

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Shows Us, No Fear Shall Awe"  
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## "Axis Sally" on Trial

They played recordings of "Axis Sally's" wartime broadcasts as testimony against her (Miss Mildred E. Gillars) in her trial on charges of treason. "Axis Sally" was the name given this American woman who went on the Nazi radio during the war, allying her broadcasts at American armies. Arrested after VE day she was recently brought to this country to stand trial.

We haven't had many treason trials in this country. The most famous was that of Aaron Burr in Richmond, Va. with Chief Justice John Marshall presiding. Burr, who was accused of trying to set up a new republic in the southwest, was acquitted; and President Thomas Jefferson who had been elected over Burr by the house of representatives, was bitter against Marshall.

A few days ago a former air force officer, Martin James Monti, was convicted of treason and sentenced to 25 years imprisonment and fined \$10,000. It is the only time, according to the justice department that a man has confessed treason.

This suggests reference to the constitutional provision regarding treason:

"Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court."

Monti's conviction was based on the last phrase: "confession in open court." The government had brought witnesses from Germany, but didn't need to introduce them because Monti confessed to 21 charges of overt acts of treason.

His case is singular. A lieutenant in the air force, he deserted in Karachi, India, hitchhiked by plane to Italy, stole a P-38 at an air base near Naples, flew to Milan and surrendered to the Germans. He did broadcasting for the Nazi, wrote propaganda for the SS and was actually accepted as an officer in the SS. When the war was in its last stages Monti reported to the American army, claiming to be an escaped prisoner of war. He was tried though for deserting and stealing a plane and was sentenced to 15 years on conviction. When he agreed to renounce the sentence was remitted. Later his treasonous activity in Germany was learned and he was arrested on treason charges.

One can count on the fingers of one hand the number of Americans arrested and tried for treason as a result of the last war. Considering the varied national origins of our people and the wide tolerance of political opinion here that is quite remarkable. It shows that loyalties here run deep. It is OUR country, despite a few Axis Sallies and Tokyo Roses and Martin Montis.

## Want School to Stand on Its Merits

Members of the Klamath county delegation advise this editor they are waging no "battle" for continuation of Oregon Technical Institute at Klamath Falls. Horse-trading, log-rolling for it are out, they assert; and when men of the stamp of Phil Hitchcock, Henry Semon and Ed Geary say that you can believe it. They have faith in the institute and believe it will stand up under legislative scrutiny. They are willing

## ERP Men Oppose Italy Land Reforms

ROME, Jan. 28.—In this old honey-colored city, with its immortal beauty and air of easy luxury, unpleasant facts are easy to forget. But it is a vital fact none the less that all the improvement that can be accomplished in Italy by the European recovery program cannot make the life of the Italian masses anything but cruelly hard.

All authorities indeed agree that the only solution of Italy's economic problem is mass emigration—the inclusion of human beings among articles for export.

In these circumstances, it is downright shocking that American policy is rapidly acquiring the reputation of being reactionary. Specifically, here in Italy land reform must take first place in any program of social betterment. Significantly, it is among the dispossessed workers of the great Southern Italian latifundia that communism is now making its only progress in Italy. Yet passive American opposition to land reform has just been indicated by no less a personality than the chief of the ERP mission here, J. D. Zellerbach.

This sort of thing was perhaps understandable before the November election. With a reactionary congress breathing down their necks and a republican president looming up ahead, the executives of American policy in Europe had a natural tendency to walk very carefully. Furthermore, although this did not come out during the campaign, Gov. Thomas E. Dewey apparently gave them good reasons for doing so.

It is understood, for instance, that at a dinner in New York shortly before the election, Dewey asked General Lucius D. Clay to tell the Germans he meant to have no truck with the powerful Social Democratic party. Simultaneously in France men close to him were deeply alarming the French center parties by their close association with leading Gaullists. Meanwhile, here in Italy, certain minor figures of this ERP mission were making no bones about their sympathy with the Italian rightist parties and their assurance of future support in Washington.

The real source of the general Italian belief in American opposition to land reform was, however, a private warning given the government by Zellerbach in September. For practical reasons which held good at that time, he warned that reforms must not hamper the harvest in the present crucial crop year. On the other hand, although Zellerbach may not have noticed it, the American election has now shown our people on the side of social progress. The crisis year is over in Italy. And there can be no possible excuse for the statement issued by Zellerbach, just before leaving Italy, that he could no longer countenance any land reform which would result even in temporary drops in the land's productivity.

As a practical matter, the Zellerbach statement has really explosive implications. American influence is now strongly felt in every sphere of Italian politics. Premier De Gasperi is committed to land reform, and he and the majority of his cabinet wish to begin the job immediately. They are being powerfully obstructed, however, by the rightist parties in the government. And now Zellerbach has played directly

into the rightists' hands. For great changes always bring some confusion. And any effective land reform is virtually impossible on Zellerbach's terms.

