	16,381	24,250	33,148
Hoe	46,680	51,634	68,054
Horse stump cutter	270	0	0
Power cultivator	0	0	19
Harrow	3,460	3,030	5,007
Ridge scoop	941	1,845	503
Sowing machine	100	0	0
Scattering scoop	51,455	11,619	22,527
Simple weeder	2,500	2,870	11,285
Weeder	19,190	19,230	52,980
Cultivating hoe	168	158	1,777
Fork	20,930	17,050	0
Sprayer	12,460	10,680	3,000
Vertical pump	110	288	860
Sickle	601,234	196,843	1,414,033
Thresher	14,143	6,575	2,186
Rice miller	698	945	173
Farm fan	100	250	-
Grain fan	2,344	1,632	347
Grain screen	150	0	0
Grain dryer	100	50	150
Baling press	810	0	0
Straw-softening machine	825	138	114
Straw-rope maker	9,396	5,154	1,661
Straw-rope finisher	15	10	0
Straw-mat machine	646	954	311
Pruning shears	1,000	1,100	900
Tea-leaf shears	1,500	1,300	3,450
Tea-leaf finishers	141	107	147
Potato cutter	369	500	81,035
Radish grater	600	600	600
Tobacco dryer	0	10	103
Straw cutter	1,790	1,250	3,588
Straw cutter with feeder	4,916	4,749	3,310

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>Stock on Hand 28 February</u>
Incubator	2	0	0
Root cutter	0	70	20
Cocoon holder	500	0	-
Floss remover	500	318	1,000
Stump puller	100	40	10
Rice polisher	1,283	401	35
Barley cleaner	549	284	10
Barley-press roller	75	158	148
Flour-milling machine	0	208	36
Vermicelli machine	30	100	30
Fertilizer grinder	160	0	0
Farm cart	278	220	113

SOURCE: Japan Agricultural Implement Industry Cooperative Union.

HANDICRAFTS

Silverware

27. February output of silverware increased 26 percent over January. Forty-four factories employing 1,572 persons were in operation with a production capacity of 118,500 dozen. The shortage of electricity retarded production.

SILVERWARE PRODUCTION (dozen)

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Spoons	43,729	52,364
Forks	15,435	21,789
Knives	6,357	8,381
Total	65,521	82,534

SOURCE: Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Lacquerware

28. Production in February decreased 7.6 percent from the previous month with 4,693 operating factories employing 12,601 persons. Twenty-three factories closed because their lacquer stocks were completely exhausted.

LACQUERWARE PRODUCTION (pieces)

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Tables (Japanese)	41,860	38,510
Tables (other)	11,850	9,900
Bowls (soup)	203,800	187,500
Trays	63,570	58,480
Boxes	45,660	42,000
Plates	138,820	127,700
Saucers	103,780	97,300
Chopsticks	196,400	182,000
Other	4,450	4,100
Total	841,490	776,290

SOURCE: Lacquerware Association.

Pearls

29. Six factories operating in February employed 180 persons.

PEARL PRODUCTION
(pieces)

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Necklaces	4,163	6,831
Rings	22	50
Claaps	1,330 <u>a/</u>	550
Earrings (sets)	22	50

a/ Revised.

SOURCE: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry,
Fisheries Bureau.

Toys

30. Difficulties in procuring raw materials and high overhead costs are retarding production of toys. The 1,447 factories in operation in February employed 20,412 persons. Total production amounted to 2,696,522 pieces.

MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURING

Business Machines

31. Producers of business machines continued to be handicapped by shortages of power and materials. Output of major items increased slightly in February. Negotiations with government officials for price increases are under way.

BUSINESS MACHINE PRODUCTION

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Japanese typewriters	179	270
Teletypewriters	4	1
Calculating machines	135	179
Mimeographs	3,027	3,007
Rotary mimeographs	2	2
Files for mimeographs	1,000	1,400
Blueprinting machines	0	8
Cash registers	20	-
Time recorders	30	36
Time stamps	3	0

SOURCE: Nippon Office Appliance Association.

Cosmetics and Dentifrices

32. Total value of February cosmetics manufacture reported by 267 plants was ¥ 54,036,880; these plants employed 5,745 persons. Dentifrice manufacturers produced 618,168 kilograms of tooth powder valued at ¥ 5,687,146 and 76,782 kilograms of semi-paste valued at ¥ 5,950,605.

Watches and Clocks

33. Watch and clock production continued its steady increase

to reach a postwar production peak of more than 100,000 units in February. Six small plants joined the industry, making a total of 40 watch and clock factories in Japan. Of these, 31 plants were in operation, employing 11,319 persons.

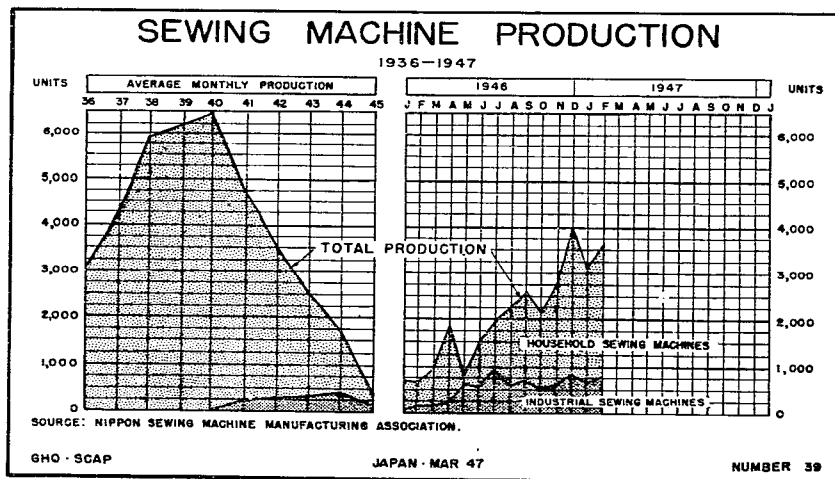
WATCH AND CLOCK PRODUCTION
(units)

	January	February
Wrist watches	11,932	14,960
Pocket watches	2,329	3,507
Alarm clocks	37,723	44,064
Table clocks	24,162	19,418
Wall clocks	17,019	18,082
Total	93,165	100,031

SOURCE: Nippon Watch and Clock Industry Association.

Sewing Machines

34. Production of home-type sewing machines in February increased 14 percent over the preceding month as reports were received from six additional factories. Output is restricted by the shortage of coke and electric power.



SEWING MACHINE PARTS PRODUCTION

	January	February
Bobbin case	17,130	19,380
Shuttle	6,470	6,770
Other	106,983	144,657

SOURCE: Nippon Sewing Machine Manufacturing Association.

Light-metal Casting and Forging Industry

35. The light-metal casting industry reported 288 operating plants in February with total employment of 15,545 persons. Efforts to produce high-grade machine parts were hampered by lack of virgin ingots. Attempts are being made to install electric melting furnaces to offset the shortage of coke and other fuels.

A considerable increase was noted in February production of the 55 operating plants of the aluminum sheet products industry. Total output increased 12.8 percent.

PRODUCTION OF CAST AND FORGED PRODUCTS
(metric tons)

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Cast household utensils	918	876
Other cast products	<u>539</u>	<u>484</u>
Total	1,457	1,360
Forged utensils	254	289
Other forged products	<u>106</u>	<u>117</u>
Total	360	406

SOURCE: Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Musical Instruments

36. February production of musical instruments declined in nearly all categories due to further limitations on the use of electric power and shortages of coal and coke. Inclusion of this industry in "Class 3" under the Capital Regulation Rule has virtually ended the possibilities for making plant and equipment repairs.

Production reports from the 38 operating plants showed decreases in output of reed organs, harmonicas, trumpets, accordions, violins, guitars and bamboo wind instruments. Increases were recorded only in the production of ukuleles and guitar strings. No pianos were completed during the month.

Matches

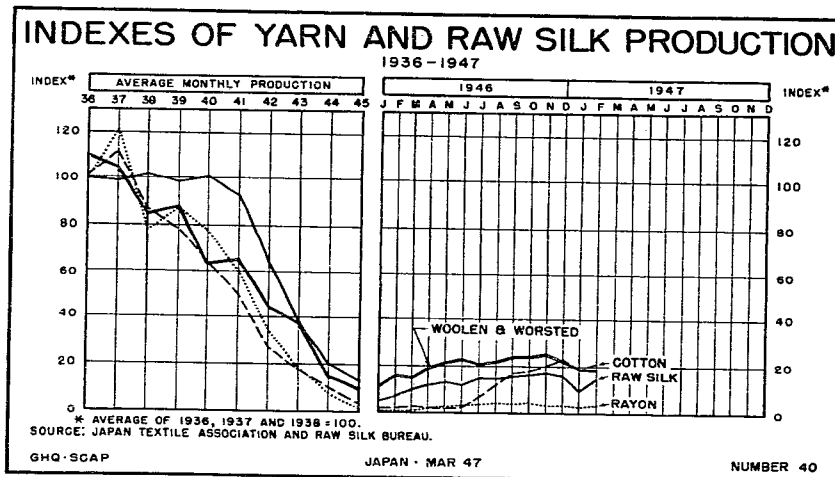
37. February match production declined slightly to 12,797 match tons (one match ton equals 7,200 "full-size" small boxes) compared with 12,844 match tons in January.

SECTION 5
TEXTILE INDUSTRIES

C O N T E N T S

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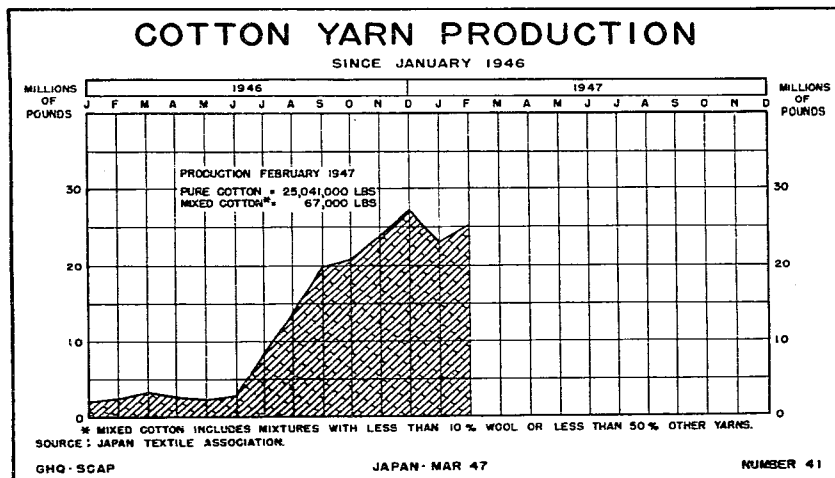
1. The return to a normal work month in February after the year-end holidays in January was reflected in the increased production of cotton yarn, raw silk and rayon but the electric power shortage continued to restrict wool yarn production.



COTTON

Spinning

2. Although February production of pure cotton yarn reached 25,041,000 pounds, an increase of 2,304,000 pounds over January, the industry was still short of the postwar peak of 26,980,000 pounds attained in December. Production of mixed yarns increased from 35,000 pounds in January to 67,000 pounds in February.



3. Improvement in the electric power supply and adjustments in working hours of the spinning mills to take advantage of periods when power was available, together with an increased labor supply, enabled 55 out of the 59 operating units to meet February production quotas.

4. The Big Ten spinner-weavers reported 65,571 operators working at the end of February, compared with 61,747 a month earlier.

5. The spinning companies increased the number of operating spindles to 2,056,428, or 79 percent of the operable spindleage. The 43,888 new spindles installed in February brought the total at the end of February to 2,671,844.

Cotton Stocks

6. February consumption of raw cotton by the mills exceeded receipts by 4,745,000 pounds and a proportionate reduction occurred in month-end stocks.

RAW COTTON IN MILLS ^{a/} (thousands of pounds)

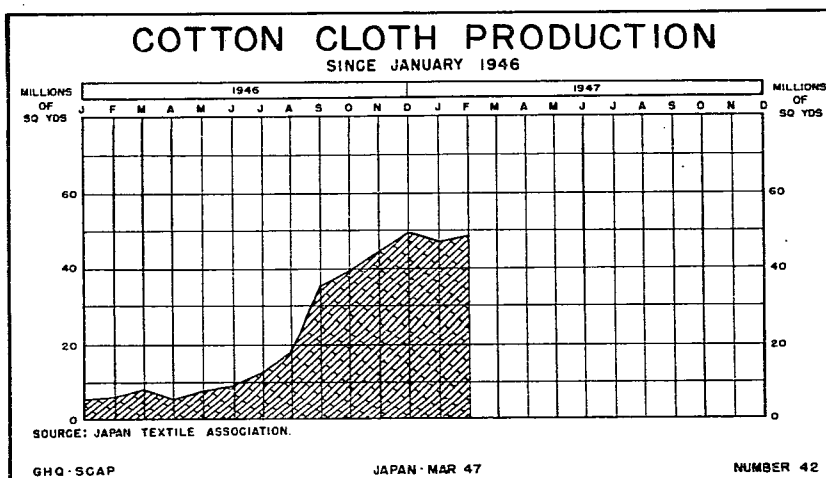
	<u>Beginning Stocks</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Consumption</u>	<u>Ending Stocks</u>
October	44,606	66,711	24,699	86,618
November	86,618	34,287	27,424	93,481
December	93,481	23,792	30,730	86,543
January	86,542	25,197	27,853	83,887
February	83,887	23,497	28,242	79,141

^{a/} Revised.

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

Weaving

7. Although 48,186,000 square yards of cotton cloth were woven in February compared with 47,047,000 square yards in January, the increase was not in proportion to the increase in yarn production. In some cases mills were changing over from coarse goods to finer construction to meet requirements of export purchasers.



CLOTH STOCKS
(thousands of square yards)

	<u>31 January</u>	<u>28 February</u>
Weavers ^{a/}	75,130	82,904
Independent weavers	42,269	53,064
Cloth Distribution Company		
Receipts	1,901	2,079
Disposition	6,115	6,221
Month-end stocks	20,317	16,175

^{a/} Weaving subsidiaries of spinning companies.

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association and Japan Cloth Company.

8. Spinners' and weavers' yarn stocks increased approximately 5,000,000 pounds in February.

YARN STOCKS
(thousands of pounds)

	<u>31 January</u>	<u>28 February</u>
Pure cotton		
Spinners	35,986	39,883
Independent cotton weavers	11,913	13,070
In dealers' hands	85	85
Mixed yarns ^{a/}		
Spinners	222	210
Independent cotton weavers	752	604
In dealers' hands	38	38

^{a/} Includes 1/3 rayon staple, 1/2 rayon staple, and other mixtures.

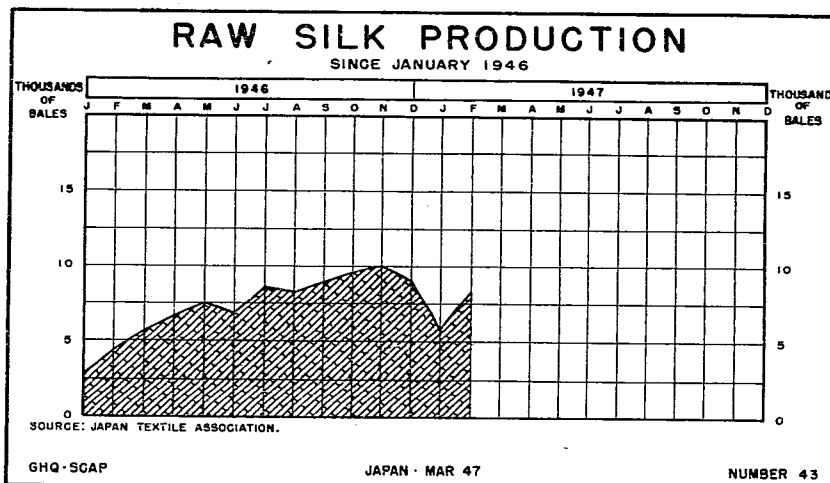
SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

9. The weavers installed 6,533 new looms during February, bringing the total to 142,122, and increased the operating looms to 62 percent of the 125,080 operable units.

SILK

Reeling

10. February production of raw silk was 8,252 bales, an increase of 2,445 bales over January, but filatures reported only 36.9 percent of 13/15 silk as compared with 37.7 percent in January.



11. A large proportion of the increased output was attributed to the success by the mills in obtaining substitute fuels which reduced the consumption of coal per bale of silk produced to approximately one fifth the normal rate.

Machinery

12. The filatures were able to operate 82 percent of the 38,873 operable silk-reeling basins in February compared with 73 percent of the 37,927 operable units in January.

13. Three new licenses were issued to filatures in February, making a total of 292 mills registered with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Of these, 249 were operating on 28 February.

14. An increase in reeling workers from 43,305 at the end of January to 45,099 in February helped raise the operating level.

Cocoon Production and Stocks

15. Cocoon consumption in February was 8,450,000 pounds, while stocks at the end of the month fell to 105,768,000. Of the total amount consumed, 2,862,000 pounds were from the 1946 crops, reducing the old stock to 16,699,000. The Raw Silk Bureau estimates that 13,072,000 pounds of cocoons were in other hands at the end of February, excluding stocks for farmers' home use, making the total stocks for Japan 118,840,000 pounds.

16. The Raw Silk Bureau's final report on cocoon production in 1946 placed the total at 150,613,279 pounds. Of this, 79,822,588 pounds were spring cocoons and 70,790,691 pounds summer-autumn cocoons.

