The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe" From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

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Pay-as-You-Go Taxes

A great many more persons are going to be initiated in 1943 into the federal income taxpayers' lodge. At the same time most if not all of the present members are going to pay even higher dues than they did this year.

Unless changes in the ritual now under contemplation are effected, all these joiners are going to approach and decorate the altar on March 15. It will be an unprecedentedly painful performance.

"Pay day" has come to mean more to more people in the United States, in this century, than it ever meant to any people before. Prior to the industrial revolution when most producers were farmers or self-employed artisans, few learned to base their personal economics upon the certainty of "so much every Saturday" or once or twice a month. The average American breadwinner lives right up to his income-or somewhat ahead of it, and "pay day" is a time for paying back debts.

For this reason income-taxpaying time next March is going to be a tough hurdle. Furthermore it isn't going to be the deterrent to inflation that the tax-devisers would like to make it. For the average breadwinner will go right ahead spending his weekly or less frequent pay-and then borrow to pay his taxes.

So the United States treasury department is seriously studying a pay-as-you-go income tax plan. The method would be "collection at the source" meaning through the employer. Employers will not cheer lustily another payroll-deduction bookkeeping chore.

There are other objections. At taxpaying time in 1943, the levy normally would be upon 1942 income. If taxes upon 1942 income were to be paid as earned, there would be periodical deductions this year—on top of the payment of 1941 taxes last March; thus two years' taxes would be paid in one year. The treasury's solution is to forget taxes on the 1942 incomes and collect in 1943 by payroll deduction, taxes on the same year's income. The apparent loss would be merely theoretical for the most part; in fact in 1943 there would be an actual gain in collections if, as may be anticipated, incomes are greater in the aggregate next year.

For another thing, if taxes are paid in 1943 on 1943 incomes, obviously there will be miscalculations since total income and deductions cannot be known until the year ends. It is proposed that payments be made on the basis of 1942 income, followed by an adjustment early in 1944. This would be awkward, troublesome and costly.

It is our impression that it would be much simpler to continue collection of income taxes for the preceding year, merely grafting a deferred payment plan onto the present arrangement. Thus the employed worker would be paying portions of his tax frequently so that there would be the desired steady deduction from his expendable income. If "collection at the source" is deemed necessary, well and good. It will be just one more of a great heap of new burdens upon business management.

Der Henker

"The flies have conquered the flypaper!" So remarked an official of the invader-ruled village in John Steinbeck's war novel "The Moon Is Down." He said it with a grim smile of satisfaction, for all that he was just then being led forth to be shot.

One needs to exercise vivid foresight to justify the observation that in the land of the * Czechs, as in the nameless conquered area of Steinbeck's story, "the flies have conquered the flypaper." Yet we have no doubt that it is true

Reinhard Heidrich, first of all the inner circle of nazis to meet a fate somewhat suited to his crimes, is dead. His punishment might have been the more fitting had he lingered on, for the wounds inflicted by Czech patriots would have left him incurably crippled. But the vengeance of the captive peoples has so often been incomplete, it is grim comfort for once to see it decisive.

In Prague and throughout Bohemia and Moravia the invaders still rule. Carrying on the unequal exchange of reprisal for reprisal, they spread death which is a relief from the horror of life under their yoke. But every pitiful figure which crumples against the wall is a token of nazi defeat. Heidrick der Henker (the hangman) was thought to have gained a victory; "gleichgeschaltet" (compliance) with the New Order in the Czech territory. Hundreds had been shot or hanged. The defiant intelligentzia had been liquidated; it was judged that the common Czechs could be made German. The Czech language, all national higher education had been suppressed. Some 300,000 Czech workers had been moved into Germany, their places taken by Germans from the west and from the Italian Tyrol. His task finished, Heidrich was to be transferred to Holland.

Then came the blow. His task was not finished; someone must start it over againhopelessly. Men, common men with a heritage of freedom will not permanently be conquered. Brutality can never rule the world.

