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been worn thin by the long-drawn-out war in China. In the event of naval war with Japan, it would be logical for us to use the British base at Singapore. Our own nearest major naval base, Pearl Harbor, is over 5,000 miles from Manila. The Manila base, Cavete, is not yet of formidable dimensions. It is considered certain that the British would welcome our fleet to Singapore with open arms.

Japan would go to war with us under heavy handicaps. That being true, would she take the chance of forcing us to fight? The answer to that is difficult. Eastern ways are not Western ways. Japanese samurai traditions is something that is utterly alien to us. A real Japanese thinks little of death and disaster—he prefers it to losing face. Some who have studied the Japanese character believe it not unlikely that Japan might attack us, even though she knew she was certain to lose, in a grand suicidal gesture.

CLEAN UP OR CLOSE UP

Raleigh, March 18.—The beer industry's "clean up or close up" campaign in North Carolina has resulted in disciplinary action against 396 retail dealers in 69 counties.

Edgar H. Bain, of Goldsboro, state director of the Brewers and North Carolina Beer Distributors committee, said that the committee has cooperated with law enforcement officers in the elimination of 153 undesirable outlets, 125 by revocation, 26 by refusal of local authorities to relicense on information furnished by the committee, and two by surrender.

In addition, the committee has warned 238 dealers to "clean up" or face more drastic action. Revocation petitions are pending against three dealers in Ashe, Onslow, and Graham counties. A

public hearing has been scheduled by the Onslow county board of commissioners for April 7 on the committee's revocation petition against a dealer in the Holly Ridge section.

The committee's record, Bain explained, has been compiled since the "clean up or close up" campaign was begun in this state 22 months ago. In recent weeks, the committee's field investigators have concentrated their efforts in the areas adjoining national defense projects.

The committee has checked 1,646 retail outlets in 94 counties during this 22-month period, Colonel Bain said. In addition, 73 outlets have been re-checked.

The rural farm population showed a decline in 21 states during the past decade, the rate running from one-tenth of 1 per cent in South Carolina to 21.1 per cent in South Dakota.

— NEW —

Louisburg

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ADMISSION:

MATINEE	NIGHT
Estab. Price .20	Estab. Price .31
N. C. Sales	Including N. C.
Tax .01	Sales Tax
Defense Tax .03	Defense Tax .04
Total .30	Total .35
Children .10	Children 15c

Lets hope the coming town election, to be held without a primary, will not result in the conditions that existed before the primary system was adopted. There were times then when a few people who wanted to control the town's affairs would get together the night before the election and make up a ticket to be voted on the next day. There was no control as to who or how many could run for office in the election, and there can be none now. If a sufficient number run for office, it will easily be possible for a small majority of the voters to name the officers for the next two years. With no primary and no convention the gap is open wide for corrupt politics. Even though it is late we believe the custom of holding a primary should be adhered to. We believe it could be made legally tight with a proper resolution, passed at the proper time. Anyway the voters have in the past and would in all probability accept the results as final. The 1937 instance only used the election as a run-off primary and not as a "bolt" in the system.

STATE HOSPITAL EMPLOYEE KILLED; ANOTHER INJURED

Annapolis, Md.—An employee of the Crownsville State Hospital was killed and another injured, Sunday night, March 9, when struck by an automobile on the General's Highway, near Crownsville, Md.

Miss Harrell, 19, Oak City, N. C., was pronounced dead on arrival at the Emergency Hospital. She had a fractured skull, broken neck, compound fracture of the left leg, and a fracture of the right shoulder.

Willie Nowell, 23, Bunn, N. C., was admitted to the hospital with a fractured left leg, fractured pelvis, and bruises.

Police reported that Miss Harrell and Mr. Nowell were walking south on the highway, facing traffic. Police said the couple were struck from behind by an automobile driven by Joseph P. Jewell, 20, Camp Parole.

County officers, William A. Stallings, and Brooks Meade, who investigated the accident, reported that Miss Harrell was thrown 80 feet to the right side of the road from the point of impact, while Mr. Nowell was hurled 30 feet to the left side of the road.

Mr. Jewell was freed on \$1,000 bond pending a hearing April 10, on manslaughter and reckless driving.—Evening Capitol, Annapolis, Md.