Silk Testing

17. The Yokohama and Kobe Raw Silk Conditioning Houses tested 11,175 bales of raw silk for export during February, an increase of 3,256 bales over the previous month. The average grade was AA for 13/15 denier and C for 20/22, the same as in January.

Silk Stocks

18. The reeling mills delivered 6,322 bales of freshly reeled raw silk to the conditioning houses for testing in February, leaving 9,101 bales in the filatures compared with 7,171 at the end of January.

19. The distributing agencies had 105,723 bales of raw silk on hand at the end of February, an increase of 7,284 bales for the month. This stock included 68,707 bales which had been tested and earmarked for export. The remainder, considered unexportable, was suitable for weaving fabrics for export or for various domestic uses.

Silk Spinning

20. Operation of the silk spinning industry was restricted in February by the severe cold and continued restrictions on the use of electric power.

21. Since revised ceiling prices for silk waste, pending for several months, had not been established by the end of February, the movement of this material into consuming channels continued to be delayed.

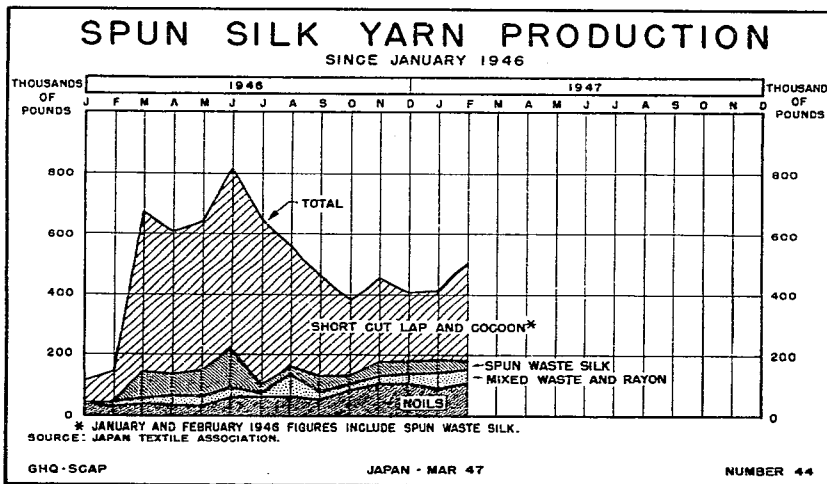
22. There were 110,307 silk-staple spindles operating at the end of February, compared with 145,340 (revised) a month earlier. Silk noil spindles operating numbered 21,314 against 24,252.

RAW MATERIALS
(thousands of pounds)

	Stocks		Consumption	
	31 January	28 February	January	February
Waste silk	2,793	2,660	286	305
Cut staple	10,225	9,998	373	485

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

23. Spun silk yarn, an important item in the manufacture of domestic cloth because of the shortage of other materials, has shown a steady increase in production since the low output in October. Production in February was 507,000 pounds, an increase of 92,000 pounds over January.



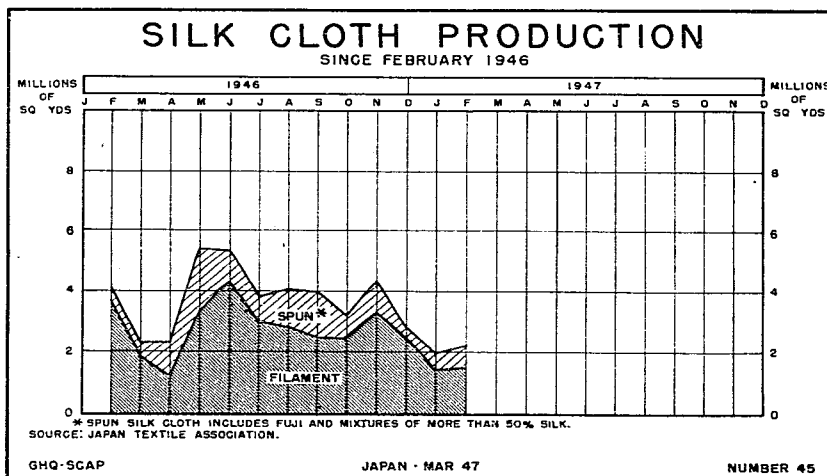
SPUN SILK YARN STOCKS (thousands of pounds)

	<u>31 January</u>	<u>28 February</u>
Spun waste silk	650	585
Mixed waste silk and rayon staple fiber	122	145
Silk noils	291	313
Cut staple	1,281	1,437

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

Weaving

24. The silk weaving mills reported 1,510,000 square yards of filament silk fabric produced in February, an increase of only 52,000 square yards over January. Output of fuji silk and other constructions amounted to 728,000 square yards compared with 518,000 in January.



CLOTH STOCKS
(thousands of square yards)

	<u>31 January</u>	<u>28 February</u>
Silk	20,508	17,377
Fuji silk and others	2,185	2,627
Silk (Cloth Distribution Company)		
Receipts	6,600	6,619
Disposition	14	4,591
Month-end stock	30,909	32,937

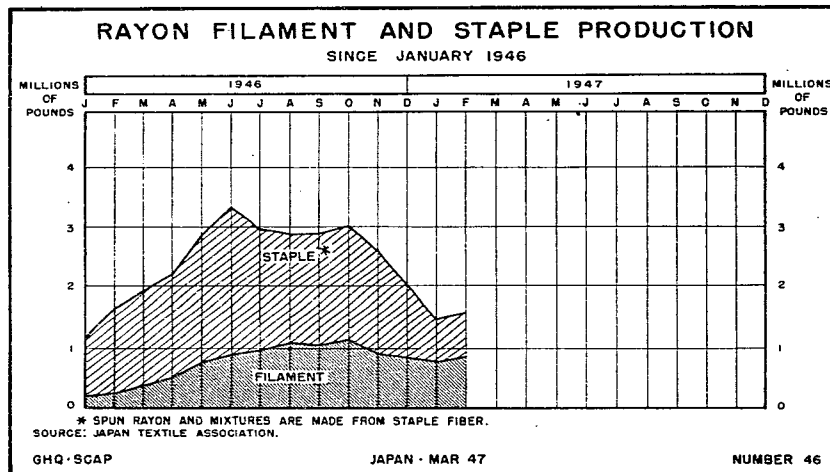
SOURCES: Japan Textile Association and Japan Cloth Company.

RAYON

25. The moderate increases in rayon yarn and staple fiber production in February were at the expense of further depletions of mill stocks of pulp, caustic soda and coal, already at extremely low levels in December and January.

26. Output of filament rayon yarn amounted to 855,000 pounds compared with 725,000 in January, while output of rayon staple was 730,000 pounds against 664,000 the previous month.

Approximately 77,000 pounds of February's increase in production of filament rayon and 40,000 pounds of the gain in output of staple fiber was accounted for by the Toyo Rayon Company's revision of its fiscal month to coincide with the calendar month adhered to by the rest of the industry.



FILAMENT YARN STOCKS IN MILLS
(thousands of pounds)

	<u>31 January</u>	<u>28 February</u>
Rayon mills	4,251	3,934
Weavers	4,984	4,961
Other manufacturers	1,524	1,581

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

Raw Materials and Fuel

27. Although the rayon pulp industry reported a severe drop in production in February, receipts by the rayon mills were increased from 338 metric tons (revised) in January to 766 metric tons in February as a result of the arrival of shipments which had been delayed in transit during the winter.

28. At the end of February the rayon mills had 862 metric tons of pulp on hand compared with 957 (revised) on 31 January. Approximately half the rayon mills' stocks of pulp were of substandard quality. The mills have been mixing inferior pulp with higher quality materials in proportion of from 2 to 30 percent in an effort to maintain production.

29. Caustic soda receipts dropped from 635 metric tons in January to 355 tons in February and stocks were reduced to 604 metric tons, a decrease of 152 tons. The industry does not expect to receive the remainder of the 2,200 tons of caustic soda allotted by the Government for rayon production in the first quarter of 1947 as production of caustic soda has fallen below anticipated levels.

30. Although the fuel shortage was eased by additional allocations of coal for the manufacture of rayon for export, consumption still exceeded receipts and month-end stocks declined from 6,565 metric tons in January to 5,605 at the end of February.

MILL CONSUMPTION AND STOCKS
(thousands of pounds)

	<u>Pulp</u>		<u>Staple</u>	
	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Consumption	1,912 a/	1,891	1,875	1,958
Month-end stocks	3,721	3,008	18,806	17,255

a/ Revised.

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

Spinning

31. Production of spun-rayon yarns amounted to 858,000 pounds in February, an increase of 153,000 over the previous month.

SPUN-RAYON YARN STOCKS
(thousands of pounds)

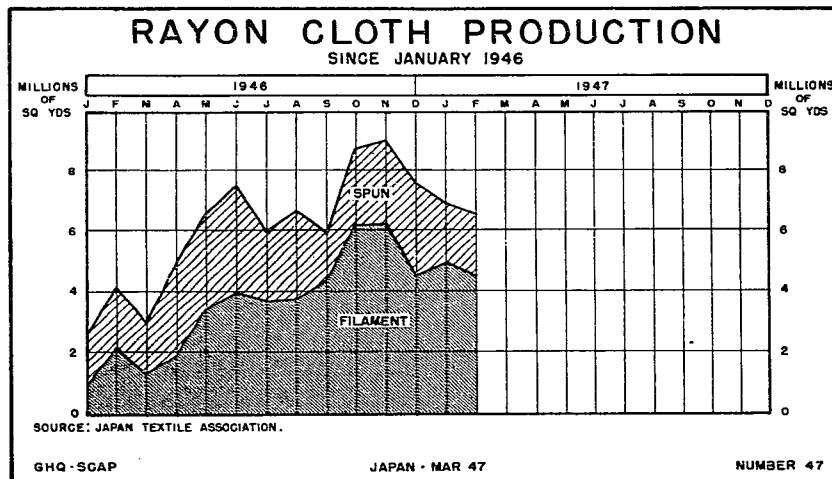
	<u>31 January</u>	<u>28 February</u>
Spinners	5,022	5,239
Independent weavers	2,406	2,355
In dealers' hands	26	21

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

Weaving

32. Continued restrictions on consumption of electric power and shortage of fuels resulted in a decline in production of filament rayon fabrics from 4,915,000 square yards in January to

4,434,000 in February. Spun-rayon fabric production was 2,065,000 yards in February, an increase of 96,000 yards for the month.



CLOTH STOCKS
(thousands of square yards)

	<u>31 January</u>	<u>28 February</u>
Mills		
Rayon	24,595	27,912
Spun rayon	7,406	7,509
Cloth Distribution Company		
Rayon		
Receipts	1,189	321
Distribution	3,536	2,033
Month-end stock	12,390	10,678
Spun rayon		
Receipts	2,776	2,188
Distribution	2,980	3,718
Month-end stock	19,004	17,474

SOURCES: Japan Textile Association and Japan Cloth Company.

WOOL

Spinning

33. Restrictions on the use of electric power by the wool industry continued to tighten with mills operating on an average only one day in four. Some mills were able partially to compensate for this by adjusting their working hours to take advantage of periods when additional power was available.

34. Production of woolen yarn in February was 1,527,000 pounds, a decrease of 35,000 from January, while output of worsted yarns was 609,000 pounds in February compared with 712,000 in January. See the middle chart on page 133.

35. At the end of the war the large stockpiles of raw wool built up for use of the Army and Navy were made available to the

industry for civilian consumption. Although the industry has been operating at a low percentage of capacity, stocks have now been depleted to a few months' operating minimum.

WOOLEN AND WORSTED CONSUMPTION AND STOCKS
(thousands of pounds) a/

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Consumption		
Woolen	771	630
Worsted	488	650
Month-end stocks in mills		
Woolen	5,237	4,607
Worsted	1,672	1,023
Wool waste	9,727	9,525
Camel and goat hair	2,626	2,626
Miscellaneous	3,778	3,533

a/ Scoured weight.

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

Cards and Spindles

36. The electric power restrictions were reflected in a slight reduction in the number of operating wool cards and worsted spindles but the mills continued their machinery rehabilitation program.

SPINNING MACHINERY

	<u>Wool Cards</u>		<u>Worsted Spindles</u>	
	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Installed	434	438	410,888	422,998
Operable	406	409	365,072	368,363
Operating <u>a/</u>	256	253	115,733	104,250

a/ Operating spindles converted into terms of two-shift basis.

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

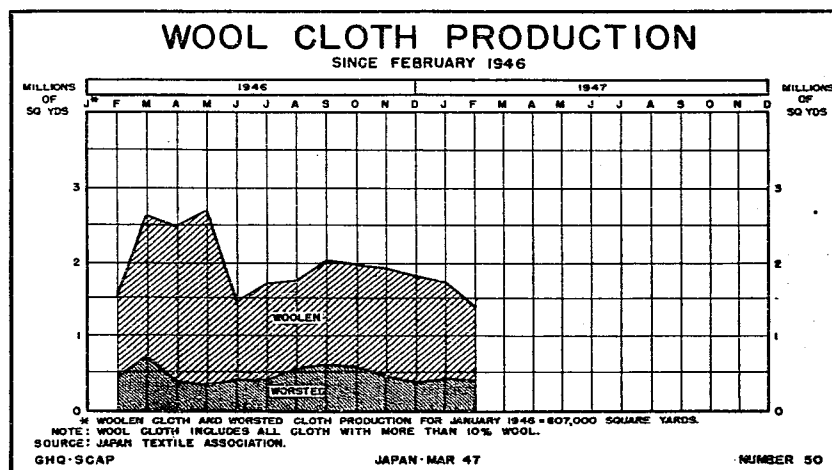
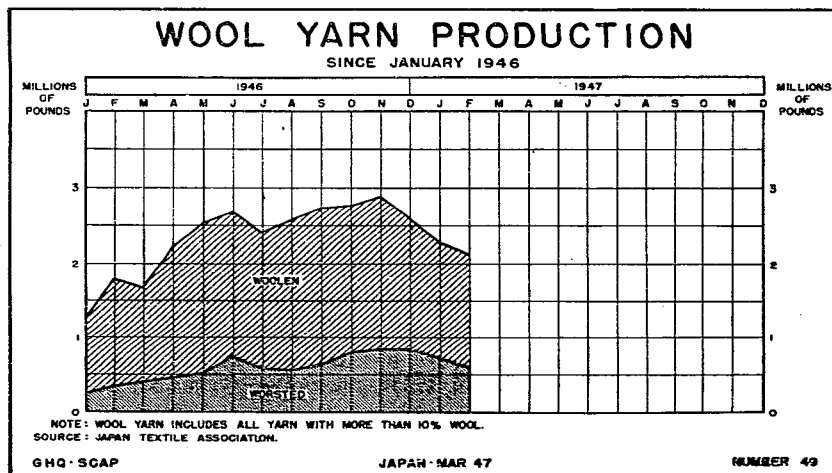
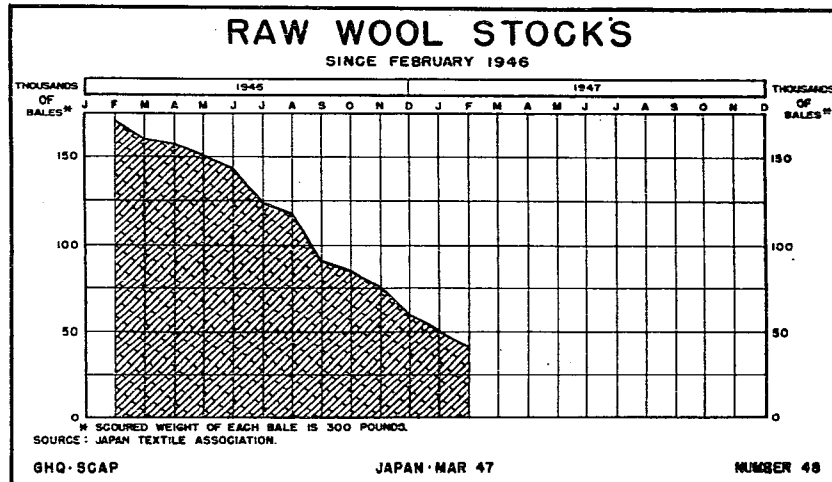
Weaving

37. Lack of adequate electric power also restricted the weaving mills. Production of woolen cloth declined from 1,333,000 square yards in January to 985,000 in February, while output of worsted fabric dropped from 415,000 to 398,000 square yards.

YARN STOCKS IN MILLS
(thousands of pounds)

	<u>31 January</u>	<u>28 February</u>
Woolen		
Spinners	2,885	2,745
Weavers	1,145	1,133
Worsted		
Spinners	2,366	2,099
Weavers	463	374

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.



CLOTH STOCKS
(thousands of square yards)

	<u>31 January</u>	<u>28 February</u>
Mills		
Woolen	2,553	2,900
Worsted	963	1,130
Cloth Distribution Company		
Receipts	1,318	1,009
Distribution	913	1,108
Month-end stocks	1,850	1,751

SOURCES: Japan Textile Association and Japan Cloth Company.

LOOMS

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Installed	10,779	10,819
Operable	10,406	10,498
Operating	2,947	2,370

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

HARD AND BAST FIBERS

Cordage

38. A shipment of 74,585 pounds of hemp arrived in February from the United States. This is the first shipment of 2,019,000 pounds earmarked by the United States Department of Agriculture for Japan.

39. Production of rope, cord and twine declined in February due to the shortage of raw materials and restrictions on electric power.

40. Cordage mills reported unfavorable labor conditions in some areas resulting from delayed distribution of foodstuffs.

Spinning

41. Production of flax and jute yarns declined slightly in February but there was an offsetting increase in output of ramie yarns.