What makes the whole business still more shocking is the demonstrable fact that the Zellerbach attitude is fantastically unbusinesslike. We are already spending nearly six hundred million dollars a year merely to stop the revolution of course and Dr. Allen and the regents would quickly decorate the lamp-posts.

Therefore, I decide to offer a suggestion to this legislature to appropriate the necessary money to adequately excavate and construct two or more decks of parking space north of the Capitol building and between the State Library and new Office building along with tunnels under the streets to the basements of these respective buildings. And to further restore the landscape to its original beauty, the same as San Francisco has so effectively done to some of their city parks.

I further wish to suggest that within this assembly of new buildings the state and the city of Salem get together in building an auditorium capable of taking care of the greatest national conventions and making it accessible to all political parties, religious denominations, lodge organizations and labor unions in their turn. This would be the greatest possible advertising by attracting the nation's most representative citizens to our state and our city. While eliminating a vexing parking problem during the legislature, and would also establish a genuine public service the year around and for many years to come.

T. J. Shipley  
Rt. 8



## IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

The state police rounded up a bunch of slot machines in Clackamas county, leaving the sheriff to stammer an explanation. Supt. H. G. Malson says it has been the policy of the state police to defer to local authorities in these matters. But where local authorities are deaf, blind or crooked, the state police shouldn't hesitate. The quick way to end the racket is to order the state police to knock over the one-armed bandits all over the state. That's the way to treat them—not do like the new DA of Coos county, tell the proprietors not to park the slot machines close to cash registers!

The backfire started by Oklahoma landlords who served eviction notices on their tenants in protest against federal rent control will quickly burn out. Few propertyowners can afford to let their houses and buildings stay vacant, for the taxes run on; and they do not add up to enough voters to cut much political ice.

Communists never hesitate to claim all the civil liberties offered in our constitution, and never to criticize the denial of them in communist-controlled countries. Just how much academic freedom is there in Russia? Or freedom for scientists, musicians, writers?

## The Safety Valve

Planning at State Capitol

To the Editor:

The state board of control is to be congratulated on its neutral or adamant attitude toward further messing up a State House which in the beginning was conceived in confusion and born a monstrosity.

However, we must make the best of what we have and it is gratifying to learn our state government is carefully planning a system of permanent office buildings, and also endeavoring to facilitate our parking problems.

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## Literary Guidepost

FROM DAY TO DAY, by Odd Nansen, translated by Katherine John (Putnam's; \$5)

Son of the Norwegian explorer, this author was arrested in his home in January, 1942 and was held in custody as a "court hostage" near Oslo, then near Tromsø and finally in the Berlin area, at Sachsenhausen, until May, 1945. He was in the habit of keeping a diary, and it seemed somehow a habit to continue, one that in his sometimes incredibly wretched new life bound closer to his happy old life and to his beloved wife and children.

Written for his wife alone, and often at great personal risk, it was never published, and is now, with marked success, and serves to succeed here, for it is the only thing of its kind to come out of World War II.

In a sense this is not a war story at all. The stress does not fall on adventure, bravery, suffering, misery or death. This is about the survival of dauntless humankind, about the persistence of humane instincts even behind barbed wire, about brotherly love

## Health Bureau Plans Clinics, Immunizations

Immunizations and child clinics top the list of activities next week of the Marion county department of health, according to a schedule list released Friday by the department.

The schedule includes:

**Monday**—Immunizations and vaccinations for children at the department's Masonic building office from 10 a.m. to noon and from 3 to 5 p.m.; immunization clinic at Highland school, 1 to 3 p.m.

**Tuesday**—Clinic at St. Paul school, Silverton, by Dr. W. J. Stone and Helen Wangsgard at 9:30 a.m.; infant and pre-school health clinic at Eugene Field

school, Silverton, 2 to 4 p.m., and immunization clinic at Stayton school, 9:30 a.m.

**Wednesday**—Fluoroscope chest clinic at Salem Memorial hospital, 1 to 2 p.m. (for appointment call 3-9208). Physical examinations for first graders and others will be held at Keizer school by Dr. Stone and Dr. William Crother with parents urged to attend, 1 to 3:30 p.m. This examination will be held both Wednesday and Thursday.

**Thursday**—Child health conference (by appointment) at Masonic building, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., immunization clinics at Roberts, Halls Ferry and Riverside schools.

**Friday**—Immunization and vaccinations of adults at Masonic building, 10 a.m. to noon and 3 to 5 p.m., includes milk and food handlers.

**Saturday**—Immunizations and vaccinations for children and adults at Masonic building from 9 to 11:45 a.m.

## GRIN AND BEAR IT



"After thorough consideration, I think we should support the present Chinese leaders... otherwise we would have to learn a lot of new names..."

