

# THROUGH JAPANESE EYES

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## PREPARATION FOR WAR

VII  
 IN order to prepare herself for the task of world conquest, Japan, like Nazi Germany, carried through within 10 years a complete spiritual, political, economic, and military mobilization of the nation. The mobilization began in 1931, when the "Manchurian Incident" put the nation in a war-like mood and the military in the saddle. It was fairly well completed just before Pearl Harbor. Through it, Japan was converted from a promising democracy into a totalitarian military state whose super-structure followed the Nazi blue-print, but whose foundation was wholly Japanese.

The spiritual mobilization consisted of a ruthless purge of all American and European thought, and a return to the spirit of Old Japan. Loyalism and individualism, freedom and democracy, which had given Japan the semblance of a modern nation, were denounced as causes of disunity and decay, and expunged as "dangerous thoughts." Instead, Japan was subjected to a total regimentation of every phase of national life as rigid as that of Nazi Germany. In the spiritual field it was even more successful because it had an ancient religion to build upon. As in Germany, this new totalitarianism, based on a revival of ancient ways and ancient superstitions, was hailed in Japan as the wave of the future and presented to the world as means for its salvation.

The political mobilization consisted of the suppression of all political parties and the creation of a one-party state, functioning under the Fuchiro principle and centering around the Emperor. But the leadership was completely in the hands of the dominant military clique. The single party organization, together with the Diet filled by it, became merely a puppet of the military, like the Emperor.

**The State Above All**  
 The economic mobilization, carried through by so-called "New Bureaucrats" under the aegis of the military, established complete state control over industry, commerce, and trade, over capital and labor, over production and consumption.

Finally, the military mobilization, the end product of all other measures, was completed in greatest secrecy, but with such efficiency that its results surprised the world. Part of the military mobilization was the "battle of the cradle"—to increase Japan's birth rate in order to replace the losses of the war, to produce more people to shout for more land,



Japanese Troops at Yasukuni Shrine  
 "The United States, unaware of the complete preparations on the part of Nippon... underestimated the actual strength of our country."

and to furnish more soldiers to conquer it.  
 In any case, when Japan sent her air and naval forces against Pearl Harbor, she was ready for total war.

"FROM the viewpoint of the supreme importance of the State, we must regulate and control the benefits and liberties of the individual. The State is the totality and the individual is a part. The whole does not exist for the part but the part lives through the life of the whole, and if there is a struggle between the whole and the part, or even between different parts (i.e., political parties), the whole and the parts will be destroyed together."—Showa Ishin (The Showa Restoration) by Yosuke Matsuoka, Tokyo, 1938.

"Even in Japan ideas of democratic liberalism controlled our national thought for a while, but a great reaction has risen against them, and the parliamentary government advocated by some statesmen is now strongly denounced, and the totalitarianism which has been the principle of our national structure for 3000 years is rapidly reviving."—Kokusai Nippon no Chiri (The International Position of Japan), by Toshio Shiratori, Tokyo, 1938.

**Persuasion Through Detention**  
 "The idea of putting persons to death simply because they will not divest their minds of contagious thoughts of dangerous character is revolting to the Japanese mind.... Under the revised preservation law, thought offenders reluctant to reform when released from prison are liable to

be sent to a preventive detention station where they will be kept until the authorities have satisfied themselves that they have become thoroughly converted."—Yoshiro Nakamura, Superintendent of Preventive Detention Station at Toyotama Penitentiary, Tokyo, in the Nichi Nichi, May 10, 1941.

"The United States, unaware of the complete preparations on the part of Nippon; not only made a serious diplomatic blunder in the Nippon-United States conversations at Washington, but also underestimated the actual strength of our country. The United States was misled particularly by the assumption that Nippon's national power had become exhausted by the military operations in connection with the China Emergency."—The New Order in Greater East Asia (Japanese magazine), April, 1942.

"That the rise and fall of nations follows the rise and fall of populations has been proved.... The Welfare Ministry is arranging to issue public commendations of couples having more than 10 children and to provide these with government subsidies for the education of the children as necessary...."—Report by Social Affairs Bureau of the Welfare Ministry, May 7, 1941.

"The people of the United States should recognize the rapidly growing population of Japan and the absolute necessity for more territory for their existence."—Shigeru Yoshida, Japanese ambassador to Great Britain, to State Secretary Hull, June 12, 1936; Peace and War, U. S. State Department publication.

## Smart Sportswear

5315



5743  
 Classic tailored hand-knits in

either blazingly bright or in dark colors belong in every girl's fall and winter sports wardrobe. Both these sleeveless sweaters are easy to knit, are snugly form-fitting and have a dozen practical uses—to wear with campus skirts, with slacks and to add warmth under suits and casual topsuits.