42. Mill stocks of raw materials were further reduced as consumption of all fibers but flax and bamboo exceeded the month's receipts.

43. Consumption of electric power was reduced slightly with the result that the operation of flax spindles decreased from 28,111 in January to 27,953 in February and jute spindles from 3,173 to 3,064 in the same period. This reduction was offset by the increase in operation of ramie and hemp spindles from 20,562 in January to 21,310 in February.

RAW MATERIALS
(thousands of pounds)

	<u>Stocks</u> <u>31 January</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Consumed</u>	<u>Stocks</u> <u>28 February</u>
Sisal	663	1	123	541
Jute	1,616	131	215	1,532
Ramie and China grass	367	140	284	223
Flax	9,018	1,239	1,130	9,127
Hemp				
Domestic	6,054	425	830	5,649
Manchurian	1,265	101	257	1,109
Manila	707	79	140	646
Maolan a/	829	344	466	707
Bamboo	373	35	25	383
Kanpon b/	68	1	26	43

a/ New Zealand fiber.

b/ A species of Manchurian hemp.

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

SPINNING PRODUCTION
(thousands of pounds)

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Flax	774	754
Ramie and China grass	271	358
Jute	147	140
Rope	1,432	1,213
Cord	4	3
Fish-net twine	278	200

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

Yarn Stocks

44. Irregularities in transportation caused stocks of newly spun yarns to pile up in the spinning mills while there was a net increase in weavers' stocks due to receipt of shipments previously delayed in transit.

YARN STOCKS IN MILLS
(thousands of pounds)

	<u>31 January</u>	<u>28 February</u>
Flax	2,268	3,102
Ramie and China grass	715	1,383
Jute	360	299
Rope	1,816	1,638
Cord	4	0
Fish-net twine	168	170

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

Weaving

45. Weavers reported an increase in labor forces which permitted them to place more looms in operation and increase production.

LOOMS OPERATING

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Flax, hemp and ramie	2,984	3,011
Jute	37	43

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

CLOTH PRODUCTION AND STOCKS
(thousands of square yards)

	<u>Production</u>		<u>Stocks</u>	
	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>31 January</u>	<u>28 February</u>
Flax	965	968	2,020	2,053
Ramie and hemp	408	535	1,771	1,609
Jute	115	144	122	118

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

Other Production

46. Production of oakum and jute bags continued at a standstill for lack of suitable raw materials. Oakum stocks were reduced from 24,000 to 6,000 pounds at the end of February.

MISCELLANEOUS

Yarn Production

47. Output of throstle yarn continued to decline. February production amounted to 247,000 pounds compared with 391,000 in January. No reprocessed yarn was produced.

Machinery

48. Despite the shortages of materials there has been a considerable increase in the number of throstle spinning mills and spindles in anticipation of future expansion. Due to the scarcity of textile products for domestic consumption, considerable emphasis is being placed on the processing of waste fibers into coarse yarns and fabric which make serviceable work clothing and heavy garments.

49. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has allowed throstle spinners to install spindles without special permission since the machinery is simple and requires little use of scarce materials.

THROSTLE SPINDLES

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Installed	1,073,643	1,106,018
Operable	928,840	943,534
Operating	813,486	814,080

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

Weaving

50. Production of throstle fabrics amounted to 459,000 square yards in February, a decrease of 1,000 from the previous month. Output of reprocessed fabrics and allied types amounted to 626,000 square yards compared with 762,000 in January.

YARN STOCKS IN MILLS
(thousands of pounds)

	<u>31 January</u>	<u>28 February</u>
Throstle-spun		
Independent weavers	371	685
Reprocessed		
Independent weavers	199	203
Cotton spinners	105	89
Spun-rayon spinners	32	31
Others		
Spinners	514	572
Independent weavers	1,107	1,054
In dealers' hands	0	0

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

CLOTH STOCKS IN MILLS
(thousands of square yards)

	<u>31 January</u>	<u>28 February</u>
Throstle	1,006	660
Reprocessed	541	474
Others (mixed fabrics)	2,462	1,803

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

KNIT GOODS

Production

51. The electric power shortage reduced stocking production from 224,000 dozen pairs in January to 206,000 in February and glove output from 55,000 dozen pairs to 45,000 in the same period. Underwear production was an exception, increasing from 163,000 dozen in January to 180,000 dozen in February of which cotton singlets manufactured for export totaled 70,984 dozen. Stocks of underwear and stockings increased.

KNIT GOODS STOCKS
(thousands of dozens)

	<u>31 January</u>	<u>28 February</u>
Underwear	152	184
Stockings	900	907
Gloves	144	136

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

Machinery

52. The number of operating circular-knit machines increased during the month since some of the mills which were producing singlets for export enjoyed a higher priority on electric power supplies.

KNITTING MACHINES IN OPERATION

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Warp	51	51
Circular	2,147	2,337
Flat	2,827	2,910
Flat for gloves	1,967	1,707
Hosiery	4,739	4,748

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

Yarn Stocks

53. With the exception of cotton and rayon yarns, receipts of raw materials fell short of the month's consumption. Larger allocations of cotton yarns were made to the industry for export manufacture and deliveries of rayon yarns were made against old allocations.

YARN CONSUMPTION AND STOCKS (thousands of pounds)

	<u>On Hand 31 January</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Consumed</u>	<u>On Hand 28 February</u>
Cotton	373	428	277	524
Mixed cotton	117	8	40	85
Rayon	830	170	161	839
Spun rayon	220	32	71	181
Raw silk	336	6	92	250
Woolen	1,092	301	361	1,032
Others	85	6	12	79

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

SEWING GOODS

Production

54. Production of clothing and household articles increased generally. Distribution of manufactured articles showed a general increase for the month with the exception of work clothes. The Japanese Government ordered a temporary suspension in deliveries of work garments pending completion of a new distribution plan designed to place stocks in areas where they were most needed.

MANUFACTURED GOODS PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION
(thousands of pieces)

	<u>January Production</u>	<u>February Production</u>	<u>February Distribution</u>
Ready-made clothing			
Work	778	1,004	1,278
Street and house	490	752	771
Kimonos	114	325	380
Underwear, shirts, etc.	1,653	1,972	2,402
Elementary-school uniforms	592	637	559
Secondary-school uniforms	57	104	72
Tabi (pairs)	1,454	1,718	2,338
Mattress ticking (sets of 3)	11	11	10
Mosquito nets	44	91	44
Hats	410	364	358

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

MANUFACTURED GOODS STOCKS
(thousands of pieces)

	<u>Stocks 31 January</u>	<u>Stocks 28 February</u>
Ready-made clothing		
Work	2,805	2,531
Street and house	3,163	3,144
Kimonos	1,209	1,154
Underwear, shirts, etc.	7,868	7,438
Elementary-school uniforms	1,779	1,857
Secondary-school uniforms	225	287
Tabi (pairs)	1,658	1,038
Mattress ticking (sets of 3)	114	115
Mosquito nets	264	311
Hats	775	781

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

Cloth Stocks

55. Manufacturers' stocks of cloth continued to decline in all categories as consumption exceeded receipts of new material. The total stock at the end of February was equal to only about half of the average stock level maintained during 1946.

CLOTH CONSUMPTION AND STOCKS
(thousands of square yards)

	In Mills		Consumption	In Mills	
	31 January	Receipts		28 February	
Cotton	15,854	2,742	5,778	12,818	
Rayon	4,037	387	1,575	2,849	
Spun rayon	8,352	2,440	3,382	7,410	
Silk	3,284	90	333 ^{a/}	3,041	
Reprocessed	558	272	311	519	
Woolen and worsted	33,439	1,858	1,609	3,688	
Others	2,977	1,277	1,390	2,864	

^{a/} Includes fabric delivered for export and not actually consumed by manufacturers.

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

SUNDRY GOODS

Sewing Thread

56. Production of hand-sewing thread declined during February. The same manufacturers process yarn for sewing thread and for fish-net twine, and more emphasis was placed on the latter product during February. Machine-sewing thread, on the other hand, showed an increase in production.

57. Stocks of sewing thread in the mills were relatively large. Materials were being held until 1 April when the rationing program for the new fiscal year goes into effect.

SEWING THREAD PRODUCTION AND STOCKS
(thousands of pounds)

	Production	Stocks	Production	Distribution	Stocks
	January	31 January	February	February	28 February
Pure cotton	454	2,233	381	215	2,399
Mixed cotton	5	11	0	0	11
Silk	12	528	69	9	588
Rayon	15	85	16	61	40

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

Fish Nets

58. Manufacturers of fish nets enjoyed a high priority on delivery of raw materials with the result that production, which has shown a significant increase in January, continued to gain in February.

59. Mill stocks of fish nets were cut in half as deliveries to consuming agencies speeded up.

FISH-NETTING PRODUCTION AND STOCKS
(thousands of pounds)

	Production January	Stocks 31 January	Production February	Distribution February	Stocks 28 February
Cotton <u>a/</u>	709	917	789	1,288	418
Manila	1	0	1	1	0
Silk	7	1	5	5	1

a/ Including twine.

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

Other Articles

, 60. Production of other manufactured articles, with the exception of twine and net, declined in February, principally because of inadequate deliveries of raw materials.

SUNDRY GOODS PRODUCTION AND STOCKS
(thousands of pounds)

	Production January	Stocks 31 January	Production February	Distribution February	Stocks 28 February
Braid	51	174	44	67	151
Fringe	6	95	3	0	98
Tape	110	505	100	122	483
Twine and net	8	18	23	17	24
Lace	12	107	9	14	102

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

YARN CONSUMPTION AND STOCKS
(thousands of pounds)

	In Mills 31 January	Receipts	Consumption	In Mills 28 February
Cotton				
Pure	4,010 <u>a/</u>	1,604	1,345	4,269
Mixed	83	0	5	78
Raw silk	634 <u>a/</u>	0	26	614
Spun silk	1	0	0	1
Rayon	694	133	85	742
Spun rayon	127	2	1	128
Reprocessed	34	0	4	30
Throstle	11	0	1	10
Manila hemp	3	0	1	2
Other products	34	0	0	34

a/ Revised.

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

DYEING AND FINISHING

61. Smaller receipts of fabric for processing and reduced electric power resulted in a general decline in activity of the dyeing and finishing mills during February. Processing of linen and ramie fabrics declined sharply upon completion of the processing of former military stocks.

62. A large quantity of throstle and reprocessed fabrics was dyed and finished during the month.

63. Deliveries of silk and rayon fabrics to dyeing and finishing mills for domestic use were considerably smaller than those of cotton. Processing of rayon fabrics which had been turned over from former army stocks was almost completed.

64. There was a general increase in delivery of finished fabrics compared with January, particularly in rayons and silks. Fabrics in these two categories were being delivered to exporters to be sorted and packed for export shipment.

CLOTH PROCESSED
(thousands of square yards)

	<u>Processed January</u>	<u>Processed February</u>	<u>Returned to Client</u>	<u>In Mills 28 February</u>
Cotton	4,876	4,639	5,819	8,479
Spun rayon <u>a/</u>	3,452	3,832	3,891	6,374
Silk	5,526	4,589	6,234	7,388
Rayon	4,952	3,403	2,149	8,040
Linen and ramie	1,660	888	1,465	2,382

a/ Includes throstle and reprocessed fabrics.

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

MACHINERY

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Mills reporting	217	219
Mills operating	159	159
Machines operating		
Boilers	243	243
Tenters	225	234
Driers	326	333
Printers	19	19
Napping machines	97	99

SOURCE: Japan Textile Association.

SECTION 6
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES

C O N T E N T S

	Paragraph
Motor Transportation.	1
Rail Transportation	2
Water Transportation.	5
Electric Power.	7
Gas Industry.	16

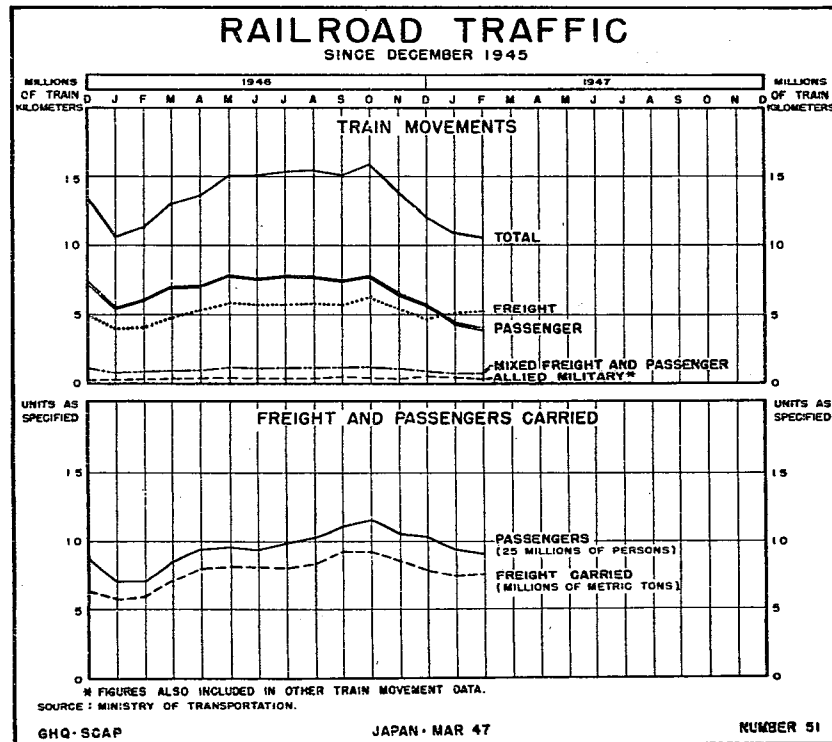
MOTOR TRANSPORTATION

1. The number of motor vehicles decreased from 115,587 on 31 January to 112,155 by 28 February; 62 percent of these were in actual use.

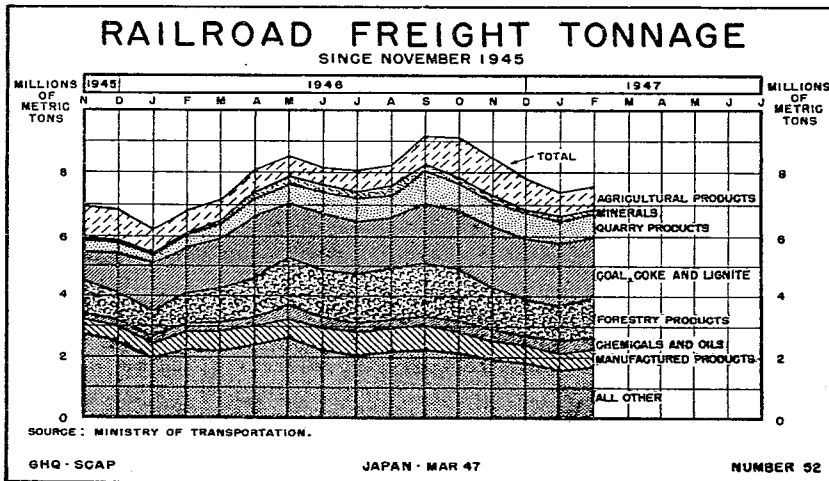
RAIL TRANSPORTATION

2. The number of cancellations of scheduled train operations showed a decrease from 150,286 kilometers in January to 117,343 kilometers in February. Train kilometers operated in February decreased to 10,632,580.

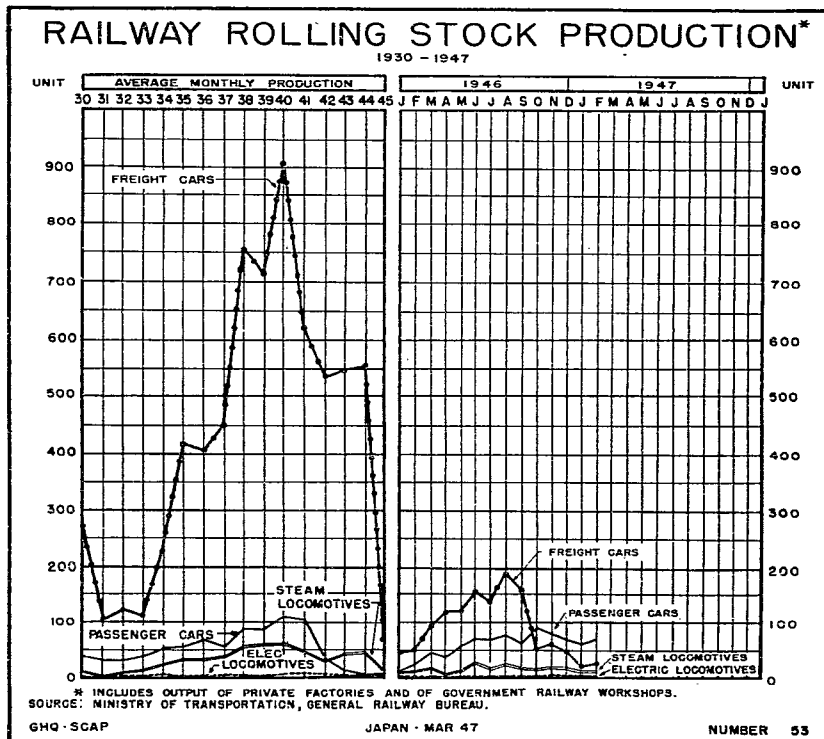
Total passengers carried decreased from 232,375,626 in January to 223,759,248 in February.