Advising young men about careers is a matter that can wait. Our advice to such young women as are so inclined by natural talent and interest, is to take up bookkeeping. This is a profession with a future. Uncle Sam did a lot to make it so during the recent depression and he is continuing the process now. Business firms heretofore have had to file intricate and endless reports with the internal revenue department, the federal security agency, the securities and exchange commission and other outfits depending upon the nature of the business. The federal government received about 97 million reports from individuals and firms.

War regulations and controls have added greatly to the paper work. Everyone who operates for business purposes a rubber-tired vehicle except one self-propelled, must file reports; likewise some three million retail stores will have to tell Uncle Sam practically everything they are doing. Who reads the reports? Don't ask us!

Emelie Hendricks

Disappointments, worries, difficult problems—as well as a great many compensations -normally are the lot of a newspaper publisher. The man who essays to conduct such an enterprise for the greater part of a lifetime is fortunate if he has a steadfast life partner to share them.

It was said of Robert J. Hendricks at the recent testimonial dinner in his honor, that if he ever had any worries he did not admit it. nor literally share them with anyone. Yet their many friends know that Mrs. Hendricks was a true helpmeet in every sense, and that her own serenity of character was for him an additional source of strength. Indeed at that same dinner which so closely preceded the accident which seriously injured both and now has cost her life, a number of sincere compliments were paid Mrs. Hendricks.

All persons now connected with The Statesman, carrying on the task which Mr. Hendricks so ably directed for more than forty years, share in his sorrow and extend sympathy in this time of his bereavement.

News Behind The News

By PAUL MALLON

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WASHINGTON, June 4 - Do not overlook he import of dispatches from General MacArthur's front. He has been bombing the advance Jap bases of Rabaul and Lae daily, while all that the Japs

have been able to present in the war of retaliation are twice a week air thrusts at northern Austrailian points. struck out overland on the short journey to Moresby and Lae. (You will read this column bet-

Paul Mallon

ter with a map.) First they were halted in the jungle by floods; the next two times by Australians, and perhaps some Americans They also tried to come around in great naval force to take it by sea. But

Three times have the Japs

battle of the Coral sea. Lately they have been sending over planes in apparent preparation for a parachute attack next, but MacArthur is keeping plenty of inter-

they ran into MacArthur's bombers and a large

American naval force and retired after the famous

ceptors around handy to receive them. While his bases are in Australia, he flies fighters or interceptors over to do their missions against Jap aircraft in New Guinea and then refuels them before returning. Thus, without strong bases around Port Moresby, he nevertheless has been able to maintain supremacy in the air there.

You can read the results of these tactics plainly in the public utterances of the Australian Prime Minister John Curtin. A month ago he was hollering his head off for help. Last Wednesday he dared the Japs to invade.

The Japs probably never intended to invade Australia, but they have had their eyes on certain strategic northern points, Broome, Port Darwin and Wyndham. All they have been able to do about these is to bomb them and make them somewhat hazardous points for MacArthur to base any large number of planes. He can use them but he cannot enlarge them much.

We now have a considerable force in Australia. The Aussies have a couple of divisions freshly back from Libya. (The Japs know all this.) About 250,000 more Australian troops are ready now, the group they started to train before Pearl Harbor. Many more are in reserve, not yet quite ready for action.

While Australia is a very large place, and the Japs could no doubt land at many northern points if they could get sufficient force together, appears MacArthur's tactics have definitely stopped their southward aggression.

His way of breaking up their "irresistible" sea-land-air blitz advances has been to keep them from getting started. His idea is to hit them before they start, and his daily bumbings of Lae and Rabaul have served that purpose better than repelling them at Port Moresby or in Australia.

Most of the Jap naval forces have been withdrawn from the Bay of Bengal, which suggests that the threat of invasion of India is likewise growing more remote. American bombing of the Andaman islands caused the yellow fellows to move their seacraft back to safety.

Also the rainy season has started out there in sufficient force to discourage any attempt against India at this time

The Jap pincers drive into China, however, remains an indistinct but serious threat. More Jap troops are constantly being poured into central

So far they have not shown sufficient initiative to warrant the conclusion that they want to drive through into the heart of China, and annihilate the Chinese armies. They seem only to want to push deep enough to seize any airfields from which Japan might be bombed.