Will Nicholson of Cowarts, a unit demonstration farmer of Jackson County, has set 16,500 trees on his place in the past six years, reports Jesse F. Giles, assistant farm agent.

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"CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS"

Any citizen who has "conscientious objections" to the totalitarian trend, has a perfect right to be worried, in fact shudder over the unfortunate socialistic policies that have been adopted by our Federal government.

FAR EAST A PROBLEM

The attention of the public at large remains focused on Europe's war—but the eyes of a good many experts are watching the Far East. For, these experts think, there is almost no possibility of our going to war in Europe in the near future. But there is a very definite possibility that we may engage in hostilities with Japan.

This government's attitude toward Nippon has been undergoing important changes. As the United States News puts it, "Attempted appeasement of the Japanese finally is ended. The United States, hereafter, will refuse to be frightened by statements out of Tokio. Vital American interests in the Philippines and in the Dutch East Indies and British Malaya are not to be sacrificed without an effort to defend them. If Japan presses ahead with her present plans in the face of American opposition, she must expect war."

Japan means to dominate the Pacific. Her statesmen have said that all of Oceania must be brought within her sphere of influence. Some feel that, as an Axis partner, she intends to make an attempt on Singapore. She is a definite threat to Australia and New Zealand. She has outflanked the Philippines, and she is making angry faces at French Indo China. And she threatens our supplies of rubber, tin and tea.

Evidence of Washington's stiffened policy is found in the almost unanimous House vote in favor of a measure to fortify Guam. Not long ago, a similar proposal was easily defeated. Japan has said that fortifying Guam would be a warlike act. Chief of Naval Operations Stark told Congress that Japanese objections should be "totally disregarded."

If we should go to war with Japan, it is clear that the campaign would have two phases. First, and perhaps most important, would be the economic phase. Of all first-class powers, Japan is the weakest economically. She must import or die. And most of her imports come from us. We have embargoed sales to Japan of Machine tools, aviation gasoline and some grades of scrap iron. But she has been buying increasing quantities of our crude oil, cotton, machinery, timber, and other commodities.

Second step in economic war against Japan, after the embargo, would be a boycott of imports. Japan's great cash crop is silk. We now buy three-quarters of all her silk production. If we refused to buy from her, her economy would be terribly shaken.

According to the U. S. News, if both Britain and the U. S. were to join in the embargo and the boycott, Japan would find that the source of 75 per cent of her vital supplies was closed to her, and that the market for 75 per cent of her produce was also gone.

It is apparent that the economic weapon could be used against Japan without formally going to war. However, the experts believe that this would simply make war inevitable, in that Japan would have to turn elsewhere for supplies and markets—and that she would have to use military force to get them. If, for instance, we refused to longer sell her oil, her logical move would be seizure of the oil-rich Dutch islands.

From the strictly military point of view, our naval authorities have good reason for believing we could defeat Japan in combat. Our fleet is larger, has greater fire power, and is considered far more efficient. Japanese cities are extraordinarily vulnerable to attack. Our fleet has the finest and largest carrier-based air force in existence. We could blockade Japan—but Japan could not blockade us. We could go on indefinitely without imports. Japan could not. And Japanese resources—and, some say, Japanese civilian morale—have

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"Wild Bill" Elliott in

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Also Chapter No. 9
 "THE MYSTERIOUS DR. SATAN"

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Errol Flynn - Brenda Marshall
 In a modern adventure

"FOOTSTEPS IN THE DARK"

Extra! Extra! Pete Smith's
 "Third Dimensional Murder."
 The most thrilling and unusual short subject you've ever seen.

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Bargain Day 10c and 20c
 Matinee and Night

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"SPRING PARADE"

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

THE DEAD END KIDS
 and The Little Tough Guys
 in a bang up action adventure story of the air

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THURS.-FRIDAY, MAR. 27-28

Thorne Smith's disappearing humorous ghosts give another grand romantic laugh treat.

Roland Young - Joan Blondell
 and ROCHESTER in

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COMING SOON

- "Virginia."
- "The Sea Wolf."
- "That Night in Rio."
- "Kitty Foyle."
- "Adam Had Four Sons."
- "The Trial of Mary Duggan."
- "Tobacco Road."
- "Road To Zanzibar."
- "That Hamilton Woman."
- "Mr. and Mrs. Smith."
- "Pot O'Gold."