3. Total railroad freight tonnage handled increased from 7,397,200 metric tons in January to 7,567,600 tons in February.

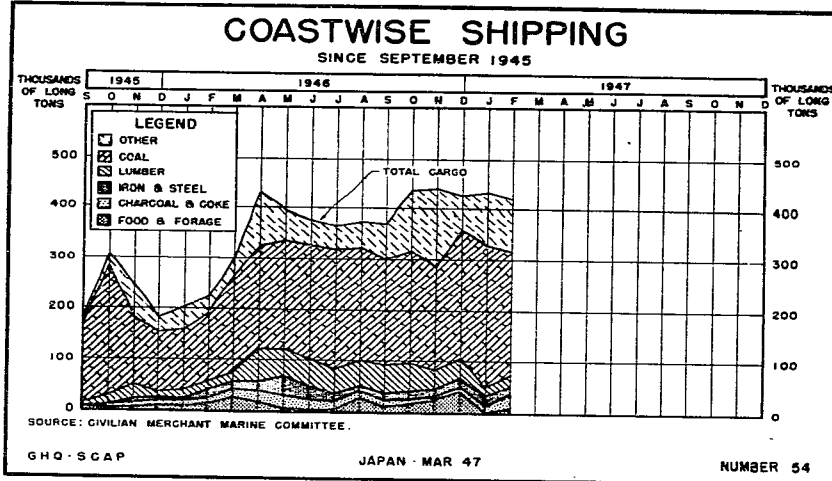


4. New rolling stock placed in operation in February consisted of nine steam and two electric locomotives, 16 electric cars, five trailers, 35 passenger cars and 24 freight cars.



WATER TRANSPORTATION

5. Coastwise merchant shipping in February decreased 15,155 metric tons.

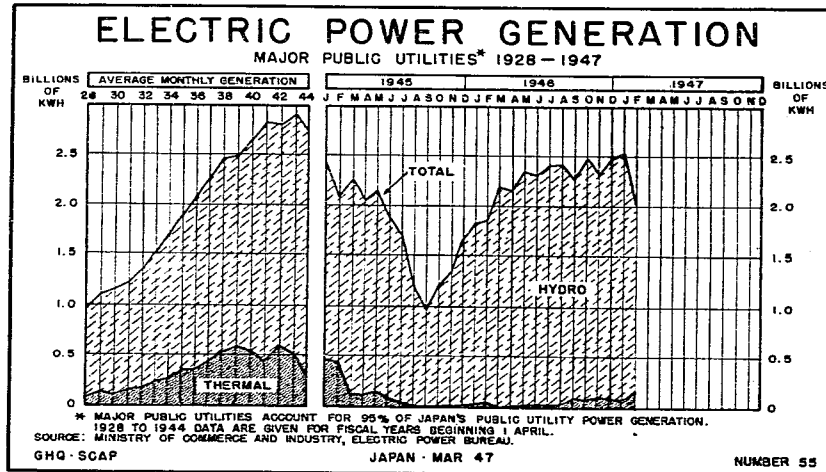


6. February shipments to China decreased by 13,001 to 12,692 metric tons. Shipments to Korea increased to 84,187 metric tons.

ELECTRIC POWER

7. Electric power generated in February totaled 2,010,305,000 kilowatt hours, a decrease of 507,695,000 from January but 6.2 percent higher than the predicted 1,891,000,000 kilowatt hours.

Daily production averaged 71,700,000 kilowatt hours, 66,400,000 produced by hydroelectric power and only 5,300,000 by steam. In contrast to January, when the natural stream flow was 31 percent above the 10-year average, February showed only a two-percent increase above the 10-year average, resulting in an appreciable drop in February hydroelectric production.



8. Average daily thermal power production in February doubled that of January but was 40 percent below expectations due to the lag in coal deliveries.

**COAL ALLOCATION AND CONSUMPTION
OF THERMAL POWER PLANTS
February
(metric tons)**

<u>District</u>	<u>Stockpiles 31 January a/</u>	<u>Allo- cation</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Consump- tion</u>	<u>Stockpiles 28 February</u>
Hokkaido					
Hassoden ^{b/}	2,180	5,100	5,000	5,900	1,280
Haiden	-	500	-	-	-
Tohoku					
Hassoden	4,070	15,000	5,380	7,680	1,770
Kanto					
Hassoden	1,550	20,000	6,090	7,170	470
Kansai					
Hassoden	6,960	80,000	21,900	14,860	14,000
Chugoku (Hiroshima)					
Hassoden	9,280	20,000	10,810	13,580	6,510
Chugoku (Yamaguchi)					
Hassoden	15,550	30,000	26,020	28,000	13,570
Ube Kosan	-	6,000	-	-	-
Shikoku					
Hassoden	4,420	0	420	190	4,650
Kyushu					
Hassoden	33,770	98,400	79,760	92,110	21,420
Coal mining	-	15,000	-	-	-
Total					
Hassoden	77,780	268,500	155,380	169,490	63,670
Others	-	21,500	-	-	-

^{a/} Revised.

^{b/} The Nippon Hassoden (Japan Electric Generation and Transmission Company, Ltd.) and the nine Haidens (regional distribution companies) are monopolies under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

SOURCE: Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Electric Power Bureau.

9. February power demand totaled 2,010,305,000 kilowatt hours. The Kansai and Kanto regions accounted for most of this demand.

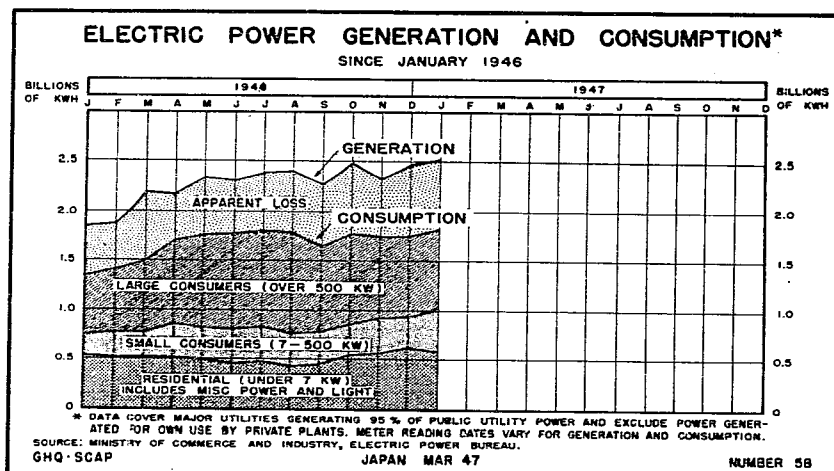
MAXIMUM POWER RESTRICTIONS ^{a/}
February
 (percent of July-September average consumption)

District	Essential Public Use and Coal	Industrial		Commercial	Japanese Households
	Mining	Essential	Other		
Hokkaido	-	-	10	-	-
Tohoku	10	20	50	10	10
Kanto	10	20	50	10	10
Kansai	10	20	50	10	10
Chugoku	10	20	50	20	20
Shikoku	-	10	30	20	10
Kyushu	10	20	50	20	20

^{a/} Electric boilers totally restricted.

SOURCE: Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Electric Power Bureau.

12. Consumption of electric power by classification of consumer for January is shown below:

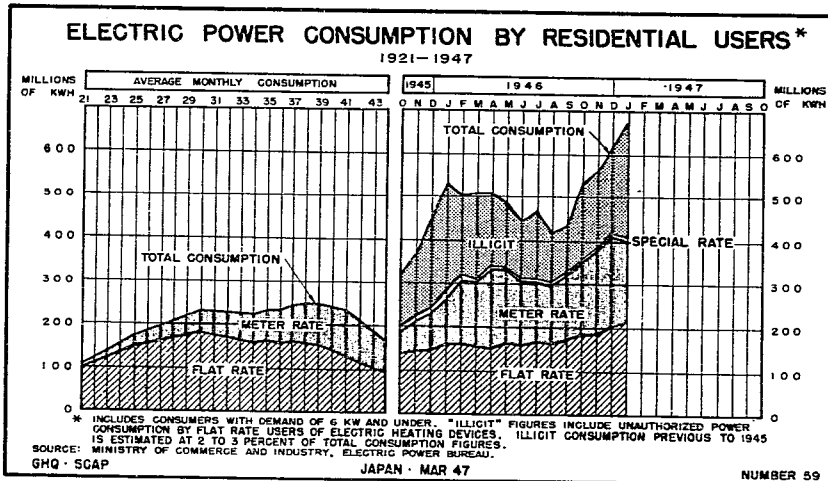


13. Average monthly electric power consumption by residential users in 1946 was 501,000,000 kilowatt hours. Note the chart at top of facing page.

14. The Electric Power Bureau estimates that the industry will produce 2,238,000,000 kilowatt hours in March. Hydroelectric generation will account for 2,091,000,000 kilowatt hours and steam generation for the rest.

Plant Construction

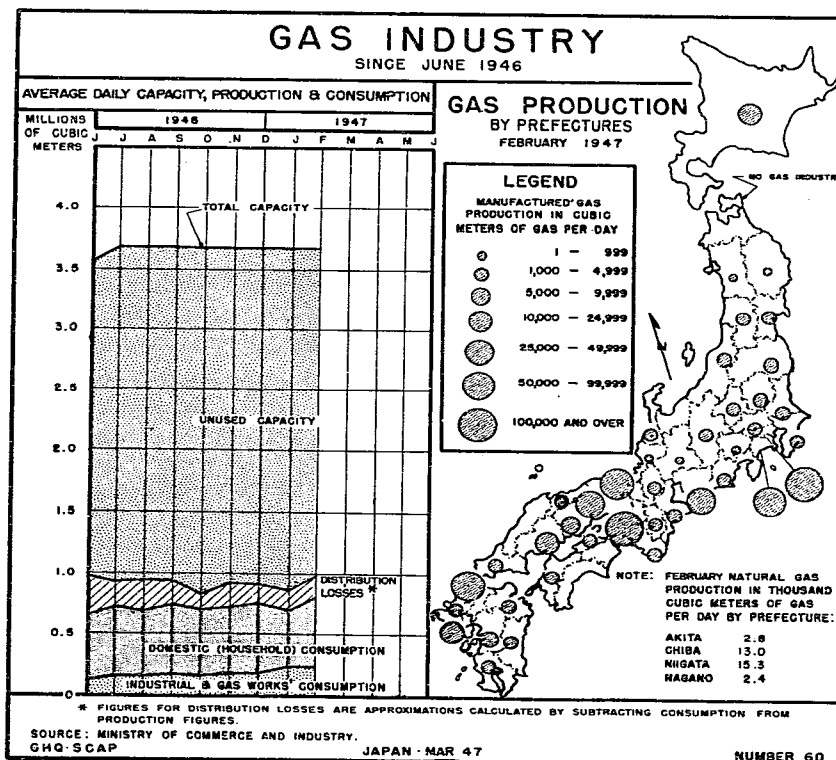
15. Construction has been resumed on 13 hydro power plants with a total capacity of 91,000 kilowatts. A total of 25,500 kilowatts of hydroelectric capacity was added to the system during February by completion of repairs. Twelve hydroelectric plants with a capacity totaling 23,850 kilowatts are inoperative because of waterway trouble.



Amagasaki Plant No. 1 has been repaired and is capable of delivering 80,000 kilowatts. The Ushioda thermal power plant has been put in operation and is delivering 20,000 kilowatts.

GAS INDUSTRY

16. The amount of gas produced on an average day during February was 978,088 cubic meters, 26.5 percent of plant capacity.



17. The daily average consumption in February was 792,663 cubic meters, an increase of 107,955 cubic meters or 15.8 percent over January.

18. The apparent loss in distribution leakage amounted to 19 percent in January.

19. Daily natural gas production in Akita, Chiba, Niigata and Nagano during January amounted to 25,312 cubic meters, 2.6 percent of total gas production in Japan.

COAL FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF GAS
(metric tons)

	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>
Allocation	55,130	82,500 <u>a/</u>
Deliveries	55,967	-
Consumption	56,955	-
Stockpiles at end of month	7,962	-

a/ 8,500 tons of the 82,500 were allocated to the gas industry to recover a maximum amount (approximately 70 percent) of coke to be released to coke consumers.

SOURCE: Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Coal Board.

SECTION 7

COMMUNICATIONS

C O N T E N T S

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ADMINISTRATIVE

International Telecommunications Company

1. On 25 March the Japanese Government was directed to liquidate the International Telecommunications Company and the Japan Telegraph and Telephone Construction Company, its principal subsidiary.

2. Screening of personnel of the two companies, with a view to purging undesirables, was expedited early in March. On 6 March the Holding Company Liquidation Commission recommended to the Prime Minister that the International Telecommunications Company and Japan Telegraph and Telephone Construction Company be declared holding companies. This recommendation was approved and control of the companies was transferred to the Commission on 15 March. The Commission thereupon took steps to appraise and evaluate the properties of the two companies. All securities and those assets not required by the Government, as well as the manufacturing plant of the International Telecommunications Company, will be offered for sale to the public.

3. The SCAP Directive specified that the Japanese Government was to "repeal the special law creating the International Telecommunications Company, Ltd." This law was promulgated in 1939 and the company at its peak had expanded to such an extent that it had investments in Korea, Formosa, Mongolia, Manchuria, Central China, the East Indies, Singapore, Hongkong, Hainan and Palao. It had acquired half-interests in the Japan Telephone and Telegraph Construction Company and the Japan Submarine Cable Company. The former of these in turn owned stock in four other communications companies. The International Telecommunications Company managed this complex corporate structure through a tightly organized group of interlocking directorates. The Holding Company Liquidation Commission will dissolve this monopoly organization by calling in all stocks owned by the International Telecommunications Company and the Japan Telephone and Telegraph Construction Company in other companies and making them available for purchase by the public.

4. To ensure continued operation of the communications facilities of the International Telecommunications Company and the Japan Telephone and Telegraph Construction Company, the directive specified further that the Japanese Government was to "assume as rapidly as possible actual operation of the communications properties" of the two companies. Upon completion of the Holding Company Liquidation Commission's appraisal the Government is to purchase these properties.

5. The directive also provided for the protection of the rights and interests of the employees of the two companies by directing the Government to "offer employment to such personnel of International Telecommunications Company, Ltd., and Japan Telephone and Telephone Construction Company, Ltd., as are required to perform the communications services now being rendered by those companies. The personnel accepting the offer will be transferred to positions of similar grade and classification and in such manner as to receive fair and equitable treatment, retaining seniority benefits equivalent to those earned during their tenure of service with the present companies."

6. Disposition of a Japan Telephone and Telegraph Construction Company subsidiary is to be outlined by the Government in accordance with a stipulation that within 60 days from the date of the directive the Government will submit "a plan for the assumption. . . of the ownership and operation of all communications facilities pertaining to telephone and telegraph now owned, operated, or both, by the Japan Telephone Equipment Company, Ltd." In addition the Government was directed to submit "a statement explaining in detail the methods and procedures now used by the Ministry of Communications in letting contracts for the construction of buildings in the fields of postal, radio, telephone and telegraph communications." Formerly most of the Ministry's building construction was done by the Communications Construction Industries Company, Ltd., in which the Japan Telephone and Telegraph Construction Company owns 30.5 percent of the stock.

7. When the measures outlined in the directive have resulted in the disintegration of the corporate structure of the International Telecommunications Company, the Holding Company Liquidation Commission will liquidate both the International Telecommunications Company and the Japan Telephone and Telegraph Construction Company.

New Accounting Law

8. A revised Communications Enterprises Account Law was submitted to the Diet on 19 March and passed by both Houses during the closing week of the 92nd session. The law, which includes the long-planned change from a cash to an accrual basis for the Ministry of Communications' accounting system, is to take effect on 1 April.

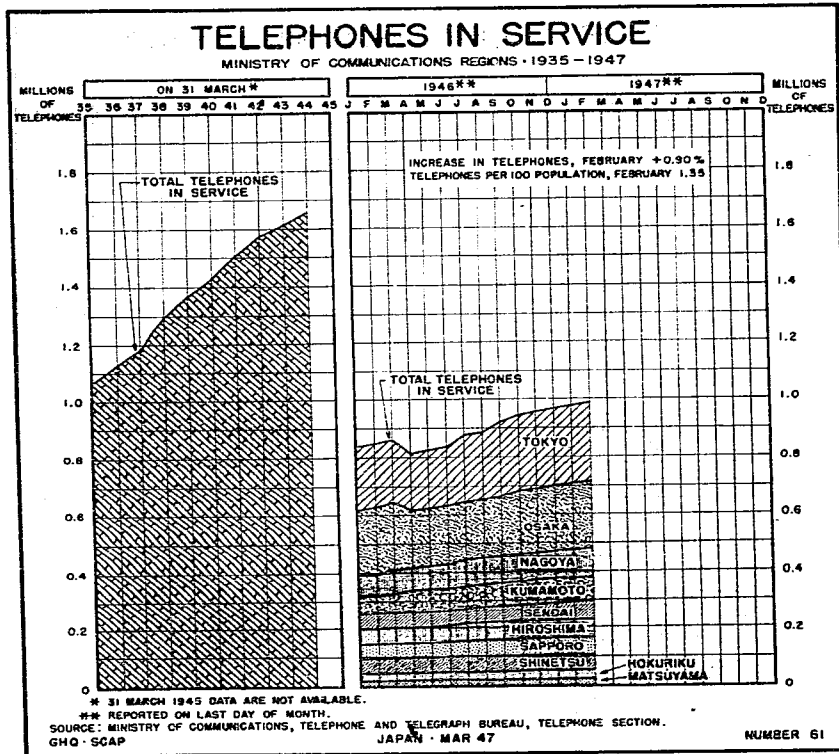
Broadcasting Corporation of Japan

9. Late in February the Broadcasting Corporation of Japan announced a complete reorganization of its Program Department to coordinate the work of various sections, eliminate "sectionalism" among those units and reassign incompetent and misassigned personnel.