Their accumulation of strength in China may likewise be designed for safety against a possible Russian attack, or for starting one. At any rate it is clear they are massing their major strength in the center of radius of their conquests, and

The Chinese blew bridges on the Burma road, but the Japs came up the Salween river from Burma and have now cut all the alternate land routes from India.

Those roads upon which 50,000 coolies were put to work and the railroad lines that were being constructed have been abandoned by the Chinese. The only ways still open are through the skies and around by camel and elephant pack through lofty Tibet.

A dispatch from China recently said we had ten transport planes running to Chungking, making two trips a day, but these can do little more than carry parts and supplies for our fighting P-40s in the Chinese air force:



'Don't Look Now, but I Think We're Being Followed!'

Radio Programs

KSLM-FRIDAY-1390 Kc. 6:30—Rise 'N' Shine. 7:00—News in Brief. 7:05—Rise 'N' Shine. 7:30—News. 7:45—Your Gospel Program. 8:30—Shep Fields Orchestra. 8:30—News Brevities. 3:35-Lew White, Organist. 9:00-Pastor's Call 9:15—The Quintones. 9:30—Musical Horoscope. 10:00—World in Review 10:05—To the Ladies. 10:10—Silver Strings. 10:30-Women in the News. 10:35-Melody in Miniature. 10:40—Homespun Trio. 11:00—Maxine Buren. 11:15—Harry Owens Orch**estra.** 2:30-Hillbilly Serenade 12:35-Willamette Valley Opinions. 12:55-Interlude. :00-Lum and Abner 15-Milady's Melody.

1:30—Four Notes. 1:45—Isle of Paradise. 2:00—Tune Tabloids. 2:15—US Navy. 2:30-State Safety. 2:45-Novelette. 3:00—Old Opera House. 4:00—Sing Song Time. 4:15—News. :30-Teatime Tunes. :00-Here Comes the Band. 5:30—Dinner Hour Music. 5:35-Dinner Hour Music 6:00—Tonight's Headlines. 6:15—News Analysis. :20-Evening Serenade. 45-Religious News. 7:00-News in Brief. 05—Kenny Baker's Orchestra. 30—Willamette Valley Opinions. :50-War Fronts on Review 8:30-McWain's Melange. 8:45—Ray Noble Orchestra 9:00—News. 9:15-Rollo Hudson :30-The Roundup

10:00-Larry Clinton's Orchestra. 10:30—News 10:45—Mexican Marimba. 11:00—Bert Hirsch Presents. 11:30-Last Minute News. KALE-MBS-FRIDAY-1330 Ke. 6:30—Memory Timekeeper. 7:00—News. 3:00-Breakfast Club 8:30-News 8:45-What's New :00—Boake Carter. 3:15—Woman's Side of the News. 9:30-This and That. 10:00—News. 10:15—I'll Find My Way. 10:30—News. 10:35—Women Today 0:45-Buyer's Parade 11:00—Cedric Foster. 11:15—Miss Meade's Children. :30-Concert Gems 1:45—Luncheon Concert. 2:30—News. 12:45-Civilian Defense Protc. School. :90—Bill's Wax Shop. 1:15—New York Racing Season. :30—Mutual Goes Calling. :00-PTA.

2:15-Sweet and Sentimental. 2:45—The Bookworm. 3:00—B. S. Bercovici, Commentator. 3:15—Baseball Roundup. 3:20—Johnny Richards Orchestra. 3:30—Hello Again. :15-Johnson Family. 4:30—Salvation Army Program. 4:45—Music Depreciation. 5:00—Captain Danger. 5:15—Jimmie Allen 5:30—Captain Midnight :45—Jack Armstrong. 8:15—Jim Doyle. 6:30—Songs of Marching Men. 6:45—Movie Parade.