## HOMES FOR AMERICANS

PLAN #341

FIRST FLOOR

Here's a big little house with seven rooms and two baths. The five rooms on the first floor can be finished first leaving the attic for future expansion. Although the plan is of economical rectangular shape, a rambling facade is achieved with garage and breezeway porch. This is plan 1341 by McMurry & Chirotsis, architects, 968 Stuyvesant Ave., Union N. J. It covers an area of 1,066 square feet. The architects suggest an asphalt shingle roof for economy and air conditioned heating system.

FUTURE SECOND FLOOR

## Amendments Would Grant Taxing Power

Readied for introduction in the house Friday were three proposed constitutional amendments to give the legislature more taxing power, to lighten up the initiative process, and to make it harder to get school bond issues passed.

One measure would let the legislature pass tax measures containing emergency clauses by a two-thirds vote. This means that if two-thirds of the legislature voted for a tax bill, the referendum could not be applied to it.

The second measure would require eight per cent of the signatures of all registered voters before an initiative could be put on the ballot. The requirement now is eight per cent of the number that voted for supreme court justice at the preceding election.

The third measure would prevent a school bond issue from going into effect unless 25 per cent of all registered voters in the district approve it. Now such bond issues can be approved by a mere handful of voters, just so that the majority of those voting approve it.

The measures would appear on the next general election ballot. Sponsors included Reps. Earl Hill, Cushman; Dean B. Erwin, Enterprise; John P. Hounsell, Hood River; and David C. Baum, La Grande.

## Belton Slaps At Earmarking Of State Fund

There is too much earmarking of general fund revenues under the current financial setup in Oregon, Sen. Howard Belton, chairman of the senate ways and means committee, said Friday.

Belton said he is convinced all state revenues should be placed in the general fund and be appropriated by the legislature.

Belton's opinion that an over-all appropriation system, with elimination of earmarked funds, would result in a substantial financial saving to the taxpayers. Under any system eliminating earmarked funds, it might be necessary to exempt the state highway commission and one or two other large state activities, Belton said.

The state highway department receives a large amount of federal aid which is matched by state funds.

## Paper Files Suit Against Competitor

LA GRANDE, Jan. 28.—(P)—The Grande Ronde Valley Publishing company, which publishes the La Grande Observer, filed a \$25,000 libel suit today against the Eastern Oregon Review, a weekly newspaper here.

The firm asked \$25,000 actual and \$10,000 punitive damages for statements published in a Review editorial January 21. The suit said the editorial accused the Observer of publishing news and editorials for personal gain.

The suit was filed by Frank Schiro, editor and publisher of the Observer, and secretary-treasurer of the Grande Ronde Valley Publishing company.

Named defendants were C. J. Shorb, owner of the Review; E. E. Weiss, publisher; and Laura Mae Marshall, editor.

## That They May Walk



The therapeutic facilities of the Corona, Calif., Naval Hospital were made available to victims of the 1945 polio epidemic in Los Angeles County after the contagious stage was passed at the County General Hospital where patients were first ordered for treatment. Photo shows Navy hospital corpsman aiding a patient at Corona Hospital to walk all over again. (Official Navy Photograph)

## Signal Spurs Search for Superfortress

LONDON, Jan. 28.—(P)—Spurred by a radio signal, air rescue units searching for a missing American B-29 superfortress centered their efforts tonight on an area of the Atlantic 150 miles northeast of the Canary islands.

The signal, in the form of a constant Morse code "T," raised hopes that the 15 men aboard the lost B-29 had been able to take to life rafts.

U. S. third air division headquarters here said the radio signal came from a position about 23 degrees and 44 minutes north and 15 degrees and 10 minutes west. A French flying boat reported sighting an oil slick about 25 miles farther to the northeast.

The superfortress disappeared yesterday during a training flight from Dakar, French West Africa, to a base at Marham, Eng. American, British and French planes are participating in the widespread search over the eastern Atlantic. Portuguese sea rescue units have been alerted.

Maj. Thomas Corrigan, public information officer at the air force headquarters said: "We have strong hopes that all the boys are alive and well."

## Guam Soldiers To Be Tried by Military Court

GUAM, Saturday, Jan. 29.—(P)—Three soldiers charged with raping and murdering Ruth Farnsworth were turned over to the 20th air force today for trial under military law.

The move was ordered by the secretary of the navy yesterday. The three air force soldiers had been held by the navy governor of Guam and were to be tried in Guam's civil court.

The three are Sgt. Robert W. Burns, 32, Spokane, Wash.; Pvt. Calvin Dennis, 26, and Pvt. Herman T. Dennis, 20, half brothers from Frederick, Md., and Indiana.

Miss Farnsworth was beaten in a shop where she was a clerk the night of December 11, dragged into the jungle, raped and left dying.