WIRE

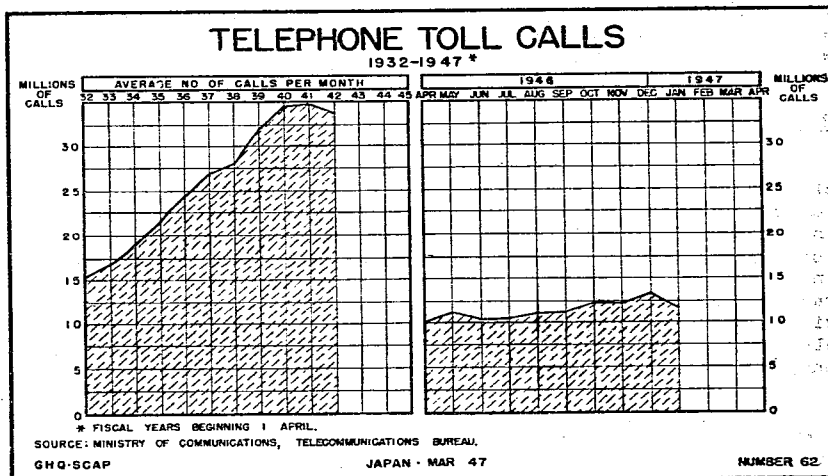
Domestic Telephone

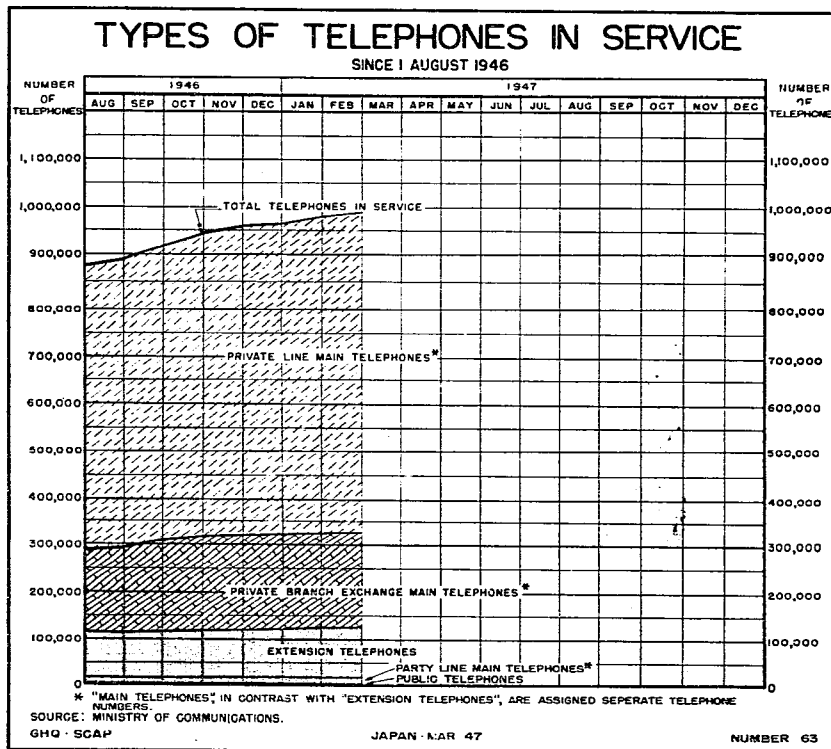
10. The number of telephones in service continued to increase during February, but at a slightly lower rate.



11. About two thirds of the new telephones put in service in February were private-line main telephones, as shown in chart, top of following page.

12. During February the number of domestic toll calls dropped two percent, the first decrease since August.





13. In February the percentage of Japanese telephone toll calls completed remained unchanged from January. Completion of Occupation Forces' calls declined one percent. See chart, top of facing page.

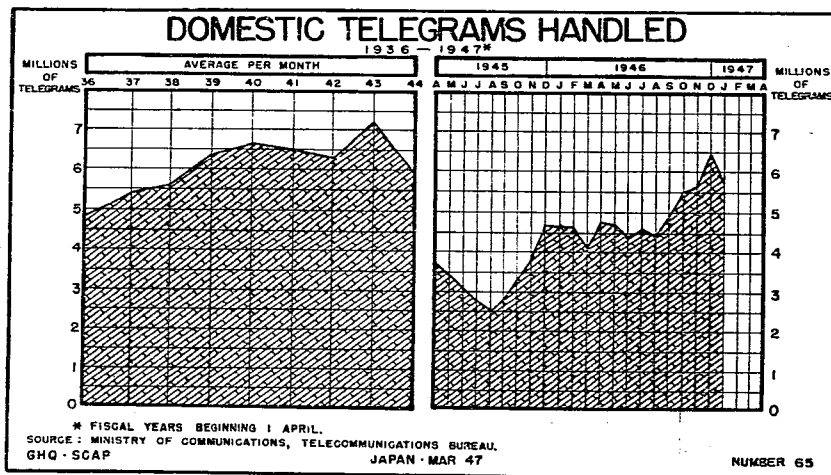
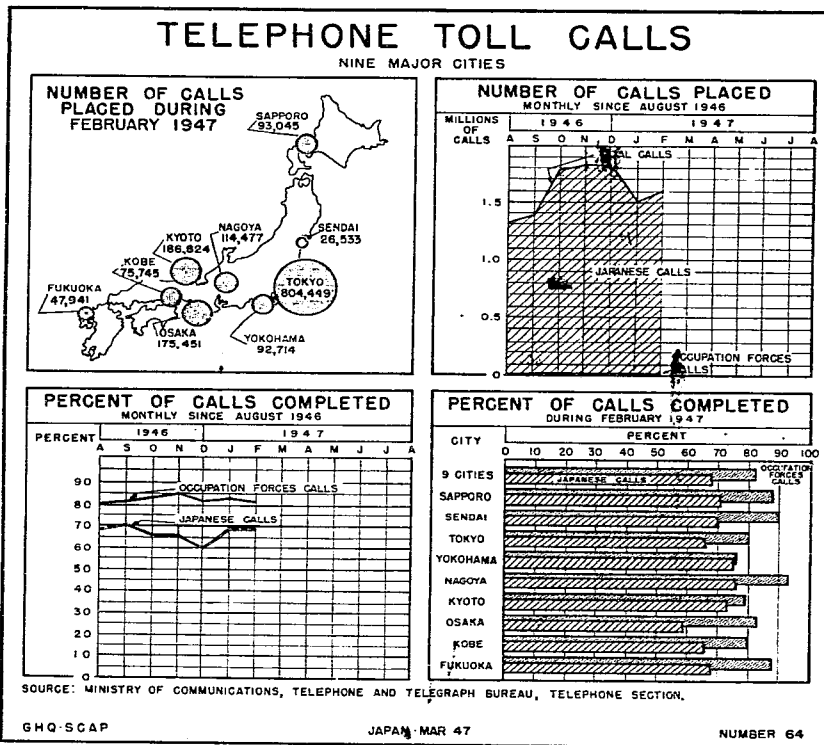
Domestic Telegraph

14. The number of domestic telegrams handled during January was smaller than during December, when the holiday season and year-end debt settlements created an abnormal volume of traffic, but showed a continuation of the steady increase which began last summer, as shown in opposite chart.

Rate Increases

15. On 17 March the Ministry of Communications announced increased telegraph and telephone rates effective 1 April. Telegram rates were raised from ¥ 1.50 to ¥ 6 for the first 10 characters and from ¥ .50 to ¥ 2 for every five additional characters. Rates for local calls from residential phones were trebled and from business phones were quintupled, while rates for public phones were raised two and one-half times. Rates for long-distance calls within 80 kilometers (90 percent of long-distance calls) were trebled; rates for calls of greater distances were quintupled. Telephone and telegraph press rates were doubled.

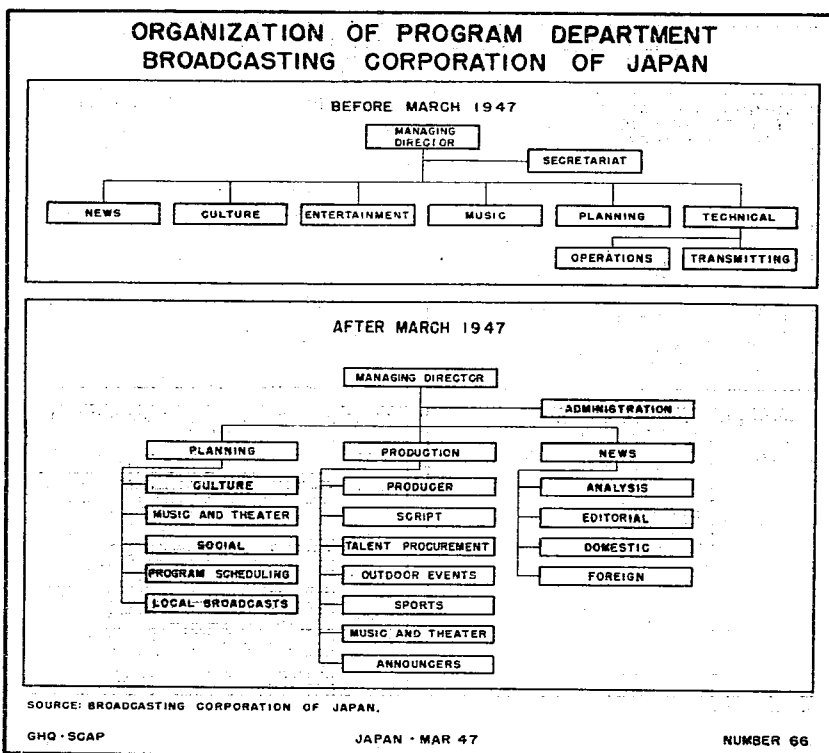
16. The telephone-rate increases are expected to yield about ¥ 656,000,000 annually; the telegraph increases, ¥ 2,700,000,000. Since only the more prosperous people use wire services in Japan, the increases will chiefly affect them.



RADIO

17. Late in February the Broadcasting Corporation of Japan announced a complete reorganization of its Program Department. The old organization fostered "sectionalism" by assignment of music, entertainment and cultural matters to separate sections with no superior coordinator. The new organization unites the various program elements in the Production Section with program "producers" responsible for organizing all program elements.

ORGANIZATION OF PROGRAM DEPARTMENT BROADCASTING CORPORATION OF JAPAN



Domestic

18. In March the Broadcasting Corporation of Japan was informally authorized to add stations at Tsuyama, Wakanai, Miyakonojo and Yawatahama to Network No. 1 and a station at Kokura to Network No. 2. This brings the total number of stations on the two networks to 115.

The new stations will permit greater coverage for election broadcasts. All the new stations except the one at Yawatahama will operate permanently.

19. To further facilitate election coverage, frequency changes were authorized for seven stations. The most important of these was the Second Network's key station JOAK in Tokyo. Because some older types of Japanese receivers cut off at about 1300 kilocycles, JOAK's frequency was reassigned from 1340 to 1080 kilocycles.

20. In February the Broadcasting Corporation of Japan published the results of a sampling survey of radio receiver licensees in all prefectures of Japan. The table below shows the results of the sampling projected to give an approximate idea of the state of radio receivers in Japan.

CURRENT ESTIMATED RADIO RECEIVERS AND LISTENERS

	<u>Urban</u>	<u>Rural</u>	<u>All Japan</u>
Licensed households	3,700,000	2,000,000	5,700,000
Licensed householders with inoperative receivers	1,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000
Licensed householders with operative receivers	2,700,000	1,000,000	3,700,000
Percent of total operative receivers	73	27	100
Number of households	4,500,000	10,000,000	14,500,000
Percent of households with operative receivers	60	10	25
Average number of listeners per household	4.5	8	5.5
Total number of listeners	12,000,000	8,000,000	20,000,000
Population	22,000,000	53,000,000	75,000,000
Percent of listeners to population	55	15	27

SOURCE: Broadcasting Corporation of Japan.

Of the estimated 2,000,000 inoperative radio sets about 50 percent need tubes and 25 percent need condensers. Tube replacement requirements are about 350,000 tubes per month. There are fewer radios per capita in rural Japan because Japanese receivers are not very sensitive and reception is not good at great distances from transmitters. Also, repairs are difficult to get in rural areas.

21. The condition of radio receivers varied greatly in different prefectures. Near Osaka, the center of radio equipment manufacturing, sets were in relatively good condition. In remote Nagasaki and Kagoshima Prefectures about 50 percent needed repair and throughout Kyushu 40 percent needed repair.

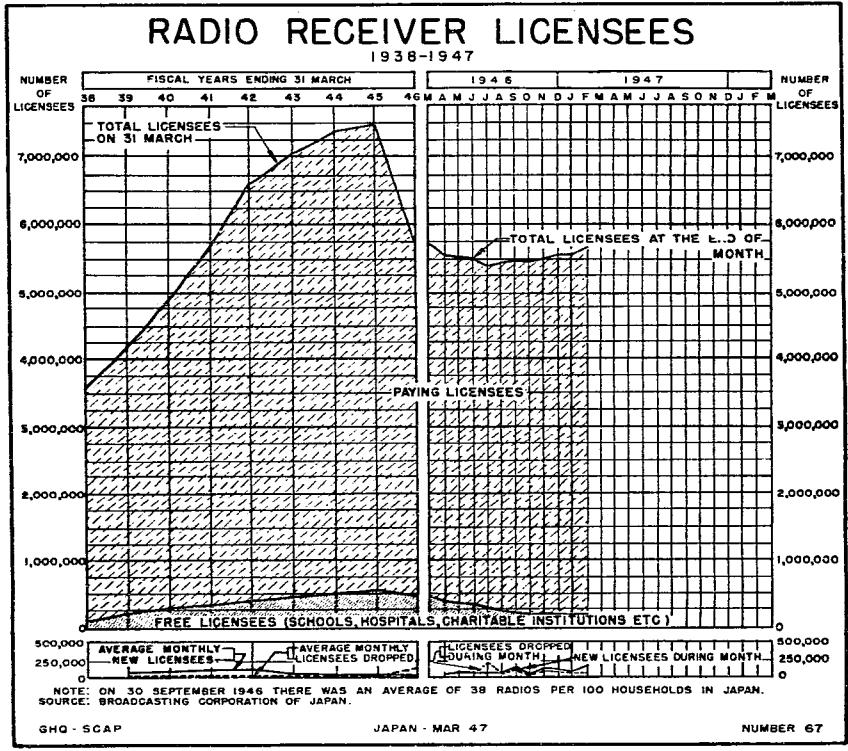
22. Before 1946 all the receiver types listed below used 2.5-volt tubes except the transformerless sets which used 12-volt tubes. During 1946 manufacturers and servicemen redesigned and modified some sets for 6-volt tubes; however, the majority still use 2.5-volt tubes.

**TYPES OF RADIO RECEIVERS CURRENTLY IN OPERATION
(percent)**

4-tube regenerative sets without radio-frequency amplification; magnetic speakers	46.7
4- or 5-tube regenerative sets with radio-frequency amplification and magnetic or dynamic speakers	25.1
4-tube transformerless regenerative sets with radio-frequency amplification and magnetic speakers	15.6
3-tube regenerative sets without radio-frequency amplification; magnetic speakers	6.9
Superheterodynes (all models)	3.4
Others	2.3

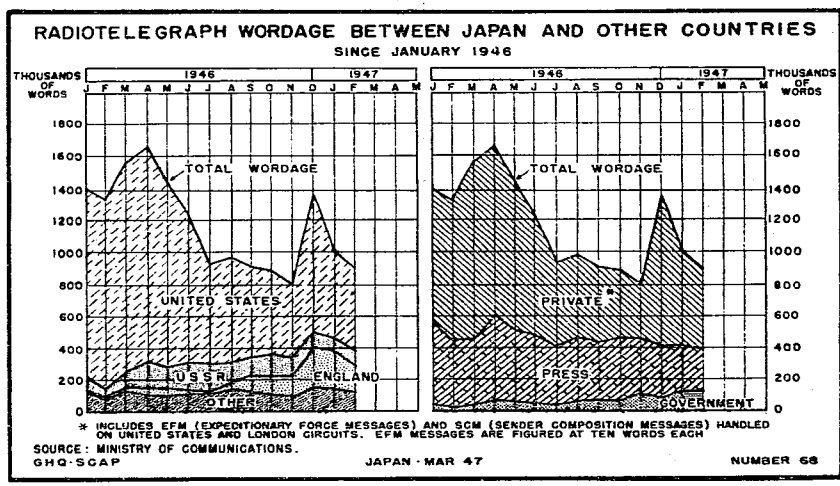
SOURCE: Broadcasting Corporation of Japan.

23. Forty-two percent more new receiver licenses were issued in February than in January because of the "fair reception" campaign against unlicensed listeners. Tokyo accounted for 70,000 of the 175,000 new licenses. Inability to obtain repairs was the chief reason for the discontinuance of 65,000 licenses.