7:30—Lone Ranger. 6:00—Wally Johnson Orchestra, 8:15-Enric Madriquera Orchestra. 3:30—Tropical Serenade :45-Fishing Bulletins 9:15—Speaking of Sports. 9:30—Fulton Lewis, ir. 9:45-Hank Keene in Town. 00-Henry King Orchestra 10:45-Freddy Martin Orchestra 11:90—Jan Savitt Orchestra. 11:30—Ella Fitzgerald Orchestra.

:45—Freddy Martin Orchestra KOIN-CBS-FRIDAY-950 Ec. 5:00-Northwest Farm Reporter 6:15-Breakfast Bulletin. 6:20-Koin Klock 1:15—Wake Up News. 1:20—Bob Garred Reporting. 1:45—Nelson Pringle, News. 20-Victory Begins Home. :15-Consumer News 8:35—Volctory Begins Rome. 8:35—Consumer News 8:30—Valiant Lady. 8:45—Stories America Loves 9:90—Kate Smith Speaks. 9:15—Big Sister. ance of Helen Trent. -Our Gal Sunday. 0:00—Life Can Be Beautiful. 0:15—Woman in White. 0:30—Vic and Sade. 0:45—Jane Endicott, Reporter. 1:00—Bright Herizon 11:30—Bright Herizon
11:15—Aunt Jenny.
11:30—We Love and Learn,
11:35—The Goldbergs.
12:00—Eyes of the World.
12:15—Knox Manning, News. 12:30-Joyce Jordan 12:45-Woman of Courage. 1:15—Sam Hayes. 1:30—Joey Kearns Orchestra. 1:45—Take It Easy. 2:00—News. 2:15—Siesta. 2:30—William Winter, News. 2:45—Scattergood Barnes.

Hopper's Hollywood.

3:00—News, 3:05—Musical 3:15—Hedda

These schedules are supplied by the respective stations. Any varia-tions noted by listeners are due to changes made by the stations with out notice to this newspaper. All radio stations may be cut from the air at any time in the interests of national defense.

3:30—Frank Parker. 3:45—News. 4:00-Second Mrs Burton. 4:15—Young Dr. Malone. 4:20—Newspaper of the Air. 5:15—America's Home Front. 5:39—Harry Flannery 5:45—Bob Garred, News. 5:55—Elmer Davis, News. 6:00—Leon F. Drews. 6:15-State of Oregon Reports. :30-That Brewster Boy. 7:00-How's I Doin'? 8:00-Amos 'n Andy 8:15-Dear John 8:30—Playhouse 9:00-Kate Smith

9:55—Find the Woman. 10:00—Five Star Final 10:15-World Today 10:30-War Time 10:35—Air-Flo. 10:45—Know Your Navy. 11:00—Bob Crosby Orchestra. 11:30—Manny Strand Orch. 11:55-News. 12:00 to 6:00 a.m -Music & news. KEX-NBC-FRIDAY-1190 Ke, 6:00-News 6:15-National Farm and Home. 6:45-Western Agriculture. 7:80—Don Vining, Organist 7:30—Breakfast Club.

8:00—Haven of Rest. 8:30—Kendall Hall, Organist. 8:45—Keep Fit Club With Patty Jean. 9:00-Meet Your Neighbor. 9:15-Vicki Vickee, Singer. 9:30-Breakfast at Sardi's. 10:00—Baukhage Talking. 10:15—Second Husband. 10:30-Amanda of Honeymoon Hill. 10:45—John's Other Wife. 11:00—Just Plain Bill. 11:15-Between the Bookends. 11:30—Stars of Today. 11:45—Keep Fit Club With Patty Jean. 2:00-News Headlines and Highlights. 12:15-Your Livestock Reporter. 12:30-Market Reports

12:35—Men of the Sea.
12:45—Stella Unger.
12:45—News Headlines and Highlights.
1:00—Arthur Tracy, Street Singer. 1:15-Club Matinee 55-News. 2:00-The Quiet Hour. 2:30—A House in the Country. 2:45—Chaplain Jim, USA. 3:00-Stars of Today

3:15-Kneass With the News 3:30-Stella Unger. 3:35-Skitch Henderson, Pianist. 3:45—Beating the Budg 3:50—Wartime Periscop 4:00—Melodies by de Mello. 4:30—Southernaires. 4:45—Diminutive Classics.