To obtain complete knitting instructions for the Side-Buttoned Sweater (pattern No. 5315) and for the Slacks-and-Shorts Sweater (pattern No. 5743) sizes 12, 14, 16, 18 included, send 15 cents in coin, plus 1 cent postage for each pattern ordered; your name, address and the pattern number to Anne Cabot, La Grande Evening Observer, 709 Mission St., San Francisco, Calif.

## Official Records

Water turned on, Aug. 22:  
 Alice Hillon, 1509 Madison Street, Forrest Boyman, 1291 Eleventh street, C. O. Sanderson, 2707 Depot street.

## Building Permits

C. O. Sanderson, alter and repair one-story frame dwelling, 2707 Depot street, \$250

## CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"Would you mind answering a few of his questions while I do a little shopping?"

"Occupational disease!"

## Our Boarding House

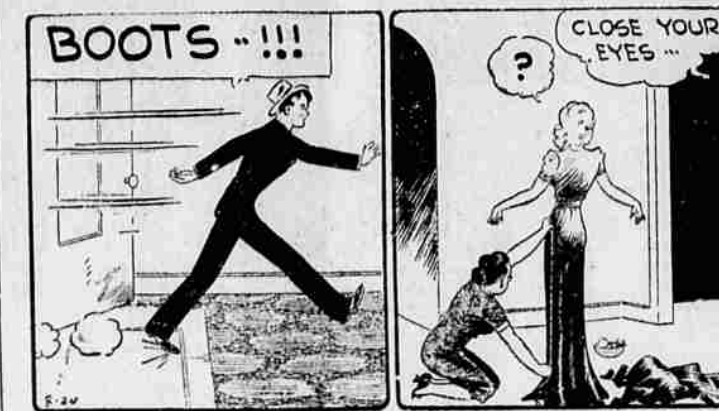
With Major Hoople

## Out Our Way

J. R. Williams



## Boots and Her Buddies



## Freckles and His Friends



## Red Ryder



## Wash Tubbs



## Alley Oop



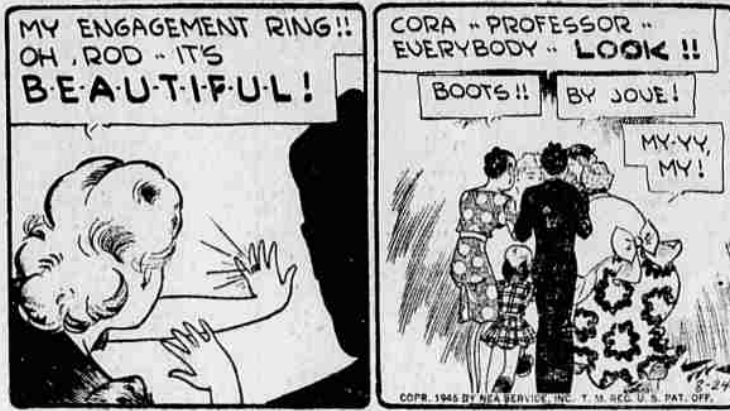
## Questions & Answers

Q—In what year did the greatest earthquake occur in Japan?  
 A—Most disastrous in history was that of Feb. 2, 1703, when 200,000 lives were lost. On Sept. 1, 1923, an earthquake cost 99,331 lives in Tokyo and Yokohama.

Q—What was the total of U. S. casualties in World War I?  
 A—Including killed, wounded, prisoners and missing, 364,800.



## Boots and Her Buddies



## Red Ryder



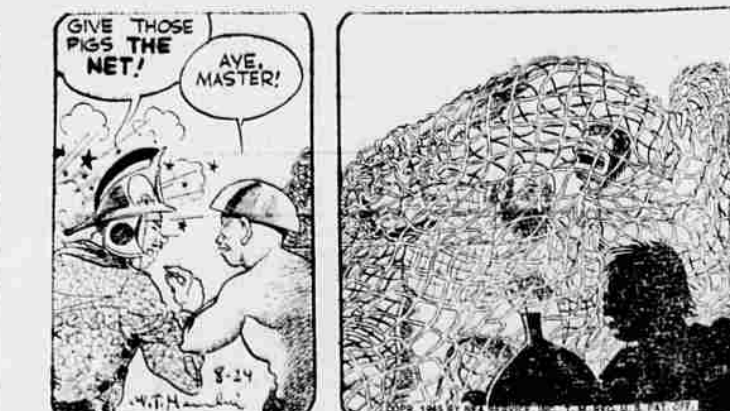
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By Edgar Martin

Merrill Blosser

Fred Harman

By Leslie Turner

By V. T. Hamlin