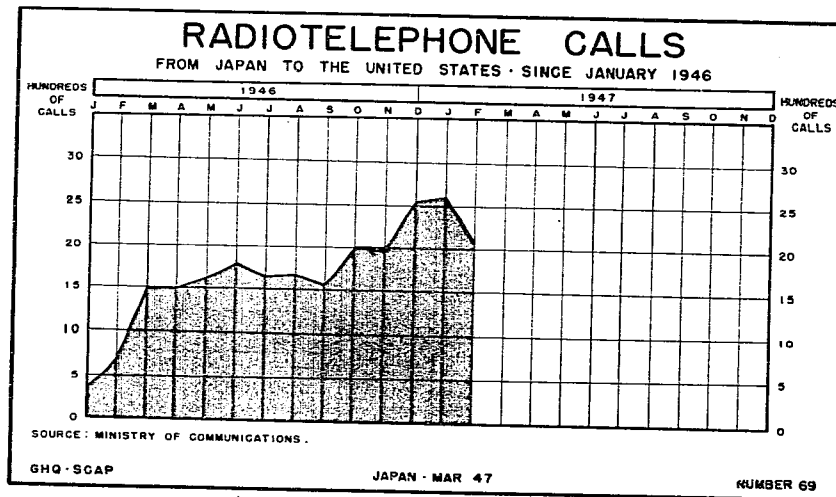


International

24. Radiotelegraph wordage between Japan and other countries dropped 10 percent in February.



25. Radiotelephone calls from Japan to the United States fell off 20 percent during February to the preholiday November level.



26. On 8 March SCAP announced that representatives of foreign governments in Japan may send official messages from any Japanese telegraph office which accepts overseas telegrams. The messages may be sent to their government's agencies of representatives in any country to which telegraph service is available. Formerly all messages had to be filed in Tokyo and sent via Washington or London.

27. On 31 March the Japanese Government was directed to establish a radiotelegraph circuit between Japan and Batavia, Java. Only government messages of the Netherlands or Netherlands East Indies will be handled.

POSTAL SERVICES

Domestic Mail

28. During February ordinary mail volume dropped four percent, parcel post about eight percent, as shown in chart, top of following page.

International Mail

29. The large monthly increases in the number of incoming gift parcels continued in February with a 27-percent increase over January. See the second chart on next page.

February was the second month in which exchange of letters between Japan and all other countries was authorized. The number of letters received rose 84 percent and the number of letters dispatched rose 56 percent.

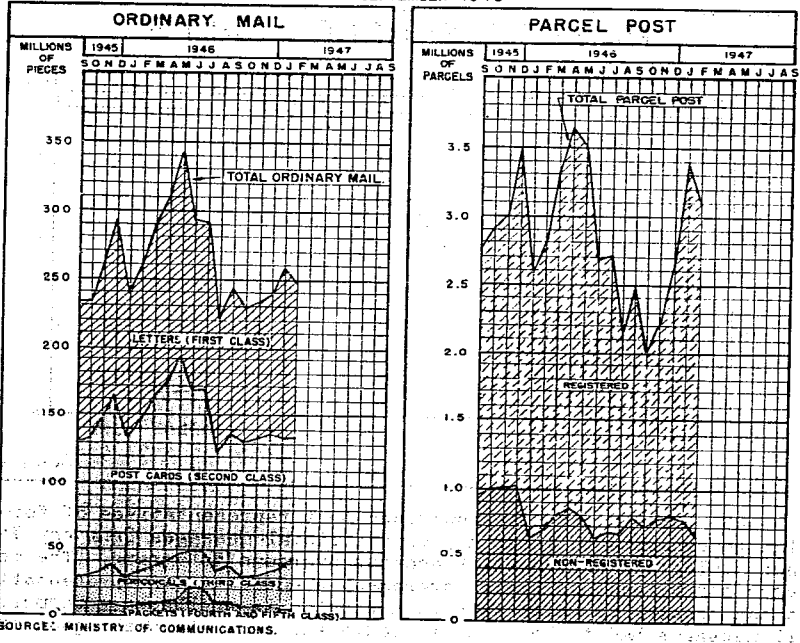
Finance

30. On 17 March the Ministry of Communications announced that postal money-order rates would be increased two and one-half times effective 1 April.

31. Postal transfer deposits and the face value of postal life insurance and annuity policies were generally stable during

DOMESTIC MAIL DELIVERIES

SINCE SEPTEMBER 1945



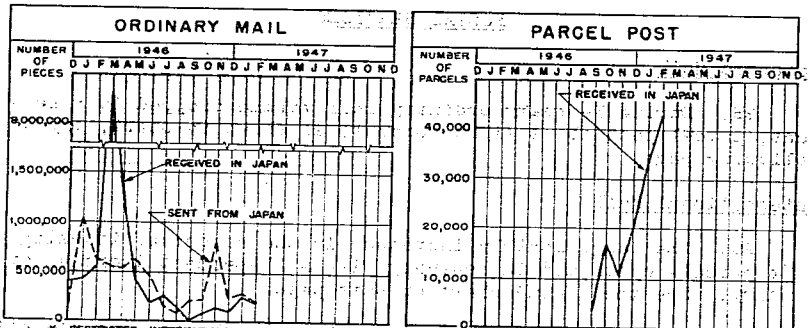
GHQ · SCAP

JAPAN · MAR 47

NUMBER 70

FOREIGN MAIL SERVICE*

SINCE DECEMBER 1945



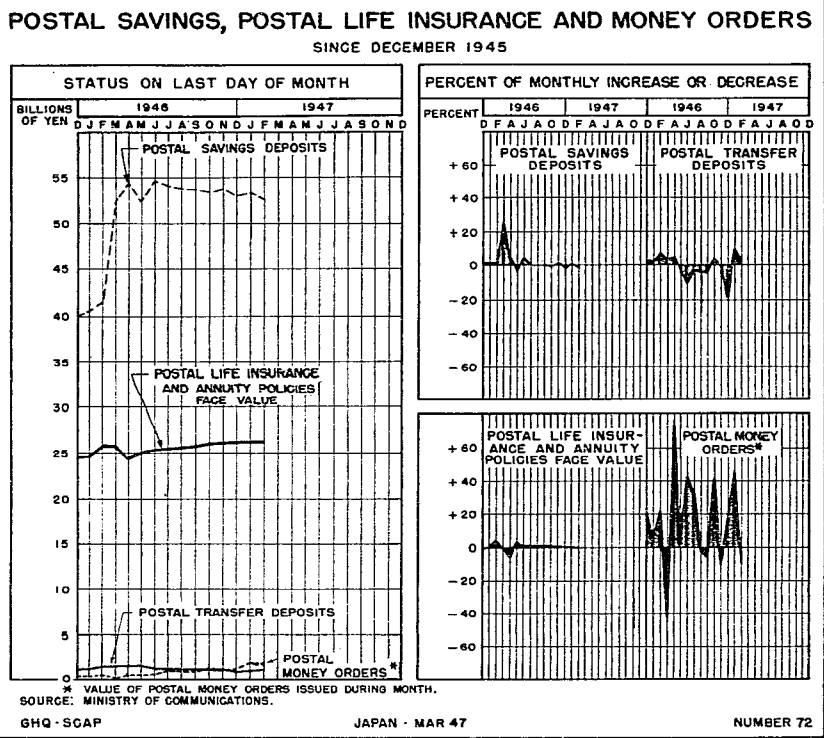
* RESTRICTED INTERNATIONAL MAIL SERVICE BEGAN ON 10 SEPTEMBER 1946. PRIOR TO THAT DATE FOREIGN MAIL WAS AUTHORIZED ONLY BETWEEN JAPAN RESIDENTS AND UNREPATRIATED JAPANESE ABROAD. PARCEL POST SERVICE AUTHORIZED ON 10 SEPTEMBER 1946 WAS LIMITED TO RELIEF PARCELS FROM ABROAD.

GHQ · SCAP

JAPAN · MAR 47

NUMBER 71

February. Postal money orders were slightly below the peak reached in January.



Post Offices

32. Twenty-five new special post offices were established in February to serve relocated population groups and reconstructed war-damaged areas.

Franking Privileges

33. On 17 March the Diet enacted a law permitting free mailing of limited amounts of campaign post cards by candidates. Prefectural candidates for the Diet may mail 20,000 free post cards while candidates-at-large may mail 30,000. Mayoral and gubernatorial candidates may mail 10,000 cards. The law prohibits the distribution of any other writings or drawings because of the shortage of paper and other materials.

CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION

34. During March the Telecommunications Coordinating Committee began examining and classifying 4,000 applications received from various agencies for communications projects. They will coordinate work on the projects and allocations of materials.

Telephone and Telegraph

35. Considerable progress was reported in March in correcting deficiencies in southern Honshu and Kyushu telephone networks. Rehabilitation in Kyoto and Kobe has improved service and reduced interruptions. The Kyoto and Kobe programs are scheduled for completion about mid-April.

36. During March the Ministry of Communications drew up plans for laying 60 miles of submarine cables during the 1947 fiscal year. The cables will be used both to connect land toll lines which have already been constructed and to replace old cables which have deteriorated so far as to make their repair uneconomical. Twenty-three cables now inoperable are to be repaired during the first quarter. Large quantities of cable will be salvaged from former Japanese naval bases.

37. As an economy measure the Ministry of Communications began a program in March to string overhead communications cables on existing power-line poles.

38. During March about 150 toll circuits out of Tokyo were tested and adjusted. Similar work is planned for other cities but is impeded by the necessity of doing much of the work outside of business rush hours and the difficulty of obtaining extra rations for personnel on night duty.

Postal

39. January curtailment of passenger train service caused mail to be transferred from express to local trains. This caused an increase in transit time and a need for five more railway cars which were obtained by salvaging parts from cars previously charged off as fully depreciated.

Sixteen trucks were charged off as fully depreciated while six were repaired, resulting in a net loss of 10 trucks from actual use. Replacements for those ten trucks are needed and also four trucks to replace a bus line no longer operating.

STATUS OF MAIL VEHICLES

	<u>Railway Cars</u>		<u>Motor Trucks</u>		<u>Bicycles</u>	
	<u>31 Dec</u>	<u>31 Jan</u>	<u>31 Dec</u>	<u>31 Jan</u>	<u>31 Dec</u>	<u>31 Jan</u>
Carried on records	724	729	833	817	30,759	30,759
Unserviceable or otherwise assigned	201	201	191	185	9,142	8,472
In actual use	454	459	642	632	21,617 ^{a/}	22,287 ^{a/}
Additional needed	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>139</u>	<u>153</u>	<u>6,914</u>	<u>6,244</u>
Total required	454	459	781	785	28,531	28,531

^{a/} An additional 3,161 bicycles are rented.

SOURCE: Ministry of Communications, Postal Bureau.

Although no new bicycles were received during January, 670 were repaired. Neither the December allotment of 3,000 bicycles nor an additional allotment of 3,000 bicycles which were withdrawn from export and assigned to the postal service have been received. Commitments from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry beginning in February will not sufficiently replace worn-out machines

40. During February two post-office buildings and five post-office dormitories were added to the postal construction program for the fiscal year ending 31 March. One Postal Savings branch was dropped.

POSTAL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM
1 April 1946 - 31 March 1947

	<u>Scheduled</u>	<u>Over 50% Complete</u>	<u>Under 50% Complete</u>	<u>Under Negotiation</u>	<u>Planned</u>
Post offices	47	39	8	0	0
Post-office dormitories	22	14	4	3	1
Hospital enlargements	1	1	0	0	0
Hospitals	1	0	1	0	0
Secondary schools	2	1	1	0	0
Workrooms and dormitories	9	3	4	2	0
Printing plants	1	1	0	0	0
Stamp and card depositories	1	0	1	0	0
Warehouses	2	1	0	1	0
Mailbag depositories	31	11	3	11	6
Clinics	11	1	4	5	1
Postal savings branches	7	1	6	0	0
Postal Life Insurance branches	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	136	73	33	22	8

SOURCE: Ministry of Communications.

EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURING AND SUPPLY

41. Coal deliveries to communications equipment manufacturers increased 26 percent in February.

COAL ALLOCATIONS AND DELIVERIES
(metric tons)

	<u>Allocations</u>		<u>Deliveries</u>	
	<u>Coal</u>	<u>Lignite</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Percent of Quota</u>
December	6,000	0	3,750	62
January	6,000	0	3,000	50
February	6,000	0	3,780	63
March	7,500	1,500	-	-
April	7,500	1,500	-	-

SOURCE: Reports of manufacturing companies.

Wire Communication Equipment

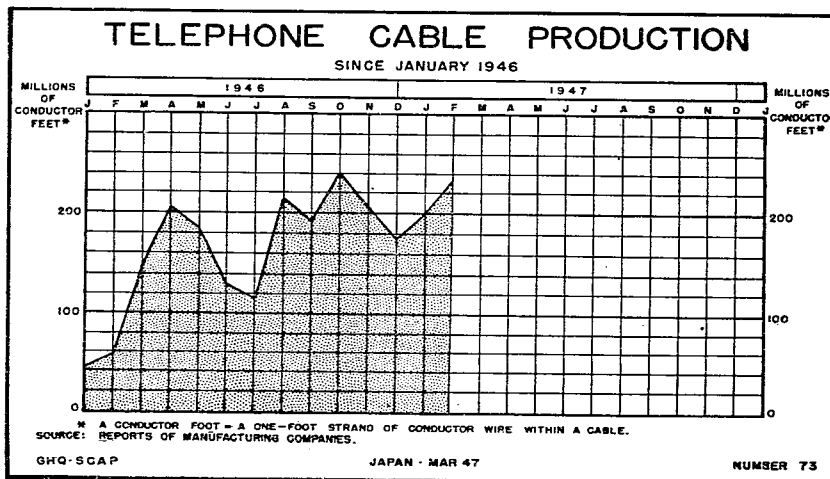
42. Wire communication equipment production fluctuated widely in February though most items showed increases due to higher coal deliveries. One cause of the fluctuations is that only finished products are reported. The completion of products is irregular because of the uneven flow of raw materials, power and machine services.

WIRE COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT PRODUCTION

	<u>December</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Telephone sets	19,150	19,440	20,278
Manual switchboards	387	991	1,325
Automatic switch units	3,212	4,083	2,719
Carrier systems	143	48	258
Repeater systems	189	36	48
Miscellaneous (thousands of yen)	10,600	13,761	14,316

SOURCE: Reports of manufacturing companies.

43. Telephone cable production increased about 13 percent during February, measured in conductor feet. Cable footage production increased from 1,470,000 in January to 1,660,000 in February.



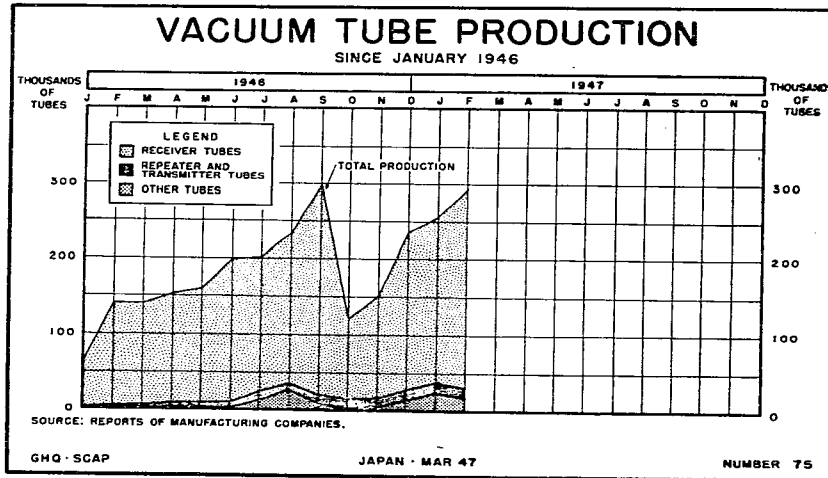
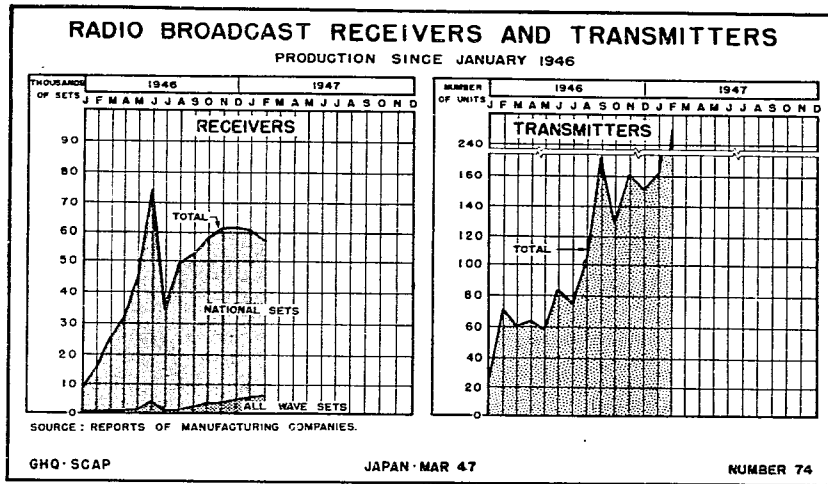
44. On 26 March the Japanese Government was directed to prohibit and discontinue immediately the manufacture and sale of Webster Electric type or any similar type of office intercommunicating systems and parts. The move will preclude patent infringements.

Radio Equipment

45. Total radio receiver production declined about five percent during February, totaling 57,615. Transmitter production went up 55 percent. More than 70 percent of the new transmitters are earmarked for fishing boats, as shown in chart, top of facing page.

46. A 15-percent increase in vacuum tube production during February brought that figure close to the peak production of last September. See chart on opposite page.