5:00—Flying Patrol.
5:15—Secret City.
5:25—Here Comes the Band
5:45—News of the World.
6:00—March of Time.
6:26—Songs by Dinah Shore,
6:45—Pour Polka Duts. na & Tu :00 Elsa Maxwell's Party Line. 7:15—Mary Bullock, Pianist 7:30—Lightning Jim. 8:00—Meet Your Navy. 8:30 - Gang Busters,

Todav's Garden By LILLIE L. MADSEN

A. M. M. asks for the correct name for the Texas lily. Says she has made a number of inquiries but has been unable to find out what this plant really is. Answer: I do not know and if

any of the readers do know, I shall be glad to include the information in my notes. I have never heard of any lily called that. M. V. asks why her English laurel hedge is yellowing. Re-

ports that leaves turn yellow and

fall off although shrubs make new growth. Answer: Are you sure no mole or gopher is working beneath the bush? Especially this spring when the damp weather has made our rodents very active? Your hedge might also need fertilizer. Laurel hedges, where the

need fertilization each year. A leaf mold or peat moss mulch is also beneficial and watering during the dry season is helpful. P. N. complains of something "happening to the hollyhocks. The foliage turns brown, sort of crumbles and falls off."

plants grow closely together,

Answer: Rust will completely detona e the hollyhock. Pick up and burn the fallen leaves. Spray or dust is very effective in a bad case of rust. Be sure to hit the underside of the new foliage as it comes out to prevent the rust spores of taking a hold.

9:30 Down Memory Lane. 9:30 News Headlines and Highlights. 9:45 Glenn Shelley, Organist. 10:00 Studio Party. 10:20 Broadway Bandwagon. 10:45—Dance Hour. 11:00—This Moving World. 11:15—Organ Concert.

11:30—War News Roundup. KGW-NBC-FRIDAY-620 Kc. 4:00—Music. 5:30—War News. 5:30—Sunrise Serenade.
6:30—Early Bards.
7:00—News Headlines and Highlights
7:15—Music of Vienna. 7:30—Reveille Roundup. 7:45—Sam Hayes. 8:00—Stars of Today. 8:15—James Abbe, News 8:30—Symphonic Swing, 8:40—Lotta Noyes 8:45-David Harum

9:00—Bess Johnson. 9:15—Bachelor's Children. 9:30-Collins Calling. 9:45-Organ Concert. 10:00-Benny Walker's Kitchen. 10:15—News. 10:30—Homekeeper's Calendar. 10:45—Dr. Kate. 11:00-Light of the World. 11:15-Arnold Grimm's Daughter. 11:30—The Guiding Light. 11:45—Betty Crocker. 12:00—Against the Storm. 12:15—Ma Perkins. 12:30-Pepper Young's Family.

12:45—Right to Happi 1:00—Backstage Wife 1:15—Stella Dallas. 1:30-Lorenzo Jones. 1:45—Young Widder 2:00-When a Girl Marries. 2:15-Portia Faces Life. -News Flashes 2:45-Vic and Sade 3:00-The Bartons. 3:15-Strictly From Dixie 3:25—News by Alex Dreier 3:30—Personality Hour. 4:30-Funny Honey Man 4:55-Stars of Today. 5:00-H. V. Kaltenborn. 5:15—Cocktail Hour 5:30—Keep America Singing. 5:45—Bill Henry. 6:00-Waltz Time 7:00-People Are Funny

7:30—Grand Cen'ral Station. 8:00—Fred Waring Pleasure Time. 8:15—Lum and Abner. 8:30—Musical Interlude. 9:05—Musical Interlude. 9:30—Log Cabin Orchestra, 9:55—Musical Interlude. 9:35 Musical Interlude.
39:30 News Flashes.
19:15 Your Home Town News.
19:25 Citizens Alert.
19:30 Moonlight Sonata. Moonlight Sonata.

11:00—St. Francis Hotel Orchestra.

11:15—Hotel Billmore Orchestra.

11:25—War News Boundup.

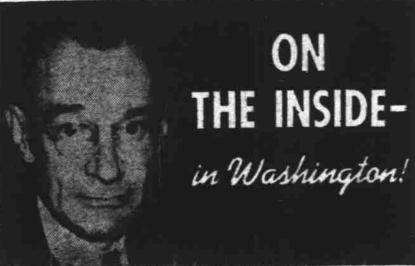
12:00-2 a.m.—Music.

EGAC PERDAY 650 Kc. 19:50 Beview of the Day, 19:05 News. 19:15 The Homemaker's Hour 12:00—Beethoven, 12:00—News, 12:15—Farm Hour, 1:05—Favorite Classics. 1:15-Variety Time 1:45-Concert Hall. 1:45—Concert Hall. 2:00—4H Club Assembly 3:00—Club Women's Half Hour. 3:30—Orchestral Gems. 3:45—News. 4:00—Keyboard Classics. 4:30-Stories for Boys and Girls

5:00 Melodies for Strings. 5:30 Evening Vesper Service. 5:45 All Out to Win. 6:15—News 6:30—Farm Hour 7:45—Concert Hall. 9:15—Music of the Masters. 9:45-10:00—UP News. 8:30-Monitor Views the News 8:45—Organ Nocturne. 9:00—In Defense of America. 9:15—Music of the Masters. 9:45-10:00 News.



Alfred G. Vanderbilt, above, the wealthy sportsman, has reported for duty in Washington as a bosun's mate in the U. S. Navy. Vanderbilt, heir to \$20,000,000, enlisted in the Navy several weeks ago.



By KIRKE L. SIMPSON Wide World War Analyst . For The Statesma

Japan's air raids on the Dutch Harbor naval base, Unalaska, can be written off as scouting forays on the basis of information so far available from Washington. They had none of the earmarks of an operation of greater scope than to find out what was going on at that potential springboard for American attack on Japan.

That appears to be the Washington conclusion. The fact that no bombs were dropped during the second enemy flight over the base tends to confirm it. The six-hour time lapse between the two daylight sweeps also strongly supports the navy conclusion that the planes involved were launched from a small carrier.

Only four bombers and a protective screen of 15 fighter craft, a remarkable disproportion, were noted in the first flight. The type of bomber had not been described as this was written. The implication is, however, that they were small ships, able to take off from a flight deck, and the whole group represents about the strength and proportions of what a small merchant craft, converted for carrier use, could carry and let loose.

The two daylight sweeps may have provided the raiders with notes on the scope and progress of the American base building operations.

Dutch Harbor must be of special interest to the Japanese. While there remains any doubt as to Russia's future role in the Pacific war theatre, it must be of keenest interest to Tokyo, for

The **Safety Valve** Letters from Statesman

AGAINST BEER

To the Editor: I should like to reply to Joe Marsh's recent letter published under the paid sponsorship of the Brewing Industry Foundation.

He asserts that the brewing industry pays over one million dollars a day in taxes, and that for this reason they should be hailed as public benefactors. For every dollar the liquor industry pays in taxes and revenue, they receive over six dollars from the pockets of the people. They keep five dollars and pass one on to the government. Such generosity! Most of this money comes from those who can least afford it. New York figures showed that one fourth of the money spent in their state for liquor came from those on some form of relief. Many of us can think of fairer forms of taxation than this.

Joe also plays up the brewers as benefactors to the farmers. It is strange that the National Grange has never so recognized them, but on the contrary has taken a firm stand against the liquor industry. At the time of the first World war the brewers stated that the amount of grain used in brewing represented less than one fourth of one per cent of all the grain in the US. It is still rated at less than one per cent. Milk consumption has decreased as beer consumption has increased. The US department of agriculture reports that the consumption of milk in the United States has been from 100,000,000 to 200.000,000 gallons less annually since repeal. Cows eat more grain than do the brewers.