47. A new allocation system went into effect for radio receiver tubes during February to provide replacement tubes for receivers now in use. At the same time the Ministry of Commerce and Industry placed a limitation of 60,000 per month on radio receiver



production. This restriction will continue until production of receiver tubes is sufficient to cover both replacement and new production requirements. The Broadcasting Corporation of Japan estimates that current replacement requirements are 350,000 tubes per month. Distribution for February was planned as follows:

VACUUM TUBE ALLOCATIONS
February

	<u>Allocations</u>	<u>Percent</u>
New radios and amplifiers	240,239	73.0
Replacements	74,048	22.5
Operations <u>a/</u>	<u>14,808</u>	<u>4.5</u>
Total	329,095	100.0

a/ These tubes are used by manufacturers for testing, by the Ministry of Communications and by the Broadcasting Corporation of Japan.

SOURCE: Communications Equipment Manufacturers' Association.

48. February increases in production of radio parts were partly caused by the fact that several small companies were reporting for the first time.

RADIO PARTS PRODUCTION
(thousands)

	<u>December</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
Condensers	1,196	1,208	1,484
Resistors	1,319	1,113	1,379
Transformers	61	54	77
Speakers	83	79	67
Miscellaneous (thousands of yen)	9,541	11,273	15,842

SOURCE: Reports of manufacturing companies.

PERSONNEL

Ministry of Communications

49. Absenteeism among Ministry of Communications operating personnel continued to increase from 9 February to 1 March. The weekly average was 5.4 percent. This increase, which began about the first of the year, is caused chiefly by the food shortage which impels people to go to the country to buy food.

50. The number of postal employees increased slightly during January and February. The number of classified employees is fixed by law. Additional persons hired who have the same qualifications as classified employees and receive the same treatment are listed as "quasi-classified."

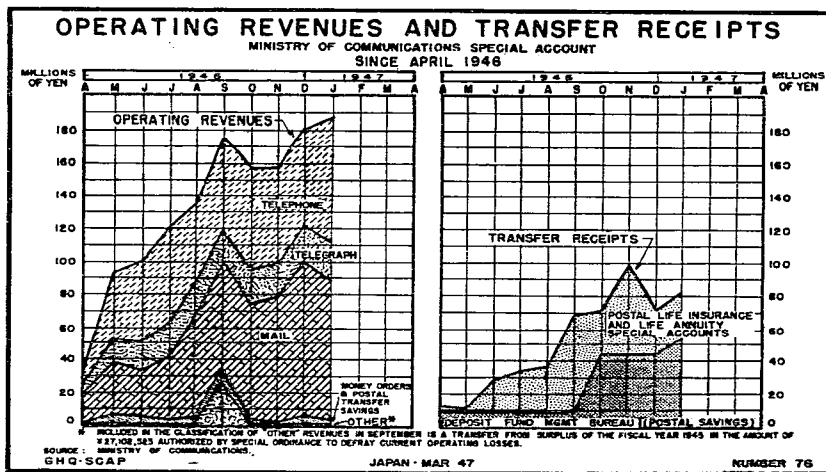
**NUMBER OF POSTAL EMPLOYEES
28 February**

	<u>Second Class</u>	<u>Third Class</u>	<u>Quasi-classified</u>	<u>Unclassified</u>	<u>Total</u>
Postal Bureau	217	23,303	21,843	54,138	99,501
Postal Savings and Life Insurance Bureau	1	14,413	4,748	68,152	87,314
Postal Savings and Life Insurance branches	<u>88</u>	<u>8,730</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>20,918</u>	<u>29,774</u>
Total	306	46,446	26,629	143,208	216,589

SOURCE: Ministry of Communications.

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

51. In January the Ministry of Communications' operating revenues rose three percent. Transfer receipts rose six percent when the Ministry of Finance's Deposit Fund Management Bureau transferred large sums to the account of the Ministry of Communications.



52. In March the Diet approved the 1947-48 Ministry of Communications' budget of about ¥ 11,937,000,000. Last year's budget was about ¥ 6,586,000,000. Receipts include approximately ¥ 9,185,000,000 in operating revenues and ¥ 2,167,000,000 in bonds. About ¥ 9,379,000,000 of the expenditures will go for operating expenses and about ¥ 2,540,000,000 for construction and rehabilitation.

The budget is based partly on expected improvement of long-distance service which will accommodate double the present number of domestic toll calls during the 1947-48 fiscal year and on the estimated addition of at least 200,000 new telephone subscribers during the fiscal year.

RESEARCH

53. Tests continued during March on long-distance telephone and teletypewriter circuits, particularly between Tokyo, Sendai and Sapporo.

SECTION 8

LABOR

C O N T E N T S

	Paragraph
Labor Legislation and Policy.	1
Labor and Employer Organizations.	7
Labor Relations	23
Labor Education	35
Wages and Working Conditions.	40
Employment and Unemployment	45
Public Works.	53
Administration.	55

LABOR LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Labor Standards Law

1. Introduced in the Diet on 6 March the Labor Standards Law was enacted by the Diet on 27 March. The Minister of Welfare stated that the Law would not be promulgated before July 1947.

The Labor Standards Law incorporates many of the recommendations made by the Labor Advisory Committee and conforms to standards set by the International Labor Organization and generally covers all enterprises and occupations except domestic and family workers. In many instances general principles are to be implemented by ordinance; before promulgation the ordinances are to be submitted to public hearings.

First article of the Law stated that "working conditions should be such as to meet the needs of the worker in leading a life worthy of a human being." The Law includes the following major provisions:

- Chapter 1: General principles include recognition of the Law's provisions as minimum standards only, and the right of workers and employers to participate on an equal basis in determining working conditions. The Law prohibits discrimination in wages or working conditions for nationality, creed or social status; discrimination in wages between men and women, forced labor, and any intermediation in employment except by persons legally authorized to do so.
- Chapter 2: Any contract concluded between a worker and an employer is not to exceed one year in duration unless it is for a particular project requiring a longer period for completion; "money in advance" contracts are banned. To discharge a worker employed more than two months, excluding most daily and seasonal workers and those on probation, the employer is generally required to give the workers 30 days' dismissal notice or 30 days' average wage, computed according to a formula detailed by

the Law. Blacklisting by an employer on the basis of a worker's nationality, creed, social status or union activity is forbidden.

Chapter 3: Wages must be paid at least once a month in cash and in full, directly to the worker with only those deductions authorized by law or by collective agreement permitted. For any days off for which the employer is responsible the worker is to receive 60 percent of his average daily wage. Workers paid on a piece-rate basis must be guaranteed a basic hourly wage.

Minimum wages may be fixed for an occupation or a type of enterprise by the "competent office" responsible for implementing the Law, after investigation and recommendation from the appropriate Wage Board and public hearings on the recommendations. The Wage Boards are to be tripartite bodies appointed centrally and locally by the "competent office" on the basis of recommendations by parties concerned; in addition to recommending minimum wages upon request, the Boards are authorized also to make recommendations to the administrative offices concerning wage matters generally.

Chapter 4: Basic hours are set at eight per day, excluding recess, and 48 per week; for underground workers these hours are to cover the time from pit mouth to pit mouth. A recess is required of at least 45 minutes for persons who have completed six hours of work and at least one hour for eight hours of work. One rest day per week is stipulated. Special ordinances altering basic hours and recess periods in certain occupations or enterprises may be issued where essential to avoid inconvenience to the public or where other special need exists but such changes must conform as closely as possible to the Law's standards and must not be detrimental to the worker's health and welfare.

Overtime and work on rest days is permitted if authorized by a written agreement signed by representatives of the majority of the workers; an extension of hours may be especially authorized for public workers if temporarily necessary to transact official business. For work underground or injurious to health overtime is limited to two hours per day. For overtime or work on rest days or at night between 2200 and 0500, wages are to be increased by 25 percent of the normal pay excluding family, transportation and certain other allowances.

Agricultural and forestry, supervisory, confidential and intermittent labor are excluded from these hours, overtime and rest-day provisions.

Six days' paid vacation are to be granted annually to each worker who has been employed for one year continuously and present on 80 percent of the whole working days, plus one extra day for each additional year worked continuously up to a maximum of 20 years.

Chapter 5: Safety and sanitation requirements include provision of accident-prevention measures, health facilities, health and safety education for workers, safety and health supervisors in specified enterprises and initial and regular physical examinations of workers; prohibition of manufacturing of harmful products, employment of

inexperienced workers on dangerous work and employment of a sick person on work which would aggravate his condition; regulation of installation or altering of dangerous equipment; and stipulation that workers must observe the necessary rules for prevention of danger and injury.

Chapter 6: A minimum age of full 15 years or, for persons who have completed school requirements, 14 years is set for employment. Children aged 12 years or over may be employed in certain occupations in agricultural and forestry, commercial, recreational, educational and other specified enterprises provided the work is light labor not injurious to health or welfare, is outside school hours and has the approval of the "competent authority," the school authority and the parent. Employers are required to maintain on file proof of age of all persons under 18 years.

The basic hours set by the Law apply to women and young persons 15 to 18 years. For children under 15 years, hours are set at seven per day and 42 per week including school time. Overtime beyond basic weekly hours or special extension of hours is prohibited for young persons under 18 years; overtime for women is limited to two hours per day, six hours per week and 150 hours per year, with no work permitted on rest days.

Night work from 2200 to 0500 hours is prohibited for most women and young persons, except those working in agriculturc and forestry, the telephone industry, hospitals and other specified enterprises. Children of 12 to 15 years are not permitted to work between 2000 and 0500.

Women and young persons under 18 years may not work on dangerous jobs, on work requiring conveyance of heavy-weight goods or underground.

A pregnant woman is authorized, if she so requests, lighter work or time off for six weeks before childbirth; she is prohibited from returning to work for six weeks after childbirth with the exception that, if at the end of five weeks she requests employment, she may be assigned to a job pronounced by a doctor as not harmful to her. Two 30-minute periods of time off per day for nursing a baby less than one year old are authorized. Menstrual leave is to be permitted upon request.

Chapter 7: Employers are prohibited from exploiting workers on the basis of their being trainees. Employment conditions of trainees are to be stipulated specifically by ordinance after consulting the tripartite Committee for the Training of Skilled Laborers which is to be appointed by the "competent minister of labor."

Chapter 8: For injury or illness incurred as a result of his job and not through his own fault, the worker is to receive from his employer medical treatment, 60 percent of his average wage throughout the period during which he cannot work, and, if physically handicapped upon recovery, compensation specified according to the severity of the handicap.

In case of death, a benefit equal to 1,000 days'

average wages is to be paid, plus funeral expenses to the amount of 60 days' average wage.

The employer is not to be liable for any accident covered by the Workmen's Compensation Insurance Law or other laws if the worker receives benefits equivalent to those provided by the Labor Standards Law.

Appeal machinery is provided for.

Chapter 9: An employer of more than 10 persons is required to draw up rules of employment covering all working conditions, submit these rules to representatives of the majority of the workers for an opinion and finally submit them to the administrative office for approval.

Chapter 10: Rules of dormitory are to be drawn up by any employer maintaining a dormitory, submitted for the dormitory dwellers' approval and reported to the administrative office. Employers are prohibited from infringing on the private life of workers in the dormitory or on selection of dormitory leaders.

Chapter 11: To enforce the Law, a Labor Standards Bureau is to be established in the "competent ministry of labor" plus a Regional Labor Office where necessary, a Labor Standards Office in each prefecture, Labor Standards Inspection Offices within the prefectures and Labor Standards Inspectors within each office, all under the control and supervision of the "competent minister of labor." Tripartite Committees of Labor Standards are to be established in the national and prefectural offices to investigate and make recommendations on enforcement and improvement of the Law.

Chapter 12: Records to be maintained are outlined.

At the worker's request the court may order payment of double the total amount owed and not paid by employers under such wage provisions of the Law as those covering dismissal notice, minimum wages, overtime rates and paid vacations.

Chapter 13: Fines and imprisonment are specified for contravention of the Law. Forced labor is subject to severest penalty, 1 to 10 years' imprisonment or ¥ 2,000 to ¥ 30,000 fine, while labor intermediation, manufacture of harmful products, child labor and employment underground of women and young persons is punishable by imprisonment up to one year or a fine not exceeding ¥ 10,000. Other violations are divided into two groups with a maximum imprisonment of six months or fine of ¥ 5,000 provided for the first group and a maximum of ¥ 5,000 fine for the second. If a person judged guilty was acting as the agent of an owner the owner is also to receive punishment unless the latter had taken necessary measures to prevent the violation.

2. Four resolutions were attached to the Law when it passed the House of Peers:

- (1) Economic and labor conditions should be considered by the Government in deciding the date of enforcement of the Law and employers should be given ample time to prepare.

- (2) Persons well versed in economics should be appointed to any committees drafting implementing ordinances.
- (3) In enforcing the Law the administrative office should emphasize the principle of guiding employers rather than merely controlling or punishing.
- (4) Enforcement of the Law should be accompanied by improvement of social insurance and public medical establishments.

Workmen's Compensation Insurance Law

3. Implementing the Labor Standards Law's provisions for workmen's compensation the Workmen's Compensation Insurance Law, providing for insurance financed by employers and administered by the Government, was passed by the Diet on 30 March. Date of enforcement was to be fixed by ordinance.

Compulsory application of the Law is provided for manufacturing, mining and quarrying, transportation and other specified enterprises with more than five regular employees and construction and lumbering undertakings with one or more regular worker or a total of more than 300 man-days of work during a year. Enterprises not so included but covered by the Labor Standards Law may voluntarily come under the Law's provisions, with the exception of public workers, undertakings employing only family workers and persons covered by the Seamen's Law. If the greater part of workers in an enterprise "of voluntary application" desire the enterprise to come under the Law, the employer must make application to do so.

The Government is to collect from employers premiums consisting of total wages, salaries and other pay multiplied by the undertaking's insurance rate; a schedule of insurance rates classified according to amount of wages is to be set by the "competent minister" on the basis of the rate of accidents occurring in the industries covered during the five years preceding enforcement.

Monetary and medical benefits are provided corresponding to those provided in the Labor Standards Law. Benefit money is to be paid by the Government directly to the worker or, in case of death, to those whose living depended on the worker's income, and is to be tax-exempt. Provision is made for additional benefits in special cases, including artificial limbs and vocational re-education.

Penalties include fine or imprisonment for violation of certain provisions of the Law. Failure of the employer to comply with safety requirements may forfeit Government responsibility, leaving responsibility for benefits to the employer.

Appeal machinery consists of the Insurance Referee and the tripartite Insurance Examining Board to be established by the "competent minister," with final recourse to the courts.

The Law also calls for establishment by the "competent minister" of a tripartite Workers' Accident Compensation Insurance Advisory Committee to consider matters concerning the operation of the insurance, including advising the "competent minister" on the setting of insurance rates during the first five years of the Law's enforcement and considering all ordinances drafted to implement and detail the Law.

The 1947 Law abolishes the 1931 Act of Insurance Against Liability for Relief to Workers in Case of Accident, which applied only to forestry and construction industries.

Seamen's Law

4. The revised Seamen's Law, raising protective legislation for seamen to a level at least as high as standards prescribed by the International Labor Organization in 1936, was passed by the Diet on 27 March. Date of promulgation was not immediately announced.

Coverage of the Law includes all seamen on sea-going vessels of more than five gross tons excluding fishing vessels up to 30 gross tons. Specified exceptions are made under several of the provisions.

In addition to regulating manning, discipline, termination of contract and other conditions peculiar to the maritime industry, the Law applies to seamen those articles of the Labor Standards Law covering general principles, including equality of treatment, prohibition of forced labor and determination of working conditions by workers and employers on an equal basis. It establishes the following specific working conditions:

- (1) Hours are set generally at eight per day and 56 per week for persons whose time is divided into watches and eight and 48, respectively, for those whose time is not so divided; when in port the eight-hour day and 48-hour week apply to both groups and one rest day per week is prescribed.
- (2) Overtime is to be paid, rates to be established by ordinance.
- (3) Wages are to be based on experience, capacity and service. The "competent authority" to be designated to supervise application of the Law may fix minimum pay with the consent of the Seamen's Labor Relations Committee. Wages are to be paid fully and directly to the seamen at regular periods of at least once a month.
- (4) Within one year after completion of one year's continuous service with the same company, the seaman is to receive 25 days' paid vacation per year of service plus five additional days for each additional three months' service.
- (5) For sickness or injury incurred during the term of agreement and not incurred willfully or by default, the seaman is to receive medical expenses or treatment; "standard monthly remuneration," to be set by ordinance, for four months, 60 percent of this "remuneration" monthly thereafter till completely recovered and a payment of 60 percent of this monthly figure as a "convalescent allowance" upon recovery; and, if permanently handicapped, a disability allowance specified according to the degree of disability. Death benefits are also provided.
- (6) Special provisions for women and young persons set 15 years generally as the minimum age of employment excepting for coal-carrying or stoking, for which 18 years was the minimum; provide for menstrual and maternity time off from work for women; and prohibit night work from 2000 to 0500 hours for women and young persons.

- (7) Acts of dispute are prohibited when the vessel is in foreign port or where such an act may endanger human life of the vessel.

Penalty provisions include both fines and imprisonment for contraventions of the Law. Enforcement is to be by the "competent authority" which will appoint seamen's labor inspectors and which can request the Seamen's Labor Relations Committee to investigate and make recommendations on matters connected with enforcement or revision of this Law and the Labor Standards Law.

Prohibition on Purged Persons Becoming Labor Officials

5. As an extension of the 14 December ministerial action excluding wartime "labor front" officials from the labor movement, a ministerial ordinance on 14 March excluded persons designated under the 4 January 1946 Purge Directive from becoming officers in labor unions. In effect the ordinance denied former military officers, ultranationalists and leading members of former ex-servicemen's associations from influencing the labor movement.

Labor Policies of Major Party Platforms

6. By the middle of March each of the major political parties had announced election campaign platforms which included statements on labor policy.

The Liberals advocated the establishment of a minimum wage system and a 48-hour week, with a 36-hour week for certain classes of labor. The industrial reconstruction movement by labor and management was to be encouraged, with the aim of increasing production through labor-management cooperation.

The Progressives outlined a labor policy including encouragement of the healthy development of labor unions and establishment of a "trust management" over business through the cooperative organization of workers and the management. Social insurance on a wide scale and minimum wage and profit-sharing systems were favored as well as the use of a sliding scale in determining wages and salaries.

Social Democratic proposals included strengthening all labor, farmer, fishermen and other unions to enable them to become the chief force in combating the economic crisis and attempting to increase the "will to work" among unions; strengthening the Central Labor Relations Committee, with Government, employers and labor urged to submit to Committee decisions and limit strikes to the minimum; establishing a minimum wage system based on a fair consideration of prices and cost of living and a wage system consisting of a basic wage plus special allowances for "overcoming the crisis"; and alleviating the effects of the "key industries first" program and reparations removals by creating job opportunities and by implementing a social-insurance system.

LABOR AND EMPLOYER ORGANIZATIONS

Labor-Management Economic Reconstruction Council

7. The Economic Reconstruction Council representing major employer and labor groups decided on 24 February to launch a nationwide popular movement for increased production with stress on closer liaison among the industrial recovery movements in different districts.

To speed initial steps for increasing coal production a

liaison committee was established between the Council's Coal Industry Reconstruction Council and other industries closely related to coal mining.

8. On 4 March the Economic Reconstruction Council approved the establishment of two subcommittees: (1) the People's Livelihood Stabilization Committee to study a minimum wage system, rationing and measures to ensure food and daily necessities and to combat inflation; and (2) the Economic Reconstruction Committee to do research on distribution of coal, industrial reconstruction, expansion of employment, removal of reparations equipment and other matters.

Subsequently a third subcommittee, the Scientific and Technical Research Committee, was established with the aim of developing new products and production techniques, for the general benefit of the economy, rather than for private exploitation.

9. Formal inauguration of the Iron and Steel Industrial Reconstruction Council to step up reconstruction of the industry through labor-management cooperation took place on 3 March. The council was made up of delegates to the Economic Reconstruction Council representing labor and management in the iron and steel industry.

Political Activities

10. On 14 March groups of unions engaging in national political activity were required to register as political associations by instructions issued to prefectural governors by the Ministry of Home Affairs under Imperial Ordinance No. 101 of 23 February 1946.

The instructions applied to groups of unions putting up candidates of their own but excluded those merely supporting candidates of other political organizations unless the campaign was at least region-wide. Only the federation or committee at the top was required to register, not individual local unions.

Registration was restricted to the duration of the political campaign concerned.

11. On 13 March the National Congress of Industrial Unions at its Central Executive Committee meeting announced a policy opposing excessive labor participation in politics, including the use of labor union funds for election purposes and the utilization of workers' organizations for election campaigns. The Congress's election activities were to be confined to recommendations of candidates and the education of organized workers on politics in general.

Nine of the Congress's leading members were nominated as "recommended candidates."

12. The General Federation of Japanese Trade-unions, carrying out its previously announced policy of active support for Social Democratic candidates, on 18 March formally proposed 32 candidates for the Social Democratic ticket for the House of Representatives and seven candidates for the House of Councillors.

13. The Anti-Cabinet Working Committee, organized in December under Social Democratic sponsorship and representing several labor unions and other organizations, in late February and March adopted a policy of nominating and actively supporting candidates representing the interests of the working people.

On 18 March the Committee made public a list of 55 recommended candidates for the House of Councillors. Candidates listed included members of both the National Congress of Industrial Unions and the General Federation of Japanese Trade-unions as well as numerous other organizations. All were running on Social Democratic, Communist or independent slates.

Labor Federations

14. On 10 March the National Liaison Council of Labor Unions (Zenkoku Rodo Kumiai Renraku Kyogi Kai) was inaugurated, culminating continued efforts by major labor federations to establish an organ for coordinated effort and cooperation of the various organized labor groups.

When the General Federation of Japanese Trade-unions refused to participate in the preparatory committee for the All-Japan Labor Union Congress, established in February, the National Roundtable Conference of Labor Unions (Zenkoku Rodo Kumiai Kondankai) met in late February to establish a liaison council which would represent all major labor groups.

With the inauguration of the National Liaison Council, both the preparatory committee for the All-Japan Labor Union Congress and the National Roundtable Conference of Labor Unions were dissolved.

Representing 38 unions with a claimed membership of 5,837,000 workers and including all major federations, the National Liaison Council aimed at joint action on common problems and a campaign for the promotion of the cause of a united labor front. The autonomy and independence of all member unions was to be respected, with the Council functioning in a strictly consultative capacity.

The Central Executive Committee, representing member organizations according to their size, included three representatives of the National Congress of Industrial Unions (1,643,599 members), two from the General Federation of Japanese Trade-unions (1,100,000 members), one from the All-Japan Council of Labor Unions (157,000 members) and eight from other member unions.

15. At its meeting on 12-13 March the Central Executive Committee of the National Congress of Industrial Unions, in addition to formulating policy on participation in politics, discussed continued efforts to amalgamate the entire Japanese labor movement.

Policy for participation in the Economic Reconstruction Council was discussed with emphasis once more on the need for caution to prevent use of the Council by industrialists to compromise with labor, as in the wartime labor-management harmonization societies.

A resolution for the dissolution of the national federation's youth action corps was approved.

Labor Union Activities

16. General meetings were held by the All-Communications Workers' Union on 7-9 March, the All-Japan Teachers' Unions' Council on 7 March and the General Federation of Government Railway Workers' Union on 15-17 March. All three unions dissolved their struggle committees, leaving adjustment of unsettled issues to the central executive committees.

At the convention of the communications workers,

resolutions were also approved calling for internal reorganization and democratization of the Union as well as for intensifying the Union's organizing campaign.

Discussion at the railway workers' convention included election policies, unification of the labor movement and affiliation of the Federation with the National Liaison Council of Labor Unions and participation in the Economic Reconstruction Council. The meeting reconfirmed the decision to reorganize the Federation into a single unified organization.

17. On 15 March the tripartite labor-management council for government railways, provided for in the agreement signed 21 February, was established. Chief subjects for deliberation were to be organization and management policies of the government railway service, labor conditions, improvement of business and achievement of the other provisions of the labor contract.

18. First step toward the nationwide unification of textile workers was taken on 10 March when the Japanese Federation of Textile Industry Workers' Unions was formed by some 60,000 workers in three major spinning companies, Toyo, Kanegafuchi and Shikishima. The Federation decided not to affiliate with either the National Congress of Industrial Unions or the General Federation of Japanese Trade Unions.

19. On 1 March, first anniversary of the promulgation of the Trade-union Law, a number of organizations carried out celebrations. The Central Labor Relations Committee held a special lecture meeting at the Central Labor College for representatives of both labor and the Government.

World Federation of Trade-unions Commission

20. The World Federation of Trade-unions Commission, representing labor organizations of several Allied nations and established to investigate labor conditions in Germany and Japan, arrived in Tokyo in March.

In a press conference with Allied and Japanese correspondents on 18 March one of the Commission members stressed building a sound labor movement and cautioned that labor should not dissipate its energies and resources in undue political activities to the neglect of the proper economic functions of labor unions, such as the improvement of workers' wages and working hours and conditions.

The four members of the Commission met with labor and public members of the Central Labor Relations Committee, Ministry of Welfare officials and officers of the General Federation of Japanese Trade-unions and the National Congress of Industrial Unions, and visited factories, hospitals and schools.

21. In preparation for the delegation a joint welcome committee of more than 40 Japanese trade-unions was formed in mid-March and plans for reception meetings and other activities were formulated.

Individual unions, including the government railway and communications workers in convention, outlined plans for discussing labor problems with members of the Commission.

Employer Organizations

22. The Kanto Employers' Association on 17 March held a general meeting at which a number of smaller organizations were accepted as members. Plans were formulated for expanding the Association to become the principal employer organization in Japan.

Discussion also covered policy or regional organization, participation in the Economic Reconstruction Council and plans for publications and schools.

LABOR RELATIONS

Labor Relations Committees

23. On 1 March, when the term of office of former Committee members expired, selection of the new members of the Central Labor Relations Committee was still in progress. By the end of March labor and employer members had been chosen.

24. In all prefectures where the existing Committees' term of office had expired, appointment of new Labor Relations Committees was begun by March and in many prefectures the selection was completed during the month.

In Shiga Prefecture the first direct election of labor representatives on a Labor Relations Committee was held. Polling places were established throughout the prefecture and a voting procedure outlined which permitted all members of trade-unions to cast their votes for a slate of 20 candidates nominated by a committee representing major labor groups as prescribed by Central Labor Relations Committee election recommendations. The five candidates receiving the largest number of votes were elected.

By March all prefectural Labor Relations Committees had either appointed or scheduled appointment of an executive director and from 5 to 20 administrative assistants. Councilors had been chosen in many prefectures and were being chosen in the remainder.

25. First penal sentence under the Trade-union Law was included in the final decision of the Kanazawa District Court on the first criminal indictments for violation of Article 11 of the Law. The decision, handed down on 15 March, exonerated the president of the Enuma Manufacturing Company but found the director of the Company guilty of discharging workers for union activity. The two-month imprisonment sentence was suspended for two years.

Negotiations and Agreements

26. By mid-March teachers and government railway and communications workers' unions signed formal collective agreements with the Government, while negotiations were continued by remaining government workers' unions.

27. The government workers' dispute was formally terminated on 27 February with approval by the unions and the Government of a Central Labor Relations Committee mediation plan. The workers accepted the Government's 20 February proposal to raise wages temporarily to an average of ¥ 1,200 a month and the Government promised to establish immediately the Advisory Committee for Investigation of Improved Treatment of Government Employees to settle the question of revising base pay and other problems.

28. Conclusion of a collective agreement on 21 February between the Transportation Ministry and the General Federation of

Government Railway Workers' Unions covering 530,000 workers was followed by the signing of contracts on 8 March between the Ministry of Education and the All-Japan Teachers' Unions' Council with a claimed membership of 320,000, and on 14 March between the Communications Ministry and the All-Communications Workers' Union claiming 380,000 members.

The teachers' agreement, effective for six months, included provisions for the responsibility of the Ministry of Education for securing "decent livelihood" for teachers, a 42-hour week and physiological and maternity leave for women teachers. Accompanying the contract were regulations for a labor-management council which had been agreed to previously.

Both the communications and railway workers' contracts set hours, holidays, paid vacations, overtime rates and employer responsibility for workmen's compensation; called for establishment by the employing agency, after consultation with the union, of a minimum wage system based on living expenses and a retirement allowance system; and provided for a labor-management council which would give workers a voice in policy on operational matters as well as personnel affairs and working conditions. In addition the railway workers' contract established grievance machinery. Both contracts were master agreements establishing national standards and providing for negotiation of supplementary local agreements.

Extension of the protection of the communications workers' contract to workers employed by special contract post offices was to be worked out by a special committee established early in March to handle problems of these workers.

29. Terminating 35 days of formal negotiations a provisional agreement was reached on 7 March between the National Council of Coal Mine Workers' Unions, representing 360,000 miners or 92 percent of coal mining employment, and the Japan Coal Mine Operators' Association, representing all mine operators.

In addition to retroactive wage adjustments for January, February and March the agreement provided a sliding-scale formula for computing wages from April on the basis of "cost of commodities" and set up a committee for administering the formula and for effecting wage adjustments accordingly.

The agreement represented the first provision of a wage system adjustable to an inflating economy.

30. Negotiations, which had been dropped in December after a temporary agreement, were renewed during March for conclusion of a written collective-bargaining agreement between the Japan Broadcasting Corporation and the radio workers' chapter of the All-Japan Press and Radio Workers' Union.

The negotiations were resumed over the unsettled issue of workers' participation in personnel affairs when the Corporation on 3 March announced a unilateral decision on personnel changes and the union protested the action, proposed an alternative reorganization of personnel and filed with the Tokyo Labor Relations Committee a charge of violation of Article 11 of the Trade-union Law.

Labor Disputes

31. No significant work stoppages occurred during March although negotiations and collective bargaining continued.

32. Disputes in January numbered 91 and involved 1,463,547 workers, a decrease from December.

Continuation of the government workers' dispute accounted for a large proportion of total workers involved, with new disputes declining substantially.

LABOR DISPUTES a/

	December		Beginning		January		Total	
	Number	Workers	Number	Workers	Number	Workers	Number	Workers
		Involved		Involved		Involved		Involved
Acts of dispute								
Strikes	52	60,954	26	4,597	4	12,894	30	17,491
Slowdowns	14	8,734	4	380	5	1,936	9	2,316
Lockouts	6	464	4	186	6	531	10	717
Production control	19	4,988	15	2,989	11	3,254	26	6,243
Total	91	75,140	49	8,152	26	18,615	75	26,767
Not accompanied by act of dispute b/	10	1,433,770	7	2,890	9	1,433,890	16	1,436,780
Grand total	101	1,508,910	56	11,042	35	1,452,505	91	1,463,547

a/ Includes disputes beginning during the month and those carried over from the preceding month.

b/ Includes disputes where negotiations have broken down and those where a third party has intervened to assist adjustment.

SOURCE: Ministry of Welfare.

33. Although total strikes and lockouts declined in January, man-days, idle owing to strikes and lockouts increased slightly due to the longer duration of January acts of dispute than of December's. Most of these acts of dispute occurred among small groups of workers with half the strikes and lockouts involving 50 or fewer workers.

DURATION OF STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS
January

Days Duration	Strikes and Lockouts
1-5	17
6-10	7
11-15	3
16-20	3
21-over	10
Total	40

SOURCE: Ministry of Welfare.

PARTICIPANTS IN STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS
January

Workers Involved	Strikes and Lockouts
1-50	20
51-100	6
101-500	8
501-1,000	3
1,001-over	3
Total	40

SOURCE: Ministry of Welfare.

MAN-DAYS IDLE OWING TO STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS a/

<u>Period</u>	<u>Workers Involved</u>	<u>Number</u>
December	61,724	234,326
January	18,208	275,458
Total	79,932	509,784

a/ Includes both disputes beginning during the month and those carried over from the preceding month.

SOURCE: Ministry of Welfare.

34. Chief major disputes occurring during March were as follows:

- (1) Wage negotiations between the 40,000 workers and the management of the Yawata Iron Works were punctuated by several brief work stoppages in the repair and other departments and were terminated on 15 March when the workers accepted the management's plan for higher wages.
- (2) Coordinated negotiations covering more than 100,000 workers in all private railroads were referred by the Central Labor Relations Committee to the prefectural Labor Relations Committees for mediation with the recommendation that the local mediation plans follow in principle the settlement reached for government railroad workers on 27 February.

LABOR EDUCATION

35. On 15 March the Ministry of Welfare, stressing the importance attached by the Government to labor education, stated that an expanded government program of labor education with regard to provisions of the Labor Standards Law and labor relations under the Trade-union Law and Labor Relations Adjustment Law was under preparation.

36. Conferences were held by Ministry of Welfare officials during March in preparation for the establishment of a workers' education section under the Labor Administration Bureau and the organization of a tripartite advisory committee for the section.

Publications on Labor

37. During March the following publications on labor were issued:

PUBLICATIONS ON LABOR
March

<u>Issuing Office</u>	<u>Publication</u>
General Federation of Japanese Trade-unions	"Progress of Trade-unions," H. Hara.
National Congress of Industrial Unions	"Production Control Techniques"
National Congress of Industrial Unions	"Trade-union Cultural Activities in the Soviet Union"

Issuing Office

Publication

All-Japan Coal Miners' Federation

Monthly Labor Review's "Wage Systems in the American Bituminous Coal Mines" and other republications from the Review. a/

Kanto Employers' Association

U. S. Department of Labor's, "Foreman's Guide to Labor Relations" b/

The Labor Association

United Automobile Workers', "Building the Union" b/

a/ Translation.

b/ Second edition of translation.

Labor Schools

33. On 1 March Dr. I. Suehiro, chairman of the Central Labor Relations Committee, began a series of lectures at the Imperial University on labor legislation.

Labor-Management Libraries

39. By 17 March 10 prefectures had established labor-management libraries.

WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS

40. As distribution of official rations fell further behind schedule during March, wage earners became increasingly dependent on the black market and the cost of living rose sharply. The Government continued efforts to wipe out black markets and increase the farmers' delivery of food for official distribution.

41. Family expenditures declined somewhat throughout most of January but resumed an upward trend during February. Note the chart at top of next page.

42. At an informal conference on 20 March, the first since its initial meeting on 24 January, the Wage Investigation Commission partially resolved its disagreement on organization with the appointment of 12 nonvoting technical advisers, six representing labor and six management. After brief discussion of general problems the Commission instructed the technical advisers to outline, with the assistance of the secretariat, methods for handling the various phases of economic problems before the Commission.

43. A preparatory committee for the Advisory Committee for the Investigation of the Improved Treatment of Government Employees met on 28 February and 3, 8, 17 and 20 March, with equal representation of the Government and government workers' unions and with observers representing policemen, firemen and prison officers who were barred by the Trade-union Law from forming unions.

At the 17 March meeting the Ministry of Finance submitted for consideration a draft plan for provisional increase in government workers' pay.

44. A bill revising the income-tax system was enacted by the 92nd Diet. It provided for considerable alleviation of the tax burden on lower-income workers by raising the exemption point and combining normal and surtax rates in a graduated tax scale applied on a "pay-as-you-go" basis.