Then he mentions the aid the brewers have given to unemployment. Every dollar spent for liquor is taken from some other industry. Where men were given work in the brewing industry, they were laid off in more constructive industries. One million dollars spent in the liquor industry gives work to 81 persons. In 20 other great industries that same amount will employ twice as many men, according to government figures.

Of course Joe doesn't mention the cost to the taxpayer for liquor-caused crimes, accidents, law enforcement, etc., but we can understand that omission. The Brewers Digest magazine

in its May, 1941 issue said: "One of the finest things that could have happened to the brewing industry was the insistence of high-ranking army officers to make beer available at army camps - Here is a chance for brewers to cultivate a taste for beer in millions of young men, who will eventually constitute the largest beer consuming section of our popula-

Many of us are also irked by the fact that brewers are on the preferred list for tires and sueducated to the appreciation of you, Nate?" these self styled public benefac-

MRS. C. W. STACEY.

Alaska is an American bridgehead for contact with Russia for joint operations against Japan when the time for that comes.

And that time might be far closer than surface indications in Europe yet disclose. Assume that the nazi attack in Russia has bogged down, that the axis attempt to take the initiative against the British in Libya ends in disaster, and that British or British-American air forces keep up a sustained battering at German targets from the west. Japanese-Russian peace pacts would then be a feeble reed for Tokyo's war lords to lean

Out of the Dutch Harbor raids Tokyo might hope to learn the true degree of American readiness to use that avenue of attack either alone or in cooperation with Russia at some future

'Crime at Castaway'

By EDITH BRISTOL

Chapter 29 continued

"That day I was furious. We had a dreadful row. He had been going over figures with Craven before I got there and Craven had convinced him that I didn't

know what I was talking about." I clutched Lance's sleeve. That was it, then. I had feared and worried and fretted about nothing. I started to laugh but it almost turned into tears.

"What's the matter? What's wrong?"

"Nothing's wrong. Everything's right." Tan I told him. All about the ugly warning I had overheard-"there'll be death if you don't." How it rankled in my memory.

Lance looked grim. "So you thought that might be a warning, that I would commit murder?"

"That's what I couldn't let myself think!" I said. And that's about the time he kissed me.

Straight across the narrow valley, tall and forbidding, rose the towering wall of concrete that was Gallina dam. Behind the massive masonry ran the lake, miles and miles back into the hills, covering with water the area which, only two years ago, had been covered with verdure, datted with oak trees. The hum of machinery mingled with the splash of falling water as we left our car and explored the

"The camp is empty now," Lance pointed to the collection of houses on the bank above the opposite side of the water. "We'll be taking the buildings down right away. Everything except the watchmen's house and a few operating buildings. But while they've been working here, all through the excavating and the pouring of concrete, this has been a miniafure city."

It was such a perfect day. The powerhouse men were glad to see Lance. The hours were golden and the day too short. We drove home, down from the foothills, along the hard ribbon of the highway, back to Castaway, and the beat of the ocean on its shores . . . and in my heart a new song.

"We must have company," Lance observed as we drove to the house. "I don't recognize that

Inside, Sheriff Allen stood waiting. Waiting with an expression like death on his face. Beside him stood a keen-looking young man I remembered seeing in the courtroom.

"Hello, Nate. Hello, Stevens. Glad to see you. You know Miss Lane?

"Lance," Allen spoke, and his voice was like the tolling of a bell. His face was gray and old and drawn. "Lance, my boythis is the worst thing I've ever had to do. The grand jury has brought in a true bill against you, Lance, for the murder of your uncle.'

All that had gone before was as nothing compared to this. Lance, stunned by the words of his friend, looked from Sheriff Allen to District Attorney Stevens, back again to the peace officer who stood with stricken eyes and rigid jaw.

"You're both joking-" Lance said, at last, "but I don't like the joke."

"We're not joking, Gregg," Stevens said. His voice was sharply edged as his eyes were keen. "I came out myself with Allen, here, because I knew that he was a life long friend of your family and this was going to be a hard job for him to do. In fact. I offered to have a constable do it. But Nate said if it gar. Somehow we just aren't had to be done, he'd do it. Didn't

> Allen bowed. Lance went white.

(To be continued)